VISUAL PRODUCT MODELING SYSTEM (VP/MS)

CRACK THE CODE FOR ADMINISTERING CALCULATIONS AND BUSINESS RULES

CSC

CRACK THE CODE FOR ADMINISTERING CALCULATIONS AND BUSINESS RULES

- Shorten Time to Market
- Increase Efficiency and Consistency
- Centralize and Reuse Calculations and Business Rules
- Extend Existing Application Logic
- Put Calculation and Rule Development into the Hands of Business Experts
- Reduce Implementation and Maintenance Costs

INCREASE SPEED WHILE REDUCING COSTS

To be agile and responsive, your company must be able to design and support new products and business rules faster than ever. What if you could take the pressure off your IT department and let your business users create and test new products?

A growing number of the world's leading insurers are revolutionizing product development processes — while protecting their investments in legacy policy administration systems. They're working within limited budgets to create innovative products faster, and they're using a centralized approach to ensure regulatory compliance.

How can your company crack the code to creating products, rules and calculations with less IT support? The answer is VP/MS®.

SIMPLIFY PRODUCT DESIGN

CSC's Visual Product Modeling System (VP/MS) helps you dramatically simplify the time-consuming process of coding and testing, eliminating the many handoffs between your business and IT staff and driving down the costs of new products.

VP/MS is an easy-to-use tool that places product design, calculations and rules into the hands of your business experts. Calculations and rules are defined one time and may be deployed to multiple systems. Reusing definitions can help you can achieve dramatic savings in both time and resources.

VP/MS offers extreme flexibility, which is the key to creating new product calculations and rules quickly. Used as standalone software or integrated with your systems, VP/MS supports development for virtually any product line.

LEVERAGE PROGRAMMING EFFORTS

Since calculations and rules shared by several systems are created one time and maintained in one place, you no longer need different teams of programmers and analysts. Modifications require minimal programmer involvement, providing additional cost savings. VP/MS lets your IT staff concentrate on strategic tasks while your business users handle day-to-day changes.

ACCELERATE DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING

VP/MS Workbench uses plain English, not programming code, to create new product features and modifications. The system can develop calculations and rules in an expert mode, or you can develop them with a graphical tool that maps business function logically. You can copy and change models easily.

Built-in standard functions as well as sample models and style guides give your experts a quick start. Models may use tabular values and rates stored either externally or internally, and you can easily import and export from a number of sources.

Users can test attributes, tables, formulas, calculations or rules during the development process. They can also store the results and run the tests again en masse to determine the impact of a change. VP/MS presents the changed result and gives the option to overwrite the old value. You can run iterative tests as often as needed, without time-consuming data entry.

Automatic version control explains the changes, and you can retrieve prior versions at any time. With one click, your business experts create a run-time version of the VP/MS model, which can be ported to virtually any system. Your target systems stay in sync and there's no need for duplicate development.

With the VP/MS Test Suite facility, you can run tests against existing legacy data or sample data for comparative results or what-if analyses. Upfront testing consistently reduces development expenses.

The VP/MS Documentation Suite generates specifications of the model, eliminating another step in the development process. When the model is finished, you simply print the VP/MS model documentation for distribution.

