



Son of SOA Resource-Oriented Computing Event-Driven Architecture

Eugene Ciurana
Director, Systems Infrastructure
LeapFrog Enterprises, Inc.



eugenex@leapfrog.com

pr3d4t0r @ irc://irc.freenode.net ##java, #esb, #awk, #security



About Eugene

- **15+ years of experience building mission-critical, high-availability systems infrastructure**
- **12+ years of Java work**
- **Open-source evangelist**
 - Official adoption of open-source / Linux at Wal-Mart Stores
 - State-of-the-art tech for main-line of business roll-outs
- **Engaged by the largest companies in the world**
 - Retail
 - Finance
 - Oil industry





What You Will Learn...

- **How to develop complex apps within very tight deadlines**
- **Formalize integration around a resource-oriented model**
- **Develop event-driven apps based on existing production tech and services**
- **Turn SOA-based systems into callbacks as an evolution of the provider/consumer model**
- **Define application processing in terms of compositions and asynchronous sequences of resource requests**



So... What is the Problem?

- **Very tight deadlines**
 - Typical 12-month project rolled out in 90 days
- **Development team built at the same time as application design work**
- **No history of developing Web applications**
- **Rigid IT infrastructure and policies**
 - SOX and other compliance issues
 - IT guys used to rule the world
- **Integration with financial and other legacy systems is a must**



Advantages

- **Very tight deadlines!**
 - We gotta do what we gotta do...
- **Dev team grows at the same time as design work proceeds**
 - Technology adoption driven by team member selection and viceversa
- **Very few legacy issues to deal with in Web applications**
 - Adoption of best-of-breed technology from open-source community
- **IT doesn't do Web systems**
 - Technology adoption policy evolves along with design and development
- **No need to reinvent the wheel for existing systems**
 - Financial, CRM model, etc.



Integration Through Services

- **SOA = Services-Oriented Architecture**
- **Collection of services that communicate with one another**
 - No dependencies on other services
 - Self-contained
- **Messaging: mechanism for communication between two or more services**
- **Real-time, asynchronous, synchronous**
 - May occur over different transports
 - HTTP, FTP, JMS, RMI, CORBA, etc.

