dkrSolutions

rulerunner[®] framework

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- User Guide -

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Page 1/37 Revision No. 182



Table of Contents

1 What is it all about?	4
1.1 Target group of this document	4
1.2 Basic idea from a Business Perspective	4
1.3 What is the <i>rulerunner</i> ® framework?	5
1.4 Rulerunner® is free	5
2 Installation of the <i>rulerunner</i> ® framework	6
2.1 Prerequisites	
2.2 Installation using abapGit	
2.3 Installation using SAP Transport Requests	6
3 Using rulerunner® framework	7
3.1 Concept overview	
3.2 Customizing the <i>rulerunner</i> ® framework	8
3.2.1 Basics	8
3.2.2 Assigning BRFplus Functions to Event_Types/Resultgroups	9
3.2.3 Implementing Customer Rulesets	10
3.3 Execution of rules using the <i>rulerunner</i> ® framework	11
3.3.1 Synchronous Execution of Business Rules	11
3.3.1.1 Basics	
3.3.1.2 Execution in ABAP	11
3.3.1.3 Execution in SAP BW Transformations	11
3.3.2 Asynchronous execution of rules	12
3.3.2.1 Basics	12
3.3.2.2 Adding events	
3.3.2.3 Scheduling the execution of stored events	
3.3.2.4 Adding <i>rulerunner</i> ® Events within BRFplus Functions	
3.3.2.5 Consuming <i>rulerunner</i> ®Events in ABAP	
3.3.2.6 Consuming <i>rulerunner</i> ® Events in a SAP BW scenario	
3.3.3 Accessing <i>rulerunner</i> ® parameters within BRFplus Functions	
3.4 Persistence vs. on the fly – generic OData service	
3.5 Rulerunner® metadata conversion and BRFplus Result Data Object	
3.6 Rulerunner® Context handover	
4 SAP BW specifics	
4.1 General	
4.2 When should we use <i>rulerunner</i> ® and BRFplus	
4.3 Complex BW Delta scenarios and <i>rulerunner</i> ® Asynchronous Execution mode	
4.4 Detection of DTP simulation	
4.5 Detection of Delta DTP's	
5 Enhancements	
5.1 BRFplus DB Lookup Expression -Enhancement	
5.2 Jump to BRFplus from ABAP Editor -Enhancement	
5.3 BRFplus For All Entries In – Enhancement	
6 Future improvements	
6.1 Cross Function Context Handover	
7 Appendix	
7.1 Development Packages	29



7.1.1 Package ZRULERUNNER	29
7.1.2 Package ZRULERUNNER_BW	29
7.1.3 Package ZRULERUNNER_MAIN	
7.1.4 Package ZRULERUNNER_ODATA	
7.2 BW Datasource for Event Data	29
7.3 Class zcl_rulerunner	30
7.3.1 Public method ADD_EVENT	
7.3.2 Public method DELETE_EVENTS	
7.3.3 Public method MOVE_DATA_SOURCE_TO_TARGET	31
7.3.4 Public method PROCESS_EVENT_DIRECTLY	32
7.3.5 Public method PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS	32
7.3.6 Public method PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS	33
7.3.7 Public method SELECT_FOR_ALL_ENTRIES_IN	
7.3.8 Public methodSHOW_RULERUNNER_CUSTOMIZING	
7.4 Class zcx_rulerunner	35
7.5 Dictionary objects	
7.5.1 Table ZRULERUN_DELTA	
7.5.2 Table ZRULERUN_EVENTS	36
7.5.3 Table ZRULERUN_PLOG	
7.6 Message class	



1 What is it all about?

1.1 Target group of this document

The *rulerunner*[®] framework connects the world of SAP Datawarehousing (SAP BW) with the SAP Business Rule Management software SAP BRFplus.

Therefore you should have a profound knowledge in the following areas:

- SAP BW and/or SAP ERP
- SAP Business Rule Framework BRFplus
- ABAP programming language

Please note:

This document does not explain neither SAP BW nor ABAP nor BRFplus.

