

VSP Global / Steve Bidondo

Technology, Infrastructure, Security, and the Cloud

Agenda

- VSP and SOA
- WebSphere Application Footprint
- WebSphere Architectures (Security and Technology)
- The Cloud

VSP Global

- VSP Global is composed of a complementary group of leading companies, all working together to meet and exceed the needs of eyecare professionals, clients, and our 56 million members.
 - **VSP® Vision Care**, the largest not-for-profit vision benefits and services company in the United States;
 - **Marchon®** and **Altair®**, cutting-edge manufacturers, designers, and distributors of quality fashion and technologically advanced sunwear and eyewear;
 - **Eye Designs**, a leader in the design of custom interiors and merchandising systems for the optical industry;
 - **Eyefinity®**, offering innovative e-commerce and practice management solutions, and electronic medical records software;
 - **VSP Optics Group**, offering ophthalmic products and providing technically advanced lab services. VSP Global, combining the strength and expertise of each of these companies, provides benefits, services, products, and solutions that are unparalleled in the industry.

VSP and SOA

- Catalog of over 120 SOA Services
 - Strong Service Governance
 - Rigid Service Interface Rules
 - Development Cost and Reuse Savings Identified for All Services
- Service Catalog
 - Initiated with Wiki; moving to WSRR
 - Service Interface, Service Consumer, and Versioning Documentation

WebSphere Architecture

- The “Gold Standard”
 - Production architectures are typically modeled after IBM recommended standards.
 - Scalability and HA are always a concern.
 - Constantly evaluating architecture based on consumption patterns and usage.
 - Availability demands are becoming more prevalent

WebSphere Stack

- WebSphere 6.1 and 7 (Windows and AIX) – Moving to WAS 8
- DB2 z/OS and AIX
- CICS via ECI
- Directory Services (LDAP and AD)
- MQ Series (MQ 6 and 7)
- ILOG JRules
- VOIP Integration
- Centralized Logging
- Wily Introscope 8
- F5 BIGIP LTM

Where are we going?

- DataPower!
 - iSOA Group engagement and business case led to DP purchase
 - 7 key use cases provided sufficient justification (esp. Security)
- WebSphere 8
 - Migration
- WSRR Integration
 - Service Catalog
 - Datapower Integration
 - Implementation of SLM/SLA's
- F5's / Application Firewalls and Proxies

