

ZAPTHINK ZAPNOTE™

CHOREOLOGY

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Choreology

URL: www.choreology.com	Headquarters : London, UK
Founded: 2001	Funding: Privately-held, Venture-backed (Atlas Ventures)

Product Summary

Focusing on management of business transactions that span and coordinate multiple applications either inside or outside the firewall, Choreology's Cohesions 1.0 product provides a solution for guaranteeing "synchronization" of business process state between independently running business processes on a network. Cohesions is an implementation of OASIS Business Transaction Protocol (BTP) that allows organizations to present services as participants in a coordinated set of operations.

Cohesions allows businesses to design, implement, and manage complex business transactions across disparate networks and application architectures. The system works by providing a framework in which companies can define rules around process state. Cohesions introduces two types of rules: a "spear" operation that executes an unconditional operation, and a "trident" operation that executes a conditional process based on a given state assertion. In any particular transaction, one party or the other is indicated as the master of the transaction, which decides whether a given operation succeeds or fails. The result of the operation could be a binding commitment (which means that each process agrees to perform some operation which they are legally bound to). This binding commitment then might result in Mutually Assured Common Knowledge (MACK) which serves as an agreement about the state of a process at a given point and serves as a record of the binding commitment.

While currently supporting only the OASIS BTP specification, future versions of Cohesions will support the WS-Coordination and WS-Transaction specifications.

Key Differentiators

- Focused on management of business transactions that span organizational and process boundaries, while guaranteeing Web Services transactions and consistency
- Proponent of Business Transaction Protocol (BTP) standard
- Implements WS-Coordination and WS-Transaction specification

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ZapThink Take

Choreology is focused squarely on the problem of reliable transactions and guaranteeing consistent state between independently running processes. For companies looking to extend their private, internally-focused business processes to involve third party organizations or other departments in a large, distributed company, Choreology's Cohesions product makes a compelling solution that's unique in its support for BTP as well as WS-Coordination and WS-Transaction. Choreology is also led by a team of world-class experts who have had years of experience in building distributed transaction systems, and as such, companies can benefit from the company's experience thereby reducing their risk. The only caveat is that Choreology's products are very new to market; in fact, their first product, Cohesions, has yet to reach full distribution. Therefore, companies should first carefully evaluate the solution to see if it meets their specific needs for reliable process interaction.

Related Research

- *Service-Oriented Process Report (ZTR-WS108)*

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About ZapThink, LLC

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ZapThink's role is to help companies understand these IT products and services in the context of SOAs and the vision of Service Orientation. ZapThink provides market intelligence to IT vendors who offer XML and Web Services-based products to help them understand their competitive landscape and how to communicate their value proposition to their customers within the context of Service Orientation, and lay out their product roadmaps for the coming wave of Service Orientation. ZapThink also provides implementation intelligence to IT users who are seeking guidance and clarity into how to assemble the available products and services into a coherent roadmap to Service Orientation. Finally, ZapThink provides demand intelligence to IT vendors and service providers who must understand the needs of IT users as they follow the roadmap to Service Orientation.

ZapThink's senior analysts are widely regarded as the "go to analysts" for XML, Web Services, and SOAs by vendors, end-users, and the press. They are in great demand as speakers, and have presented at conferences and industry events around the world. They are among the most quoted industry analysts in the IT industry.

ZapThink was founded in October 2000 and is headquartered in Waltham, Massachusetts. Its customers include Global 1000 firms, public sector organizations around the world, and many emerging businesses. ZapThink Analysts have years of experience in IT as well as research and analysis. Its analysts have previously been with such firms as IDC and ChannelWave, and have sat on the working group committees for standards bodies such as RosettaNet, UDDI, CPExchange, ebXML, EIDX, and CompTIA.

Call, email, or visit the ZapThink Web site to learn more about how ZapThink can help you to better understand how XML and Web Services impact your business or organization.

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