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INTERNAL APPLICATION PLATFORM

Service Definition

IB Boost is a specialist development consultancy whose focus is on delivering complex solutions to global organisations. Our experience has led to the development of a suite of innovative software frameworks for accelerating project delivery. Our combination of subject matter expertise and innovative software solutions paired with our passionate technology consultants allows us to provide a comprehensive range of cloud solutions for almost any target application technology.

SUMMARY

IB Boost's custom platform-as-a-service software suite gives organisations the power to develop modern, enterprise-secure, AI-integrated custom internal applications in a consistent and rapid manner. Integrated RPA capabilities bring powerful capabilities to a rich UI framework allowing rapid development of tools in any technology environment.

SERVICE OVERVIEW

IB Boost has extensive experience with Intelligent Automation (IA) and Robotic Process Automation (RPA), having worked in this area since the company's inception in 2009. Our focus has been on automation of end user and data flow processes of all types and we have built up the OCTANE suite of software, which includes the ORQA robotic automation software, to deliver a world-leading automation experience to our clients.

All organisations have the need to develop custom applications to serve their unique needs, but procuring a bespoke solution is too time-consuming and costly. OCTANE provides the enterprise-grade service wrapper that lets bespoke business use cases be built into a well-architected, flexible and scalable solution without sacrificing security, or capabilities.

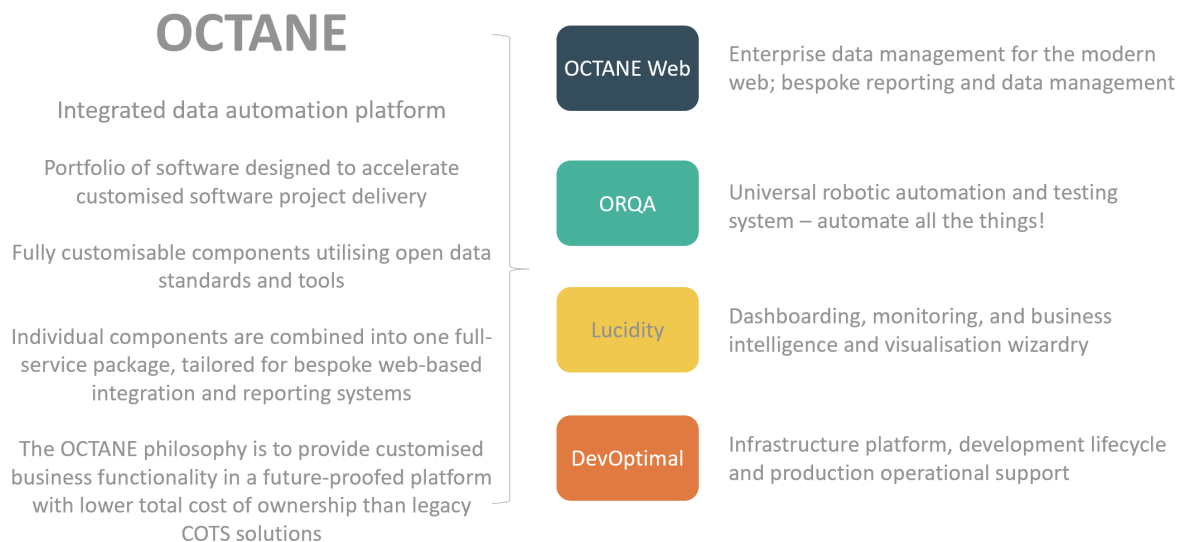
OCTANE is a modern software suite that integrates with our leading RPA solution, ORQA, providing full RPA capabilities for legacy applications, without relying on standardised, public service APIs like many internal tool developments. It can leverage AI models, whether locally-run or integrated via API with major vendors such as OpenAI, Anthropic, Meta and Perplexity to build AI-powered applications for any purpose using our enterprise-grade application wrapper to provide a modern, AI-capable bespoke business process system

We have developed several products to support our mission of creating innovative and scalable automation solutions, collectively termed the OCTANE suite. The OCTANE suite is built for the challenges of large modern organisations and as such combines sets of components that are standardised with toolkits and frameworks used to customise and shape solutions to the specific requirements of each client.

The ORQA application is a component of the OCTANE suite and is used to provide both the execution engine and the design workbench for individual bot process tasks. The OCTANE web application allows centralised management, reporting and execution from the ORQA robots.

ORQA can be used from single user, on-desktop, interactive usage (so-called Robotic Desktop Automation, or RDA) in a standalone mode, or can be used in a distributed grid for execution and control of a larger bot network - what is commonly known these days as RPA.

OCTANE has Intelligent Automation capabilities by integrating Artificial Intelligence (AI) modules, including Machine Learning (ML) with technical automation features, also known as Cognitive Automation. This allows OCTANE to provide an unrivalled set of features in deriving information of value from a centralised data hub through limitless ORQA integration points, whilst still maintaining enterprise-grade data security and customised, efficient user interfaces.



