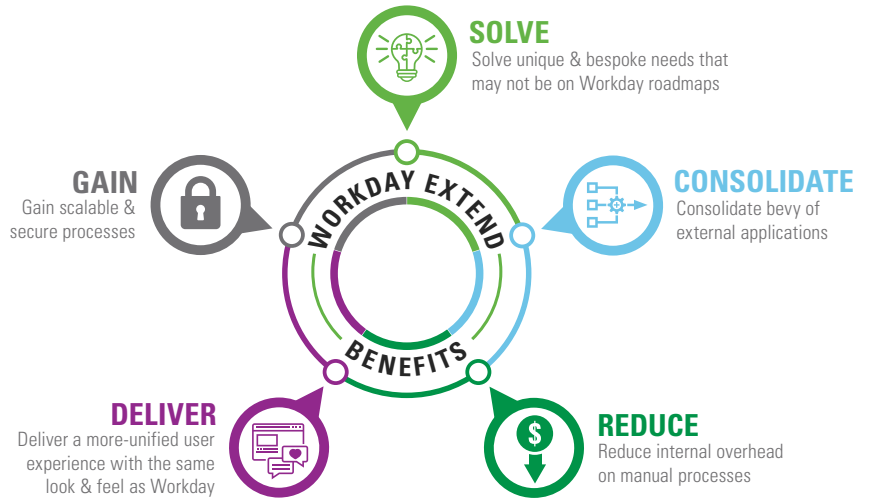# WORKDAY EXTEND DEMYSTIFIED

WHAT IS WORKDAY EXTEND?

Workday Extend is a set of tools and services that allow the development and deployment of custom applications that operate in and integrate with Workday. Workday Extend applications are developed with IntelliJ (an integrated development environment) using the Workday Extend Plugin. Workday Extend applications are composed of various App Components.

App Components are used to construct the pages, appearance, and custom process logic of the application. The current types of App Components that exist for Workday Extend are Presentation Components, Model Components, and Orchestration Components.

SOLVE
Solve unique & bespoke needs that may not be on Workday roadmaps

GAIN
Gain scalable & secure processes

CONSOLIDATE
Consolidate bevy of external applications

WORKDAY EXTEND BENEFITS

DELIVER
Deliver a more-unified user experience with the same look & feel as Workday

REDUCE
Reduce internal overhead on manual processes

Presentation Components

Presentation Components are used to build custom pages and tasks within a Workday tenant. Custom pages are developed with JSON-based presentation metadata tags on the IntelliJ IDE with the Workday Extend Plugin enabled. Presentation components include the widgets and objects presented to the user on the page, as well as the endpoints that retrieve the data that is displayed to the user.

Model Components

Workday Model Components include Business Objects, Business Processes, and Security Domains created by the developer to meet the custom data needs of the application. These custom objects are created in the application and are then deployed to the tenant.

- **Extend Business Objects** allow custom data storage in objects defined by the application developer. Developers can define the object fields and field types and associate other existing business objects to the Extend Business Object via single instance fields. Report Data sources are generated by Workday and allow for custom reporting without any additional developer effort. Extend Attachment Business objects can be used to store files and attachments in Workday, which can then be used and displayed on the pages of the application.

- **Extend Business Processes** are custom business processes created by the developer in the application. Developers can define the business process steps, approval flow, as well as any condition logic that may apply. These business processes have most of the functionality that Workday delivered business processes support.

- **Extend Security Domains** are domains created and associated with the application and may be used to secure all other model components mentioned above. Extend security domains may be maintained in the same way delivered domains are, meaning no additional expertise is needed to configure this component.

Orchestration Components

Orchestration components are custom processes built in the Workday Extend Developer Site via the Orchestration Builder. Orchestrations can create and manipulate messages as well as pull and post data from both Workday and external systems with an exposed API. Orchestrations require much less technical expertise to build and work with compared to other Extend tools and allow a simpler option to handle and transform data.

REST APIs

The REST APIs are the foundation of the platform. They allow the retrieval and submission of data from Workday at a user level. Previously, data was retrieved and submitted by an integration system user with vast access to system-wide data. The REST APIs allow a Workday user to authenticate from another application and carry the security model of the authenticated user into the new application.

To state simply:

- A set of services that allow a user to interact with Workday from a custom web application.

- These services handle authentication, security, and permissions from Workday.

ADDITIONAL NOTEWORTHY FEATURES

Workday Extend includes several noteworthy features in addition to the above-mentioned services. Many of these features are shown in the example applications included in Workday's App Catalog.

- **Workday Query Language (WQL) -** A structured query language that can get data from Workday without writing a report (Similar to SQL).

- **PMD Scripting -** A scripting language used in application pages that can be used to define and use functions, modify widget values, get data, and call outbound endpoints.

- **Scripts -** A file contained within the Extend application that contains reusable scripts that can be used by multiple pages in the application it is defined in.

- **Pods -** A module of code that, once defined, may be reused in different pages on an application.

TYPES OF WORKDAY EXTEND APPLICATIONS

The Workday Extend toolset can be used to develop both internal and external solutions based on the developer's use case.

Internal Workday Extend Application

Custom sites and applications can be built within Workday to display and aggregate data on a user level and contribute to existing business processes. If an organization has a custom use case, it provides a toolset to address this concern without resorting to a Workday brainstorm. Organizations that may

have previously relied heavily on custom objects can now be built out corresponding interfaces to bring this data to life.

Examples:

- **Order Business Cards -** Provides an interface in Workday where an employee can submit a procurement request with the required information to order a new set of business cards.

- **Request Credit Card -** Employees can request a credit card, which will be issued in real-time by Stripe (can be modified to integrate with any credit card API).

- **Charitable Donations -** Enables employees to donate to charities with one-time and recurring payroll deductions.

- **Vehicle Registration -** Allows employees to register their cars according to their location.

External Application

When an application is taken outside of Workday, there are virtually no restrictions on what an organization can accomplish using standard web technologies. If Workday provides a REST endpoint for the service being used, an application can be built to interact with Workday users as if they were within the tenant. External applications can use Workday UI via the Workday Canvas Kit and Workday Canvas Design System if it is determined the application should match the Workday style.

For example, the Microsoft Anytime Feedback application brings employee feedback, resume submissions, and employee information into Outlook, Skype, Slack, or Teams.