Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 Beta-3
Frequently Asked Questions
Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 Beta-3
FAQ

Table of Contents

REVISION HISTORY ............................................................................................................................. 4

GENERAL .................................................................................................................................................. 5
Q1.  What is Oracle BPEL Process Manager?....................................................................................... 5
Q2.  Where can I find more information on this Beta or Preview Release?........................................ 5
Q3.  Is the Preview Program open to everyone?.................................................................................. 5

DOWNLOAD AND INSTALLATION .............................................................................................. 5
Q4.  What are the install options? Are there any prerequisites for installation of Oracle BPEL Process Manager? .................................................................................................................................................. 5
Q5.  Are there different prerequisites or requirements for the Unix versions (Linux and Solaris)? .................................................................................................................................................. 5
Q6.  I would like to use an Oracle Database as my store for instance data (dehydration store). Is this possible?.................................................................................................................................................. 5
Q7.  Are there any specific installation environment requirements or constraints for this Beta version? .................................................................................................................................................. 5
Q8.  Where can I download a copy of Oracle BPEL Process Manager?................................................ 6
Q9.  What are the platforms supported for Beta?.................................................................................. 6
Q10. What products do I need to install to have a working Oracle BPEL Process Manager Beta environment? ............................................................................................................................................... 6
Q11. Where can I find more detailed information on the installation?................................................ 7
Q12. I have finished installing the components. How do I verify my install?........................................ 7
Q13. How do I determine the version number of my Designer and BPEL Server?.............................. 7
Q14. I have finished installing the components. Is there a tutorial or documentation available for me to start? ............................................................................................................................................... 7

COMPATIBILITY WITH PREVIOUS RELEASES ................................................................................. 9
Q15. Is this 10.1.2 Beta version compatible with Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10g (2.0.x, 2.x)? .................................................................................................................................................. 9
Q16. Is this 10.1.2 Beta version compatible with previous versions of Oracle Application Server 10g Platform Suite? ............................................................................................................................................... 9
Q17. Is this 10.1.2 Beta version backward compatible with the previous Beta releases?...................... 9

FEATURE INFORMATION ............................................................................................................... 10
Q18. What is the best place to get information on all the products that constitute the Oracle Application Server Integration 10g Platform? ........................................................................................................................................ 10
Q19. Where can I find more information on some of the new features in Oracle Application Server Integration 10g 10.1.2? ........................................................................................................................................ 10
Q20. Where can I find information on some of the new features in the Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2? ........................................................................................................................................ 10
Q21. Are there any restrictions or constraints in using certain features in the Beta release? If so where can I find that information? ........................................................................................................................................ 11
Q22. What are some of the things to be attentive & careful about when using the BPEL Designer? ........................................................................................................................................ 12
Q23. What adapters are available to use with this Beta Release and what are Oracle’s plans to support these? ........................................................................................................................................ 12
Q24. Are there any examples or tutorials provided for using adapters with Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2? ........................................................................................................................................ 12
Q25. Where must one check for the BPEL runtime server logs? ................................................................ 12
Q26. Does this beta version of Oracle BPEL Process Manager have Internationalization & Localization support? ........................................................................................................................................ 12
Q27. WHAT DOCUMENTATION IS AVAILABLE FOR THIS BETA RELEASE? ............................................. 12
Q28. HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ON THE INCLUDED SAMPLES? ................................. 13
Q29. HOW DO I USE ONE OF THE SAMPLES IN THE BPEL SERVER ENVIRONMENT? .......................... 13
Q30. ARE THERE ANY DOCUMENTED TUTORIALS AVAILABLE TO LEARN ABOUT THE KEY PRODUCT FEATURES AND THEIR USE? ........................................................................ 13

REPORTING ISSUES AND FEEDBACK................................................................................................. 13
Q31. HOW DO I REPORT BUGS/ENHANCEMENTS OR ASK QUESTIONS ON THIS BETA RELEASE? ...... 13
Q32. CAN I REPORT PROBLEMS THROUGH ORACLE SUPPORT CHANNELS? .................................. 13
## Revision History

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Author</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>21-Mar-2005</td>
<td>Edits for the Beta-3 release</td>
<td>Prashant Nema</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>24-Mar-2005</td>
<td>Final edits for the Beta-3 Preview release</td>
<td>Raj Venkatesan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>13-Apr-2005</td>
<td>Added information for the Unix Beta-3 versions – Linux and Solaris. Added new questions Q6 and Q7. Also added Samples related known issue for Middle Tier.</td>
<td>Raj Venkatesan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**General**

Q1. **What is Oracle BPEL Process Manager?**

Oracle BPEL Process Manager is Business Process Management solution. It provides a comprehensive, standards-based and easy to use solution for implementing & managing simple or complex business processes with both automated and human workflow steps. Its native support for standards such as BPEL, XML, XSLT, XPATH, JMS, JCA and Web Services, makes this an ideal solution for enabling service-oriented architectures.

