CA Process Automation

Glossary

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agent

An a*gent* is a CA Process Automation component that allows you to execute operators on the agent host or on a remote host that is accessible by the agent host through an SSH connection.

application group (CA EEM)

An *application group* is a product-specific group that can be assigned to a global user. Standard application groups predefined for CA Process Automation are PAMAdmins, Designers, Production Users, and PAMUsers. User-defined application groups must be added to appropriate access policies and granted appropriate actions.

array

An array is a dataset type composed of elements that are identical in terms of data type and structure. You reference individual elements using an integer index (var element = array[n]).

audit trail

An *audit trail* is a record of user activities on the domain, environments, orchestrators, and agents, and on folders and automation objects.

auto-admit pattern

An *auto-admit pattern* is a hostname pattern or IP address pattern that enables automatic assignment of touchpoints to agent hosts. Touchpoints are created and assigned to hosts that match the auto-admit patterns. Auto-admit patterns are environment-specific. A hostname pattern is expressed as a regular expression. An IP address subnet pattern is expressed in CIDR notation.

automation objects

Automation objects are the CA Process Automation objects that content designers use to create content. Automation objects include calendar, custom icon, custom operator, dataset, interaction request form, package, process, process watch, resources, schedule, and start request form.

baseline

A *baseline* is a static version of an automation object. That is, you cannot edit or save changes to a baseline version; you must save changes to a new version. You can have multiple baseline versions, but only one current version. Setting a version as a baseline is typically done in the context of releasing a solution. A solution is released by exporting and importing a solution package. Before export, the content designer checks in and baselines each object to be packaged to protect that version of the object from being updated after it is released. If the content administrator locks the release information at export, the import process automatically baselines the imported version of each object so that the production user cannot override it.

breakpoint

A *breakpoint* is a debugging aid that pauses the execution of a running process at the operators that are set with a breakpoint. A breakpoint lets content designers inspect the data and flow of a process to validate the correct behavior before finalizing their changes.

CA Process Automation system functions

The *system functions* are functions that can be used in custom JavaScripts. Custom JavaScripts include those scripts designed as pre-execution code, post-execution code, or dataset initialization code for an operator in a CA Process Automation process.

calendar object

A c*alendar* is an automation object that defines date rules and is used with schedule objects to define scheduling in CA Process Automation. A calendar is also used in the Check Calendar operator.

clustered orchestrator

A *clustered Orchestrator* is a set of nodes that appear and act as a single Orchestrator and use a shared library. Nodes of a cluster can exist on different hosts. Adding nodes to an Orchestrator increases its automation capacity and enables the balancing of computational work across the nodes. If a node goes down, work is automatically redistributed across the active nodes for high availability.

connector

A *connector* is an operator category which contains operators that provide integration between CA Process Automation and an external software program.

content administrator

The *content administrator* is a CA Process Automation role. Content administrators use CA EEM to define users, groups, and policies that enable CA Process Automation content access. Content administrators configure and administer CA Process Automation. Content administrators are typically defined with the PAMAdmins group.

content designer

The *content designer* is a CA Process Automation role. Content designers perform automation design, analysis, reuse, testing, execution, and maintenance. Content designers are configured in CA EEM with the Designers group.

custom icon object

A c*ustom icon* is an automation object that content designers use to define graphics for an operator. A custom icon is composed of a base icon and a modifier. Content designers can associate a custom icon with a custom operator. Content designers can replace the icon displayed for an operator in a process with a custom icon.

custom operator object

A c*ustom operator* is a customized version of a CA Process Automation operator. Content designers use custom operators to present alternative interfaces and datasets during process design.

databases

The *databases* CA Process Automation uses include a database for runtime (state) information and a database for definitions. Definitions are created when a content designer defines automation objects such as a new process, a new resource, or a new dataset. Reports are stored in still another database.

dataset object

A *dataset object* is a CA Process Automation automation object that defines and stores data that can be shared with multiple processes or operators. A dataset object is also referred to as a named dataset.

datasets

Datasets define variables and store data in CA Process Automation. The three main types of datasets are process dataset, operator dataset, and named dataset.

Designers (CA EEM)

Designers is an application user group in CA EEM with access rights required by users who design automated processes and their associated automation objects. Users belonging to this group can access most features in the Library tab and all features in the Designer tab and the Operations tab.

