

## ZAPTHINK ZAPNOTE™

### OAK GROVE SYSTEMS

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## Oak Grove Systems

URL: <a href="http://www.oakgrovesystems.com">www.oakgrovesystems.com</a>	Headquarters: Calabasas, CA
Founded: 1998	Funding: Privately-held

### Product Summary

A commercialization of a NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory technology, Oak Grove Systems provides an embeddable process engine to enable workflow, business process management and Web Services orchestration. The company's main product is the Reactor 5 Server, a business process execution engine that provides a powerful, event-driven process model for handling simple or complex process flows. Programmed actions can be attached to any process event through the product's scripting language. The system provides fine-grained access control over every process object, but facilitates composition of processes into coarse-grained Services.

The Reactor Studio product provides a visual environment to model business processes, which can be outputted in a variety of XML formats that can be consumed and executed by the Reactor Engine. Processes can be human-based (workflow) or automated. The product supports Bean Scripting Framework (BSF) to write event-driven actions in any BSF-supported language. Finally, the Reactor Portal Framework provides a toolkit that makes it easy for users to develop applications that interact with the engine. This includes both process flow definitions and management as well as work lists for workflow activities.

The product is available at a cost of \$10,000 per CPU, but is targeted mainly at providing a workflow and business process management solution for ISVs, software systems integrators, consultants and service providers. At that price point, enterprises can get an unlimited number of user seats, the ability to pay-on-demand for capabilities, and full support for one year.

### Key Differentiators

- Targeting the OEM and ISV market, especially those that focus on the mid-market
- Low price point
- Supports Bean Scripting Framework (BSF) as the way to handle events within Java.

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## ZapThink Take

Oak Grove Systems has a very compelling model for enabling enterprise applications of all types that can embed Service-Oriented Process capabilities within their offerings. As an increasing number of independent software vendors (ISVs) and Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) realize that building products from a Service-oriented perspective enables enterprises to realize greater benefit from application functionality, they will need to embed orchestration and choreography features within their applications, or at least capabilities to string together Web Services in a coherent flow.

Oak Grove Systems not only has a credible offering for Service-Oriented Process, but also a business model that can support the increasing needs of ISVs who are interested in adding SOP functionality to their product line. What remains to be seen, however, is whether or not these ISVs and OEMs will expect process capabilities from the underlying platforms they will reside on. The problem with this approach, however, is that there can be no guarantee of accurate process design and execution, and so it will be in the best interests of ISVs to embed the functionality into their systems.

## Related Research

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

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## About ZapThink, LLC

ZapThink is an IT market intelligence firm that provides trusted advice and critical insight into XML, Web Services, and Service Orientation. We provide our target audience of IT vendors, service providers and end-users a clear roadmap for standards-based, loosely coupled distributed computing – a vision of IT meeting the needs of the agile business.

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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