

IBM Rational DOORS Web Access

Highlights

- **Live requirements information availability, directly from an IBM Rational DOORS database, provides users with up-to-date access to data**
- **The Rational DOORS discussions facility fosters collaboration with other users through informal requirements discussions and through support of more than one discussion topic per requirement.**
- **Flexible, multi-window layout helps you view many documents or multiple sections of the same document within a single browser window, together with traceability and attribute information.**
- **Requirement object or module view hyperlinks can be sent to other users via instant messaging applications or e-mail for faster and easier reference.**
- **Helps ensure geographically distributed teams are up to date with the latest project requirements.**
- **Promotes requirements discussions among business users, developers, systems engineers and business analysts.**

Analyze, edit, and discuss requirements across the project and around the world

Project success for geographically distributed organizations relies on development teams and business stakeholders working on and discussing a common set of requirements. Through the convenience of the Web, IBM® Rational® DOORS® Web Access software allows globally distributed stakeholders to actively participate in a development process by editing requirements or their attributes (managed in a Rational DOORS database). For example, developers can quickly edit requirement attributes through the Web to indicate that the requirement has been implemented.

With the Rational DOORS Web Access solution, users are allowed to perform their tasks quickly and easily. By using the Rational DOORS discussions, communication within your project team improves as stakeholders have increased capability for discussing the requirements.

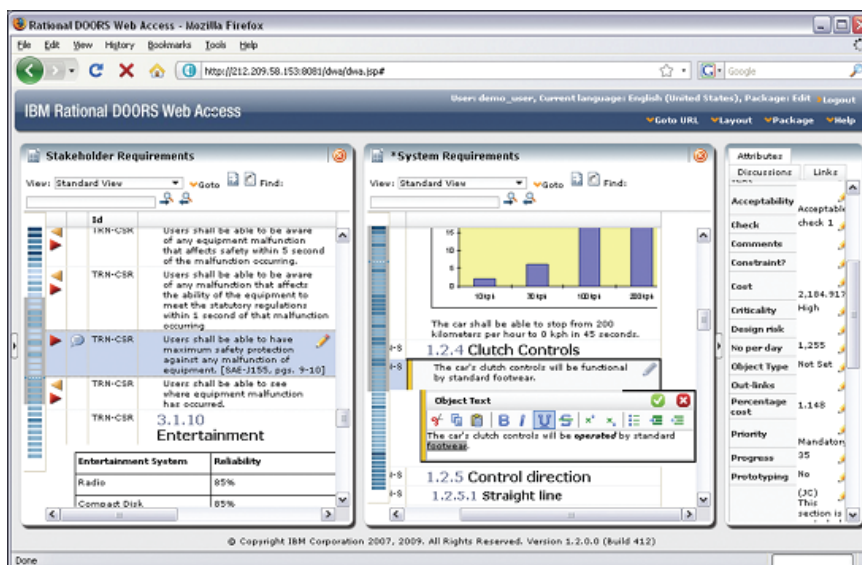


Figure 1: Multiple requirements documents viewed in IBM Rational DOORS Web Access

Collaborate across your organization using a central requirements repository

Rational DOORS provides a comprehensive desktop client environment for systems engineers and business analysts to manage requirements and their traceability. However, Rational DOORS Web Access provides additional stakeholders visibility to the requirements and the traceability relationships—business managers, marketing personnel, suppliers and development partners—with view and edit Web browser access to the central DOORS repository. Through Rational DOORS Web Access via their existing Web browser, users can access and edit requirements: requirements descriptions (including rich text, object linking, embedding objects, and tables), requirements attributes (standard and user defined), and traceability links.

During the evolution of requirements, it is important that all relevant parties—business customers, business analysts, project managers, system engineers, developers and testers—get involved in the development process early in the life cycle. Rational DOORS Web Access software helps promote collaboration between teams with browser access and those who use the Rational DOORS desktop. For example, system engineers can

request clarifications on specific requirements using the desktop client. Business stakeholders can view these comments and directly edit requirements from the Web, which allows system engineers and other teams (developers/testers) to avoid errors caused by misinterpretation of the requirements, and to move faster onto the next phase of the project. Furthermore, analysts/project managers can change the priority of the requirements depending on business needs by editing their attributes using the Web/desktop client. With view and edit capabilities, Rational DOORS Web Access can be used as an alternative or precursor to a formal change request or review process, and can help demonstrate compliance to internal and external standards.

