



TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™

Concepts

Version 6.11.0 | December 2024

Contents

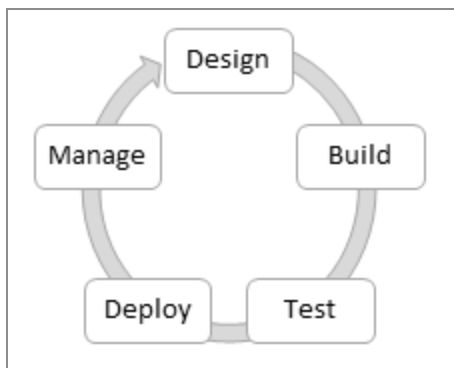
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Overview

TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ is an integration product suite for enterprise, web, and mobile applications.

You can use this software to create services and integrate applications using a visual, model-driven development environment, and then deploy them in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ runtime environment.



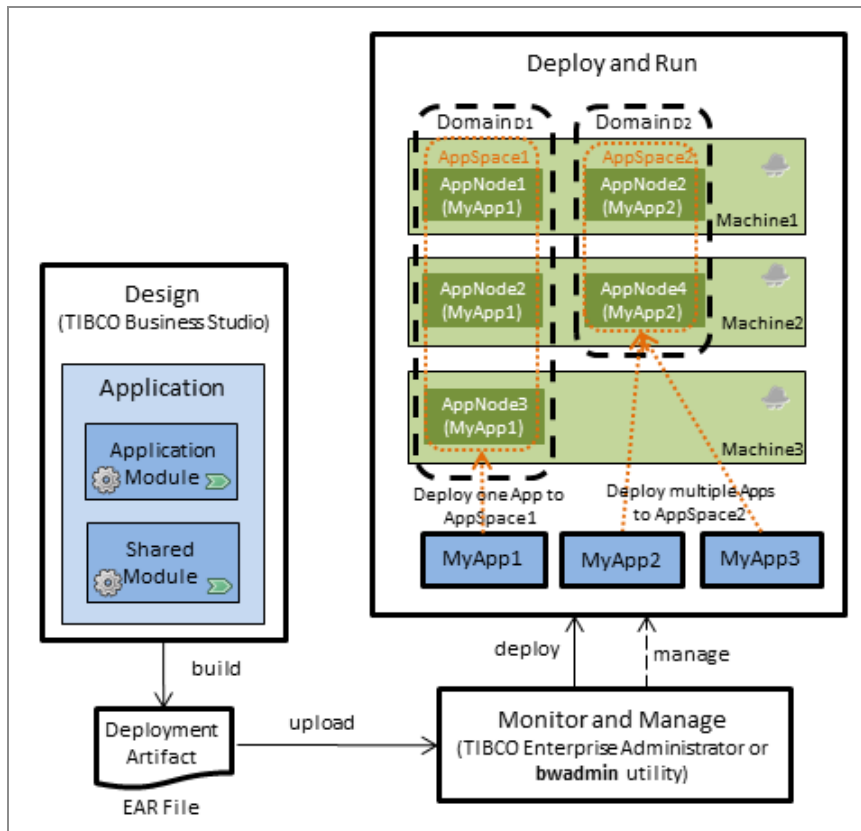
ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks uses the Eclipse graphical user interface (GUI) provided by TIBCO Business Studio™ for BusinessWorks™ to define business processes and generate deployable artifacts in the form of archive files. The deployable artifacts can be deployed and run in the run time environment, and managed using an administration interface such as TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator.

You can use TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks to model integration processes of varying complexity using any of the following integration styles:

- **Batch-oriented** - provides non-real-time integration for endpoints such as databases or files, and uses records for data abstraction.
- **Process-oriented** - provides real-time integration for endpoints such as application APIs and adapters, and uses APIs, objects, and messages for data abstraction.
- **Service-oriented** - provides real-time integration for endpoints such as web services and APIs, and uses services and messages for data abstraction.
- **Resource-oriented** - provides real-time integration for endpoints such as mobile or web applications and APIs, and uses resources for data abstraction.

Key Concepts

The following image provides an overview of the key concepts that you encounter when working with the product.



Some of these concepts are applicable exclusively to design perspective or runtime and administration perspective, while some are applicable to both perspectives. ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ consists of a design time where you can develop applications that implement business logic. The runtime environment exists on the cloud.

ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks consists of a design time where you can develop applications that implement business logic, the runtime where you run the applications, and the administration component where you deploy and manage applications in the runtime. The runtime is an ecosystem of entities that can be co-located or distributed. You can deploy, monitor, and manage the applications by using the BWAdmin utility and TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator.

ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks is based on the following aspects:

- [Flexibility](#)

- [Openness and Extensibility](#)
- [Modularity](#)
- [Standards-based](#)

Flexibility

TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks is designed to make adding, upgrading, and swapping of business components easy.

The flexible architecture is demonstrated by:

- A zero coding model with which you can select and drop activities onto the **Process Editor** and configure the activities in the UI.
- Ability to build tightly coupled as well as loosely coupled services.
- Ability to build strongly typed as well as loosely typed service implementations.
- Ability to specify application configuration to be either hard-coded or late-bound.
- Ability to manage the process state that is maintained across invocations either by the runtime container (process engine) or process implementation.
- Encapsulation of configuration data, thus minimizing the configuration properties exposed by the application.

Openness and Extensibility

Openness and extensibility features include:

- Public APIs with which you can develop custom activities and XPath functions.
- Integration with standard Java classes and OSGi Java services to supplement the process or model-driven approach.
- Extensible Eclipse-based design-time.
- Extensible OSGi based run time.
- Extensible administration framework based on TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator.

Modularity

Modularity of the product supports:

- Large teams and distributed development through modular constructs.
- Increased visibility and traceability metadata, such as Name, Version, Exported Functionality, and Dependencies.
- Reusability with a consistent model across different technologies: Processes, Java Classes, XSDs, WSDLs, and shared resources.

Standards-based

Supported standards include:

- Protocols and API: SOAP, JSON, REST, WSDL, HTTP, HTTPS, JMS, JDBC
- Data representation and transformation: Native support for XML, XSD, XPath, JSON, XSLT
- TIBCO Products: TIBCO Rendezvous®, TIBCO Enterprise Message Service™ (EMS), TIBCO AE Schema
- Others: FTP, JNDI, SMTP, TCP

General Concepts

ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications developed to solve business problems can range from simple to very complex solutions. These applications are packaged in deployable artifacts in the form of archive files. Understanding the general concepts is essential to both developers and administrators.

Applications

An application is a collection of one or more modules and can be run in the runtime. Applications are developed using TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks.

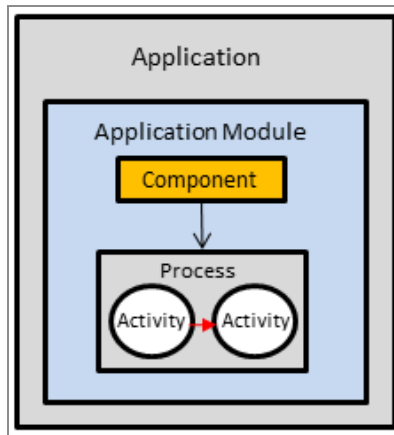
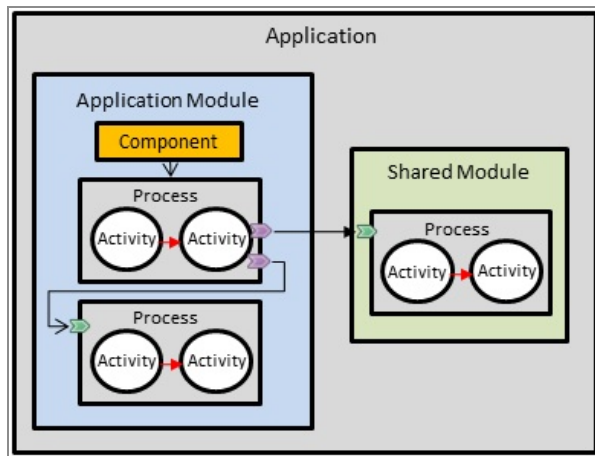
Applications are developed using features available in the product and can range from simple to very complex. An application contains one application module (see [Application Modules](#)), which in turn consists of one or more processes that define the business logic, and zero or more shared modules (see [Shared Modules](#)). A process that is responsible for initiating the business logic at runtime is used to implement a *component* in an application module.

Applications can also contain OSGi bundles that do not contain application artifacts. For example, you can create an application that contains a Java OSGi bundle, which is also referred to as a *Java module*.



Note: The term module is used interchangeably with the OSGi bundle.

Elements of an application



After an application is developed, you can either run or debug directly in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks, or generate a deployable artifact (an archive file) that can be deployed later in the runtime environment. The deployment artifact is the only artifact that is handed over from the design-time to the runtime environment.

Modules

A module is an Eclipse project that is configured for ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks.

Two types of modules are supported:

- **Application modules:** The smallest resource that is named, versioned, and packaged as part of an application and is run in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks runtime. An

application module cannot be deployed by itself in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks runtime; it must be packaged as part of an application.

- **Shared modules:** The smallest resource that is named, versioned, and packaged as part of an application and can be used by other modules that are part of the same application. A shared module cannot be deployed by itself; it must be included as part of an application module.

Application Modules

The smallest resource that is named, versioned, and packaged as part of an application and is run in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks runtime. An application module cannot be deployed by itself in the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks runtime; it must be packaged as part of an application.

An application module typically contains one or more processes. An application module is configured and represented in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks, and can be used by multiple applications. Each application module contains metadata that is associated with it, such as name, version, dependencies.

An application module can include the following resources:

- **Processes:** Processes capture and represent the flow of business information between different data sources and destinations. Processes are contained within a process package. An application module can contain one or more process packages, and each of the process packages can contain one or more processes.
- **Service descriptors:** Service descriptors consist of Swagger files and WSDL files that provide the name of the service, the interface, the list of operations offered by the service, the parameters expected by the operations, and the return types.
- **Resources:** Resources are reusable configuration data that can be shared within an application. For example, [Shared Resources](#).
- **Schemas:** Schemas define elements and attributes that can be used to define structured data.
- **Components:** The main process that is responsible for initiating the execution of the application logic is represented by a component. When the application logic is spread across multiple processes, there can be one or more components in the application module.
- **Module Descriptors:** Module descriptors provide information about the application

module such as module overview, configuration properties, dependencies, components, and shared variables.



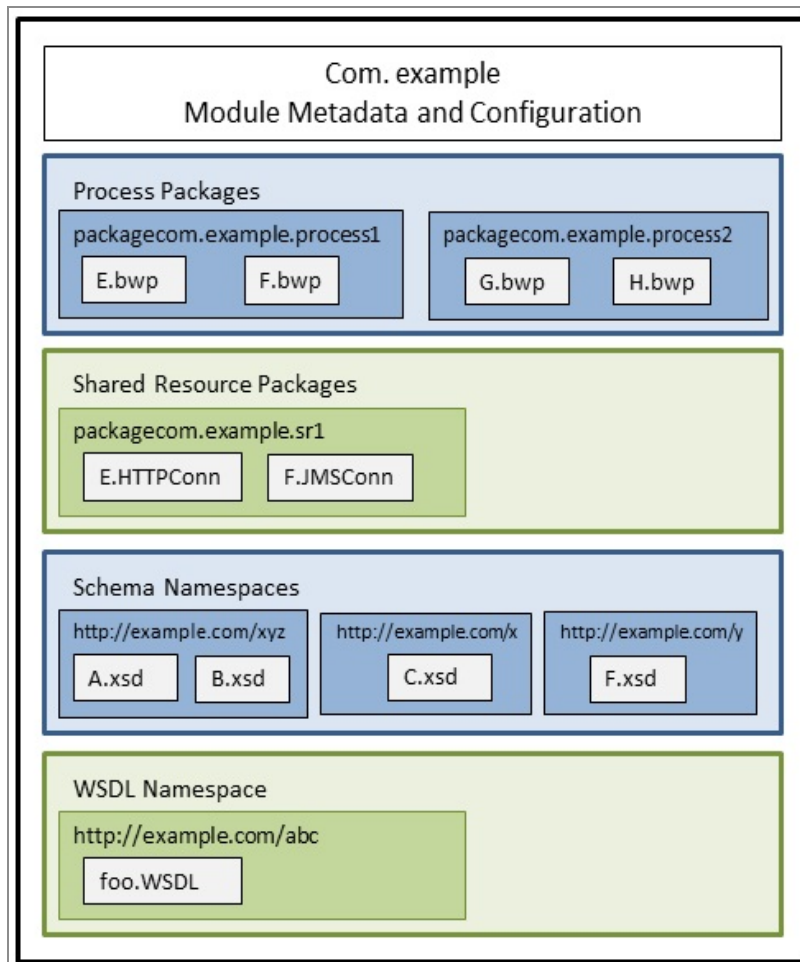
Note: Use the Component section under the **Module Descriptor** node to configure the components for this specific application module.