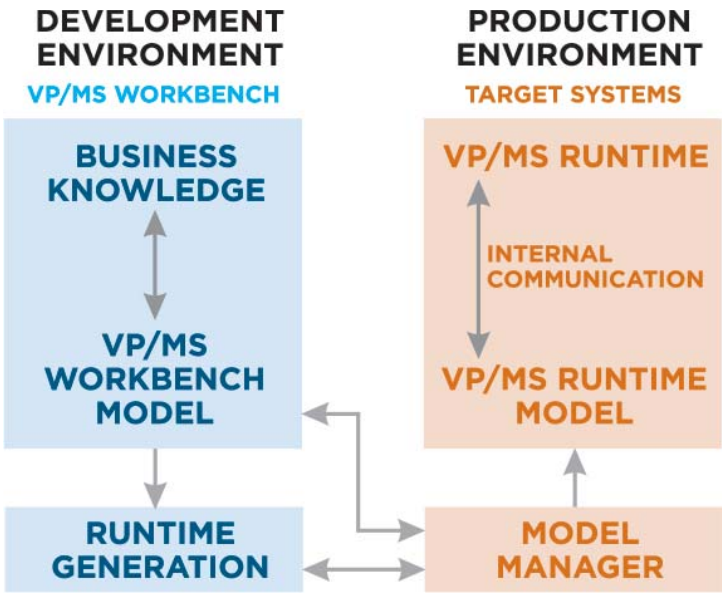
VP/MS Features

- Built-In Standard Functions
- Predefined Components
- Drag-and-Drop Definitions
- Reusable Models
- Table-Based and Dynamic Calculations
- Integrated Testing Tools
- Interactive and En Masse Testing
- Self-Documenting Capability
- Portability

Examples Defined in VP/MS

- Suitability Analysis
- Illustrations and Reprojections
- Surrender Charges
- Target Premiums
- DEFRA and TAMRA Calculations
- Dynamic Calculations of Traditional Cash Values and Dividends
- Full Product Calculations
- Administration Rules
- Claims Rules
- Enrollment Rules
- Underwriting Rules
- New Business Rules
- Billing Rules

MAXIMIZE YOUR OPTIONS
WITH ADDITIONAL COMPONENTS



Calculations and rules created using VP/MS Workbench can be integrated easily into virtually any target system with minimal effort.

In addition to VP/MS Workbench, you can extend your capabilities by taking advantage of other powerful components.

VP/MS Designer

VP/MS Designer is an optional tool that can create a presentation layer or user interface without conventional programming procedures. It may be used to create a facility for model office testing or as the input vehicle for a new system component. You can create a testing environment without duplicating your entire back office or illustration systems.

VP/MS Designer works alongside VP/MS Workbench. You can create the user interface by dragging and dropping all of the input and result values from VP/MS Workbench. To build the presentation layer, you simply drag and drop the data fields you wish to present, choosing standard elements such as radio buttons, drop-down lists, result fields, borders and labels as appropriate. VP/MS Designer supports building multilayered, multipage applications that may be responsible for interactive validation of data input. Interactive testing is achieved by simply clicking a button, and the system responds in real time.

VP/MS separates calculations and rules models from the presentation layer. Nested models allow further structuring of the VP/MS models, letting you put together various model architectures to operate various user interfaces.

The user interface provides a good presentation for quick review of product features with your marketing department. Additionally, it provides early review of hypothetical what-ifs to ensure the designs match marketing expectations.

VP/MS Model Manager

VP/MS Model Manager supports the product development process by assisting with versioning, team collaboration and access control.

One core task is the central administration of VP/MS models. VP/MS Model Manager can bundle all the documents that belong to the project into a component, then archive and track each component in a separate repository.

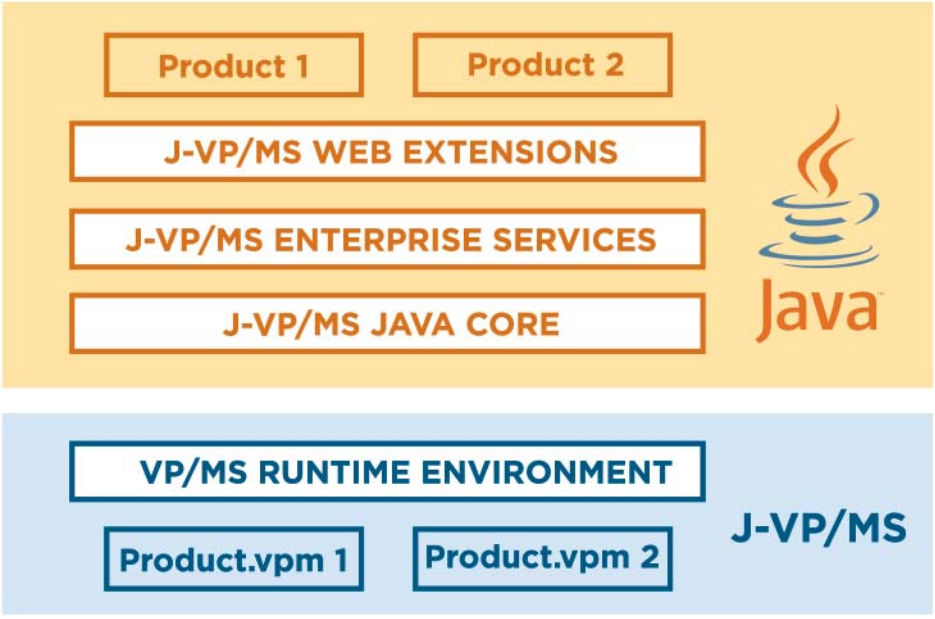
When working with models and the accompanying documents, team collaboration becomes more important. VP/MS Model Manager can identify and avoid conflicts caused by parallel modification. Extensive support functions for comparing and merging product models streamline product development in a team environment.

