Adaptive Case Management (ACM) as an instrument of social management of business processes within a company

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#### What is a company?

# What is a modern company?

✓ Define it in one word



✓ The correct answer is on the next slide



#### What is a company?

# A company – is people

- ✓ To be more precise, it is people working together towards a common goal
- ✓ These people cooperate to support the functioning of multiple business processes within a company

In cooperating, employees of a company utilize elements of its infrastructure (or technosphere) – machinery, computers, telephones, desks, etc.



✓ Strongly structured, formalized, less social



✓ Up to anti-social



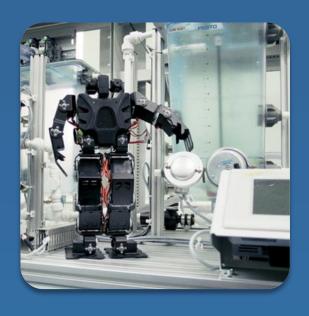
✓ Unstructured, informal, more social



✓ Up to chaotic and completely unpredictable



✓ Strictly defined business processes are easily automated by traditional information systems





Social business processes, prevailing in a modern office, are often «automated» through any means at hand – e-mail, forums and blogs

Plugged in office workers, equipped with iPhones and iPads, are waiting for business-applications that provide familiar ease of use

✓ Traditional systems for controlling business processes (Business Process Management, BPMS) support strictly defined sequences of actions



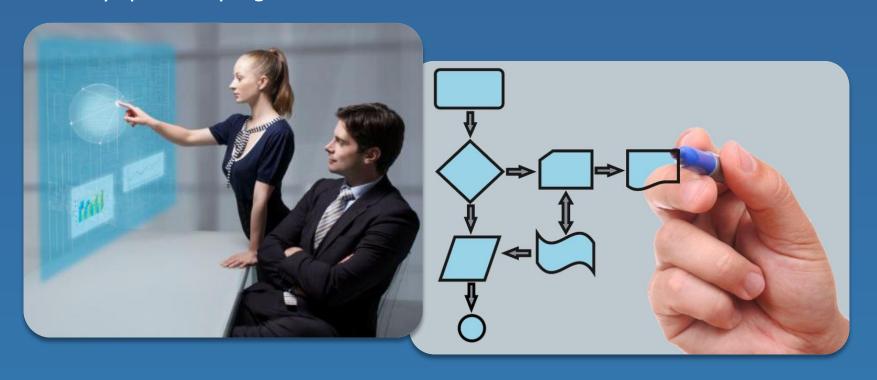
✓ BPMS allows for automation of structured and formalized lists of tasks completed within an organization: *processing of similar orders, standard formalizing of business trips, repeated purchasing of equipment and materials, etc.* 





Descriptions of business processes in traditional BPMS are compiled by a business analyst. To this end, studies of business processes within a company are conducted.

Configuration of the BPM-system for controlling real business processes are made by qualified programmers.



✓ In other words, descriptions of business processes and configuration of a traditional BPM-system require more time investment from qualified labour



#### **Unfortunate shortcomings of traditional BPMS**

✓ After launching a traditional BPMS, it becomes apparent after a short time that change is constant within an organization. But who would have thought otherwise?

And so descriptions of business processes and configurations of the BPMS already don't reflect the real processes used. Thus we are forced to start over. The BPMS does not have any adaptability to real life situations.

✓ Additionally, the BPMS does not reflect any of the social management aspects within an organization.