- **src:** Default source directory created when the project is Java enabled. A project can contain multiple source directories that are used to contain the Java classes and packages.
- **JRE System Library:** If your project is Java enabled, TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks includes the required JAR files in this folder.

Application modules can depend on shared modules, which can contain processes, schemas, JSON, and WSDL files that can be used by a process in the application module.

The application modules cannot export their functionality to other modules.

Structure of an Application Module

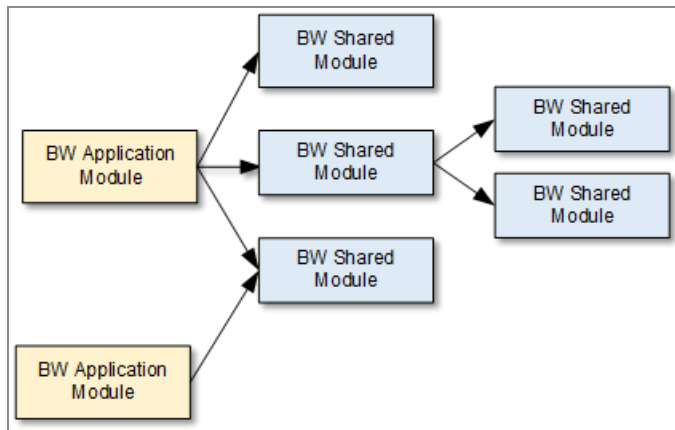


Shared Modules

The smallest resource that is named, versioned, and packaged as part of an application and can be used by other modules that are part of the same application. A shared module cannot be deployed by itself; it must be included as part of an application module.

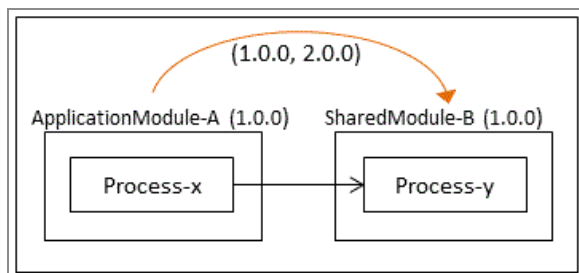
Shared modules export their functionality (processes, shared resources, and schema namespaces) to application modules or to other shared modules. This means that there is a possibility that other modules in the system depend on a shared module for this information.

Relationship Between Application Modules and Shared Modules

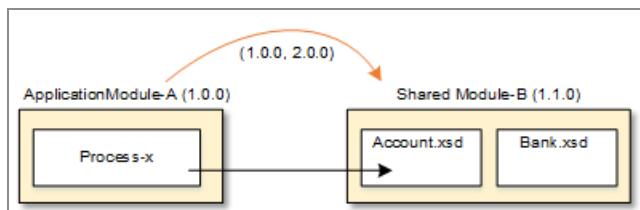


Shared modules can depend only on other shared modules and cannot depend on application modules.

At the module level, a process can reference another process in a different module.



A process can also reference a WSDL or a schema defined in a different shared module. Schemas intended to be exported from a shared module must be contained in the **Schemas** special folder.



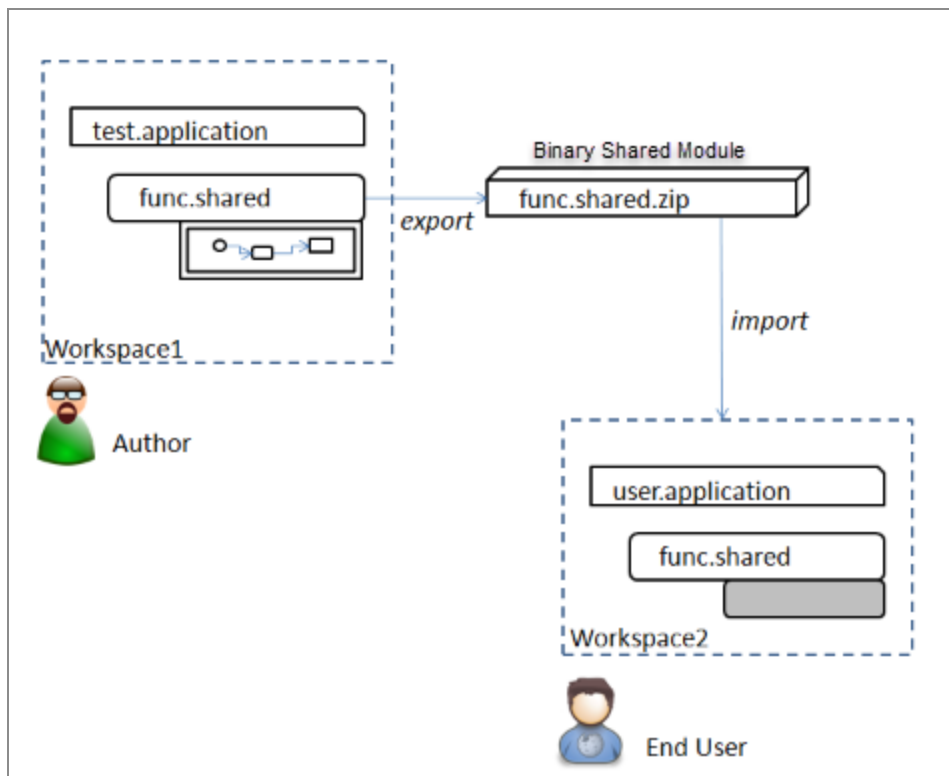
For information on shared modules that can be exported for the purpose of sharing them with other users, see "Binary Shared Modules" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Concepts*.

Binary Shared Modules

Binary shared modules are essentially shared modules that you create to hide the implementation details of a shared module from the consumers of the module. A binary shared module is compiled into a binary format for use by another application.

A binary shared module can be used like any other shared module, except its end user must use it as is without the ability to modify it in any way. When imported into a project, the end user cannot see its process diagram or the implementation details of other artifacts within the module.

Binary shared modules serve as a good vehicle when you have a standalone functionality to share without exposing its details.



For more information on creating and using a binary shared module, see "Creating a Binary Shared Module", and "Using a Binary Shared Module" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Application Development*.

Processes

Processes capture and describe the flow of business information in an enterprise between different data sources and destinations.

Processes comprise activities that accomplish tasks. The flow of data between activities in a process is represented using transitions, conditions, and mappings. TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks provides design palettes containing activities and transitions that can be used to develop business processes.

Parent Process

A process can call another process, or a subprocess. The process that makes the call is referred to as a *caller process* or a *parent process*.

Subprocess

A subprocess can be called by a parent process, or another subprocess. In the case where a subprocess is calling another subprocess, the subprocess that makes the call is the *parent process*. The called process is referred to as a subprocess or a *child process*.

There are two types of subprocesses: direct or service.

- A direct subprocess is non-WSDL-based. This means you do not need to use a WSDL to define subprocess details. Instead, you can set input and output information on the **Start** and **End** activities in the subprocess interface.
- A service subprocess requires a WSDL to define subprocess details, and can be configured to use SOAP or REST binding.

There are two ways that a subprocess can be called: inline or non-inline.

- An inline subprocess is part of the same job as the parent process, which means they share the same engine thread. A non-inline, or a spawned, subprocess is a separate job, which means it can use a separate engine thread. For example, when a service subprocess invokes a process using the **Invoke** activity, the process runs on the same thread if a reply is involved.

i Note: If the parent process of a direct inline subprocess is faulted, the subprocess is canceled as well. Inline direct subprocesses are sensitive to all state changes of the parent process, for example, suspend, resume, or cancel.

- Non-inline subprocesses run on a separate, engine thread.

i Note: If the parent process of an inline, or a non-inline, service subprocess is faulted, the subprocess is canceled as well. Service subprocesses, similar to inline direct subprocesses, are sensitive to any state changes the parent process undergoes.

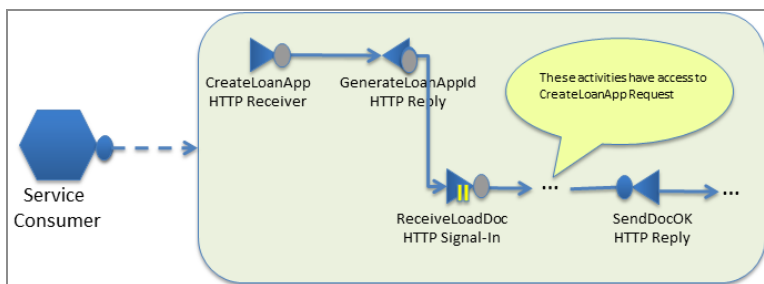
Component Process

The execution of a process is triggered by various events. Often the business logic that is designed to react to a particular event is spread across multiple processes. One of the processes is special and it reacts to the original event and triggers the execution of the other processes. This special process is referred to as the component process or main process. A component process is responsible for initiating the job at run time.

A component process is designed to react to various events and these events are triggered by [Process Starters](#), [Signal-Ins](#), and [Bindings](#).

Stateful Process

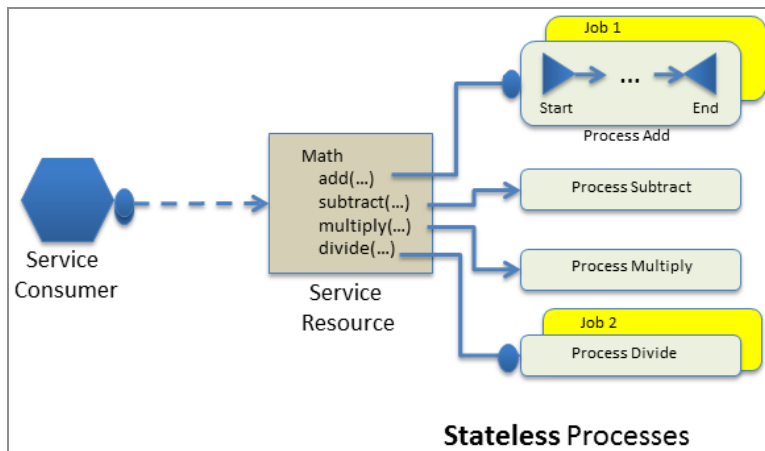
A process that relies on the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine to maintain its state across invocations is called a *stateful* process. As the engine maintains its state, a stateful process does not require an external persistence store.



Stateless Process

A process that does not require the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine to maintain its state across invocations is called a stateless process. If needed, a developer can design

a stateless process to maintain the process state manually by using an external persistence store.



Process Services

A process can provide services to other processes. A process service exposes the operations provided by the process and is implemented using a WSDL or a JSON file. When the process is implemented by a component, the process services are exposed as component services, which then need to be configured using bindings.

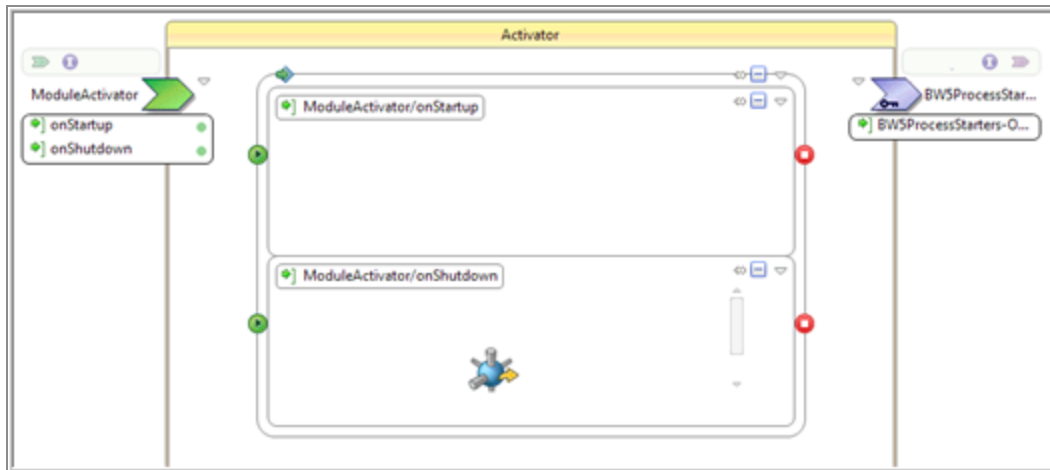
Process References

A process can consume services provided by other processes or by external service providers. A process reference exposes the operations consumed by the process and is implemented using a WSDL or a JSON file. A process reference can be configured to invoke a process or an external service.

