IBM

Rational® software

IBM Rational System Architect Process Integrator

Highlights

■ *Helps enhance your business architecture process, offering the benefits of business process analysis and enterprise architecture in your Microsoft Visio environment*

■ *Helps your enterprise architecture teams improve consistency and enhance communication and accuracy*

■ *Assists in alleviating the need for manual reproductions of your process representations*

■ *Offers business process modeling notation templates, model error checking and central repository storage for model and artifact management and reuse*

The success of your enterprise architecture (EA) requires a precise representation of your business architecture—getting accurate process models from business users forms the foundation for business architecture. EA solutions like IBM Rational® System Architect® software utilize structure and methods such as business process modeling notation (BPMN), which, when coupled with the broad Microsoft® Visio® user base, can help ease the creation and acquisition of process models from business users familiar with Microsoft Visio software. IBM Rational System Architect Process Integrator software helps bring together a "best of both worlds" environment, combining the functionality of the Rational System Architect business process accelerator (BPA) and EA solution with the simplicity and ease-of-use of Microsoft Visio software.

When you integrate Visio software with the Rational System Architect environment, you can create process models that can be imported directly into your enterprise architecture. Using their familiar Visio environment, users can leverage a structured process model that helps EA teams improve consistency, enhance communication and accuracy, and alleviate the need to manually reproduce process representations. Using model sharing, you can promote business and IT collaboration to support a thorough business and organizational analysis process.

How it works

The Rational System Architect Process Integrator application allows Microsoft Visio process modelers to work in their current environment while creating and storing standardized BPMN-based process models in the EA repository of Rational System Architect software. Once in the repository, architects can confirm process models and link them to the enterprise architecture for analysis and reporting.

An add-on to Microsoft Visio software, the Rational System Architect Process Integrator solution offers BPMN templates, modeling error checking and central repository storage for model and artifact management and reuse. Visio process models can be opened in the Rational System Architect environment to help gain detailed analysis, simulation and execution of your project. In addition, process models can be exported from the Rational System Architect environment to Visio users for inspection and use as templates for process modeling projects.

Table 1: Features and benefits of IBM Rational System Architect Process Integrator software

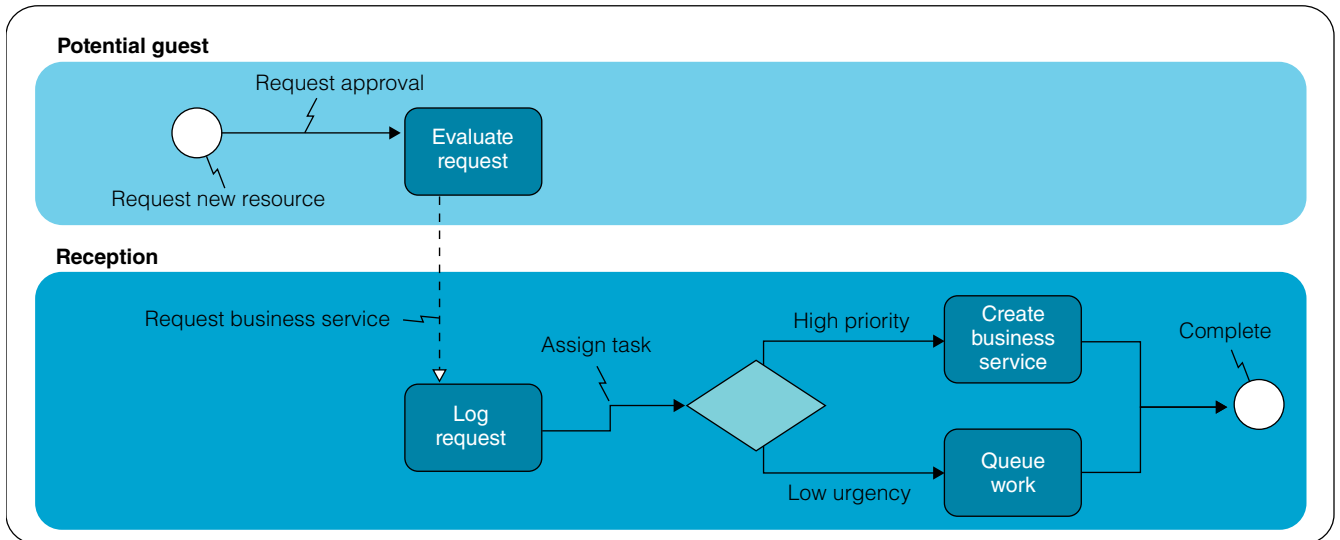| Features	Benefits
Microsoft Visio templates and error checking help ensure adherence to BPMN and organization chart standards.	Allows Visio users to contribute to business process modeling and auditing
Active diagramming updates model icons based on modeling context.	Promotes modeling standards for Visio users
A Microsoft Visio "anchor window" displays all diagrams and artifacts in the Rational System Architect repository for error checking, tracking and reuse.	Helps enhance collaboration and analysis by centralizing disparate Visio models in a common repository
Microsoft Visio models saved in the repository can be opened in the Rational System Architect environment for editing, analysis and reporting.	Integrates Visio software with enterprise-wide business analysis capabilities
Common artifacts can be reused across Microsoft Visio models and automatically updated when a change to that object is made.	Supports Visio process modelers and their environment of choice while including them in your BPA initiatives

