

Join v.1.0

Project Documentation

Join 05 March 2008

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1.1 WHAT IS JOIN ?

1.1	What is Join ?

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1.2 Feature Summary

Feature Summary

Join has an extensive list of features. The following are the key one described in a nutshell:

Artifacts Management

This feature of Join allows you to manage all the artifacts of your software project: from the delivery of development teams to the production-ready build. It is able to connect to **Software Configuration**Management tools to collect promoted components and publish all the artifacts onto repositories (Structured file system, FTP or WebDAV implementations at time of writing).

Environments Configuration Management

Join allows you to **specify** your test and validation environments in terms of resources, services gateways and physical machines. It acts as a Configuration Management Tool for your environments by letting you define your own elements and **track configuration changes** on the environments elements.

Workflow & Automation

Join application defines a minimal workflow that can be adapted to your own project **Integration Process**. The workflow transitions acts as event producers that can be asynchronously processed. Join is made to easily integrates triggers for these events by providing adapters for script languages such as **Ant**, **Javascript** or **Groovy**. Therefore, web frontend actions can be translated into scripts execution for **automating** your software builds or deployments.

Communication

Join can also be seen as a communication tool, allowing teams to be up-to-date with project integration events. Information diffusion can be done through the portal interface, through **mailing lists** with a subscription system on fine grained events or through **RSS** feeds. Every workflow event can be published through these means.

Integration

Integration with other enterprise software is possible through the use of **Web Services**. Many Join services are exposed as **SOAP**, **Hessian** or **XML-RPC** web services. An example of integration use-case is an Eclipse plugin allowing developper to deliver its work into Join from the IDE (Check here for this work in progress).

Database Agnostic

Join uses **Hibernate** as the ORM tool for the persistence layer which enables pluggable databases (Hypersonic, MySQL, PostgreSQL, and Oracle tested at time of writing). This allows your organization

1.2 FEATURE SUMMARY

to leverage existing resources without having to purchase new database hardware and software.

Personalization

Join leverages off of **Struts** and **Tiles** frameworks to follow the MVC pattern. The look and feel of the application can be easily customized and reskinned because the display logic is concentrated in a few template files read by Tiles. The web interface supports **internationalization** through the usage of Struts message resources bundles. Language resources for English, French and Spanish are already provided.

Scalability

Join is very scalable in many ways. Its architecture has been designed with scalability in mind.

First, it allows you to deploy web application and workflow scripts - running asynchronously - on **separate machines**. Thus, you may have dozens of scripts triggered by a workflow event without affecting the response time of the server running web application.

The web application itself is made to be clusterable and uses a pluggable cache provider architecture. You can scale by adding more nodes without sacrificing on caching.

Finally, the asynchronous part running scripts is also scalable thanks to the high availability configuration options of **ActiveMQ**, the JMS provider used for event publication.

1.3 DOWNLOADING

1.3 Downloading

Download a Join distribution

Join is currently distributed in several formats for your convenience. For instructions on how to install Join, see the Installation Instructions.

Stable release: Join 1.1

Join 1.1 is our latest final stable release available since **2008-02-04**. Thank you for downloading and trying out Join. Feel free to send us feedback on the mailing lists or forums.

You can download the standalone bundle for JDK 1.4 here:

- · .zip archive
- · .tar.gz archive

You can download the standalone bundle for JDK 1.5 here:

- · .zip archive
- · .tar.gz archive

You can download the WAR bundle here:

- .zip archive
- .tar.gz archive

Join is distributed under the General Public License, version 2.0.

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1.4 Release Notes

Release History

Version	Date	Description
1.1	2008-02-04	1.1 release
1.0	2007-04-10	1.0 release
1.0-rc2	2007-03-01	Second release candidate for 1.0
1.0-rc1	2007-02-06	First release candidate for 1.0
1.0-20070111-SNAPSHOT	2007-01-11	Third snapshot for 1.0
1.0-20061011-SNAPSHOT	2006-10-11	Second snapshot for 1.0

Get the RSS feed of the last changes RSS



Release 1.1 - 2008-02-04

Туре	Changes	Ву
	Ajax support when navigating from left menu and in displaytag tables when sorting columns.	Ibroudoux
=	Remote service definition allowing to interact with resource version creation and resource update. This will allow a third party system to notify Join when updating a managed resource.	Ibroudoux
4	Mailing list subscriptions were not displayed. Fixes 1880908.	lbroudoux
*	Deployments hostory were not displayed for LogicalEnvironment, PhysicalEnvironment and EnvironmentMappings. Links were broken and retrieval not fully implemented (return partial results). Fixes 1821986.	Ibroudoux
~	Fix the redirection URL in case of missing field into login form. Fixes 1858374.	lbroudoux
<	Fix the component type description mandatory check that was incoherent with web interface. Add the display of description within build creation form. Fixes 1821817.	Ibroudoux
«	Fix the setup steps numbers, labels and display width when installing in custom setup mode. Fixes 1834746.	Ibroudoux
~	Fix the white screen issue when browsing empty assemblies collection. Add a test to item presence before trying to invoke the getStatus() method on it. Fixes 1817060.	Ibroudoux

1.4 RELEASE NOTES

Туре	Changes	Ву
	Fix the custom setup process that is using an external database. It was failing because of a column length constraint onto Event entity that was not respected. Issue does not apply on Hypersonic and that's why this regression was not detected; (Fixes 1834745.	Ibroudoux
<i>\$</i>	Remove a bunch of Checkstyle errors (nearly 200).	Ibroudoux

Release 1.0 - 2007-04-10

Туре	Changes	Ву
-	Support for getting environment configuration view for a specified date.	lbroudoux
*	Actually active the access control filter for security constraints check.	lbroudoux
<i>₩</i>	Remove a bunch of Checkstyle errors (nearly 100).	lbroudoux

