



Developing Agility

*A Quarterly Newsletter for
Unisys EAE and Agile Business Suite Customers*

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Migration to Agile Business Suite: What's in it for YOU?

It's no secret that the current economic uncertainties have significantly limited the resources IT departments can leverage to evolve core systems and increase key capabilities.

Fortunately, IT organizations that use Enterprise Application Environment (EAE) still have an opportunity to address the progress the business desires, without incurring many of the typical expenses. It's the move to Agile Business Suite, which provides your organization with a vastly modernized toolset and integrated development environment – including flexible, innovative capabilities that protect existing investments and help you position for the future.

In previous issues of *Developing Agility*, we have explained in detail how Agile Business Suite benefits developers. But the fact of the matter is, Agile Business Suite delivers tremendous business value across your organization – from the CIO to project managers and operations personnel, and everywhere in between.

If your company is looking for progress – and moving past the status quo – then you'll want to share the following ideas on how Agile Business Suite can help make that a reality.

Why a CIO Should Choose Agile Business Suite

Agile Business Suite allows CIOs to drive developers and applications forward to modern technologies, while helping them:

- Gain the ability to more quickly deliver new business functionality via improved productivity and more sophisticated integration capabilities
- Provide the ability to recruit new staff from a larger, younger talent pool
- Reduce risk by taking existing applications forward to the new environment without change
- Cut costs by extending the life of current applications by 5 to 10 years – or more
- Simplify the development environment by moving to a widely accepted base platform – Microsoft® Visual Studio®

Why a Development Manager Should Choose Agile Business Suite

Moving to Agile Business Suite enables development managers to simplify and standardize the development toolset, which promotes productivity and provides greater opportunities for innovation, and allows them to:

- Synchronize all development environments and unify development teams
- Simplify the process of building, modifying, and debugging applications by adopting a “single tool” environment
- Introduce or extend the use of familiar mainstream technologies, including Visual Studio and SQL Server, in the development environment
- Improve software quality and reduce testing time via the Visual Studio Debug facility and Automated Test Tool in Agile Business Suite 2.0
- Reduce training budgets and the time required to bring employees up to speed on new resources
- Cut coding times through the adoption of model-driven development and OO approaches
- Increase staff retention via the introduction of modern development technologies

Why a Project Manager Should Choose Agile Business Suite

Agile Business Suite helps project managers more effectively align business needs and development efforts – and deliver on time and within budget – by providing more flexibility in project resourcing and staff allocation. >>

In this way, Agile Business Suite helps project managers:

- Standardize development processes and simplify management tasks
- Choose the development personnel best suited to a particular project
- Devote less time to understanding the environment used by the development team
- Improve the ability to share and allocate resources across projects by standardizing on Visual Studio as the supporting development platform
- Capitalize on opportunities to leverage service-oriented architectures (SOA) to deliver new functionality

Why an Operations Manager Should Choose Agile Business Suite

Migrating to Agile Business Suite helps operations managers standardize the software used in the development environment and reduce administrative complexity. In addition, Agile Business Suite helps operations managers:

- Standardize data repositories and test databases on a common SQL Server database platform
- Leverage the same version control and release management tools across all development projects
- Utilize the same build process and runtime environment used in EAE, with the added benefit of eliminating the need for Micro Focus COBOL on Windows and UNIX/Linux platforms

Why a Financial Manager Should Choose Agile Business Suite

By increasing the lifecycle of existing applications, Agile Business Suite helps financial managers hold the line on IT budgets and actually reduce maintenance costs. Specifically, Agile Business Suite provides financial managers with the ability to:

- Realize a longer, sustained return on technology investments
- Increase the value of applications across the business
- Avoid the costs and risk associated with the integration and deployment of new, untested applications
- Reduce maintenance and licensing costs via upgrading to Agile Business Suite at no charge under the terms of an existing software maintenance agreement and subscriptions for EAE

Agile Business Suite: It Makes Good Business Sense

Making the move from EAE to Agile Business Suite delivers a real ability to progress your organization to new levels of flexibility and productivity. With Agile Business Suite, you can leverage – and extend – the value of your custom-developed and finely tuned EAE applications into new business opportunities and a more dynamic organizational stance.