Please note:

Although this document has a strong focus on SAP BW, the *rulerunner*® framework can be used on an SAP ERP System (on ABAP) as well.

1.2 Basic idea from a Business Perspective

Business Decision are made on the basis of Key Performance Indicators (KPI). These KPI's are calculated by an analytical software.

But if Decision Makers or Business Analysts ask about the calculation logic of a KPI, then usually an IT expert has to be consulted, because the **logic** is **hidden** somewhere in the analytical software.

We consider the calculation of **KPI's** as a mission critical task.

For Decision Makers and Business Analysts that means:

- KPI calculation logic should be defined in an **understandable** way (no ABAP)
- KPI calculation logic should be directly **accessible** (in the software, not in a separate doc)
- KPI calculation documentation must be **up-to-date** (no outdated PDF docs)
- Livecycle of calculation logic must be traceable

Therefore:

- In order to fulfill these requirements the Business logic must be defined in a **Business Rule Management System**.
- SAP provides the Business Rule Framework BRFplus® for that purpose.
 BRFplus® is available on most of the existing SAP Netweaver Systems. Having SAP ERP or BW licences, BRFplus can be used free of charge.
- The *rulerunner*[®] framework offers an easy way to bundle the power of SAP BW/ERP[®] and SAP BRFplus[®].

Page 4/37 Revision No. 182



1.3 What is the *rulerunner*[®] framework?

The *rulerunner*[®] framework:

- is a framework for easy and customizable execution of BRFplus Functions in a SAP BW and ERP context.
- enhances the SAP Business Rule Plus Framework (BRFplus) by adding more flexibility.
- allows synchronous and asynchronous execution of BRFplus functions.
- is intended to be used in mass data scenarios, especially in SAP BW.
- supports enhanced Delta-Load scenarios in SAP BW.

Defining business logic in a Rule Management System means:

- higher transparency of Business logic
- better understandability of complex algorithms for Business Analysts, they may even change it themself
- ability to Redesign Business logic more easily
- auditable Change Management of Business Logic

Advantages using rulerunner® framework

The framework adds more flexibility when embedding Business rules into Business Processes Using the Event customization concept, it is very easy to replace or add more Business Rules w/o changing the Business Process itself.

1.4 Rulerunner® is free

 $\it Rulerunner^{\rm @}$ is publicly available on $\underline{\rm https://github.com/rulerunner/rulerunner4ABAP}$. $\it Rulerunner^{\rm @}$ can be used free of charge.

Contributors to the project are very welcome.

Page 5/37 Revision No. 182



2 Installation of the *rulerunner*[®] framework

2.1 Prerequisites

Rulerunner® is developed on a ABAP 7.5 stack.
Rulerunner® runs on BW/4 HANA (on premise)
Installation on a 7.3 system requires minor changes in the source code after import.
SAP Business Rule Framework BRFplus must be active on your system.

2.2 Installation using abapGit

The source code of *rulerunner*[®] is available at https://github.com/rulerunner/rulerunner4ABAP
The source code can be installed onto your system by means of the abapGit tools. Please refer to https://docs.abapgit.org/ for details.

Please note:

Due to current limitations of the abapGit project, the content of the *rulerunner*® packages is **not complete** (e.g. BRFplus objects and BW datasources are missing). In order to work with *rulerunner*® framework, you need to import the BRFplus Application manually via a XML Import. The required XML file BrfplusApplicationRulerunner201901181421.xml is available in the main folder of the master branch.

Please ask for the SAP Standard Transport Request files for the complete content of the *rulerunner*® packages (Installation using SAP Transport Requests).

2.3 Installation using SAP Transport Requests

Please send an email to <u>info@dkrsolutions.com</u>. We will send you the SAP Standard Transport Request files.