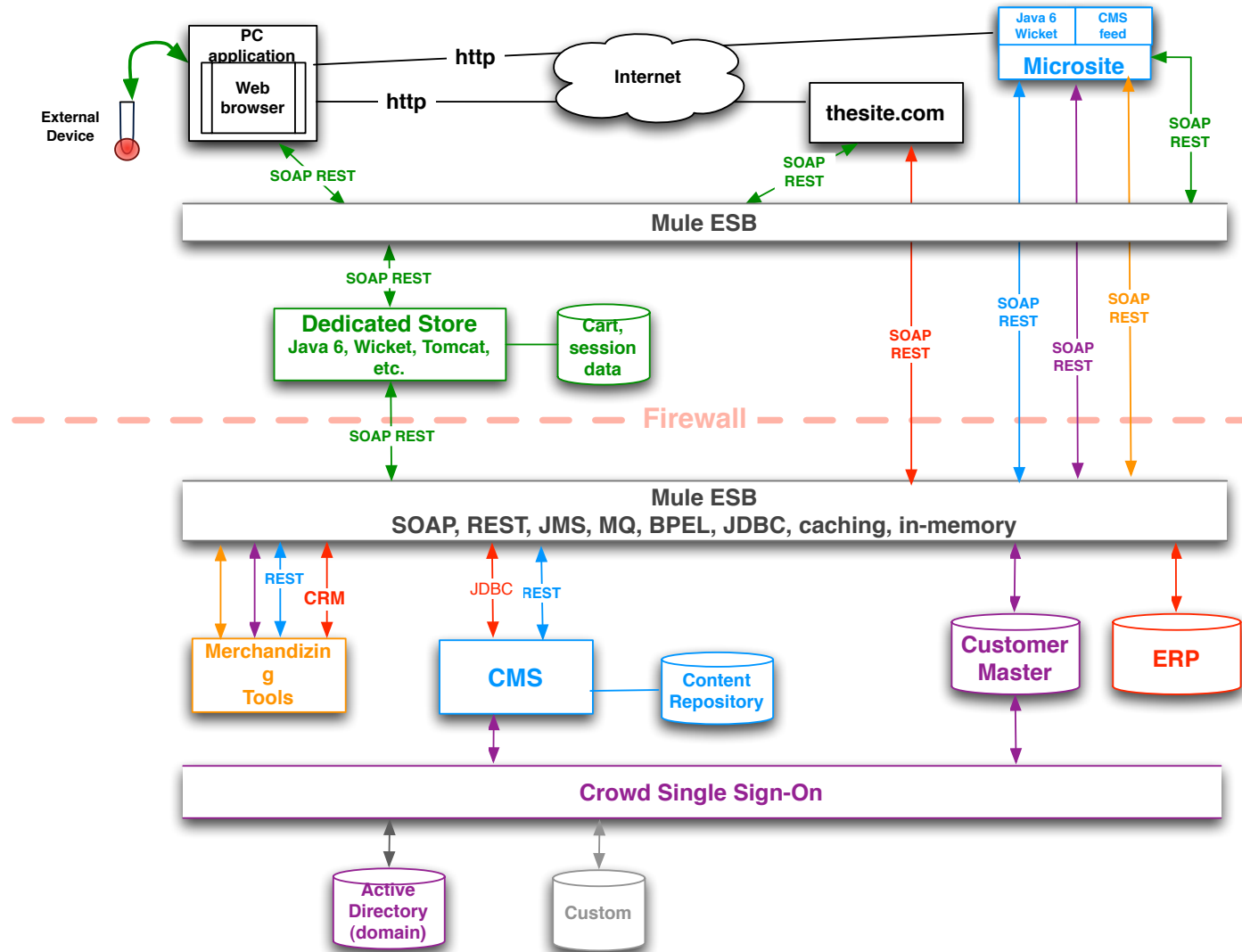


SOA Limitations

- **Not all systems can be mapped as services**
- **Workflow issues**
- **Development team coordination**
- **Programmer skill levels**
 - Do your programmers grok SOA?
- **System coupling**
 - System dependencies
 - Organizational dependencies