Release 1.0-rc2 - 2007-03-01

Туре	Changes	Ву
	Support for actually binding EIS to gateway and providing a gateway configuration changes view.	Ibroudoux
=	Add an access control filter that guarantees the respect of security constraints. This filter operates on every incoming requests and uses the join-access-control.xml file as the configuration backend.	lbroudoux
■	Add a PasswordEncoder implementation using a MD5 digest for passwords. This provides an example on how to integrate with security constrained user definition sources.	jevrard
*	Fix the remote service allowing to get event consumer infos. This was an Hibernate lazy loading problem solved by adding an HibernateInterceptor (opens Session and stick to current Thread when invoking a service). Fixes 1667133.	Ibroudoux
«	Fix a bad link on deployment parameter values management page. Fixes 1667123.	lbroudoux

Release 1.0-rc1 - 2007-02-06

Туре	Changes	Ву
•	Support for notifications triggered by events (mail and Jabber/XMPP protocols supported)	Ibroudoux
=	Add UserDao implementation using raw Jdbc. This provides an example on how to integrate Join with external user definition sources and allow also many Join deployed applications to share the same user definitions.	lbroudoux
~	Fix the password management in case of remote services call (when synchronous side of Join calls web services from asynchronous side).	lbroudoux
	Update the view of existing User profile. Allow user to manage their account by changing password, personnal informations and subscribe to mailing lists.	Ibroudoux

Release 1.0-20070111-SNAPSHOT - 2007-01-11

Туре	Changes	Ву
	Support Oracle as available database	Ibroudoux
-	ComponentTypes management operations support.	Ibroudoux
-	Components managment operations support.	Ibroudoux
-	Builds management operations support.	Ibroudoux
~	ResolveUserTag was not correctly releasing resources on exiting. This max lead on inacurate user's label when having no user (ex: no assignee on a deployment). The displayed value was previous resolution success because of JSP tags reuse. Fixes 1630759.	Ibroudoux
«	Missing labels. Fixes 1613499.	Ibroudoux
4	Shutdown does not stop JMSConsumers. Fixes 1613501.	Ibroudoux
«	MessageService throws InvalidSessionException. Fixes 1613498.	lbroudoux
<	NullPointerException in QuartzCronActions class. Fixes 1606790.	Ibroudoux
4	MalformedURLException in CronActions. Fixes 1606680.	Ibroudoux

Release 1.0-20061011-SNAPSHOT - 2006-10-11

Туре	Changes	Ву
-	Add a Xml-Rpc interface for remote services access.	Ibroudoux
-	Add a page for displaying environment configuration changes that occured during a time period.	Ibroudoux
□	Added deployment parameters management. Deployment parameter values can be expressed using other parameter or using environment configuration information (through metadata with Ant style notation).	Ibroudoux
4	Release cache is now refreshed from datastore when a release update fails. Fixes 1567538.	Ibroudoux
4	Step cache is now refreshed from datastore each time cascade updates occurs. This avoid having Hibernate to work from stale cached objects and failing synchronizing them. Fixes 1567529.	Ibroudoux
4	Fix the position shifting algorithm of step objects. Fixes 1567530.	Ibroudoux
4	Corrected a bug that prevent from registering consumer parameters.	Ibroudoux
٩	Corrected properties produced by the PhysicalEnvironmentPropertiesExctractor. Machine related properties are now correctly spelled.	Ibroudoux
	Asynchronous message consumers can now be deactivated without a servlet container restart. Deactivation method is now called on consumer activation property update.	Ibroudoux
	Improve navigation through web interface using transversal hyperlinks. Left menu is less used than in previous snapshot.	Ibroudoux

2.1 Installing

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Choosing a distribution

Join is shipped into 2 distributions: Join Standalone which runs out of the box; and Join WAR which is deployable as a Web Archive in any J2EE application server or servlet container.

The **Join Standalone** distribution is bundled with an application server (Apache Tomcat) and a database (Hypersonic SQL). It is recommended for : first-time users, evaluators, users without an already running application server.

The **Join WAR** distribution requires a J2EE application serveran knowledge on how to configure and use it. It is ideal for : Java veterans and users wanting to deploy onto existing application server.

Join Standalone

Requirements

System

- Any operating system supporting J2EE 1.4+, including Windows, Linux, Mac OS X, Solaris, AIX.
- Web browser with cookies enabled (IE5+, Mozilla is recommended).
- 1 GHz or higher Pentium 4, or equivalent (2.4GHz Pentium Xeon or equivalent recommended)
- 256MB RAM minimum (512MB+ recommended)
- 50MB of free disk space (disk usage may be greater depending on how you setup Join but 50MB is really enough for starting up).

Databases

Join is configured to run with its own embedded database. However, this is recommended only for evaluation or demonstration. To ensure your data is kept safe and consistent, we recommend production deployments using one of these external databases:

- MySQL 5.0
- · PostgreSQL 8.1
- Oracle 8i, 9i

Others

• Sun JDK 1.4 and above (other 1.4+ JDKs can also be used, but require the Sun JSSE package). Download the J2SE SDK version without the Sun Java System Application Server.

Installing Standalone distribution

Step One. Installing the Java Development Kit

If you have already installed the Java Developers Kit (JDK), you may skip to Step Two. You can check this by opening a command prompt (Start -> Run -> type 'cmd' and hit enter), and then entering the following:

```
echo %JAVA_HOME%
```

On machines on which the JDK is installed, a directory will be printed ending in jdk<VERSION>, eg C:\Program Files\Java\jdk1.4.2_07 on Windows. However if it ends in jre<VERSION>, or if nothing is printed:

- 1. Download the JDK here and run the installer.
- 2. Set the JAVA_HOME environment variable to the directory in which Java is installed.

Step Two. Downloading Join

Download the standalone bundle of Join from this page.

Step Three. Running the Setup Sizard

1. Go to your <INSTALL> directory and open <INSTALL>/join/WEB-INF/classes. Edit the file named join-init.properties and find the line

```
join.home=c:/join/home
```

Change it to make it point to the Join home directory. The home directory is where Join will store 2. Go to <INSTALL>/tomcat/ and run the startup script. Windows users should open a command prompt and run on <INSTALL>\tomcat\startup.bat (so that they can view any error messages), while users of Unix variants run <INSTALL>/bin/startup.sh.

3. Go to your web browser and enter the address http://localhost:8080/join. The Join Setup Wizard should appear, proceed to Setting Up Join.