Page 6/37 Revision No. 182



3 Using *rulerunner*® framework

3.1 Concept overview

The *rulerunner*® framework encapsulates the execution of SAP BRFplus Business Rules as shown in *Figure 1: rulerunner*® *Overview*

rulerunner® Framework



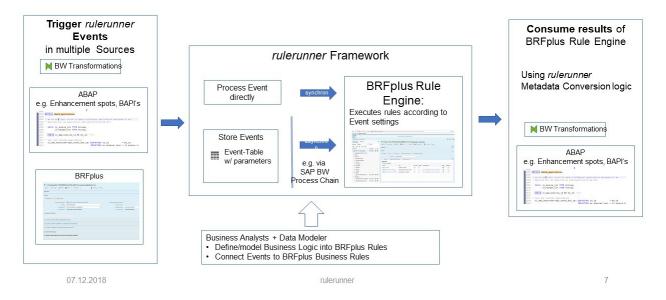


Figure 1: rulerunner® Overview

With the *rulerunner*® framework BRFplus Business Rules are not executed directly. The *rulerunner*® framework decouples the execution of BRFplus Functions from the invoking/consuming ABAP code. It even allows to disconnect the invoking ABAP code from the consuming ABAP code by providing an asynchronous execution mode.

The execution of Business rules is triggered by providing the parameter **Event_Type** and other optional parameters to the *rulerunner*® framework.

The *rulerunner*[®] Event Type is required to determine which BRFplus functions must be executed.

From a consumption perspective the results of the BRFplus Business Rules can be further specified by providing the parameter **Resultgroup**. The *rulerunner*[®]-Resultgroup defines a subset of BRFplus functions that should be executed.

The *rulerunner*® framework uses a BRFplus decision table in order to assign BRFplus Business Rules (defined by Application and Function name) to the *rulerunner*® Event_Type and Resultgroup. This is shown in *Figure 2: Customizing BRFplus Functions*(for details see chapter *Customizing the rulerunner*® *framework*)

Page 7/37 Revision No. 182





Figure 2: Customizing BRFplus Functions

Synchronous mode:

If *rulerunner*® framework is used in synchronous mode (i.e. triggering the execution and consuming the results happen at the same time) only one call is required (see chapter *Synchronous Execution of Business Rules*). Parameters Event_type (mandatory) and Resultgroup (optional) are provided with this call.

Asynchronous mode:

In asynchronous mode an invoker triggers an event by calling the *rulerunner*[®] framework providing the parameter **Event_Type** and other optional parameters. This event is added to the *rulerunner*[®] event queue (for details see chapter *Asynchronous execution of rules*). The event queue is stored in a database table.

The stored events can be consumed later by multiple consumers (for details see chapters Consuming rulerunner®Events in ABAP and Consuming rulerunner® Events in a SAP BW scenario). Each consumer may specify what BRFplus functions should be executed by providing the parameter **Resultgroup**.

The *rulerunner*[®] framework automatically tries to convert the results of the BRFplus Business Rules into the target data format.

When executing *rulerunner*[®]-Events the caller can provide additional parameters in a simple Key-Value format.

These parameters can be used within the BRFplus Business Rules (see chapter *Accessing rulerunner® parameters within BRFplus Functions*).

3.2 Customizing the *rulerunner*® framework

3.2.1 Basics

The *rulerunner*® framework uses only BRFplus to customize the behaviour of the framework. The BRFplus Application "RULERUNNER" contains a BRFplus Function "get_eventtype_metadata" (see *Figure 3: rulerunner*® *BRFplus Application*) which provides all necessary settings. Please note: BRFplus Application "RULERUNNER" is part of the *Package ZRULERUNNER_MAIN*.

