HEALTHCARE INTEGRATION

One of the health industry’s greatest information technology challenges is to find a reliable, secure, and cost-effective method to share information. Oracle’s Healthcare Integration provides health industry organizations with a flexible, secure, and cost-effective platform for enterprise-wide information sharing. This solution also enables standards-based data transport for compliance with federal mandates such as HIPAA transactions and adverse event reporting, and serves as the basis of any J2EE application and Web services development.

The Need for Health Enterprise Interoperability Solutions

Interoperability is essential. In a clinical setting, reliable, timely, and accurate information sharing has a direct impact on patient safety. Interoperability is also essential to the business operations of all types of health organizations, both internally and externally. Internally, organizations must share information among a variety of systems such as research and development systems, clinical systems, claims systems, and financial systems. Externally, these organizations must share information such as claims data, patient records, supplier requisitions, and government reports.

While it is essential, interoperability is also painful; it is widely recognized that a large percentage of IT budgets is spent on interoperability-related projects. For a health industry executive, the ability to exchange data between applications within the executive’s environment, with external trading partners, and with government agencies remains a daunting and costly task. Traditionally, several niche vendors have dominated the market by using proprietary technology to solve specific types of interoperability problems. This approach has led many organizations to seek out a new or customized solution for each new interoperability business challenge. Often, the result is that one health organization uses many platforms, creating a heterogeneous environment that is difficult to manage and costly to operate.

In addition to the traditional exchange of data between providers and payors, major national initiatives such as the Public Health Information Network (PHIN), the National Health Information Network (NHIN), the Medicare Modernization Act and the Medicare Information Technology Architecture (MMA and MITA), Regional Health Information Organization (RHIO) initiatives, Health Information Exchanges (HIE), and emerging federal and state drug safety laws further challenge an...
organization’s ability to exchange data.

Health industry organizations need an enterprise-wide, information-sharing platform that is: based on standards, flexible enough to co-exist with existing systems, secure enough to provide data integrity and protect patient privacy, and reliable enough to meet the rigorous demands of the health industry. Such a platform will enable organizations to leverage electronic information-sharing to help reduce costs and, more importantly, support the core mission of high quality patient care.

**Oracle’s Healthcare Integration Solution**

Oracle Healthcare Integration provides an extensible infrastructure that supports a wide variety of health industry and technology standards to help define, configure, manage and monitor the electronic exchange of data between two or more trading partners. This solution provides a complete technology platform for sharing information from almost any healthcare application, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) suite, or legacy system with any other system. Further, since it is built on Oracle Fusion Middleware, Oracle’s platform is also the ideal foundation for J2EE and Web services development.

Oracle’s Healthcare Integration solution includes the following components:

- **Oracle Application Server 10g** – The core of Oracle Fusion Middleware, a comprehensive and well-integrated family of products that offers complete support for the development, deployment, and management of applications based on a Service Oriented Architecture (SOA).

- **Oracle Integration B2B** – A reliable, high performance integration engine that provides the infrastructure for information sharing. It also provides trading partner management and agreements and service level settings.

- **Oracle Healthcare Adapter** – Provides specific support for common industry standards such as HL7, X.12, EDIFACT, NCPDP and others.

- **Oracle BPEL Process Manager** – Enables the healthcare enterprise to define, deploy and manage business processes utilizing the business process execution language (BPEL). It uses a graphical design tool, a BPEL engine with an extensible framework, and a comprehensive monitoring console.

- **Oracle Enterprise Services Bus** – Provides integration infrastructure that combines SOA and EDA (Event Driven Architecture) functionality and delivers organizations the flexibility they need to respond to business changes. Further, it is the tight integration of ESB with Enterprise Applications, BPEL, BAM and Web Services managers that will enable customers to leverage their existing technology investments and extend their footprint into the future of standards based computing.

- **Oracle Web Services Manager** – Oracle Web Services Manager enables WS-Security for existing Web services. Agents are available for a variety of Web servers from various vendors and for open source Web servers.

- **Oracle Business Activity Monitoring** – Oracle BAM satisfies a growing need to enable healthcare executives, and more specifically operations managers, to improve their decision-making processes by first getting a real
time view of the business events occurring in their enterprise, and second using the derived intelligence to analyze and improve the efficiency of their business processes.

- **Oracle JDeveloper** – Oracle JDeveloper is a free, integrated development environment with end-to-end support for modeling, developing, debugging, optimizing, and deploying Java applications and Web services. Oracle JDeveloper 10g introduces a new approach to J2EE development with features that enable visual and declarative development.

- **Oracle Business Rules** – Oracle Business Rules is one of the newer AS10g technologies and is designed to make applications more agile. A business analyst can change business policies expressed as rules quickly and safely with little or no assistance from a programmer.

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**KEY BENEFITS**

Oracle Healthcare Integration combines products and services that enable the health industry organization to:

- Improve the information sharing process both within the organization and with other health industry constituents.
- Reduce costs and complexity by utilizing a secure, flexible and reliable platform for information sharing.
- Support enterprise-wide information sharing needs with a common platform, reducing the need for specialized skills.
- Establish an operational intelligence repository to gain a complete enterprise-wide view of the organization and improve decision-making processes.

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**Your Next Step**

Oracle’s Healthcare Integration solution helps health organizations establish a comprehensive, information-sharing platform. For more information on Oracle Health Sciences Integration, contact your account manager, Steve Jepsen (stephen.jepsen@oracle.com), Mark Dunnagan (mark.dunnagan@oracle.com) or call toll-free 1-800-633-0677.

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