Environment - First Iteration





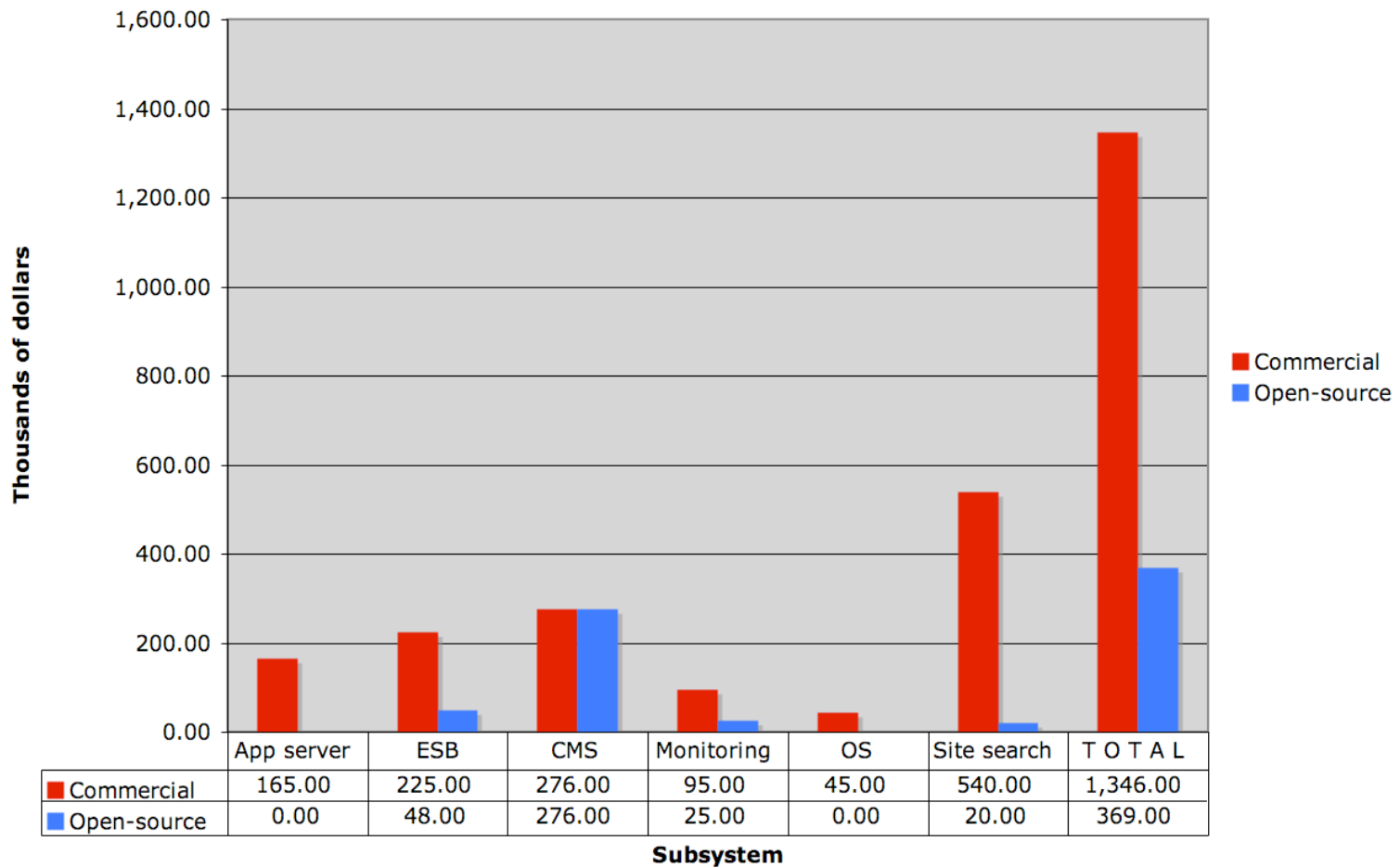
Technologies Deployed

- **Best of Breed**
- **Mule ESB - the backbone**
- **Crowd Single Sign-on**
- **GWT for front end AJAXy stuff**
- **Wicket for Web applications**
- **Day Communiqué / CRX for CMS**
- **All open-source development tools**
- **Java 5 and Java 6**



How Well Did This Work?

Cost Comparison Web Systems





What's Next?

- **Integration of third-party systems**
 - 2007 - two
 - 2008 - ten or more
- **International sites**
- **Real-time device data processing**
- **Multiple data sources**
 - Databases
 - Financial systems
 - CRM
- **Support for millions of devices “in the wild”**



Shift Toward Consuming Resources

- **Conscious decision to blur the distinction between “services” and “data sources”**
- **Everything is a resource**
 - SOAP, REST, JMS, files
 - Web apps back-end
 - Computational data
- **Resources are available through a well-defined protocol**
- **Resources are always available through a common transport to simplify development and deployment**



What is Resource-Oriented Computing?

- **All components of a system are viewed as resources to be consumed synchronously or asynchronously**
- **There is no distinction between “data”, “objects” or “services”**
- **There is no dependency on a programming language or framework**
 - **Mix and match is the reason why you want to move toward ROC**
- **Resources are located through URIs**
- **Software identifies resources through logical rather than physical mappings**



What is Resource-Oriented Computing?

- **Programs map logical and physical locations through identifiers in traditional computing models**
 - String resource = “I am some useful, non-trivial text.”;
- **ROC defines resources through verbs and logical identifiers**
 - Yes, it sounds like REST
- **An identifier ALWAYS returns the CURRENT representation of a resource**
- **Each logical identifier is resolved for every request**
 - Resource implementations can change dynamically, resource consumers need not care about where or how a resource is implemented



Java vs. REST vs. ROC

	Java	REST	ROC
Identifier	<code>private int nX;</code>	URI	URI
Fetch	<code>out.printf("nX = %d\n", nX);</code>	Method GET URI	Protocol fetch + URI
Resolve	Compiler, reflection	DNS + app server	ROC kernel or backbone
Compute	Java Virtual Machine	App server	Endpoint and service object
Low-level operation	JVM, method, initializer	HTTP method + URI	Verb + URI pair



Defining Resources

- **Resources don't exist in the context of an application until they are requested**
- **Resources lack typing**
 - Typing is relevant only to the consumer
- **Endpoint URIs may convert types for individual data elements or complex data structures**
- **URIs may encode the desired operation to perform on the data**
 - `protocol://servername/subsystem/operation/resource`