Join WAR

Requirements

System

- Any operating system supporting J2EE 1.4+, including Windows, Linux, Mac OS X, Solaris, AIX.
- Web browser with cookies enabled (IE5+, Mozilla is recommended).
- 1 GHz or higher Pentium 4, or equivalent (2.4GHz Pentium Xeon or equivalent recommended)
- 256MB RAM minimum (512MB+ recommended)
- 50MB of free disk space (disk usage may be greater depending on how you setup Join but 50MB is really enough for starting up).

Application Servers

- Tomcat (5.0 and above)
- JBoss (3.2 and above)
- Resin (3.0 and above)
- Apache Geronimo (1.0)
- Glassfish (1.0)

• Other J2EE compliant servers

Databases

Join is configured to run with its own embedded database. However, this is recommended only for evaluation or demonstration. To ensure your data is kept safe and consistent, we recommend production deployments using one of these external databases:

- MySQL 5.0
- PostgreSQL 8.1
- Oracle 8i, 9i

Others

• Sun JDK 1.4 and above (other 1.4+ JDKs can also be used, but require the Sun JSSE package). Download the J2SE SDK version without the Sun Java System Application Server.

Installing WAR distribution

Step One. Download and extract WAR

Download the WAR bundle of Join from this page.

Step Two. Configure join-init.properties

Step Three. Add a new context into Application Server

Step Four. Running the Setup Wizard

Go to your web browser and enter the address corresponding to the context you have created into your Application Server. The Join Setup Wizard should appear, proceed to Setting Up Join.

Setup Wizard

There are 2 ways of installing Join. Depending on the setup type you choose, continue this guide on Standard Setup documentation page or on Custom Setup page.

Screenshot: Choosing setup type



There are two ways of installing Join. If you have any doubt about the one you should choose, you should select the standard installation.

Standard Installation

Install Join with default settings and an embedded database. This is **strongly recommended** if you want to evaluate or demonstrate Join, as it will get the system running as quickly as possible.

Standard

Custom Installation

Perform a custom setup. Select this option if you want to configure Join with an external database or import your own data within the system.

Custom

2.1.1 STANDARD SETUP

2.1.1 Standard Setup

Standard Installation

The **Standard Installation** is recommended for users evaluating Join features. It comes with its embedded database and allows you to start working within only two clicks.

In this step, you will define Join's first registered user. This user will have administrative privileges over the entire Join installation. After you've finished setup, you will use this user to add other users and to assign them permission to access various parts of the Join site. In the form displayed, enter a username, password, last and firstname an administrator account.

You are now ready to start using Join!

Screenshot: Setting up Join administration account



The form fields in **bold** represents mandatory informations.

2.1.2 Custom Setup

Custom Installation

The **Custom Installation** is recommended for users already knowing Join internal mechanism and or wanting to use an external database. It allows you to choose your installation mode and configure the connection settings to database.

This installation process is not linear: depending on your choices the steps described here in subsections may be required or not, ordered or not so that the progression bar on the left may have different bullets. For simplicity, we recommend you to follow the navigation links at the end of each step.

The first choice to take is whether you want to install Join on a **single machine** (the one hosting the Join web application) or whether you want to realize installation on two machines thus **dissociating** asynchronous processing (scripts) from synchronous services (web application).

Screenshot: Choosing single/dissociated installation



Go to Database configuration step if you have choosen a **Single installation** or go to Application side choice step if you have choosen a **Dissociated installation**.

Installation Steps

Database configuration

Screenshot: Choosing embedded/external database



Choose database configuration.

Embedded database.

This option allows Join to operate without an external database. This is **recommended for evaluating or demonstrating Join**, but a production system should use an external database for improved scalability and reliability.

Embedded

External database.

This option allows you to configure your own external database. You may choose it from a list of supported databases. This is **recommended for production systems**.

External

Go to Configuring administrator account step if you have choosen an **Embedded database** or go to Configuring external database/datasource step if you have choosen an **External database**.

External database

You may choose a direct database access configuration or a database access through a JNDI datasource configured onto the application server Join is running in. These two options need a common parameter that is the kind of database you're connection to (so you can tell Join which "dialect" it needs to speak).

The first option uses a standard JDBC database connection. Connection pooling is handled within Join. You will need to know:

- The Java class name for the appropriate database driver.
- The JDBC URL for the database you will be connecting to.
- A valid username and password for that database.
- The size of the connection pool Join should maintain (If in doubt, just go with the default provided).

The second option required that you have configured a datasource into your application server, and know its JNDI name. Note, some servers will have JNDI names like jdbc/datasourcename, others will be of the form java:comp/env/jdbc/datasourcename. Consult your server documentation.

Screenshot: Configuring external database/datasource

🔀 Database configuration	
Please fill the form.	
Common parameter	
Database Type: mysql ▼ Dialect: net.sf.hibernate.dialect.MySQLDialect	
Database configuration	
Driver Class Name: com.mysql.jdbc.Driver Database URL: jdbc:mysql://localhost:3306/joindb?autoReconnect=true User Name: sa Password: Pool Size: 10	Next >>
Datasource configuration	
Datasource Name : The form fields in bold represents mandatory informations.	Next >>

Next and last step is Configuring administrator account step.

Application side choice

Now that you have choosen a dissociated installation, you have to tell the setup wizard whether you are now installing the synchronous services side or the asynchronous processing side of the application.

Note, you first have to install the asynchronous processing side. This allows you to specify the connection parameters used by the web application to access it. Then you will have to repeat the installation, on another server, for synchronous web services side and give the access parameters specified before.

Screenshot: Choosing application side



Go to Access to asynchronous side step if you have choosen the installation of **Synchronous side** or go to Access from synchronous side step if you have choosen the installation of **Asynchronous side**.

Access to asynchronous side

You are now installing synchronous side of Join application. You have to provide here the web URL and the messages broker URL of the asynchronous side you have previously installed. The web URL is an HTTP URL (eg. http://asynchost.mycomp.com:8080/join); the messages broker URL is something like tcp://asynchost:61616 (depending on the port you have specified when installing asynchronous side).

Screenshot: Configuring access to asynchronous side



This form needs to be filled with **parameters allowing to access** to Join application other side; or being **accessed from the other side**. (Synchronous services for asynchronous side, asychronous processing for synchronous services side).

