

FLM Delivers Forms for the Future

Market-leading framework for implementation of e-forms with SAP and SAP Interactive Forms by Adobe

Architecture Overview

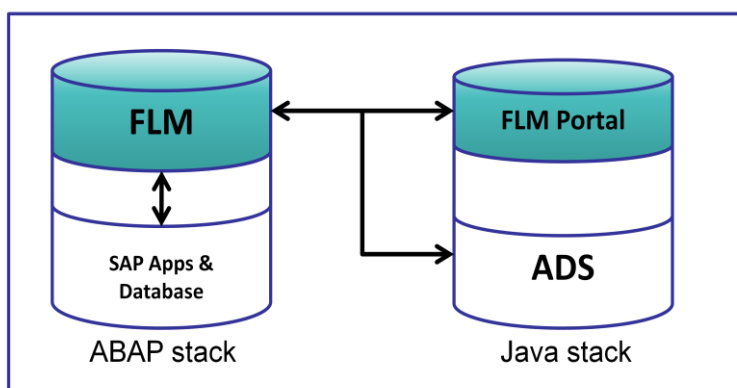
FLM is a pure-play cross-application SAP form server. As an SAP Endorsed Business Solution, it is Powered by NetWeaver and designed to be easy to set-up and operate. It also reduces the range of skills required of consultants and adds value right through from design phase to monitoring and reporting on the runtime environment.

FLM not only provides a comprehensive framework for using interactive forms but also radically accelerates and simplifies the form development process. FLM manages forms throughout the development, deployment and indeed withdrawal cycles.

FLM has two components:

- FLM application, which is an ABAP application.
- FLM Portal, an SAP Enterprise Portal application written in Java webdypro.

SAP NetWeaver Application Server



ADS = Adobe Document Services

Figure 1: FLM Architecture Overview

By using the combination of FLM Portal and FLM, customers can get online form functionality out-of-the-box, without developing any web-based portal, Dynpros or iViews.



Forms Lifecycle Manager (FLM) is an enterprise software product, which simplifies the implementation, deployment and management of SAP Interactive Forms by Adobe.

It allows you to combine PDF, Flex and HTML formats in a powerful runtime environment with forms monitoring, version control and other centralized services.

FLM also enables the use of HTML-based forms and will leverage the Sybase® Unwired Platform to provide end users with a multi-channel, multi-device user experience by integrating mobile capabilities with forms-based processes.

Service Pack Level

It is recommended that both ABAP and Java stacks be at the same Support Pack and are patched to the latest available before the installation process is started. The ABAP components utilized by the FLM core routines are limited to SAP_ABA [SAPKA700*] and SAP_BASIS [SAPKB700*]. The Java components utilized by the FLM software are limited to the J2EE Core and Adobe Document Services [ADS] components.

The minimum NW 700 Support Pack is SP15 and the software is built at Service Pack 24 (NW2004s). The minimum of SP15 or higher is required as new features were introduced to ADS at that release which FLM takes advantage of. Certain SAP Notes may be required to be applied either before or after the installation which is covered in the Installation Guide.

Offline Forms

The off-line form scenario transports Adobe Interactive Forms as attachments on e-mails. Hence it is required to link the SAP server to a suitable SMTP server which acts as a relay for these e-mails. In the on-line scenario, reminders are sent via e-mail and therefore the SMTP server may also be required if this functionality is required.

Adobe Credential

In order for ADS to be able to render PDF forms which are interactive, it is required to install into each Java stack an 'Adobe Credential for Reader Rights'. This is a piece of Adobe intellectual property delivered via the SAP OSS system in the form a small file. It is installed into the WebAS java stack and then configured using the 'Visual Administrator'. Only one Credential is required per customer.

End User and Developer Desktop Environments

End User desktop environments must have Adobe Reader for the Offline scenario and Internet Explorer 6.0+ as well as Adobe Reader for the Online scenario.

The lowest version of Adobe Reader supported by FLM is currently 8.1.1. If the customer organization has an older version of Reader deployed, it is strongly recommended to upgrade to this version of Reader before the FLM installation occurs.

Developer environments must include the above as well as a recent version of Adobe Designer delivered by SAP.

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- FLM is installed onto both the WebAS ABAP and WebAS Java stacks
- WebAS must be NW7.0 [NW2004s]
- Target system should be a Unicode system

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.arch-global.com to learn more about how Forms Lifecycle Manager can accelerate your forms deployments. Alternatively call us on +44 (0)20 8987 0440 to arrange a free consultation.

