

Ripose & eBusiness White paper

This white paper describes the emergence of the next IT wave and how Ripose can assist to "ride" it and not get "dumped" on by it.

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Date printed 23 November 2000

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This document was prepared using Word for Windows 97.
Printed in Australia.

Preface

Purpose

This white paper describes the emergence of the next IT wave and how Ripose can assist to "ride" it and not get "dumped" on by it.

Intended audience

Document structure

Introduction	Establishes the scene for how the Ripose technique seven steps will ensure that an organisation will implement their eBusiness solutions successfully.
Understanding	Summarises the process for each step and provides estimates on the time that each step requires for completion. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Understand the underlying technology• Understand your business
Conclusion	Describes a development vision.

Associated documents

To be completed.

Introduction

The next wave of business technology tools and processes has arrived. – it is called eBusiness or eCommerce. eBusiness is about using Internet technologies to transform key business processes. It is about strengthening relationships with stakeholders, capitalising on new business opportunities and increasing efficiency to become more profitable.

The opportunities eBusiness presents to the software developers are tremendous. (But what about the problems that the business stakeholders will face?).

The fundamental principles underpinning eBusiness is that it first and foremost reflects the style of the Internet and the World Wide Web. (Is this technology good enough and fast enough to justify this statement?).

There are however a number of steps that you can take to ensure an effective eBusiness implementation.

They are

- Understand the underlying technology
- Understand your business

These steps are covered in more detail in ensuing pages of this white paper.

Understand the underlying technology

There are four major areas that you will need to come to grips with in order to understand what drives eBusiness.

- Connectivity
- Evolution
- Scalability
- Performance

Connectivity

eBusiness solutions are created by connecting and integrating business processes, information and people:

- They are built from existing assets
- New functions can be added quickly - as long as it's based on standards

Evolution

eBusiness solutions continue to evolve over time:

- New devices can be supported - on a plug-and-play basis
- Information can be leveraged to continuously improve They must handle frequent changes and additions to the user experience

Scalability

eBusiness solutions must grow quickly in multiple directions:

- They must support many new users, even if they appear overnight
- They must handle frequent changes and additions to content and creative design.

Performance

eBusiness solutions must work. They must offer:

- Reliability that builds trust
- Security that builds confidence
- Manageability that ensures performance

Understand your business

This step is as important if not more so than Understand the underlying technology. If the core functionality of your business is not fully documented and fully understood, eBusiness will not help you.

Identify your core business

You may not necessarily want to web enable every aspect of your business. You will therefore need to find those components best suited to be web enabled.

Integrate

Identify the integration points between the web enabled applications and the core back-end systems.

Build

Build the web enabling applications.

Modify

Modify or re-write the core back end systems to ensure seamless integration with the eBusiness components

Conclusion

Ripose offers a framework that sits on top of the Application Framework. It enables stakeholders to develop a number of models which can be thoroughly tested before committing valuable and rare resources to build the Physical Framework.

Glossary of terms

Term	Description
Application framework	An environment based on a number of industry standards (including Java technology, XML, ActiveX, HTML and CORBA)
Physical framework	The hardware, software and network environment

Identification

General

Title	White paper
Subject	Ripose & eBusiness
Author	Charles M Richter
Version/revision	v0.02/8, 23 November 2000
Abstract	This white paper describes the emergence of the next I T wave and how Ripose can assist to "ride" it and not get "dumped" on by it.
Keywords	White paper, Ripose technique, e-Business
File name	C:\Clients\Ripose\White papers\Ripose technique eBusiness - White paper v0.02.doc

Creation details

Creation date	16 November 2000, 21:01
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Modifications details

Change date	23 November 2000, 16:18
Changed by	Charles M Richter
Last printed	23 November 2000, 22:20

Revision history

Version	Date	Change description
v0.02	23 November 2000	Initial release