Access parameters		
Other side access URL :		
Messages broker URL :		
		Next >>

The form fields in **bold** represents mandatory informations.

Next step is Database configuration step.

Access from synchronous side

You are now installing asynchronous side of Join application. You have to specify the listening port of the integrated messages broker in order to be reached from the synchronous side. (If in doubt, just go with the default provided).

Screenshot: Configuring access from synchronous side



This form needs to be filled with **parameters allowing to access** to Join application other side; or being **accessed from the other side**. (Synchronous services for asynchronous side, asychronous processing for synchronous services side).

Access parameters

Messages broker port : 61616

Next >>

The form fields in **bold** represents mandatory informations.

Next and last step is Configuring administrator account step.

Configuring administrator account

This is the setup last step. In this step, you will define Join's first registered user. This user will have administrative privileges over the entire Join installation. After you've finished setup, you will use this user to add other users and to assign them permission to access various parts of the Join site. In the form displayed, enter a username, password, last and firstname for administrator account.

You are now ready to start using Join!

Screenshot: Configuring administrator account

💢 Setup Join Administrator

Please configure the administrator account for this installation of Join.

Configure account	
Login : Password : Confirmation :	
Lastname :	
	Next >>

The form fields in **bold** represents mandatory informations.

2.2 Configuring a Project

Configuring a Project

This is a quick start guide on things that should be first configured when starting using Join on your software project. This is not a complete configuration reference but just a list of things that should be done.

Declaring Releases

A release entity just corresponds to a **planned release** of the software project you are working on. Every entity produced or maneged by Join is then associated to a specific release. A software release of your project will have a major and a minor number, a distinct name and a shipping date.

Screenshot: Menu access for releases management



Declaring Integration Process Steps

A step in Join system is a **stage** that helps defining your own integration process. There is often the need that tests may be performed at stretch by different teams (thus the need of a process). Defining **steps** and their order, allows you to later build business rules for controlling the lifecycle of your assemblies and your environment updates.

Screenshot: Menu access for steps management



Declaring Deliverable Types

Deliverables are a special **category of artifacts** that are supplied by your project development teams. One of the first task into configuring Join is to declare the deliverable types corresponding to your teams. Only granted users are allowed to make this declaration, so let's begin creating a new user.

Screenshot: Menu access for user creation



After having created a new user similarly as in standard setup, the application is asking you to assign this user some security roles. 5 default roles exist in Join:

- admin: have administration privileges such as creating users,
- architect: have permissions to define project organization such as deliverables, components and resources types,
- joiner: represents a member of project integration team,
- manager: is responsible of environment management,
- supplier: is allowed to supply new deliverables.

In order to declare new deliverable types, user should have the privileges associated to the *architect* and *joiner* roles. So check the boxes and update the rights of your newly created user (John Doe here).

Screenshot: Security roles assignation



Logout from application and re-enter it using you new user login. You may now be able to manage the deliverable types of your project using the Artifacts/Deliverables menu entry has shown below.

Screenshot: Menu access for deliverable types management



As said on the deliverable types management pages, types should have a unique identifier and a label for display. One important attribute of type is the **keys template**: a template that will be used by Join to generate unique identifiers for your deliverables. When supplying a new deliverable, the application will replace the {0} string by the name of the release this delivery is for and the {1} string by the version of the deliverable. For this first example, we declare a simple type that is mandatory into assembly creation and not extracted from SCM (this points will be discussed later).

Screenshot: Deliverable type creation

Deliverable types

This page allows you to manage deliverable categories. This **types** help organizing your development teams works ; **deliverables** will collect them. A deliverable type has an unique **identifier**, a **label**, a **template** that helps creating deliverables identifiers and a **delivery mode** (file upload or SCM extraction).





The form fields in **bold** represents mandatory informations.

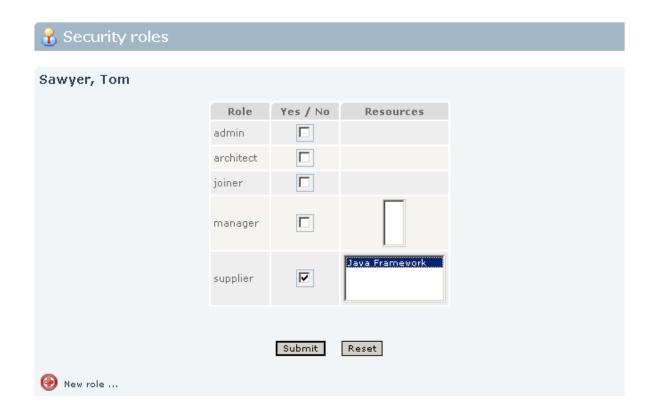
Making a first Delivery

As a first example on what to do once Join been configured, here's how to supply a first deliverable for your project into Join.

Creating a Supplier

Create a user having the *supplier* security role for one deliverable type you have previously declare (see above for details).

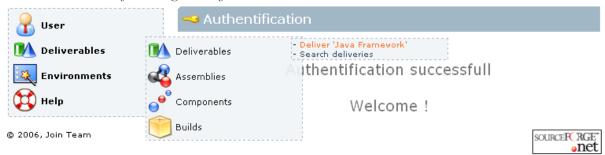
Screenshot: Supplier role assignment



Supplying a Deliverable

Logout from application and re-enter it using the new supplier account login. You may now be able to access the **delivery form** as shown in screenshot below.

Screenshot: Menu access for making a delivery

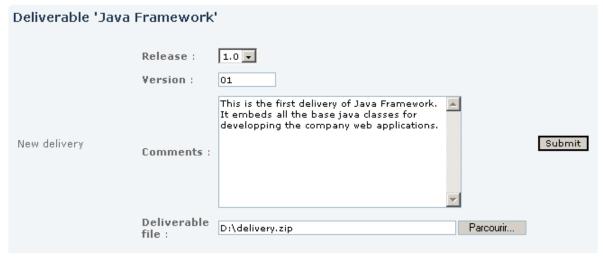


You may now fill the form to supply a new deliverable: choose the release this deliverable is for, give the version information and consign some comments on you delivery. The last field is dedicated to the **deliverable file** that will be uploaded onto Join server repository.

