

iWAY SOFTWARE GOES BROKERLESS TO ACCELERATE BUSINESS INTEGRATION

Submitted by: Citigate Communications (London)

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London, UK – January 07 2003 – iWay Software has launched brokerless integration, an emerging class of business solutions that support an alternative to traditional broker-based Enterprise Application Integration (EAI) techniques and tools. By avoiding the excessive infrastructure, proprietary technologies, and intrusive methods of broker suites, this new brokerless strategy provides the desired flexibility and return on investment (ROI) of EAI without the usual investments of money and time.

“Companies usually spend more than a million pounds over the course of eighteen months before the first transaction runs through their integration broker,” said John Senor, President of iWay Software. “The cost comes from software licensing, training in specialised skill sets, and consulting and can only be justified when dozens or hundreds of systems are being integrated simultaneously – around 20 percent of the time. For the vast majority of integration challenges, the lightweight brokerless solution provides all of the functionality that’s needed at a quarter of the cost.”

Brokerless integration focuses on solving the most difficult aspects of EAI projects – the technical connectivity to applications and data and the transformations necessary to map these systems to each other. iWay Software’s approach involves XML, Web services, and intelligent adapters, which provide a universal translator between applications that don’t require all of the infrastructure usually included in integration broker suites.

XML is the data format of choice for many information technology (IT) organisations facing integration challenges. iWay Software’s brokerless integration approach allows any IT resource to be accessed through XML documents. As a result, tools such as iWay’s XML Transformation Engine can simply map from one XML document to another instead of writing custom transformation code on non-XML-based application programming interfaces (APIs). Even nonstandard systems such as legacy databases and ERP applications interact with standardised XML documents that can be incorporated into any application or business process.

Web services have taken centre stage in the minds of many information architects because of their standardised approach to using XML over the Internet. iWay’s brokerless integration technology applies its XML capabilities to conform to the latest standards for SOAP and WSDL, without requiring commitments to specific implementations in J2EE™ or .NET™. This allows users of current or legacy technologies to immediately migrate them to Web services without significant changes to their architectures, high-cost consulting, or retraining.

Finally, iWay’s intelligent adapters provide immediate technical connectivity to virtually any information system, including packaged applications such as SAP and Siebel, legacy data such as IMS and VSAM, and transaction systems such as CICS and IMS/TM. The iWay adapters also validate and transform business-to-business documents such as EDI and XML, including specific industry formats such as HIPAA, HL7, SWIFT, and FIX, into XML documents. Because iWay has focused on brokerless integration technologies, the adapters use far less code than those made by any broker vendor in the market.

“More and more of our customers are finding that a brokerless strategy is ideal for them,” said John

Senor. "They connect systems together using their existing skill sets, so they invest less money up front. The implementations are fast, so they see their return on that investment very quickly. Then they can reuse their brokerless solutions in other integration projects, so they extract as much value out of the architecture as possible."

Company officials noted that iWay's interoperability and partnerships with BEA, IBM, Microsoft, and other leading integration vendors allow iWay users to add broker capabilities into their brokerless solutions with minimal effort.

About iWay Software

iWay Software, an Information Builders company, is a market leader in middleware that accelerates business integration. With facilities to integrate systems in real time, near-real time, or on a scheduled basis, iWay provides a complete reusable infrastructure for EAI, B2B, e-commerce, and mobile business. iWay's experience with complex information systems led to the development of prepackaged intelligent adapters to connect to more than 200 packaged applications, transaction systems, legacy data, relational databases, and e-business formats, without writing custom code. iWay Software integration solutions significantly reduce the time, cost, effort, and risk of integration projects throughout the enterprise. For more information, go to <http://www.iwaysoftware.com>

About Information Builders

Information Builders is the leader in enterprise business intelligence and real-time Web reporting. The company's WebFOCUS product – the industry's most secure and flexible – is able to meet all the reporting needs of the extended enterprise, ranging from analysts to power users to the widest deployments for hundreds of thousands of users. Additionally, WebFOCUS' empowerment of organisations seeking to leverage all their data by accessing it all – from legacy to data warehouse – is unmatched.

Information Builders' award-winning technology has successfully provided quality software and superior services for 27 years to more than 11,000 customers, including most of the Fortune 100 and U.S. federal government agencies. Headquartered in New York City with 90 offices worldwide, the company employs 1,900 people, has over 350 business partners, and generated revenues exceeding \$300 million in 2001. For more information, go to <http://www.informationbuilders.com>

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