



Success story

The open source ESB solution for Services Oriented Architectures

SOA strategic project - achieving agility and interoperability with Petals ESB



Name

ACOSS (Agence Centrale des Organismes de Sécurité Sociale)

Market

Public entity in charge of treasury management for French social security system

Sector

French public Administration

Use case

Connect with partners

Dimension

13 500 employees
5,8 M contributors
102 local agencies and more than 400 institutional partners

Implementation

February, 2008

Objective

Interoperability and Agility through migration to SOA

IT Environment

Unix mainframes
Mainly Cobol and Oracle legacy systems

Company

ACOSS, the French Social Security system bank

ACOSS (Agence Centrale des Organismes de Sécurité Sociale) is the French national agency for treasury and cash management in order to collect contributions for the Social security health and welfare system coming from French companies. It federates 102 Urssaf, 4 different central administrations and 8 data centers.

ACOSS core business is cash management. ACOSS manages all financial aspects of the "Régime Général de la Sécurité Sociale", from contributions collection to cash redistribution to the different health and welfare national institutions. ACOSS also manages treasury for a large number of social ecosystem partners.

ACOSS collects up to 2,3 billion euro a day, with a total of more than 300 billion euros of yearly exchanges. In accordance with its public missions, ACOSS maintains close financial relationship with more than 420 Social Security agencies: URSSAF, CPAM, CRAM, CAF, UGECAM ...

Need

Open the Information System to a new partner and define Enterprise Architecture compliant with SOA

In 2005, due to new legislation, ACOSS was committed to provide IT process services and data access to a third party, the Régime Social des Indépendants. Thus, ACOSS decided to implement a SOA infrastructure, the primary objective being to make services from Cobol legacy applications. It was the starting point for the definition of the new Service Oriented Enterprise Architecture.

« For ACOSS, SOA is the right integration architecture going forward. With Petals we implement such architecture incrementally with a state-of-the-art ESB. It gives us the capacity to respond to the growing demand for new services exposure. »

Christian Bézard, Head of Middleware Infrastructure Dept. – ACOSS

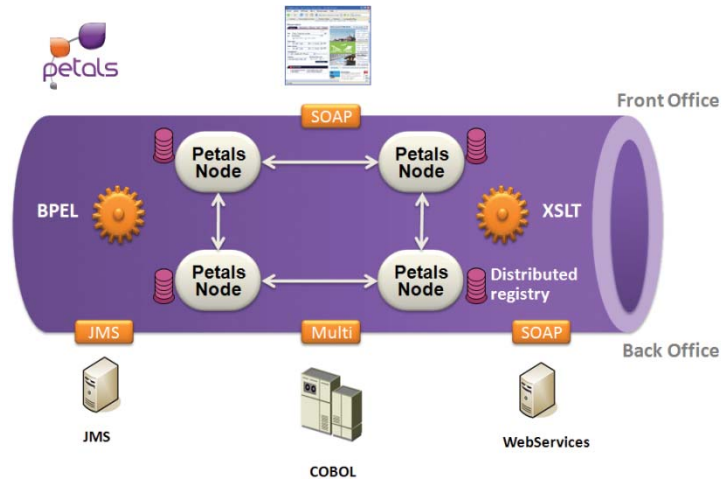
ACOSS adopted an iterative approach to validate its new SOA Architecture with a pilot project exposing a reduced number of services. In this approach, the choice of ESB was important. ACOSS selected PETALS, the OW2 ESB supported by EBM WebSourcing and the OW2 community. Key elements of choice were the Open Source model of the project, the distributed Architecture of the product and the compliance with standards like Java Business Integration.

This first project is a real success and has generated great expectations within business domains and IT department. Following a very pragmatic deployment approach, ACOSS is generalizing the ESB dissemination through every business area, allowing business owners to gradually assimilate the SOA added value and to drive SOA from a business perspective available to identified external parties.

Solution

Petals, the Service Oriented Infrastructure

Petals provides a leading open source ESB to support your Service Oriented Infrastructure. It is a lightweight, highly distributed and scalable platform for both A2A and B2B integration. Thanks to its specific distributed architecture and the tools provided, Petals offers a very competitive integration solution with support for a large number of protocols, formats and integration features. Petals relies on JBI and Web Services standards to ease the development, assembly, and deployment of integration solutions. Petals leverages Web Service best practices like document oriented exchange or WSDL interface description, and proposes a plug-in environment to assemble integration components.



Petals differentiates from other ESB especially thanks to its original distributed architecture (Petals can be easily deployed on several hundreds of server nodes) and also because it fully complies with JBI specification and its underlying standards.

Benefits

A fully open and standard distributed ESB

- As a professional solution Petals provides many plug-ins out-of-the-box, allowing fast and easy interconnections of the internal IS applications, resulting in a robust scalable distributed environment.
- Petals's full respect of JBI specifications ensures great conformity with all standards, implying great interoperability and easier development of later integration pieces.
- Petals's original and flexible architecture opens the way for fast, simple and lightweight deployment of the services access points, in order to create a reliable event driven architecture.
- As an infrastructure solution, Petals offers all features needed to create a full-fledged Enterprise Service Bus : messages's translation & enrichment, service orchestrations, communications with all standard protocols, embedding of standard connectors and dedicated / business-oriented engines.
- Thanks to ACOSS partnership, EBM Websourcing now provides a complete Eclipse based development tool. It allows developers and administrators to easily configure and automatically deploy Petals components and configurations.

« For A2A or B2B integration issues, we think that even if these two types of integrations focus on different stakes (among security, interoperability), the common point is "distributed integration". We believe it is the best way to create more scalable and robust solutions. »

Gaël Blondelle, EBM WebSourcing CTO



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