When the process is implemented by a component, the process references that are not configured to call a process or an external service through a binding are exposed as component references, which then need to be configured using bindings.

Activator Process

An activator process is a special process that can be used to perform pre-processing and post-processing tasks when the application is started and stopped respectively. The activator process contains a process service with two operations: **OnStartup** and **OnShutDown**.



The **OnStartup** operation is called when an application is started, but before running any other processes in the application. The **OnStartup** operation can be used to implement any pre-processing tasks that must be performed for the application before the regular processing starts. For example, the **OnStartup** operation can be used to check if the database tables required by an application exist, and create them if they do not exist. If this process instance faults due to an unhandled exception, the application does not start.

The **OnShutdown** operation is called when an application is stopped, but after stopping and completing all other processes in the application. The **OnShutdown** operation can be used to implement any post-processing tasks that must be performed for the application after the regular processing is complete. For example, the **OnShutdown** operation can be used to send an email to administrators notifying them that the application is being stopped.

The activator process can only be configured for an application module. There can be only one activator process for an application module. However, the activator process can invoke one or more subprocesses.

Note: The activator process in ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks 6.x provides the same functionality as that of the OnStart and OnShutdown activities in ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks 5.x.

A simple business process can be developed by adding activities in sequence, and the connecting the activities using transitions with or without conditions. Developing a complex business process typically involves developing a component process and one or more subprocesses. Use of subprocesses makes the complex business process easier to understand and debug. At runtime, the in-line subprocesses do not create a new job, but are run on the job created by their calling process.

i Note: For more information about the TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks development environment, see [Design-time Concepts](#).

Process Packages

Process packages are groups of related processes.

Process packages are similar to Java packages in their semantics and in the way they are represented in the file system.

Activities

Activities are the individual units of work in a process.

Activities generally interact with an external system and perform a task. Activities that perform similar tasks are grouped in an entity called a *palette*. TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks provides various technology-specific palettes using which you can build a business process.

Each activity in a palette is represented by an icon. For example, the **JDBC Update** activity



is represented by the icon. Often an activity icon is also decorated with an additional symbol such as a green or a yellow pause sign to indicate the activity waits for an event, an arrow to indicate the direction of the data flow. For example, the arrow sign in the **HTTP Request** and **HTTP Response** icon indicates that data is being sent by this activity.

i Note: For more information on palettes, see the *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Bindings and Palettes Reference* guide.

Activities can be classified into three types:

- **Regular Activities** perform a specific task. Regular activities can have input and output in addition to their configuration. Activities can also state the faults they can generate at runtime. This allows the process to be designed to handle these faults

and perform the necessary actions. Regular activities can be further classified into synchronous and asynchronous activities.

Synchronous activities are *blocking*. They block the execution of the process until the activity task completes. Signal-in activities are always blocking.

Asynchronous activities are non-blocking. They perform a task asynchronously without blocking the execution of a process.

- **Process Starter Activities** are configured to react to events. They trigger the execution of a process when the event occurs. Process starter activities can have only outputs in addition to their configuration. For example, the **HTTP Receiver** process starter activity starts a process when an HTTP request is received.
- **Signal-in Activities** wait for an asynchronous event in a process. They proceed with running the process instance when an appropriate event is received. Signal-in activities require conversations to be configured. For more information, see [Conversations](#).



Note: For more information about the TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks development environment, see [Design-time Concepts](#).

Palettes

Palettes group activities that perform similar tasks. TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks provides various technology-specific palettes that provide quick access to activities when building a process.

Palettes are typically located to the right of the **Process Editor** in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks. Depending on the process being designed and the stage of process development, you can focus on the activities available under appropriate palettes.

In TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks, the **Palette** views display the list of activities contained in a palette and allow you to perform the following actions:

- Search for activities in palettes.
- Use multiple palettes and save them as grouped palette sets.
- Save palettes, or the grouped palette sets, as favorites.
- View recently used palettes.

- Create virtual palettes, which means that some activities can be taken from unrelated palettes. This activity is called a custom shortcut.

i Note: For more information about the TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks development environment, see [Design-time Concepts](#).

Transitions

Transitions can be added to activities and groups in a process. They represent the flow of execution from one activity or group to another.

In TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks, transitions are displayed as an arrow between two resources in a process. Transitions are unidirectional and cannot connect to a previously run activity or group. The control flow in a process must proceed sequentially, beginning with the starting activity or group and ending with the last activity or group in the process.

Transitions can have a one-to-many relationship with the activities. In a process, one activity can simultaneously transition to multiple activities or groups. For example, if the shipping schedule indicates a delay in shipping an order, you want to notify the customer and enter the information into the customer service system. However, if there is no delay, you want to enter the information into the customer service system without notifying the customer.

Transitions can fall into one of the following categories:

- **Transitions Without Conditions:** Control automatically flows from one activity or group to the next without any conditions.
- **Transitions With Conditions:** When an activity or group completes processing, the conditions specified on the transitions originating from that activity or group are evaluated to determine whether the transition to the next activity, or group should be taken or not. All transitions whose conditions are met are taken.
- **Error Transitions:** Special transitions that specify the activities or groups to run in case of an error. When configuring an activity or group, you can select one transition to take from the specified activity or group, and the activities or groups to be run following the error transition.

i Note: Error transitions take precedence over fault handlers. If an error is encountered in a scope and it has both a fault handler and an error transition, then the error transition is run.

Shared Resources

Shared resources are resources that contain common configuration data that can be referenced from multiple places.

You can define a shared resource and then reference it from multiple activities in the same or different process. For example, you can define a **JDBC Connection** resource and then use it in any of the **JDBC** activities in your process to connect to the database.

Shared resources such as JDBC Connection, JMS Connection, HTTP Connection, are available at design-time. At runtime, the referencing activities and event sources have full access to their instances and configuration.

Shared resources can be grouped in packages, similar to the way process packages and Java packages are presented in the file system.

When defined in an application module, shared resources are not visible to processes outside the application module. However, when defined in a shared module, they are visible to processes outside the shared module.

Shared Variables

Shared variables are used to define data for modules and jobs. There are two types of shared variables: job shared variables and module shared variables. They are stored separately.

Job Shared Variables

Job shared variables are used to share data within a job such as between a parent and child process instance. At runtime, the engine allocates a new variable for each job and the value of that variable is not visible outside the job to which it was allocated.

Module Shared Variables

Module shared variables are used to share data across all processes in a module. The module shared variable is visible to all process instances within the same module.

The key difference between a job shared and a module shared variable is that when jobs expand across module boundaries, a job shared variable is visible outside the module it was set in, while the module shared variable is visible only inside the module in which it was set.

Independent Start of a Component

The Independent start of a component feature allows the application to start even if there is component failure (due to shared resource failure) so that the user can use other working components in the application without any issue. For more information, see "Shared Resources" in the *ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks Bindings and Palettes Reference* guide.

Mapping Concepts to a Sample: File Poller

Let us now try to map the concepts to a sample by understanding and designing a simple business process. The File Poller example demonstrates such a process.

Mapped Concepts of the File Poller Sample

The File Poller sample demonstrates the following concepts:

- [Applications](#)
- [Application Modules](#)
- [Shared Modules](#)
- [Processes](#)
- [Activities](#)
- [Transitions](#)
- [Shared Resources](#)

After going through these sections, you should be able to understand and run a simple process such as the File Poller.

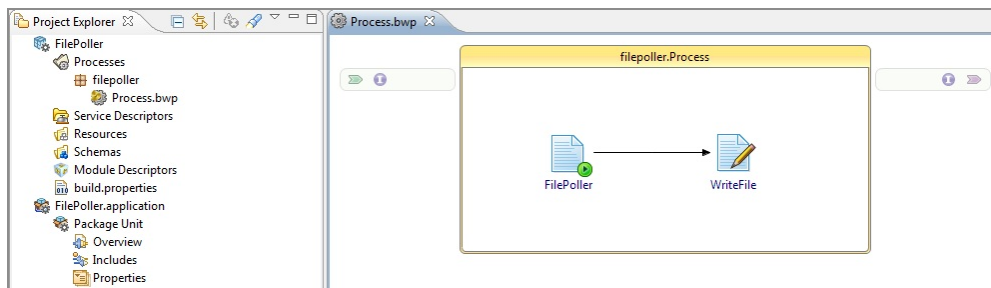
File Poller Sample

The File Poller sample project creates a simple process that polls a file at a given location, for example `c:\tmp\fileread.txt`, to check if the file was changed periodically and writes

the content of the polled file to a specified output file. By default, the file is created if it does not exist in the specified location.

The activities, **File Poller** and **Write File**, from the File palette are used in this process. The data flows from the **File Poller** activity to the **Write File** activity and is illustrated by the transition arrow in the [File Poller Process Diagram](#).

File Poller Process Diagram



For step-by-step instructions to create and test the File Poller process, see *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Getting Started*.

The Project Explorer in the [File Poller Process Diagram](#) also shows the application - FilePoller.application, application module - FilePoller, and the process - Process.bwp created when developing the File Poller sample.

Next Steps

After completing this section, you should be able to design a simple process with minimal assistance. You can further build on this sample to solve problems using batch-oriented and process-oriented styles using TIBCO® Adapters and activities from other palettes such as JMS, JDBC, and FTP.

Additional Concepts

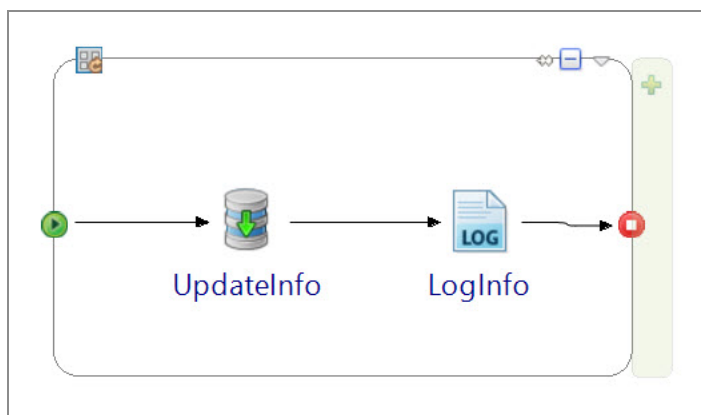
This section introduces the following additional concepts that help build complex business processes.

Groups

Groups consist of one or more activities that are assembled and run according to their type.

Groups enable you to put one or more activities together and configure the group as needed. For example, defining a single error condition for the group, or creating a group as a transaction that commits to a database only when all the activities in the group are completed.

Every group contains a **GroupStart**  element on the left and a **GroupEnd**  element on the right.



Groups can be classified into two categories: groups with conditions (repetitive groups) and groups without conditions (non-repetitive groups).

Groups Without Conditions (Non-repetitive)

The following types of groups do not require any conditions to be defined for their execution:

- **Scope** : A scope is a simple group that has no custom behavior. It can define local variables and can also contain fault handlers and event handlers. A scope with a single activity can be defined if you need to handle faults or catch exceptions specific to an individual activity.
- **Critical Section** : The Critical Section group is used to synchronize jobs so that only one job is acting on the group of activities at any given time. Any concurrently running job that contains a corresponding critical section waits until the job currently running the critical section completes. The Critical Section group is useful to control concurrent access to shared variables. While a critical section group can be used to synchronize jobs within a process, module shared variables help synchronize jobs for multiple processes.

