

**Adobe claims a new version of Flash Player** will be out soon, tuned to run with Microsoft Internet Explorer 9 (which has not yet been released) and offering native 64bit support to Windows and Apple OS X as well as Linux, which was previously the only 64bit OS supported. [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)

**Endeca Mobile eCommerce** adds a mobile version to the existing ecommerce offering, allowing both to work as a single environment using common templates, etc. [www.endeca.com](http://www.endeca.com)



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### Andy Mulholland

Global Chief Technology Officer, Capgemini  
Tel. +44 (0)207 434 2171  
[andy.mulholland@capgemini.com](mailto:andy.mulholland@capgemini.com)

# Changing the Game: Monthly Technology Briefs

October 2010

**Oracle Fusion Applications:  
A New Generation of Business Technology**

Read the Capgemini Chief Technology Officers' Blog at  
[www.capgemini.com/ctoblog](http://www.capgemini.com/ctoblog)



## Oracle Fusion Apps: A New Generation of Business Technology

The first challenge that Oracle Fusion brings to many people is confusion over the mixed messages as to what Oracle means by the term. Then there is the case of what exactly are the products and capabilities that Fusion supports. This is largely due to the continued expansion of what is covered by Oracle Fusion, from its launch as a set of conventional Middleware products designed to integrate various aspects of the Oracle Applications (Apps) portfolio including newly acquired elements such as PeopleSoft and JD Edwards.

Oracle Fusion Middleware continued to develop and expand the number of software products that were part of the Fusion Middleware Suite to include many that would not be immediately thought of as part of a conventional Middleware Suite. This broader use of the term makes it more difficult to understand what Oracle meant by Fusion Middleware up to the time when BEA, at that time one of the most respected vendors of Middleware, was acquired. With the inclusion of the BEA's conventional approach to Enterprise Middleware, many now felt they could understand that Oracle had a clear position in terms of the market they understood.

Whilst BEA may have strengthened the traditional data-centric integration role of Middleware in the Oracle stack, it was and is the other products that Oracle was and is developing that were to be critical to their strategy and the launch of Oracle Fusion Apps, a completely different and separate suite of products and approach to supporting an enterprise than its existing portfolio of Oracle Apps. Oracle Middleware has the complex role of supporting and integrating the two different stacks, one based on transactional applications and the other, Fusion Apps, based on 'services' and 'orchestrations'. In addition, it also allows any combination of internal, external, outsourced, and/or hybrid provisioning to be used for any of the Oracle Apps or Fusion Apps services.

Not surprisingly, therefore, Oracle Fusion Middleware does encompass a wider range of capabilities in order to achieve this than a conventional Middleware suite. Oracle refers to this as 'supporting complete business processes beyond ERP' and that means supporting the new environment of Fusion Apps with its different value for business. Oracle defines the entire 'Fusion' experience as;

- Providing a unified **business platform** with which to **orchestrate humans**, applications, and information into **processes** that can be monitored and optimized in **real time**, and
- Providing a common enterprise portal through which **people** can find the Enterprise Resources they need, **to share** with others through **personal productivity** and **social computing**.

To do this, Oracle Fusion must integrate the User Interface and Business Intelligence with the business process, as well as with the existing traditional applications. Much of this is dependent on the newly launched Fusion Apps capabilities; and these are strongly business activity focussed initially on seven core areas where Oracle believes 'Net Apps' redefine capabilities. These are;

- **Customer Relationship Management**
- **Governance Risk and Compliance**
- **Project Portfolio Management**
- **Supply Chain Management**
- **Financial Management**
- **Human Capital Management**
- **Procurement**

To support the use of these seven core Fusion Apps, for either an individual core or collective use across all seven, Oracle provides more than 1,600 tested business process flows built around 10,957 individual task flows, and 18,385 view objects.

Oracle intends that Fusion Apps can be used to complement existing Oracle Apps, even to simplify what would have required complex changes to the original Oracle App. As an example, they claim that Fusion Global Payroll used with PeopleSoft Enterprise Core HR can provide a simpler path than trying to move to a single global instance of PeopleSoft Enterprise Core HR. Though this sounds encouraging and promises a reduction in time, cost, and complexity, it does all rely on an enterprise having implemented an entire Oracle technology stack covering hardware and software to really reap all the benefits, though this doesn't mean having to replace all other technology stacks in the enterprise.

