General Overview:

Advanced Systems Concepts, Inc. is a leader in the development of Workload Automation and Enterprise Job Scheduling software. Our software simplifies the automation and integration of business and IT operational processes across single or compound workflows that can share data and manage dependencies. Automating as well as integrating workflows improves resource utilization, ensures higher service levels and reduces the overall cost of operations.

ActiveBatch® Enterprise Job Scheduling & Workload Automation reduces the complex challenges of today’s IT organizations by offering a single point of control that integrates systems never designed to work cooperatively. These systems include applications, databases and technologies and their business and IT processes are then unified into end-to-end workflows.

ActiveBatch supports “Script Free” integration that includes web services, stored procedures as well as extensions for mission-critical applications, such as:
- SAP
- Informatica PowerCenter
- IBM DataStage
- IBM Cognos BI
- SQL Server
- Oracle
and many more using events for timely initiation of these processes.

>PROBLEM
Developers are being asked to build, deploy and maintain growing numbers of applications. The use of manual deployment procedures to coordinate the various steps, from testing, staging and production, add complexity and lead to errors. Microsoft Team Foundation Server (TFS) is a source code management and reporting tool used by development teams worldwide as a collaborative, software development solution. However, TFS lacks any type of formal scheduling tool; developers who want to schedule tasks such as creating a work item or triggering a build must do so via Web Services or rely on Team Foundation Server Task Scheduler Service. Team Foundation Server Task Scheduler Service is not designed as an all-purpose scheduling solution and is limited to just date/time scheduling.

>SOLUTION
The ActiveBatch® Extension for Team Foundation Server provides developer teams with a single point of scheduling to automate Team Foundation Server processes to cope with the growing number of software deliveries and deployments. It allows application build and release processes to become automated and repeatable workflows, thus enabling development teams to schedule and automate the deployment of applications. A user can use ActiveBatch to automate various Team Foundation Server tasks, such as creating a Work Item, starting a Build or modifying a Build.

ActiveBatch adds event automation capabilities to Team Foundation Server so scheduling can be expanded to include various IT events. For example, use job steps within ActiveBatch’s Integrated Jobs Library to construct a workflow that launches a build within TFS, and based upon its completion, automatically deploys that installation in a QA environment to minimize lag time and remove an otherwise manual process. ActiveBatch also allows Team Foundation Server processes to be integrated with processes running on other applications and systems. For example, use ActiveBatch to integrate TFS with a QA/Test system by creating a workflow that automatically creates a new work item within TFS every time a “bug” is logged.

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<th>Microsoft Team Foundation Server</th>
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<td>SharePoint</td>
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<td>Create Work Item</td>
<td>The ActiveBatch Integrated Jobs Library simplifies the development and implementation of single and/or compound business and IT processes into unified workflows using simple drag-and-drop templated Job Steps.</td>
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www.ActiveBatch.com
ActiveBatch® Integrated Job Steps for Microsoft Team Foundation Workflow
As displayed in the ActiveBatch Integrated Jobs Library

Test environment scheduling prevents unnecessary project delays by ensuring that testing, builds and staging environments are run at the proper time.

Role-Based Permissions to allow users without Team Foundation Server access to schedule and deploy builds to ensure they are working with the latest version of the software.

Schedule and distribute Team Foundation Reports either based on date/time or based on completion of a Team Foundation Server task such as, the completion of a build, so developer teams have an up-to-date status on outstanding work items.

Integrate Team Foundation Server with other applications to improve accuracy and automate repetitive tasks. For example, automate Team Foundation Server processes and integrate it with your Help Desk system so that Team Foundation Server work items can be created when engineering and QA teams need to be involved.

> ABOUT MICROSOFT TEAM FOUNDATION SERVER
Team Foundation Server is the collaboration platform at the core of Microsoft’s application lifecycle management solution. TFS automates the software delivery process and gives you the tools you need to effectively manage software development projects throughout the IT lifecycle. Visit www.microsoft.com.