Groups With Conditions (Repetitive)

Loops are groups with conditions that follow a pattern at runtime: initialize the loop, update the loop at each iteration, and test conditions for the loop to stop iterating. The following types of loops are available:

- **For Each** : For Each is used to loop for a specific number of iterations with a counter ranging from a start value to an end value.
- **Iterate** : This loop has a simple index variable that can be used to count each iteration and the loop runs for the number of iterations specified.
- **Repeat** : This loop has a simple index variable that can be used to count each iteration and has a conditional expression to determine when to stop. The loop runs at least once and a test for the specified condition is performed at the end of the loop. The Repeat loop continues to run until the condition evaluates to true.
- **Repeat on Error** : This loop involves a retry mechanism: if any activity in the loop displays a fault, the condition expression is evaluated to determine if the loop should be repeated. An index allows the condition to be based on the number of previous attempts, but any condition expression may be used.
- **While** : This loop has a simple index variable that can be used to count each iteration and has a conditional expression to determine when to stop. The condition for the While loop is tested at the beginning of each iteration and the loop may never be run if the condition is initially false. The While loop and continues to run as long as the condition holds true and stops when the condition evaluates to false.

i Note: For more information about the TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks development environment, see [Design-time Concepts](#).

Properties

Properties are used to define configuration. Depending on where and how they are defined and qualified, properties can be classified into application properties, module properties, shared module properties, and process properties. The values for all three kinds of properties can be of one of the six primitive types (Boolean, Integer, DateTime, Long, Password, or String) or one of the available default shared resource type. These values are static and cannot be changed once an application has started execution. These values can only be changed at design time or deployment time.

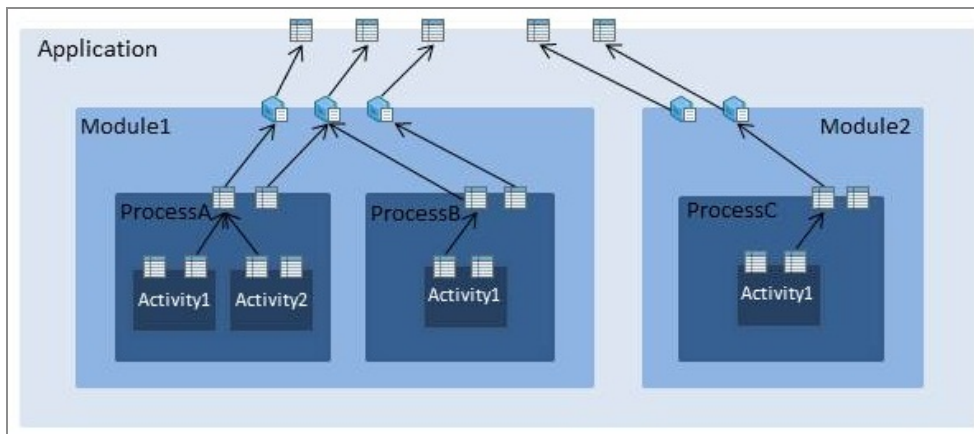
The three levels of properties are hierarchical: application properties are in the outer most scope, followed by module properties, followed by process properties.

Properties defined in the inner layer can reference a property defined at its parent layer. For example, a process property can reference a module property instead of providing a literal value. Similarly, a module property value can be defined by literal values or source from its parent scope application property.

Any process property or module property that you define is available both in the activity configuration page and is also available to use as an input to an activity (from the **Data Source** tab of the **Input** tab for the activity).

The following diagram illustrates the relationship between the different types of properties:

Relationship Between Properties



Features of Process, Module, Shared Module, and Application Properties

Property	Scope or Visibility	Values	Additional Information
Process Properties	Visible within a process.	Literal, module property reference, or a shared resource reference.	Literal values cannot be modified at the module or application level.
Module Properties	Visible within the module.	Literal or a shared resource reference.	Cannot be assigned to an activity directly. You need to reference a module property from a process property, and then reference the process property from the activity.
Shared Module Properties	- Visible within the module. - Visible within projects that contain dependencies to the Shared Module that the Shared Module Property came from. - Private module properties cannot be viewed from the Admin UI. - Not visible or changeable from the Admin UI.	- Literal or a shared resource reference. - Private module property values cannot be edited from the Admin UI.	- Shared Module Properties are module properties that come from a Shared Module. - Cannot be assigned to an activity directly. You need to reference a module property from a process property, and then reference the process property from the activity. - Can be used for activities, process properties, shared resources, and SOAP Bindings.
Application Properties	Only available for an	Literal.	Overrides module properties, thus

Property	Scope or Visibility	Values	Additional Information
	application and visible within the application.	Profiles can be used to specify a new set of values for the same application.	enabling you to use different values for the same module. Cannot add new properties at application level.



Note: For more information about the TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks development environment, see [Design-time Concepts](#).

Shared Variables

Shared variables are used to save the state, either at the module level or for the duration of a job.

Using shared variables, you can share data across process instances associated with a module or a job. A process instance can read or update the data stored in a shared variable. The shared variable data updated by one process instance is accessible to other process instances of a Module or Job.

There are two types of shared variables: module shared variables and job shared variables. Both module and job shared variables are defined at the module level and can be accessed in a process using the activities **Set Shared Variable** and **Get Shared Variable**.

For more information on how to define and use shared variables, see "Using Shared Variables" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Application Development*.

Module Shared Variables

Module shared variables are used to share the state at a module level and are visible to all process instances created from the processes that are within a module. Module shared variables can be read and updated by the process instances during execution. Once the value is updated, the new value is available to all the process instances created from the processes that are within the module. Consider an example where the exchange rates are updated daily and the updated exchange rates should be accessible to all processes in a

module. You can create a module shared variable to hold the exchange rate and use one process in the module for updating the exchange rate. All other processes in the module that require the exchange rate can retrieve the current value through the module shared variable.

Persistent Module Shared Variable

The current state of a module shared variable is stored in memory by default and the state of the module shared variable is lost in case the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine (or the AppNode) crashes. However, to preserve the current state in case of an engine failure, the module shared variable can be configured to be persistent.

For more information on configuring module shared variables with persistent option, see "Using Shared Variables" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Application Development*.

When a module shared variable is configured as persistent, its current state is written to the engine database and on engine restart the module-shared variable state is restored.

Sharing Module Shared Variable Across Multiple Engines (AppNodes)

A module shared variable state can be accessible across multiple engines if the engine persistent mode (`bw.engine.persistentMode`) is set to "group" and the module shared variable is configured to be persistent.

For more information on configuring engine persistence, see "Engine Persistence Modes" in the *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration* guide.

Using the persistence option, the same ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications running in multiple engines (AppNodes) that are part of the same engine group can read or update the module shared variable state. Once the value is updated, the new value is available to all engines (AppNodes) which are running the same application.

Job Shared Variables

Job shared variables are used to share the state at the job level for the duration of a job. A copy of the job shared variable is created for each new job and it is accessible to all process instances associated with the job. Job shared variables can be used to share data between all process instances of a job without creating an input or output schema for the called process. They can also be set in shared modules, and accessed by application modules after setting up dependencies to the shared module.

Sharing Job Shared Variables Between Inline and Non-Inline Processes

Inline subprocesses are run as part of the caller (parent) process jobs and therefore the current value of the job shared variable is passed from the caller process to the inline

subprocess. Non-inline service subprocesses, and direct subprocesses that have been spawned, spawn a new thread, and are not run on the same job as the caller process. Hence the non-inline subprocess and direct subprocesses that have been spawned, obtain a copy of the job shared variable, and do not obtain the current value of the job shared variable from the caller process.

At runtime, the engine allocates a new job shared variable for each new job and the value of that variable is visible only to that job. Persistence option is not available for the Job Shared Variables.

Shared Variable Synchronization

Multiple process instances can potentially access or update a shared variable at the same time. For example, a module shared variable can be accessed by multiple jobs concurrently. Without a synchronization mechanism, a process instance could update the value of a shared variable while another process instance is trying to read the value. This could result in an unpredictable value for the shared variable.

Critical Section groups can be used to synchronize access to shared variables. A **Critical Section** group allows only one process instance to run the **Critical Section** group and its contents at any given time. To synchronize shared variables, use a **Critical Section** group to contain the activities that access the shared variables (**Set Shared Variable** and **Get Shared Variable**). Once a process instance begins running a **Critical Section** group, other concurrently running process instances that are associated with that **Critical Section** group wait at the start of the group until the currently running process instance exits the critical section group. This ensures that the value of the shared variable is not modified while another process instance is accessing it. To synchronize multiple critical section groups, use a shared lock. The shared lock can be defined using a module or a job shared variable.

Conversations

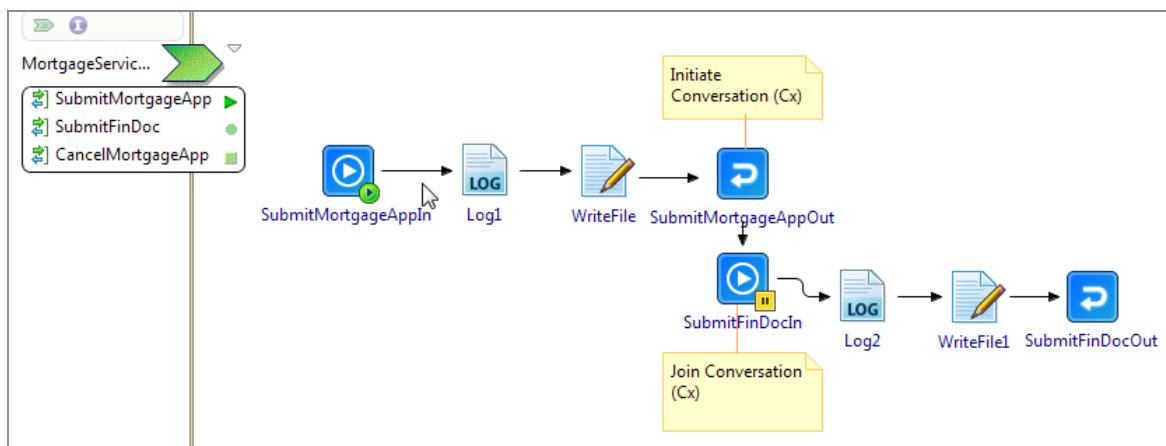
Conversations represent two or more related message exchanges in the same process which are correlated by the engine, for example, a conversation between a process and its clients, or between a process and its back-end service.

Conversations are used for stateful processes, which can consist of one or more operations. In a stateful process, the engine manages the state and helps correlate messages with the process; you need not correlate the state of the operations. In a stateless process, the state is managed by the job itself.

A conversation is defined within the scope of a process. Conversations are always initiated by one activity and joined by other activities. The activity that initiates a conversation generates a conversation ID. The activities that join this conversation use the generated conversation ID when exchanging messages.

Consider the Mortgage Service Provider process shown in the following figure. The Reply activity, SubmitMortgageAppOut, initiates a conversation, generates a conversation ID, then returns this ID in its reply message. The Receive activity, SubmitFinDocIn, joins the conversation initiated by the Reply activity, SubmitMortgageAppOut. When submitting the final documents, a client must use the conversation ID returned by the Reply activity. The engine uses the conversation ID to correlate messages with the process and ensures that the documents are associated with the right mortgage application.

Mortgage Service Provider Sample Using Conversations



When designing an application, better support for conversations can be achieved by defining the following:

- Number of conversations that a process participates in.
- Definition of the activities that are part of the same conversation.
- Sequence of messages for each conversation.

Event Handlers

Event handlers are used to overcome issues with interruptive and blocking activities.

Blocking activities contain a job that has to wait until a certain activity is run. When using blocking activities, all events have to be handled in the order the process was designed. However, it is not possible to design a process without knowing when a message is

received. A shopping cart is a good example of a process where adding and removing items is done in a random order by the shopper.

Event handlers allow asynchronous event processing. They are always attached to a scope and run parallel to the main business logic of the process, so they are associated with an operation that is a part of the process.

