Workday Business Process Framework

The Business Process Framework (BPF) is a powerful and easy-to-use set of tools built with customers in mind. It enables customers to configure and subsequently maintain core process flows within the Workday product lines to connect people, applications, and services. At the heart of Workday applications, the BPF is where all transaction-related changes to data—also known as "events"—originate.

The BPF is more than a process-definition configuration tool. It comes with a robust runtime engine that evaluates process definitions, roles, steps, and condition rules to determine routing logic for each event. In this way, the BPF ensures that all business-related events get to the right resources at the right time, while providing a comprehensive audit trail of all changes made during the life of the event.

Business processes define Workday functionality. Process flows that would need to be coded in other vendors are instead accomplished via configuration in Workday business process definitions. What’s more, you can make these changes without IT or consulting resources, so you don’t have to deal with the delays and costs that are typical of process changes. Configurable conditional logic makes it easy to scale processes globally and provides the flexibility to create separate flows that support local requirements.

The BPF: Not a Bolt-On

The BPF is unique: while other vendors have built workflow solutions as an afterthought to bolt on to existing applications and data stores, Workday purposefully built the BPF into its core technology foundation from the beginning. Because of this unique design decision, the BPF works seamlessly with other native frameworks in Workday, such as security and organizational hierarchy, to ensure that events are routed to the right set of users and evaluated in real time.

Built to Support Business Agility

In business, change is constant—from mergers and acquisitions, to new technology innovations and compliance with government regulations. With Workday, you can adapt to change and embrace it—since most process-related changes can be performed by business users without additional IT support. So you can easily change your organizational structure or iterate on different versions of a process flow until it reaches its fullest potential. The BPF supports your pursuit of operational efficiency without disrupting your business.
Many organizations want the ability to create a cross-product business process that doesn’t require an additional integration investment or a supplementary license to a third-party integration platform. With Workday, all application data is within the same system, making it easy to build processes that span HR, finance, and payroll. In fact, Workday provides you with more than 550 preconfigured business processes for you to adapt, copy, and extend. And if you do need to extend to a third-party system, the BPF enables you to embed integrations within the process flow definition. You can configure this step using Workday-delivered integration cloud tools to support the transfer of data from Workday to external vendor systems.

Auditing: It’s in the Bag
The “always on” auditing capabilities in Workday mean that 100 percent of all business process changes and executions are captured historically from end to end. With that level of detail, you no longer need to manually store business processes to support future audit requests. Auditors have access to all changes, including who made them as well as before and after values. This level of transparency is native to Workday and not universally available in other vendor workflow solutions.

Process Visibility and Monitoring
Workday has several configuration options that allow different degrees of visibility depending on the type of process as well as your role, business function, level in the hierarchy, and other factors. You can choose to give your end users access to process history, or keep that information in the hands of your administrators.

In addition, Workday provides prebuilt dashboards to help you visually monitor, optimize, and act on all business processes to ensure they align with performance objectives. Visualizing business process data this way allows you to continually improve your processes and increase efficiency.

Automated Approvals—and Then Some
The Workday Business Process Framework enables your organization to extend process flows to invoke inbound and outbound integrations, reports, internal and external services, document reviews, and more. By tailoring a configuration to the unique needs of your business, the BPF allows you to omit extraneous steps, automate manual processes, and monitor your critical processes from end to end.

About Workday
Workday is a leading provider of enterprise cloud applications for finance and human resources. Founded in 2005, Workday delivers financial management, human capital management, and analytics applications designed for the world’s largest companies, educational institutions, and government agencies. Organizations ranging from medium-size businesses to Fortune 50 enterprises have selected Workday.