For more information please refer to the Datasheet that is available on http://otn.oracle.com/bpel.

Q2. **Where can I find more information on this Beta or Preview Release?**

This release is a full feature Beta release. Any restrictions in the Beta Release are documented later in this document. Please contact Oracle on the [BPEL forum](http://otn.oracle.com/bpel) for further details.

Q3. **Is the Preview Program open to everyone?**

Yes with the new [Beta-3 release on OTN](http://otn.oracle.com/bpel), all are welcome to experience and provide feedback on the product.

**Download and Installation**

Q4. **What are the install options? Are there any prerequisites for installation of Oracle BPEL Process Manager?**

The Oracle BPEL Process Manager Beta-3 is available in two install editions – Developer & OracleAS Middle Tier. The Developer edition is for the developer user who wants to install and use all the needed components on the same laptop/PC. The OracleAS Middle Tier edition is for business mission critical BPEL server deployments.

There is no prerequisite software needed for the Oracle BPEL PM Developer edition software on Windows. All the software needed for the BPEL Designer and BPEL Server is bundled & installed from the Beta software Distribution. The developer version of the product has 10.1.2 versions of OracleAS OC4J, Oracle JDeveloper and Oracle Lite pre-bundled. The developer edition does not support using your existing installed versions of OracleAS OC4J, Oracle JDeveloper or Oracle Lite.

The OracleAS Middle tier edition of the software requires an existing Oracle J2EE Middle tier (10.1.2) and an independent Oracle DB (9i or above) installed and running. This edition installs only the BPEL server and services into your production scale J2EE environments.

Please refer to the next question for specific environment requirements and recommendations for installation.

Q5. **Are there different prerequisites or requirements for the Unix versions (Linux and Solaris)?**

Yes. The Unix variants do not bundle Oracle Lite in the developer version. This would mean that you would have to set up an Oracle Database as your dehydration store. The database that can be used is an Oracle 9i (9.2.x) or 10g (10.1.x) database. For more instructions on setting up your database please refer to the README_FIRST.txt which is available at the top level of the Unix distribution.
**Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 Beta-3**

**FAQ**

Q6. I would like to use an Oracle Database as my store for Instance data (Dehydration store). Is this possible?
   Yes. You can follow the instructions in Q5 to setup your database.

Q7. Are there any specific installation environment requirements or constraints for this Beta version?
   No, there are none. It is assumed that when installing multiple BPEL environments on the same machine that due attention is paid in planning the usage of multiple Oracle Homes.

   If you think you have a configuration that is not supported, please contact Oracle on the BPEL forum for further details.

Q8. Where can I download a copy of Oracle BPEL Process Manager?
   Oracle BPEL Process Manager is available for download from [http://otn.oracle.com/bpel](http://otn.oracle.com/bpel).

Q9. What are the Platforms supported for Beta?
   The following platforms are supported for this Beta Release
   1. Microsoft Windows XP, 2000 and 2003
   2. Linux (Certified on RedHat AS 2.1)
   3. Solaris (Certified on Solaris 2.8)

   Note: Linux and Solaris platform version will be available for download approximately 1 week after the windows release.
Q10. **What products do I need to install to have a working Oracle BPEL Process Manager Beta environment?**

There are 2 installation options to have your working Oracle BPEL Process Manager—

- **BPEL Process Manager for Developers** – This option installs & configures the Oracle Lite DB, OracleAS OC4J and the Oracle BPEL server. This option also deploys the BPEL server & add-on services to the installed OC4J.

- **BPEL Process Manager for OracleAS Middle Tier** – This option installs & configures only the BPEL server and services into an existing J2EE (10.1.2 only) middle tier Oracle Home.

Q11. **Where can I find more detailed information on the installation?**

All the Installation Requirements, Installation process, Installation options are described in the Oracle BPEL Process Manager Quickstart Guide 10.1.2. This guide is available at your download location.

Q12. **I have finished installing the components. How do I verify my install?**

To verify the just installed Oracle BPEL Process Manager environment do the following
Note: All shortcuts noted below can be found at Start, Programs, Oracle - <OraHome>, Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2

1. Click on “Start BPEL PM Server” from the Windows start menu, to start the BPEL Server.
2. Verify BPEL Server and its dependent services are started up error free,

First the Oracle Lite Database is started and running, if you click on the DOS window in the status bar you must see as below.