Screenshot: Delivery creation form

Delivery

This form allows you to declare a new **delivery** for the deliverable type you can supply. A new deliverable (corresponding to his delivery) must be bound to one **release** or your software project. It should also have some information on its **version**, some **comments** and possibly a **file** corresponding to its content if deliverable is not extracted from a Software and Configuration Management tool.



The form fields in **bold** represents mandatory informations.

As a result, you may see your delivery is now registered and appear in the list. Delivery browsing is accessible to all users so that they can keep in touch with the work done by others...

Screenshot: Delivery browsing

Deliverables

This page allows to search and browse the different **deliveries** already registered into the system. Selection is done using deliverables type and release have been supplied for.



2.3 **FAQ**

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3.1 Artifacts

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Artifacts Concepts

One of the core feature of Join is the management of all your software project artifacts: from the delivery of the development teams to the production-ready build. Before going further into artifacts concepts let's define here what we call an artifact: an object that is the result from a human activity or from a transformation process.

The expected properties of artifacts are:

- easy referencement: the need of a unique identifier,
- · classification: the need to categorize and type them,
- auditability: the need to know when they are created and how they are used,
- · and the ability to store them "somewhere".

Another root concept related to artifacts is the one of **Release** that is a major version of the software project. Releases are usually planned and appear on software roadmaps: they represent the software itself but may also act as "container" of features to embbed for shipping date. They are **related to artifacts** because each artifact is produced within the context of a release and thus is bound to it into Join. (Note: many other project management tools already use the concept of release or major version. As an example, check out Atlassian JIRA roadmap report)

The following sections detail the 4 categories of artifacts managed into a Join application:

- · deliverables,
- · assemblies,
- · components,
- · builds.

Deliverable

A **Deliverable** within Join is not different from a deliverable within any software plan. It constitutes the input of the software staging workflow realized through Join. A deliverable represents an artifact supplied by a development team. A deliverable does not necessarily match a component of software to produce; it should rather be seen as a commodity to bundle work done by a team. Therefore deliverables can be **typed** in order to suit your project Human Organization.

Assembly

An **Assembly** within Join is kind of a "container" made using a combination of deliverables. It is composed by choosing a specific instance of deliverable within each defined **Deliverable Types** (some types may be optional). By grouping deliverables within an assembly, the assembler aims is to produce a coherent software snapshot that can be later deployed onto integration environments. The actual "creation" of assembly - that is the unpacking/packing stuffs - will allow you to dynamically discover the next kind of artifact that composing it: that is the **Components**.

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Component

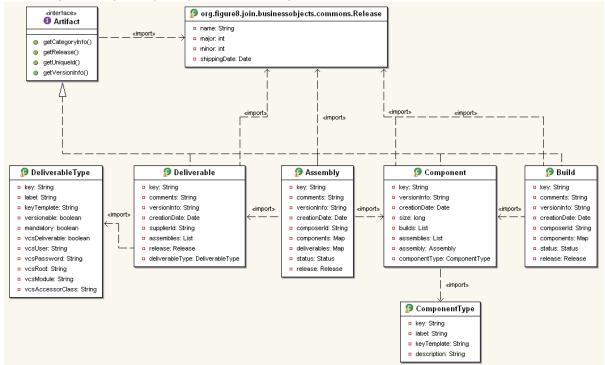
No surprise: a **Component** is an applicative unit that is deployable on its own. Components are contained into an **Assembly** - the same component may appear into many assemblies. The above definition may seems a little bit blur regarding the exact granularity of a component... Is a library a component? Or does ny whole application server represents a component? Join do constrained you on the granularity of components to reference: it's up to you to decide which *type* of component to track; from the micro to the macro ones (you can also track both!). Thus, Join allows you to define **Component Types** in order to track components corresponding to your needs and to your project logical and technical architeures.

Build

Build represent the final artifact from the integration workflow managed by Join: a production-ready package of your software project. A build is an aggregation of **Components** that have been promoted during the staging phases (through assemblies deployment onto integration environments). It is composed by picking a specific instance of component within each defined **Component Types** (some types may be optional). But why not directly using a promoted **Assembly** as a build? Most of time this is the case, but the build composition allows you to aggregate components coming from different assemblies if you which. Therefore you may have specialized/classified assemblies if you need it and do the final aggregation on build phase: this offers you a greater flexibility!

Model

Classes diagram: Entity model for artifacts (Click to enlarge)



3.1 ARTIFACTS

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3.2 Environments

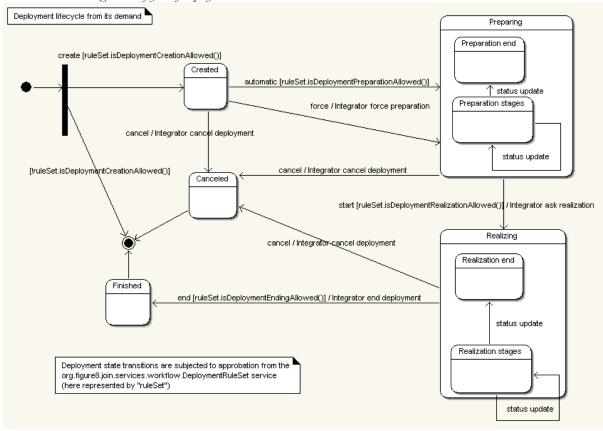
3.3 Workflow

3.3.1 DEP. LIFECYCLE

3.3.1 Dep. Lifecycle

Deployment Lifecycle

State-transitions diagram: Lifeycle of deployment



3.4 Integrator's Guide

3.4.1 REPOSITORIES

3.4.1 Repositories

Artifact Repositories

Configuring Repositories

This is the default repository configured into /WEB-INF/classes/repositoryContext.xml file:

Using a VFS repository

3.4.1 REPOSITORIES

Using a JCR repository

3.4.2 DOMAIN PROPERTIES 35

3.4.2 **Domain Properties**

Domain Model Properties

As you have have already seen it browsing the docs, many of Join runtime services may need informations on the domain model objects they are related to. As a first example there's the mailing-list notification service: we may want to use information related to original event when defining the mail body template. The same way, when you configure a new event consumer for triggering a script on a domain object creation, you will want to have sort of variables representing this object available in the execution context.