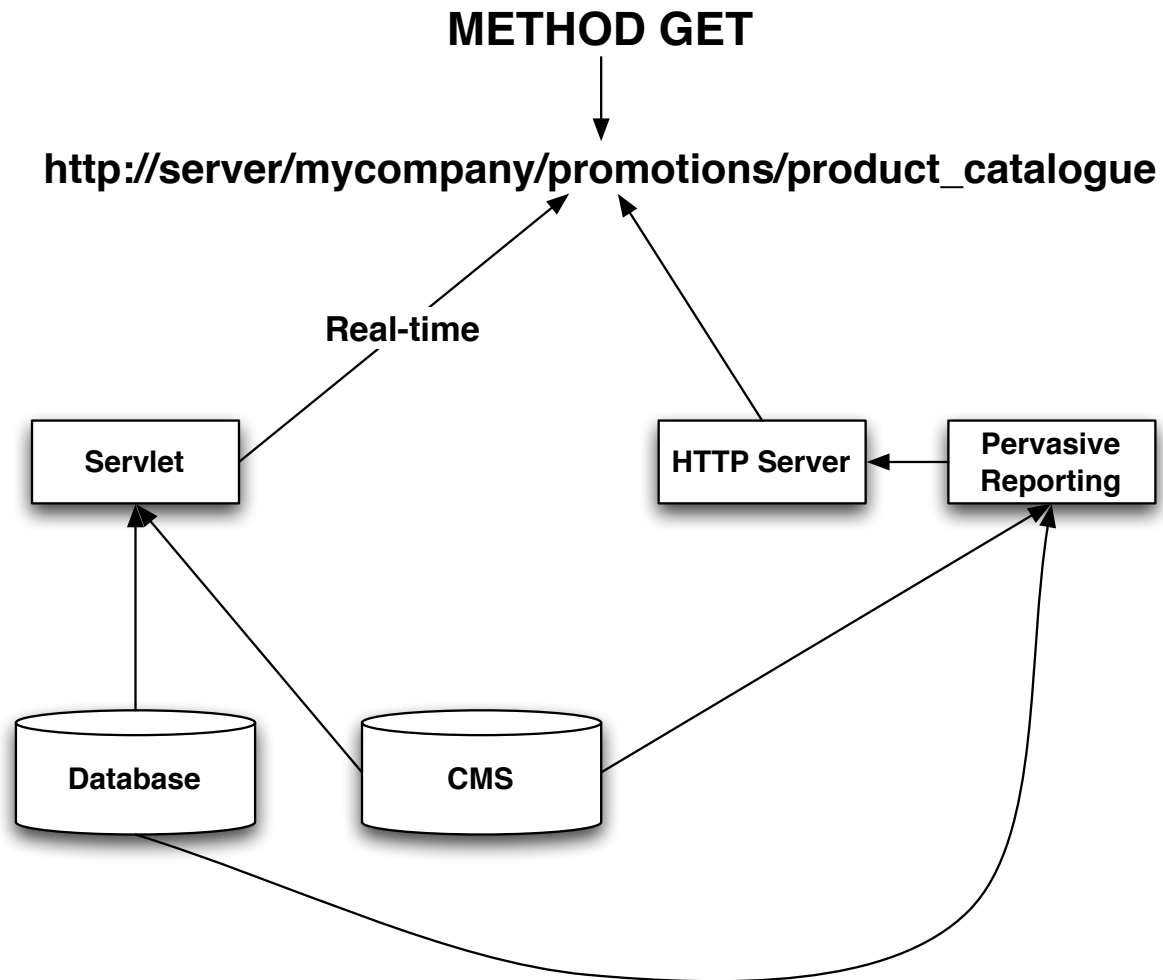
Resource Abstractions

http://server/mycompany/promotions/product_catalogue

- **The promotions resources may be generated...**
 - cron periodically
 - On-demand
 - Aggregated
- **The promotions system of record is independent of the ROC platform or the consumer**
- **The “verb” here is “promotions”, when combined with a GET**
- **There may be two or more aggregators that produce the resource**



Resource Abstractions





ROC Platforms

- **Full ROC platform by 1060 Research**
 - Custom distributed kernel
- **GridGain, GigaSpaces**
 - Distributed Computing
- **Homebrew ROC**
 - Are you in the business of building one from scratch?
- **Off-the-shelf integration**
 - Best-of-breed strategy: find the best components and integrate them



ROC Platforms



VENDOR LOCK-IN!!!!

- **Homebrew ROC**

- Are you in the business of building one from scratch?

- **Off-the-shelf integration**

- **Best-of-breed strategy: find the best components and integrate them**



ROC Architecture

- **The systems are built around a backbone that provides resources via URI**
- **The backbone acts as an resource container or as a conduit between resources or resources and consumers**
- **URI mapping is done by the backbone**
- **Resource containers can exist in the same memory space as the backbone or in a separate system**
- **Resource providers may be written in any programming language**
- **Resource providers are stateless**



ROC Architecture

- **Modularity is attained through logical separation of resources**
 - Resource providers as .jar, .war, or other entity
 - Localized backbones
 - Localized resource providers
- **Logical separation may obey organizational policy, technology policy, or both**
- **Implementation can be done with off-the-shelf components in any combination that makes sense, as long as the backbone is protocol-, language-, and vendor-independent**



ROC Architecture

● Backbone: Mule ESB

- Provides full independence from the kind of crap that vendors like to create lock-in for
- Open-source
- Workflow, transactions, transformations, logging, routing

