



ACCELERATE YOUR INTEGRATION PROJECTS with Logimethods Integration Framework and fast track your webMethods implementation

Introduction

Logimethods Integration Framework is a comprehensive and pragmatic approach to architecting and building B2B & Enterprise Integration solutions. The Framework is used to:

- (1) Accelerate architecture and development,
- (2) Maximize integration component reuse and
- (3) Minimize ongoing maintenance and reduce upgrade costs.

It is the result of years of Enterprise Integration experience gathered by Logimethods' senior practitioners.

Motivation

Logimethods developed its own Integration Framework to provide proven and standardized solutions to the most frequent problems encountered by our consultants in client environments:

Avoid reinventing the wheel

- Client/project core modules are frequently built separately (silos)
- Lack of reusability adds to project duration and costs (solution not streamlined)
- Experience from one project is not fully leveraged across all projects
- Methods and practices in many major integration initiatives are problematic or sub-optimal
- Logimethods Framework streamlines the solution architecture and code production, at same time promoting standardization and reusability

Narrow View versus Broader View

- Implementations are often done with narrow view of issues and minimal reusability
- Logimethods Framework provides a broader view and high-scale reusability

Inherent project issues

- Lack of clear structure in the code implemented leading to monolithic code
- Lack of clear definition of what base code is and what customized code is (containerization)
- Best coding practices often not enforced, which results in implementations that become hard to upgrade and/or migrate
- Dependency on resources/people who created the solution (centralization of knowledge)
- High cost of maintainability due to the items listed above and to a lack of standardization

Scattered Design

- Integration patterns are not always clear
- Opportunity for reuse is limited

The Logimethods Framework addresses all these project challenges by providing standardization and a common structure, as well as pre-defined architecture solutions and ready-to-use code that can be adjusted and extended to address inherent project requirements. Most of the logic in the framework is driven by configuration based on both internal and external partners (e.g. external customers and suppliers, as well as internal departments and/or target systems).

Logimethods B2B Framework

Logimethods developed a reusable B2B integration framework that consists of reference architecture, a set of best practices, and a library of reusable components commonly required in most integration solutions. Logimethods' consultants use the framework for faster delivery and provide training and knowledge transfer to client teams to facilitate the adoption of the tools and concepts for subsequent developments. The use of the framework reduces the migration cycle and upgrade costs due to the high standardization of the solution and a structured approach in the implementation.

Logimethods Framework works hand-in-hand with SAG methodology such as PRIME and the former GEAR.

Additionally, Logimethods Framework can also be used with our clients' methodology, which leads to reduced risks and costs, shorter implementation times and increased quality.

Framework Attributes

Scalable

- ▶ Able to grow both horizontally and vertically across multiple virtual/physical machines

Modular

- ▶ The Framework is divided into two main parts: frontend that takes cover the B2B (Business-to-Business) needs, and the backend portion which addresses the EAI (Application-to-Application) requirements
- ▶ It can leverage the existing ESB's, allowing the connection from the internal application to external Partners
- ▶ It can be used as a full-blown ESB with rich functionality and unlimited capabilities

Extendable

- ▶ Standards-based modular architecture can be easily extended to add new/custom functionality

Transaction Tracking

- ▶ End-to-end visibility of the entire transaction lifecycle

Standards Based

- ▶ Implementation is based on SAG's methodology (i.e. PRIME, GEAR)
- ▶ Support for many widely used industry standard, such as EDI X12, Tradacoms, EDIFACT, XML, etc.
- ▶ Extensible to support proprietary formats as well (i.e. Flat Files)

Maintainable

- ▶ Clear distinction between the core framework and the custom code (i.e. maps, common services, backend integration)
- ▶ Core Framework enables economy of scale, as the base code is always the same and is configurable for each transaction type as takes care of the repeating tasks
- ▶ The custom code is minimized to the specific components required to support the specific clients' business processes

Reusable

- ▶ Framework utilities such as Logging, Configuration, Lookup, XRef utilities can all be reused individually or combined in any integration projects

Reliable

- ▶ Implemented and in production in many customers (references available on demand)

CLIENT TESTIMONIALS

"Logimethods consultants designed and implemented a webMethods-based EDI solution to replace our aging legacy Gentran system. Their implementation has become a reference for future webMethods integrations at our company and their Framework is an enterprise asset that we are leveraging in several of our current A2A, B2B and BPM projects."