Documentation Suite

VP/MS Documentation Suite can document models at any point in the development process. It generates multiple configurable reports of models, including model structure and content, dependencies between calculations in a hierarchy, repository information and a hyperlinked table of contents. When the model is finished, you simply print the model documentation in PDF format and distribute. Documentation Suite provides detailed specifications of the model, saving time and ensuring accuracy and consistency. You can customize reports to create anything from a model specification document to a users' manual.

Integration Tool

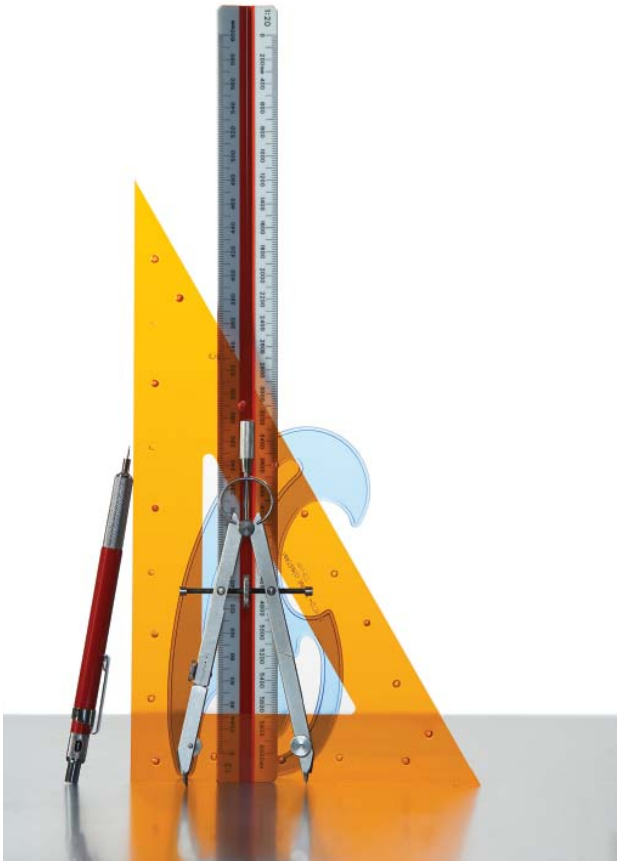
J-VP/MS is an optional component for integrating VP/MS calculations and rules into enterprise systems. Its Java interface, based on Java EE standards, exposes functionality provided by the base VP/MS system. The Java language offers portability across many platforms, while Java EE provides a distributed scalable system. J-VP/MS offers additional flexibility through Web services, EJB interfaces, storage capabilities and Web page generation. J-VP/MS also addresses the needs of insurers and financial services providers that bring new or modified products to market in short cycles over the Internet using Java EE architecture.



J-VP/MS makes integration with Java EE applications easy and straightforward.

