WebLogic Suite: Foundation Infrastructure for Oracle Internet Application Server Customers
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Executive Summary

Oracle Fusion Middleware is the industry’s most comprehensive and most cohesive application platform suite. It is a pre-integrated portfolio of customer-proven software that spans from portals and process managers to application infrastructure, developer tools, and business intelligence. The product portfolio includes world-class, open-standards middleware products such as a highly-scalable messaging and transaction processing platform, the leading application server, a comprehensive business process management and SOA infrastructure and an Enterprise 2.0 user interaction environment. Oracle Fusion Middleware's hot-pluggable capabilities enable customers to "drop & deploy" products into their existing IT environments.

Within this platform going forward to Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g, Oracle WebLogic Server has become the strategic application server infrastructure. It is designed to provide a standards-based, mission critical and secure platform for organizations developing and deploying large-scale, distributed middleware environments. As the strategic application server the upper level Fusion Middleware products and Oracle Applications portfolio have adopted it as the foundation of their deployment and integration infrastructure.

Fusion Middleware 10g R2 and Fusion Middleware 10g R3 and licensed product packages such as Oracle Internet Application Server based on Fusion Middleware continue to be maintained and updated according to standard lifetime support policies available on oracle.com/support. Oracle Internet Application Server capabilities like Oracle TopLink and Oracle Coherence along with layered products such as Oracle Forms, Oracle Reports, Oracle Discoverer and Oracle Portal and others have been certified with the WebLogic Server infrastructure. The J2EE runtime underlying Oracle Internet Application Server, Oracle Containers for J2EE (OC4J) has had key capabilities converged and certified with WebLogic Server. The goal has been to enable Oracle customer investments in Oracle Internet Application Server to move forward seamlessly to Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g.

To enable this convergence both technically from an architectural perspective and packaging wise from a licensing perspective, Oracle WebLogic Suite has been created. WebLogic Suite, the industry's most comprehensive application server platform, designed
specifically for deploying Oracle’s infrastructure. Oracle WebLogic Server, the core of the suite, combines unmatched performance, scalability, and manageability with the key converged components of Oracle Internet Application Server in a technically unified offering that forms the best foundation for the Oracle Fusion Middleware and Oracle Business Applications portfolio.

WebLogic Suite is aligned with Oracle’s single minded approach of offering consistent infrastructure across the entire Oracle stack, including Oracle Database, Oracle Fusion Middleware and Oracle Business Applications. Oracle reduces customers overall total cost of ownership – substantially shrinking implementation costs, administration costs, training costs and ongoing maintenance costs.

Adopting WebLogic Suite not only opens the door to the most comprehensive pre-integrated suite of Fusion Middleware products protecting your existing Oracle Internet Application Server investment, easing your ability to leverage Oracle software and simplifying license management but also providing an on ramp to the strategic platform where new technical innovations are rapidly coming online as this new consolidated application server infrastructure moves to new releases such as Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g.

Many of the next generation innovations of the core middleware platform will emerge from the combination of technologies within WebLogic Suite. Such cross product integration includes increasingly sophisticated Oracle Database Real Application Cluster support, deep integration of the Oracle Coherence Data Grid for scalability and reliability and seamless uptake of Oracle JRockit Java Virtual Machine for better performance and lower latency in your applications.

The intent of WebLogic Suite is to enable customers to improve service levels, increase hardware utilization and simplify operations and administration by taking advantage of these built in tightly integrated capabilities. The overall benefit is substantial and measurable versus alternative application server providers who both don’t have these types of technologies nor have the vision of lowering total cost of ownership while improving reliability, availability, scalability and performance.
Introduction

An enterprise’s software applications are its lifeblood for running a competitive and efficient business. Applications run on a foundation of hardware and middleware infrastructure, a foundation that is “make-or-break” for application characteristics such as responsiveness and reliability. Choosing the right foundation for your custom and commercial off the shelf applications is crucial to the overall success of any IT strategy.

With WebLogic Suite, Oracle has created the industry's most comprehensive middleware platform for developing, integrating, and deploying enterprise applications. At the core of the suite is Oracle WebLogic Server, a powerful and scalable Java Enterprise Edition (EE) application server. Oracle WebLogic Suite combines unmatched performance, scalability, and manageability in a unified offering that forms the best foundation for the Oracle infrastructure portfolio.

Seamlessly moving from small implementations to the largest enterprise deployments while maintaining quality of service and manageability is a fundamental benefit of WebLogic Suite. The proliferation of custom applications and commercial off the shelf software has dramatically increased the expectations and demands on IT infrastructure.