● Resource container: Mule ESB

- UMOs (service objects) implement business logic independently of protocol or data formats by design
- Transactional, app server and workflow logic built-in
- UMOs are just POJOs

● Synchronization

- In-memory endpoints

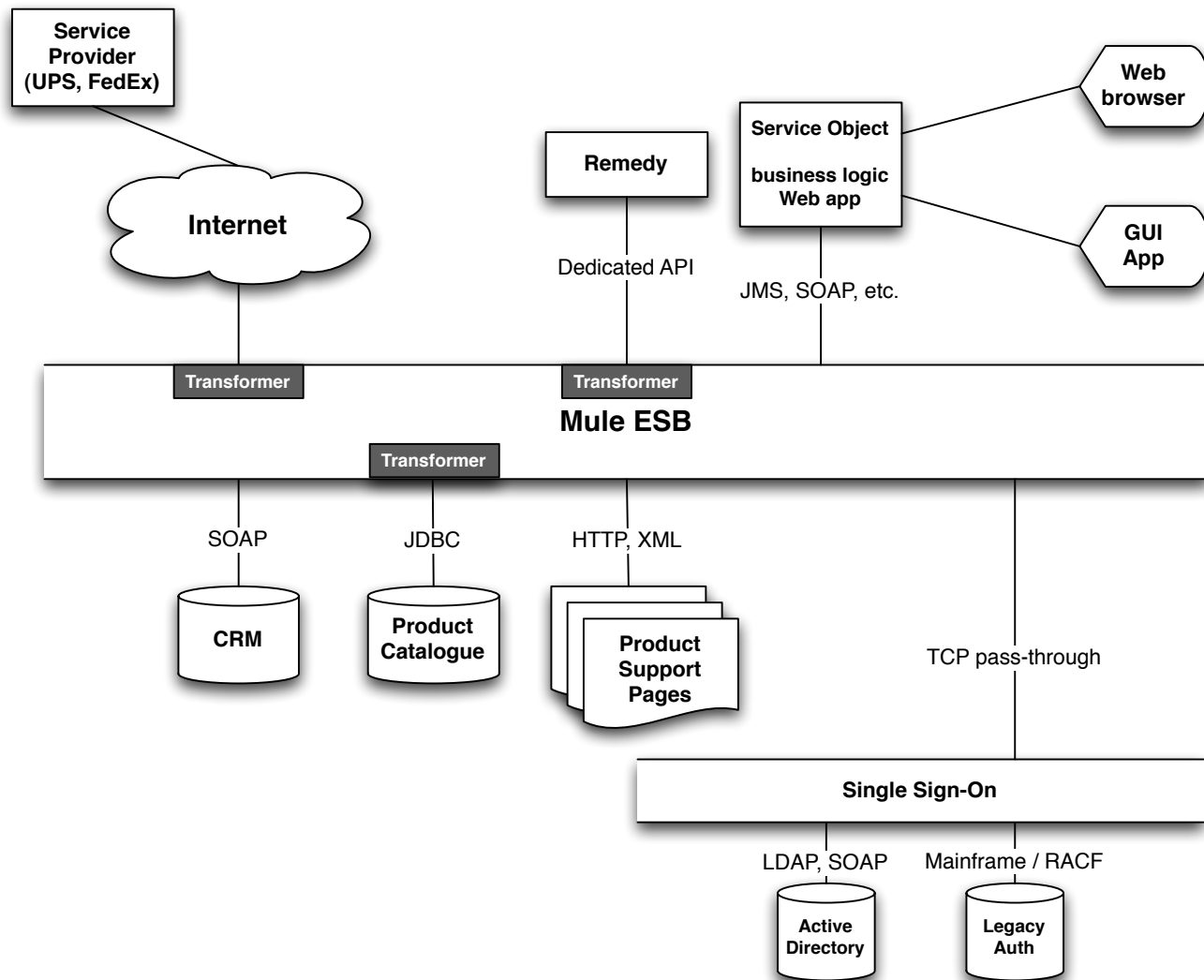


ROC Architecture

- **Original architecture had lots of best-of-breed software**
 - Tomcat
 - Dedicated application/service providers
 - Web servers
- **ROC architecture only has two basic building blocks**
 - Mule acting as a resource service provider (i.e. Mule is the application container)
 - UMOs as computationally active entities
- **Existing and off-the-shelf systems plug into the architecture through SOAP, REST, JMS, etc.**
- **Mule allows us to define our own protocols, if necessary!**