Domain

The *Domain* is the construct that encompasses everything in CA Process Automation for a given enterprise. The Domain is represented as the top node in the Domain hierarchy of a CA Process Automation system. When you install the first CA Process Automation, the Domain includes the Default Environment with the Domain Orchestrator.

Domain Administrator

Domain Administrator is associated with access rights. With this right, you can lock the Domain and add environments to the Domain. You can also configure security, properties, operator categories, and triggers at the Domain level.

Domain Orchestrator

The *Domain Orchestrator* is the orchestrator that is installed on the first host where CA Process Automation is installed. The Domain Orchestrator performs all functions of other orchestrators and unique functions such as mirroring, heartbeat, and configuration updates with agents.

dynamic user group (CA EEM)

A *dynamic user group* is composed of global users that share one or more common attributes. A dynamic user group is created through a special dynamic user group policy. In the dynamic user group policy, the resource name is the dynamic user group name. Membership is based on a set of filters configured on user and group attributes.

EiamAdmin user name (CA EEM)

EiamAdmin is the default superuser name assigned to the installer of Embedded Entitlements Manager (CA EEM). The EiamAdmin user can perform any operation in CA EEM, including creating user accounts, assigning an application group to global users, and customizing policies.

environment

An e*nvironment* is a logical partition of the Domain that can segment organizational functions. You can use separate environments for stages in the development lifecycle of processes. For example, you can use the Default Environment for design and can add a separate environment for production use. You can use separate environments for different geographical locations where processes run. At installation, the CA Process Automation Domain contains one environment, the Default Environment.

Environment Configuration Administrator

Environment Configuration Administrator is associated with access rights. With this right, you can override domain-level configurations at the environment level. With custom environment policies, you can specify the environment to which a right applies.

Environment Content Administrator

Environment Content Administrator is associated with access rights. With this right, you can create any object in any folder in the Library Browser. You can also select Run as Owner on a process you do not own, disable runtime security, and import objects with runtime security disabled.

Environment User

Environment User is associated with access rights. With this right alone, you have limited rights in the Library Browser. You can open the Library Browser but you cannot view folders or create new objects. This access right is prerequisite to rights to access folders and automation objects.

exception handler

An e*xception handler* is the part of a process that defines how exceptions to the expected flow are handled. When an exception occurs, the exception handler evaluates exceptions in this order: System exception, unexpected result, operator abort, and timeout. After the evaluation, the exception handler runs the sequence of operators specific to the exception found.

Export / Import

The *export / import* process lets you share the definitions of the selected set of automation objects across any set of Orchestrators. Exporting the root folder and then importing it into the root folder of a new Orchestrator lets you move the entire database of definitions. You can export and then import a package within a domain or across Domains. Since passwords are encrypted, importing datasets into a different domain nulls out passwords. This is by design because different Domains use different encryption keys.

File operators

The *File* operators manage directories, files, and their contents in CA Process Automation processes.

File Transfer operators

The *File Transfer* operators manage directories and files over the FTP protocol.

FIPS 140-2

FIPS 140-2 is the publication number for the *Security Requirements for Cryptographic Modules* issued in May 2001. NIST, an agency of the U. S. Department of Commerce uses the FIPS Publications. The FIPS 140-2 federal standard specifies the security requirements for cryptographic modules used within a security system that protects sensitive but unclassified information.

FIPS 140-2 compatible

FIPS 140-2 compatible is a designation for a product that can *optionally* use FIPS-compliant cryptographic libraries and algorithms to encrypt and decrypt sensitive data.

FIPS 140-2 compliant

FIPS 140-2 compliant is a designation for a product that by default uses only encryption algorithms certified by an accredited Cryptographic Module Testing (CMT) laboratory.

folder

A *folder* is an automation object container within the CA Process Automation library. You can search and navigate through folders from the Library Browser.

high availability

High availability is the assurance that processing remains uninterrupted in the unlikely event that one or more nodes of a clustered orchestrator fail. When an orchestrator cluster is implemented, the system continues to be available as long as one or more of its nodes are available.

host group

A h*ost group* is a group of remote hosts with a common host name pattern or from a common IP address subnet. Valid members of a host group are those hosts to which the configured agent has SSH access. Operators can target such a remote host referenced by a host group with its Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) or IP address.

interaction request form

An *interaction request form* is an automation object that content designers use to capture user-supplied information at runtime. An interaction request form instance is used with a User Interaction Request operator to create tasks for end users.

