ORACLE SOA GOVERNANCE SOLUTION

KEY FEATURES AND BENEFITS

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR SOA. MAXIMIZE ROI, SERVICE REUSE AND POLICY COMPLIANCE.

FEATURES

• Automated discovery, mapping, and management of the service inventory and associated relationships
• Visualization of services and composite applications—runtime and design time
• Access to services in production, plus those still in development
• Visibility, lifecycle, and change management of assets and applied policies
• Enforcement of governance via approvals and policy management
• Tracking and reporting of reuse throughout the entire service lifecycle
• Support for critical decisions based on compliance, performance, and ROI metrics

BENEFITS

• Maximize ROI and reduce cost through service reuse and asset sharing
• Mitigate risk through policy enforcement and service level management.
• Increase efficiency through automation.
• Demonstrate success through progress and business value measurement.
• Boost service utilization to improve business agility.

Service-oriented architecture (SOA) has moved beyond hype to widespread acceptance as an IT strategy for delivering business results. Effective SOA governance is essential to achieving measurable, sustainable business value, lowering costs, improving efficiency and increasing visibility. In fact, without it, many SOA initiatives fail. Oracle provides a comprehensive SOA governance solution that unites people, process, and technology to help organizations achieve their SOA objectives— at every level of SOA maturity. While early SOA projects may need automation to manage artifacts in the lifecycle, more advanced organizations measure SOA success by how it transforms the business. Governance support is essential to making progress on both technical and business dimensions of SOA.

Overcome Common SOA Obstacles

SOA has entered the mainstream, and many organizations have begun reaping the rewards. Most organizations, however, face significant challenges along the path to SOA, their efforts complicated by a confluence of cultural, organizational, and technological challenges, such as

• Difficulty in aligning various teams in the SOA initiative
• Increasing complexity in the IT environment
• Limited visibility into SOA assets and information
• Risk around security and quality of service (QoS)
• Inability to effectively manage numerous service artifacts and composites
• Lack of collaboration and trust in shared services
• Inability to assess and manage the impact of change
• Poor alignment between organizational goals, processes and policy enforcement
• No formalized, reliable means to measure SOA progress, business value, and return on investment (ROI)

These are all symptoms of ineffective or altogether absent governance.
Organizations that enact effective SOA governance possess the processes, policies, and measurements to prevent, correct, and prevail over these issues.

**Understand the Role of SOA Governance**

The role of SOA governance is to ensure that services are planned, designed, produced, deployed, consumed, and operated in alignment with business and architectural requirements, and that SOA always delivers measurable business value. Governance must address the control and management of entire applications and business processes, trace the relationship of services to other assets in the enterprise, and show how the collection of these elements in an SOA delivers a direct advantage to the business itself. Effective SOA governance mitigates the risks inherent in SOA investments. Governance may start by managing service artifacts and processes. But a good governance framework ultimately shapes the behavior of project teams to focus on common goals, shared services, and standards. This transformation takes the right mix of people, process, and technology.

**Embrace Automation to Achieve Success**

The implementation of SOA is a big, important job, but it can be managed incrementally, and automated with governance tools and technology. Manual processes to achieve the necessary level of visibility and control can be difficult and unpopular. In contrast, the Oracle SOA governance solution automates essential SOA governance processes. Governance automation enables organizations to more easily achieve and maintain business alignment, facilitate compliance and control, and demonstrate measurable ROI. It delivers the benefits of SOA with less overhead to the teams involved.

Spanning the entire SOA lifecycle, the Oracle SOA governance solution is built upon a combination of the Oracle Enterprise Repository and Service Registry, Oracle Web Services Manager, and Oracle Management Pack Plus for SOA. These technologies naturally integrate with SOA infrastructure, and put a premium on automating the governance lifecycle. With them, it is much easier to implement governance policies and processes, greatly enhancing the success of SOA at both design time and in operations. In addition, Oracle’s governance solution embeds best practices to get you up and running quickly and guide your SOA efforts. Whether you are just embarking on an SOA program, or expanding an existing initiative, Oracle’s solution can guide you along the path to demonstrated, measurable SOA success.
Key Solution Benefits

When properly implemented, the Oracle SOA governance solution provides these key benefits:

- Lower costs and reduced risk in SOA initiatives
- Better visibility and management of SOA assets and infrastructure
- Improved efficiency, for better SOA project outcomes
- Ability to measure the progress and value of SOA investments

Collectively, they represent the ultimate objective of every SOA initiative: success.

