



SOA Forum Survey Finds That Automating SOA Governance Is Critical to Success

Almost 90% of Organizations Surveyed Feel Their Current Approach Is Insufficient; Most Respondents Believe Their Organizations Are at Significant Risk as a Result

CAMBRIDGE, MA October 1, 2007 – According to a new survey from the SOA Forum, organizations frequently implement Web services without performing any type of compliance review, and those that are examined are typically subject to inconsistent or undocumented manual processes rather than more rigorous, automated review.

The survey, conducted online, was sent to all members of the SOA Forum, a global forum of technical professionals from Fortune 500 companies and Government agencies. More than 500 responses were received.

Survey findings include:

- 88 percent of respondents feel their current SOA governance is not sufficient;
- 85 percent of companies depend on manual reviews in design and development stages to try to achieve architectural governance;
- 80 percent of companies feel that their organization is at measurable or large negative risk due to putting services in production that are not effectively governed;
- Significant dissatisfaction was reported when a registry/repository is deployed without policy management and automated enforcement;
- 56 percent report that half of their services are not reviewed for compliance at all before moving into production; and
- By contrast, of those who had automated the governance process, all of them said they are able to check at least 75 percent of their artifacts for compliance, and one third check 100 percent of their code and artifacts for compliance prior to implementation.

"I've read many stories in recent months about the dangers of ungoverned services -- but effective, automated SOA governance can substantially reduce or eliminate that risk," said Vladimir Mitevski, Vice President of Product Management, Core Services, for Thomson Financial and a founding member of the SOA Forum. "I was surprised to hear that so many of my peers in the SOA Forum were still relying on manual methods. It highlights an area that the SOA Forum needs to educate its members on." Thomson Financial has been on the forefront of SOA adoption, in order to accelerate time-to-market for its innovative financial services applications.

Gregg Bjork, CEO of WebLayers, was not surprised that the majority of organizations put services into production with inadequate governance. "Given the repercussions of a critical service failure, and the relative ease of implementing automated governance, it's surprising that more companies aren't taking action," said Bjork. "Certainly among our own customer base we've seen dramatic improvements in service reuse and quality resulting from automated governance practices." The SOA Forum was founded by and is coordinated by WebLayers, Inc.



Executive Summary of survey results available online

To download a free executive summary of the survey findings, titled, "The SOA Forum: 2007 Survey on SOA Governance," visit the SOA Forum website at <http://weblayers.com/theSOAforum/survey.htm>.

About The SOA Forum

The SOA Forum is the world's largest SOA organization for IT executives and today boasts over 1,500 members representing more than 450 organizations. The SOA Forum was founded by and is coordinated by WebLayers, Inc. Formed four years ago, the SOA Forum is an exclusive community of executives from Fortune 500 and Federal Government agencies who are mandated with the challenging mission of driving a Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) within their organizations. For more information please visit <http://www.thesoaforum.org>.