

Introducing WebSphere sMash—Leveraging Web 2.0 to meet the “Situational” needs of your business

In today’s market climate, there is increased pressure to build applications quickly to answer the situational needs of the business—for example, applications to handle specific budget issues, users registering for an event, or the flow of an online transaction. These situational needs are being satisfied more easily than ever before by a growing number of services on the Web, and revolve around new programming approaches, mainly dynamic scripting languages such as PHP Hypertext Preprocessor (commonly known as PHP) and Groovy.

Sometimes the needs of the business call for the creation of strategic core business applications, but more often, an application is needed to fulfill a more tactical need. To make these types of situational applications feasible from a cost/benefit perspective, they should be simple to create, support reuse and sharing of services, and be quickly adaptable as the needs of the group or user change.

IBM WebSphere® sMash software is a development and execution platform based on the highly acclaimed public incubator Project Zero (hosted at projectzero.org). WebSphere sMash advances the simplicity of IBM Smart SOA and accelerates the alignment of business and IT by allowing developers to quickly and simply deliver dynamic Web 2.0-based applications, enabling mashups.



WebSphere sMash for Developers:

- **Unleash content as REST services**

Representational State Transfer (REST) is an architectural style that allows services to be exposed and consumed over the Web using only a simple URL. Leveraging REST technology, WebSphere sMash extends SOA to the Web—effectively using the Web as the service oriented architecture (SOA) platform.

Using WebSphere sMash, companies can enable new models of revenue by unleashing their content to the world as REST services, take advantage of the huge array of REST services available on the Web to build new applications, and easily reuse these assets in future projects.

- **Leverage the power of scripting for agile development**

Because WebSphere sMash applications are based on dynamic scripting, they can be run without any compilation—a feature that eases the overhead of application development and makes modification and customization easy.

WebSphere sMash supports two dynamic scripting languages, PHP and Groovy, a dynamic scripting language which leverages existing Java™ skills.

Furthermore, because WebSphere sMash only uses the modules it needs, the storage and memory footprints are exceptionally small (You can even run it from a USB key!) and the server can restart in seconds!



- **Quickly combine services and feeds with visual tools**

WebSphere sMash offers visual assembly-style development for designing server-side business logic, as well as visual design editors for designing rich user interfaces.

Using the visual assembly tool, developers can easily tie together disparate services and feeds into new applications and create server-side business logic (such as exchanging data with a back-end system or kicking off an approval process through an e-mail).

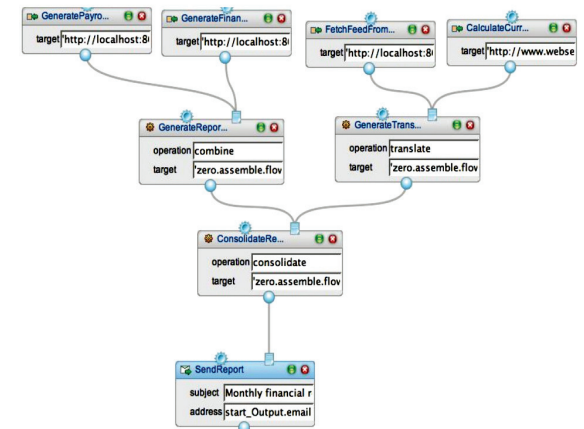


Figure 1. WebSphere sMash visual assembly tool