BUSINESS PROCESS MODELING

SOA Blueprint
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The BPM tool is used to capture the business processes during the requirements stages. The tool should provide the following capabilities:

- Business process modelling: capability for business users to easily model processes, define business rules and key performance indicators (KPIs), and simulate, test and develop end-to-end process flows.
- Business activity monitoring: real-time and historic analysis and reporting capability. Real-time process monitoring, escalation and management helps quickly identify any problem in the business process quickly to help resolve it.
- Business process execution: execution of the automated component of the business. This includes orchestrating all resources—people, organizations, applications and systems—to ensure flawless execution and exception management.

The business process modelling tool can help capture business processes during the requirements stages. This tool is generally used by business analysts to model the business process using common industry notations provided in the tool and based on standards such as BPMN and UML. Typically the business process modelling starts from Level 0 and processes are further defined to lower levels, as required. The business process could be modelled with a view to achieving one of these objectives:

- To simulate a new process through multiple scenarios before committing to the resources for executing it. For example, a line of business is focusing on business optimization because it is entering a new market, rolling out a new product, or starting a marketing campaign.
- To align IT more closely with the business. In this case, the business process modelling tool helps capture and share the business process—and maybe even screen flows—to help build consensus across multiple teams and geographies.
The above diagram illustrates a typical business process modelled during the requirements phase. The business analyst interacts with the business to capture events, manual and automated activities, and business rules. The architect may participate in these meetings as an observer to better understand the rationale driving the business process.

The business analyst interacts with the architect to define and refine the next level of details during the analysis phase. Once the business analysts and the architects have modeled the business processes to the lowest level that the business can define without going into the technical details, they jointly review business services in the enterprise service repository to determine whether the services already exist or will need to be built. BPM tools help them in this process by enabling them to:

- Capture all business requirements in the form of business processes such as activities, rules, and policies
- Simulate end-to-end business processes to identify bottlenecks and improve overall process
- Review business processes globally and invite other LOBs to participate in these discussions
- Capture local and regional requirements
- Capture both manual and automated processes.

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