IBM Collaboration Solutions Application Development

Frequently Asked Questions

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Entwicklercamp, Closing Session, 19.03.2014

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What is XPages?

IBM Domino based rapid app dev platform
for collaborative and workflow apps

What is the Roadmap for IBM Domino App Dev?

Focus on mobile, social and cloud

Ongoing XPages & Domino Designer enhancements

Expand Domino REST services

Should Apps be built via classic Notes/Domino App Dev?

The Notes classic app dev model (forms and views) is mature and feature rich. Developers should use this model for maintaining existing apps or when its capabilities align with the customers' strategy

IBM recommends building new apps using XPages to fully leverage new web and mobile functionality and impart social behaviors into applications

What is being investigated for the Notes Browser Plug-in?

Support platforms other than Windows

Additional browser support

Simplify administration and maintenance of plug-in

How should IBM Notes Apps be modernized?

Not all Notes apps have to be modernized

Strategic Notes apps should be modernized via XPages to provide a modern user experience including mobile access as well as add social behaviors

IBM partner services and solutions are available to modernize apps

How should Mobile Web Apps for IBM Domino be built?

XPages apps leveraging responsive designs for apps with multiple projections

XPages mobile controls for optimized mobile experiences

IBM partner services and solutions are also available to mobilize apps

How should Mobile Native Apps for IBM Domino be built?

Native apps can leverage the IBM Domino REST APIs

Hybrid apps should be built via IBM Worklight to take advantage of features like the local data store, push notifications, etc.

The IBM MobileFirst platform adds additional quality assurance services, management capabilities, etc.

How can I run IBM Domino Apps in the IBM Cloud?

IBM intends to provide an IBM Domino image for Softlayer

Customers can use IBM services or business partners to administer and maintain their Domino servers on SoftLayer

No immediate plans to run Domino/XPages on BlueMix

Customers looking to integrate Domino apps with SmartCloud Notes can utilize a hybrid architecture

What is App Dev for IBM Connections?

IBM Connections is a social platform that can be extended and services can be accessed via APIs

IBM Connections provides extensive integration points to pull in third party apps

IBM Connections services can be leveraged to build apps rapidly

What Value does IBM Connections provide for Apps?
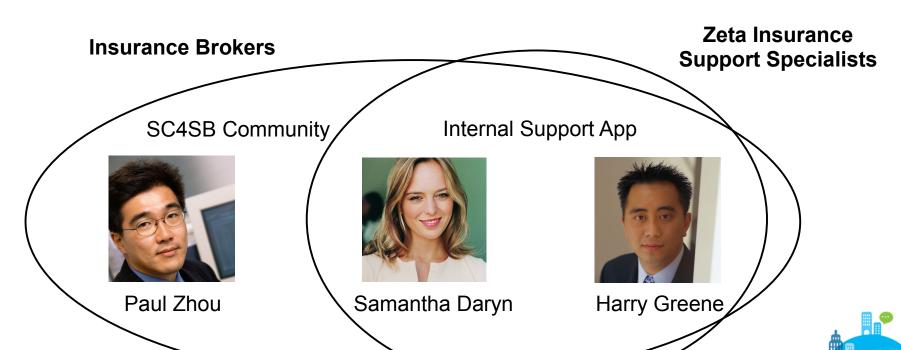
Embed social capabilities in your apps

Build apps rapidly by leveraging services like profiles, files, activities, forums, blogs and much more

Leverage the Connections activity stream with notifications of important events across systems
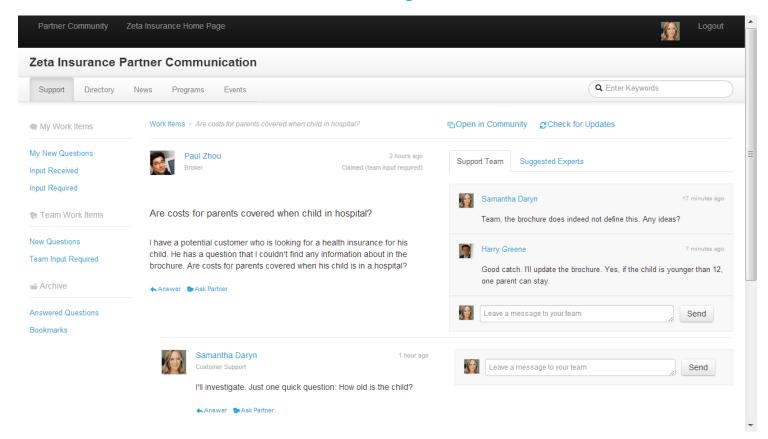
How could a concrete App leverage IBM Connections?