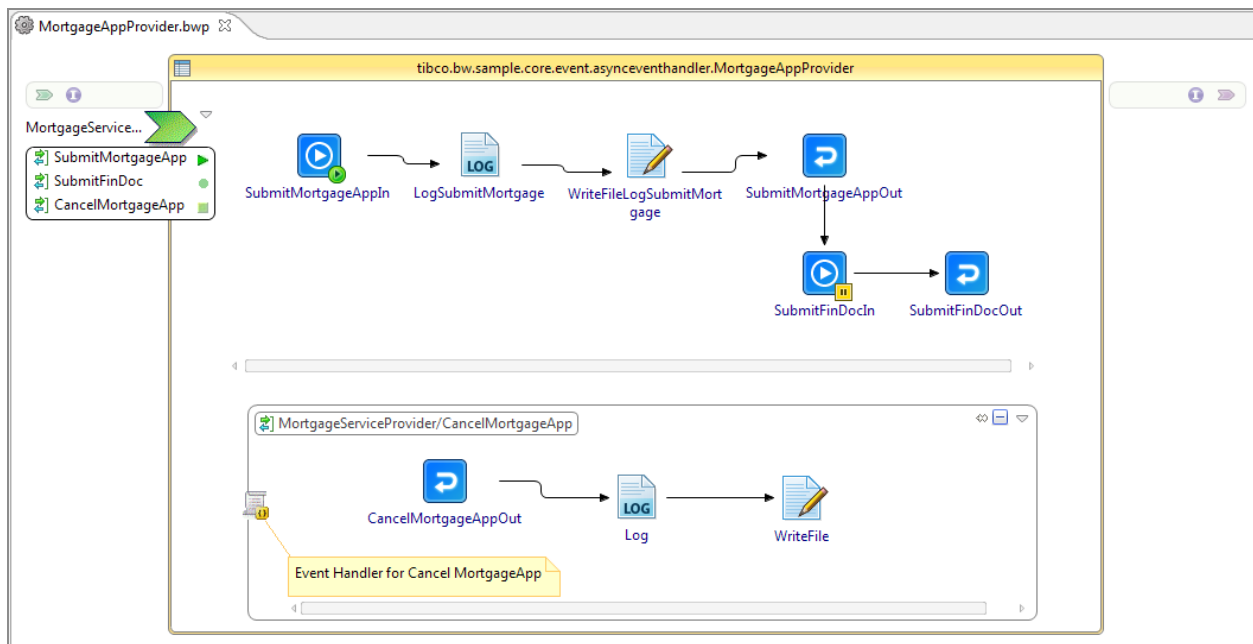
Event handlers can be defined at two different levels:

- Process level - When defined at the process level, allows you to cancel the job.
- Scope level - When defined at the scope level, allows you to cancel the scope.

Each event handler is associated with one process and has access to that process. An event handler can be run multiple times during the process execution and it is run in parallel with the other tasks within the scope or process. The tasks within a scope or process can be ended, before running the tasks within the event handler, using the `Cancel Scope Execution` option.

Consider the Mortgage Service Provider process shown in the following figure. The Mortgage service contains three operations - `SubmitMortgageApp`, `SubmitFinDoc`, and `CancelMortgageApp`. The `CancelMortgageApp` operation is defined in the event handler container. Both the `CancelMortgageApp` and `SubmitFinDoc` operations have a correlation key obtained from the response to the `SubmitMortgageApp` operation. After submitting an application, if the consumer invokes the `CancelMortgageApp` operation with the correlation key before submitting the documents, the event handler containing the implementation for the `CancelMortgageApp` operation is run in parallel to the main process. The engine does not wait for the `SubmitFinDoc` activity to be run.

Mortgage Service Provider Process With Event Handler



Fault Handlers

Errors (or faults) can occur when running a process. You can use Fault handlers to catch faults or exceptions and create fault-handling procedures to deal with potential runtime errors in your process definitions.

It is a best practice to use Fault handlers to catch faults or exceptions in a process. Two types of fault handlers are available: **Catch Specific Fault** and **Catch All Faults**.

Fault handlers can be defined at two different levels:

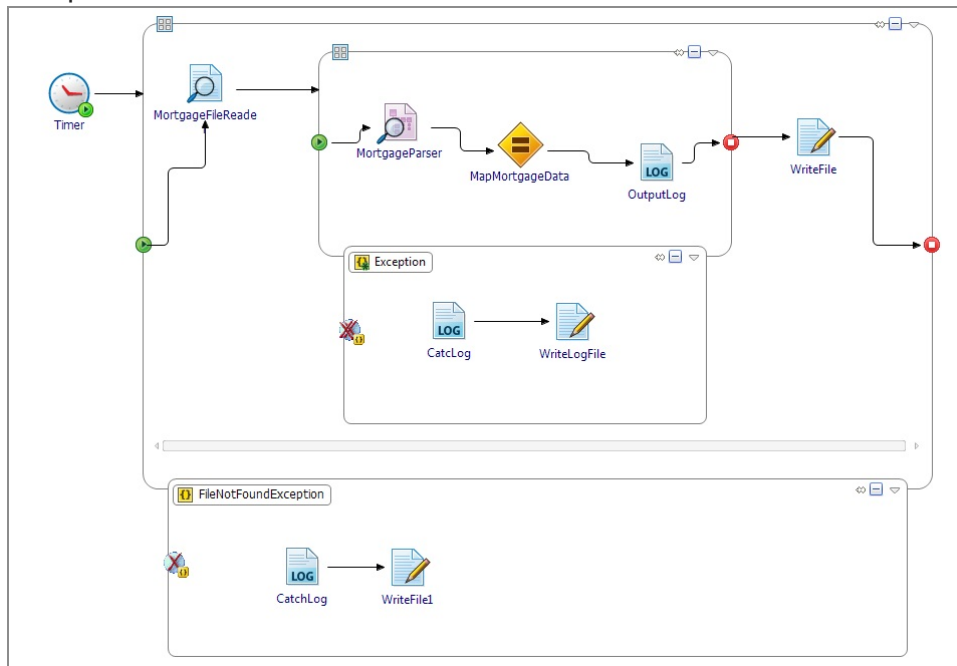
- **Process level** - When defined at the process level, allows you to catch fault in a process.
- **Scope level** - When defined at the scope level, allows you to catch fault within a scope.

Fault handlers when defined at the scope level, allows you to catch faults or exceptions generated by activities within a scope. To catch faults or exceptions specific to an individual activity, you need to define a new scope for that individual activity and attach a fault handler to the new scope.

At runtime, once a fault handler is run, the associated scope is not completed due to the error generated. If a fault is not generated in the fault handler, the process execution continues with the first activity that follows the scope. If a fault is generated in the fault handler, then the engine looks for an enclosing scope that is designed to handle the fault. If one is found, the engine runs it. Once the enclosing fault handler finishes its execution, the engine runs the next activity following the scope. If no fault handlers are found in the enclosing scopes, then the job ends with a fault.

Consider the fault handlers defined in the sample process.

Sample Fault Handlers



If an exception is caught in the inner scope, the exception is logged to a file, and the scope is completed. The process execution then continues to the **Write File** activity, which is the next activity in the process. If an exception is caught in the outer scope, the exception is logged and the scope is completed. The process execution completes successfully as there are no following activities to be processed. An **Exit** activity inside the fault handler returns the control out of the scope and the process.

Error Transitions can also be used to handle error conditions by using them to specify a transition to take in case of an error. For more information, see [Error Transitions](#).

Note: Error transitions take precedence over fault handlers. If an error is encountered in a scope and it has both a fault handler and an error transition, then the error transition is executed.

Module Property

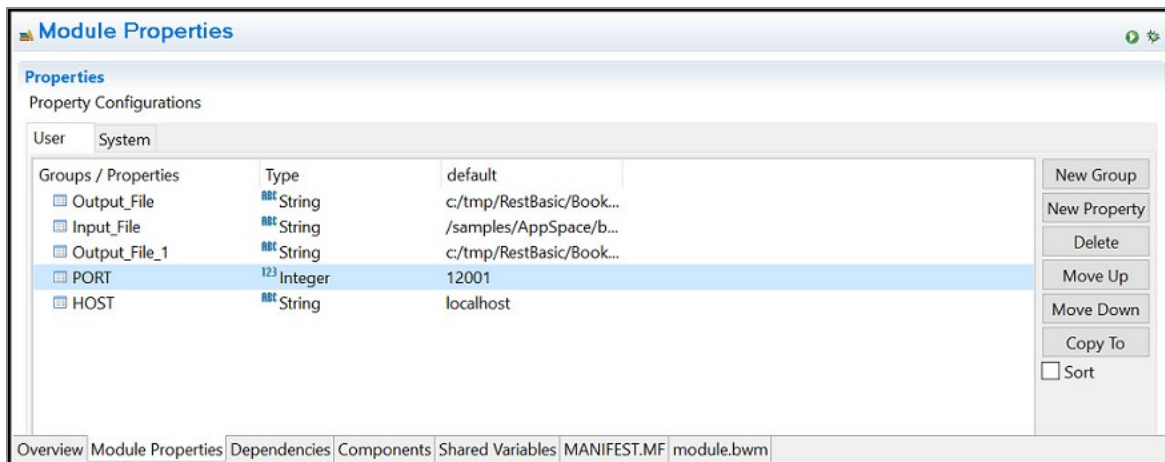
Module property provides the default value for a module. Multiple process properties can source their value from a single module property.

Module properties are defined at the module level and can be referenced by various resources that are defined as a part of the module. Their values can also be sourced from application properties at deployment time.



Note: A module property cannot be assigned directly to an activity. It must be assigned to a process property in order to be used in an activity. The process property inherits the value of the module property that is assigned to it. The process property can then be used in the activity. Module properties can be used directly only when configuring shared resources and policy resources.

The Module Properties editor can be used to create and manage module properties. You can add a new property or logical groups, which you can use to organize module properties.



Components

Components implement a process and provide information to the runtime on how to represent the process.

Components are generated only for the main processes and each main process initialized by the engine must have a component associated with it. Components are required only by

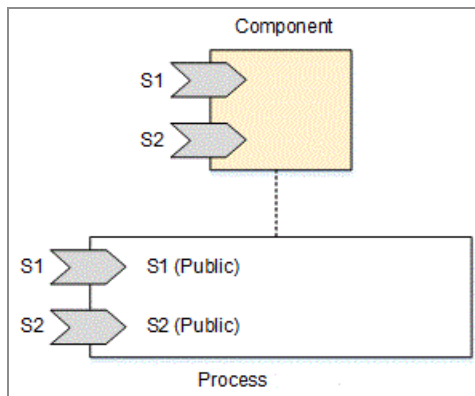
the main processes that are responsible to initiate the business logic. Subprocesses do not require components as they are called by another parent process.

Component Services

Component services describe the binding information to receive an invocation from an external consumer.

When a component implements a process that has a service, the process service is exposed as a component service. The component service then must be configured using bindings such as SOAP and REST.

The service-centric architecture supports self-contained services. Each service is configured separately and can be deployed on a different machine. If one machine goes down, all other parts of the process can continue to run. This loosely coupled architecture makes it easy to change individual components as needed.



Component References

Component references describe the binding information required to invoke an external service.

When the component implements a process that has a reference, then the process reference is exposed as a component reference. When configuring to invoke an external service, the binding information that contains protocol details is not part of the process. The service consumer needs to create a component that is an implementation of that process and configure the binding along with protocol details. The **Invoke** operation activity or a reference can be used to invoke a service.

References have the following characteristics:

- They can be public or private. Public references are visible from outside of the process.
- They always reference one interface or port type.

Based on the availability of the target service name at design-time, you can use either static references or dynamic references. Static references can be used when the target service name is available at design-time and dynamic references are available when the target service name is not available at design-time. This applies to target services developed as a part of ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks as well as external target services.

Services

ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks can function both as a server and a client in a web services interaction. Services and references are defined at the process level while the bindings are created at the component level.

The supported service classes are:

- **REST** (Representational State Transfer)- compliant services, where the primary purpose of the service is to manipulate XML representations of web resources using a uniform set of stateless operations. When using a stateless operation, the state is managed by the job itself instead of by the engine.
- **SOAP** services, which are used for exchanging information in the implementation of web services relying on XML message format sent over HTTP and JMS.

Web services are typically associated with the following characteristics:

- **Interfaces** that describe the operations available within a service. An interface is analogous to a port type in a WSDL file. Each interface can contain multiple operations.
- **Operations** define an action that can be performed by the service and the way the message is encoded.
- **Transport** used for communication such as HTTP or JMS.
- **Schema** used for message exchanges such as XSD.

Operations

Operations define the action that can be performed by the process. Multiple operations are supported in a process with multiple inputs, outputs, and faults.

There are two types of message exchange operations: one-way operations and request-response operations.

SOAP Services

SOAP services are web services that use SOAP as the standard communication protocol for XML-based message exchanges.

