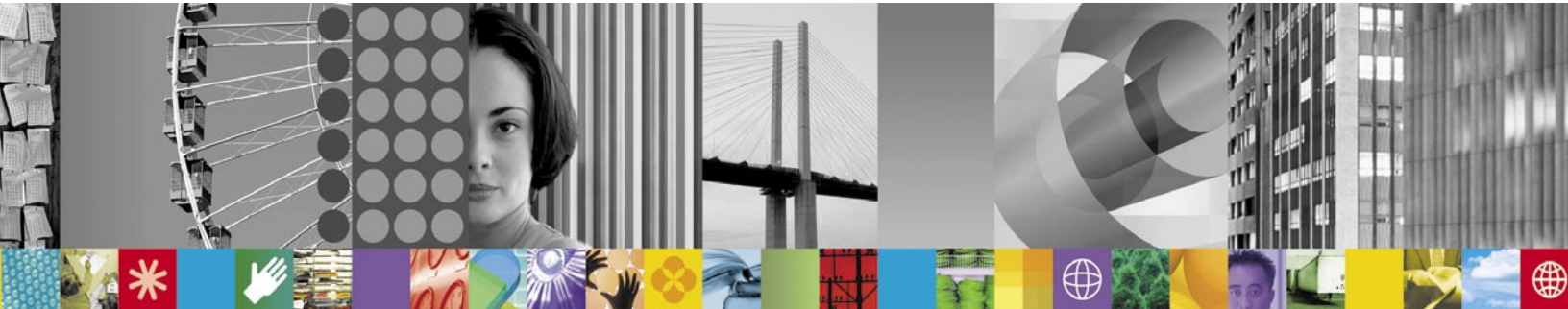


## Providing what you need to get started with SOA.



Although the marketplace might demand flexibility, a business can be only as flexible as the IT systems that support it. Without standards or best practices as a guide, many companies have probably grown their business processes bit by bit, piece by piece, over time. Or perhaps they've focused on solving specific, ad hoc issues. The outcome has been an infrastructure that is inflexible and very difficult, expensive and time-consuming to change.

Success with service oriented architecture (SOA) starts with a flexible, robust infrastructure that you can use in conjunction with your existing infrastructure and IT assets to create additional business value. You also need industry-specific knowledge and best practices to implement SOA in your business. And you want to team with a company that can provide skills and assistance in SOA.

IBM is uniquely positioned to deliver all these things to you, because IBM understands service orientation—and your business. To help you achieve business flexibility through SOA, IBM has developed IBM SOA Foundation—an integrated, open-standard-based set of software, best practices and patterns that is designed to provide what you need to get started with your SOA.

IBM SOA Foundation is not a replacement for your existing infrastructure or investments. Instead, IBM SOA Foundation is designed to help you extend the value of the applications and business processes that are running your business today. You can select components on a build-as-you-go basis as you need to address new requirements. And you can readily enhance IBM SOA Foundation with capabilities from the broader IBM software portfolio. The components that comprise IBM SOA Foundation have been carefully selected to support each stage of the SOA life cycle.

### **The SOA life cycle**

The SOA life cycle includes four stages: model, assemble, deploy and manage. Underpinning all of these life-cycle stages are governance and processes that provide guidance and oversight for the SOA project.

#### *Model*

You begin the model stage by gathering and analyzing business requirements that you then use to model, simulate and optimize your business processes. You can use this information to establish a common understanding between business and IT of your business processes, objectives and outcomes, as well as to help ensure that the resulting application meets your defined business requirements.

#### *Assemble*

During the assemble stage, you create services out of new and existing assets. After the required services are available, they are orchestrated to implement the business process.

## Deploy

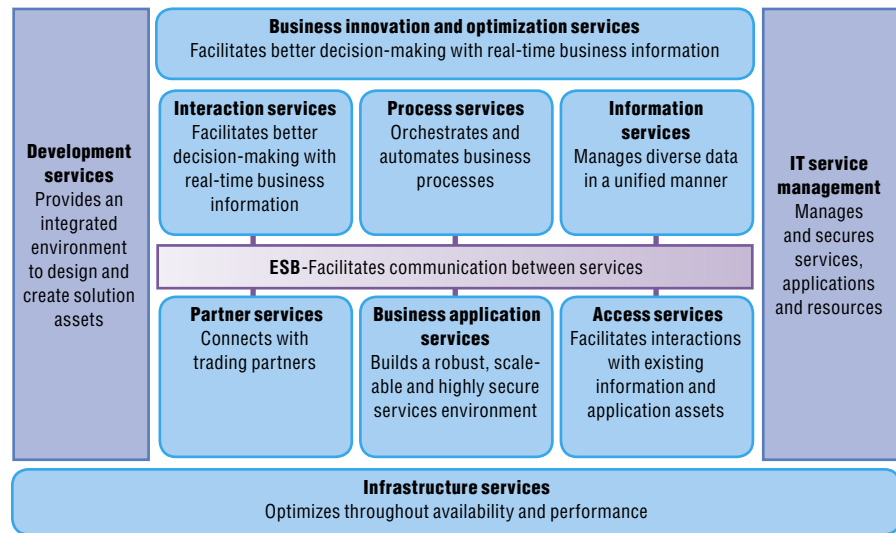
During the deploy stage, you configure and scale the run-time environment to meet the service levels required by your business processes. Then you can deploy the process into a robust, scalable, highly secure services environment that is optimized to reliably run mission-critical business processes while providing the flexibility to make updates dynamically in response to changing business requirements.

## Manage

The manage stage involves establishing and maintaining service availability and response times, as well as managing underlying services assets. You can monitor key performance indicators (KPIs) in real time to get the information you need to prevent, isolate, diagnose and fix problems. This stage ultimately enables you to make better business decisions sooner than previously possible.

## Governance and processes

Governance and processes are critical to the success of any SOA project. To help ensure success, you can create a center of excellence within your business to implement governance policies and to follow proven international governance standards of control objectives for information and related technology.



The IBM SOA reference architecture

## SOA reference architecture

IBM SOA Foundation is based on an SOA reference architecture that defines the comprehensive IT services required to support your SOA at each stage in the SOA life cycle.

## A comprehensive SOA solution

IBM SOA Foundation is more than just software. It offers SOA best practices through SOA-related guides, white papers and other resources based on extensive customer experience.

And a variety of role-based education, including both in-person and Web-based distance learning, are available to help you develop skills that can help you build your SOA.

IBM also provides IBM SOA Industry Accelerators that extend the value of IBM SOA Foundation with industry-specific assets. These accelerators provide best practices in the form of practical how-to guides to apply proven practices to solution implementation. They also deliver industry- and solution-specific versions of the SOA reference architecture.

## For more information

To learn more about IBM SOA Foundation, contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit:

[ibm.com/soa](http://ibm.com/soa)



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