Integration Program Manager - Large Medical Products Distributor

"Logimethods has completely changed our vision of integration. They showed us how to turn into reality these nice concepts of canonicals, decoupling, publish/subscribe, asynchronous and parallel processing that are very easy to understand, but not that easy to design and implement. With their help and their Framework Accelerator we were able to improve our productivity a lot!"

IT Director - Global Commercial Printer

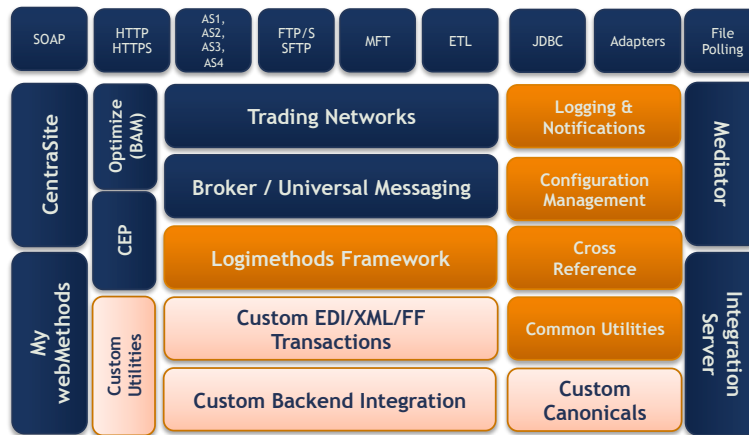
"Logimethods was selected to architect and develop a new enterprise Supply Chain Gateway, replacing several mission-critical legacy applications with a more stable, scalable and open standards based solution. Using Logimethods Implementation Accelerator and collaborating effectively with our team, Logimethods delivered a robust solution and provided valuable support to ensure a seamless integration of the new system. We definitely made the right decision when we chose Logimethods."

IT Director - Global Retail Leader

Framework Application Stack

The following diagram provides the high-level reference architecture and illustrates the structure of the framework and its relationship to the other SAG components of a typical full-function Integration with the Software AG product suite.

The orange components represent the core out-of-the-box elements of the Logimethods Framework. The light-orange components indicate areas that are customized and tailored to each unique situation.



Note: only the Integration Server, Trading Networks (TN) and MWS are mandatory components, the other SAG components are optional and are included in the diagram to show that additional functionality can be seamlessly added as needed.

BENEFITS

DRY – Don't Repeat Yourself

- As part of the framework, Logimethods provides packaged common functionalities required for most integration projects, such as Configuration Management such as system configuration and partner onboarding, Application Logging & Notification, Cross Reference, and common utilities such as common services and control number generation.

Maximize Use of the webMethods license model

- More functionality with same investment in licenses: the framework leverages the same licenses used for the SAG products in use (no additional license needed);
- Core framework requires limited number of modules from vendor (requires only app servers and TN);
- The message broker (wm Broker / Universal Messaging) is optional, but recommended for scalable workload distribution;
- Can be extended and augmented by adding optional modules (i.e. BPM, BAM, CEP, etc.)
- The ability to run natively on the vendors' platform and takes advantage of and extends built-in functionality.
- Is SOA enabled and leverages mediation and runtime governance via webMethods Mediator combined with CentraSite.
- It can leverage also webMethods Active Transfer (MFT) with direct integration.
- Leverages either Nirvana or webMethods Broker which provides extensive flexibility to your messaging needs.

Hit the ground running

- Architecture, Design Patterns, Core Services and Modules are ready to use for developing maps and backend integration
- Clear definition of what is core framework and what is customized code
- Implement many integration patterns using the framework

Focus on the business

- Map services and backend integration are clearly segregated from each other but work in concert
- Map services can be developed without impacting the integration with internal or external systems
- Backend integration with internal system can be structured independent of the integration with the frontend systems facing external partners
- Use of canonical is optional but recommended in many cases for high reusability across the corporation
- The B2B Framework is based and runs on the webMethods Trading Networks, extending the module's capabilities
- The ESB Framework is based and runs on the webMethods Integration Server extending the module's capabilities
- Logimethods' Framework allows clients to focus on the business requirements and build faster go-to-market solutions in a more structured and agile way

Save time, reduce overall cost

- A solution based on years of integration experience and proven delivered solutions

Logimethods Contact

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