The standard HTTP protocol makes it easier for the SOAP model to tunnel across firewalls and proxies without any modifications to the SOAP protocol.

- The Web Services Description Language (WSDL) contains and describes the common set of rules to define the messages, bindings, operations, and location of the Web service. A WSDL file is a formal contract to define the interface that the Web service offers.
- SOAP services require less coding than when designing REST services. For example, transactions, security, coordination, addressing, and trust are defined by the WSDL specification. Most real-world applications are not simple and support complex operations, which require conversational state and contextual information to be maintained. Application developers do not need to worry about writing this code into the application layer themselves.
- SOAP supports several technologies, including WSDL and XSD.

REST Services

Representational State Transfer (REST) is an architectural style of the World Wide Web that is used in building services for distributed systems and networked applications. RESTful APIs are increasingly preferred for enterprise, web, and mobile integration use cases.

The key abstraction of information in REST is a resource, with focus on components, the constraints on their interaction with other components, and their interpretation of

significant data elements. REST ignores the details of component implementation and protocol syntax.

The supported features of the REST architectural style are:

- **Client-server architecture:** Provides a separation of implementation details between clients and servers.
- **Stateless communication:** Ensures that each request contains all of the information required to understand it independently of any stored context on the server.
- **Cacheability:** Provides an option to the client to cache response data and reuse it later for equivalent requests, thus partially eliminating some client-server interactions. This results in improved scalability and performance.

ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks currently allows the following HTTP operations to be performed on resources: GET, PUT, DELETE, and POST. Both XML and JSON are supported as data serialization formats along with support for definition of custom status codes, key-value parameters, and query parameters.

Policies

A policy is a set of constraints that you can define and apply in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks to manage and enforce cross-functional requirements within your ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks application such as security, monitoring, and compliance.

You can add policies to activities and bindings in a process to influence or alter actions in the process flow. For example, you can add a policy on an existing **HTTP Receiver** activity in your application to ensure that user credentials are authenticated, or verified as correct, before the message can continue moving through the process flow. Any request messages that cannot be authenticated are rejected, redirected, or handled in accordance to policy details.

The following policies are examples of policies provided in ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks:

Basic Authentication

Validates the username and password credentials stored in the HTTP header of REST, SOAP, or pure HTTP request messages.

Basic Credential Mapping

Automatically attaches appropriate credentials to request messages before they reach services.

Web Services Security Provider (WSS Provider)

Acts on the server side to ensure the security of a message by enforcing confidentiality, integrity, and time stamping.

Web Services Security Consumer (WSS Consumer)

Acts on the reference side to ensure the security of a message by enforcing confidentiality, integrity, and time stamping.

Policy Definitions and Concepts

The following definitions and concepts are used to describe policies and policy management.

Policy

A policy is set of constraints that you can define and apply in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks to manage and enforce cross-functional requirements within your application such as security, monitoring, and compliance. You can add policies to activities and bindings in a process to influence or alter actions in the process flow.

Policy Types

Policies that are related or perform similar functions are categorized under policy types. Policies that can be applied to the HTTP layer of SOAP, REST, and pure HTTP services are categorized under the HTTP Security policy type. Policies that can be applied to the SOAP layer are categorized under the SOAP Security policy type.

Activities

An activity is the individual unit of work in a process. You can add policies to activities to influence or alter actions in a process flow.

For more information about activities, see "Application Development" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Getting Started*.

Bindings

A binding is used to establish a connection between SOA Services and their consumers. There are two types of binding components:

- Service Binding, which is used to create and expose a service to the external world. The service can contain one or more operations. Once exposed, the service can be consumed by its clients.
- Reference Binding, which is used to create a client that can connect and communicate to an external service.

You can add policies to bindings to manage, modify, and secure message exchanges on the consumer side and provider side.

For more information about the types of bindings offered in the workspace, see "Binding" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Concepts*.

Policy Association

When you add a policy on an activity or a binding, the relationship you create between the resources is called a policy association. At runtime, policies are enforced on the activities and their associated bindings.

Shared Resources

Policies reference shared resources. You can manage and configure shared resources in your workspace. The following table describes shared resources that each policy might reference.

Policy	Shared Resource
Basic Authentication	• XML Authentication
Basic Credential Mapping	• Identity Provider
WSS Provider	• Subject Provider • Keystore Provider

Policy	Shared Resource
	• Trust Provider • WSS Authentication
WSS Consumer	• Identity Provider • Keystore Provider • Trust Provider • Subject Provider • WSS Authentication



Note: You can define a shared resource and then reference it from a single policy or multiple policies. For example, you could use a single **Keystore** resource in the WSS Provider policy and the WSS Consumer policy.

Governance Agent

The governance agent is a ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks run time component that dynamically enforces policies during runtime. A governance agent must be enabled on an AppNode to enforce policies applied to ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications.

For instructions on enabling the governance agent, see "Enabling the Governance Agent" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration*.

Mapping Concepts to a Sample: Mortgage Broker Service and Client

The concepts introduced in sections General Concepts, Groups, Conversations, and Services together enable you to understand and design a service-oriented solution such as the Mortgage Broker Service Client example.

Mapped Concepts of the Mortgage Broker Service Client Sample

The Mortgage Broker Service Client sample demonstrates the following concepts:

- [General Concepts](#)
- [Groups](#)
- [Conversations](#)
- [Services](#)
- [SOAP Services](#)

After reading these sections, you should be able to understand and run a service-oriented sample such as the Mortgage Broker Service Client.

Mortgage Broker Service Client Sample

In this sample, a service implements a simplified online mortgage broker application. The borrower requests a loan through a broker. The broker processes the loan request using one of the third-party partner services. The borrower can either specify the preferred third-party provider or allow the broker to default to one. The third-party partner services request credit rating of the borrower from a credit check service and in turn approves or rejects the loan application based on the credit rating.

The Mortgage Broker Service Client sample project is shipped with the product and can be accessed in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks from **Help > BusinessWorks Samples**.

Next Steps

After completing this section, you should be able to design service-oriented processes with minimal assistance.

Design Time Concepts

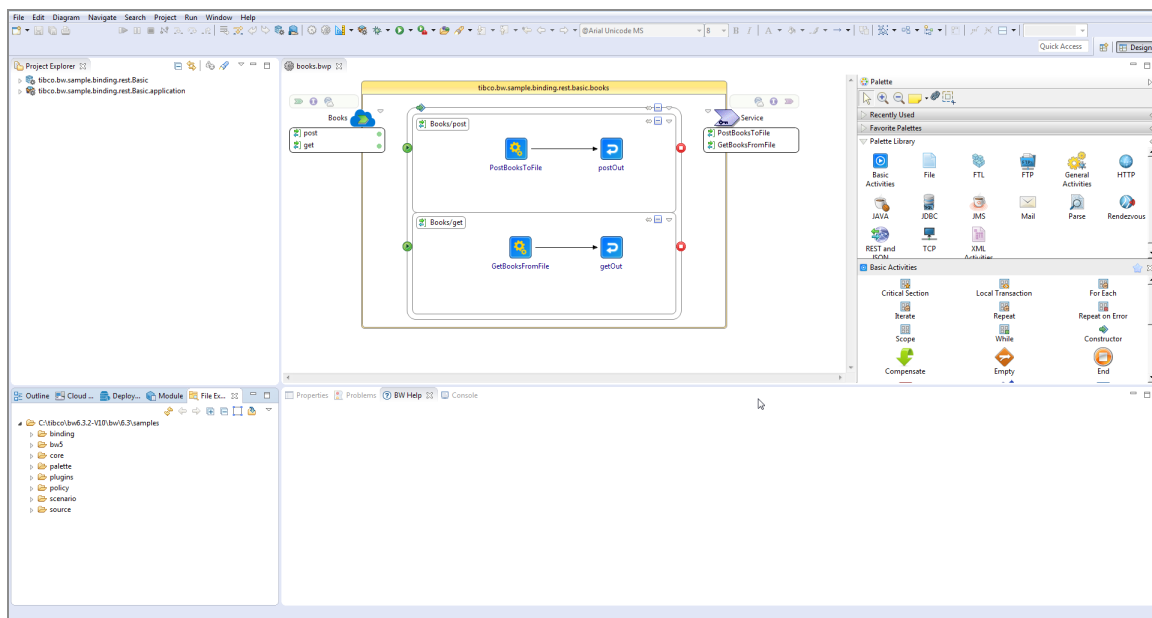
Design time concepts introduce TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks, an Eclipse-based integration development environment that is used to design, test, and deploy applications.

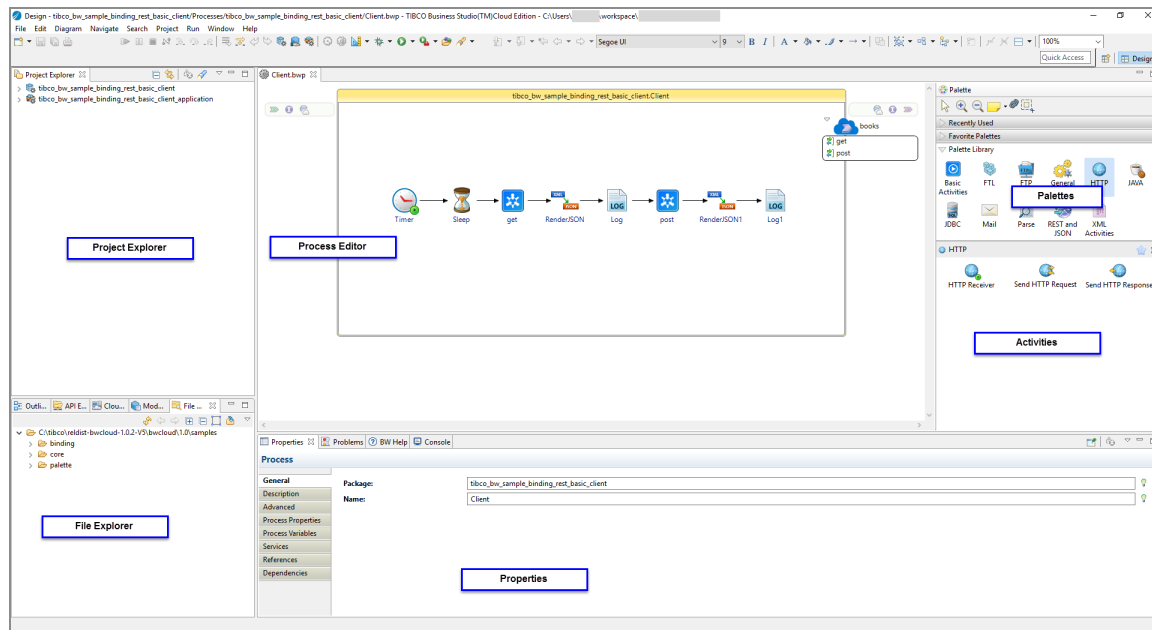
TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks provides Eclipse extensions such as editors, palettes.

Development Environment

TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks provides a workbench that can be used to create, manage, and navigate resources in your workspace. A *workspace* is the central location on your machine where all the data files are stored.

TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks Workbench





The workbench consists of the following attributes:

Attribute	Description
Menu	Contains menu items such as File , Edit , Navigate , Search , Project , Run , Window , and Help .
Toolbar	Contains buttons for the frequently used commands such as New  , Save  , Enable/Disable Business Studio capabilities  , Create a new Application Module  , Create a new Shared Module  , Debug  , Run  , and so on.
Perspectives	Contain an initial set and layout of views that are needed to perform a certain task. TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks opens the Design perspective by default. You can change the perspective from the menu Window > Open Perspective > <perspective_name> .
Views	Display resources and allow for navigation in the workbench. For example, the Project Explorer view displays the applications, modules, and other resources in your workspace, and the Properties view displays the properties for the selected resource. You can open a view from the menu

Attribute	Description
	Window > Show View > <view_name>.
Editors	Provide a canvas to configure, edit, or browse a resource. Double-click a resource in a view to open the appropriate editor for the selected resource. For example, double-click a process (MortgageAppConsumer.bwp) in the Project Explorer view to open the process in the editor.
Palettes	Palettes group activities that perform similar tasks and provide quick access to activities when building a process. For more information, see Palettes .