ROC Architecture





ROC Implementation

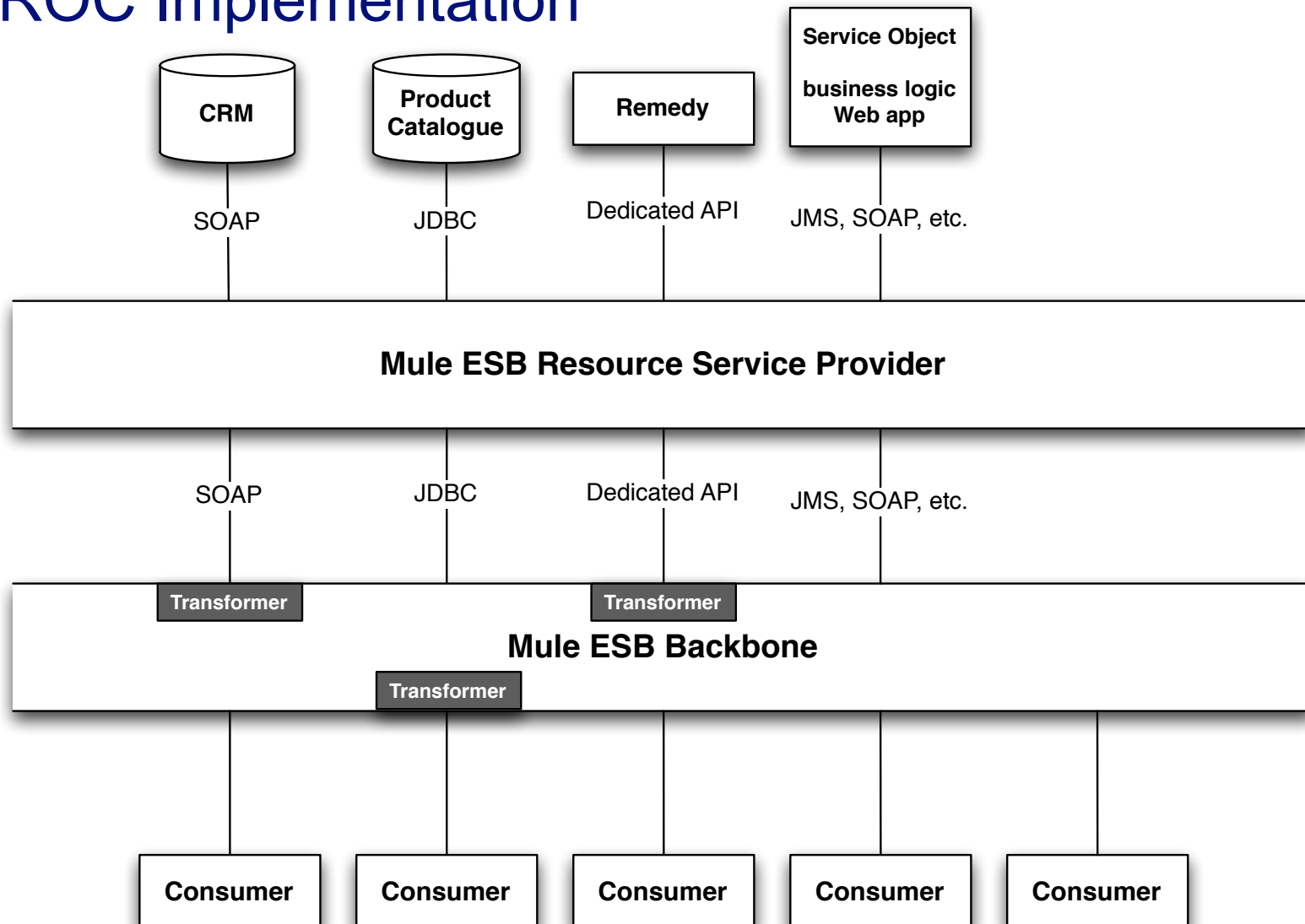
- **Dedicated protocols**
 - `vm://mycompany/subsystem/resource_name`
 - `http://mycompany/subsystem/resource_name`
- **Easy to extend to handle ROC:**