Oracle WebLogic Suite meets these demands with the number-one application server, WebLogic Server converged with key capabilities of Oracle Containers for J2EE (OC4J), the full portfolio of Oracle Internet Application Server layered products, the end-to-end diagnostics and management with the Enterprise Manager Diagnostics Pack, high performance through in-memory caching with Oracle Coherence, and predictable low-latency, high-throughput transactions with Oracle JRockit – all designed to squeeze operational costs while improving service levels.

Oracle WebLogic Suite redefines what it means to be mission-critical application infrastructure for today’s enterprise. Oracle Fusion Middleware, the broader Oracle middleware portfolio that includes service-oriented architecture (SOA), business intelligence, identity management, Enterprise 2.0 infrastructure, business intelligence and content management, depends on the Oracle WebLogic Suite foundation to deliver the quality of service these layered technologies require as the platform for Oracle applications.
WebLogic Suite is the only application server platform certified for all Oracle customer and commercial applications. WebLogic Suite includes foundational technologies beyond Java EE such as Oracle Forms, Oracle Reports, Oracle Discoverer and Oracle Portal that are critical for applications such as Oracle E-Business Suite. With Oracle Fusion Middleware release 11g, many cross-infrastructure capabilities such as security and configuration are cleanly consolidated into the WebLogic Suite foundation for both performance and simplicity. It is also important to keep in mind that WebLogic Suite is the foundation for Oracle Fusion Applications, so any existing or new investment in this technology lays the perfect groundwork for these new offerings.

Oracle WebLogic Suite offers unmatched capabilities and benefits for enterprises with stringent business requirements that demand proven infrastructure software. Figure 1 provides an overview of WebLogic Suite as the foundation for the upper layers of Oracle Fusion Middleware as well as for the Oracle application portfolio.

This paper provides a discussion of how Oracle Internet Application Server has converged into WebLogic Suite and the technical and business advantages this provides to Oracle Internet Application Server customers.
Oracle Internet Application Server Convergence to WebLogic Suite

Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g now provides complete support for running Oracle Internet Application Server layered products such as Oracle Web Cache, Oracle HTTP Server, Oracle Forms, Oracle Reports, Oracle Discoverer, Oracle Portal and others on WebLogic Server.

For existing Oracle Internet Application Server customers planning to upgrade to Fusion Middleware 11g, it is important to understand the product packaging, versioning and support policies of the product components within Internet Application Server.

First, Oracle Internet Application Server is a licensed package within the Fusion Middleware product portfolio. It continues to be sold as a package on the Oracle Technology Price List after the adoption of WebLogic Server as the strategic Java EE infrastructure. The Oracle Internet Application Server product package, once licensed by customers, provides the entitlement to use the product components within Internet Application Server package regardless of the version or release of the product components. Each product component within the Internet Application Server license package is versioned with each major release of Fusion Middleware.

Example product components within the Internet Application Server package are Oracle HTTP Server, Oracle Web Cache, Oracle Containers for J2EE, Oracle Forms, Oracle Reports, Oracle Portal and Oracle Discoverer. Formal licensing terms and product component inclusion are available as part of the Oracle Internet Application Server documentation set. For example, for the Fusion Middleware 10g R2 (10.1.2.0.2) release the Licensing Information documentation book is available here:

http://download.oracle.com/docs/cd/B14099_19/index.htm

Next it is important to understand that the release of the middleware platform, Oracle Fusion Middleware (10g R2, 10g R3, 11g R1 etc), results in the release of newly versioned product components within Internet Application Server package and other product packages that Oracle provides. When Fusion Middleware 10g R2 was released, licensed and supported customers of the Internet Application Server package were entitled to those new product component versions – for example Oracle HTTP Server 10g R2, Forms 10g R2, Reports 10g R2, Portal 10g R2 etc. Correspondingly when Fusion Middleware 11g was released, the product components within Internet Application Server were updated and licensed and supported customers of the Internet Application Server package were entitled to adopt those new versions – Oracle HTTP Server 11g R1, Forms 11g R1, Reports 11g R1, Portal 11g R1 etc. As part of the convergence to WebLogic Suite and specifically to Weblogic Server, there has been no release of OC4J 11g but rather ongoing support and maintenance of OC4J 10g R2 and R3 per the Oracle Lifetime Support Policy described in detail below.
With this information, it is straightforward to relate this to the Oracle Lifetime Support Policy. Each release of Oracle Fusion Middleware is documented in terms of support timelines within the Oracle Lifetime Support Policy document available on oracle.com:


In this document specific dates and timelines are provided for Oracle Fusion Middleware 10g R2, Oracle Fusion Middleware 10g R3 and Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g. These dates include all the product components that are part of the Internet Application Server licensing package.

