Integrated Operational Management Middleware Adopting a New Framework, "WebSAM Ver. 6"

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Abstract

The WebSAM Framework is the first in the industry to realize integration of various functions necessary for system operational management, such as configuration information, operation information and license information using the "WebSAM CMDB," a database that unifies various system operational management information regarding servers, networks, storage and applications.

A dramatic reduction in costs can be expected from the building phase to the operating phase of the operational management environment with the adoption of this framework.

Keywords

operational management middleware, operational management platform, framework, CMDB, ITIL, integrated installer

1. Introduction

The integrated operational management middleware, being developed by NEC, "WebSAM", was announced in November 2005 as "WebSAM Ver. 6" after undergoing functional improvements intended to realize operational management from a management perspective.

The innovative renewal of architecture for an operational management product was realized for the "WebSAM Ver. 6," establishing the "WebSAM Framework" as the next-generation operational management platform.

This paper introduces the product, which was exhibited at our booth in the Platform Zone during iEXPO2005 and where the "WebSAM Framework" received favorable evaluations.

2. What WebSAM Framework Is

The WebSAM Framework is an operational management platform that centrally manages databases for the operational management information of the system, by integrating functions that are commonly used for operational management.

The message management function, license management function or installation management function, for example, are all such functions. It became possible to dramatically reduce the product development costs by sharing these functions (**Fig. 1**).

3. Features of WebSAM Framework

It offers a centralized database that unifies various types of system information on servers, networks, storage, etc., as the "CMDB." Furthermore, the formats and setting methods for information on configurations relating to various platforms have also been unified.

Due to these developments, a dramatic reduction in the man-hours for the operations manager is possible since administrative work, such as license management and user management, can be centralized and improvement in the maintainability of various platforms can be sought (**Fig. 2**).

3.1 Configuration Information Centralizing Function

A database (CMDB) that centrally manages information on system configurations from servers, networks, storage, applications, etc., collected by the WebSAM product, is provided.

It becomes possible to centralize the comprehension of system configurations, leading to the execution of more efficient administrative work and improved operability.

Furthermore, it will also be possible to realize the ITIL process in an efficient and effective manner, through collaboration with the configuration management function of the WebSAM ServiceDesk, which provides support for the improvement of operational process for IT operations based on the ITIL.

3.2 Integrated Installation Function

A function that centrally manages the implementation of the WebSAM products is provided. The work required at the time the systems are built is reduced and efficient implementation is made possible by providing functions that execute installations to nodes at remote locations or perform the management of configurations.

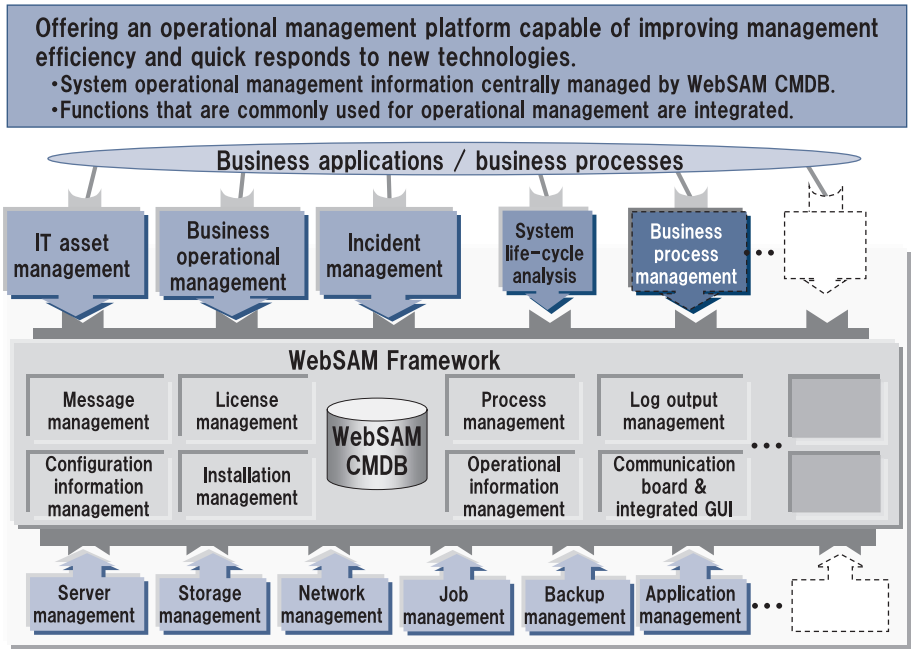

Fig. 1 Operational management platform architecture "WebSAM Framework."