#### **Unfortunate shortcomings of traditional BPMS**

✓ A significantly large portion of work performed by teams of employees, in collaboration, is unstructured, requires discussion, assignment of tasks based on analysis of the current situation, and control of time lines in completion of tasks and assignments

Traditional BPMS are poorly, or not at all, suited to react to problems, which arise in the performance of a business process from changing circumstances or opinions of the participants within the business process. In BPMS, there is no support for social functions



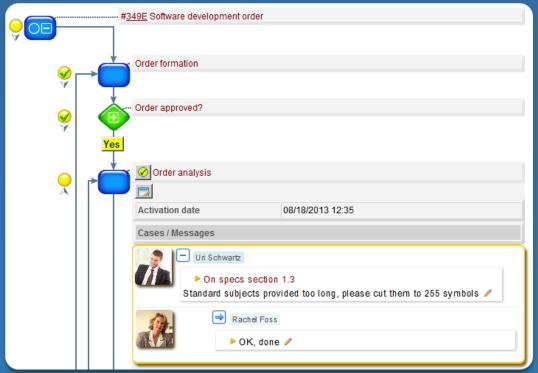
#### **Unfortunate shortcomings of traditional BPMS**

✓ A business process management system without social functions «constitutes one of the main traits of the bourgeois world view – its inhumanity, endeavor to turn workers into a cogs, to replace a living, thinking, fighting for his own interest man with a machine» (1954, USSR's Short Philosophical Dictionary of Cybernetics)



# Unfortunate shortcomings of traditional BPMS What must be done?

- ✓ To enhance the BPMS with social functions: discussions, tasks, assignments, groups of users
- ✓ To create a new class of applications Adaptive Case Management systems (ACM), realizing principles of social management and oriented not on the process, but on results
- ✓ To integrate BPMS and ACM



# **Adaptive Case Management (ACM)**



ACM systems are intended for organization of teamwork, tasks and assignments, control over time frames and execution