In a simple summary Fusion Middleware 10g R2 product components, at the time of writing, have a Premier Support timeline until December 2011, no Extended Support and indefinite Sustaining Support. There are a number of specific exceptions within that that are documented fully in the Lifetime Support Policy document. Fusion Middleware 10g R3 product components have similar support timelines with a number of specific timelines for product components in the Internet Application Server, SOA, Identity and WebCenter product portfolios. Most notably OC4J 10g R3 (10.1.3) has an extended support timeline of Premier Support until June 2014, Extended Support until June 2017 and indefinite Sustaining Support. Please refer to the Lifetime Support Policy document for the most up to date information.

Fusion Middleware 10g R2 and Fusion Middleware 10g R3 product components are also embedded within Oracle E-Business Suite. Specifically for E-Business Suite 12.1 based on Fusion Middleware 10g R2 and 10g R3, Premier Support will be continued until May 2014 and Extended Support until May 2017. Within these products, the Oracle Fusion Middleware 10g R2 and 10g R3 support dates for the embedded product components are extended to match the E-Business Suite support dates. As new versions of E-Business Suite are released the support dates are updated accordingly. The formal public lifetime support policy on all Oracle applications products can be found on oracle.com/support at:


As a server infrastructure, within the package Internet Application Server, the Oracle Containers for J2EE is the most comparable product component to Oracle WebLogic Server. As such, to enable an understanding of how infrastructure from Oracle Containers for J2EE within the Oracle Internet Application Server package has been converged and certified on WebLogic Server, Diagram 1 “Core OC4J Runtime Convergence and Certification” provides a simplified overview of the plans. Notable convergences here include:

• Oracle TopLink, the basis of the reference implementation of JPA within Java EE 5.0 and now opensourced in Eclipse, has become the strategic persistence infrastructure for WebLogic Server. However, dependencies within WebLogic Server on Kodo, support
and development of Kodo, and support and development of the WebLogic Server 10.0 and 10.3 EJB container, will be continued according to the lifetime support policies outlined on oracle.com/support.

- WebLogic Server JMS, well known in the industry as a world class, high performance, highly available messaging infrastructure is extensively used by Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g. In addition to this, the technical integration with the Oracle Database that was done between OC4J and Oracle Streams Advanced Queuing has been done equivalently with WebLogic Server JMS.

- WebLogic Server Web Services (JAX-RPC and JAX-WS) remains the Java programming model for Web services in WebLogic Server. For Service Component Architecture (SCA) the Oracle SCA implementation developed for Oracle Fusion Middleware remains the strategic direction.

For Web services policy, Oracle Web Services Manager has become the strategic policy management infrastructure for Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g, however, WebLogic Server will maintain its existing Web services policy infrastructure for Java EE applications. These two policy infrastructures have been harmonized to ensure there is seamless integration for Java EE services and layered SOA services.

- WebLogic Server Security remains unchanged in Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g however capabilities from Oracle Platform Security Services (OPSS) particularly its support of Oracle Application Development Framework (ADF) and Oracle WebCenter have been made available within WebLogic Server instances when layered Fusion Middleware products such as SOA Suite, WebCenter Suite, ADF and other components are deployed.

- WebLogic Server Administration Console and WebLogic Scripting Tool (WLST) remains the primary infrastructure for managing WebLogic Server in Fusion Middleware 11g. Oracle Enterprise Manager Fusion Middleware Control and Oracle Enterprise Manager Grid Control supplement these capabilities with multi-domain and multi-release management of WebLogic Server and higher-level management functions such as historical monitoring, configuration management, provisioning and diagnostics.

- Oracle JRockit, available on Windows, Linux and Solaris has been certified as a tier one Java VM certification for Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g. Oracle JRockit along with Hotspot JVM have become strategic Java VM platforms underlying WebLogic Server and Oracle Fusion Middleware on Windows and Linux. Oracle will continue providing certification on third party Java VMs and a large variety of chipsets as it has in the past including those provided by Sun, HP, IBM and others.
To enable an understanding of how the layered components of Oracle Internet Application Server are certified on WebLogic Server in Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g, Diagram 2 “Layered Components from Oracle Internet Application Server to Certify on Fusion Middleware 11” provides a simplified overview. Notable certifications here include:

- Oracle Web Cache and Oracle HTTP Server are certified and available as a Web tier in front of WebLogic Server. WebLogic Server continues to offer plug-ins for third party Web servers including generic Apache distributions, Sun Java Web Server and Microsoft IIS.