This is made possible using a special Join services called the PropertiesExtractor that is a a very simple service defining a general purpose object converter that extract a set of properties from object and its inner fields graph. But don't be afraid with that Java interface: in fact most of Join services already use this service under-cover and you'll don't have to write a single line of code...

What is really interesting here are the **properties keys produced** by the PropertiesExtractor depending on the domain model object. This document references all these properties keys. You can then use them to customize your templates, deployment parameter values or triggered scripts. You just have to wrap the properties key into an Ant style property using \$ and curly braces like this: \${key}.

Here's an example of template for mail messages related to deliverable creation. \${xxx} properties will be replaced at runtime by deliverable fields values when sending this mail. Check out Deliverables subsection for a description of properties.

```
A new deliverable of type '${deliverable.type.label}' has been supplied by '${deliverable.supplier.id}'.

Deliverable will be identified with '${deliverable.key}' for '${deliverable.release.name}' release.

Here's the supplier comments: ${deliverable.comments}.
```

Artifacts related properties

Deliverables

The default implementation of PropertiesExtractor for deliverable domain objects is DeliverablePropertiesExtractor. It uses a **prefix** for all produced properties that is **deliverable.** if not specified (we'll see later with assemblies that it can be overriden).

Property	Description
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the deliverable unique key (e.g. something like 'framework-r1.0-v01').

Property	Description
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	These are the comments made by deliverable supplier. This may include release note.
<pre><prefix>supplier.id</prefix></pre>	This is the identifier of the user that has supplied deliverable (e.g. its login).
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the display name of the release this delivery has been made for (e.g. something like '1.0')
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the key of this deliverable type (e.g. something like 'fwk').
<pre><prefix>type.label</prefix></pre>	This is the display label of this deliverable type (e.g. something like 'Framework').

Assemblies

The default implementation of PropertiesExtractor for assembly domain objects is AssemblyPropertiesExtractor. It uses a **prefix** for all produced properties that is **assembly.** if not specified.

Property	Description
<pre><prefix>key</prefix></pre>	This is the assembly unique key (e.g. something like 'myproject-r1.0-v01-SNAPSHOT').
<pre><prefix>comments</prefix></pre>	These are the comments made by assembly composer. This may include composition notes.
<pre><prefix>composer.id</prefix></pre>	This is the identifier of the user that has composed assembly (e.g. its login).
<pre><prefix>release.name</prefix></pre>	This is the display name of the release this assembly has been made for (e.g. something like '1.0')
<prefix>deliverables.<deliverable key="" type="">.*</deliverable></prefix>	In addition of above properties related to assembly own informations, the default extractor add all properties related to each deliverable composing assembly. Every property of a deliverable is append to the <pre>cprefix>deliverables.</pre> deliverable type key>. string (e.g. you may have a 'assembly deliverables.fwk.key' property denoting the key of assembly deliverable that has the Framework type). See Deliverables subsection for a description of available properties.

Components

The default implementation of PropertiesExtractor for component domain objects is ComponentPropertiesExtractor. It uses a **prefix** for all produced properties that is **component.** if not specified (we'll see later with builds that it can be overriden).

Property	Description
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the component unique key (e.g. something like 'component-v01').

Property	Description	
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the size (in bytes) of this component.	
<pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the information on component version (e.g. the '01' in 'component-v01').	
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the display name of the release this component has been produced for (e.g. something like '1.0')	
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the key of this component type (e.g. something like 'comp').	
<pre><pre></pre>cprefix>type.label</pre>	This is the display label of this component type (e.g. something like 'Component').	

Builds

The default implementation of PropertiesExtractor for build domain objects is BuildPropertiesExtractor. It uses a **prefix** for all produced properties that is **build.** if not specified.

Property	Description
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the build unique key (e.g. something like 'mybuild-r1.0-v01').
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	These are the comments made by build composer. This may include composition notes.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the identifier of the user that has composed build (e.g. its login).
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the display name of the release this build has been made for (e.g. something like '1.0')
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	In addition of above properties related to build own informations, the default extractor add all properties related to each component composing assembly. Every property of a component is append to the <pre><pre>cprefix>components.</pre>string (e.g. you may have a 'build.components.comp.key' property denoting the key of build component that has the Component type). See Components subsection for a description of available properties.</pre>

Environments related properties

Resources

Property	Description	
<pre><prefix>.name</prefix></pre>	The name of bound resource	
<pre><prefix>.machine.ip</prefix></pre>	The IP address of the machine hosting this resource	
<pre><prefix>.machine.name</prefix></pre>	The name of the machine hosting this resource	

Environments

The default implementation of PropertiesExtractor for environment domain objects is PhysicalEnvironmentPropertiesExtractor. It uses a **prefix** for all produced properties that is **physicalenv.** if not specified.

Property	Description
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the physical environment unique key (e.g. something like 'env01').
<pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the displayable name of this physical environment (e.g. something like 'Environment 01')
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	In addition of above properties related to environment own informations, the default extractor add all properties related to each bound infrastructure resources. Every property of a resource is append to the <pre></pre>

Deployments

The default implementation of PropertiesExtractor for deployment domain objects is DeploymentPropertiesExtractor. It uses a **prefix** for all produced properties that is **deployment.** if not specified.

Property	Description
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the unique identifier of deployment. It has no special business meaning.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	The login of user that has requested the deployment.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	The comments of user that has requested the deployment.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	The choosen deployment target name.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	The choosen deployment target description.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the unique key identifying logical environment this deployment is for.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	This is the display label of the logical environment this deployment is for.
<pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre><pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	In addition of above properties related to deployment own informations, the default extractor add all properties related to the physical environments deployment is made on. Every property of the environment is append to the <pre>prefix>physicalenv</pre> . string (e.g. you will have a 'deployment.physicalenv.name' property denoting the name of the physical environment). See Environments subsection for a description of available properties.