`verb:protocol://mycompany:port/organization/subsystem/resource_name`

- **Easy to implement!**



ROC Implementation



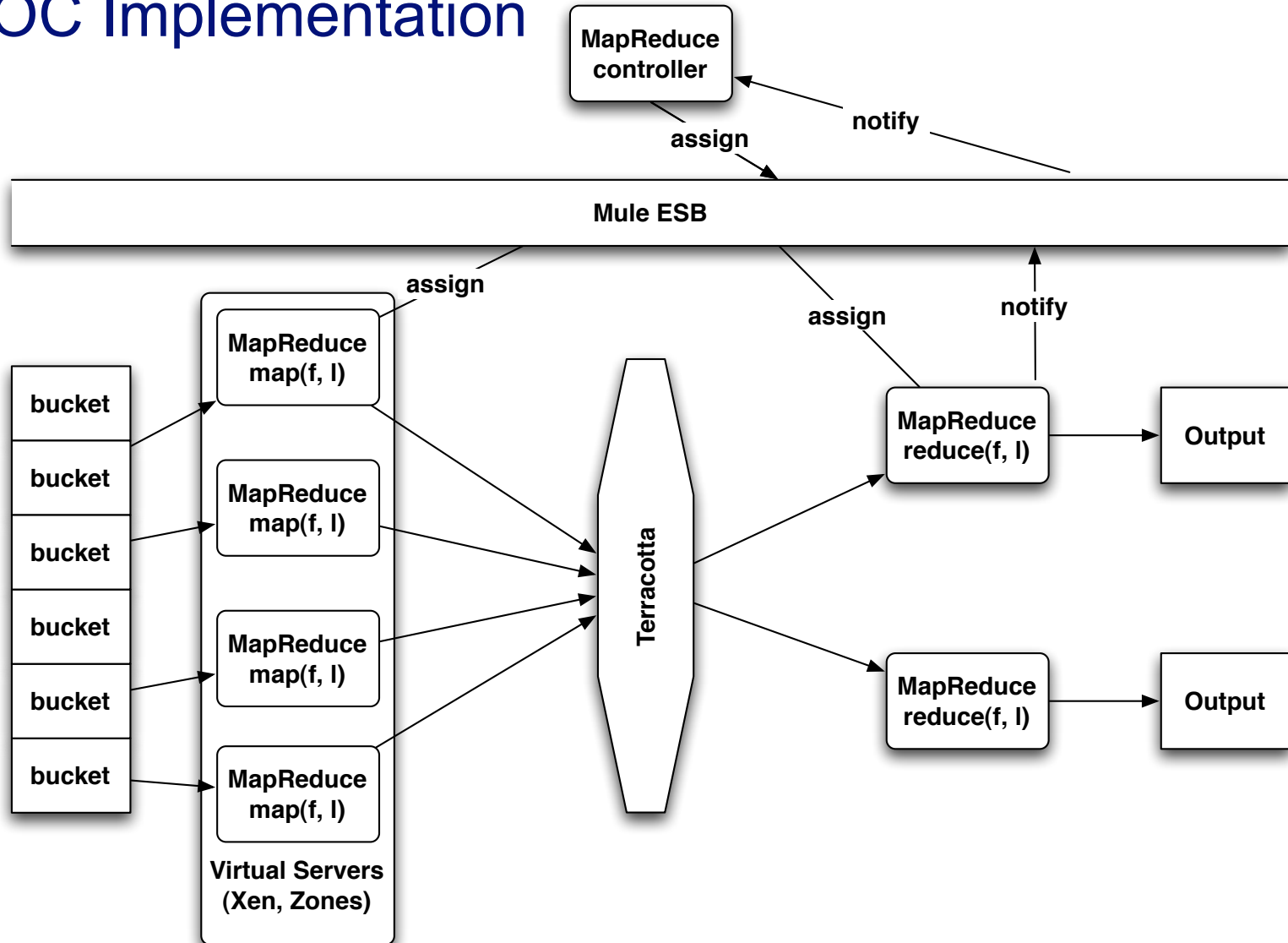


ROC Implementation

- **Resource providers**
 - SOAP API to CRM
 - JMS API to transactional pieces
 - Download app repository
 - OpenLaszlo dynamic rich Internet application provider
- **Interfaces to existing systems**
 - Epsilon direct mail interfaces
 - FTP, sftp, other data transfer
- **Computational resources for ad hoc new functionality**
 - MapReducers (2008, 2009)



