The Appian Enterprise Business Process Management Suite (BPMS) is the industry’s only business process management (BPM) solution to deliver advanced process, knowledge, and analytics functionality in a fully integrated suite. Appian Enterprise provides a rich, full-featured process-centric platform for developing and deploying powerful business solutions across the extended enterprise.

The Appian BPMS will make it easy for the company’s business teams and Information Technology (IT) group to work together to rapidly build simple-to-use applications for end users. Appian Enterprise, the only 100-percent web-based, integrated BPMS, is a comprehensive solution that simplifies process collaboration and innovation—enabling all users across the company to “be part of the process” of achieving business goals.

Appian Enterprise will enable the company to create applications and automate processes based on the company’s individual requirements. Unlike traditional software applications that force the customer to conform its processes to a vendor’s predefined functionality, Appian Enterprise will empower the company to model, apply, and continually adapt applications that reflect and embody the company’s specific work processes; rules/policies; and user interface, reporting, and system integration requirements. Leveraging the Appian Enterprise BPMS, the company will be able to:

- **Design** – Efficient processes must be well designed; and Appian Enterprise provides the functionality to enable business users and IT to rapidly design user-friendly, comprehensive, and flexible applications.

- **Manage** – Appian Enterprise allows process analysts and executives to easily monitor and manage automated business processes. Users are able to view real-time process output via rich dashboard reporting and easy-to-understand, real-time process metrics.

- **Optimize** – Well-managed processes should be optimized after thorough “current state” analysis. Appian Enterprise provides the tools necessary to modify processes as business drivers and other conditions change, in order to achieve and maintain the optimal business state.

Collaboration tools contribute to the successful implementation of enterprise processes, and the Appian Enterprise BPMS couples process management with asynchronous and synchronous collaboration tools that encourage users, teams,
and departments to communicate throughout the life of a business process. This combination helps ensure that the right people participate at the right time, reducing miscommunication and mistakes. Appian Enterprise’s dynamic collaboration tools bring together process participants, subject-matter experts, and decision makers at specific stages in the process life cycle—to ensure processes are designed and executed properly. Appian Enterprise’s collaboration tools—including interactive message boards, dynamic team workspaces and communities of practice, collaborative document and records management tools, and group web logging and content management capabilities—were designed and built from the ground up to be part of our cohesive, BPM-centric application suite.

Additionally, Appian Enterprise’s integration of process and content management helps distributed virtual teams execute flawlessly by centralizing tasks, processes, and content vital to user performance. Collaborative team workspaces integrate directly with the BPMS, enabling users to participate in enterprise processes by completing tasks, initiating enterprise processes, and making in-flight modifications to running process instances.

Extending the collaborative functionality of the Appian Enterprise BPMS, integrated document management capabilities provide a web-based system for storing and securing electronic documents. Appian document management supports all document formats; includes a robust feature set; and contains tightly integrated, group-based access controls. Through Appian document management, users can collaborate with teammates to create and manage documents; circulate documents for approval; and, ultimately, publish documents to the Appian portal or other content distribution applications. This document management application also supports an integrated subscription model, enabling users to request e-mails or system notifications when documents or folders are modified.

Appian’s content manager is a proven, web-based system for storing, routing, and securing content. Award-winning capabilities provide unparalleled management of processes, process artifacts, stored documents, and other electronic content—such as reports, task lists, images, video, and more, along with its associated metadata. Appian content management and the Appian Enterprise Process Modeler integrate closely through Appian Smart Services, process activity nodes that bring functionality from across the Appian Enterprise BPMS into business process models. By using content-related Smart Services, users can create workflows that interact with the content repository to upload new content; update versions; create and modify folders and metadata; and configure access controls and privilege-based security.

Appian analytics is yet another core component of the Appian Enterprise BPMS. Capturing and organizing real-time and historical business process data, Appian Analytics helps managers identify and compensate for process inefficiencies. By closely integrating analytics with other BPMS components, Appian Enterprise delivers actionable data and sophisticated tools to streamline and optimize business processes. Additionally, Appian analytics can automatically initiate performance-
based events, dynamically managing the flow of enterprise processes. This fusion of process and analytics drives a continuous cycle of enterprise process improvement, creating a platform for interpreting and adapting processes to meet the challenges of constantly evolving business environments.

Additionally, Appian Enterprise provides real-time feedback to business users, enforcing organizational accountability and data integrity while guiding business process optimization. Leveraging close integration between the process and portal components of the Suite, Appian Enterprise provides interactive analytics dashboards, enabling managers to monitor and report on active and archived processes across the entire BPMS. Out-of-the-box process reports gather a wide range of data—from task lag and completion time to aggregated process reports categorized by user, manager, team, or department. Users can customize reports, create personalized reports on the fly, drill down into report results to retrieve detailed information about specific processes or activities, and modify processes directly from the reporting interface. This represents true, seamless round-trip process engineering, where running processes can be adapted in flight based on business performance analytics.

For interfacing with other systems, Appian Enterprise provides native integration adapters to common interfaces, including web services; RDBMSs (relational database management systems); and JMS (Java Message Service). Appian also connects to external systems via Appian Smart Services, which are encapsulated Java objects that extend the Process Modeler functionality unique to Appian’s 100-percent web-based BPMS. In addition, Appian can model and connect to messaging systems (i.e., JMS) and e-mail (i.e., SMTP [Simple Mail Transfer Protocol]) via the BPMN (Business Process Modeling Notation) events architecture.

To ensure business analysts are not inundated with the details of setting up complex integrations, Appian has created the Appian Smart Service architecture. This architecture will enable the company to create custom Smart Services and deploy them to the Appian Enterprise palette. These services can be modeled as graphical nodes and deployed in Appian process models. Business analysts need only interact with the interface provided by IT for connecting to the external system.

In summary, Appian offers a 100-percent web-based platform, inclusive of the capabilities described above for process design and implementation, full document and content management, and configurable real-time reporting and analytics—all combined with the inherent ability to modify and enhance the company’s business processes quickly and easily as future business practices or other conditions dictate.