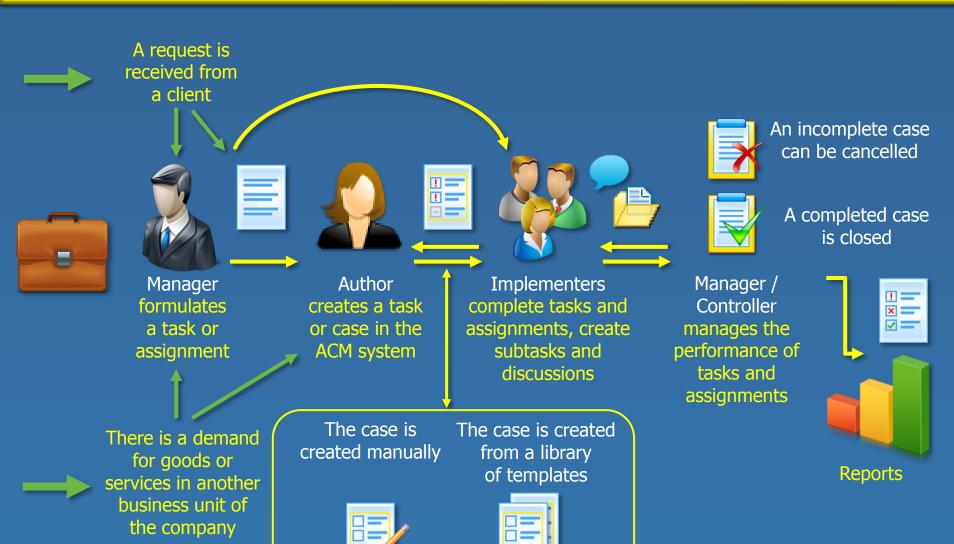
# **Adaptive Case Management (ACM)**



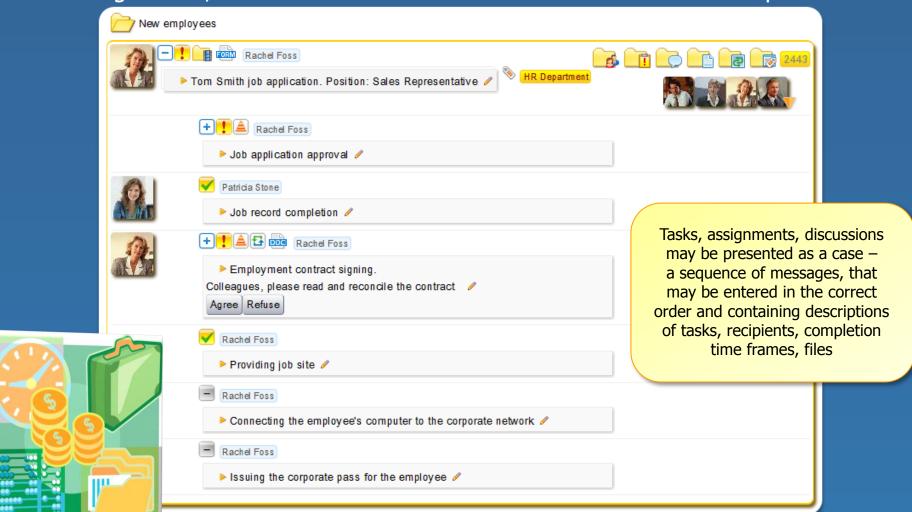
Lists of implementers, Description Tags and of tasks, recipients, **Documents** Business other forms **Discussions** and other assignments, participants, rules controllers, of data events, files control points authors, managers

#### **ADAPTIVE CASE MANAGEMENT (ACM)**

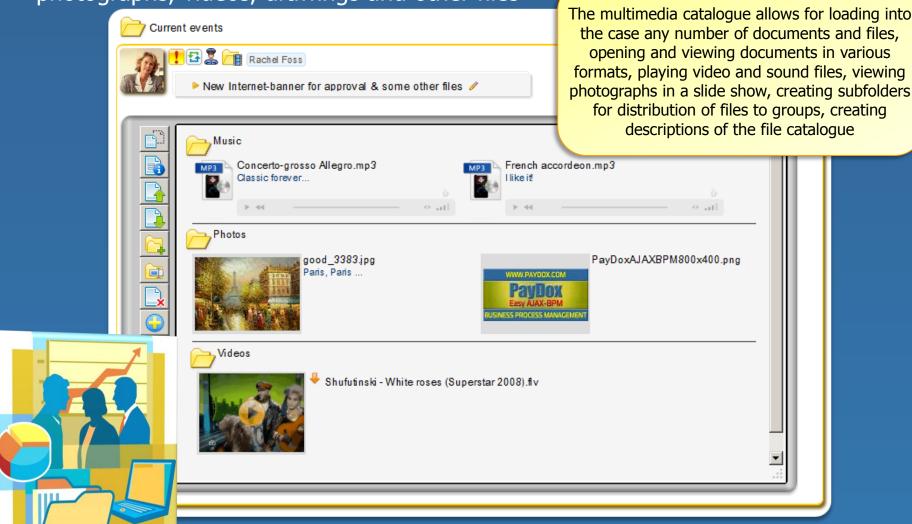
#### **Case Management Organization Chart**



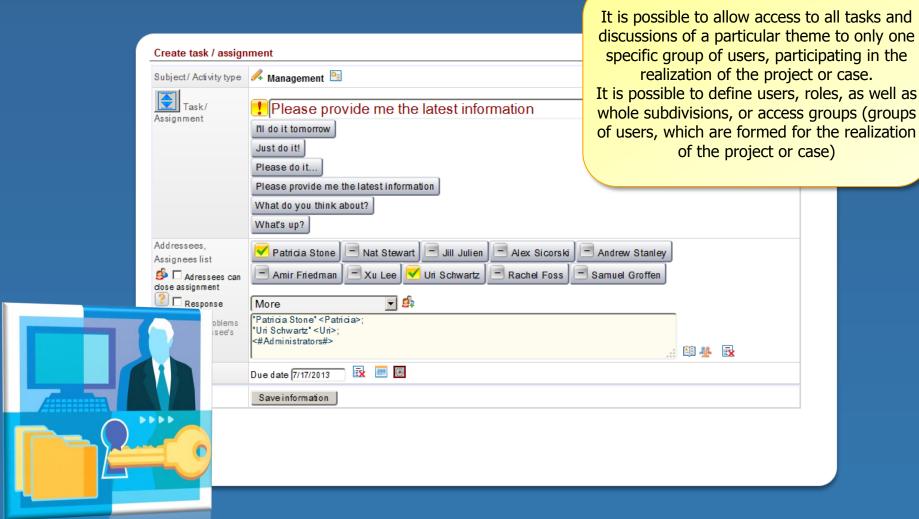
✓ To manage not separate tasks and assignments, but cases – collections of tasks and assignments, connected with the execution of an entire business process



