

MIDDLEWARE CONNECTIONS MIGRATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

With the latest round of Oracle price hikes and endless license and policy changes, many Oracle® WebLogic® customers – formerly BEA customers – have expressed interest in exploring other options. However, migrating JEE applications from one application server to another requires a thorough understanding of the assets being migrated. Acquiring enough information to plan such a migration can be time-consuming and error prone, because of the diversity of subject areas needing exploration. Fortunately, Middleware Connections has developed a Migration Assistance Program, including an assessment tool and a migration factory, to ease the transition for potential customers.

JBoss MIGRATION ASSESSMENT TOOL

The Migration Assessment Tool (MAT) for WebLogic shines a light on the application being migrated and any dependencies on non-standard and proprietary extensions of other application servers, creating a report that enumerates all the application's dependencies and provides the migration team with a deep understanding of the effort required.

The Migration Assessment Tool reports detailed information about:

- **Packages and class dependencies** - Allows developers and architects to understand the ties between their application and proprietary vendor extensions that are not necessarily part of the JEE standard.
- **JEE Component Types** - Creates a solid foundation for decision making and effort estimating. This inventory will provide a deeper understanding of the magnitude of the migration, along with the versions of the standards used within the application (Servlets, JSPs, EJBs, etc.).

- **Application Library Catalog** - Enumerates all the libraries (Jars) used within an application, providing developers with “at a glance” information of the ecosystem of dependencies used within the application and the versions of such libraries. The information will also highlight any potential conflicts and areas of further investigation.
- **WebLogic Runtime Environment** - While the tool supports any JEE application server, additional diagnostic data can be retrieved from the WebLogic server. The migration tool is capable of querying the running WebLogic server and creating an inventory of all configured components within it, including:
 - Domains
 - Servers
 - Connections pools
 - JMS artifacts
 - JCA adapters
 - BEA-specific components used
 - All deployed applications

The Migration Assessment Tool essentially eliminates the guesswork from projects targeting migrations from WebLogic Server to JBoss® Advanced Application Server. Middleware Connections has donated this open source tool to the jboss.org MASS project.

→ Download the Migration Assessment Tool at www.jboss.org/mass/MAT.html

MIGRATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AND THE MIGRATION FACTORY

The Red Hat partner group has initiated a program to facilitate migrations from proprietary application servers to JBoss Enterprise Application Platform (JBoss EAP), bringing together a number of Advanced Business Partners to help customers successfully implement migration projects.



The engagement model takes a three phase approach. Each phase will provide clear deliverables.

1. Engage

In this phase, an interested customer will engage their local Red Hat Advanced Business Partner to discuss the feasibility of migrating one or more of their applications to JBoss EAP. As part of this process, the partner will utilize the JBoss.org Migration Assessment Tool to inventory and create a bill of materials from the application artifacts and components, and also gather pertinent run-time data. This will deliver a filterable report, which can be used in the proposal phase.

2. Propose

In this phase, a feasibility assessment is performed using the data gathered previously. The goal of using a tool such as MAT is to gather data at a granular enough level to be able size the scope of the migration very precisely and thus remove as much of the project risk as possible.

If both technical and financial feasibility is established, the JBoss Advanced Business Partner, in conjunction with Middleware Connections, will provide the customer a project plan and proposal to address the migration.

3. Execute

At the heart of this program is the Migration Factory. The Migration Factory takes application artifacts (e.g. source, deployment descriptors, ear, war, jar, rar files) from proprietary application servers and converts them, performs unit testing, and then repackages them for deployment to the target JBoss platform. This is accomplished with a combination of tooling, processes, and skilled, experienced engineers at Middleware Connections.

The deployable bundle is delivered on-site and loaded onto QA servers for further testing by the local Advanced Business Partner, in conjunction with the customer. Deployment onto production servers follows a successful load testing and tuning exercise.

FURTHER INFORMATION

To learn more about the Migration Assessment Tool or the Migration Factory, contact:

Mitch Mocle
migration@middlewareconnections.com
(905) 267-3807
<http://www.middlewareconnections.com/migration-contacts.html>

JBoss SALES AND INQUIRIES NORTH AMERICA

1-888-REDHAT1
www.jboss.com

