



Excerpts from:

The Role of Open Source in Event Processing

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Event Processing (EP), like other program development concepts, is an enabler of BPM, transaction processing (TP), eCommerce and other applications of technology but it is not needed to make them useful in an IT shop. In addition, as data sources, events are different than indexed and relational data in meaning and in scale. In particular, for EP to be useful, begin with petabytes of data and move up from there.

Conventional wisdom says the OSS culture and development model cannot add much to such a complex computer science concept as EP. But the OSS community says different.

As with many open source activities, there is a strong European flavour with Paremus and Seewhy based in the UK, ruleCore based in Sweden and Senactive in Austria. On the other hand, you cannot get more American-based than EsperTech of Wayne, NJ, USA.

Paremus Newton: Also like well known OSS efforts, Paremus has sponsored a community edition of its EP called The [Newton](#) Project. It is a GPL release of a subset of Paremus' commercial [Infiniflow](#) Service Fabric product. Newton is hosted by codeCauldron. Established in May 2006, the codeCauldron community concentrates on complex adaptive systems. Newton is a distributed component framework in which the components can be simple Plain Old Java Objects (POJOs) or wrappers around components based on other models. Newton follows the emerging Service Component Architecture ([SCA](#)) standard.

Conclusion

In general, EP OSS appears to be the IT area in which OSS will deliver the kind of heavy-duty transaction processing that commercial products such as IBM's CICS and AT&T/Novell/BEA/Oracle Tuxedo have delivered for decades. EP is the missing link in OSS middleware, which has already provided alternatives to commercial application and web servers, message oriented middleware and integration servers. Just as with IBM providing an OSS application server and sujn providing OSS web server software and integration servers, I expect the leading suppliers to quickly legitimize the OSS EP market as well.

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