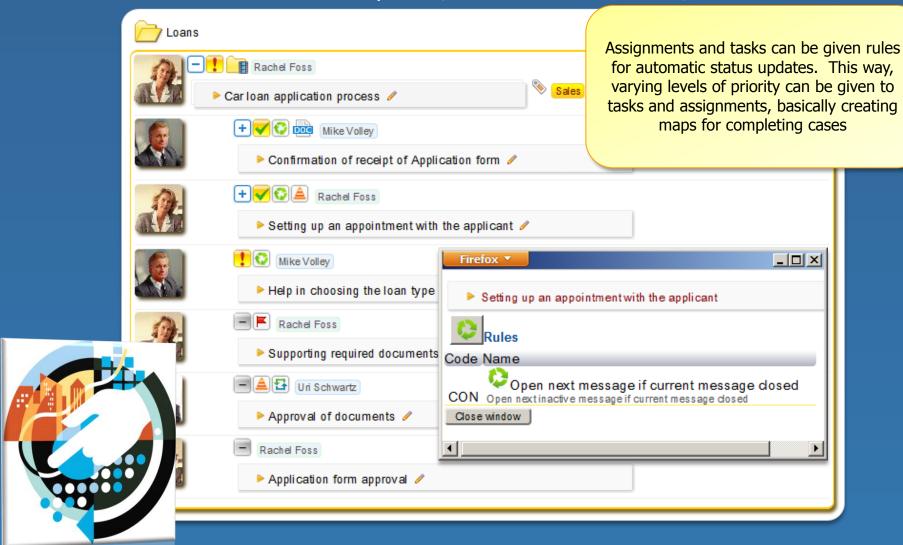
✓ Store all information on a business process in a virtual folder – all documents, photographs, videos, drawings and other files



Manage users within the case project team, give or revoke access to case tasks, files and messages, inform users of the need to begin work on a new task within the project



✓ Maintain control over rules, allowing for automatic activation of the case's next task once a task has been completed, send users reminders, etc.



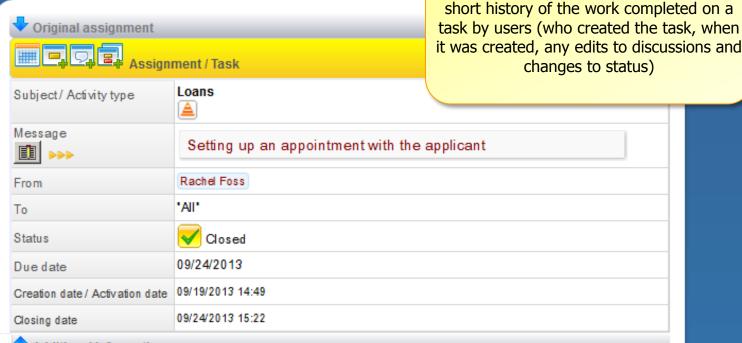
✓ Have a developed subsystem of filters, obtaining information on various segments in one click – «open assignments», «overdue», «assignments for current user», «assignments for subordinate employees», «outstanding department assignments», etc.