Because Agile Business Suite maintains the benefits of EAE in a streamlined environment that provides greater development flexibility in a future-proof package, your organization gains the ability to:

- Plug directly into the most popular development technologies, including Visual Studio, and introduce standardized concepts like UML and OO as needs dictate
- Leverage a familiar environment that helps developers become more productive, and provides greater flexibility in staffing projects and acquiring and training new talent
- Standardize the development environment and reduce complexity by removing technologies that are no longer required, such as Micro Focus COBOL for Windows, Linux, and UNIX environments
- Increase the lifecycle and effectiveness of existing applications
- Promote a SOA that improves the reuse and sharing of software components
- Follow a safe, low-risk path toward a modern integrated development environment (IDE)

To learn more about the benefits of moving to Agile Business Suite, please visit the Agile Business Suite 2.0 section of the eCommunity and view our new [Agile Business Suite migration video](#).

New Services Maximize Business Value

Maximize value – it’s the mantra for today’s tough economic environment and for good reason. By getting the most value from each and every investment, your IT organization really can “do more with less” and maintain momentum until better times are here.

One way to maximize value from your Unisys hardware and software is to make sure that you are:

- Taking full advantage of the capabilities offered
- Minimizing, streamlining, and standardizing management and administrative tasks
- Optimizing and fine-tuning performance
- Reducing the risk of unplanned downtime

Let Unisys help you wring every last ounce of value from your investment. We’ve created a new Global Service Lines (GSL) organization that includes a team dedicated to delivering high-quality, best-practices-based services to ClearPath, Enterprise Server, EAE, Agile Business Suite, and BIS customers.

“The creation of the Global Service Lines organization recognizes the importance of services as a key component of the Unisys portfolio. This team enables closer cooperation between service delivery professionals around the world and their colleagues in engineering, marketing, and sales. This ensures that the services delivered can focus most effectively on maximizing the value of Unisys products for clients.”

– Brian Ott
Vice President, Global Service Lines
Unisys S&T

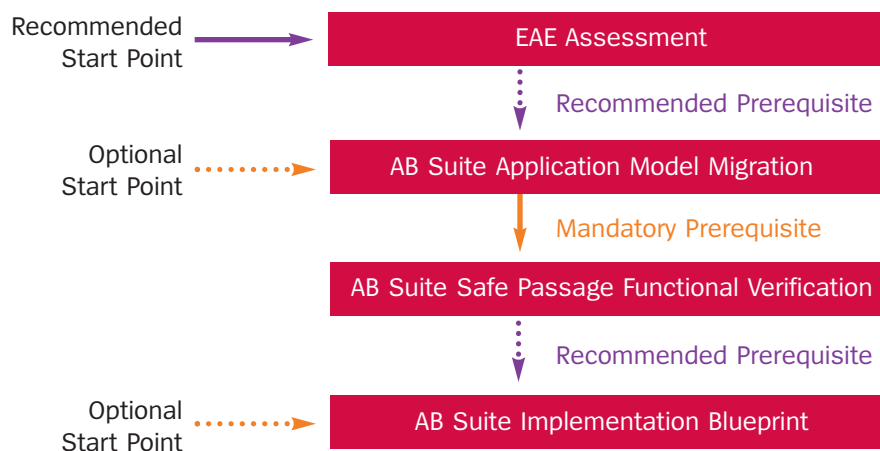
Introducing EAE to Agile Business Suite Transition Services

Of particular relevance to *Developing Agility* readers is GSL’s focus on helping organizations with migration from EAE to Agile Business Suite. We recently defined four new EAE to Agile Business Suite transition services that are designed to help you achieve a smooth migration that maximizes the value of your EAE and Agile Business Suite investments. The services are:

- **EAE Assessment Service:** This service is designed to help you prepare for an efficient move to Unisys Agile Business Suite by providing a formal assessment report, which offers a view of your current EAE development and deployment environments, as well as a list of development and deployment hardware and software recommendations and other requirements to support the migration.
- **Application Model Trial Migration Service:** Unisys services personnel will import and build your current EAE application to the same Agile Business Suite Runtime platform that is currently in use. This service demonstrates that your EAE application will generate in Agile Business Suite – providing the necessary first step to “Safe Passage” confirmation and testing.
- **Safe Passage Functional Verification Service:** Our services consultants conduct and/or facilitate an agreed set of application tests in order to provide you with an initial verification that the application functions in the same way when generated in Agile Business Suite as it did in EAE 3.3. (Assumes that the application has already been generated during a preceding Application Model Trial Migration engagement, which is a mandatory prerequisite for this service.) >>

- **Agile Business Suite Implementation Blueprint Service:** This service is designed to help your organization identify how Agile Business Suite can best be integrated into your environment, establish the activities that will be required for an actual migration exercise, determine the impact of the migration, and identify the costs associated with the migration.