Second, click on the “Start BPEL PM Server” window in the status bar and you must see the status as below,
Q13. How do I determine the version number of my Designer and BPEL Server?

To check your BPEL Designer version
   1. Open up the JDeveloper BPEL Designer and select About from the Help menu. Look for the line BPEL Designer. If you are using Beta-3 this version should say 10.1.2.0.0 (build 050322).

To check the BPEL Server version, do the following:
   1. Bring up a developer prompt from your Start-Programs menu.
   2. Type obversion at the prompt. Your output should look like follows:

![Developer Prompt]

Q14. I have finished installing the components. Is there a tutorial or documentation available for me to start?

Yes. Please see details for this in questions under section – ‘Documentation, Samples and Tutorial Information’

Compatibility with Previous Releases

Q15. Is this 10.1.2 Beta version compatible with Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10g (2.0.x, 2.x)?

The 10.1.2 version has added functionality like
- BPEL Designer integrated in JDeveloper
- Drag-n-Click GUI for the XSLT Transformation Mapper
- Comprehensive wizards based adapter framework
- Integrated Human Workflow Management.

All BPEL processes implemented in the BPEL Process Manager 10g (2.0.x, 2.x) can be run on the BPEL PM 10.1.2 (beta) server.

Q16. Is this 10.1.2 Beta version compatible with previous versions of Oracle Application Server 10g Platform Suite?

Yes, Oracle BPEL Process manager enables services oriented computing architecture. In a BPEL Process endpoint services are invoked as simple web services or via the framework provided by
WSIF and technology providers like JMS, JCA, Java, EJB, etc. Hence these endpoint services could be enabled by Oracle application server 10g products or in some cases earlier versions as well.
E.g. BPEL Process Manager could invoke services deployed by JDeveloper, Interconnect, B2B or J2EE objects in OC4J.

Q17. **Is this 10.1.2 Beta version backward compatible with the previous Beta releases?**

No, Beta1 & Beta2 projects are not certified to work as is on this Beta release. Beta1 projects may have to be migrated by redoing them for this Beta release, depending on the features used in those projects. However for Beta2 projects - you are required to open them in the Designer, review for the errors and make the needed changes, before deployment.

**Feature Information**

Q18. **What is the best place to get information on all the products that constitute the Oracle Application Server Integration 10g Platform?**


Q19. **Where can I find more information on some of the new features in Oracle Application Server Integration 10g 10.1.2?**


Q20. **Where can I find information on some of the new features in the Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2?**

Detailed information on the product features can be found in the Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 datasheet on [OTN BPEL](http://otn.oracle.com/products/bpel/index.html) website.
Q21. Are there any restrictions or constraints in using certain features in the Beta release? If so where can I find that information?

This Beta release of Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 has the following known issues:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.No</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Designer</td>
<td>a. There are some known issues with Explicit Correlations. These will be fixed for the GA release (3996065).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>b. If you get a validation error in a complex process, it is often not obvious where the exact error lies, one way to find out is to expand the Activities in the Structure Pane and look for the validation error/warning (4260576).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>c. When a user tries to create a variable by importing a WSDL from the local file system, the Designer does not add an import tag in project WSDL, which can cause a compilation error. This can be worked around by adding this information manually (4252900).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Adapters</td>
<td>d. When a JMS outbound adapter is used with OC4J JMS queue and topics, the value of the isTransacted flag must be set to false in the oc4j-ra.xml for proper functioning (4000989).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>e. Multiple processes or multiple file adapters polling the same input directory is not currently supported (4093501).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Samples</td>
<td>f. Certain samples have some known issues. These will be fixed in the Production release. These are ResilientDemo (4260524), PCShop (4260525), DataAggregator (4260529) and InstanceManager (4260533).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>g. In the OrderBooking tutorial opening the JDeveloper Project file for RapidDistributors gives a warning indicating a mapper file is not present. This problem is only in the designer. This process will work correctly when deployed to the BPEL Server and will not affect the operation of the tutorial (4260543).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>h. There are known issues with deployment of samples to a Middle Tier. These issues exist during deployment using obant and also with path separator information that is stored in some of the samples. This will be corrected for the production release.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>OracleAS Middle Tier Installation</td>
<td>i. There are known issues with an OracleAS middle tier deinstallation. Please contact the BPEL Forum if you need a workaround to this (4244103).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Workflow</td>
<td>j. When modeling a sequential or parallel workflow, to send a task to ALL members of a group, you can use ora:GetUsersInGroup('group_name') in the XPath field. It is useful to note that using this for a Simple pattern is the same as sending the task to the Group with group_name i.e. one of the members of that group will acquire the task and act on it (None).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>k. In a parallel workflow, updates to the payload, comments, and attachments will not be reflected in the final payload, comments, and attachments respectively. In such situations, it is best to have a final reviewer who will be able to see individual updates as subtasks and can use them to determine a final outcome (4246874).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>l. Workflow Modeling: If you delete the default “Assigned” status notification when modeling a workflow, and try to add another notification, the addition may fail the first time (2nd and 3rd columns are inactive). Just delete the new incomplete notification and click on Add to add another one (4247064).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mapper</td>
<td>m. If you save a XSL map with an empty expression, this error will not be detected at compile time (4245750).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q22. **What are some of the things to be attentive & careful about when using the BPEL Designer?**

