Informatica PowerExchange for SAP NetWeaver
On-demand Access to Enterprise Data

Nelson Enriquez

Chief IT Architect

CEMEX

"If we didn't use PowerCenter, we would have to manually build interfaces, maybe ABAP code, maybe Visual Basic. It's almost a 10-to-1 productivity improvement because PowerExchange is very straightforward and supports SAP out of the box. It's just a source-to-target mapping—source, destination, rules, transform data—that's it."

BENEFITS

- Real-time integration of data from SAP with other sources allows enterprise-wide operational data integration

- Application-layer data integration with SAP NetWeaver supports automatic code generation and rapid, error-free development

- Wide variety of certified SAP interfaces reduces requirements for SAP technical skills and eliminates costly manual coding

- Provides reliable, once-only delivery with unmatched resilience to failure via tight PowerCenter integration and transactional SAP access

COMPLEMENTARY SOFTWARE

SAP

BAPI CERTIFIED

SOFTWARE™

SAP
PARTNER

Certified for SAP NetWeaver

PowerExchange—for Integrating Applications *and* Data

Today's organizations view their core applications systems as just one aspect of an enterprise-wide data integration environment, which has resulted in demands for broader access to data—along with the high performance and resilience needed to meet the organization's needs. But building integration solutions for SAP NetWeaver is a considerable challenge.

Coding custom integration logic requires SAP domain expertise, and whenever integration requirements include access to data managed by other packaged applications, passed via message-oriented middleware, stored on mainframes, or exposed as Web services, additional hard-to-find technical talent will be needed—increasing cost and risk. Add the recurring costs needed to maintain this logic—as surrounding database structures change, as integrated applications are upgraded and enhanced, and as the supporting IT environment evolves—and the drawbacks of this approach become clear.

PowerExchange for SAP NetWeaver overcomes these obstacles.

It lets PowerCenter source and target SAP data without depending on intermediate message queues or staging tables. Data is delivered with the kind of reliability that can come only with an integrated platform. There's no code to develop, so integration interfaces can be developed faster and more reliably, whether they require access to message-oriented middleware, mainframe, midrange, or relational databases, service-oriented architecture and Web services, or other packaged applications such as PeopleSoft, Oracle E-Business Suite, Siebel, or JD Edwards. One family of products, using one set of skills, accesses them all.

The advantages of PowerExchange don't stop there. Each member of the PowerExchange family automatically captures relevant metadata from its sources and targets and shares it with the rest of the Informatica platform. Proposed changes can be assessed rapidly and implemented with confidence, and the same metadata can help resolve questions of data lineage that often arise in audit and compliance exercises—one more advantage of the Informatica data integration platform.

Greater agility. Better results. PowerExchange. For SAP NetWeaver—*and* your organization.

PowerExchange for SAP NetWeaver Key Features and Benefits

Real-time and Transactional Data Integration

Business events such as hiring a new employee or shipping a customer order don't always wait for nightly windows, and the PowerExchange family can play a key role in propagating these events across any organization. Besides its ability to support rapid development of SAP-aware workflows, PowerExchange for SAP NetWeaver seamlessly integrates with the rest of the Informatica platform, allowing sophisticated cleansing and transformation of data generated by any PowerExchange-supported source. It enables SAP-owned data to be integrated with other enterprise data sources on demand, supporting event-driven architectures via the real-time capabilities of PowerCenter. Change data capture (CDC) and real-time access is available with ALE/IDoc and business content integration; transactional access is available with BAPI. Changes to master and transactional data in SAP applications can be captured as they occur.

Data captured from SAP can be delivered to multiple heterogeneous targets—in the proper sequence and without drop-outs or duplicates—with no queuing middleware or intermediate staging of data. Impact to the production SAP environment is minimized because data transformation can be performed away from production servers.

Codeless Development for Fast, Error-free Data Integration

PowerExchange for SAP NetWeaver includes an interface designed specifically for the SAP environment that allows easy access to SAP sources and targets. By teaming with other components of the Informatica platform, data quality can be enhanced, complex industry-standard data formats can be understood and created, and web services can be accessed and exposed. PowerExchange—the foundation of Informatica's data integration platform.

Automated Capture of SAP NetWeaver Metadata

Informatica PowerExchange for SAP NetWeaver automatically captures all available SAP metadata and delivers it to the Informatica repository, seamlessly integrating it with metadata from other PowerExchange data sources and targets to support the entire data integration life cycle. During development this metadata enables ABAP generation, authorization checking, user input validation, and SAP data access and conversion. As changes occur—whether in SAP or in the sources and targets surrounding it—this metadata helps keep maintenance costs down by enabling error-free impact assessment unavailable with hand-coded integration.

SAP NetWeaver Integration Support

<u>Analytic Business Components for SAP</u>: a library of prebuilt data mappings is included, enabling rapid development of SAP data integration solutions.

<u>Business Content Integration</u>: allows parallel data loads to SAP BI and any downstream applications with support for data source objects—master data, transactions, hierarchies, and custom data—using both full and delta load options.

<u>CA-DMI</u>: certified for CA-DMI. Reduce migration effort by validating legacy data before loading into SAP.

<u>ALE/IDoc</u>: certified for ALE/IDoc. Allows rapid, asynchronous integration of SAP and non-SAP systems.

<u>BAPI/RFC</u>: executes BAPI/RFC function calls dynamically from Informatica PowerCenter mappings to extract data from an SAP source, transform data in the system, or load data into SAP.

<u>SAP Tables</u>: uses the application layer within SAP to access SAP's pool, cluster, and transparent tables—and SAP Info Hierarchies—to automatically generate the ABAP used to perform the extraction. Developers can further customize extraction routines if desired, such as calling ABAP functions during extraction. Supports both stream mode and stage mode extraction.

About the Informatica PowerExchange Family

Informatica PowerExchange® is a family of universal data access and delivery products from Informatica. It gives Informatica PowerCenter® bi-directional access to popular ERP and CRM systems, relational and non-relational databases, mainframe and midrange systems, message queuing systems, Web services, and many other enterprise sources and targets. Seamless integration with PowerCenter and metadata-driven development support a drag-and-drop interface that eliminates hand-built integration code, delivers fast and reliable data movement, and supports enterprise-wide initiatives for data quality, internal audit, and regulatory compliance. The PowerExchange CDC Option delivers trusted database updates through PowerCenter to any PowerExchange target, supporting sophisticated right-time data integration strategies and batch-oriented techniques. PowerExchange truly is the foundation of any organization's data integration strategy. For more information, please visit www.informatica.com/products/PowerExchange.

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