Depending on your organization's needs, these transition services can be contracted individually or as a series, with the ability to start at any one of a number of entry points as illustrated in the figure below. And, of course, Unisys services team can also help you with the actual migration – providing installation, training, migration, and project management assistance.



For more information about these Agile Business Suite transition services, please contact your sales executive or send an email to ABSuite@unisys.com. For an overview of migration best practices, take a look at [Make a Plan to Migrate](#), which was published in the 3Q2008 issue of *Developing Agility*.

Students Complete Coursework Using Agile Business Suite

In January 2009, a new group of students learned how to use Agile Business Suite as a part of their college curriculum. View the list in the [eCommunity](#).

Engineering Corner: Agile Business Suite Migration Database, the Rosetta Stone

By Ankur Kotwal, Agile Business Suite Import/Export Technical Lead and Alan Hood, Engineering Program Manager, EAE/Agile Business Suite

Migration to Agile Business Suite is a process – not a one-time, big-bang event. Most organizations start by migrating one or two applications to better understand what’s involved and gain the knowledge needed to plan and perform a full migration. Of course, “safe passage” provides support for moving an EAE application to Agile Business Suite on the same platform with no changes, but there is more to migration than just moving the applications. It is important to remember that you are moving to a new development environment, as well.

No matter how small or large your EAE applications, once you start your migration project, there’s still the need to maintain the current EAE production environment – making fixes and even implementing small enhancements – while testing the applications in the Agile Business Suite runtime environment.

Therefore, it’s essential that Agile Business Suite migration tools include sophisticated capabilities that help keep the old and new environments in sync for some period of time – so you don’t have to re-migrate entire systems over and over. This article reviews the migration database – a “Rosetta Stone” of sorts that makes it easy to keep your EAE and Agile Business Suite development, test, and production environments in sync.

Unlike many development tools on the market today, with Agile Business Suite migration there’s no need to freeze your application code for weeks or even months while the process is underway. We understand that change is inevitable – in fact, that’s been the watchword for all of our development tools since day one. So, we created the migration database to help you manage ongoing changes during migration. In addition, the migration database makes it possible to take smaller, incremental steps to Agile Business Suite. For example, you could choose to move your production environment to Agile Business Suite while continuing to use EAE for development – an approach that some organizations take to reduce risk or when they have multiple applications or sites. The migration database will help keep the two environments in sync as your organization progresses from EAE to Agile Business Suite.