Page 8/37 Revision No. 182



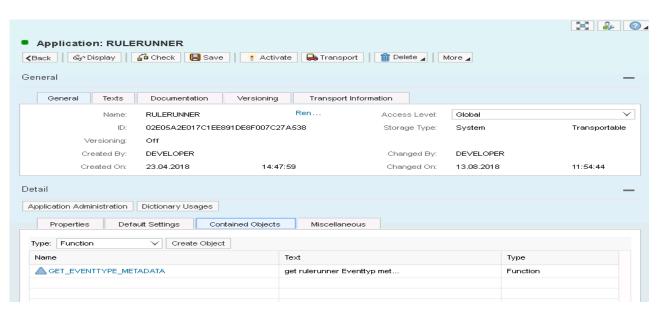


Figure 3: rulerunner® BRFplus Application

The BRFplus Function "get_eventtype_metadata" contains 4 rulesets that can be used directly. Thanks to the BRFplus extension concept these rulesets can be replaced by customer rulesets (see chapter Error: Reference source not found).

In order to simplify the customization process, we created a BRFplus Catalog, see *Figure 4:* rulerunner® BRFplus Catalog.

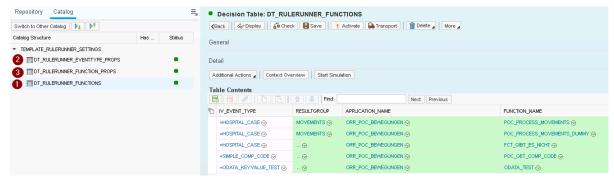


Figure 4: rulerunner® BRFplus Catalog

Catalog Element 1 "DT_RULERUNNER_FUNCTIONS" is the place where *rulerunner*® Parameters **Event_Type** and **Resultgroup** are assigned to BRFplus Application and Functions.

Catalog Elements 2 and 3 can be used to assign additional properties to the Event_Types and BRFplus Functions. These properties are not used at this point in time.

3.2.2 Assigning BRFplus Functions to Event_Types/Resultgroups

The *rulerunner*® Parameter **Event_Type** classifies an event (from the perspective of the invoker) whereas the *rulerunner*® Parameter **Resultgroup** defines a subset of BRFplus Functions that must be executed from a Business Rule consumer perspective

Page 9/37 Revision No. 182



The *rulerunner*® framework uses a BRFplus **decision table** in order to assign BRFplus Business Rules (defined by Application and Function name) to the *rulerunner*®-Event_Type and - Resultgroup This is shown in Figure 5: rulerunner® BRFplus Function assignment)



Figure 5: rulerunner® BRFplus Function assignment

Please note:

Whenever a *rulerunner*[®] event is triggered the Parameter **Event_Type** is **mandatory**. If there is no BRFplus Function assigned to that Event_Type (Figure 5: rulerunner® BRFplus Function assignment) then nothing will happen.

The Parameter **Resultgroup** is **optional**. It can be used to differentiate between different consumers of the events.

3.2.3 Implementing Customer Rulesets

You might want to enhance our assignment template in BRFplus Function

"GET_EVENTTYPE_METADATA", especially when hundreds or thousands of Event_Types must be handled. E.g, it is a good practice to split the assignments into different Decision Tables (e.g. one Decision Table per Division or Department).

To do so, you can define additional rulesets and register them to this function (see Figure 6: rulerunner® BRFplus Function get_eventtype_metadata). These customer rulesets should have a Priority >10 and < 99. If the customer rulesets set the context parameter GV_RUN_TEMPLATES to FALSE, then the 3 TEMPLATE* rulesets (w/ priority = 99) will not be processed anymore.

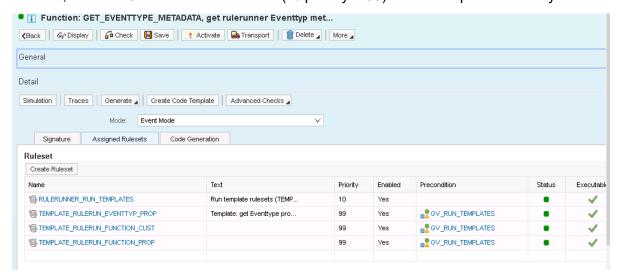


Figure 6: rulerunner® BRFplus Function get_eventtype_metadata

Page 10/37 Revision No. 182



3.3 Execution of rules using the *rulerunner*® framework

3.3.1 Synchronous Execution of Business Rules

3.3.1.1 Basics

Synchronous Execution means, that the invoker wants the Business Rules to be executed immediately. For this case *rulerunner*®framework provides the simple method "process_event_directly" whether used in an ABAP or in a SAP BW context.