Further, mod_plsql, a key technology used to generate dynamic HTML pages from PL/SQL code within the Oracle Database is carried forward as part of the Oracle HTTP Server to Oracle Fusion Middleware 11gR1.

- Oracle Forms, Reports, Portal and Discoverer are fully certified on Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g with the related Java infrastructure necessary for their runtime running on WebLogic Server.

- Oracle SOA components licensed with Oracle Internet Application Server – Oracle Enterprise Service Bus and Oracle Business to Business (B2B) - are certified on Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g. It is important to consult Oracle SOA Suite white papers to understand how the Oracle Enterprise Service Bus is delivered as the Oracle SOA Suite Mediator in Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g.

- Oracle Identity Management components, particularly Oracle Internet Directory, is certified as a full LDAP provider in Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g. For single sign on,
mod_osso is carried forward with Oracle HTTP Server however the server infrastructure of Oracle Single Sign On remains certified only on Oracle Internet Application Server. The strategic direction forward for single sign on is Oracle Access Manager. It is important to consult Oracle Identity Management white papers for more details.

To ensure customers have a seamless transition to Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g from Oracle Fusion Middleware 10g R3 a significant investment is been made in two areas:

1. Interoperability and Integration Testing – ensuring Fusion Middleware 10g R2 and R3 interoperate with Fusion Middleware 11g R1.
2. Upgrade – building automation, tooling and best practices around the upgrade to Fusion Middleware 11g through upgrade assistant tooling and documentation.

As most customers stage their upgrades to new releases over time, formal certification of the product line between the new Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g R1 and the existing Oracle Fusion Middleware 10g R2 and R3 releases has been undertaken and is part of the release information available with Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g R1. Common scenarios include inter-container level RMI, Web services and JMS messaging interoperability, higher level HTTP server interoperability across mixed container environments and finally product suite interoperability.
across layered products (Identity Management, SOA Suite and WebCenter) running on Oracle Fusion Middleware 10g R2, R3 and Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g R1.

To enable a systematic and manageable upgrade to Fusion Middleware 11g, automated tooling is provided for layered products like Oracle Forms, Reports, Discoverer, Oracle Portal, Oracle SOA Suite, Oracle WebCenter, Oracle ADF and Oracle Identity Management. For Java EE applications a tool called WebLogic SmartUpgrade is available to transform existing OC4J J2EE applications to compatible WebLogic Server J2EE applications. This is combined with documentation and examples to guide customers through the process. Diagram 5 “Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g Upgrade Documentation” provides a simple roadmap of the documentation set that will be available as part of the release. For ongoing resources associated with the upgrade, the Fusion Middleware Upgrade Center on Oracle Technology Network - http://www.oracle.com/technology/products/middleware/upgrade/index.html - is frequently updated with new information, documents and updates on the upgrade process.

WebLogic Server in WebLogic Suite

Oracle WebLogic 11g R1 (10.3.1+) was released in July 2009 as the foundation of Fusion Middleware 11g. This release is a maintenance pack to Oracle WebLogic Server 10g R3 (10.3.0) released in August 2008. This WebLogic 10.3.x release cycle is the most stable, hardened, high performance release in the history of WebLogic Server.

Oracle WebLogic Server 11g R1 has the latest certifications with the Oracle database portfolio including Oracle Database 11g and Oracle Real Application Clusters. The intent of WebLogic
Server 11g is for it to be the strategic release upon which previous BEA customers and existing Oracle customers can consolidate their application server infrastructures.

WebLogic Server 11g has a number of distinguishing additional characteristics beyond platform stability and layered product certifications that will be important for customers to consider when evaluating it as their strategic infrastructure, in particular:

1. **Standards.** WebLogic Server 11g R1 is certified to be fully Java EE 5.0 compatible, conforming to the latest Java EE specification level. WebLogic Server 11g is certified with Java SE 6.0 the latest release of Java SE and less likely to run into support issues due to end of service lifetime notices for earlier Java SE releases. Customers using Oracle JRockit versions will have lifetime support dates identical to that of the WebLogic Server support dates.