Distribution of requirements information is easier than ever because the Rational DOORS Web Access solution supports standard URL technology. Requirements can be sent via email and viewed in either Rational DOORS Web Access or Rational DOORS software (where Rational DOORS is installed on users desktop).

To make it easier for users to find their way around the requirements database, Rational DOORS Web Access provides intuitive navigation aids. A “bread crumb trail” and a recent

documents/favorites list help the user quickly locate the right data in the Rational DOORS database. Users can open multiple documents or view multiple sections of the same document in moveable panes within a single browser window for ease of reference. Requirements attributes can be viewed in columns beside their requirements and, for individual requirements, through the attribute pane.

Rational DOORS Web Access enables users to quickly locate data within the module using the scalable module navigator in order to focus on analyzing data, rather than wasting time searching for data. Furthermore, project teams who are looking to extract requirements data for off-site reviews can print displayed or filtered requirements sets and their attributes.

The Rational DOORS discussions facility

As requirements evolve, it is important that all relevant parties—business customers, business analysts, system engineers, testers and project managers—discuss the requirements, clarify their understanding and suggest improvements or changes. Through the Rational DOORS discussions facility, Rational DOORS Web Access enables multiple discussion topics to be opened against each requirement and multiple users to submit comments against

each topic. Each comment is stamped with the name of the discussion participant, as well as the date and

time of the comment. When discussion topics are concluded, they can be marked as “closed.”

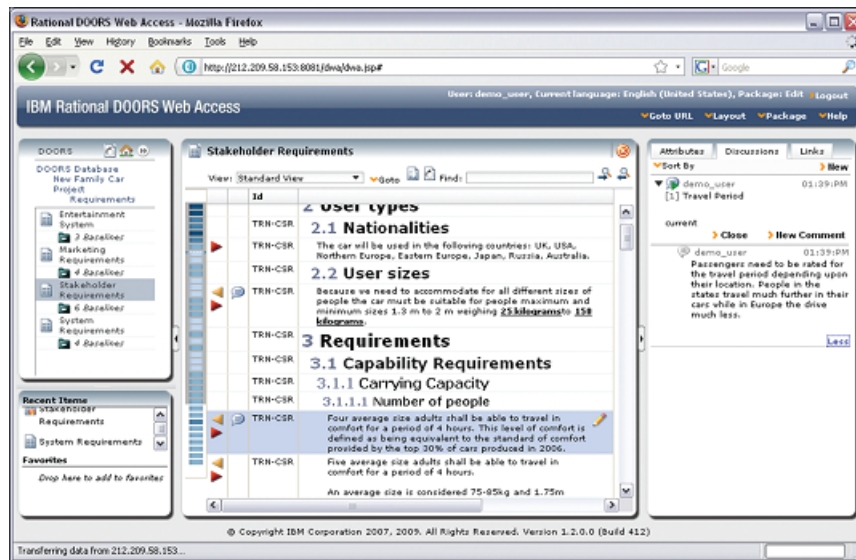


Figure 2: Informal requirements discussions in IBM Rational DOORS Web Access

How it works

IBM Rational DOORS Web Access uses Rich Internet Application (RIA) technologies to deliver a “zero-install” client that runs within Microsoft® Internet Explorer® and Mozilla Firefox Web browsers. Rational DOORS Web Access server components are deployed in a multi-tier architecture, providing scalable access to a central Rational DOORS database server through an Apache Tomcat application server.

For more information

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

ibm.com/software/rational

IBM Rational DOORS Web Access

Feature	Functional benefit
Live information availability, directly from a Rational DOORS database, provides up-to-date access to requirements that stakeholders can view and edit from the Web without the need for software installation	Allows stakeholders to participate in the development process early in the life cycle and helps reduce project costs and risks by providing them with easier access to requirements Helps ensure geographically distributed teams are up to date with the latest project requirements
Flexible, multi-window layout enables users to view many documents or multiple sections of the same document within a single browser window, together with traceability and attribute information	Provides flexible environment for analyzing and working with requirements and their attributes in a development process
The Rational DOORS discussions facility fosters collaboration with other users through informal requirements discussions and through support of more than one discussion topic per requirement	Promotes requirements discussions among business users, developers, systems engineers and business analysts
Requirement object or module view hyperlinks can be sent to other users via instant messaging applications or e-mail	Provides the user community faster and easier access to requirements
The scalable module navigator easily locates information within a displayed module that can then be printed	Enables the user community to locate, print and distribute requirements information faster and easier



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