



hs.Crawler

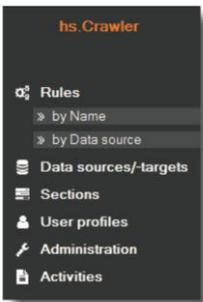
IBM Connections integration made easy

„Oh please, not another tool!“. Implementing IBM Connections and forcing user adoption is no easy task. Beneath the fact that organizational and structural changes within a company are inevitable it is necessary to properly integrate the system into the existing infrastructure. But how can that be achieved? hs.Crawler to the rescue!

The **hs.Crawler** is a product developed by hedersoft GmbH that helps organizations to utilize IBM Connections as their central source of information.

In most cases IBM Connections does not solve a single use-case a company has out of the box. Furthermore people are usually reluctant when it comes to adopting and using new software and sharing their knowledge freely with others – but this is precisely the premise upon which IBM Connections is built – this can be akin to a cat chasing its tail.

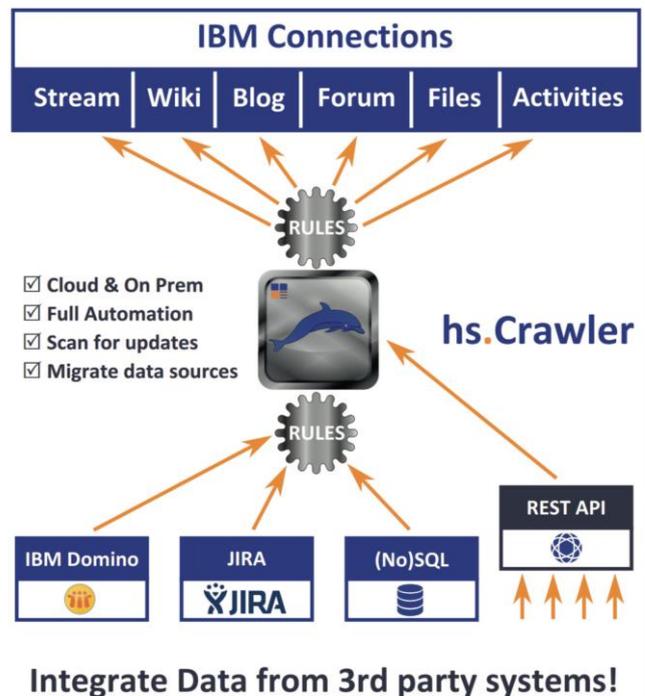
Employees often are faced with being forced to using multiple systems in the course of their work day just to get their job done – this makes IBM Connections nothing but one more system to deal with. First impressions matter and often that first impression that users develop of IBM Connections is that of just one more piece of software that makes their workday longer without giving them much benefit. This is here **hs.Crawler** helps to overcome this situation quickly by transforming IBM Connections into their **Single-Point of Information**.



Data from different systems can be aggregated and transferred into IBM Connections using the unique capabilities **hs.Crawler**. Make IBM Connections serve as the central entry point to start dealing with your daily work. Data can be presented in each IBM Connections feature: Activities, Wikis, Forums or post information into a Community’s activity stream. All your employees will know where to go to find crucial data and can then instantly jump off to external systems using links provided. Dealing with ever increasing volume of emails or long searches for data in file shares become things of the past.

The acceptance of the IBM Connections and adoption of its uses as a central hub of all business activity increases dramatically – and your employees will finally be able to get their tasks done faster and more efficiently.

Boost your IBM Connections Environment!





Collect data from different data sources by using a system of rules

hs.Crawler provides a system of rules to define how and what specific data to collect from external systems. Many external data sources can be defined to collect data from and can be controlled by a set of rules ranging from simple intake to very complex data manipulation.

An easy rule could be: Collect all changes for a certain document type that have been made since the last time the **hs.Crawler** has checked.

A **more complex** rule might be: Collect data for different document types where the status has changed from A to B and the last modifier is John Doe. A PTO application for that has been approved by the HR department is a representative example.

Source items that have been detected based on the rules defined can be accessed any time from within IBM Connections by clicking **configurable Links**.

The screenshot shows the configuration interface for hs.Crawler, divided into four tabs: Definition, Field Mapping, Write back data, and Embedded Experience. The 'Field Mapping' tab is active, showing the following configuration:

- Creation date:** @Created
- Last modification:** @Modified
- Subject:** @If (Status="10";"New application: " + @Name ([CN];User) + " (" + @Text (StartDate) + "-" + @Text (EndDate) + ")";Status="20";"Vacation approved:" + " (" + @Text (StartDate) + "-" + @Text (EndDate) + ")";Status="30";"Vacation rejected:" + " (" + @Text (StartDate) + "-" + @Text (EndDate) + ")";""
- Source database is leading system
- Body:** @If (Status="30";"Reason: " + DenyRemark;"Comment: " + Remark)

On the right side, the 'Write back data' tab is active, showing the following configuration:

- Created by:** @Name ([CN];@Subset (\$UpdatedBy;1))
- Modified by:** @Name ([CN];@Subset (\$UpdatedBy;-1))
- Preferred link type:** http notes
- Document ID:** @DocumentUniqueID
- Tags:** "vacation"

Data distribution to IBM Connections

hs.Crawler provides another system of rules to define how and where collected data will be transferred to IBM Connections. Both IBM Connections **on premises** and IBM Connections **Cloud** are supported and could in many cases be used in parallel. A great example is internal business data is posted to an on premise IBM Connections instance and supplier related data being posted to the cloud.