Figure 1: A business process model in business process modeling notation

Table 2: Integrated capabilities of Rational System Architect and Microsoft Visio 2007 software

	Microsoft Visio	IBM Rational System Architect Process Integrator
Visio user interface	x	x
Standard Visio reporting	x	x
BPMN templates with error checking		x
Central storage of models and attributes		x
Change updates across all process models		x
Reuse of process objects and definitions		x

Figure 2: A unified business modeling environment with multiple user interfaces

Embrace Microsoft Visio process modeling with standards and collaboration

The Rational System Architect and Microsoft Visio 2007 combination creates a new modeling environment that helps enable Microsoft Visio software–based part-time business modelers to create their business models using familiar Microsoft software. By enhancing the process modeling experience with Rational System Architect Process Integrator software, Visio models can be stored in the same Rational System Architect repository that holds the enterprise data generated by business architects and enterprise architects.

Integrate Microsoft Visio with the Rational System Architect business process analysis solution suite

The Microsoft Visio add-on establishes a natural, sequential path from the lightweight modeling approach found in Visio software to the advanced business analysis capabilities integral to the Rational System Architect environment. The Visio and Rational System Architect software combination helps make model upkeep more efficient and accurate because changes made in modeling artifacts are propagated to all other process models—no matter where these objects exist within your organization.
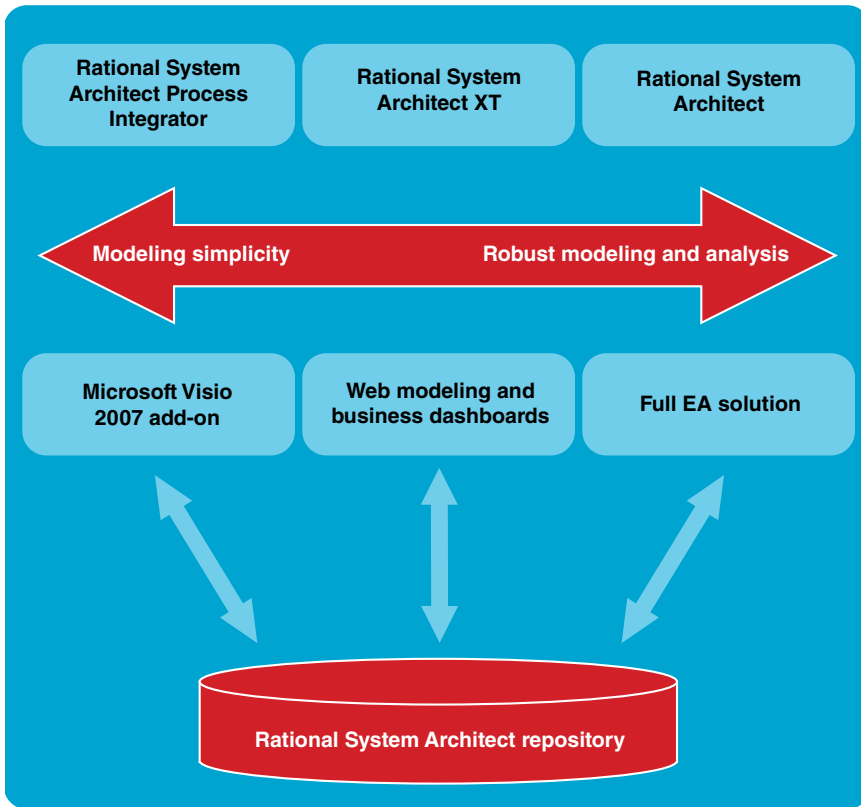
In addition, Microsoft Visio process models can now become part of your overall business improvement initiative to help you with:

- **Analysis and reporting.** *Visualize relationships between processes and dependencies in a Web dashboard format.*
- **Process execution and monitoring.** *Simulate and help optimize Visio process models and export for execution.*
- **Integration with your EA.** *Tie processes directly to your organizational strategy, applications, services, IT infrastructure and data.*

For more information

To learn more about IBM Rational System Architect Process Integrator software, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

ibm.com/software/rational