3.3.1.2 Execution in ABAP

The *rulerunner*[®] framework provides a simple method "**process_event_directly**". Example:

```
call method zcl rulerunner=>process event directly
 exporting
                   = 'YOUR EVENT TYPE'
  iv event type
  it parameters = 'optional list of parameter'
  iv parameter 1 key = 'Parameter1-Key'
  iv parameter 1 value = 'Value1'
  iv parameter 2 key = 'Parameter 2'
  iv parameter 2 value = 'Value 2'
  iv_parameter_3_key =
  iv_parameter_3_value =
  iv resultgroup = 'optional resultgroup
  it resultgroups = 'optional list of resultgroups'
 importing
                    = lv returncode
  ev returncode
  eo_result_data
                   = It result package.
```

Please note, that the Parameter iv event type is mandatory.

For details about the method, please refer to chapter *Public method PROCESS_EVENT_DIRECTLY*.

If you provide the optional iv_parameter* or it_parameters, then these values can be accessed from within the BRFplus rule definition, please refer to chapter *Accessing rulerunner® parameters within BRFplus Functions*.

3.3.1.3 Execution in SAP BW Transformations

With *rulerunner* framework it is very easy to use SAP BRFplus in order to calculate business data. The synchronous execution method "**process_event_directly**" is used in a BW Transformation as well. The coding from chapter 3.3.1.2 Execution in ABAP must be inserted into Start-, End- or Expert Routine of a BW Transformation.

<u>Please note</u>: The Result Data Object of the BRFplus Functions should be very similar to the target of your BW Transformation. The framework automatically tries to convert the Result Data Object into the Result Package of your BW Transformation (for details see chapter 3.5 <u>Rulerunner®</u> <u>metadata conversion and BRFplus Result Data Object</u>).

Page 11/37 Revision No. 182

Example: Coding in an End Routine of a BW Transformation

```
loop at RESULT PACKAGE assigning <result fields>.
 call method zcl rulerunner=>process event directly
   exporting
                       = 'HOSPITAL CASE'
     iv event type
     it parameters
     iv parameter 1 key = 'OHC INSTITU'
     iv parameter 1 value = <result fields>-hc institu
     iv parameter 2 key = 'OHC PATCASE'
     iv_parameter_2_value = <result_fields>-hc patcase
     iv parameter 3 key =
     iv parameter 3 value =
     iv resultgroup
     it resultgroups
   importing
     ev returncode
     eo result data = lt result package new.
endloop.
RESULT_PACKAGE = lt_result_package_new.
```

3.3.2 Asynchronous execution of rules

3.3.2.1 Basics

In asynchronous mode an invoker triggers an Event by calling the *rulerunner*[®] framework providing the parameter **Event_Type** and other optional parameters. This Event is added to the *rulerunner*[®] event queue (for details see chapter *Public method ADD_EVENT*). The Event Queue is stored in a database table.

The stored Events can be consumed later by multiple consumers (for details see chapters Consuming rulerunner®Events in ABAP and Consuming rulerunner® Events in a SAP BW scenario). Each consumer may specify what BRFplus functions should be executed by providing the parameter **Resultgroup**.