Task authors and administrator can see a

#### What must an ACM system be like?

✓ Keep a log of all user actions





Additional information

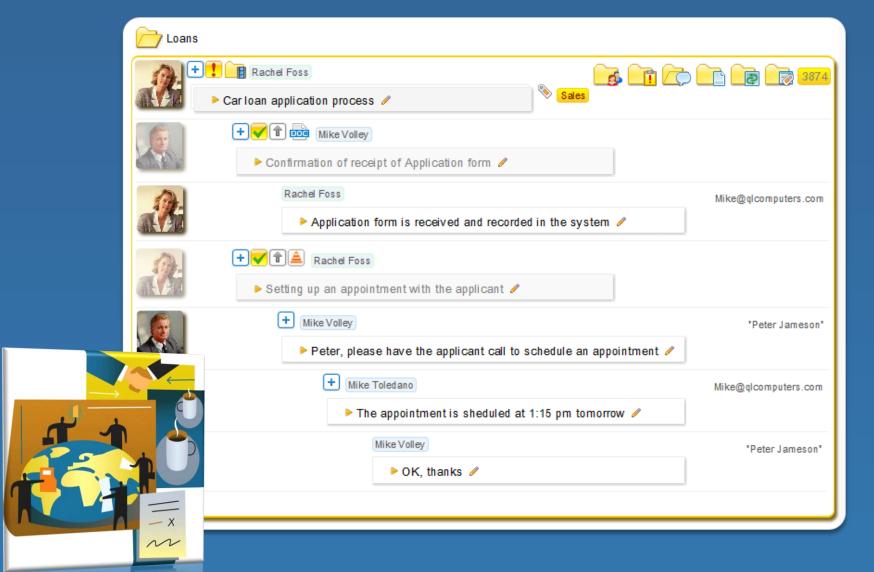
 Short history
 09/24/2013 15:22 | "Rachel Foss" < Admin> | Status: Closed 09/19/2013 15:02 | "Rachel Foss" < Admin> | Seen: Admin 09/19/2013 14:49 | "Rachel Foss" < Admin> | Status: Open 09/19/2013 14:49 "Mike Volley" < Demo>; Information created

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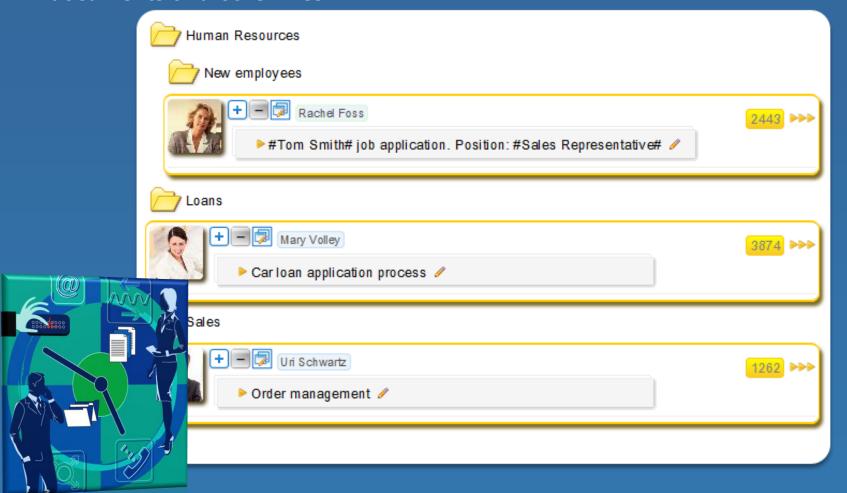
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Response messages or dependent assignments

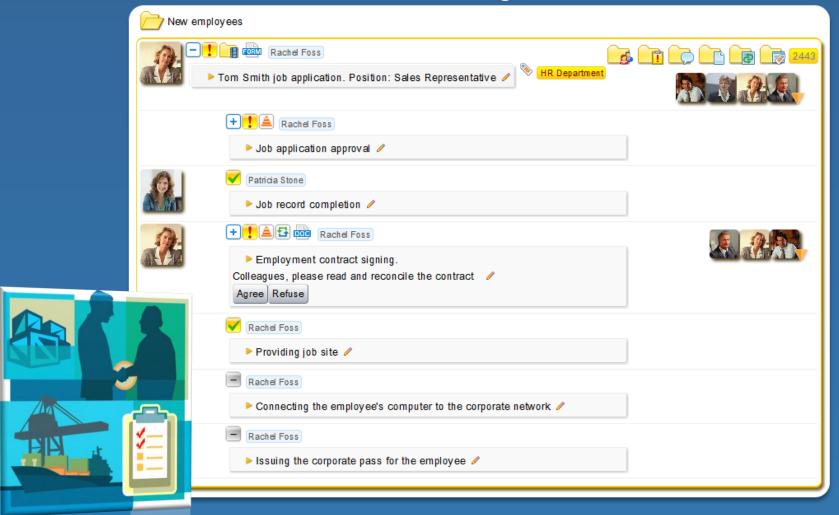
✓ Support discussions for any task in the case



