

cme

commerce events

ADAPTLINK™ PLATFORM

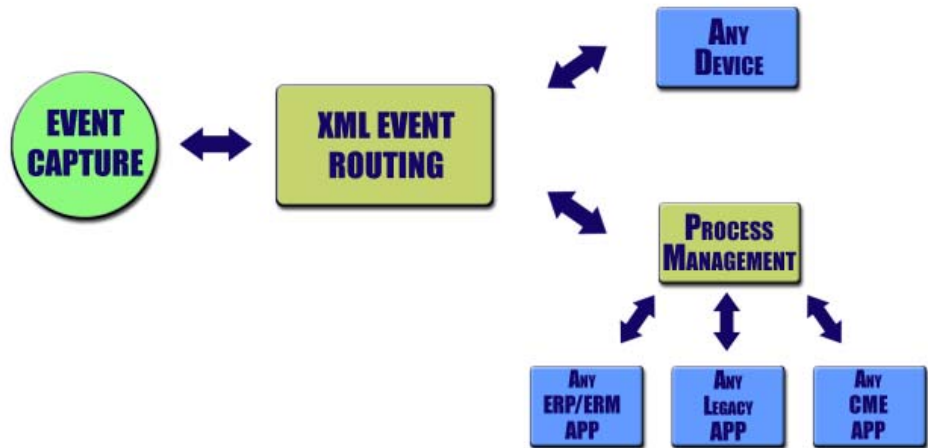


OVERVIEW

Today, enterprises are facing a bewildering array of Supply Chain technologies, standards, vendors, and products. Lack of robust hardware support prevents the use of breakthrough technologies while software incompatibilities limit the value of Supply Chain investments.

INTRODUCING THE CME ADAPTLINK™ PLATFORM

The CME AdaptLink™ platform incorporates native Automatic Identification and Data Capture / Automatic Identification Technology (AIDC / AIT) technologies, XML-based event routing, wireless communication, Web Services, and J2EE support. The platform is the only full-power solution that provides collaborative workflows among multiple parties, organizations, and applications to turbocharge existing investments in Supply Chain hardware, software, and business processes. For example, AdaptLink provides adaptive responses to critical Supply Chain events such as arrival of an incomplete order so that the problem is resolved crisply rather than being allowed to snowball into a larger issue.



AdaptLink not only captures events but also optimizes processing through collaboration and interoperation among multiple applications.

BENEFITS

The AdaptLink Platform is unique in delivering the following benefits.

Changes the Rules: Before, islands of process and of data would inhibit the responsiveness of the Supply Chain. AdaptLink changes the rules by enabling multiparty collaboration to resolve critical events, just when needed, and by storing the results of the collaboration in one or many applications via standard multiplatform adapters. As a result of productizing business process and data integration efforts, collaborations among partners, suppliers, and customers can be a reality rather than just an interesting possibility.

Boosts effectiveness of existing applications: AdaptLink turbocharges investments in ERP, ERM, and legacy applications by providing event emulation, enabling better cross-functional processes to be implemented, and delivering more current and accurate data. As AdaptLink's business processes are created and executed independently from the application, existing systems are enhanced without disruption.

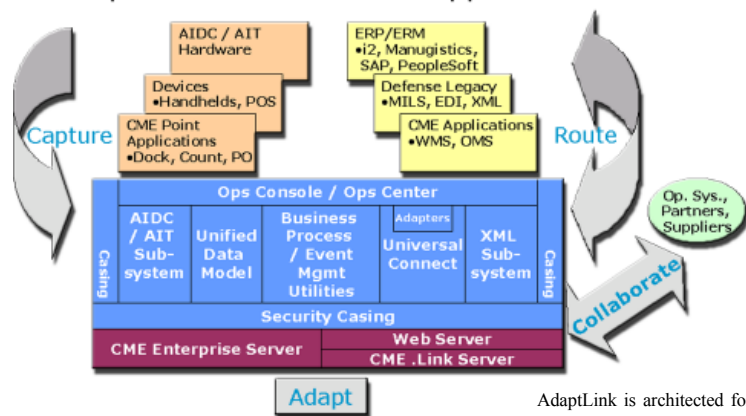
Provides Rigorous Security: Today's security needs often demand stronger end user validation than mere passwords. AdaptLink's AIDC support natively supports a wide range of physical authentication methods and automated data capture technologies. Plus, security is multi-level – if needed, authentication and encryption can be activated for each step of a business process.

