Many organizations are using Sharepoint-based solutions for internal process automation. One of the most natural techniques of any process automation is the use of workflows. Sharepoint has a built-in workflow engine. Sharepoint workflows can be run against almost any Sharepoint object like a List or Document Library and the rules of the assigned workflow will be executed.

There are two types of workflows:

* A Sequential Workflow, this has one start point and then it can be completed successfully or terminated based upon the defined conditions. Sequential Workflow is mostly used for automated processes.
* The second one is the State Machine Workflow, which is purely based upon the state transition methodology. This is an ideal model for more complex business processes where these processes require human intervention at various states. In this workflow, an Initial State and Completion State exists. The execution path from Initial State to End State is completely based upon transition between states and events triggered.