



Bring Runbook and Business Processes Together with the ActiveBatch® Extension for System Center Orchestrator

Benefits

- Integrate IT operational processes with business processes.
- A Single View of runbook and business processes.
- Consolidate multiple scheduling solutions.
- Improved Productivity for developers and IT architects.
- Improved Reliable Execution of cross-departmental process types and workflows.

Microsoft System Center Orchestrator: IT Boundaries Identified

Microsoft System Center Orchestrator is the runbook automation solution for System Center product suite and is geared towards automating datacenter and IT operational tasks and processes. For automation of business processes, IT departments typically implement disparate solutions for specific IT functions that support the business, such as a batch scheduling solution to pass data between key business applications or a tool for automating FTPs. However, these solutions do not provide direct integration with a runbook automation solution such as Orchestrator. The result is the inability to integrate IT operational and business processes when it becomes necessary to manage dependencies between systems and process types.

Integrated Automation Power: Manage SCORCH and ActiveBatch Workflows

The ActiveBatch Extension for Orchestrator solves this problem by allowing System Center users to combine the runbook and IT infrastructure automation capabilities of Orchestrator with the workload automation and job scheduling capabilities of ActiveBatch. The Extension allows users to schedule, run and monitor Orchestrator runbooks from within ActiveBatch via a series ActiveBatch Job Steps that allow users to include the execution of Orchestrator runbooks within ActiveBatch workflows. This means users can manage both Orchestrator and ActiveBatch via the ActiveBatch GUI, thus simplifying the management, monitoring and integration of both runbook and business processes while reducing the time spent jumping between automation solutions.

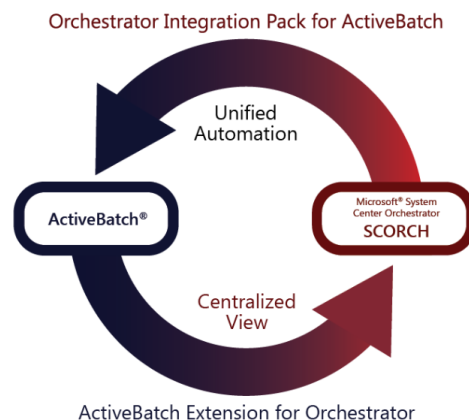
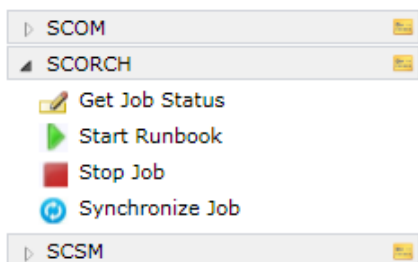
The ActiveBatch Extension for Orchestrator makes it easier to build the integration between these two automation solutions by eliminating the need to manage dependencies via manual handoffs or a custom built program. For example, job variables and parameters can be passed downstream within an ActiveBatch workflow and automatically passed into the Start Runbook Job Step for Orchestrator to be included as a job variable within the Orchestrator runbook. Alternatively, job variables and parameters can be designated within the Orchestrator Job Steps by simply selecting from an auto-populating drop-down menu from within the Job Steps as well.

Pass Parameters and Values from Orchestrator Back to ActiveBatch

The Extension for Orchestrator also supports the ability to pass parameters and values from Orchestrator back to ActiveBatch to act as a completion status and/or trigger to execute additional ActiveBatch Job Steps. This allows users to include Orchestrator runbooks as Job Steps within larger workflows that integrate an organization's IT and business processes.

Other Job Steps, such as the Stop Job and Synchronize Job, simplify the management of Orchestrator runbooks from within the ActiveBatch GUI by allowing the users to stop an executing Orchestrator job instance or synchronize with the completion of a running Orchestrator job instance. The Job ID can simply be selected by the user from an auto-populating dropdown menu or use the return value of from the Start Runbook Job Step.

ActiveBatch: Version 9 SP2 and above





Manage IT Operational and Business Workloads From a Single Point of Control with the ActiveBatch® Integration Pack

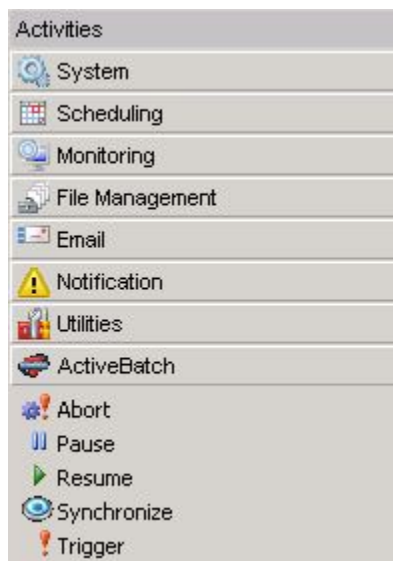
Microsoft System Center Orchestrator: IT Boundaries Identified

Microsoft System Center Orchestrator is the runbook automation solution for System Center product suite and is geared towards the automation of creating, monitoring and deploying resources within the datacenter. But when these datacenter tasks and functions become dependent on other cross departmental process types and platforms, the ability to manage dependencies and pass data becomes increasingly difficult. This is a result of IT organizations typically relying on separate solutions to automate IT functions that support the business, such as a batch scheduling solution to pass data between key business applications or a tool for automating FTPs. The end result is the inability to effectively integrate IT operational and business processes when it becomes necessary to manage dependencies between systems and process types.

Manage Orchestrator and ActiveBatch Processes Within the Orchestrator Interface

The Integration Pack for Orchestrator allows System Center users to combine the runbook and IT infrastructure automation capabilities of Orchestrator with the workload automation and job scheduling capabilities of ActiveBatch. Orchestrator users can now manage both Orchestrator runbooks and ActiveBatch Jobs and Plans from within the Orchestrator interface, thus simplifying the management, monitoring and integration of runbook and business processes all from a single point of control. This allows IT organizations to increase productivity and more reliably automate IT operational and business workloads.

ActiveBatch: Version 9 SP2 and above



The Integration Pack for Orchestrator allows ActiveBatch Jobs and Plans to be accessed and triggered from within Orchestrator by adding the ActiveBatch category to the Activity pane within the Orchestrator Runbook Designer. This new category contains the following activities:

- Abort
- Pause
- Resume
- Synchronize
- Trigger

These activities provide an Orchestrator user with the ability to control ActiveBatch Job instances from within the Orchestrator Runbook Designer and use the completion of an ActiveBatch Job as a trigger for an Orchestrator Runbook. This is accomplished by allowing Exit Code and Instance Status to be automatically passed from ActiveBatch back to Orchestrator.

Automatically Pass Parameters

In addition, runbook parameters can be automatically passed from Orchestrator into ActiveBatch as a job variable. The Integration Pack also consolidates the monitoring of runbooks by allowing users to view the log files from ActiveBatch Jobs and Plans from within Orchestrator, eliminating the need to have to view job information from two different interfaces.

Orchestrator Integration Pack for ActiveBatch