Internal Application Platform Offering

This cloud software offering comprises the following aspects:

1. **OCTANE Web platform:** a dedicated, isolated instance of the four-tier OCTANE web application, allowing control and execution of automation processes across a network and management of required infrastructure
2. **Configuration and customisation services:** initial setup of OCTANE, development of ORQA automation tasks, and integration into your organisation's network
3. **AI advisory services:** we help your organisation determine the best-fit approach for AI integration into your working practices, including choices like self-hosting open-source models, and AI service vendor selection
4. **Infrastructure cost management:** utilisation of hybrid / private nodes are possible as well as utilising cloud services on existing accounts
5. **ORQA application and licences:** for design, local execution and distributed bot processes of automation routines of any size and shape, integrated with AI services

Reusability and Scalability

OCTANE, as the central framework, provides enterprise-grade service features around custom built applications and automation. It is built with scalability in mind, allowing a practically limitless number of bots to be deployed and managed depending on the scale of the project.

ORQA is built with reusability in mind and brings with it many tools and optimisations to minimise repeat work. It offers a code-free development experience for many automation tasks, including the ability to record and playback automated processes from web, Windows and Java applications.

Configuration and Development

OCTANE permits development of custom business models and integration with API sources of any type. These custom workflows allow us to inject AI-readiness natively into any application.

ORQA is fully user customisable and users can utilise either out-of-the-box automation operations, record their own processes, import scripts or develop their own more complex logic.

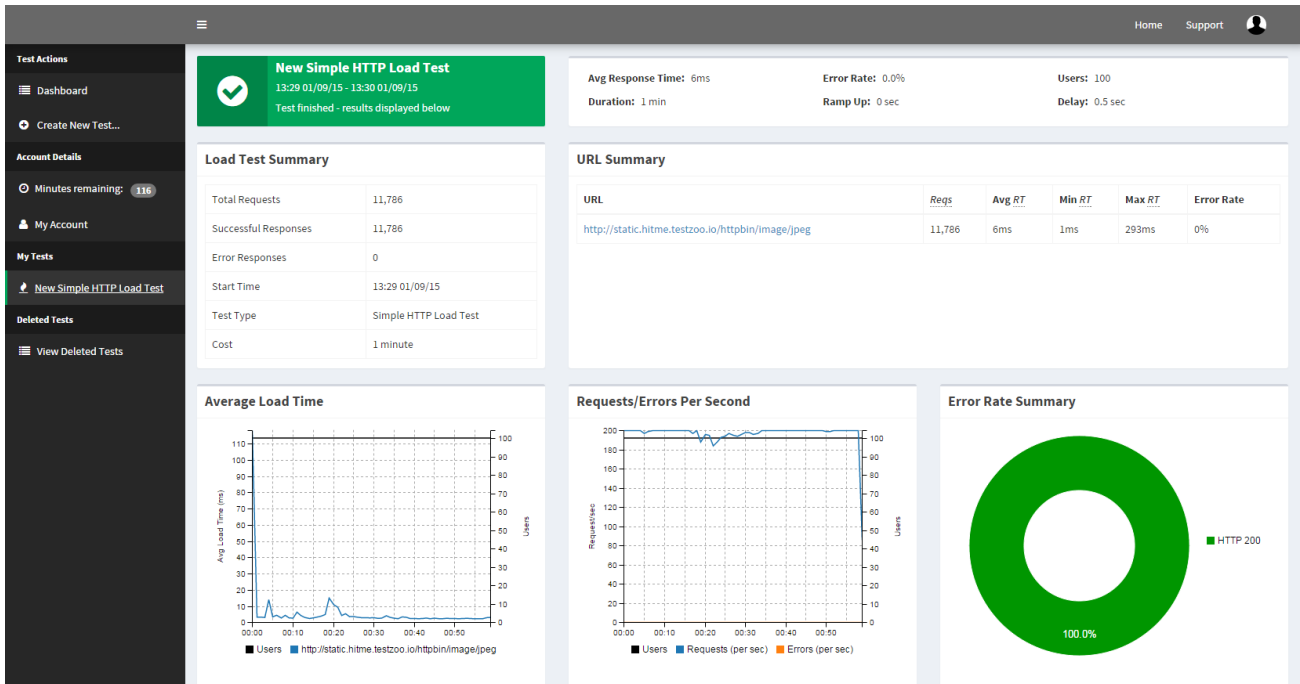
Such automation steps can be composed and abstracted as the user wishes, allowing a modular approach with full reuse capabilities for automation.

Configuration can be managed by various source control options, such as Git or Subversion, or by centralised publication of zips for non-admin, zero-install, zero-dependency usage. This permits organisations to begin work with ORQA quickly and efficiently.

