

The WWW of OpenLayer

What? Why? Who?

OpenLayer transforms legacy client-server systems to web-portal and web-services while retaining benefits of existing proven systems, without requiring any re-coding. OpenLayer is architected to be a unified-interface across diverse applications; Extends the life of these mission critical systems. As users and processes are accessing systems via OpenLayer, user experience remains unchanged while working and replacing the back-end subsystems.

What is OpenLayer?

In the global economic of the 21st century, information technology will drive change just as surely as manufacturing drove change in the industrial era. Over decades, Server hardware and software technologies encapsulated most of the critical business process and delivered information in simple user interface to users using dumb terminals or dedicated clients. These systems could be thought of as “an environment in a box.”

Over the years, these systems are refined to an extreme level of efficiency and reliability, supported excellent performance and stability of IBM platforms such as Main Frames and AS/400, iSeries, and Power Systems hardware. The result has been the evolution of highly reliable code that is currently supporting the mission-critical functions of most businesses, institutions and thousands of midsize companies and Fortune 500 corporations for almost 50 years.

With the rise of cloud and mobile, “Client” is redefined as a browser and a process (service call) and not just an end-user with a dumb terminal or dedicated hard-wired device. Providing web services interface to these boxed applications have been primarily focussed through DataBase integration and requires reverse-engineering. This approach poses huge risk of business process being altered, compromising functionality, and requires extensive regression.

To take full advantage of existing time tested business process and still be able to utilize the new emerging ever changing technologies, we need to transform rather than re-engineering. A solution which can transform legacy to cloud while retaining the benefits of existing proven systems has been on the wish list of corporations, institutions, and organizations for a long time.

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OpenLayer delivers such solution, where Server is transformed in to a pure business-logic server and both users and (cloud)-services are using the same business process, as is used by dedicated clients. OpenLayer works with existing transactions and does not need any change (works with object code) eliminates the risk of re-coding, while retaining the time tested functionality proven business process.

OpenLayer is architected to act as a single front-end across multiple applications. It can unify interfaces across technologies and frameworks. As proven system remains

unchanged, existing dumb terminal or dedicated clients continue to operate for the users who need those. OpenLayer lets you develop web-services scripts for any transaction in the system, even to the granularity of a single field.

While 69% of companies expect to make the move to cloud in the next three years, only 34% have done so already. A commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting on behalf of IBM finds, “25% of IT projects in the U.S. and 23% of IT projects worldwide are currently both over budget and behind schedule.” These failures, over budget, and behind schedule is attempt to replace or recode these systems.

OpenLayer is now available as Virtual Appliance on the IBM PureSystems with a flavor of CentOS, RedHat, SuSE, and Power AIX. It can be downloaded from IBM Virtual Appliance Factory.

Why OpenLayer?

OpenLayer transforms your system to cloud v/s reverse engineering or recoding and compromising the functionality.

Some of the salient features are:

1. OpenLayer transforms entire suite of application and not merely selected transactions. Any change in any of the transactions reflect immediately to the interface without user intervention.
2. OpenLayer honors all existing business logic



and enforces all validation, business rule exceptions and application security breach.

3. With OpenLayer, you can personalize and extend application either for a user, a group of users, or system wide.
4. With OpenLayer, you can extend your application without touching existing code.
5. OpenLayer acts a single front-end across multiple applications. It can unify interface across technologies and framework.
6. As proven system remains unchanged, existing dumb terminal, dedicated clients continue to operate for the users who need those.
7. OpenLayer lets you develop web-services scripts for any transaction in the system, even to the granularity of a single field.

OpenLayer's competitive advantage:

There are a few migration tools available. As they are just tools, they help in some code conversion, and each transaction is required to be validated for business rules. OpenLayer is the only transformation tool available in the market. This market of legacy to cloud is highly infested by services industry, with the help of some proprietary tools, and are doing it in a very crude way, by reverse engineering instead and integrating via the database and developing scripts to update the legacy system.



OpenLayer – Rich and safe:

1. OpenLayer is the transformation framework, it transforms entire suite of application.
2. Any change to the transaction (legacy) reflect immediately to the interface without user intervention.
3. OpenLayer honors all existing business logic and enforces all validation, business rule exceptions and application security breach.
4. OpenLayer, you can personalize and extend application either for a user, a group of users, or system wide.
5. With OpenLayer, you can extend your application without touching existing code.
6. OpenLayer acts a single front-end across multiple applications. It can unify interface across technologies and framework.
7. As proven system remains unchanged, existing dumb terminal, dedicated clients continue to operate for the users who need those.
8. Updates and read from browser and web-services are real-time.

9. OpenLayer lets you develop web-services scripts for any transaction in the system, even to the granularity of a single field.

Competition – Regressed and Risky:

1. Most other approach migrate transaction by transaction, using database update and recoding business process.
2. Any changes in the legacy are to be coded again.
3. Most of these solutions run have a total disconnect from the legacy. These are rewrites and are very risky.
4. The logic processed by users using their own client, users accessing via web portal, and web-services are three sets of logic.
5. These create new applications and do not update the system in real-time. Data to mission critical systems are to refreshed regularly.

Who should use OpenLayer?

While many companies are struggling with cloud adoption, others are going the opposite direction looking to solve every business problem with the cloud. Any one who is planning cloud and unification of interfaces in their corporation will benefit from OpenLayer.

- ➔ CIO – Who are planning to move their existing systems to public or private cloud using PaaS, IaaS or SaaS.
- ➔ CFO / CEO - Who plan to take advantage of cloud and Information of Demand without risking the business process.
- ➔ Operations – OpenLayer provides a unified user interface across applications, this saves repeat data entry and all systems stay in sync.
- ➔ ISV - providing the ESB, integration platform and application connectors. With OpenLayer, they can provide risk-free economic connectors.
- ➔ Service Providers - The services companies who can deliver the on-hand projects with less risk, money and elapsed time.
- ➔ Cloud-strategist – The Cloud Strategist is a relatively new role with many companies who act as a pivotal piece in contemporary IT departments. Now they can plan to provide cloud solutions while retaining the virtue of existing systems.

