

Publish and Subscribe "Provisioning" Interfaces

Agenda



- Interface Objectives
- Requirements
- Interface Alternatives Pros and Cons
- Design Principles
- Architecture and Connectors
- Connector Design Specifications
- Project Management and Subcontracting
- Conclusions

Interface Objectives



- The goal of this presentation is to:
 - Explain key requirements that go into choosing a an interface technology.
 - Describe the Publish and Subscribe "provisioning" model.
 - Review project management challenges for subcontracting interface connector development.

Background



- 2004 project to upgrade on-line billing facility
- Objective was to provide more self-serve functions less reliance on customer service representatives.
- Interface front end web with package for on-line billing and SAP/Customer Care System
- Needed interface architecture that would tie all systems together and not impede performance

Requirements



- Changes are reflected in all systems that use the data.
- Interfaces are available and reliable.
- Data is updated in a timely manner.
- Changes should be correct on all subscribing systems.
- Publish once with many subscribers.
- Persistent storage of interface data.

Interface Alternatives Pros and Cons



Architectural Approach	Pros and Cons
Java Messaging Service	 Low Level Solution Publish to a message queue Subscribing Agent listens for a particular type of message Writes message via API Not handled Transaction integrity, reliable delivery, rollback and error handled
Enterprise Application Interface	 Separates publisher from subscriber Messages are turned over to the message service Subscriber apps can query publisher DBs Guarantees delivery of the message

Interface Alternatives

Architectural Approach	Pros and Cons
Provisioning	 Step up over EAI Guarantees delivery Provides its own storage and Audit logging Provision driven from event logs Persistent storage In format in connectors is controlled by style sheets
WebServices	Published APISimilar in characteristics to JMS solution
Enterprise Service Bus (ESBs)	Interfacing is done by mapping data



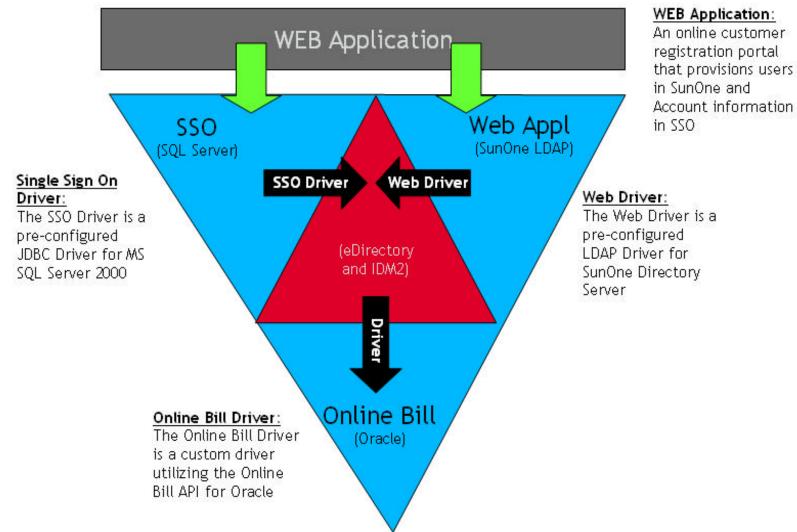
Design Principles



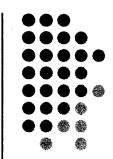
- Separation of Data:
 - Keep identity information in the directory
 - Put Profile information in the Database
 - Keep Application data with the application
- Applications are responsible for collecting data from subscribers
- Applications must be fault tolerant
 - Handle race conditions
 - Connectors are self correcting
- Reconcile provisioning errors

