

Oracle ADF Essentials Overview and Frequently Asked Questions

Oracle ADF Essentials - Overview

Oracle Application Development Framework (Oracle ADF) is a Java EE based development framework that simplifies and accelerates building enterprise applications.

Oracle ADF Essentials is a free packaging of key technologies from the Oracle Application Development Framework that can be used to develop and deploy applications without licensing costs.

Oracle ADF Essentials includes the following technologies:

- Oracle ADF Faces Rich Client Components – a set of over 150 JSF components that simplify the creation of rich Web user interfaces. Also included are the ADF Data Visualization Tools.
- Oracle ADF Controller – an extension of the JSF controller with a focus on building complete reusable process flows and the ability to create dynamic regions with changing content in Web pages.
- Oracle ADF Binding – a layer that provides a simplified way to connect user interfaces to business services through meta-data abstraction layer.
- Oracle ADF Business Components – a layer that simplifies developing business services against relational databases by providing declaratively-configured, reusable components that implement common design patterns.

Both of the free Oracle integrated development environments – Oracle JDeveloper and Oracle Enterprise Pack for Eclipse – provide specific features that simplify development with Oracle ADF through visual and declarative development experience.

Oracle ADF Essentials is provided with specific instruction and certification for deploying applications built with it on the

open-source Glassfish server. The ADF Essentials license doesn't restrict deployment to a specific server.

Customer Benefits

Oracle ADF provides a complete Model-View-Controller framework for developing enterprise applications.

The solutions provided by the various layers of Oracle ADF reduce the amount of code developers need to write, which result in faster development cycles and an easier learning curve.

Oracle ADF Essentials offers advanced innovative functionality allowing developers to build applications with richer functionality.

Some of the key capabilities of Oracle ADF Essentials include:

- Ajax and HTML5 enabled UI components
- Reusable task-oriented controller layer
- Declarative binding of UI to business services
- Declarative relational database access layer

With the ability to deploy applications that are based on Oracle ADF Essentials to various servers, without paying a license fee, more developers can leverage the powerful Oracle Application Development Framework to speed up the creation of cutting edge applications.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is Oracle offering Oracle ADF Essentials for Free?

Oracle ADF Essentials is aimed at removing licensing barriers for adoption of the Oracle ADF technologies. With the ability to leverage the Oracle ADF functionality for production applications without incurring a license fee as well as the ability to deploy to open-source servers, more developers can adopt Oracle ADF as the base for their applications. Oracle believes that increased use of Oracle ADF can also help the adoption and usage of Java in enterprise applications.

Does this impact Oracle's commitment to Oracle ADF?

Offering the free Oracle ADF Essentials is not impacting Oracle's commitment to Oracle ADF. Oracle ADF is the strategic application development framework for Oracle. It's the base for Oracle Fusion Applications and many other line-of-business applications inside Oracle including Oracle Enterprise Manager, Oracle SOA Suite, Oracle WebCenter and others. In addition thousands of Oracle customers have been developing their applications leveraging Oracle ADF. Offering the free Oracle ADF Essentials reinforces Oracle's commitment to Oracle ADF's adoption.

What is included in Oracle ADF Essentials?

Oracle ADF Essentials includes the following Oracle ADF components: Oracle ADF Faces Rich Client Components, Oracle ADF Controller, Oracle ADF Model and Oracle ADF Business Components.

The following functionality is not included in Oracle ADF Essentials, and requires the full Oracle ADF version – Oracle ADF Mobile, Oracle ADF Desktop Integration, Oracle ADF Security, The Oracle ADF Web service data control, Oracle ADF remote taskflows, Oracle ADF Business Component's Service Interfaces, Oracle ADF Data Controls for BI, Essbase and BAM, Integration with Oracle Fusion Middleware features such as MDS, OPSS, OWSM, Enterprise Manager and MBeans, High Availability and Clustering.

Which Servers can I deploy Oracle ADF Essentials on?

Deploying Oracle ADF Essentials applications is supported on Oracle WebLogic and GlassFish.

However, from a licensing perspective there are no limitations on deploying on other Java EE server.

How can I secure applications built with Oracle ADF Essentials?

While Oracle ADF Essentials doesn't include the ADF security framework, you can still build secure applications using regular Java EE security or other security frameworks for Java.

To leverage the granular security offered by the ADF Security layer, you'll need to have a license that covers deployment of full Oracle ADF applications.

How can I access Web services from Oracle ADF Essentials?

While Oracle ADF Essentials doesn't include the declarative Web Service Data Control, you can still use the Java Bean data control to access Web services – simply create a proxy client Java class that accesses and interacts with your Web service and then expose that class as an ADF data control.

Can I get support for Oracle ADF Essentials?

You can get community support for Oracle ADF Essentials through the Oracle ADF discussion forum on OTN - <https://forums.oracle.com/forums/forum.jspx?forumID=83>.

Official support for Oracle ADF Essentials can be purchased from Oracle Support for a nominal price per-server.

Is Oracle ADF Essentials Open Source?

Neither Oracle ADF Essentials nor Oracle ADF are open-sourced. However, customers with support contract for Oracle ADF can request a copy of the Oracle ADF Source code through Oracle Support.

Is there a separate version of Oracle JDeveloper specifically for Oracle ADF Essentials?

No. The same version of JDeveloper is used to build both Oracle ADF Essentials applications as well as applications that leverage the full Oracle ADF.



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