HIGHLIGHTS

Instantaneous, Event-Driven Operation: AdaptLink operates via events – actions that are taken instantaneously whenever the system's status is changed. For example, anytime that SAP provides an update or new information is provided to SAP, an event could trigger automatic updates throughout an entire network of AdaptLink servers.

Event-based XML routing: The product's XML routing capabilities not only consolidate silos of information but also assure interoperability among any combination of legacy systems, Web-based applications, and Web Services.

AdaptLink™ Platform and Applications



AdaptLink is architected for distributed power.

MAJOR COMPONENTS OF THE ADAPTLINK PLATFORM ARE:

CME Enterprise Server: The Enterprise Server is a full-power embedded Application Server from a major software vendor such as BEA or IBM.

CME .Link Server: By supporting both the Microsoft® .NET and the Sun™ Open Net Environment (Sun ONE) architectures, .Link provides a robust transaction backbone for distributed business process automation over the Web.

AIDC / AIT Support: This support provides computer-assisted efficiencies in validating personnel, capturing data, and interacting with handheld devices.

UDM: The UDM provides a coherent, pre-managed Supply Chain schema. That way, CME products can be added and enterprise vendor's products can be integrated without an expensive and time-consuming schema overhaul.

Business Process / Event Management Utilities: The CME framework includes robust business process workflow modeling tools that allow complex business processes to be accurately modeled and executed within the system. Process execution can be easily monitored and is governed by business rules encapsulated in a rich set of Enterprise Java Beans (EJBs). All business rules can be dynamically configured, modified or reconfigured on the fly without shutting down any part of the system.

Universal Connect: The Universal Connect subsystem takes full advantage of J2EE's integration strengths in both centralized and distributed systems to provide any-to-anywhere connectivity. Written for a given vendor's product, Integration Adapters expose pre-coded Supply Chain functionality to a wide variety of applications running on any platform.

XML Subsystem: The XML subsystem translates events into XML wire format, routes XML-based events and documents, and "pushes" information to any device including handhelds.

AIDC /AIT support: AdaptLink incorporate native support for technologies such as Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), barcodes, and more.

Powerful Business Modeling: CME's robust business process workflow modeling tools allow complex Supply Chain business processes to be accurately modeled and to be rapidly modified as needed. By radically eliminating the need for coding, AdaptLink empowers an enterprise to rapidly adapt to changing climates or customer needs while containing costs.

Stringent Security: Security mechanisms are built into each part of the architecture. AIDC support natively supports a wide range of physical authentication methods and automated data capture technologies. Security is multi-level – if needed, authentication and encryption can be activated for each step of a business process and fine-grained (down to the object level).

Web Service Support: AdaptLink utilizes J2EE for portability and supports the SOAP protocol. With these technologies, standard plug-ins can transform any given application into a Web Service. This approach both minimizes integration costs and maximizes flexibility.

Device Support: The platform provides support and a powerful user interface for a wide variety of devices, including handhelds. For example, work orders can be automatically sent to a Palm Pilot, viewed, and processed.

Drop-In Support: AdaptLink includes a robust schema that is optimized for supply chain operations. Rather than today's need to modify the database schema and program logic for every application that must talk to another on a one-to-one basis, AdaptLink can quickly capture data, route it to the right places, and execute an intelligent process to handle it appropriately for each application's unique needs. The net benefit is fast and cost-effective integration across the entire Supply Chain.

Efficient Administration: The platform can utilize existing authorization structures (such as LDAP realms) for efficient end user management. AdaptLink provides full support for groups and roles.

Fully distributed: By creating a multi-tier approach on top of enterprise-class application servers from BEA and IBM, CME solutions are powerful and flexible. As the architecture is based on J2EE, the solution is standards-based and can be run either centralized or decentralized and on one or many platforms simultaneously.

Standards Compliant: AdaptLink is in full compliance with not only established platform standards such as J2EE but also collaborative standards such as RosettaNet.collaborative standards such as RosettaNet.

SUPPORTED ENVIRONMENTS

CME is rapidly adding new platforms and support for more vendor software packages. Please contact CME for the latest list:

- Hardware platform: Any platform that supports J2EE
- Application Servers:
 - BEA WebLogic Server™ 6.0
 - IBM WebSphere Application Server 4.0
 - JBoss Application Server (open source)
- Vendor Software packages:
 - SAP 3.2, 4.0

ABOUT COMMERCE EVENTS

Commerce Events, Inc. (CME) is the leader in powering adaptive supply chains. Headquartered in the Silicon Valley area of California, CME has operations throughout the US and the globe. More information can be found at <http://www.CommerceEvents.com>.