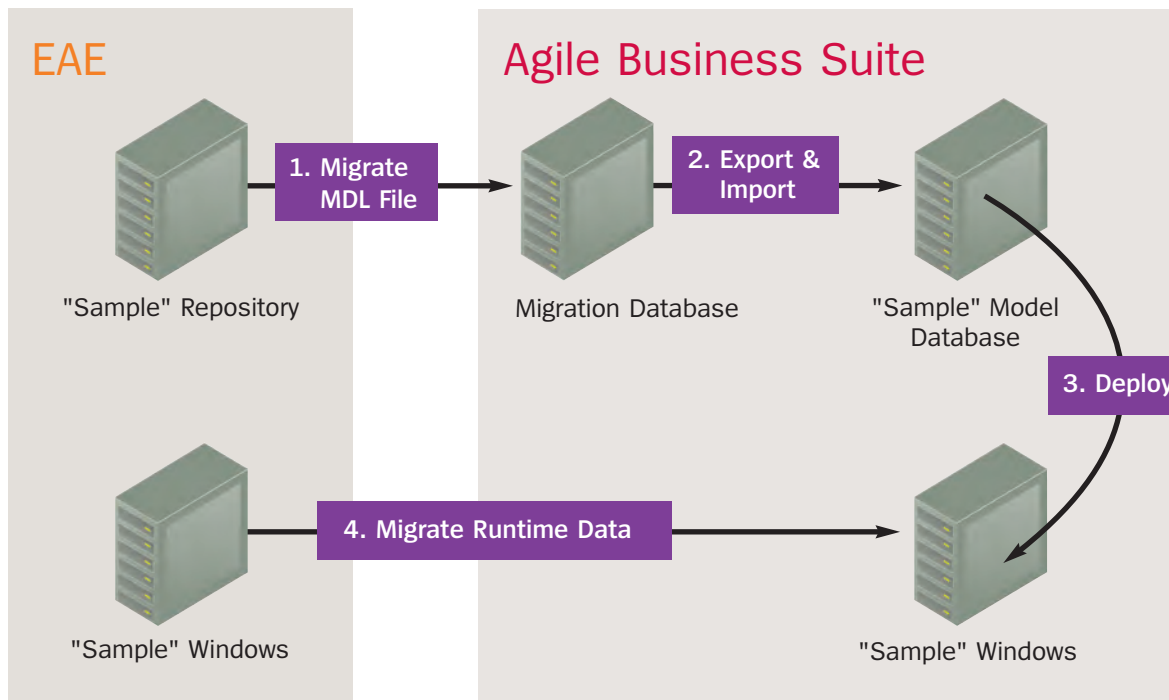
How the Migration Database Works

The migration database provides an essential translation from EAE to Agile Business Suite and it all hinges on something called a global unique identifier (GUID.) Agile Business Suite assigns an internal ID to every element in its repository. Because it is founded on object-oriented (OO) principles, Agile Business Suite doesn’t rely on objects having unique names (like EAE does). For example, Agile Business Suite understands which Last_Name you are referring to via the principles of inheritance and defined name-scoping rules. So, assigning a GUID means an element name can be used over and over in many places while allowing Agile Business Suite to know exactly which element is being referenced.

The migration database is created through the Agile Business Suite Import Wizard the first time you import an EAE model extract (.mdl) file. Where the migration database really comes into play is after the first time an application is migrated to Agile Business Suite. During the initial migration, GUIDs are assigned. Now, if you were to re-migrate all or a portion of the EAE application without the migration database, GUIDs would be assigned again – and anew – yielding different identifiers for the same elements. So, the migration database acts as the translator – ensuring that an EAE element is properly matched up to its original GUID. Therefore, during migration you can continue to make changes in the EAE environment and easily migrate just those changes into Agile Business Suite. >>

The migration database is valuable for all kinds of migrations and development approaches – from a straightforward single application/single development environment to very complex, multiple development/test/production environments with many development teams. With the migration database, your developers can continue to work in EAE while you conduct the migration to Agile Business Suite.

Now, some of you are probably anxious to know more about how the migration database works. The figure below presents four very basic steps in a migration scenario.



1. In the first step, the MDL file for the Sample system is extracted and loaded into the migration database. For each item in EAE with a name, an Agile Business Suite object – with a GUID – is created in the migration database.
2. Next, the model is exported from the migration database and imported into Agile Business Suite's repository. For existing elements, the GUIDs remain the same. For any new elements, GUIDs are assigned.
3. Step 3 shows runtime deployment of the migrated system.
4. Finally, any necessary runtime data is automatically migrated from the EAE to the Agile Business Suite environment.

