

## **Testimony from Jim Tyrrel, Senior JBoss Solutions Architect, Red Hat – November 10, 2010**

### Overview:

JBoss by Red Hat is a middleware provider delivering software solutions that then are used by developers, industry, integrators, etc to deliver applications to end users. JBoss by Red Hat does not deliver products specific to any industry, but the software we deliver does form the foundation for quality enterprise solutions.

Red Hat shepherds many different communities as projects and brands as products.

Communities are open source groups loosely with affiliated developers, industry leaders, government members, and others who come together to work in a Open Source fashion to create software that then is shared with the world. One of the headaches in consuming these projects is that there is not always someone or an organization who is willing to support this communities effort, other problems include integration testing, ie which projects go with which other versions of community based projects, and testing and quality assurance efforts are not always as focused as communities do not always have those dedicated resources. The upside of this approach is that the best ideas rise to the top, innovation can happen faster as it is collaborative in nature, and the end results is much better software with fewer defects delivered.

Red Hat steps in and productizes these community efforts by doing several things. The first of these is that a life cycle is defined for a product either 3, 5, or 7 years depending on the product.

Extensive testing is done on the product covering various points of integration. Updates are delivered over that 3, 5 or 7 life cycle, and lastly (development, configuration, and more) support is offered via a dedicated support organization that has to deliver quality answers to your questions.

These products are sold in annual subscriptions and do not require an upfront licensing purchase, this is very advantageous to the purchaser of the software. The open source methodology, plus the subscription gives you amazing software with many of the same features you need, and at a price point in the current economic climate that is very win-win for each party involved.

Some background on the above thoughts:

<http://www.redhat.com/about/redhat/index.html?id>

[http://www.redhat.com/why\\_red\\_hat/](http://www.redhat.com/why_red_hat/)

<http://www.redhat.com/about/whyopensource/>

<http://www.redhat.com/about/whysubscriptions/>

<http://www.redhat.com/collaboration/>

<http://www.redhat.com/stories/>

<http://www.redhat.com/stories/liberatinginnovation/>

Specific to your request you are looking for information on the community support project JBoss Drools, more information can be found around it here:

The top level page for the community is here:

<http://www.jboss.org/drools>

The above project is not supported by a Red Hat and is provided as a community supported project only.

The Drools project gets productized as the BRMS (Business Rules Management System) and is fully supported via a Service Level Agreement (SLA), bug fixes, support and a well defined life cycle, below please find some links and white papers that explain where, how, and why a BRMS is important to an organization.

<http://www.jboss.com/products/platforms/brms/>

BRMS FAQ:

<http://www.jboss.com/pdf/brms-faq.pdf>

Fact sheet on the BRMS:

<http://www.jboss.com/pdf/JBossBRMSFactSheetWebPDF.pdf>

For background on why a BRMS:

<http://www.jboss.com/pdf/brms/OpenSourceBRMSWhitepaper.pdf>

BRMS value statement and differentiation:

[http://www.jboss.com/pdf/JBbyRH\\_BRMSvalue\\_DataSheet2.pdf](http://www.jboss.com/pdf/JBbyRH_BRMSvalue_DataSheet2.pdf)

Customer Case Studies:

[http://www.redhat.com/f/pdf/customers/JB\\_Vizuri\\_CS\\_web.pdf](http://www.redhat.com/f/pdf/customers/JB_Vizuri_CS_web.pdf)

[http://www.redhat.com/f/pdf/customers/Daiwa\\_CS\\_web.pdf](http://www.redhat.com/f/pdf/customers/Daiwa_CS_web.pdf)

Other case studies:

<http://customers.redhat.com/category/red-hat-jboss-solutions/jboss-enterprise-middleware/jboss-enterprise-platforms/jboss-enterprise-brms/>

Specific question from your questions for panelists document received:

Can your business rules be exposed as web services?

As a middleware and infrastructure provider there is nothing preventing a developer, integrator, or organization from exposing developed business rules via web services.

Can various methodologies of encryption be used?

Various techniques can be used when authoring, running, and deploying rules to encrypt and protect sensitive data.

Can audit logs be provided?

A top to bottom audit of the rules fired can be stored off for future reference from the rules engine. This can include all the attributes that were passed in, and all of the rules that fired to come to the conclusion.

Can the BRMS have different role types?

Out of the box several different role types are supported including, rules author/developer, tester, and publisher. Normal Software Configuration Management techniques can also be employed

for finer grain or different levels of access. Methodologies can also be developed with the combination of the aforementioned practices to create quality separations of concerns for checks and balances when developing rules.

Many of the questions in the panelist document are not answered above, and are instead a function of the software developer or integrator using JBoss BRMS to deliver the stated need or functionality when developing the end user application. JBoss products are the sound foundation for delivering sound applications needed in the enterprise.