Lower Your Costs and Reduce Risk

The Oracle SOA governance solution facilitates the creation and provisioning of services, processes and related assets to optimize service reuse. Organizations can reduce the cost of software implementation and maintenance while consolidating IT for substantial savings. Meanwhile, governance capabilities at runtime reduce security and performance risks associated with added complexity.

Features related to cost savings include:

- Proactive support for service reuse in BPM and shared service environments
- Management of the SOA asset portfolio to maximize business value
- A prescriptive approach to IT consolidation

Features that help to mitigate risk include:

- Approval that services and other assets are in compliance with standards, policies and corporate guidelines before they are promoted for broader use
- Policy management; enforcement of security standards and service level management
- Automatic change notification
- Rapid resolution of performance issues in the composite application environment.

Gain Visibility into Your SOA Environment

The Oracle SOA governance solution provides every stakeholder with a clear, easily understandable view of SOA assets and their relationships. This reduces duplication of effort, optimizes reuse, and informs the change process. The solution:

- Automatically harvests, aggregates, and publishes SOA artifacts in heterogeneous environments
- Supports Oracle and non-Oracle infrastructures to provide a holistic view
of the SOA

- Provides visibility of existing assets, as well as those planned or in development, to avoid redundant effort
- Automatically maps and updates relationships and dependencies that connect services, artifacts, business processes, policies, and applications for change impact analysis
- Collects and communicates vital information on service performance, quality, and compliance with corporate standards
- Supports end-to-end visual modeling of the dynamic interactions among clients, services, processes and other application components at runtime

Figure 1: Visualization of asset dependencies.

Improve Efficiency for Better SOA Project Outcomes

SOA projects involve collaboration among producers, providers, consumers, architects and policy administrators. When users do not have access to shared information, an automated process that helps manage the SOA lifecycle, and confidence in the SOA environment, then efficiency declines— and so does service utilization. Your SOA investment could go out the window.

Fortunately, the Oracle SOA governance solution:

- Builds a community of trust by aggregating information about service applicability, value, quality, performance, and security throughout the lifecycle.
- Automates collection, introspection and maintenance of SOA assets and their dependencies—design-time though deployment, including service endpoint management
- Provides repeatable processes for lifecycle management through out-of-
the-box workflows based on best practices

- Automates control via approval processes and policy management
- Supports change management with impact analysis, audit and other tracking features

Measure the Progress and Value of Your SOA Investment

Achieving the full value of SOA investments takes time and consumes resources. The ability to demonstrate progress throughout the process, as well as the resulting returns, is critical to achieving success. The Oracle SOA governance solution provides executives and architects with the visibility needed to assess the effectiveness of governance practices and the overall success of their SOA.

Features that help keep your investment on track include:

- Support for critical decisions based on service value, compliance, performance, and ROI feedback
- Tracking and reporting on reuse throughout the entire service lifecycle, including development reuse, runtime service invocation, and reported cost avoided
- Monitoring and measurement of actions, results, and progress via automated artifact usage detection, policy validation, architectural compliance, performance metrics, security exceptions, quality of service metrics, and savings
- Tools to assure that projects and the assets they produce or consume align with corporate goals
- Communication of the existing, as well as the “to-be” states of the SOA infrastructure

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Figure 2: Comprehensive scorecards provide key metrics to measure performance.
The Oracle SOA governance solution uses automation to promote the integrity and success of your SOA initiative. Through a centralized repository, policy enforcement, and management of key performance factors, the solution provides the foundation required to build business value through SOA.

**RELATED PRODUCTS**

- Oracle Enterprise Repository
- Oracle Service Registry
- Oracle Web Services Manager
- Oracle Management Pack Plus for SOA

**Contact Us**

For more information about [insert product name], please visit oracle.com or call +1.800.ORACLE1 to speak to an Oracle representative.

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