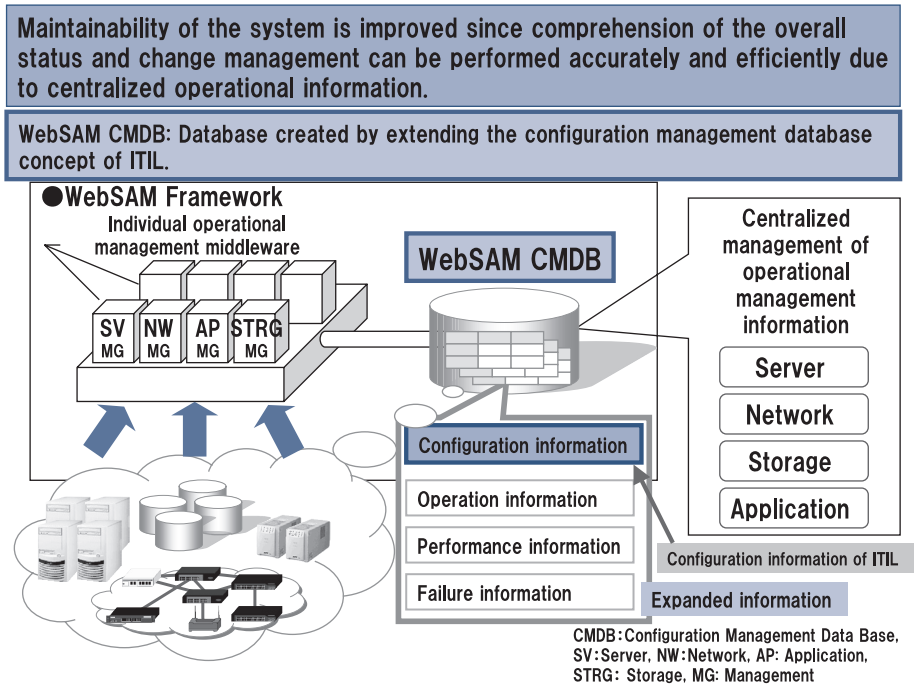

Fig. 2 Feature (1): Centralizing management of operational management information with WebSAM CMDB.

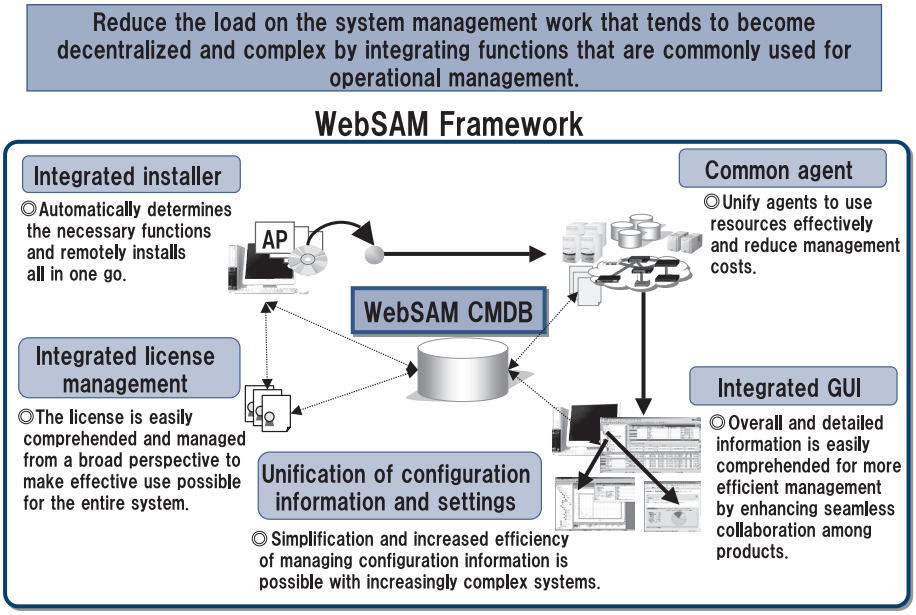

Fig. 3 Feature (2): Integrating common functions of operational management.

3.3 GUI Shortcut (Event-Linked) Function

A function is provided that calls out the GUIs of products according to the detected events with shortcuts on the system monitoring screen, thus providing an operational perspective by using the integrated operational management product (WebSAM MCOperations).

This realizes the integration of system monitoring, making it possible not only to efficiently monitor operations but also provide appropriate responses in a rapid manner whenever problems occur (**Fig. 3**).

4. Conclusion

Many people stopped by our WebSAM booth and experienced the superior qualities of WebSAM Version 6 during the iEXPO2005.

Although the framework has been completed for only some of the products at this point, we intend to sequentially increase our complement of products compatible with the framework. We ask for your continued support as we carry on our work on the operational management middleware, WebSAM.

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