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Volume 10, Number 7 -- February 16, 2010

WebLayers Watches for Poorly Configured WebSphere MQ

Published: February 16, 2010

by **Alex Woodie**

WebLayers, a developer of software that helps to automate customers' governance initiatives--particularly as it relates to **IBM** middleware--this month unveiled new IT governance software aimed at ensuring customers' WebSphere MQ deployments are conducted in accordance with guidelines and best practices.

Cambridge, Massachusetts-based WebLayers develops an array of products designed to align the business-level governance mandates with a company's actual IT resources and development activities. The company, which packages and sells this expertise through its WebLayers software, boasts of having the largest collection of "governance policies in the industry. When it comes to WebSphere MQ, WebLayers offers more than 90 governance policies, the company says.

WebLayer's new governors work by scanning the WebSphere MQ queues to determine whether they are in compliance with industry mandates and best practices. In particular, the software analyzes the way WebSphere MQ was set up, and whether it is vulnerable to security breaches or could accidentally transmit bad information.

Poorly configured security on WebSphere MQ, which ships basically with zero security turned on, is **more common than one would think** for such a critical and widely used IT infrastructure component.

While WebLayers does not run on the i/OS operating system, it does support WebSphere MQ running on this platform, according to Ron Karas, director of technical services for WebLayers. "Our software uses standard client APIs to interrogate remote channels, queues, and queue managers to evaluate policy adherence," Karas says via e-mail.

In fact, WebLayers can help to mitigate potential configuration problems that arise when running WebSphere MQ on disparate platforms such as i/OS, Karas adds. For more information, visit the company's Web site at www.weblayers.com.

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18/02/2010