

TPAC Rules

TPAC Rules enables common Business Rules to be applied across different applications.

Need For Common Business Rules

For the majority of current software applications, business constraints are enforced through concrete rules defined in the application itself. Building rules into applications means that the rules become inaccessible to the organization, making rule changes a lengthy and complex process. The rules in different applications often don't match precisely, and can be incorrect and incomplete.

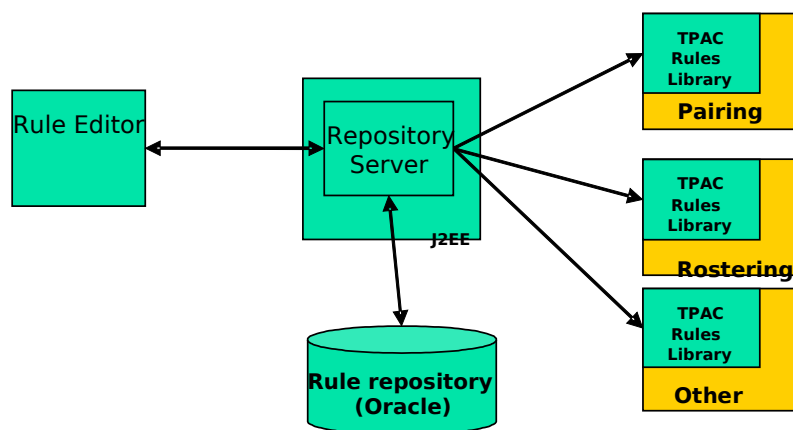
Having a separate, common, rules module solves these problems.

TPAC Rules Solution

The TPAC Rules component has the following features:

- Rules are stored centrally; defined once, applied everywhere.
- Rules are visible; easier to understand, and check for correctness and completeness.
- Rules are editable; rules can be updated immediately.
- Cross-references to source documents can be included.
- Rules are version-controlled, providing security and accountability along with access to multiple rule versions.
- Rules can be integrated into multiple applications.
- Local caching and optimisation of rules enables rapid evaluation.

Architecture



Rule Design

- Rules are structured as interlinked "Rule Tables".
- Rule tables are hierarchically structured, and can reference other rule tables, making them flexible and powerful. This allows use of the same legality rules for both planning and operations, while enabling the addition of planning buffers for robustness.
- Rule checking can return not only legality status, costs and error messages, but also other cumulative values and limits

Rule Editor

The Rule Editor allows users to:

- Define and edit rule tables and attributes.
- Maintain rule metadata.
- Manage multiple versions of repositories.
- Query revision history.
- Create and execute test plans
- View flow diagrams describing rule interdependencies and data flow.
- Merge changes between repositories.

Access requires authentication; security can be set for differing levels of access and different parts of the repository.