Support a library of templates, where you can successfully drop completed cases in one click, so that later you can create a whole case on any topic based on the template, already containing all tasks, all implementers, and all samples of documents and other files



✓ Easy to understand and attractive – present lists of tasks in cases as «checklists» – lists of tasks, in which checkmarks indicate completion and icons show all current statuses of tasks and assignments



✓ Full functionality on desktop computers, laptops, and tablets (iPad and others)



✓ And the main requirement for ACM – adaptability. The system must not require detailed inspection of business processes and programming with configurations for new business processes. **New cases are formed by users** as lists of tasks, which require completion, and are corrected and added to in the course of performance of the process

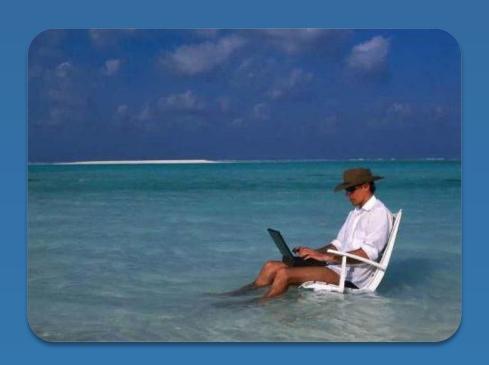


- ✓ The ACM system a tool for creation of corporate knowledge base. All knowledge, which is created in «office» business processes, may and must be separated from its bearers and saved for enterprise wide use to avoid creation of narrow or «unique», «irreplaceable» employees
- ✓ Adaptive Case Management (ACM) is a tool for this separation which provides for timely and stable performance of work by employees



- ✓ Equally important is Adaptive Case Management's ability to accumulate corporate knowledge for future use.
- ✓ Successfully completed cases, containing valuable information on collective work performed by employees, are stored in a library of templates, slightly adjusted and cleaned up for universal application (all non-essential discussions and comments are deleted, only important tasks, assignments and milestones are kept). After this is done, a new case on the similar business process can be created with a single click. The process is then repeated.
- As a result, for each subsequent project there is a convenient template with a list of tasks, assignments, a collection of forms, lists of implementers and document templates. The ever increasing library of case templates composes corporate knowledge, separated from concrete employees and stored in a digital format for corporate use.

✓ Use of an Adaptive Case Management system helps avoid the creation of bottlenecks, unique or irreplaceable employees, whose vacations in the Caribbean, prior to the implementation of the system, would result in significant strain and work stoppages for remaining colleagues, but can now relax in peace during their vacations – current results of their corporate activities (tasks, contacts, documents, discussions) are stored in ACM.



«It's impossible to automate chaos!» «Automated chaos does not stop being chaotic!»

Common misconceptions

The adaptability and flexibility of ACM allows a company to automate its business processes was is, in a fashion that is familiar to employees, without engaging in a risky implementation process, without stressing staff, or breaking existing business processes to achieve a theoretically correct condition wto be.

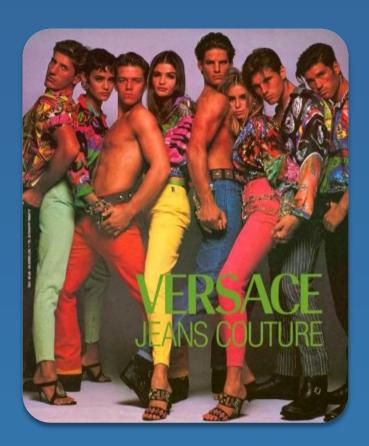
Possible «chaos», which in this case is automated, becomes qualitatively different – measurable and controlled.