3.4.3 USER ACCESS

3.4.3 User Access

User Roles

Role	Description	Resource Resolver
supplier	The supplier role is endorsed by people providing deliverables for your software. This role is usually assigned to a development team member responsible for components releasing actions such as tagging in versioning / configuration management tool and making new component version available. In Join, this role has to be bound to a specific type of deliverables. Thus, it uses a specific implementation of PermissionResourceResolver.	org.figure8.join.services.security.DeliverableTypeResolve
manager	In Join system, a manager is a person responsible for creating new assemblies and deciding of staging environment upgrades using these assemblies. Such a role is usually assigned to project managers for the first steps of staging process and to quality officers for later steps. For better control, this role has to be bound to a specific environment. Because environments in Join are associated to a staging process step and a software release, this allows - for example to declare a person being manager only for the "Non regression validation of release 2.0" and not for the "End users validation of release 2.0".	org.figure8.join.services.security.EnvironmentResolver
joiner	The <i>joiner</i> role describes a person that is one of the main users of Join: the staging or integration team member. As a member of this team, a joiner will use the Join frontend for most of its tasks: monitoring / managing artifact constructions and environment upgrades, checking environment configurations, scheduling and automating new tasks or new treatments This role is not bound to a specific resource: it ia a global scoped security role.	None
admin		None

3.4.3.1 User Definitions

3.4.4 SCRIPTED PROCESS 41

3.4.4 Scripted Process

Scripted Process Support

Event triggered Process

Scheduled Process

Event triggered Process

Screenshot: Menu access for event triggered process management

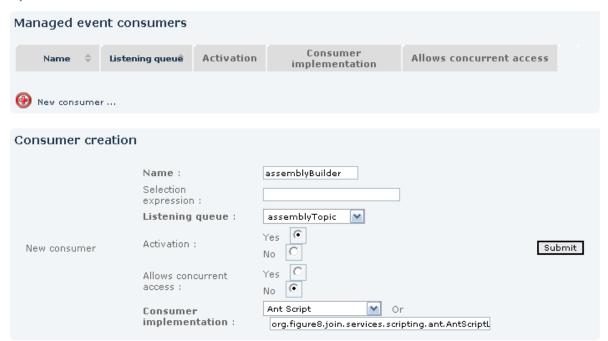


Screenshot: Event consumer edition form

3.4.4 SCRIPTED PROCESS 42



The event consumers are Java modules allowing you to start specific process when such event appears. This process may be managed through script execution. An event consumer is defined using many elements: a name that has to be unique, a queue that allow to select the events type, a selection expression for fine-grained filters on events and finally, the Java implementation of this module.



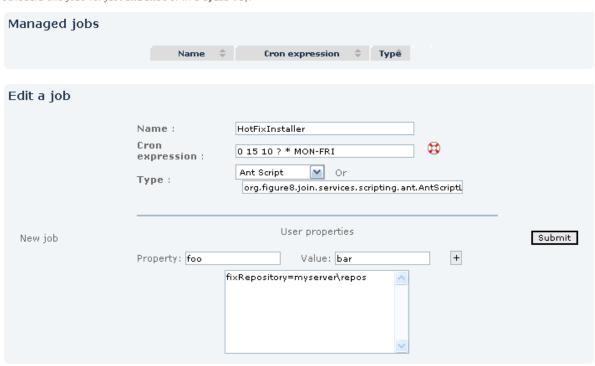
Scheduled Process

Screenshot: Scheduled job edition form

3.4.4 SCRIPTED PROCESS 43

🥸 Scheduled jobs

This page allows you to manage **scheduled jobs**. There are three job types: Ant, Groovy and Python. It is possible to schedule this jobs for just **one shot** or in a **cyclic** way.



3.4.4.1 ANT SCRIPTS 44

3.4.4.1 Ant Scripts

Ant Scripts Support

Join built-in tasks for Ant

Commons attributes

Attribute	Description	Required
url	The URL of the Join server you will use to realize the action represented by the custom Ant task. This URL should be the base URL of your frontend Join web application, e.g. something like http://myserver.mycomp.com:8080/join	Yes
user	The identifier of the user for connecting to Join remote services. This user should have the required permissions for performing the action represented by the custom Ant task. Exemple: user should have endorsed the joiner security role for logging a process status	No, if join.security.user system property is defined
password	The credentials of the user represented by the previous task attribute.	No, if join.security.password system property is defined

Process status related tasks

Assign a status

The first Join built-in tasks for Ant -and the more frequently used one- is the LogStatusTask. You should use this task when you want to assign a specific status to the current process when you reach a defined point of your script execution. This is useful for keeping track of your process progress when important steps are done.

First, you have to define the custom **logstatus** task within a target of your script. Then, you can later use the <logstatus .../> task with correct attributes. Here is a typical usage example:

The LogStatusTask has the specific following attributes:

3.4.4.1 ANT SCRIPTS 45

Attribute	Description	Required
ref	The reference of object to log status on. This is typically the key of the domain entity the process is related to. This may be the assembly key, the build key of the deployment identifier.	Yes
process	The name of the process the current script (or target) is dedicated to. This may be: assembly, build or deployment.	Yes
statusKey	The unique key identifying the status you want to assign to the entity being processed. This is one of the status you have defined when customizing your integration process.	Yes

Assign a status on failure

The above LogStatusTask is useful when you reach a specified point into your script execution but what if you cannot reach that point because of a failure?... Failures are unpredictable by nature so we need a way to assign a status **on failure**. That is exactly the goal of the ListenStatusTask, allowing you to assign a status to your process only when something goes wrong (kinda like a try/catch block!)

First, you have to define the custom **listenstatus** task within a target of your script. Then, you can later **start** the listening of failures that will assign a status before **stop** this listening on the end of your script step. Here is a typical usage example where the *assemblyKO* status will be assign to process if the directory denoted by *\${src.dir}*} does not exists:

The ListenStatusTask has the specific following attributes:

Attribute	Description	Required
action	The action to realize for build listener. This may be start or stop .	Yes

3.4.4.1 ANT SCRIPTS 46

Attribute	Description	Required
ref	The reference of object to log status on. This is typically the key of the domain entity the process is related to. This may be the assembly key, the build key of the deployment identifier.	No, if action is set to stop
process	The name of the process the current script (or target) is dedicated to. This may be: assembly, build or deployment.	No, if action is set to stop
statusKey	The unique key identifying the status you want to assign to the entity being processed. This is one of the status you have defined when customizing your integration process.	No, if action is set to stop

3.4.4.2 GROOVY SCRIPTS

3.4.4.2	Groovy Scripts

Groovy Scripts Support

3.4.5 REMOTE ACCESS

3.4.5 Remote Access

Web Services Remote Access

Many of Join services are exposed as **Web Services** so that integration with other enterprise software or language is possible. You may want to use this feature in many cases:

- From a script maybe launched asynchronously by Join in order to report a process status or an environment configuration change,
- From **another software** used by your development or quality assurance teams. An example of integration use-case is an Eclipse plugin allowing developper to deliver its work into Join from the IDE (Check here for this work in progress).