Explorers

TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks consists of the following tabs in its left pane:

- **Project Explorer:** Displays the logical view of your entire workspace with all the projects and the processes, service descriptors, resources, schemas, and module descriptors for each project.
- **API Explorer:** You can also view the APIs residing locally on your machine from the API Explorer. Use the Settings dialog in the API Explorer to filter the APIs you want to access.
- **File Explorer:** Displays a view of selected folders in your local file system.
- **Outline** tab: Displays a tree structure of the details of selected artifacts in an editor.
- **Module** tab: Displays the module properties and shared variables used in the module.

Application Testing and Debugging

TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks bundles some of the runtime components so that you can run and debug an application in the design-time environment.

The menu option **Run > Debug** or the icon  on the tool bar enables you to debug an application. The menu option **Run > Run** or the icon  on the tool bar enables you to run an application.

The Run configurations specify information such as:

- Bundles to be run.
- Arguments such as the target operating system, target architecture, target web services.
- Settings that define the Java Runtime Environment including the Java executable, runtime JRE, configuration area and so on.
- Tracing criteria for the OSGi JAR file, if needed.
- Common options such as choosing to save the results either as local files or as shared files, and also to display them in the menus (**Debug** and/or **Run**). It also allows you to define encoding for the result files.

Once created, an application can be run using a specific configuration. If a run configuration is not specified, the project displayed in the editor area is launched by default.

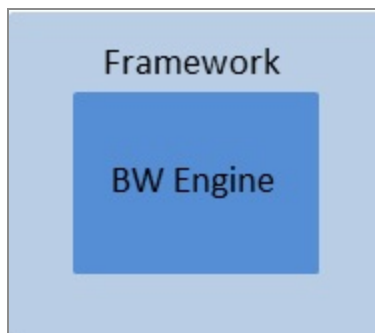
Runtime Concepts

Runtime refers to the AppNode and the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine that host and run ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications.

AppNode

An AppNode (also called *BWAppNode*) is an operating system process (JVM) that hosts and runs ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications. An AppNode consists of two key layers: the OSGI Framework and ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks Engine. The high-level architecture of an AppNode is shown in the following figure:

Application Node Architecture



The framework layer performs application life-cycle operations, ensures that dependencies required by the application are satisfied, and interacts with the Administrator (TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator or BWAdmin utility). The engine layer is responsible for running the application. The engine is multi-threaded and can run multiple jobs for the same or different applications concurrently.

At runtime, an AppNode opens the framework to validate and identify dependencies. After the framework validates the modules and the application is deployed, the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine starts the underlying processes.

The binary file named `bwappnode` is packaged under the `TIBCO_HOME/bw/version/bin` directory.

Each AppNode is associated with an AppSpace. For more information about AppSpaces, see [Administration Concepts](#).

AppNode-Level Engine Properties

List of properties

Property	Use case
<code>bw.engine.enable.loop.reset=true</code>	To enable the reset variables used in the loops.
<code>bw.independent.component.startup=true</code>	The property allows the application to run even when one of the components fails due to an incorrect configuration of the shared resource. The rest of the components can be started after using this property.
<code>bw.process.deserialization.in.parallel=true</code>	This property when set to true helps to reduce the deserialized time of ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications. It has a major impact on applications having a large number of processes.
<code>bw.frwk.version.format</code>	This property enables you to print the <code>major.minor.patch</code> application versions in logs. The version format can be set using a system property in the following formats: <code>bw.frwk.version.format=major.minor</code> <code>bw.frwk.version.format=major.minor.micro</code> <code>bw.frwk.version.format=major.minor.micro.qualifier</code>

Process Instance

When you run any process, it creates an execution scope for the activities that are a part of the process and this scope is called a *process instance*. Each process instance has a unique ID, which is referred to as "ProcessInstanceId".

The execution of a process is triggered by various events. For example, events can be generated by a Timer that is scheduled to trigger at specific time intervals, or by changes

that occur in the file system, or by messages that are sent by a client over a specific protocol (for example, HTTP, JMS), or simply by messages sent by other processes.

The ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine is a multi-threaded engine capable of triggering the execution of the same process multiple times, concurrently, once for each event. When the events that trigger the execution of a process occur concurrently, the engine runs the same process multiple times, concurrently, once for each event. And for each execution, the engine creates a process instance that provides an execution scope for the activities that are a part of the process.

Job

Execution of a component process is called a *job*. Each job has a unique id referred to as JobId.

When the business logic is spread across multiple processes, multiple process instances are created and run with a particular event. Even though these are separate process instances that work together and can be run as part of the same job. A job can spawn multiple process instances and can provide the execution context for activities that are part of multiple processes. The engine always runs a job in one engine thread.

All the process instances that are part of the same job have the same JobId. A component process instance and all of its in-line subprocess instances are also considered being a part of the same job. Non in-line subprocesses spawn a new engine thread and are run on a different job.

Administration Concepts

Applications are deployed into runtime environments and managed using the BWAdmin utility. TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator can also be used to manage and monitor applications.

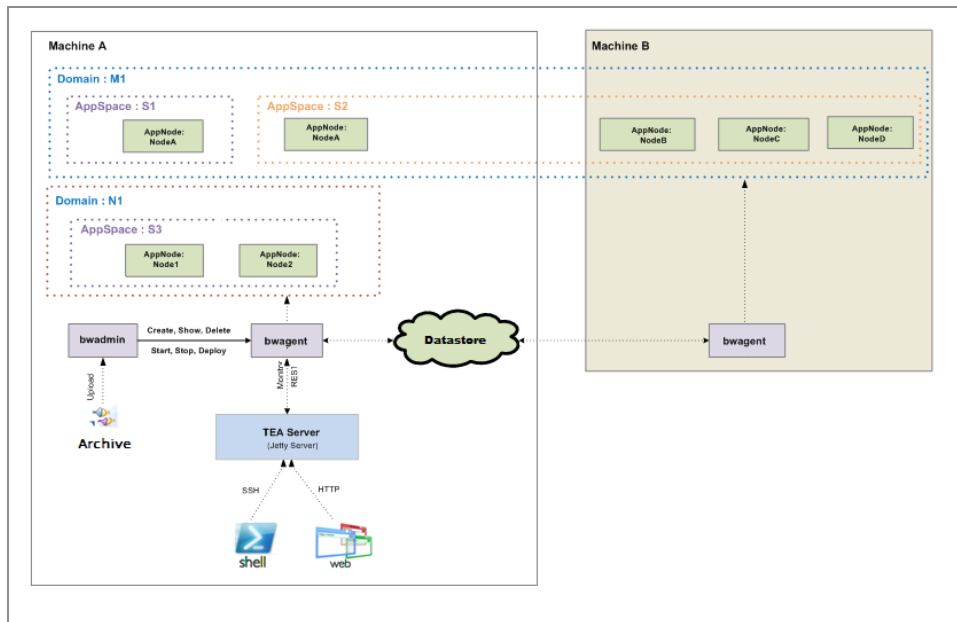
ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks provides a flexible framework that allows you to scale your runtime environment as needed. The runtime provides an option to run the ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks engine so that the risk of a single point of failure when running an application is reduced. The engine is responsible for running the applications.

The key administrative components are as follows:

- An [Application Archive](#) is the deployment unit for an application that is generated in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks.
- A [Domain](#) is a logical group that provides an isolated environment for applications and their resources to reside.
- An AppSpace is a group of one or more AppNodes, which are runtime entities that host ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks applications. AppSpaces are contained within a domain. One or more applications can be deployed to an AppSpace.
- An AppNode is a runtime entity that hosts applications. AppNodes are contained in an AppSpace.
- The [BWAgent](#) is a daemon process that runs on every ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks installation. When multiple installations across machines are configured as a network, the BWAgents interact with each other using a datastore. They also synchronize the data from the datastore with the local file system.

In the following Administration Architecture illustration, domain M1 spans two machines, Machine A and Machine B. Domain N1 is on Machine A. Domain M1 contains two AppSpaces. AppSpace S2 spans both the machines. The BWAgent on Machine A is configured to interact with the BWAgent on Machine B through the datastore.

Administration Architecture



The BWAgent on Machine A is registered with the TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator server. If the registered BWAgent becomes unavailable, the connection between the TIBCO Enterprise Administrator server and the agent network is automatically recovered. The BWAgent on Machine B is automatically registered with the server.

If the TIBCO® Enterprise Administrator server becomes unavailable, running applications and AppSpaces are not impacted.

The runtime entities manifest as a hierarchical folder structure on the local file system. Every action performed on the runtime entities results in an update to the file system. The location of the default domains folder in the local file system can be changed by editing the *BW_HOME/domains/DomainHomes.properties* file.

When the runtime entities span across multiple machines, the BWAgent synchronizes the data from the datastore with the local file system. The AppNodes that host and run the applications read their configuration and data only from the local file system, making the file system the source of truth. The BWAgents ensure that all AppNodes of an AppSpace access the exact applications. Within an AppSpace, all applications run by all AppNodes are identical. This ensures that in case of a failure in the communication channel, the runtime is not affected as it refers to the data on the local file system.

i Note: ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks supports running different versions of applications within the same AppSpace.

For more information, see *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration*.

Application Archives

An application archive is a deployment unit for an application that is generated in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks. It is the only artifact that is handed from the design phase to the runtime as it contains all the bundles and metadata that is required to deploy and run the application.

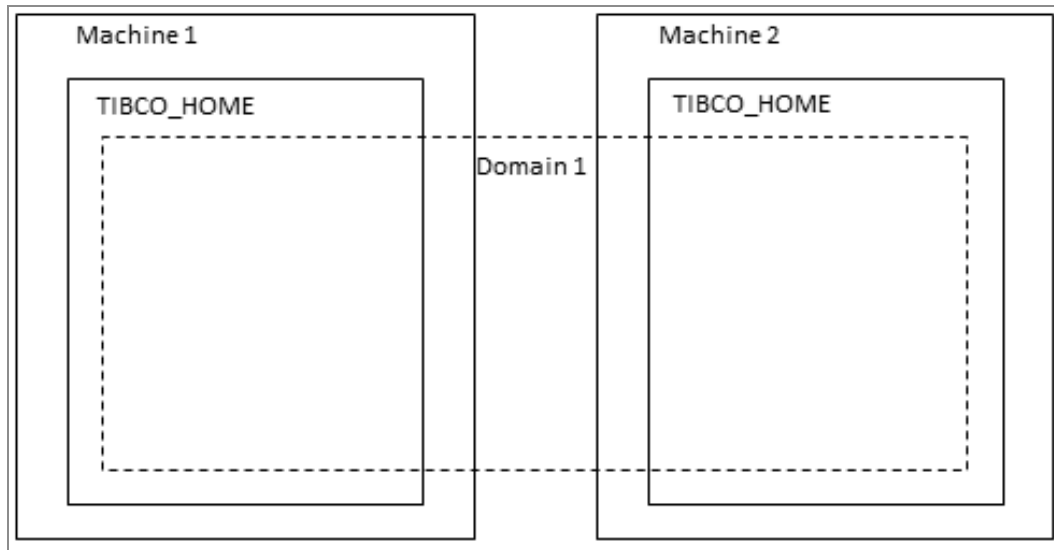
Domains

A domain is a logical group that provides an isolated environment for applications and their resources. Runtime entities such as AppSpaces and AppNodes are contained within a domain.

A domain can span more than one machine and can share a machine with other domains such that one machine can contain more than one domain. Applications in one domain are separated from applications in the other domains.

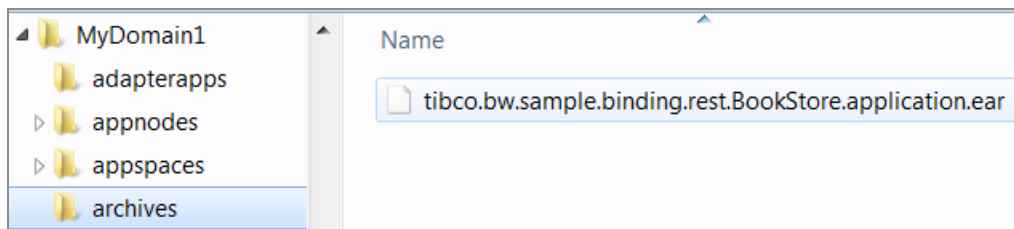
A domain is the first runtime entity you must create. Other runtime entities such as AppSpaces and AppNodes can only exist within a domain. An application archive is first uploaded to a domain. The application contained in the application archive can then be deployed into one or more AppSpaces for execution.

