

WorkflowImplementationComparison

Existing Open Source projects

Name	Website	License	
Apache Agila (in incubation)	Apache Agila (in incubation)	Apache	
Apache Lenya workflow component	Apache Lenya	Apache	
Bigbross Bossa	http://www.bigbross.com/bossa/	GPL	
Codehouse/Werken Workflow	[	http://werkflow.codehaus.org/license.html]	
con-cern	http://con-cern.org/index.html	LGPL	
Enhydra Shark	http://shark.enhydra.org/	LGPL	
jBpm	http://www.jbpm.org	Apache	
ObjectWeb Bonita	http://bonita.debian-sf.objectweb.org/	LGPL	
OFBiz Workflow Engine	http://ofbiz.org/	MIT	
Open Business Engine	http://obe.sourceforge.net/	Apache-like	
OpenFlow	http://www.openflow.it/	GPL	
OpenSymphony OSWorkflow	http://www.opensymphony.com/osworkflow/	Apache	
OpenWFE	http://www.openwfe.org	BSD-like	
PowerFolder	http://www.powerfolder.org/	LGPL	
Taverna/Freefluo	http://taverna.sourceforge.net/ , http://freefluo.sourceforge.net/	LGPL	
WfMOpen	http://wfmpopen.sourceforge.net/	GPL	
wftk	http://www.vivtek.com/wftk/	GPL	
XFlow	http://xflow.sourceforge.net/	Apache	

Comparison of some implementations

An empty cell means the information is not known yet.

• Property/capability*	• Lenya workflow*	• OSWorkflow*	• jBpm*	OpenWFE	
Basics					
Principle	State machine	State machine	Activity diagram	Execution Stack	
Nested states	no	no	no	yes	
Forking and syncing	no	some limitations, e.g. a sync can not be followed by a fork	yes	yes	
Subprocesses	no	no	yes	yes	
Extensibility					
Java	yes	yes	yes	yes	
BSF	no	yes	no	no	
BeanShell	no	yes	no	no	
Python	no			yes	
Remote access					
EJB	no	no	yes	no	
SOAP	no	yes	no	no	
REST	no			yes	
Storage					
Memory	yes	yes	no	no (in the works)	
Serializable	no	yes	no	no	
JDBC	no	yes	yes	yes	
OFBiz	no	yes	no	no	
EJB	no	yes	no	no	
XML	proprietary				
Extras					
Diagram of process	no	no	added easily	yes	
Indication of current state/step in diagram	no	no	added easily	yes	
Standard front end		no	web	web/REST	

See also

[Manageability - Open Source Workflow Engines Written in Java](#)