



CA Plex

Product Roadmap

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October 2, 2008

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This published roadmap was based on current information and resource allocations as of **October 2, 2008** and is subject to change or withdrawal by CA at any time without notice. The information in this roadmap is intended to outline CA's general product direction. All information in this Product Roadmap is for informational purposes only, and is not deemed to be incorporated into any contract. CA assumes no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the information.

Product Mission

CA Plex is an Architected Rapid Application Development (ARAD) tool that provides a single environment for the fast delivery of large-scale business applications. Applications built using CA Plex can be deployed to multiple platforms using a single set of developer skills, maintaining a high level of insulation from low-level technology issues.

It is also an ideal environment for organizations to adopt a Services Oriented Architecture (SOA) methodology where the reuse or integration of existing systems be implemented through the delivery of web services.

Organizations of all types face a number of challenges ranging from modernizing legacy systems to meet today's business standards, to integrating data from multiple systems running in multiple environments. It is quite common today for strategic business applications to be based on multiple platforms utilizing tools that enable service-oriented architectures with data integration requirements. Aside from technical considerations, these challenges must be addressed with IT departments remaining a viable, profitable part of the overall business. It is difficult for some internal IT departments to justify their own existence, as packaged

applications and outsourced development projects are being adopted by many companies.

CA Plex solves the problem of providing IT with a low-risk means to quickly provide end-to-end systems for a number of strategic platforms while also having the capability to integrate data from external systems. Most importantly, it provides organizations with a proven method of development that provides a short-term ROI.

Product Strategy

Having built a strong base of worldwide customers (corporate, small-to-medium sized businesses, government agencies and independent software vendors) over the course of more than 12 years, CA Plex pioneered what is known today as the ARAD methodology, which focuses on the use of models, code generation and patterns. Patterns provide solutions to the problems that recur when building business applications. CA Plex provides an environment where patterns can be encoded and then reused via an object-oriented inheritance engine. This approach accelerates productivity and reduces cost while also providing extensibility to service-oriented architectures. CA Plex is a proven product that fits directly into the ARAD tool space where it remains one of the leading tools in this market segmentation.

CA Plex is especially well suited for small-to-medium sized businesses, ISVs and independent consultants that share the same development challenges as larger enterprises but whose well being is much more dependent on rapid ROI recovery for their IT investments. This is a key driver in our CA Plex strategy.

Going forward, some of the strategy points under review include:

- Providing the means to directly generate and manage web services from the CA Plex base development environment, strengthening the product's support of SOA.
- The continued growth of partnerships to champion the value of CA Plex. Focusing on sales, services and value-add technology options these relationships will complement the overall key goal of building more strategic partnerships for the CA solutions in enterprise IT management.
- Continued improvement in the base CA Plex tool, including usability enhancements and support for evolving platforms and environments including IBM (Power™ Systems), Microsoft® Windows® (.NET) and Java® (J2EE).

Current Release Status

Supported Release Numbers:

CA Plex r6, r5.5 and r5.1

Target End of Service Dates:

- CA Plex r5.1: As previously announced, service will end on May 27, 2008
- CA Plex r5.5: As recently announced, service will end December 1, 2009.
- CA Plex r6: Not yet scheduled.

For more information regarding CA's product support lifecycle policy, please visit our CA Support website:

http://supportconnectw.ca.com/public/ca_common_docs/suppserv.asp

For details on current features and functionality, please preview the Product Brief located at:

http://www.ca.com/files/ProductBriefs/ca_plex_product_brief.pdf

Next Release

CA Plex r6.1

Planned New Features/ Functionality in the Future

Currently Planned New Features/ Functionality for Calendar Year 2008:

Each new feature or functionality included in future releases is subject to change based on a number of factors, including but not limited to internal and external beta testing, development plan changes, and feedback from customers and users. Accordingly, the product may have different features and/or functionality than stated in this Roadmap.

We are currently determining new features to be included in the next release based on market trends and current user requirements that we have received. Some of the *proposed* features, which will be finalized upon the definition of the contents of CA Plex r6.1, include:

- **Enhanced SOA Support:** Building on the component modeling capabilities within the CA Plex base tool, a new approach to developing service-oriented applications will be provided. Services will be generated based on Microsoft's new Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) technology which is part of the .NET 3.0 platform. Services created through WCF can be hosted in a number of ways including as ASP.NET web services or as Windows operating system services.
- **Group Model Update History:** This new feature enables you to view the history of group model updates for a model. It also includes the ability to specify a comment when updating a group model.

- **IPv6 Support:** IPv6 is the successor to the IPv4 protocol providing a much larger address space, enhanced security and other features. CA Plex makes use of TCP-IP for cross-platform communications and will be updated for compatibility with IPv6 networks.
- **Plex API:** The API is proving to be a popular way for developers and partners to extend the Plex development environment. A number of enhancement requests will be available including the ability to access selected objects from the Object Browser and to initiate generate and build requests, as well as performance improvements.
- **Windows Vista® Support for Development:** We will provide compatibility with Windows Vista for the CA Plex development environment. As part of this work, support will be added for multiple tool users on one Windows system. This means that each developer will have their own set of configuration files when running the CA Plex development environment.
- **Platform Compatibility Updates:** Updates will be made across the CA Plex product to support the latest versions of platforms such as IBM i 6.1, Microsoft SQL Server® 2008, Oracle® 11g, Windows Server® 2008 operating system, .NET Framework 3.5, Java SE 6.0 and 64-bit Windows.

Internationalization/ Localization

As CA Plex continues to be used to generate applications throughout the world, multi-language support remains a priority. In addition, we plan continued delivery of fully localized Japanese editions of CA Plex.

Localized Japanese releases of CA Plex are targeted to become available approximately 90 days following the English release.

Product Direction

As a market-leading ARAD tool, CA Plex continues to evolve with focus on its supported platforms: Java/J2EE, Windows/.NET and IBM Power™ Systems/IBM i. There will also be specific focus on CA Plex as an ideal environment for the SOA methodology to be reflected in future releases. For example, the generation of Java-based web services to supplement the WCF generation introduced at CA Plex 6.1.

A prime example of our commitment to technology partners is the currently available WebClient for CA Plex product from CA partner ADC Austin. This value-add option generates web pages direct from CA Plex panel designs based on the current AJAX and Java industry standard frameworks. CA recommends the ADC Austin solution for CA Plex customers with current and future web development needs.

Additional ideas under consideration include support for performance management of CA Plex applications through CA's industry-leading CA Wily Introscope® product, and extended support for RPG IV.

The CA Plex development and product management teams are hard at work developing product plans for future releases. Your input is encouraged and welcomed. To ensure that CA Plex is on track with product and market requirements, CA relies heavily on customer participation in worldwide and regional product user groups, Development Buddy™ programs, beta programs and your activity on CA's Support Online, from which product enhancement requests are continually gathered and reviewed.

CA is committed to the continued development and support of CA Plex. Both CA and our customers have invested significantly in CA Plex and are partnered for our mutual success.

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