The following diagram shows a single domain that spans two machines. The artifacts installed, configured, or deployed into Domain1 are available on both machines.



A domain manifests as a folder, *domain_name*, in the file system and is available in the `<TIBCO_HOME>\bw\domains` directory. This folder contains subfolders **appspaces** and **appnodes** to store data about the AppSpaces and AppNodes contained in the domain. It also stores the application archive files that are uploaded to the domain under the **archives** subfolder.

File System Manifestation of a Domain



AppSpaces

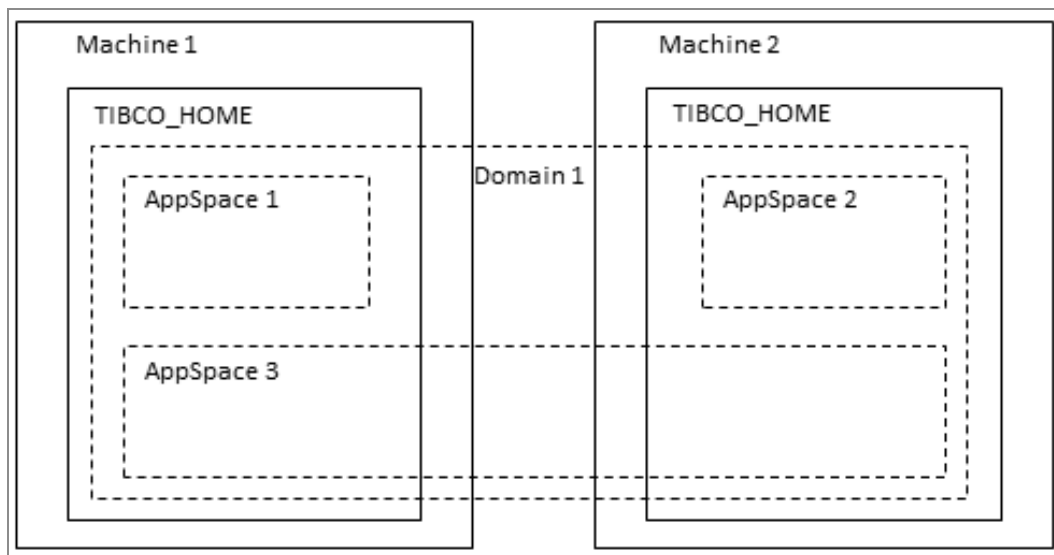
An AppSpace is a collection of one or more AppNodes.

A domain can contain one or more AppSpaces. AppSpaces can span multiple physical machines across networks. An AppSpace manifests on the physical machine as a predefined folder structure that contains information about the applications deployed in that domain. One or more than one application can be deployed to an AppSpace.

Each AppSpace contains one or more execution runtimes called AppNodes which host the applications. When you deploy an application to an AppSpace, the application is deployed

to all AppNodes that are part of the same AppSpace. An AppSpace is extensible, which allows AppNodes to be added dynamically to scale the load on an application, which provides load-balancing and fault-tolerance for applications. You can add and remove AppNodes to an AppSpace even after an application has been deployed.

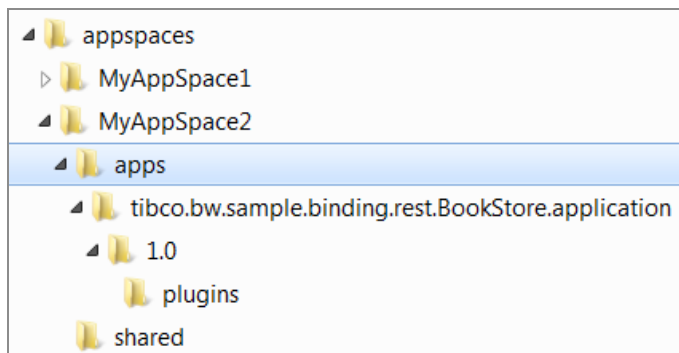
The following diagram shows AppSpace1 on Machine 1, AppSpace2 on Machine 2, and AppSpace3 spanning Machine 1 and Machine 2:



An AppSpace is a folder, *appspace_name*, in the file system and is available in the `<TIBCO_HOME>\bw\domains\domain_name\appspaces` directory, where the *domain_name* is the domain it belongs to. It contains a folder for each AppSpace in the domain, identified by the AppSpace name, which is unique for each domain.

The *appspace_name* folder contains two subfolders - *apps* and *shared*. The *apps* folder contains applications that are deployed in the AppSpace.

File System Manifestation of an AppSpace

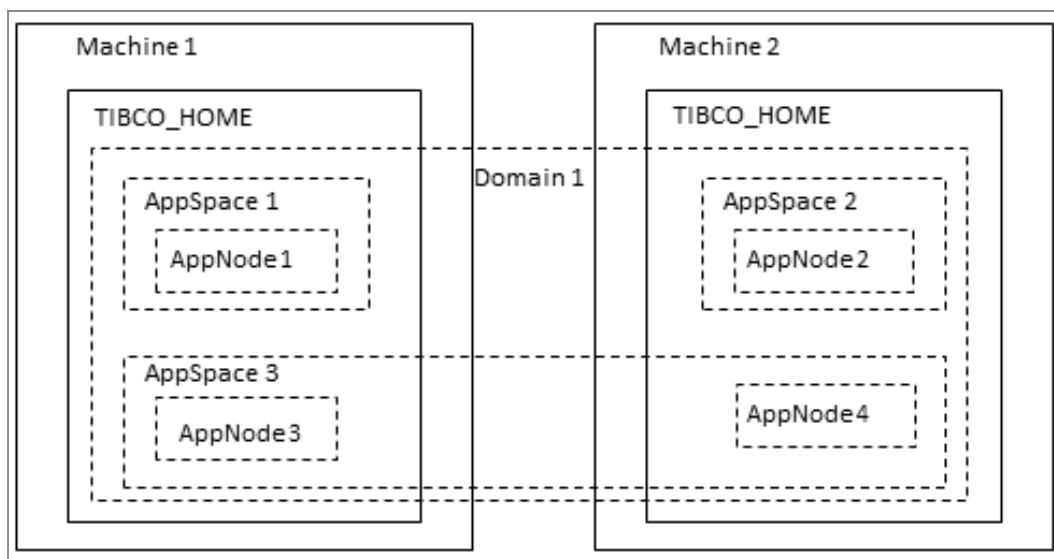


AppNodes

An AppNode is a JVM process that hosts applications created in TIBCO Business Studio for BusinessWorks. An AppNode can belong to only one AppSpace.

Each application that is deployed to an AppSpace runs on all of its AppNodes. AppNodes allow vertical and horizontal scaling. When AppNodes are added to an AppSpace, more processing capacity becomes available for the deployed application to handle a higher load of requests. AppNodes can be added to an AppSpace even after an application has been deployed, allowing the deployed application to scale dynamically across all the AppNodes.

The following diagram shows Domain1, with three AppSpaces and four AppNodes. AppSpace1 and AppSpace2 contain one AppNode each, while AppSpace3 contains two AppNodes. AppSpace3 spans two machines, with AppNodes on each machine.

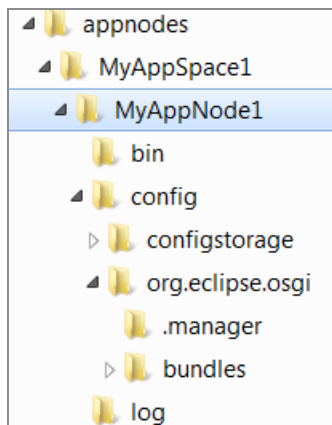


An AppNode manifests as a folder, *appnode_name*, in the file system and is available in the `<TIBCO_HOME>\bw\domains\domain_name\appnodes` directory, where *domain_name* is the domain it belongs to.

The appnodes folder contains a subfolder for each AppNode in the AppSpace in the domain, identified by the AppNode name (unique for each AppSpace).

The *appnode_name* folder contains the executable binaries and corresponding `tra` files, the AppNode's configuration file, and the log file.

File System Manifestation of an AppNode



Understanding the TRA File Structure

The AppNode and AppSpace tra files are read in the order that they are listed below, and can override each other.

- bwappnode-*AppNodeName*.tra
- bwappnode-*AppSpaceName*.tra
- bwappnode.tra

For more information, refer to the following table.

File	Description
bwappnode- <i>AppNodeName</i> .tra	This file can be found in the bin folder at <TIBCO_HOME>\bw\domains\<DomainName>\appnodes\<AppSpaceName>\<AppNodeName>\bin\bwappnode-<i>AppNodeName</i>.tra. The configurations in this file apply to an individual AppNode in an AppSpace.
bwappnode- <i>AppSpaceName</i> .tra	This file can be found in the appspace folder at <TIBCO_HOME>\bw\domains\<DomainName>\appspaces\<AppSpaceName>\bwappnode-<i>AppSpaceName</i>.tra. The configurations in this file apply to all AppNodes in the given AppSpace.

File	Description
bwappnode.tra	This file can be found in the bin folder at <code><TIBCO_HOME>\bw\bin\bwappnode.tra</code> The configurations in this file apply to all AppSpaces on a given machine.

BWAgent

A BWAgent is a daemon process that is responsible for provisioning AppNodes and applications, performing administration commands, and synchronizing data from the datastore with the local file system.

There is one BWAgent for each installation. The BWAgent enables communication between agents on different machines. When multiple BWAgents are configured to communicate with each other using a common datastore, they form a BWAgent network. BWAgents can communicate using TIBCO FTL® for communication transport and TIBCO Enterprise Message Service for communication transport, and by using an external database for data persistence.

For information about configuring the BWAgent, see "Configuring BWAgent" in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration*.

When multiple BWAgents belong to a network and one of the systems fails, the failed system can be restored after a restart by using the BWAdmin restore command to force the file system to be synchronized with the datastore.

There are multiple ways to access the BWAgent: BWAdmin, the Admin UI, or the REST API.

- **BWAdmin:** In enterprise mode, BWAdmin sends commands to the BWAgent. The BWAgent dispatches the command to the targeted agent. For more information, see the "BWAdmin Command Line" tasks under the Administration Tasks and Reference section in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration*.
- **Admin UI:** When the BWAgent is registered with the TEA server, the Admin UI can be used to create and manage runtime entities. For more information, see the "Admin UI" tasks under the "Administration Tasks and Reference" section in *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration*.
- **REST API:** View the BWAgent REST API in the Swagger UI. For more information, see the section "Accessing the BWAgent REST API with the Swagger UI" in *TIBCO*

ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Administration.

BWAgent supports its own set of commands. Commands are issued from the command line in the format: `bwagent [options] command <arguments>`

BWAgent commands are listed below.

BWAgent Commands

Command	Description
<code>apiserver</code>	Starts the apiserver that hosts the REST API in the Swagger UI. Open a browser and go to the following URL: <code>http://localhost:5555</code>
<code>startagent</code>	Starts the BWAgent. This is the same as the default command when no command is given.
<code>stop</code>	Stops the BWAgent gracefully.

The following options can be specified for BWAgent:

BWAgent Command Options

Option	Description	Example
<code>-config</code>	Applies the configuration in the specified file to the server instance.	<code>bwagent -config bwagent.ini</code>
<code>-logconfig <file></code>	Uses the specified file for the Logback configuration.	<code>bwagent -logconfig mylogback.xml</code>
<code>-x,--xtrace</code>	Echoes the command to the terminal.	Given <code>bwagent -x</code> , the text <code>+startagent</code> is echoed to the console when the agent starts.

TIBCO Documentation and Support Services

For information about this product, you can read the documentation, contact TIBCO Support, and join TIBCO Community.

How to Access TIBCO Documentation

Documentation for TIBCO products is available on the [Product Documentation website](#), mainly in HTML and PDF formats.

The [Product Documentation website](#) is updated frequently and is more current than any other documentation included with the product.

Product-Specific Documentation

The following documentation for this product is available on the [TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™](#) page:

- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Release Notes*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Installation*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Application Development*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Bindings and Palettes Reference*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Concepts*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Error Codes*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Getting Started*
- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Maven Plug-in*
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- *TIBCO ActiveMatrix BusinessWorks™ Samples*

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