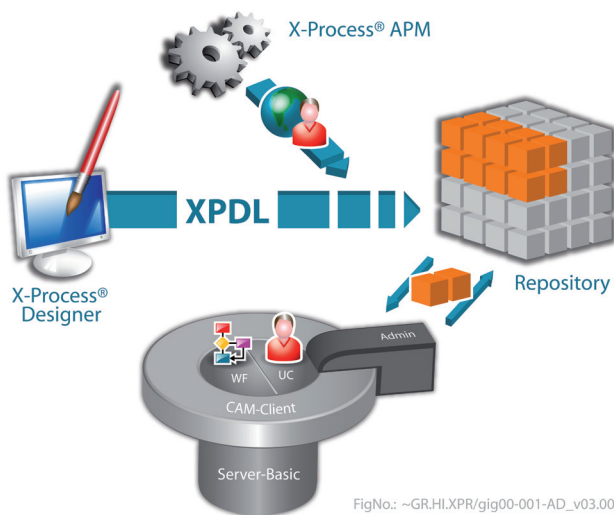




Convert business processes purposefully and continuously improve them

HiCo X-Process® - Successful business process integration

The increasing globalization for medium-sized and large enterprises leads to distributed business processes, which from enterprise view must be integrated into a central process model.



HiCo X-Process®: Components and their interaction

CHALLENGE

Many enterprises recognized that the safety of their future to a considerable degree depends on an efficient and customer-oriented business processing. The holistic optimization of business processes in an enterprise today is an elementary factor in so far as competitiveness is concerned.

Both organizational aspects and integration efforts must be considered from IT view.

In most enterprises the business data is distributed over a large number of isolated systems and information sources. Management and specialized users both have the demand to get this information as needed and on time. Therefore, the goal is the combination of the tasks of the business process management and the process oriented integration of existing and autonomous application systems and information sources.

The (partial) automation of electronic sequences of work and processes („workflows“) in application- and organization-spanning context is achieved by the enterprise workflow management system (eWfMS). The eWfMS supports the implementation of information in

the business logics of the considered processes and/or the selective access to these distributed information sources.

Thus, depending on the application scenario, pieces of information can be combined and purposefully supplied to the utilization by way of generic information models.

With X-Process® HiCo has developed a eWfMS that lives up to these challenges.

BENEFITS

- Model-based and standardized approach for business process and workflow modelling according to Workflow-Management-Coalition (WfMC).
- Increase of the quality and transparency of processes by documentation and standardization of process sequences as well as constant improvement (business process improvement).
- Sustainability of process-oriented application solutions by strict adherence to internationally recognized standards and reference models.
- The automated process control and monitoring facilitates the constant adaptation to changing economical needs and needs due to company policy.
- With the electronic realization of the sequences of work a reduction of process times and/or shortening of the lead times can be achieved.
- Increase of the information availability and data quality by integration of application and information.
- Avoidance of media breaks at the information preparation and processing.

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The product portfolio combined in X-Process® represents a homogeneous coexistence of methods, products and application systems for analysis, modelling, execution, control and monitoring of business

processes. X-Process® is based on open standards of the World-Wide-Web-Consortiums (W3C; www.w3c.org) and on standards and reference models of the Workflow-Management-Coalition (WfMC; www.wfmc.org), in order to make the smooth inclusion of internal and external information resources possible. At the same time the interoperability with products of other organizations or manufacturer is achieved.

Configurable workflow processes make delay-free sequences possible and guarantee that all tasks are implemented efficiently and on time. The use of the portfolio combined in X-Process® thus is appropriate wherever workflows, which are capable of being automated or partly automated, and processes with recurring elements can be found or the integration of application and information is important.

The use of the following X-Process® components makes the optimization of the sequences of work and processes in the enterprise possible:

- Activity Protocol Maintenance (APM)
- Workflow-Designer

- X-Process®:Server Basic
- X-Process®:Control & Monitoring
- X-Process® Process Logviewer
- X-Process® ConfigEditor
- X-Process® Business Process Packages (BPP)

The Workflow-Designer serves to be able to prepare the workflows in a UML-oriented representation. These workflows are finally filed in the standardized format XPD (XML based workflow description of WfMC).

Internationalization and/or a personalization of the workflows and the logging can be achieved by the independent activity protocol maintenance client.

The Client X-Process®:Control & Monitoring is together with the core component X-Process®:Server Basic responsible for the execution and supervision of the workflow processes. The process execution takes place with the help of a relational data base, whereas the open source component Enhydra Shark is used. X-Process® is delivered

with PostgreSQL as database source. Of course, also other relational data bases can be used (example:, MySQL, MS SQLServer, ...).

Flow traces, created by X-Process®, can be viewed anytime and independently from X-Process®:Control & Monitoring by using X-Process® Process Logviewer.

By means of the X-Process® ConfigEditors the complex configuration of X-Process® can be managed in a simple way. Thus, misconfigurations can be mostly avoided. The X-Process® Business Process Packages contain workflows for different tasks (QA tests, conversions, analyses). We offer different BPPs with numerous processes for different standards such as S1000D®, iETD-Export-Standard or Shipdex®.

HiCo X-Process® – Key Features	
<i>Workflow definition via graphic workflow designer</i>	With X-Process® the definition of any workflow is possible via a graphic workflow designer without more profound programming knowledge. Workflows can be grouped in a BPP.
<i>Efficient workflow definition</i>	The definition of the workflows is carried out in one step and thus saves costs and time, whereas the implementation of part activities can be carried out independently from the design. Thus it is possible to appoint employees with different skills as well as parallelisation and in this way time saving during the implementation period.
<i>Release and publication rules</i>	With X-Process® as many release and publication rules (= processes) as desired can be mapped.
<i>Overview of the workflows and processes</i>	The user has a comprehensive overview of kind, extent and processing status of the process activities at any time.
<i>Display of the process status</i>	The current process activities are indicated in the current process status.
<i>Logging of the process steps</i>	Individual process steps are logged and filed in HTML, XML and partially XSL format and can be viewed at any time.
<i>Re-usability</i>	Finished process sequences can be re-used for similar tasks at little expenditure.
<i>Reproducibility</i>	The process sequences are 100% reproducible.

Product version(s):

- HiCo X-Process® v2.x (for 32-bit JVM or OS)

System requirements:

- Java 2 Plattform Standard Edition 1.5 (32-bit) >= Build 11
- Workflow Engine Enhydra Shark 1.1

Executable under:

- Windows 2003 Server
- Windows 2000 Professional/Server
- Windows XP Professional
- Unix/Linux

For legally-binding information on the system requirements and operating conditions refer to the ReleaseNotes as well as to the user manual approved by HiCo.

HiCo Group

TechnLab, Thomas A. Edisonstraße 2
A-7000 Eisenstadt, AUSTRIA

Telefon +43.2682.704 61-00

E-Mail group@hico.com

http://www.hico.com

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