Oracle claims that by owning and developing all the elements of technology used within an enterprise they have been able to engineer out a lot of the technology complexity which required laborious, skilled integration work, as well as optimize the performance of new Fusion Apps capabilities. As such, it represents a new generation of technology built to support and enable flexible business process integration centered on the user, and near, or actual real-time enterprise information, as opposed to the past generation of client-server applications which were focussed on transacting data on the server.

The impact of this and other technologies is discussed in the [Capgemini CTO Blog](#).

## Leading Company Results (Revenues)

Leading Company Results (Revenues)	
Q2	<b>RIM</b> ↑ 31% @ \$4.62 billion
Q1	<b>Oracle</b> ↑ 48% @ \$7 billion

### Movements by Industry Leaders

**Cisco** is to acquire **Extended Media**, a vendor of video content management solutions, to extend its abilities to provide IP video to service providers. A further acquisition brings in **Arch Rock Corporation**, a Smart Grid Wireless technology provider for metering in utilities. Cisco is to include **Citrix XenDesktop in the Cisco Unified Computing System** approach. **Cisco Virtual Services Gateway and Virtual Wide Area Application Service** extend the Cisco Unified Network Services suite to add increased policy and security management and optimization of Wide Area services respectively. Cisco **Flip video cameras** have been upgraded and a new set of developers' tools and program introduced. **Cisco AnyConnect Secure Mobility Solution** provides security for business iPhone users with encryption, VPN, and managed security rights. [www.cisco.com](http://www.cisco.com)

**Oracle has appointed Mark Hurd to its board** after offering public support to the ex-HP CEO after his departure from HP, but long-serving **Oracle President Charles Phillips is leaving**. **Oracle Open World provided a mass of announcements listed here just as headlines**; Exadata Database Machine X2-8; Oracle Apps and Middleware is certified to run on Amazon Web Services; new Sparc T3 processor and T3 Systems; a totally new release of Oracle Solaris for next year; new Oracle VM Server for Sparc 2.0; new generation Sun ZFS Storage Appliance products; new Sunray 3 Series Clients; JDE EnterpriseOne Fulfilment Management; specialized Agile development for Pharmaceutical Drug Development; a new Linux Kernel called Unbreakable that handles new demands, yet is compatible with RedHat; ExaLogic, a cloud appliance that can also integrate with ExaData; Oracle Fusion Apps, a complete new generation of enterprise capabilities; MySQL 5.5 Release candidate; new release of Oracle Secure Desktop; Oracle GoldenGate 11g Data integration tools. [www.oracle.com](http://www.oracle.com)

**HP is acquiring Stratavia**, an application automation, to add its products to its Business Service Automation suite and has updated its **Business Service Automation Platform** to include the Stratavia tools together with other new capabilities. **HP CloudStart is claimed to provide a fully-functioning Private Cloud within 30 days**, combining BladeSystem Matrix, StorageWorks products with the HP Cloud Automation services. **HP Virtualized Storage Services (VSS)** extends the existing Storage Management Services to include Thin Provisioning and Data Tiering. HP has won the competition with Dell to **acquire 3PAR**, the storage virtualization vendor. HP has **acquired ArcSight, a provider of security software**, to protect government and large enterprises from a wide range of threats. HP has revised its **whole printer line-up of products** and services covering enterprise solutions down to office. **HP VSS** has been upgraded with better management capabilities. New models of **'mini' notebooks** covering touchscreens and basic low-cost versions have been added to the existing range. [www.hp.com](http://www.hp.com)

**Intel is to acquire Infineon Technologies wireless business** taking Intel into the production of Wireless Hardware and capabilities for Smart Phones. **Adobe Air apps and games** will be offered via the Intel AppsUP online store to encourage developers to use the strong graphics to build and sell their products. Intel 2011 **Second Generation Core processor family** has a feature that focuses on strong visual capabilities as well as the normal technology improvements of an new chip set. **Intel vPro** can now manage Softex SecureDrive self-encrypting drives. [www.intel.com](http://www.intel.com)

**IBM System x3755 M3 server** adds to the range a 48-core 2U Server unit based on AMD Opteron 6100 chips. **IBM InfoSphere Guardium 8 compliance monitor** now includes specific capabilities for fraud protection in SAP applications and user activities, and the ability to monitor the use of Microsoft SharePoint. IBM has introduced the **Customer Experience Suite** to allow enterprises to improve their management of interactions with their customers. **Netezza, a business analytics software vendor** is to be acquired. **IBM Power 7 server** range has four new entry-level versions. [www.ibm.com](http://www.ibm.com)

