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Some questions answered as a Business Software Platform Technology

The world's first enterprise agile software.
A leader in Model Driven Engineering

The required business functionality in software	The current offering capabilities	Scheduled improvements
Agility in software to support both iterative build and future change.	Procession's core design eliminates need for core code to change yet addresses any business requirement see list below. There is no code generation or compiling to build or change. The Procession declarative technology allows change without disruption with implementation through its in built version control. Supports agile methodology with input direct from business users into the Graphical Model build environment which is in control of the business analyst/process consultant.	Improve change control management.
Ability to produce quickly prototypes as a first cut reflecting the end user/business need to engage early feed back.	All business logic is prebuilt as generic capability which is represented and built via a Graphical Model interface which was added after the application build technology was built. The user form is integrated into this build environment and the recent completion of a web form builder. All of this has separated business logic from delivery technologies which allows for very rapid build of any business application ready for user feed back.	Procession does not yet have analytical tools to evaluate impact of changes but can interface with 3rd party tools
How is the specification handled and translated into build	The "discovery" of requirements is a step by step description in business language that involves human and supporting system tasks. This is inserted direct into the Graphical Model Interface using business analyst skills. Iterative build is supported which removes requirement for a final detailed specification.	

How is the build in the Graphical model translated into a working application	Procession has built a declarative capability that translates what has been built in the Graphical Model through to the Process engine which automatically sets up the order of activity linking people and roles. This does not require BPMN or any other related execution tool.	
Ability to connect to legacy systems.	There are a number of ways to connect to legacy. There is in the Procession engine a SSMQ linked to our JDBC and XML gateways However our Tag library with access direct to memory cache and a content handler can readily communicate with any database or file source and accept via HTTP csv files. There is a listening capability to trigger a process from external sources.	Whilst Procession can connect to web services it is not currently exposed as a web service.
How does the architecture of the technology fit into legacy and does it require SOA?	Procession's core design is able to handle both front office with users and back office support functions including data storage. The result is a "processhub" (as opposed to a traditional layer) approach. It does not require SOA to be implemented but can be used. The principles of SOA are utilised within the Procession architecture.	
Use of open source and transparency of built solutions.	The presentation layer is java based and is platform independent allowing choice of browsers, operating systems and application servers including open source. All build of custom solutions is transparent and is readily accessible for change by the customer in the development tool.	Currently the design / build environment in the Graphical Model requires Windows but this will change with future versions.
Management of users, roles and authorisations	Procession has in built access security (includes link to LDAP) and includes a comprehensive capability linking users with roles and can readily build any required hierarchy that controls the authorisation or reallocation of any work or user.	
How much custom coding is required to build custom solutions and is it accessible.	No coding is required for custom build or change and all build is transparent in the Graphical Model. All task types are stored in the database and are generic to business. The core code never changes and represents business software becoming a "commodity" by reuse of core code for any application The core code is available by but is not required.	Improvement of graphical interface icons is in development
Does any model capability reflect what is actually deployed.	In Procession the model is the application transparent to all interested parties. All custom build is via the Graphical Model and is declared through to the process engine and ready to run.	

Reusable features to speed up future development.	Everything that is built such as forms, sub processes, calculations or even the whole application is capable of reuse.	
Flexibility in build of working user forms and ease of change.	There is a client server and web form builder and with an extensive tag library which allows very quick build of requirements in a user form including dynamic grid technology. This incorporates intelligence to minimise duplication of information entry and utilises Ajax. This is neatly integrated into the core Procession Technology. Changes can be readily implemented on the forms with minimal knock on consequences. Forms are dynamically populated for the specified user for that specific instance with all required information for the user's job in hand.	An inbuilt web form editor to speed up design of web forms is being planned. Procession does not need/ rely on an entity relationship model but is recognised as useful in our future plans.
Reporting capabilities	With all information stored in real time in the Oracle database any report is readily created. There are pre built web based graphical displays of information with "drill down" features as required.	
Ease of delivering as a service or from cloud (thin client?).	Procession thin client browser based so servers can be anywhere. The unique architecture allows seamless front office and back office data storage and manipulation of data thus very suited to cloud delivery.	The design build is currently client server the next version will be web based.
Scalability	As scalable as the Oracle data base supported by Grid computing etc. Using our SSMQ and JDBC can access systems designed to handle multi terabyte of data.	
Shared service capability.	One application with multi groups is achieved by linking groups, roles, users, literals on forms and business rules where a unique matrix can be built which will control how the shared service works for each partner.	
Is it possible to estimate the time in man days to build a fully functional application?	A good estimate would be the number of forms would translate into number of man days to build the end to end application.	
What intelligent process capabilities are available?	Intelligent processes that recognise sequence of user actions can dynamically create next related choices. We call it the Living Process®	This intelligent capability will be extended

How many proprietary tools are required to address the following and if branded under one toolset detail of when acquired or built, state of integration as one and lines of code or file size? 1. BPM *focus on people and their processes* 2. Process engine *to ensure all works to plan* 3. Rules engine *reflecting real world of compliance* 4. Calculation engine *automating system work* 5. State/ instance engine *Real time feed back* 6. Workflow *everything connected in right order* 7. Events *in built triggering as required* 8. Audit trail, events, escalations = *supporting control = empowerment* 9. Time recording *supports activity based costing* 10. Real time reporting *become predictive* *11.* Build mash ups *one screen multiple data sources* 12. Linked Ajax Grids *faster access to related data* 13. Roles and performers *people and machines* 14. Management hierarchy *who sees what* 15. E-mail and correspondence control *tracking external communications* 16. Collaboration by accessing remotely required files = *efficiency in storage* 17. Data storage *link between front office and back office.*	Procession unique core design which mirrors that as visioned by Bill Gates in 2008, has resulted in a unified tool that can address all these fundamental requirements. Procession use the Oracle database which stores and drives data as required. The core design philosophy was driven by a business person and was built to reflect how people work. All new capabilities are embedded into the core technology The core technology was deployed with early adopters in 1997 following many years of R&D. The technology has continued to evolve with recent 2010 addition of a web form build capability and extension of the tag library to allow easier access to other systems data. Recently completed the build of our JDBC. The capabilities 1-9, 13&14 were natural consequences from the outset of this business driven approach i.e. they were not built as separate components. 10 has recently been enhanced with in built reporting tool 10 was a result of extending the capability of the tag library in 2010. 12 Something that we developed in 2009 to allow faster access to data on a web form. 15 E-mail and document communication has been a core capability with a process and store as required. It was in 2008 we added the capability edit documents via the browser. 16 Is a recent development in the tag library and will be extended. 17 Procession Engine is embedded into the Oracle database which results in front and back office as one seamless capability. There are 3 core components (file size) 1. The Procession Engine (500k). 2. The Graphical Interface to design / build applications (1.75mb). 3. The presentation layer including the tag library (1.1mb).	The future will see removal of dependency on any particular proprietary database.