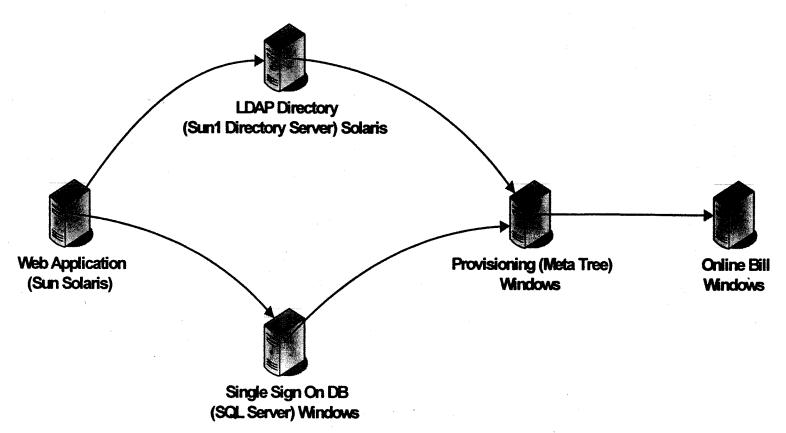
Provisioning Logical Architecture



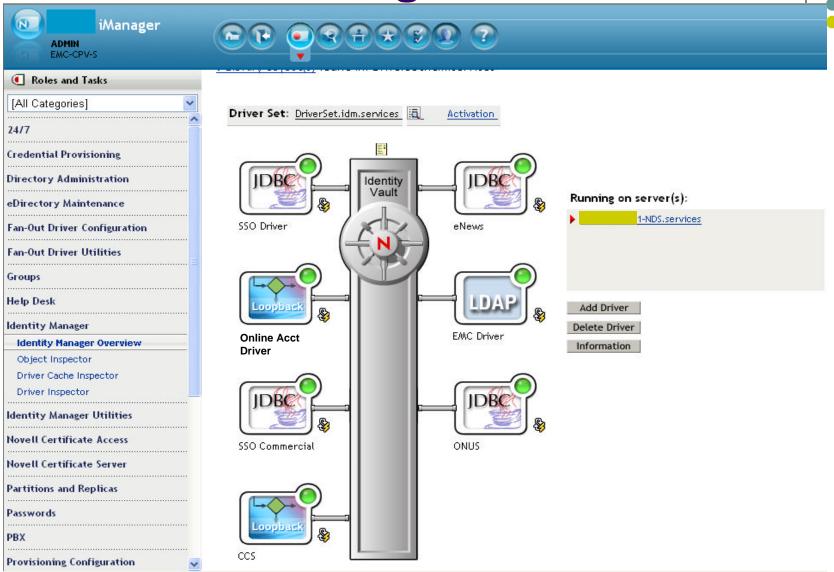


Provisioning Physical Architecture



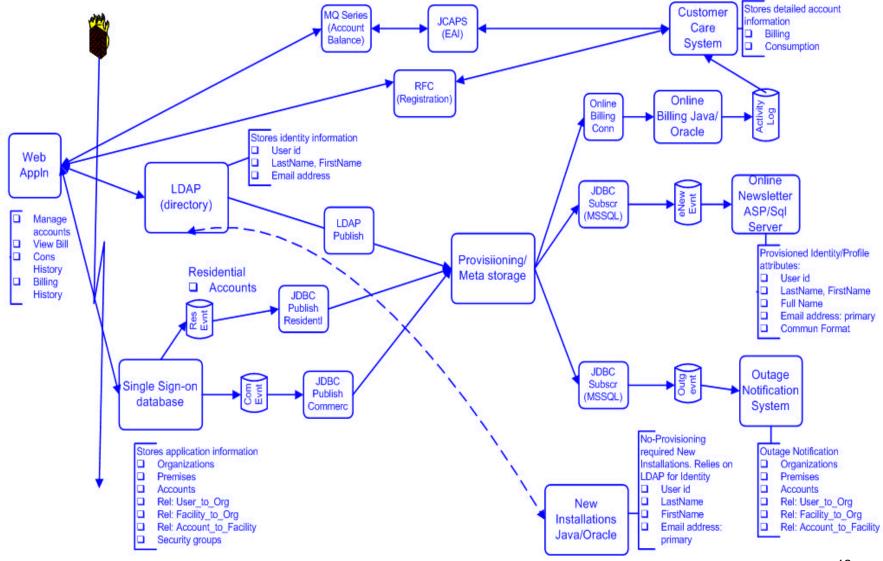


Connector Configuration



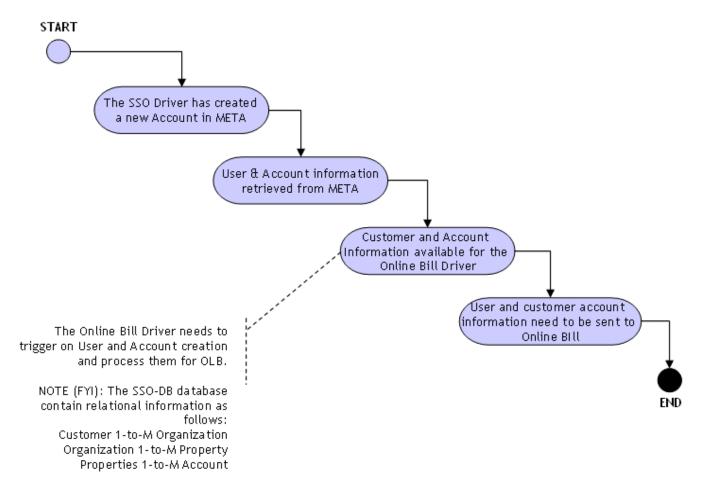
Provisioning Information Flow



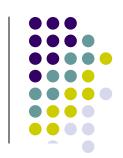


Provisioning Connector Event Definitions: Online Bill





Provisioning Connector Event Specifications



Outage Notification Functionality Matrix – SSO Driver (Organization)

•Reference	•Description	•Direction	•Priority	•Comments
•1.0	•When a new organization is created in SSO, the organization	•Publisher	•High	•The attributes that need to be created (in organizations) are: org-name
	needs to be created in META.			•CN is organization_oid
				•The schema will be extended to accommodate the bch related information in the META tree.
•2.0	•When an organization is modified in SSO, the respective organization information needs to be updated in META.	•Publisher	•High	•The attributes that need to be updated are: org-name, deleted-flag

Provisioning Connector Specification – Data Mapping



Outage Notification Data Mapping – SSO Driver

•SSO Data Elements	•META Data Elements	•Comments
•dirxml_org_view •organization_oid •name_tx •deleted_fl •dirxml_fac_view •facility_oid •name_tx •deleted_fl •dirxml_acct_view •account_oid •account_oid •account_number_tx •deleted_fl •closed_fl •ccs_installation_id_tx (SLID) •ccs_account_type_cd	•organization •CN •org-name •deleted-flag •facilities •CN •fac-name •deleted-flag •sso-account •account-oid •CN •deleted-flag •closed-account-flag •acct-slid •ccs-account-type-cd	•Note that dirxml_org_view, dirxml_fac_view, and dirxml_acct_view are physical views in the SSO database and emc- organization, emc- facilities, and sso- account are schema extensions in META that extends the Group class in order to accommodate membership.





Add Account

Add Organization

Add Facility

Add Relationship (Group)

User to Organization

Facility to Organization

Account to Facility

Delete Account

Delete Organization

Delete Facility

Delete Relationship (Group)

Modify Account

Modify Organization

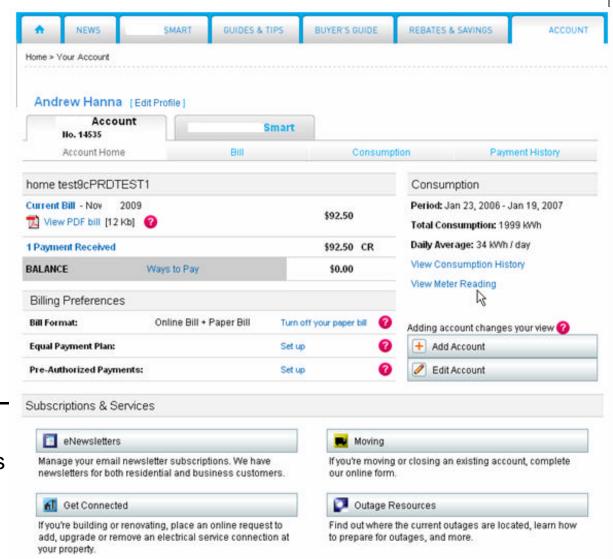
Modify Facility

Modify Relationship (Group)

Application Design Considerations



Profile & Account



Applications

Design Features and Challenges

- Separation of front end and back end systems
- Synchronization of Meta interface storage



- Application Registration collects application data
- Application Software handles race conditions
- Reconciliation of provisioning errors







- Terms of Engagement
- Proof of concept
- All support staff pre-booked
- Designated Project Room (Control Centre)
- Knowledge Transfer: Consultants were shadowed
- Acceptance and Support
- Contractor feedback

Conclusions



- Invest the time to understand the interface
- Engage most respected designers in decision.
- Engage vendors on proof of concept.
- Publish and subscribe model most suited for high volume
- Keeping Identity, Common and Application data separate is key to scaleability
- Minimizes dependencies across interface architecture
- Provisioning errors will occur so do reconciliations