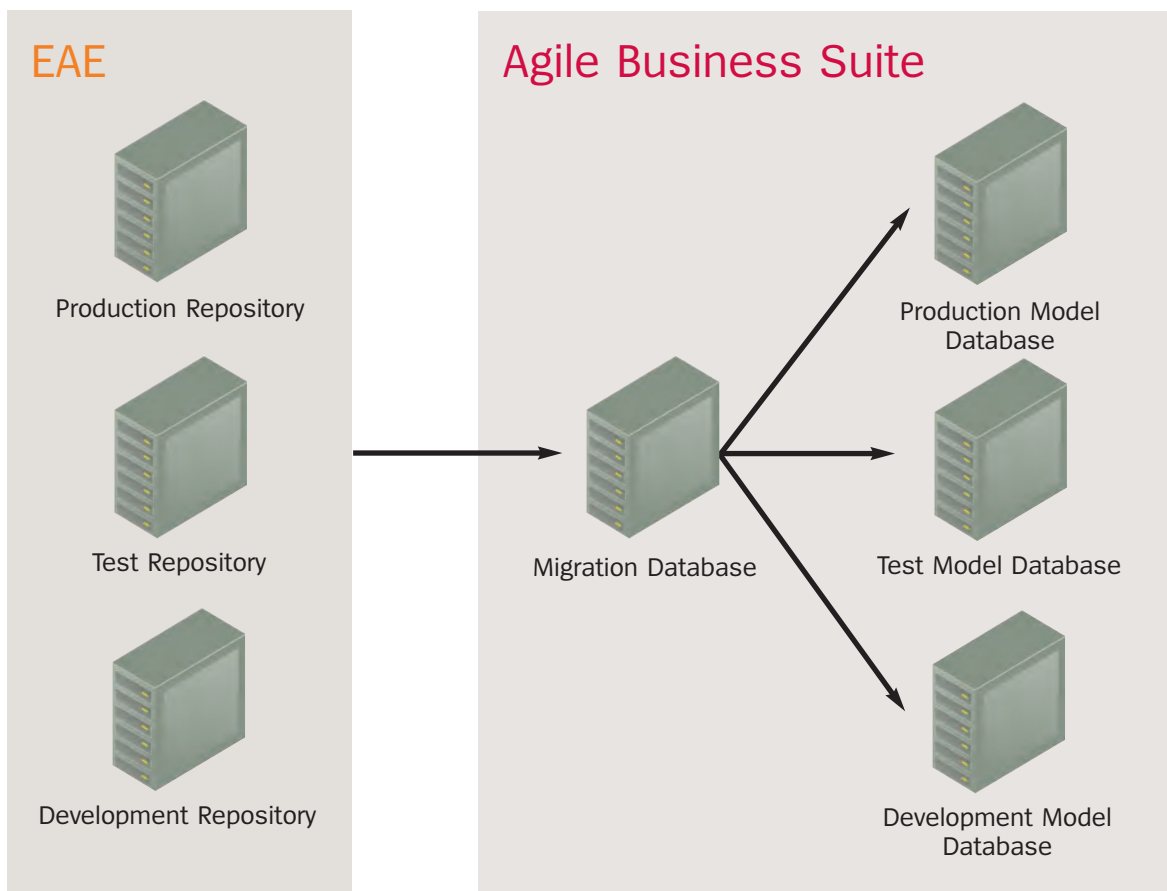
Keeping Production and Migration Efforts in Sync

The power of the migration database is best understood when you consider the reality of maintaining your production environment during a migration effort. Otherwise, Step 2 – exporting the model from the migration database and loading it into the Agile Business Suite Developer repository – may seem like extra work.

Let's assume one of your developers has made a change to the application in EAE. With the migration database, there's no need to perform a full migration again or manually make parallel changes in the Agile Business Suite model. All you need to do is import the changes from EAE. In this situation, the processing in Step 1 maps the named items from the EAE model extract file to the objects that are already in the migration database. >>

If they already exist, they are assigned the same GUID that they had the first time the model was imported. New items are assigned new GUID values. Then, when you export the changes from the migration database and import them into the Agile Business Suite repository (on top of the existing model), only those new items are flagged as changes and assigned new GUIDs. Your changes from EAE are merged with any modifications you may have made to the model in Agile Business Suite automatically. And, you did not need to freeze the development.

Now, we're sure your EAE development environment is more complex than the example we just discussed. Not to worry – the migration database can just as easily handle multiple versions of an application. Following is a diagram that shows the process for an EAE application with different development, test, and production versions. While it may look complicated, the process is very similar to the simple one.



The key point to remember about the migration database is that it allows developers to make changes to the application in EAE, do a partial extract, and migrate those changes to Agile Business Suite. The migration database provides the intelligence to keep the two environments in sync and gives you the breathing room to conduct your migration at a pace and manner that makes sense for your environment.

To learn more about the migration database and to read a detailed explanation of the process for more complex development environments, [download](#) our white paper, *Migrating EAE Environments to Agile Business Suite*.

Choosing the Right MDD-Enabling Technology

Model-driven development (MDD) is one IT innovation that's here to stay. A [recent commissioned study conducted by Forrester Consulting](#) on behalf of Unisys recognized Forrester's view – adoption of modeling and model-driven development is widespread. What's more, there are clear benefits to be realized as organizations' use of this approach matures.

Now, a new companion white paper to the Forrester study discusses the need for IT organizations to carefully evaluate their options in terms of MDD enabling technology. The key? Opting for tools that offer sophisticated and enterprise-capable features that address IT's top issues regarding application development.

Entitled [Moving up the model-driven development maturity curve: Practical advice on what to look for in MDD enabling technology](#), the paper reveals the five essential capabilities to look for when choosing a model-driven development toolset.

[Download the new white paper](#) from the eCommunity.

DETRAN-RO Migrates to Agile Business Suite

In 2008, DETRAN-RO, the department of transportation for the state of Rondônia, Brazil, migrated from EAE to Agile Business Suite. With the assurance of “safe passage” application migration to Agile Business Suite, the agency preserved 100 percent of the value in its custom application while providing a contemporary platform to power future development efforts.