BUILD A FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE

In ***Celent Model Carrier 2007: Case Studies of Effective Technology Usage in Insurance***, Celent highlighted the benefits VP/MS delivered to one of the nation's top mutual life insurers:
"In addition to ensuring consistency, the use of a common calculation engine has eliminated two months from new product introduction times, by eliminating the coding and QA of calculations from actuaries' spreadsheets into production systems."



INTEGRATE RAPIDLY WITH A STANDARDIZED PLATFORM

A platform-independent solution such as VP/MS can enhance your software investments. VP/MS models integrate easily with your existing applications and have been used with Windows, AS/400, z/OS, OS/390 and UNIX operating systems. VP/MS is Java EE-compliant and employs standardized APIs that you can integrate rapidly into your system of choice.

LEVERAGE THE POWER OF CSC E4

VP/MS is strategic technology within the CSC e4℠ architectural framework. CSC e4 provides a simple means of implementing business processes and delivers an end-to-end development environment that encompasses presentation, application and storage. CSC e4 organizes a solution around business processes, not applications or technologies, and provides a coherent model by which new applications can be developed and plugged into the architecture with little or no rework of existing applications. CSC e4 leverages technology standards such as Java EE and industry standards such as ACORD and XMLife, and its flexibility allows business processes to be tuned or amended without any coding changes. The framework is flexible, scalable and rapidly deployed in solutions for extended enterprises at a low cost of ownership.

SEIZE NEW OPPORTUNITIES

To be cost-effective in today's market, you must leverage and simplify your programming efforts and manage IT projects more efficiently. But you also need to plan for the future. VP/MS cracks the code for administering calculations and business rules. It helps you reduce costs today, and increases your ability to compete, grow and thrive.

For more information on VP/MS, call 800.345.7672 or send an e-mail to inforequests@csc.com.

CSC'S FOCUS ON LIFE AND ANNUITIES

REACH FOR NEW HEIGHTS IN PERFORMANCE AND FLEXIBILITY

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- Network Management
- Data Center Operations
- Voice and Communications
- Disaster Recovery
- Help Desk Services
- Security Services

BUSINESS AND TECHNICAL CONSULTING

Solutions for:

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- Customer and Business Performance Intelligence
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
- IT and Business Alignment
- Performance Engineering
- Application and Infrastructure Modernization

APPLICATION SOFTWARE

Solutions for:

- Product Development
- Work Management
- Risk Management and Business Analytics
- Litigation Management
- New Business and Underwriting
- Customer Service
- Policy Administration
- Claims
- Compensation

APPLICATION OUTSOURCING AND SERVICES

Solutions for:

- Implementations and Upgrades
- Conversions and Consolidations
- Development, Maintenance and Enhancements
- Testing and Quality Assurance
- User and Production Support
- Managed Hosting
- Performance Engineering and Optimization

BUSINESS PROCESS OUTSOURCING

Solutions for:

- Active and Closed Block Administration
- New Product Launches and Start-Ups
- Single Function BPO
- Staff Augmentation

BUSINESS SOLUTIONS
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ABOUT CSC

The mission of CSC is to be a global leader in providing technology-enabled business solutions and services.

With the broadest range of capabilities, CSC offers clients the solutions they need to manage complexity, focus on core businesses, collaborate with partners and clients, and improve operations.

CSC makes a special point of understanding its clients and provides experts with real-world experience to work with them. CSC is vendor-independent, delivering solutions that best meet each client's unique requirements.

For more than 45 years, clients in industries and governments worldwide have trusted CSC with their business process and information systems outsourcing, systems integration and consulting needs.

The company trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "CSC."

ABOUT CSC IN FINANCIAL SERVICES

CSC provides mission-critical business solutions, consulting and outsourcing services to leading financial services firms around the world.

We bring more choices to the industry. We help clients plan for business and technology change. We create software, tools and processes to address specific business needs, and we continually enhance those solutions by collaborating with an extensive network of client communities and technology partners.

Our global outsourcing operations give us real-world insight into business and IT processes that deliver the best results for our clients. More than 1,200 major banks, insurers, and investment management and securities firms rely on the experience, ingenuity and leadership of more than 10,000 CSC employees focused on financial services.

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