**Microsoft Docs enabler for Facebook** that allows users to collaborate on documents has been updated. Windows Phone 7 has been released to manufacturing and brings a complete revamp to Microsoft flagship platform for mobile devices. **Windows Enhanced Migration Experience Toolkit 2.0 (EMET)** adds two new migrations for making changes to improve security of Windows applications. **Microsoft Dynamics CRM 2011** is now out as a beta as 'on-premise and web' versions features aim to allow user customization and improved interfaces as well as much stronger **integration with Outlook**. **Internet Explorer 9 (IE9) is now available as a first-release beta**. **Windows High Performance Server 2008 R2** update adds new features for cloud computing and parallel processing. [www.microsoft.com](http://www.microsoft.com)

**SAP has provided 1,500 iPads** to its managers as part of a program to help them become familiar with new tools and ways of working. **SAP Business Objects Real-Time Analytics** has new apps for vertical industries which combine structured and unstructured content in a manner that SAP claims allows them to target new users and markets. **SAP Rapid Deployment Solutions** aims at making CRM and relationship solutions less than 12 weeks in length as the first of a new wave of easy and rapid deployment solutions. **SAP Business Objects Analytics Applications** adds a range of new industry specific rapid deployable line of business solutions. **SAP Caron Impact OnDemand 5.0** has been extended to add new functions for regulatory reporting. [www.sap.com](http://www.sap.com)

**Google Flagship Search has changed** with a new approach called 'Instant' that streams real-time search changes and updates to cut waiting times. **Google Gmail and Google Voice are being integrated** to allow voice to be as easy to use as email for Gmail users. **Google Real-Time** service brings together content from real-time sources such as Twitter or blogs and provides a consolidation for the user onto a single page. Google is **acquiring Angstro**, a provider of enhancers to social networks, to 'unlock the power of your social graph'. A further acquisition brings social games provider **SocialDeck** into the increasing Google portfolio of 'social' services. Google has demonstrated **real-time translation on Android devices** between two people speaking different languages. Google has added **two-stage verification sign-in to Google Apps** by a password entry triggering a verification code being sent to a phone to be used to complete the sign-in. [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

**Apple has revised and relaunched its whole iPod range** covering iPod Shuffle, Nano, and Touch models. **Apple iOS4.1 for iPhone and iPod** is now released adding new capabilities and some big fixes. The **Apple App Store Review Guidelines** that define how Apple will check Apps for the App Store have been revised and simplified to be more 'transparent'. [www.apple.com](http://www.apple.com)

#### Open Source Update

**RedHat Cloud Foundation Edition One** built around open Application Programming Interface (API) has now offered its first API as a potential Open Standard to support access to cloud resources without need for a vendor-specific API. [www.redhat.com](http://www.redhat.com)

**Google** announced that after its removal from the main Google Services site, Google Wave is to be released as **'Wave in a Box'**, as a reduced functionality Open Source bundle of server and client code for real-time collaboration.

[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

**The EU Cultural, Artistic, and Scientific, knowledge for Preservation, Access, and Retrieval (CASPAR) project** has released using Open Source the necessary tools for developers to access and use much of the EU data and statistics that it will index and archive as part of its remit. [www.casparpreserves.eu](http://www.casparpreserves.eu)

**Mozilla Firefox 4.0 beta** has gained new accelerators for improved audio and video delivery by utilizing the in-built graphics hardware that is relatively standardized on new PCs. [www.firefox.com](http://www.firefox.com)

#### Standards Watch

**Wireless Power Consortium Q1 support inter-operability for wireless inductive charging** at 5watts of power using one of two methods to position the device on to the charging plate. [www.wirelesspowerconsortium.com](http://www.wirelesspowerconsortium.com)

**EU's approach to the Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA)** has been hit by a EU Parliament motion called the Written Declaration 12/2010. It calls for respect of the privacy rights of citizens and the need for the EU Commission to take care in its approach to ACTA.

[http://www.laquadrature.net/wiki/Written\\_declaration\\_ACTA\\_12/2010](http://www.laquadrature.net/wiki/Written_declaration_ACTA_12/2010)

There are several bodies expressing concerns over the impact on civil liberties that ACTA seems to imply. <http://www.eff.org/issues/acta>

#### More Noteworthy News

**Ovum Global Market Outlook claims a \$1 trillion market** by 2015 with telcos in western economies seeing their percentage of the revenue dropping as the market broadens to include other services delivered on mobile phones.