IT process automation

IT process automation is the ability to automate operational processes within and across your IT organization. IT process automation fosters coordination within the business to support regulatory and compliance requirements.

lane change handler

A *lane change handler* is part of a process definition. The lane change handler specifies the processing that occurs during the transition between swim lanes.

Library

The *Library* is where users view, edit, and save automation objects or use rich searching and filtering to find automation objects to edit. Automaton objects can be grouped into folders. Folders can be navigated within the Library.

managed resource

A *managed resource* is an agent or orchestrator on which operators of a process run.

metadata (export)

Metadata is tagging information that helps designers to identify the version of an object that is being used in the production environment. The metadata specified for a package at export includes the Solution Name and Solution Version. The metadata specified for objects within a package (or folder) at export includes the Release Version.

mirroring interval

The *mirroring interval* is a configuration that specifies how often orchestrators and agents contact the Domain Orchestrator for updates to mirrored information.

named dataset

A *named dataset* is a CA Process Automation automation object that defines an stores data that can be shared with multiple processes or operators. A named dataset can define variables having library scope. A named dataset is also referred to as a dataset object.

operator

An o*perator* is a reusable unit of work that you drag and drop onto a process to compose the actions that the process performs.

operator category

An *operator category* is composed of a set of related operators sharing a common configuration. Operators in given operator category are grouped together to provide content designers with a cohesive functionality set. CA Process Automation contains built-in operator categories that do not interface with external software programs. Operator categories can be configured and enabled or disabled at the domain, environment, orchestrator, and agent levels.

operator dataset

An *operator dataset* contains the data that is associated with each instance of an operator. An operator dataset is typically comprised of both the inputs and outputs of the operator.

Orchestrator

An O*rchestrator* is the engine component of CA Process Automation that drives the execution of processes. You can add multiple Orchestrators to any environment in the Domain. Orchestrators can be clustered for scalability and high availability.

package

A *package* is a bundle of related objects that compose an export from CA Process Automation. A package can contain objects from different folders. You can import an exported package into an Orchestrator in another environment in the same Domain. You can also import a package into a different Domain. Passwords are not transferred during an import from another Domain; passwords get reset/altered due to encryption.

PAMAdmins

PAMAdmins is an application user group with full access rights to everything within the CA Process Automation domain. Users belonging to this group can access all features and objects in CA Process Automation

PAMUsers

PAMUsers is an application user group in CA EEM with limited access rights in CA Process Automation. This group is appropriately assigned to users who access CA Process Automation to view reports.

port on a process diagram

A *port on a process diagram* is a position on an operator icon where a link can be connected. A link begins at an operator output port and ends at another operator. Typically, the end point for the link is at the next operator in the processing sequence. Predefined ports are success and failure. You can define custom ports for outcomes handled by exception handlers.

primary node

The *primary node* of an orchestrator cluster is the node that broadcasts changes to other nodes in that cluster. In addition, the primary node runs operations on the database for the cluster.

process

A *process* is an organized sequence of operators that automate and orchestrate systems in an application. A process typically includes datasets and exception handling.

Process Automation (CA EEM)

Process Automation is the application instance name that CA EEM uses for CA Process Automation. To access CA Process Automation functionality in Embedded Entitlements Manager, first enter the URL, https://*ip_address*:5250/spin/eiam/ to display the login screen. Then, select Process Automation as the application name and enter the password of the EiamAdmin user.

process dataset

A *process dataset* is a data set that contains variables and data that are associated with each instance of a process. The process dataset typically comprises inputs and outputs of the process and other data that is frequently shared across the operators in the process.

process watch

A *process watch* is a display of instances of content developed with automation objects that can be monitored for state changes. An instance can be a resource, a dataset, or a process in various states, including running, waiting, and completed.

production user

The *production user* is a CA Process Automation role. The production user includes any CA Process Automation user in the production environment. Production users run processes, provide input to certain processes, monitor processes, and run reports. Production users are configured in CA EEM with the Production Users group.