With the help of Unisys consultants and in less than four weeks, DETRAN-RO successfully migrated its core business application to Agile Business Suite without any noticeable change to its end-user population. Now boasting a modern development toolset backed by an upgraded Unisys ClearPath Libra 300 server, the agency can effectively recruit young developers weaned on the Microsoft® Visual Studio® paradigm, modify and improve existing applications, and grow and evolve into the future.

Check out these metrics:

- **Productivity:** Powerful MDD toolset based on Microsoft Visual Studio and offering 100% code-generation capabilities speeds time-to-delivery for changes and enhancements
- **Speed:** Completion of a full migration, including training, in less than a month ensures swift progression to modern capabilities
- **Risk:** Preserving all the functionality of existing, proven applications and ensuring a transparent transition for end users – with no changes to a familiar interface – reduces risk
- **Performance:** ClearPath Libra 300 processor upgrade improves transaction throughput by 200% to meet the growing demand for online services

Get the all the details by reading the [full case study](#) on the eCommunity.

Welcome to the Club

The list of organizations that have leveraged safe passage migration from EAE to Agile Business Suite continues to grow. A hearty welcome to the following new members of the Agile Business Suite user community:

- The [Port Authority Transit Corporation \(PATCO\)](#), a subsidiary of the [Delaware River Port Authority of Pennsylvania and New Jersey](#), migrated payroll, equipment maintenance, and financial applications comprising 340+ ISPECS and more than 200 reports and running on a Microsoft Windows platform.
- [The Société du Canal de Provence \(SCP\)](#) migrated two major applications to Agile Business Suite. A Unisys customer for more than 20 years, SCP relies on Unisys ClearPath MCP operating environment with applications containing 730 ISPECS and 1,030 reports. SCP's Agile Business Suite based applications integrate with other software solutions, such as a geographic information system (GIS) and electronic document management system. In addition, the company's CRM application and Agile Business Suite applications are tightly coupled through Web Services.
- GIE SIMA (formerly CIMUT) is live with Agile Business Suite applications running under ClearPath MCP. Three French companies have now migrated to Agile Business Suite.
- DETRAN-RO, the department of transportation for the state of Rondônia, Brazil, migrated to Agile Business Suite to preserve the value in its existing applications while establishing a modern development environment that's attractive to new university graduates. Read the [DETRAN-RO case study](#) for more.

Our Top 5

There are many resources available to help you learn more about Agile Business Suite, explore the benefits of the new environment, and prepare for migration. Here are the top five:

1. [10 Reasons to Move to Agile Business Suite](#) brochure: Presents the benefits of migration to Agile Business Suite.
2. [Why to Migrate to Agile Business Suite](#) multi-media presentation: Offers a fast-paced overview of what migration means for the organization.
3. Agile Business Suite 2.0 [Software Release Announcements](#) (and all previous SRAs): Provide a technical reference that details the contents of a particular release, invaluable in formulating detailed migration plans.
4. [Agile Business Suite Release 2.0 Migration Guide](#): Serves as an excellent reference regarding best practices and processes for planning and conducting your organization's migration to Agile Business Suite.
5. [Agile Business Suite 2.0 Product Information Sheets](#): Provide a succinct overview of new capabilities in each product in Agile Business Suite and outline the required underlying software.
 - [Agile Business Suite Developer 2.0](#)
 - [Agile Business Suite Runtime for ClearPath MCP 2.0](#)
 - [Agile Business Suite Runtime for Java Enterprise Edition 2.0](#)
 - [Agile Business Suite Runtime for Windows .NET Framework 2.0](#)

BONUS [Model-Driven Application Development with Agile Business Suite White Paper](#)

For a comprehensive list of all the materials available to support your migration to Agile Business Suite, check the [eCommunity](#) and Unisys [support](#) web sites.

Calendar

There's no easier or more effective way to get maximum value from your EAE or Agile Business Suite investment than attending an event. Here's what's coming in 2009.

What	Where	When
UNITE 2009 Call for Papers – Final submissions due	Online	June 1, 2009
FutureMatters , featuring Agile Business Suite and EAE sessions (further details available soon)	Amsterdam Milton Keynes Paris	June 16, 2009 June 18, 2009 September 2009
Agile Business Suite and EAE two-day user meeting	St. Paul de Vence, France	November 2009
UNITE Annual Technology Conference	Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, Minneapolis, MN	November 8-11, 2009

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