Frequently Asked Questions
About
Alloy™ Software by IBM and SAP

What is Alloy™ software by IBM® and SAP®?
Alloy by IBM and SAP is a new product jointly developed and supported by both IBM and SAP. Business users need easy, consistent access to people, processes, and information to improve their productivity. With Alloy, business users can easily access SAP software and information from within the IBM Lotus Notes® environment, both online and offline. Since business users work in the familiar Lotus Notes environment, training is minimized, which helps speed adoption. As a result, organizations can make business users more productive, improve decision making, and increase compliance with corporate policies.

When was Alloy announced?
Alloy was announced on January 19th, 2009 at the Lotusphere conference in Orlando, Florida. Link to press release: www.ibm.com/software/lotus/alloy or www.sap.com/alloy

When will the product be available?
The product delivery is scheduled for March, 2009.

Which company developed this solution?
Alloy was a joint development effort between IBM Lotus® and SAP.

How can I purchase Alloy?
Both IBM and SAP are selling Alloy. Please contact your sales representative to learn more.

How is Alloy priced?
Pricing is available from either IBM or SAP. Please contact your sales representative for more information on pricing.

What functionality is planned to be included?
Alloy 1.0 software provides access to selected business process functions and data from SAP applications through IBM Lotus Notes.

- **Reports management** – Personalize, schedule, and access reports from SAP Business Suite applications via Lotus Notes while maintaining data security. Share reports with coworkers without violating security, and view reports both online and offline.
- **Leave management** – Approve and submit leave requests from the familiar Lotus Notes environment. View contextual information to make approval decisions. Leave requests are processed according to approval guidelines in SAP ERP.
- **Travel management** – Approve and submit travel requests from the familiar Lotus Notes environment. View contextual information to ensure cost-effective travel that fully complies with corporate policies supported by SAP ERP.
- **Workflow decision management** - In addition to out-of-the-box Leave and Travel Management, Alloy software allows an organization to bring decision steps in any SAP business process. For example, an organization can bring decision steps in recruitment process, hiring process, etc. Decision steps in any SAP business processes can be bought into Lotus Notes with standard configuration.

Alloy is also customizable. To make process decisions, business users need access to contextual information to improve decision making. For example, to approve a travel request, a manager needs to know how much money is left in the travel budget and what the current travel policy is. Alloy software allows organization to bring the contextual information from SAP application to the Lotus Notes side bar by customization. Customization can be done using standard tools like Lotus Notes Designer, Lotus Script and the workbench for the ABAP™ programming language. The contextual information can be displayed in sidebar as any HTML element like graph, table, text, link, etc.

Alloy takes advantage of the offline and collaborative capabilities inherent in Lotus Notes and Domino.

Future releases are planned that will add additional high-value business processes well as enhanced tools and platform capabilities that can be leveraged by ISVs and IT developers to build additional functionality.

What are the projected business benefits to the customers?

- Increased effectiveness, responsiveness and productivity
  Alloy helps business users increase both their effectiveness and productivity by integrating collaborative capabilities of Lotus Notes with SAP applications, workflows, and information.
- Better decision making
  Alloy provides easy and intuitive access to relevant, contextual information, to make more informed and faster decisions.
- Better risk management and mitigation
  Business users can more easily adhere to processes, follow workflows, and act on essential information, increasing compliance, thus mitigating risk.
- Increased ROI
  Companies can increase their ROI by leveraging existing investments in SAP applications and IBM Lotus Notes.

Who is the target market for Alloy?
The target market for Alloy is joint IBM Lotus and SAP customers who are running Lotus Notes/Domino and the SAP Business Suite. Alloy takes advantage of the existing investment companies have made in their IBM and SAP solutions.

Who can use this solution?
This solution is applicable to all employees ranging from sales and marketing, to management, to the general employee who has a need for self-service applications.

Who provides services?
IBM Global Business Services and the SAP Regional Implementation Group are enabled and available to perform services upon product shipment. We intend to enable SAP practitioners of additional global and regional system integrators throughout 2009.

What are the software requirements to run Alloy Software by IBM and SAP?
The following tables describe the planned requirements. Since these are subject to change, please verify through the standard channels such as the IBM product requirements website or the SAP Service Marketplace for the current PAM (Product Availability Matrix) before making commitments.

IBM Lotus Notes Client	Release 8.02
IBM Domino Server	Release 8.02
SAP ERP	SAP ERP 6.0 SPS 14 running on NetWeaver 7.0 SPS17 with the Enterprise Service Architecture (ESA) Add-on: ECC-SE 602 or higher
SAP BW (optional)	BW (Business Warehouse) 3.5 – SP 23 or BW (Business Warehouse) 7.0 - SPS 17
Alloy Server Software	- SAP Alloy Add-on 1.0 running on NetWeaver 7.0 SPS17 Java and - IBM Lotus Notes Alloy Add-on 1.0 running on an 8.02 Domino Server

The operating systems of the SAP Business Suite software and the IBM Domino Mail Servers are not restricted but the Alloy software requires the following:

IBM Lotus Notes Client	- MS Windows XP (Professional editions) or - MS Windows Vista (Business, Enterprise editions)
IBM Lotus Notes Alloy Add-on	- MS Windows 2003 Server (32 bit) (Standard, Enterprise)
SAP Alloy Add-on	All NetWeaver 7.0 java stack platform constellations. For example: - AIX with MaxDB or - IBM zLinux with DB2 or - MS Windows X86_64 with MS SQL or - MS Windows X86_64 with MaxDB or - AIX with Oracle 9.2

Which languages are supported?
English, German, French, Japanese, Italian

Where can I go to get more information?
www.ibm.com/software/lotus/alloy or www.sap.com/alloy

How do I get technical support for Alloy?
Contact the vendor you have purchased the product from (either IBM or SAP). The company you bought Alloy from will provide initial support and work with additional IBM and SAP support resources, as required, to manage the issue.