Usability

A fundamental philosophy of ORQA is an intuitive visual structure to routines, and features can be dragged and dropped to be rearranged and managed in any way you like. Refactoring tools and keyboard shortcuts allow for quick manipulation of the structures so that users don't have to re-develop automations to optimise the structure.

ORQA uses a simplified building block approach for tasks, using intelligent type-inference behind the scenes to improve the development workflow and processing. The interface is user-friendly and includes built-in help, documents, tutorials, videos and learning courses.



Cost Efficiency

IB Boost bases all its solutions on best-of-breed open source technologies and as such is unencumbered by any licensing or undue costs beyond the cost of licensing our own IP. Nothing in the OCTANE suite obliges any third-party licences or proprietary software or use of any particular platform. As such, we truly believe we have the most cost-effective solution available.

Compliance and Compatibility

OCTANE allows users to customise access to data of various sensitivity levels and includes a platform that permits connectivity to secure government networks with either our cloud-hosted SaaS or fully-managed hybrid / private cloud installations, regardless of whether they are run on Azure, AWS, or other platforms (subject to appropriate accreditation according to data classification level and user environment).

User Administration and Application Security

The OCTANE web application is a security solution that's been accredited for use in various public-sector projects for data up to OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE in public cloud installations. The four-tier structure follows a blueprint for segregation of data that satisfies the highest public cloud infrastructure requirements in the UK public sector today.

Intrusion detection, active monitoring, firewalls and web traffic filtering further protects the system and OCTANE offers a web interface utilising the latest web server security and encryption standards, achieving an A+ in the Qualys SSL Labs analysis. OCTANE regularly goes through independent penetration tests and our own automated security analysis.

Data Control and Security

OCTANE uses strong role-based access control (RBAC) weaved throughout the entire framework at a foundational level and uses APIs to further segregate workloads and data permissions. In addition, a strong, permission-based object model can allow clients to further extend the data models to be customised precisely for their particular needs, allowing rich reports and real-time dashboarding.

Several logical organisations can also sit within the same distribution and operate entirely independently, allowing large-scale usage and sharing amongst teams and departments. Standard security principles like 'least-access' and 'deny-by-default' are built-in.

Access to the system can include restrictions across functions (horizontal) and within certain records inside data sets (vertical), limiting the rights and ability for different areas to affect each other. In-built sharing functionality permits views and dashboards to be managed and shared amongst users and groups of users in any combination (itself governed by customisable permissions). These are all made available for customisation by the client according to specific requirements.

Modern Technical Platform

OCTANE is based upon best-of-breed open source technologies and we embrace the cutting edge. Our solutions are containerised, operating system agnostic (based on Java), automated using Ansible and use the latest industry best DevOps practices.



One-click deployment automation and rollback



Faster development and test cycles



Worry-free production deployments



Abstraction from code



Infrastructure orchestration



Configuration management



Centralised log management and analysis



Application performance monitoring and response



Performance optimisation and stress testing



Manual or repetitive tasks are almost non-existent

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Capable

OCTANE has ready-made integration for AI models and ML frameworks irrespective of whether they are open-source/in-house or using service APIs. We can offer consultancy services to help integrate workloads into an AI-ready form and can assist technology selection choices.

OCTANE and ORQA can leverage AI models, whether locally-run or integrated via API with major vendors such as OpenAI, Anthropic, Meta and Perplexity to build AI-powered applications for any purpose using our enterprise-grade application wrapper to provide a modern, AI-capable bespoke business process system.

Auditing and the Corporate Record

All data manipulation is indelible and audited. All designated business data objects are versioned and historised and can show exactly what data has changed and what it was at any given time in the past. All changes to data through the application are audited, whether via user interfaces or APIs.

FEATURES

- SaaS-style deployment for bespoke internal applications
- Unlimited range of APIs and external integration with ORQA robots
- Flexible data domain models to persist arbitrary data in a secure way
- Scalable Document Management for secure, integrity-preserving file management
- Robust, secure application and services with GDPR compliant, privacy-first features
- Full permission granularity and auditing provides an enterprise AI service-wrapper
- Integration of AI and ML models with bespoke workflows
- Ability to integrate with proprietary, internal and open-source AI models
- No costly third-party licences for analytics or visualisation required
- APIs for integration with PowerBI, Tableau, Excel and others

BENEFITS

- Extensible and flexible AI and ML integration
- AI service wrapper for secure and private integration of models
- Custom workflows, task management and alerts for optimal productivity
- Custom application development in-platform incorporating AI features
- Software-as-a-Service to on-premises deployment options with isolated or shared tenancy
- Integrate and reconcile any data-source even API-less legacy systems
- Produce publication ready documents with analytics and self-service scheduled extracts
- Run hybrid/private network nodes for in-house integrations and use-specific portals
- Secure platform: HMG Security Policy Framework compliant OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE and higher
- Rapid deployment in days, with agile customisation of data models