Oracle Fusion Middleware Statement of Direction

Guidance on product plans for the Oracle Fusion Middleware product family.

Disclaimer

The following is intended to outline our general product direction. It is intended for informational purposes only and may not be incorporated into any contract. It is not a commitment to deliver any material, code, or functionality, and should not be relied upon in making purchasing decisions. The development, release, and timing of any features or functionality described for Oracle's products remains at the sole discretion of Oracle.

Fusion Middleware Directions

Oracle Fusion Middleware is Oracle's digital business platform for the enterprise. It enables businesses to efficiently create and run agile, intelligent applications in client-server, web and cloud environments. Oracle's strategy for Fusion Middleware is to continue to modernize the current platform and provide bridging technologies to cloud native application development and deployment. In future releases, Oracle Fusion Middleware will offer customers advanced features that enables streamlined migration to cloud infrastructure and provides excellent services to run Fusion Middleware-based applications.

That means Fusion Middleware customers can continue to enjoy superior application performance, reliability, and security today with a clear path to next-generation cloud technologies when ready to make that move. Fusion Middleware customers can migrate to the cloud at their own pace while continuing to receive support for their existing license software for many years to come. Oracle plans no forced upgrades or migrations.

Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 Product Plans

WebLogic Server and Coherence 14.1.1, which began shipping in March 2020, are the first product releases in the Oracle Fusion Middleware 14.1 product line. They include Java EE 8 and Jakarta EE 8 compatibility, simplified integration with microservices, support for a new open source WebLogic Remote Console, enhancements to Kubernetes tooling and support, Oracle Java SE 8 and 11 certification, GraalVM EE certification, and improvements to Oracle Database integration.

Oracle Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 is planned for delivery in Calendar Year 2024 and will be built on updated versions of WebLogic Server and Coherence 14.1.2. WebLogic Server and Coherence 14.1.2 will include features and enhancements in areas such as:

- Support for the latest Java technologies – Java SE 17 and 21, Jakarta EE 8

- Built-in WebLogic Server and Coherence support for Virtual Threads for environments based on Java SE 21

- Updates to the latest Oracle JDBC driver versions, for optimized integration with Oracle Database and Oracle Database Cloud Services

- Enhanced integration with Helidon-based microservices, leveraging virtual threads support in Helidon 4.0 and updated MicroProfile support

- New features for Oracle Coherence, derived from innovations already delivered in Coherence Community Edition

- Updated load balancer support for performance, dynamic scaling and high availability

- Security and compliance enhancements to address modern security and regulatory requirements

- Improved integration with Oracle Cloud Infrastructure services

- Cloud native application development and deployment, including alignment with Cloud Native Computing Foundation (CNCF) recommended technologies

- Interoperability in hybrid cloud and multi-cloud environments

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The first Middleware products planned for inclusion at the initial 14.1.2 General Availability are:

- WebLogic Server, Coherence and Oracle HTTP Server

- JDeveloper and ADF

- SOA Suite and BPM Suite

- WebCenter Portal, WebCenter Content, and WebCenter Sites

- Forms and Reports

- Oracle Data Integrator and Enterprise Data Quality

The Oracle Enterprise Identity Services Suite, comprising of Oracle Identity Manager, Oracle Access Manager, Oracle Universal Directory, Oracle Internet Directory, and Connectors, is scheduled to release version 14.1.2.1 based on FMW 14.1.2. The target general availability date is set for the first half of the calendar year 2025. Following this release, the suite intends to regularly introduce new features through subsequent updates. Furthermore, the roadmap entails extending support to Oracle Enterprise Single Sign-On Suite on FMW 14.1.2

Oracle is committed to deliver support for Kubernetes for its Fusion Middleware family of products. Currently the following products are supported on Kubernetes:

- Oracle WebLogic Server

- Oracle Coherence

- Oracle Access Management

- Oracle Identity Governance

- Oracle SOA Suite

- Oracle Unified Directory

- Oracle Unified Directory Services Manager

- Oracle WebCenter Sites

- Oracle WebCenter Content

- Oracle WebCenter Portal

Looking ahead, Oracle intends to continue to support the above products along with the Oracle WebCenter Portal as well as Oracle WebCenter Content on Kubernetes in the Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 release.

