SoftDate and SOA

The mainframe is often at the centre of an organization's Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) strategy, which can include the consolidation of servers running as enterprise systems onto a single z/OS-based platform. The z/OS-based applications are generally core to the organization's business and enabling them for SOA is frequently a high priority. SOA is ideal for Enterprise Application Integration (EAI) and for communication between business applications and the World-Wide-Web. An SOA can be the foundation for making distributed systems more accessible, flexible, and more responsive to users and to enable cost effective solutions.

SOA allows interacting software agents to seamlessly communicate using small sets of simple, generic interfaces and IBM's highly strategic commitment to Java 2 Enterprise Edition (J2EE) is of prime importance. IBM wants mainframes to be J2EE application servers and their 64-bit architecture is becoming more important at every system upgrade. This is one reason why Softdate is highly strategic to organisations, which are developing and consolidating their business apps because Softdate is unique in providing date and time simulation under SOA.

In short, what does SOA do for a mainframe shop?

- Supports modularisation of existing legacy applications so that they can be broken into discrete components that can be shared and reused
- Supports "run anywhere" design such as enabling mainframe programs to run on any system image (LPAR) and, if CICS or IMS, in any region
- Supports and blends modern architecture, systems software and programming languages
- Supports Web Services as a standard means of interoperability between different software applications, running on a variety of frameworks and platforms
- Business components as discrete software modules can be combined in a loosely coupled way to achieve complex operations. Programs providing simple services can interact with each other to deliver sophisticated added-value services
- "Liberates" business data so it becomes much more effective in changing markets, allowing customers Big Date access under the strictest IT security, increasing business performance and adaptability

How does Softdate support SOA?

SoftDate supports SOA with a number of distinct and unique capabilities:

1. SoftDate's extreme granularity of control gives the greatest possible flexibility in specifying exactly which workloads and transactions require date simulation. SoftDate allows specification of virtual clocks at the job, job step, program, user and transaction level or any combination of

these.

2. **SoftDate's unique:**

- Java language and WebSphere Application Server support allows management of discrete Java apps and those Java components being integrated with batch, CICS, IMS and WebSphere Application Server for z/OS. No matter what language combinations you have under z/OS SOA SoftDate can manage every component.

- CICS MRO (Multi Region Operations) and IMS support allows date simulation to work seamlessly across any number of regions in a CICSplex or IMSplex, spanning multiple LPARs as and when required. You are free to let the z/OS workload manager assign transactions to any regions based on its own selection criteria, and SoftDate simulation will work the same across all regions without any extra work on your part.

- Sysplex-enablement features make it easy to automatically propagate date and time rules across connected systems within a Parallel Sysplex with no manual intervention required.

- DB2 Stored Procedure support encourages embodying business logic in stored procedures that can be invoked from anywhere. Only SoftDate is able to correctly and consistently propagate date rules to called or triggered stored procedures to any nesting depth, enabling accurate date testing or global time zone simulation with Stored Procedure middleware on any z/OS image.

- "Dynamic intercept" technology removes the need for permanent hard-coded system "hooks". There is no need for specially modified versions of key system routines to be held in separate libraries, with the attendant operational problems such as the need to modify JCL, the binding to particular system images, and the risks of instability whenever maintenance is applied to any of these routines.

- Full support for 64-bit application and systems code for the very latest levels of all major systems software such as CICS, IMS, DB2, WebSphere Server for z/OS, the Java programming language and DB2 Stored Procedures. With SoftDate you know your new architecture is working now and will do so in the future.

Only SoftDate fully supports modern SOA-oriented system architectures. Every time an SOA component is deployed using SoftDate you know it will run in the future

To deploy SoftDate v4.3 please call your local representative or go here and send an email: <http://dateandtimesimulationsoftware.com/contact/>