Production Users (CA EEM)

Production Users is an application user group in CA EEM with access rights required by users who use automated processes after they have been transitioned to a production environment. Users belonging to this group can access almost all features in the Operations tab.

proxy touchpoint

A *proxy touchpoint* is a touchpoint that maps an agent to a remote host using *Secure Shell* (SSH). A proxy touchpoint allows operators to run on a remote host that has no installed agent.

recycle bin

The r*ecycle bin* is a temporary repository for folders and objects you delete from the Library Browser. When you open the recycle bin, you can either purge or restore selected folders or objects. Purging an object completely removes it; you cannot restore a purged object. Restoring an object in a deleted folder restores the object and its folder tree to the Library Browser.

remote host

A *remote host* is a host on which no agent is installed, but which can run operators. An SSH connection is made from an agent to the remote host. Remote hosts are mapped individually to proxy touchpoints and through name or IP address pattern matching to host groups.

Reporting database

The *Reporting database* is typically a database on the Domain Orchestrator that is shared by all Orchestrators in the Domain. The Reporting database stores historical data for automation object instances, including processes, resources, schedules, process watches. Administrators can generate near real-time reports with this data using the predefined report definitions and custom report definitions in the Reports tab.

Repository (Library) database

The *Repository database*, or Library database, is a database that stores the automation objects created in folders in the Library tab in CA Process Automation. Multiple Orchestrators can share the Repository database on the Domain Orchestrator or each Orchestrator can have its own. The stored data includes the library tree structure, the complete definition of each object, as well as ownership, and versioning information.

Runtime database

The *Runtime database* is an Orchestrator-specific database that stores process instance data for a single Orchestrator. Data includes information on currently running process instances, instances that have been run but have not yet been moved to the archive table, and archived instances. You can access current and archived data from the Operations tab. Each runtime record include the state, dataset, and owner for the object instance, as well as scheduling information.

Runtime Security

Runtime Security determines whether a process or child process runs under the user who starts it or runs under the process owner. During process design, properties are set for Runtime Security and Run as Owner. You can override process property settings at the Operator level at runtime.

schedule object

A *schedule* is an automation object that, when checked in and activated, launches a specified process or operator at the specified frequency. You can create a schedule that uses the dates and the times configured in include and exclude calendars.

solution

A *solution* is any set of content that is deployed to CA Technologies users to meet a specific objective. The content for CA Process Automation can apply to CA Process Automation alone or the content can contribute to a set of content from multiple CA Technologies products that work together. For example, in a cloud application, content from many CA Technologies products contribute to the accomplishment a larger overall goal.

start request form

A *start request form* is an automation object that allows you to enter the parameter values you want a process to use during execution.

swim lanes

Swim lanes are vertical or horizontal areas of a process diagram that represent functionally different parts of an automated process.

target

The *target*, which is an execution setting for all operators, typically specifies the touchpoint on which to run the operator. Operators can also target a remote host referenced by a host group with its Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN) or IP address.

touchpoint

A *touchpoint* is an environment-specific logical representation of one or more managed resources. A managed resource is an agent or orchestrator on which operators of a process run. To run an operator on a given agent or its failover, you specify the target as the touchpoint that is mapped to these agents.

touchpoint group

A *touchpoint group* is composed of two or more touchpoints on which to run operations simultaneously. Touchpoint groups are commonly used to run operations on similarly configured hosts.

Touchpoint Security

Touchpoint Security is a security goal that is met with CA EEM Touchpoint Security policies. Protected touchpoints are typically associated with agents running on sensitive hosts or which connect to sensitive resources. You can protect data on hosts targeted by an operator within a process. Policies restrict who can run scripts or programs on sensitive hosts.

trigger

A *trigger* is one way an external application or system can initiate a process instance. CA Process Automation supports a Mail trigger, a File trigger, an SNMP trigger, and a Catalyst trigger.

Unified Service Model (USM)

The *Unified Service Model (USM)* is a schema of common object types and properties to which data from all connectors is converted. The USM schema enables analysis of data from all domain managers in a common interface with identical formatting.

UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)

Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) is an international standard for civil time. Time zones are expressed as positive or negative offsets from UTC. UTC is accurate to about a nanosecond per day. However, it is loosely equivalent to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), which it replaced.

ValueMap

A *ValueMap* object is a complex dataset type that contains related variables. ValueMap objects can encapsulate fields of different data types. You reference the values of a ValueMap with the field name (var value = vmap.field_name). Many programming and scripting languages include a dataset type that is equivalent to the CA Technologies ValueMap.

Web services

The *Web services* are application programming interfaces (APIs). Web services methods allow external applications to suspend, resume, and abort process instances in CA Process Automation.