[www.ovum.com](http://www.ovum.com)

**Capgemini has acquired a controlling share in CPM Braxis**, the largest IT Services provider in the Brazilian market, to add to its existing operations, citing the growth in South America making it a key market place. [www.capgemini.com](http://www.capgemini.com)

**VMware CEO Paul Maritz claims 'a new IT stack'** in his keynote at VMworld and VMware is repositioning from a pure virtualization provider to a broader provider of IT services and capabilities for clouds. **vCloud Director is an important new capability** to control how public and private clouds can be integrated and managed within an enterprise. **VMware vShield Edge, vShield App, and vShield Endpoint** provide a complete set of security services for clouds covering respectively antivirus, load balancing, and firewall protection. **vCloud Datacenter services, vShield, and vFabric** provide a comprehensive architecture and managed environment for service providers to offer support to existing IT departments. [www.vmware.com](http://www.vmware.com)

**Salesforce.com Chatter for Mobile** extends the existing enterprise version to include Apple or BlackBerry mobile phones as part of an enterprise social network. A **major update to Chatter** coming next month was demonstrated at Oracle Open World including filters to more closely control topic subscriptions and the addition of Hash Tags. **Salesforce.com's Jigsaw for Salesforce CRM** extends the existing CRM capabilities by adding a new contract management tool from software vendor Jigsaw integrated with the rest of the Salesforce CRM services. [www.salesforce.com](http://www.salesforce.com)

**EMC RSA Solution for Cloud Security and Compliance** adapts the EMC Archer eGRC governance products to be used in a VMware virtualized environment. [www.emc.com](http://www.emc.com)

**Citrix XenClient laptop virtualization** brings a new generation of desktop capabilities from the existing XenDesktop by providing both centralized management and user personalization as well as the ability to support users through Mobility. Citrix is **acquiring VMLogix**, a provider of management tools for virtualized environments. [www.citrix.com](http://www.citrix.com)

**Dell is stopping the supply of PCs with Windows XP** in line with Microsoft request for all PC manufacturers to do so, citing that Windows 7 versions can run XP applications so there is no further barrier to the change. The new **Inspiron Duo is claimed to be the world's most powerful Tablet PC** and has the ability to be used as a PC with a desktop docking station. [www.dell.com](http://www.dell.com)

**CA Technologies are acquiring Arcot Systems**, a vendor of authentication software, to strengthen their identity and access suite of offerings for cloud services. [www.ca.com](http://www.ca.com)

**CheckPoint Security Gateway Appliance Virtual Edition** is designed to work with VMware's VMSafe API to provide firewall and intrusion protection for virtualized systems. [www.checkpoint.com](http://www.checkpoint.com)

**Twitter Authentication for third party apps** is to be introduced based on OAuth, allowing users to make use of third party apps without having to store their passwords. **Twitter has been given a major update** with the aim of improving multi-media sharing and providing a new window with contextual information about the Tweet. [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com)

**SAS Rapid Predictive Modeler** allows non-technical users to be able to design sophisticated analytical analysis of complex situations. [www.sas.com](http://www.sas.com)

**RIM BlackBerry are acquiring Cellmania**, an online mobility retailer, to boost their expertise for the BlackBerry App store. [www.blackberry.com](http://www.blackberry.com)

**Nokia N8 Smart Phone**, which is seen as the basis for the next generation of Smart Phone from Nokia, will be released for sale through participating operators on October 1, 2010. Nokia is introducing a **new Ovi Browser for all Series 40 Smart Phones**, which is claimed to be faster with improved loading to reduce data transmission costs. [www.nokia.com](http://www.nokia.com)

**Symantic Enterprise Vault 9.0** and Enterprise Vault Discovery Collector have been updated by including data de-duplication to reduce storage requirements and make managing stored content easier. [www.symantec.com](http://www.symantec.com)

**BMC Control-M v7.0 Workload Management** adds direct support for Cloud and/or virtualized environments with dynamic mapping automation to manage the increased flexibility of the environment. [www.bmc.com](http://www.bmc.com)

The **Brocade 100Gb Ethernet MLXE Router** is aimed at service providers and top-end data centers and is claimed to be 'the world's fastest'. [www.opentext.com](http://www.opentext.com)

**Software AG ARIS MashZone 2.0 Enterprise Edition** adds new features including integration with Google Maps, and integration to both Java Database Connectivity for data sources and Active Directory. [www.softwareag.com](http://www.softwareag.com)