Join services are currently exposed as **SOAP**, **Hessian** or **XML-RPC** web services. You will find further details for this protocols (such as access URL, interfaces and so on) on specifc pages:

Protocol	Documentation
SOAP	SOAP is a W3C recommended protocol for message exchange using XML over various transport layers. Specifications can be found here. Specific documentation on Join implementation is located here.
Hessian	Hessian is a binary web services protocol from Caucho. Documentation for Join Hessian services is here
XML-RPC	Simple Remote Procedure Call protocol in XML. Many implementations are referenced on Xml-Rpc site. Specific documentation for Join can be found here.

3.4.5.1 SOAP 49

3.4.5.1 **SOAP**

SOAP Web Services

SOAP is a W3C recommended protocol for message exchange using XML over various transport layers. Specifications can be found here. The Join implementation of SOAP web services only used the HTTP transport layer. It uses the XFire stack to expose its APIs through SOAP.

Services

ArtifactService

ParameterService

ProcessControlService

ResourceService

Parameters

These are some parameters and details on how to call SOAP web services:

- The URL for SOAP requests is http://host[:port]/[context]/remoting/xfire/[service],
- The URL for service WSDL is http://host[:port]/[context]/remoting/xfire/[service]?WSDL,
- Parameters and returned objects APIs can be found in WSDL or from JavaDoc.

3.4.5.2 HESSIAN 50

3.4.5.2 Hessian

.....

Hessian Web Services

Hessian is a binary web services protocol from Caucho. It is lightweight, efficient and easy to use.

Services

ArtifactService

ParameterService

ProcessControlService

ResourceService

Parameters

These are some parameters and details on how to call Hessian web services:

- The URL for Hessian requests is http://host[:port]/[context]/remoting/hessian/[service],
- Parameters and returned objects APIs can be found from JavaDoc.

3.4.5.3 XML-RPC 51

3.4.5.3 **XML-RPC**

XML-RPC WebServices

Xml-Rpc is a simple Remote Procedure Call protocol in XML. Many implementations are referenced at Xml-Rpc home. Join uses the Apache Xml-Rpc implementation for Java on the server side to expose its APIs.

Services

All available services are exposed via the XmlRpcHandler interface. You can find API documentaion here.

Parameters

These are some parameters and details on how to call Xml-Rpc services:

- The URL for Xml-Rpc requests is http://host[:port]/[context]/xmlrpc,
- All services name should be prefixed by join. For calling the setBuildStatus service, the method name is join.setBuildStatus,
- All keys in struct are case sensitive,
- All strings are passed as UTF-8, and not ASCII per the XML-RPC update on 6/30/2003.

Samples

This is a sample on how to call a Join service from a Groovy script. Because Join has built-in support for launching Groovy scripts, this is a useful piece of code for making your script report a process status...

```
import groovy.net.xmlrpc.*
def service = new XMLRPCServerProxy("http://localhost:8080/join/xmlrpc")
def token = service.join.login("mylogin", "mypassword")
println "Got a security token: ${token}"
service.join.setBuildStatus(token, "build_ok", buildId)
...
```

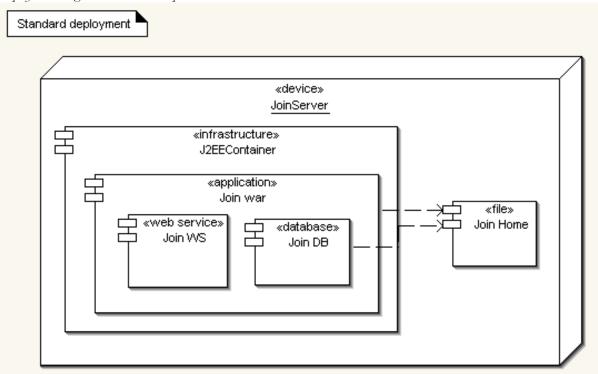
Another sample in pure Java can also be found into Join tests suite.

3.4.6 SETUP MODES 52

3.4.6 **Setup Modes**

Standard Setup

Deployment diagram: Standard setup mode

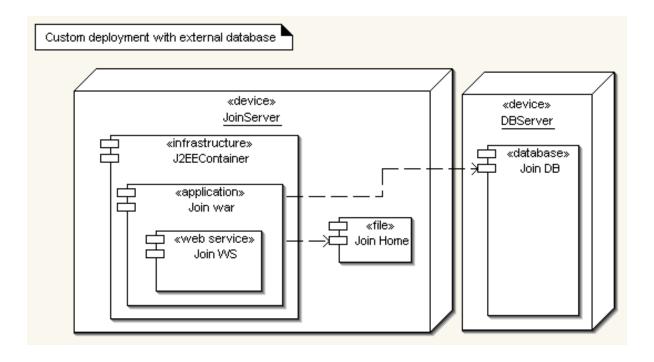


Custom Setup

Custom Setup with external database

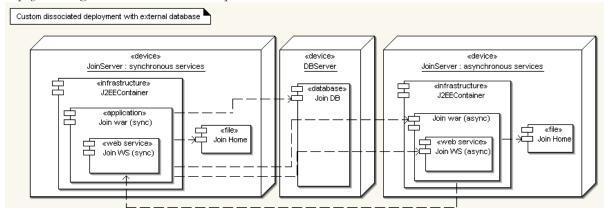
Deployment diagram: Custom setup with external database

3.4.6 SETUP MODES 53



Custom Dissociated Setup with external database

Deployment diagram: Custom dissociated setup with external database



4.1	Ant					
	http://ant.apache.org					•••

4.2 SPRING

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http://www.springframework.org

4.3	ActiveMQ
	http://activemq.apache.org