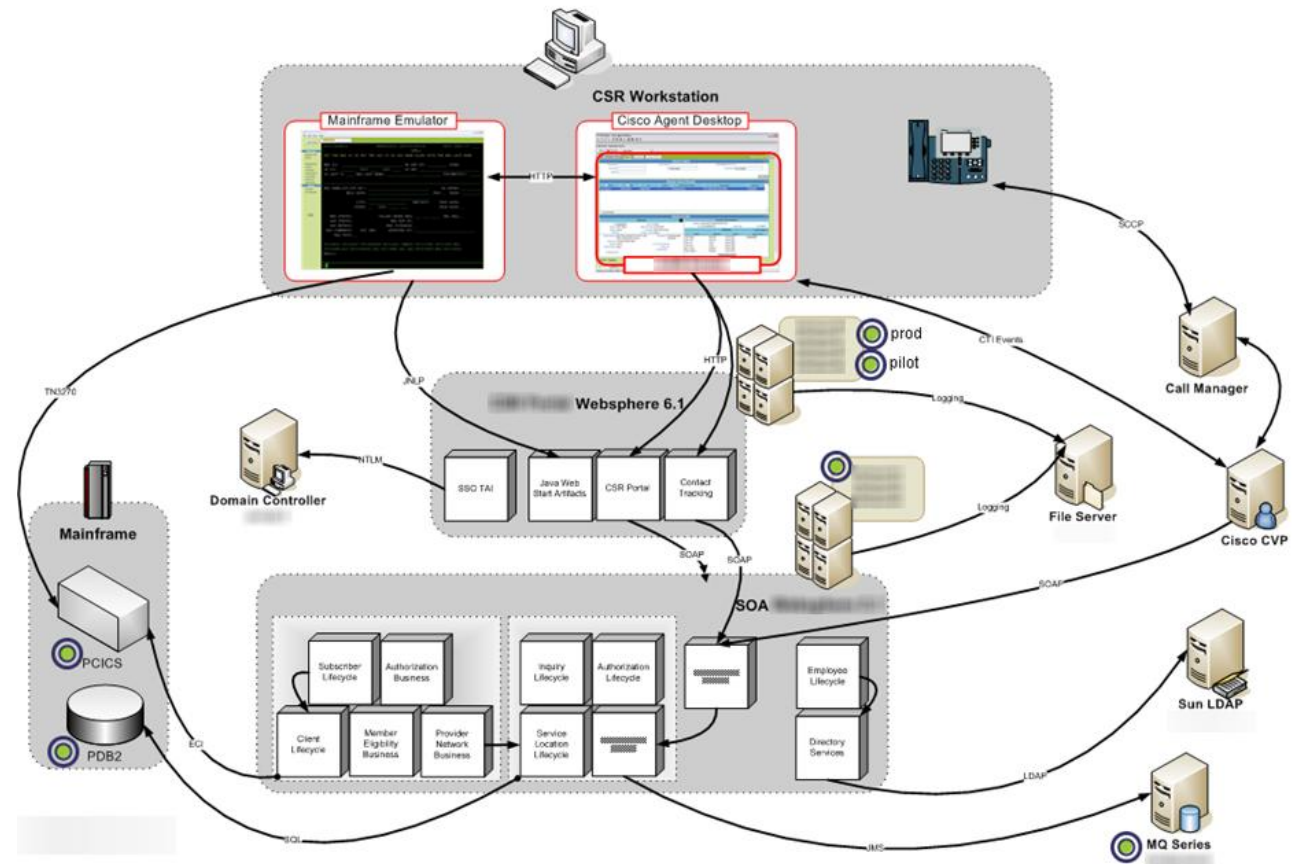
DataPower Roles

- Security
 - Drop it in, no code changes
 - Secure Gateway for Web Services
 - SSL Termination and SAML
- Performance and Scalability
 - Purpose Built Appliance / wire speed
 - Consume less cpu cycles on WAS ND servers and other platforms
- Improve Service Levels
 - Enforces SLA's
 - Can help with platform overload
- Integration
 - Quick Integration to non-IBM Systems

Security

- Security is always a huge concern for VSP
 - PHI and PII
- DataPower provides key functions here
 - WS-Security
 - Authentication and Authorization
 - SSL Offloading
 - SAML Integration
- Current Security Model
 - Not So Agile and Performant / But Strong and Functional
 - Software-Based Proxy Model / Firewalls
 - Authentication and Authorization

Moving to the Cloud



Cloud Challenges

- Challenges for VSP Global
 - Mainframe-centric processing for many systems
 - CICS, DB2, MQ, LDAP, etc...
 - Security is a major concern
 - Pushing PHI to the cloud is tough to swallow; something we are not considering
 - Cloud vendors are convincing about security; but monetary/contractual guarantees don't outweigh an actual leak/incident.
 - Internally-dependent systems not exposed to the outside (not currently dependent on an ISP or bandwidth constraints)
 - Licensing model needs some thought
 - BYOL (Bring Your Own License) or not?

Cloud Approach

- What makes sense for VSP Global?
 - Start Small
 - Forklift approach is not easily achievable.
 - Hybrid approach provides more success.
 - Taking advantage of existing services
 - Providing reuse of SOA Catalog (> 100 services)
 - Put up a secure interface to business functions needed from the outside.
 - DataPower plays huge role here
 - Putting user interface in the cloud
 - Reduces latency to the end-user/consumer
 - Core business functions stay internal (PHI always internal)
- Putting into practice: (next slide)

Commerce

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- FENDI
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- LACOSTE
- Marchon
- Michael Kors
- Nautica
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- [System Requirements](#)

Commerce Architecture

- More than one cloud
 - Azure and Amazon EC2
 - Keep browser intensive functions close to consumer
- Uses services through secure proxies
 - Critical business functions accessed through services (no PHI in cloud)
- Lessons Learned?
 - Know your customers and where you are hosted
 - Monitoring tools are generally weak
 - Test plan and expected results are critical

Cloud Final Thoughts

- We are only in the beginning stages
- We hear “cloud” from IT and especially business partners in many architecture discussions (every week)
- Tremendous potential for quick provisioning of resources
 - Batch processes
 - Seasonal resource demands
 - Can help with infrastructure costs on new/existing projects
- We need to rethink/invest our monitoring infrastructure
 - Keynote, Gomez, WatchMouse (CA), etc...
- Several projects in the works with cloud in mind.

Questions?