Data can be posted to all applications IBM Connections provides. A user's **activity stream** can be posted to as well as to a **Community stream**, more complex data can be posted to **Blogs**, **Wikis** or a **Forum**. **Files** can be uploaded either to communities or to the public files section. **Activities** can be created and populated with **To-Do** items, **Emails** received by outside systems or any other type of entry. Once a To-Do item will be marked as completed the status can be written back to the data source.

The **hs.Crawler** can be used both for a **one time data migration** and for a **permanent synchronization system**!



Highlights and Use-Cases

Embedded Experience

Data collected from a data source can be used in the embedded experience of a user's or community's activity stream. Actions can be configured to act directly on the data source from within the embedded experience in IBM Connections.

An application for PTO created in IBM Notes has been posted to the activity stream of the manager. By opening the embedded experience the manager can check the data and decide whether to approve or reject the application without opening the Notes Document.

The CRM application specifically developed for the organization is supposed to create an activity stream post in the Sales community once a new customer address is available. The internal developer sends the data via the REST-API to the hs.Crawler which then posts the data to the community.

REST-API

Leverage the **hs.Crawler** REST-Interface to connect even more data sources.

Mail-In Mapping

Leverage the Mail-Interfaces provided by **hs.Crawler** to send data to IBM Connections for all systems the **hs.Crawler** provides no direct interface for.

A workflow-engine used in the entire company has no modern interfaces like RESTful services but is capable of sending Emails at certain points in a process. Once a new order process is generated in the engine a well-formatted Email is being created and send to the hs.Crawler. The crawler grabs the mail, parses the content provided and creates an activity stream post.

A company handbook based on a Teamroom template is scheduled to be migrated to an IBM Connections Wiki. All documents will be transferred by keeping the formatting. The outline structure will be migrated to the Wiki and all attachments found in the documents will be uploaded as attachments.

Wiki Migration

One time migration of data into an IBM Connections Wiki. Option to take over and create an outline from categories. Attachments can be transferred as well.

Impersonation

Post data on behalf of the user who either created or modified the data source, e.g. the IBM Notes document.

All attachments from all documents of an IBM Notes database have been transferred to the community "Important documents". It is important to upload the attachments to the files section of the community on behalf of the user who made the most recent modifications to the document in the data source.



Activities and To-Do's

Upload data to an IBM Connections Activity as Entry. The entry types To-Do-Item, Entry-Item and Email-Item are supported. Entries can automatically be assigned to sections of an Activity and attachments can be uploaded.

The marketing team uses a mail-in database to process new requests. The hs.Crawler crawls the mail-in database and checks for particular requests. These requests are being posted as new To-Do item to the "New requests" section of the activity "Marketing requests" in the marketing community.

Files from a file share are supposed to be uploaded to a community. The folder structure of each and every file will automatically be converted to tags before the files will be uploaded to IBM Connections. Each folder in the file path of each file is considered a tag.

Tagging

All content loaded from a data source can be tagged automatically before it will be uploaded to IBM Connections in order to improve searches. Tags can either be static or dynamically calculated for each and every data element.

IBM Quickr Migration

Migration of Places, Rooms, Folders and Files from IBM Quickr to IBM Connections. Access rights are respected. Data can be transferred to communities, sub-communities and to an application of choice (i.e. Wiki). The version history will be transferred as well.

The Quickr Place "Financial Statements" contains a room for each year. The contents will be migrated to the "Financial Statements" community with sub-communities for the years. The folder structure will be migrated to nested folders. The room "Legal statements" will be transferred to the Wiki in the main community.

Documents attachments are being created in an HR database. All attachments have to be reviewed and released. A person who has to review a document gets a notice in his on-premises activity stream with a link to the document in the database. Once reviewed and released the attachments will be uploaded to the IBM Connections Cloud instance to a folder "Year/Month/Day".

„Nested Folder“ support

Connections 5.5 introduced the new feature "Nested Folders". Files can be uploaded in a folder structure.

System requirements

- IBM Domino 9.0.1 or higher
- IBM Notes 8.5.3 or higher

hs.Crawler is compatible with IBM Connections

- v4.5, v5.0, v5.5
- „On Premises“ and „Cloud“

Contact

Belsoft | collaboration

Belsoft Collaboration AG
Russenweg 26
CH-8008 Zürich

Email: collaboration@belsoft.ch
<http://belsoft-collaboration.ch>