- Use of any special characters such as period, space, etc is not supported in user defined Designer object names e.g. project name, activity name etc. **Please be careful with this as the only time validation is done is during the compile step.**
- When adding schemas to your Project always add them using the Import Schemas... option. This is always available as an option in the Structure pane.
- A trailing slash (/) in an XPath expression will result in compilation errors. Please watch for this while using the XPath completion assistant.
- When using a schema that imports other schemas, do not copy the top level schema to the project directory. This can be accomplished by un-checking the "Copy to Project Directory" option in the Type Chooser dialog. Copying the top level schema does not recursively copy the imported schemas.

Q23. **What adapters are available to use with this Beta Release and what are Oracle’s plans to support these?**

The JMS, AQ, Database, File/FTP and Oracle Applications adapters are already installed and available for use with the Beta release.

Adapters to Enterprise Information Systems (EIS) such as Oracle Applications, SAP, Siebel etc. are not certified at this time.

Q24. **Are there any examples or tutorials provided for using adapters with Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2?**

The `<ORAHOME>/integration/bpelpm/orabpel/samples` directory has samples for all features of the product including adapters.

The `samples/tutorials/127.OrderBookingTutorial` sample with documentation, gives a user an end-to-end experience of all key product features in Oracle BPEL Process Manager.

Q25. **Where must one check for the BPEL runtime server logs?**

Each BPEL domain has its own logs. There is a master logfile called `domains.log` located for each domain in the `<ORAHOME>/integration/bpelpm/orabpel/domains/default/logs`.

Q26. **Does this beta version of Oracle BPEL Process Manager have Internationalization & Localization support?**

Yes, however formal certification of this functionality will happen only for the Production release. This functionality is currently undergoing testing; the Worklist Application is not NLS ready. Localization will also only be completed for the Production release. If you have further specific questions, please contact Oracle on the BPEL forum for further details.

**Documentation, Samples and Tutorial Information**

Q27. **What documentation is available for this beta release?**

The following documentation is available for download in Beta Draft, from your Beta site:

1. Oracle BPEL Process Manager Quickstart Guide
Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 Beta-3
FAQ

2. Oracle BPEL Process Manager Order Booking Tutorial
3. Oracle BPEL Process Manager Developer’s Guide
4. Oracle BPEL PM - Frequently Asked Questions – This document
5. Many samples in the product samples directory have valuable detailed documentation on key features highlighted in the sample

Note: We will be updating documentation on a weekly basis so please ensure you check back often to pick up the latest updated copies of these.

Q28. How can I get more information on the included samples?
For more details on the samples and to understand what is available by types and purpose, Click on “Getting started with samples” from the Windows start menu, to launch the samples home page.

Q29. How do I use one of the samples in the BPEL server environment?
All samples available in <ORAHOME>/integration/bpelpm/orabpel/samples can be deployed to the BPEL server using obant and run as-is.

All samples include JDeveloper project files and can be opened in the JDeveloper BPEL Designer. See Q21 for any known limitations.

Q30. Are there any documented Tutorials available to learn about the key product features and their use?
Yes, there are many samples with documentation available in the samples directory. Specifically 2 recommended as the first to use to build experience on the product are available with detailed step-by-step instructions. These are
- LoanProcess Tutorial (QuickStart guide)
- Order Booking Tutorial (Order Booking Tutorial)

Reporting Issues and Feedback

Q31. How do I report bugs/enhancements or ask questions on this beta release?
For this Beta-3 release you can contact Oracle on the BPEL forum for all your queries and issues. Please clearly state the below

1. Product version
2. Edition – developer or production
3. Designer used – JDeveloper or Eclipse
4. Platform – Hardware & OS Version
5. Exact error as seen and logs

Q32. Can I report problems through Oracle Support channels?
No, you cannot report problems related to the Oracle BPEL Process Manager 10.1.2 Beta software via Oracle Support. Please contact Oracle on the BPEL forum to report issues.

For all other Oracle production software that you are licensed for please continue to report problems to Oracle support, as usual.