Partner community sample scenario: Zeta Insurance is a fictive health insurance company that sells their products through partners, the insurance brokers

Insurance Brokers

**Zeta Insurance
Support Specialists**

SC4SB Community

Internal Support App

Paul Zhou

Samantha Daryn

Harry Greene

Demo: Partner Community

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How can IBM Connections Services be accessed?

The IBM Social Business Toolkit SDK simplifies access to IBM Connections by providing APIs

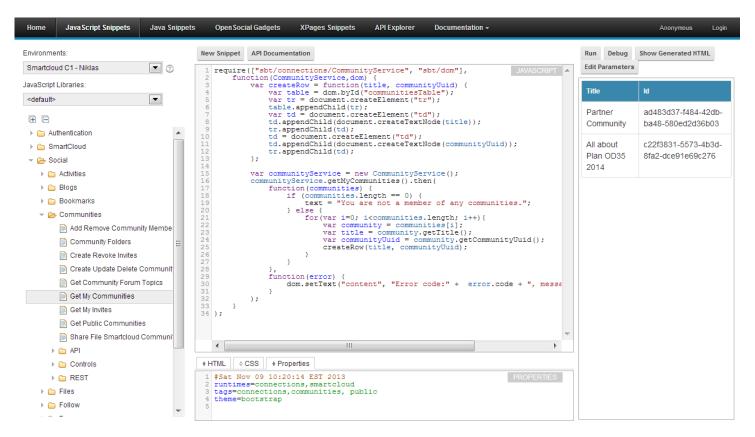IBM Connections functionality can be embedded via re-usable user interface controls

How can IBM Connections Services be used from XPages?

The IBM Social Business Toolkit SDK can be installed on IBM Domino (separately or as part of OpenNTF Essentials)

There are several samples available on OpenNTF and snippets in the playground

Demo: Social Business Toolkit Playground

How to get started with Connections as XPages Developer?

The IBM Social Business Toolkit playground provides snippets

IBM Connections on IBM Greenhouse can be used as test environment

An IBM Collaboration QuickStart image is available on Softlayer and IBM intends to provide it as downloadable image

Trials of IBM SmartCloud for Social Business are available

Is XPages the App Dev Platform for IBM Connections?

XPages is one alternative to build social apps that leverage services from IBM Connections

Other alternatives are native mobile apps, Java EE apps, PHP apps, etc.

Enable developers to use their own tools to extend or embed IBM Connections services and capabilities

How can Connections be accessed from other Platforms?

The IBM Connections REST APIs can be used if no other language bindings are available

Alpha version available for iOS

Alpha version available for PHP, esp. Wordpress and Moodle

What App Dev Capabilities are available in the Cloud now?

Several IBM Connections services and UI extension points, community surveys and SmartCloud Notes Web customization

IBM Connections on premises supports also UI customization, homepage, profiles and communities extensions, SPIs and activity stream integrations

How to get started with SmartCloud for Social Business?

Use the playground to play with the APIs

Try the free trials for SmartCloud for Social Business

Watch out for a new version of developer.ibm.com/social

What is IBM's Relation to OpenNTF?

IBM is one of the member companies of OpenNTF Inc. and represented in the board of directors

IBM contributes many app dev projects to OpenNTF like the Social Business Toolkit SDK and the XPages Extension Library

IBM intends to publish more open source for IBM Connections and IBM WebSphere Portal using the OpenNTF processes

Where can I find out more?

developer.ibm.com/social

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