2. **Support.** WebLogic Server 11g R1 currently has the following support timelines: Premium Support until June 2014 and Extended Support until June 2017. WebLogic Server 8.1 Premium Support ends September 2009 and WebLogic Server 9.2 Premium Support ends November 2011. For more details, see the lifetime support policy on oracle.com/support at this URL:


   WebLogic Server 11g R1 has the longest support cycle available for WebLogic Server and will have the complete Fusion Middleware portfolio certified on it.

3. **Performance.** WebLogic Server 11g has recently achieved world record positions in all the SPECjAppServer2004 benchmarks, leading in single node, dual node and multi-node results. As in all mature releases, one of the major areas focused on in WebLogic Server 11g was overall performance, and the investment is reflected in the benchmarks posted by Oracle on WebLogic Server. See [http://www.spec.org/jAppServer2004/results/](http://www.spec.org/jAppServer2004/results/) for detailed benchmark results.

4. **Development.** WebLogic Server 11g brings significant development tooling support from a new release of JDeveloper 11g certified with WebLogic Server 11g and Oracle Enterprise Pack for Eclipse (OEPE) 11g which is the successor product to Oracle WebLogic Workshop. Both are available now.

5. **New Capabilities and Certifications.**

   In WebLogic Server 11g R1 new features added include GridLink for RAC – new certifications with Oracle Real Application Clusters, ActiveCache – new JPA and HTTP session integration between WebLogic Server and Coherence, Enterprise Grid
Messaging – new integration between WebLogic Server JMS and Oracle Database Streams Advanced Queuing, Real Operations Automation – consistent administrative and operational infrastructure such as WLST and Domain Templates uptaken by all of Fusion Middleware, Real Operations Diagnostics – consistent diagnostics infrastructure surfaced within Enterprise Manager for all of Fusion Middleware and new management capabilities within Enterprise Manager Fusion Middleware Control.

Previously, WebLogic Server 10g R3 (10.3.0) also was a significant release that added a lightweight install option, HA capabilities in WebLogic Server JMS (fully automated service migration), a .NET JMS client, certification of a more recent JAX-WS Web services standard (JAX-WS 2.1), faster development cycles with the integration of Java SE 6.0 class swapping capabilities (branded FastSwap in WebLogic Server), full certification with TopLink 11g (database integration), Coherence certification (in-memory data grid) and certification of the most recent release of the Spring framework.

More information on the new features of 11g is available on oracle.com/weblogic with many more detailed white papers and broadcasts.

A full use license of WebLogic Server 11g also offers significant additional value to the Oracle Application Server customer base beyond that which was available within Oracle Application Server including:

1. **Runtime.** Within the area of the core container, beyond the fully certified Java EE 5.0 compatibility, WebLogic Server extends the runtime in numerous areas including the Java Message Service (message ordering with unit of order, unit of work, scale out with distributed destinations and store and forward infrastructure, C and .NET JMS clients), Web services (conversational Web services, buffered Web services, asynchronous Web services, SOAP over JMS), built-in Tuxedo integration and runtime tuning (self tuning work managers) amongst others.

2. **Development.** Within the area of development capabilities above that in basic servers, WebLogic includes Java class FastSwap capabilities for fast test/debug cycles without server restarts, split development for tightly integrated IDE development, HTTP Publish/Subscribe Server for AJAX applications, filtering classloader to handle multiple versions of class libraries, Ant tasks for development, deployment and configuration automation and deep Eclipse and JDeveloper integration amongst others.

3. **Operations and Administration.** Within the area of operations and administration, WebLogic Server extends basic server capabilities in numerous areas including transactional and batch configuration, side by side deployment, domain template builder and configuration wizard for simplified cloning, consistent scripting and command line tooling for all server configuration with WebLogic Scripting Tool, sophisticated lifecycle
control over applications and the container, built in diagnostics framework amongst others.

4. **High Availability.** Within the area of high availability WebLogic Server extends basic core availability capabilities in a number of areas including clustered JNDI, whole server migration, service migration, high availability for singleton services (JMS, JTA, user defined) and rolling patch upgrades amongst others.

Going forward from WebLogic Server 11g and Oracle Fusion Middleware 11g, the strategic intent of the server development team falls into three major categories:

1. **Deep Oracle Integration – Fusion Middleware, Applications and Oracle Database**
   
a. Being the best development and deployment platform for Oracle Fusion Middleware and Oracle Applications
b. Being the best application server platform integrated with the Oracle Database taking further advantage of Oracle Database RAC and Oracle Database Security.
c. Having the deepest and richest operations and administrative infrastructure for customers running the Oracle portfolio of products on WebLogic Server with Oracle Enterprise Manager.