After implementation of ACM, business processes become transparent, it becomes possible to perfect them in practice, and not on paper — easily adjusting and improving case templates.



#### **Advantages of ACM for business**

# ACM – is it Versace jeans or jeans from a flea-market?



What percentage of large companies use BPM systems?

5%? 15%?

This means there is room to grow.

Additionally, this means that not everything is well with the use of these systems even in places where there are sufficient resources.

✓ And what percentage of small companies use BPM systems?

0,01%?

In this case, «traditional» BPM systems do not stand a chance.

#### **Advantages of ACM for business**

✓ «Pure» BPMS are elitist, much like Versace jeans, and small business can never use them.

However, ACM systems, due to their ease of use and availability can be used by 90% of small enterprises – an easy to use system for managing tasks, where you can indicate completed work with a checkmark, is needed by practically everyone.

Systems like ACM will, like jeans from a flea-market – be a cheap and accessible good of mass consumption.

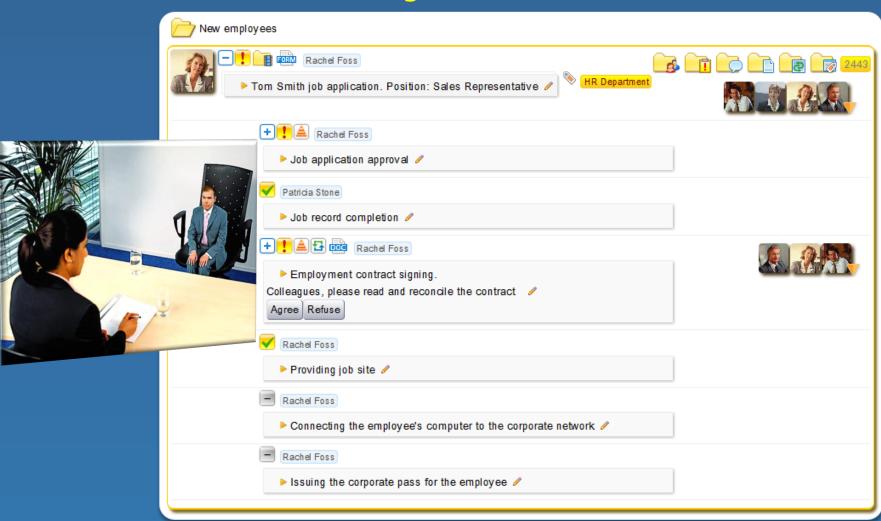




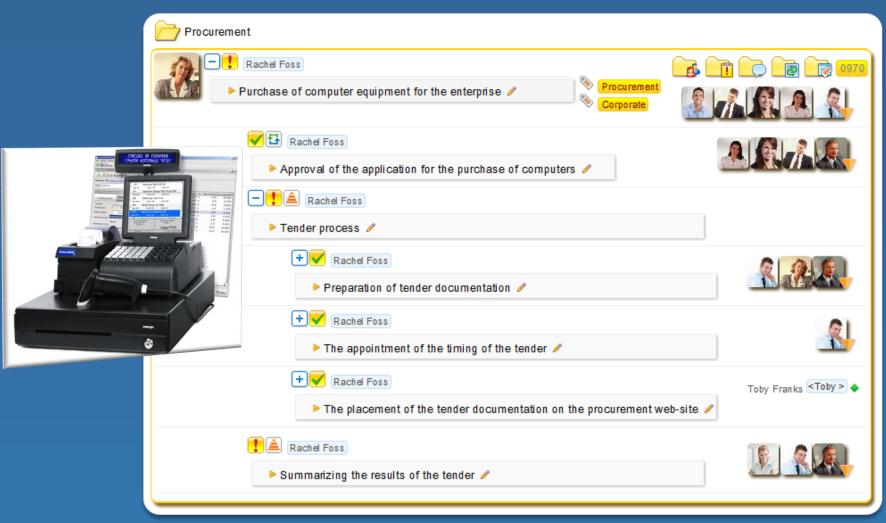
#### Processing of a car loan application