ROC Implementation



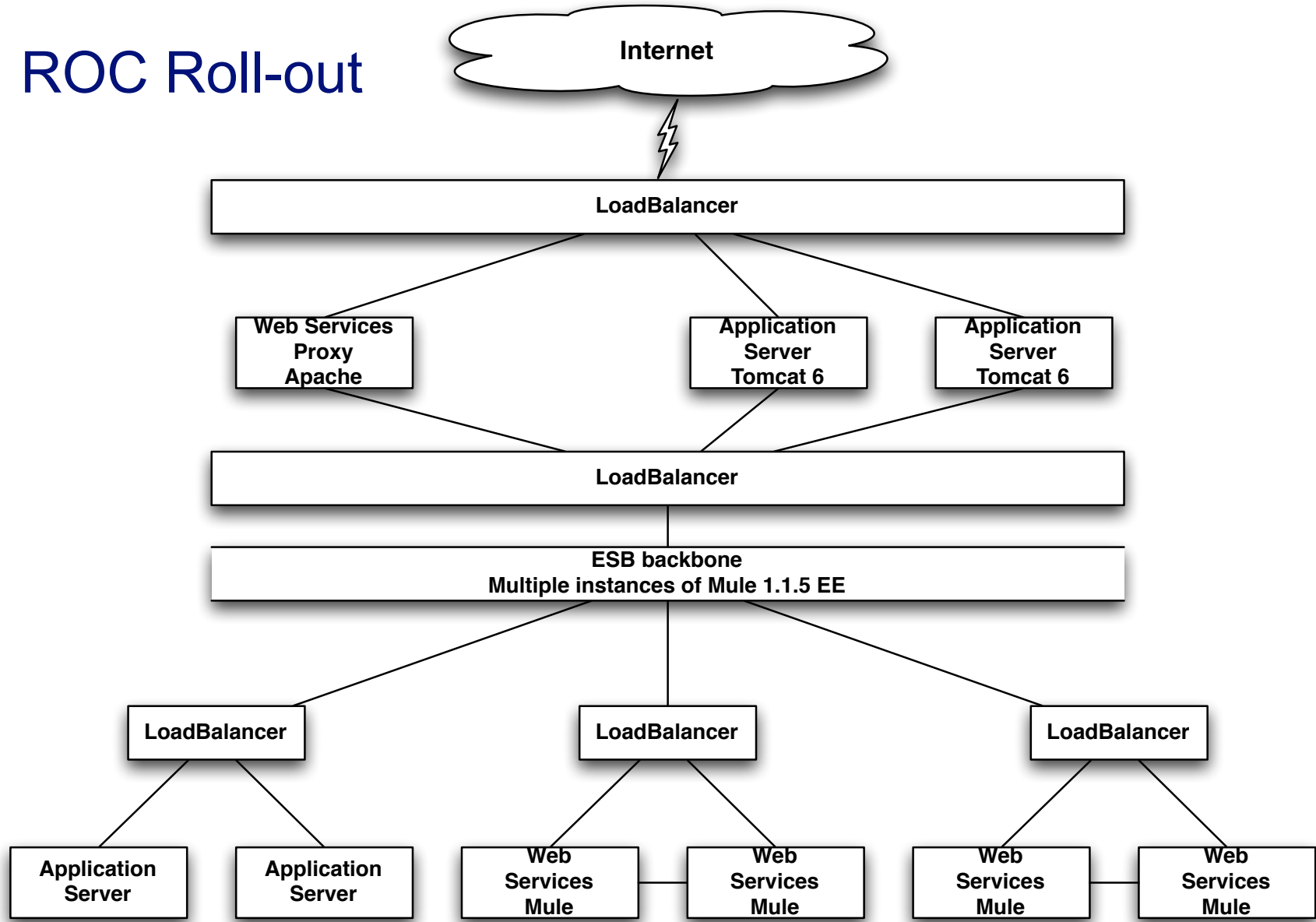


ROC Roll-out

- **Quick, turnkey roll-out**
- **The fewer systems to maintain, the better**
- **Use Java or JVM-hosted languages wherever possible**
- **Integrate with third-party or non-Java systems over standard or custom protocols with as quick a turnaround as possible**
- **EASY TO SCALE QUICKLY!!!!**



ROC Roll-out





Conclusions

- **Complex systems are easier to code and maintain if implemented as small blocks**
- **Small blocks can be mapped as resources that can be consumed in a stateless fashion**
- **Applications can be built as an aggregation of resources**
- **ROC techniques improve time-to-market**
- **ROC techniques combined with open-source offerings can reduce deployment costs by 70%, and ongoing maintenance by 30-40%**
- **Complex systems can be integrated as a combination of best-of-breed software whether commercial, open-source, or homebrew**
- **ROC is the logical evolution of applied SOA**



Q&A

Thanks for coming!

This presentation is at:

<http://eugeneciurana.com/TSSJS2008/ROC.pdf>

Eugene Ciurana
Director, Systems Infrastructure
Leap Frog Enterprises, Inc.

eugenex@leapfrog.com

pr3d4t0r @ irc://irc.freenode.net ##java, #esb, #awk, #security