2. **Modularization and Simplification**

   A significant investment has been undertaken to modularize the WebLogic Server container around the OSGi standard. These efforts are actively continuing at Oracle with the goal of providing highly modular, lightweight container profiles within WebLogic Domains. Examples of such profiles expected developer centric ones such as scalable JSP/Servlet engine and the Web Profile which is part of Java EE 6.

3. **Next Generation Operations at Scale and Lowest Cost**

   Oracle’s integration of Enterprise Manager for low cost operations and administration at scale and Oracle Coherence as a runtime scale out solution for Oracle Fusion Middleware will carry on with a focus on deeper integration into the core fabric of the WebLogic Server. The goal of this integration will be to provide a highly manageable shared services infrastructure that addresses the needs of customers who manage large numbers of WebLogic Server domains and clusters and who require better approaches for optimizing reliability, availability scalability, security and performance, in shared services infrastructures.
Product Integration

The arrival of WebLogic Server as the core application server runtime within Oracle Fusion Middleware has enabled Oracle to provide an integrated Java infrastructure that Oracle calls WebLogic Suite. WebLogic Suite contains three major server side components: 1. Oracle WebLogic Server - the best-of-breed, proven mission critical capable Java server infrastructure; 2. Oracle JRockit - the world’s highest performing low latency Java VM; and, 3. Oracle Coherence – the industry’s most predictable, reliable, scale-out in-memory data grid.

Combined into a single, integrated offering, Oracle WebLogic Suite increases application performance and improves application operational efficiency due to a highly optimized integration of the components, enables predictable and reliable application scale out with the deep integration of the Coherence In Memory Data Grid and provides unmatched quality of service for custom and packaged applications deployed to this infrastructure. WebLogic Suite comes with a choice of highly productive development tools based on Oracle JDeveloper or Eclipse (Oracle Enterprise Pack for Eclipse) and a fully integrated management infrastructure for large-scale administration and operations with Enterprise Manager.

WebLogic Suite is not only an integrated infrastructure for custom and packaged Java applications, it also is the foundation that Oracle Fusion Middleware products like Oracle SOA Suite, Oracle WebCenter Suite, Oracle Identity Management, Oracle Content Management and Oracle Business Intelligence, designed to provide the highest performance, best quality of service, scale out infrastructure to their customers.

More recently Oracle has introduced the Oracle WebLogic Suite Virtualization Option which enables WebLogic Server within WebLogic Suite to run natively on a hypervisor using a technology called Oracle JRockit Virtual Edition, dramatically improving performance and enabling significant increases in application server instance density when running WebLogic Server in a virtualized environment. This solution works hand in hand with Oracle Virtual Assembly Builder, which is a tool that enables system architects assemble groups of virtual appliances into entire multi-tier applications and treat them as single versionable, deployment and administrative units. This tool reflects the practical reality of most enterprise systems which are multi-tier and comprise of multiple layers – web tier (e.g. Apache HTTP Server), application tier (e.g. Oracle WebLogic Server) and database tier (e.g. Oracle Database).

Lastly WebLogic Suite has rapidly become the consolidation infrastructure suite upon which the Oracle Business Applications portfolio is certifying on per the product plans outlined in Table 1. The convergence of both Fusion Middleware and Oracle Business Applications is a compelling event driving the reasoning behind the existence of the WebLogic Suite product.
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**TABLE 1: WEBLOGIC SERVER CERTIFICATIONS FOR ORACLE BUSINESS APPLICATIONS**
Conclusion

Choosing the right foundation for any application from the Oracle portfolio is vitally important in realizing expected return on investment as well as staying within budget. Reducing complexity and supporting IT infrastructure are two critical factors to driving down operational costs. Oracle WebLogic Suite brings together all the necessary pieces to effectively deploy, monitor, and manage all of Oracle’s Internet Application Server infrastructure. Since Oracle WebLogic Suite provides the foundation for all of Oracle Fusion Middleware, integrating and extending the capability of your applications is greatly simplified and helps protect your investment.

This continuing investment moving forward in WebLogic Suite continues the clear vision set out in 2001, when Oracle entered the middleware market, to have the industry’s leading, standards-based lightweight application server infrastructure designed to scale from the simplest and most productive development environments to the largest mission critical deployments requiring the highest performance, manageability, reliability, security and interoperability.
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