



Metastorm Integration Services

WebSphere MQ Health Check

Get the Most from Your WebSphere MQ Deployment

IBM's WebSphere® MQ is widely used in mission-critical applications. Asynchronous communications provide an ideal infrastructure to enable the integration of applications, and so become the foundation for new business applications. In many cases, the WebSphere MQ network expands at organizations—initially developed during a pilot, rapidly rolled into an application, and then leveraged by multiple applications across a number of different operating systems. As a result, tactical implementations for a pilot or initial application could now be constraining or impacting the performance and availability requirements across your enterprise.

Frequently the original definitions, standards, naming conventions, and capacity estimates used to support the initial pilot or application have been carried beyond WebSphere MQ's simple beginnings in an organization into a more complex environment. While these definitions and configurations may be adequate for the current messaging volume generated by these applications, there may be a limit as to how much further they can grow before becoming a problem, requiring risky and costly fixes. In addition, the MQ software itself may have new features that might be unknown or well understood, but available for beneficial and valuable exploitation by the organization.

Metastorm helps you get the most out of your WebSphere MQ deployment with our MQ Health Check service.

A Metastorm MQ Health Check is a rapid and comprehensive audit of your existing infrastructure. It covers the base MQ deployment and can be extended to include the deployment of WebSphere Message Broker. The audit makes use of predefined checklists that have been developed by Metastorm based on our deep experience auditing, designing, and implementing large-scale MQ infrastructures. Using best practices, our consultants have proven track records helping customers design and deploy mission critical WebSphere MQ based systems with aggressive schedules providing great operational resilience and integrity. A typical MQ Health Check consists of the following steps:

- You complete a data-gathering document with key information about the environment that will be used to plan and execute the MQ Health Check.
- We conduct an initial interview to gather client specific requirements, obtain

Highlights

Benefits

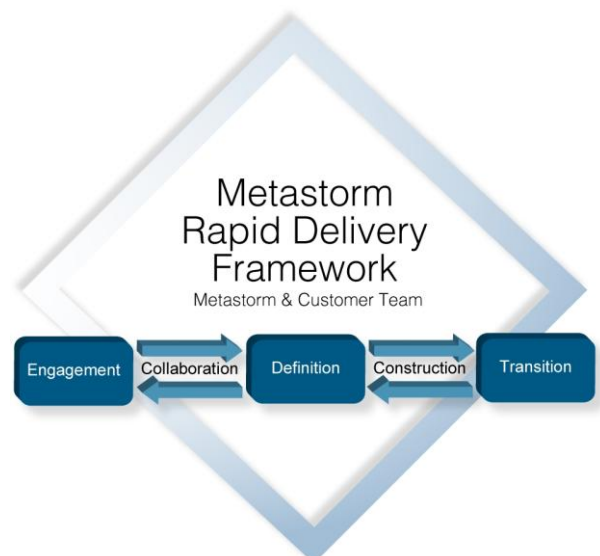
- The MQ infrastructure is reviewed and audited using industry best practices and procedures
- Reduce risks and manage them early and promptly
- As a valued IBM business partner, Metastorm has access to the resources necessary to help ensure your success
- You gain skills and experience through both formal and informal skills transfer
- Metastorm consultants offer expertise in all aspects of the MQ family of products and have a proven track record working with clients on global integration projects using MQ

background information about the existing infrastructure, and establish agreement on the logistical aspects of the engagement.

- A customized Health Check item list is prepared for the engagement based on your specific requirements. Areas addressed in the list include some of the following, depending on the time allocated:
 - Network (topology, bandwidth, connectivity), Hardware (platforms, configurations, connectivity), and Operating System (version, fix level)
 - Application (infrastructure requirements and design, application design, source code standards, other standards and conventions)
 - Object Definitions (queue manager instances, queues and other MQ objects, naming standards)
 - Security (requirements, groups and access authority, relation to other security systems, use of MQ integration, client connections)
 - Performance (requirements, throughput and response times, message sizes, batch sizes, triggering and channel initiation, persistence)
 - Testing (identification of development test schedules and appropriate tool selection, functional testing, failure testing, stress analysis)
 - Management (administration, monitoring, reporting, problem determination, problem prevention, operator procedures)
 - Project Team Organization (roles and responsibilities, skills, training)
 - Disaster recovery review
- An on-site audit is conducted. This includes meetings, interviews, and supervised access to the client's computing systems.
- Metastorm presents a report describing our findings, and providing prioritized recommendations for action or areas where there would be beneficial improvement, based on the analysis of audit information and research. This document includes a summary of findings, recommendations, activity report, Health Check item report, MQ channel overview, and MQ queue overview.

Proven Implementation Methodology

The Metastorm Rapid Delivery Framework (RDF) is a robust and adaptable approach to rapidly deploying your BPM and Integration initiatives. Developed and continuously enhanced by the industry experts of the Metastorm Professional Services team, the best practice delivery methodologies of the Metastorm RDF help you increase speed to value and establish a solid foundation for on-going process and system improvements by fully leveraging the depth of capabilities and flexibility offered in the Metastorm BPM® and Metastorm Integration Manager software solutions.



With a strong customer focus and emphasis on collaboration, the Metastorm RDF helps ensure your implementation is easily understood and embraced. The five phases of the Metastorm RDF include:

- *Engagement* – project discovery and initiation
- *Collaboration* – communication of requirements, initial prototyping
- *Definition* – detailed solution and architecture design, enhancement of prototype to convert to development model
- *Construction* – enhancement of development model to convert to complete application, project team testing
- *Transition* – customer QA and user acceptance testing, deployment activities

Throughout the entire engagement, you maintain full project visibility and participation, allowing checkpoints and milestones to be easily tracked and measured by everyone involved. The Metastorm RDF approach to implementation perfectly complements the Metastorm Enterprise portfolio of solutions, enables the transfer of knowledge and skills to your team, and helps you achieve a rapid and successful solution roll-out that delivers immediate results.

Why Metastorm?

Metastorm and our integrated support network have the experience and resources necessary for successful planning, enterprise integration, customization, project management, technical support and education to help you get the most out of your Metastorm investment. We offer the right combination of the industry's top people and solutions to help you meet your business objectives. Metastorm Professional Services deliver:

- Expert consultants who understand BPM and integration strategy, technology and business process challenges in your industry
- Proficient trainers experienced in knowledge transfer
- Superior customer support for immediate response and results
- Diverse partner access to complement the Metastorm team

Metastorm is committed to your success and to building a long-lasting relationship that helps you realize a strong return from your investment – both now and into the future. Let our Professional Services team help you take full advantage of Metastorm technology by analyzing your business and system processes, identifying issues, and transforming them into efficient Metastorm processes.

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