

Oracle Fusion Middleware and Service-Oriented Architecture:

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SOA (Service Oriented Architecture) is actually an architectural approach to allow companies to realize business benefits from their existing information technology investments, as well as building new enterprise systems and applications on this architecture.

Oracle's vision for service oriented architecture spans three important elements. First of all, we have an architecture vision called the Fusion Architecture, which is an architecture that unifies our technology platform and our enterprise applications. The second is the technology platform that enables the Fusion Architecture, is really Fusion Middleware. Fusion Middleware is a comprehensive standards-based middleware suite that provides all the underpinnings that you need in order to develop service-oriented applications. And third, our enterprise applications themselves support SOA. Our next-generation enterprise applications, the Fusion applications are all built fundamentally ground up around the principles of SOA.

The Oracle SOA Vision

What's different about Oracle's vision for SOA is that it is the only vendor in the industry that has an overall architecture that spans our technology and applications and that offers SOA as a toolset and infrastructure for customers to build their own applications on an SOA architecture, as well as use that same best-of-breed toolset and middleware platform within the design of our own enterprise applications.

When customers think about SOA, we generally advise them to think of three important elements as they embark on an SOA project. First, is to select a specific business objective that they would like to solve with an SOA as a technology implementation approach. Secondly, you need to adopt an SOA methodology. So Oracle offers an SOA methodology that basically constitutes a set of best practices that we have learned from work with leading customers around the world using SOA. And third, the customer then needs to select a vendor as their technology provider and also an implementation partner and project management expertise to go from developing this SOA to operationalizing it.

Now IT is a critical part of this because the operational side of IT needs to be brought in to the project right at the start so that they understand how this SOA is going to be deployed and managed once it's been built in an operational environment.

Oracle: Leadership in SOA

Where does Oracle lead in SOA? Oracle offers the industry's best business process management solution with our BPEL Process Manager. We offer the industry's best web services management solution for security and policy management around services and we offer the best Business Activity Monitoring solution in the industry to measure and optimize business processes and services.