Support for Prior Versions and Upgrade to Fusion Middleware 14.1.2

Oracle has designed its Fusion Middleware product releases to provide upgrade paths for its existing customers to the latest releases. We also offer tools, training and expertise to make those upgrades as smooth as possible. Fusion Middleware customers on older releases should take the following guidance into consideration.

- Extended Support for Fusion Middleware 11g and 12.1.3 has ended. We offer Market Driven Support for Fusion Middleware 11g. Customers using these Fusion Middleware versions are encouraged to upgrade to Oracle Fusion Middleware 12.2.1.4* (or the latest version available) as soon as possible for on-premises applications, or to move to similar Oracle Cloud Services. For customers of WebLogic Server and Coherence, upgrading to WebLogic Server and Coherence 14.1.1 is also an option.

    *Refer to the Lifetime Support Policy guide for details of the latest version of components of Fusion Middleware technologies. Oracle recommends that the newest version be used always.

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- Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 is a major release for the suite. Oracle intends that customers will be able to upgrade to 14.1.2 when it is released and have the standard five (5) years of Premier Support and three (3) years of Extended Support.

- The dates for Premier and Extended Support for Fusion Middleware 12.2.1.4 are published in Oracle Fusion Middleware Lifetime Support Policy (https://www.oracle.com/us/assets/lifetime-support-middleware-069163.pdf).

- Oracle intends to designate Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 as a Long Term Support release as it is defined in Oracle Fusion Middleware Error Correction Policy (Doc ID: 209768.1).

- Oracle intends to release Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 in Calendar Year 2024.

WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1

Oracle plans continued enhancements to the Fusion Middleware product line following the release of Fusion Middleware 14.1.2. In particular, Oracle plans to deliver a new major release of WebLogic Server and Coherence, WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1, in CY2025.

WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1 are intended to provide enhancements and support in areas such as:

- *Java certification*: Continued support for Java 17, Java 21, and Java 21 virtual threads.

- *Jakarta EE 10*: WebLogic Server 15.1.1 will implement and support Jakarta EE 10, the most current version of Jakarta EE Platform and Jakarta EE API specifications. Coherence 15.1.1 will be updated to enable seamless integration with WebLogic Server and its use of Jakarta EE 10 APIs.

- *Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Integration*: WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1 will offer built-in integration with Oracle Cloud Infrastructure services. We are committed to delivering features that simplify the migration of on-premises environments to Oracle Cloud. Moreover, our focus will be on delivering functionality that simplifies the lifecycle management of WebLogic Server and Coherence environments within Oracle Cloud.

- *Upgrade*: WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1 will support tooling for upgrade of applications from prior versions for WebLogic Server and Coherence.

- *3rd-party frameworks*: WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1 will enable use of 3rd-party Java frameworks that use "jakarta" package names, as defined in Jakarta EE 10, in WebLogic Server and Coherence applications.

- *Security*: WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1 will provide security updates that simplify securing WebLogic Server and Coherence applications, and that conform to updates in security standards.

- *Containers and Kubernetes*: WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1 will deliver improved support for cloud native deployments, in addition to continued support for deployment on physical machines and VMs.

Oracle intends to deliver releases of additional Oracle Fusion Middleware products implemented on WebLogic Server and Coherence 15.1.1. The scope and timing of these releases will be communicated in a future update to this document.

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Conclusion

Oracle continues to be a leader in middleware software. We are committed to guide our customers through multiple major industry technology shifts while preserving their investments. With Oracle Fusion Middleware 14.1.2 we intend to continue to provide a path to a modern digital business platform on-premises and in the cloud.

For more information about Oracle Fusion Middleware, go to www.oracle.com/middleware or contact your Oracle sales representative.

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