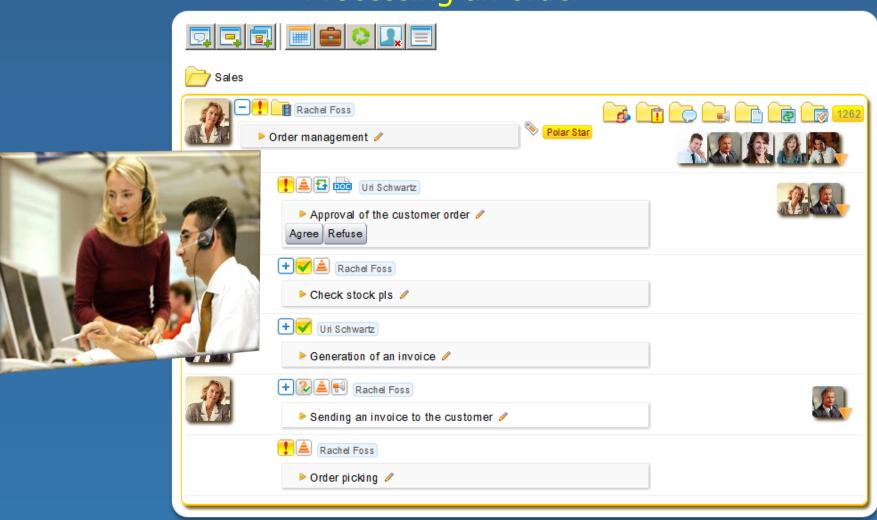
#### Processing of a new hire



#### Purchasing of equipment



#### Processing an order



#### Conduct of a meeting



#### The current world trend in the IT field

# Trend of the new millennium: NO FRILLS NEEDED! Simplicity is more important than functionality

- ✓ Present world trends of leading software developers can be expressed with the phrase «*Novelty replaced with complexity*». When there is nothing to say, there are no new ideas, but a new version needs to be launched to continue generating profits, the market is flooded with software monsters.
- ✓ Users are prepared to sacrifice functionality in favor of simplicity. Progress in the IT field is strongly tied to this small companies with simple applications often successfully compete with software monsters and their products that have consumed millions of programming hours.

A majority of users are already searching the market for inexpensive and easy to use mobile phones – that only support phone calls and SMS service as well as basic corporate applications – no more complex than email.



#### The current world trend in the IT field

# Everything genius becomes simple only with time, initially it seems primitive

«Grandma phone» with only one button



#### Influence of corporate psychology on IT

«Not a single manager was fired for selecting a solution from IBM»

«A system administrator overseeing a system that never breaks is not noticed, but a system administrator overseeing a system that breaks regularly is lauded as a hero, who saves the company at a critical moment»

Expensive and complicated solutions from a «large vendor»:

- ✓ high cost of ownership (TCO)
- ✓ problematic return on investment (ROI)
- ✓ high risk of implementation failure
- ✓ denial of failure of such an implementation



#### The current world trend in the IT field

Sociality and simplicity – a modern trend in the IT field. Instead of complex descriptions of business processes, the entire Adaptive Case Management revolves around checklists, lists of tasks which must be completed, and checkpoints (or milestones, control points)





For ACM, this checklist consisting of tasks and control points – is the same as the «happy path» in traditional BPM systems – the main list of actions, which must be completed and which are assumed prior to the start of the process. However, in ACM this list is corrected and supplemented in the carrying out of the process, in other words it is constantly adapted to reality.

ACM is oriented on results, a process to achieve these results is adapted along the way

# The Occam's razor principle

- ✓ The Occam's razor principle is hopelessly forgotten by many IT vendors
- ✓ And the appearance of ACM can be treated as a return to simplicity and fundamental principles of the monk Occam
- ✓ Ease of use and social functionality the motto of ACM!



Entities should not be multiplied unnecessarily

William of Ockham ~1285—1349

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#### ADAPTIVE CASE MANAGEMENT (ACM)