3.3.2.2 Adding events

The *rulerunner*[®] framework provides the method **Add_Event** to add events to the event queue. For details please refer to chapter *Public method ADD_EVENT*. Example:

```
call method zcl_rulerunner=>add_event
  exporting
  iv_event_type = 'Your Event Type'
  iv_suppress_exceptions = "
   it_parameters = 'optional list of parameters'
  iv_parameter_1_key = 'parameter 1'
  iv_parameter_1_value = 'value 1'
  iv_parameter_2_key = 'parameter 2'
  iv_parameter_2_value = 'value 2'
```

Page 12/37 Revision No. 182



iv planned execution timestamp = '20200101000000'

iv_bw_dtp_request = request

- iv_bw_dtp_delta_mode = lv_updatemode
- * importing
- * ev returncode =

Please note:

Within a User Session *rulerunner* framework buffers all added Events (via **Add_Event()**). If an Event with identical parameters (Event_Type, Parameters and planned execution timestamp) has already been added within this User Session, then the new Event will be ignored.

3.3.2.3 Scheduling the execution of stored events

Public method ADD_EVENT has the optional import parameter

"iv_planned_execution_timestamp".

If this parameter is supplied with a Timestamp in the future, then the event will only be processed if the actual timestamp (i.e. when execution/consumption of the Event takes place) is greater or equal to this parameter.

If import parameter "iv_planned_execution_timestamp" is not supplied, then the Planned Execution Timestamp is set to the actual timestamp when calling the ADD_EVENT method.

3.3.2.4 Adding *rulerunner*® Events within BRFplus Functions

The BRFplus provides an expression type Procedure Call. You can use zcl rulerunner=>add event() directly with this expression type.

3.3.2.5 Consuming rulerunner®Events in ABAP

Stored *rulerunner*[®] Events can be consumed by using method **process_stored_events()** (for details see chapter 7.3.6 *Public method PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS*).

This method is intended to be used in a Non SAP BW environment, e.g. in an ERP System.

Process_stored_events() provides a variety of calling options, that are described hereafter:

Packetised Mode:

The number of stored Events is unknown, when calling this method. In order to avoid memory overflows or other performance issues you can call this function in packetised mode <code>iv_run_packetised='X'</code>. That means that you have to call this function multiple times until parameter <code>ev_no_more_data</code> equals to ,X'. You can specify the number of Events that are processed with parameter <code>iv_package_size</code>. Please note that the number of result records in <code>eo_result_data</code> depends on the BRFplus Functions that are assigned to the Events.

Delta Mode:

It is a common requirement to process only Events that have not been processed so far. In our case this is not easy to determine, because *rulerunner*® Events can be consumed by multiple recipients. These recipients define their requirements (i.e. which BRFplus Functions should be executed) by providing the parameter Resultgroup (see chapter *Assigning BRFplus Functions to Event_Types/Resultgroups*). In order to determine wether a combination of Event and Resultgroup

Page 13/37 Revision No. 182



has been processed yet, we would have to analyze the processing log (see *Table ZRULERUN PLOG*).

That would be way to slow and not accurate as updating the processing log can be suppressed. Instead we implemented a Delta mechanism that stores the timestamp when a combination of Eventtype/Resultgroup was processed lastly. These timestamps are stored in *Table ZRULERUN_DELTA*. Each time method **process_stored_events()** is called in Delta Mode (iv_delta_mode = , D') the last execution timestamp from *Table ZRULERUN_DELTA* is set as the lower limit of the planned execution time. With this timestamp all events in *Table ZRULERUN_EVENTS* that have a planned execution timestamp greater then that will be processed.

Please set parameter <code>iv_update_delta_timestamp</code> to ,X' to update the timestamp in *Table ZRULERUN_DELTA* to the execution time. Note that if parameter <code>iv_test_mode</code> is set to ,X' then Delta timestamps will not be updated.

Processing Log:

Table ZRULERUN_PLOG stores the execution timestamp for each Event_Type, Resultgroup and BRFplus Function-ID (see *Figure 1: rulerunner*® *Overview*).

L	Data Browser: Table ZRULERUN_PLOG Select Entries 110						
જ	& ♀ ◀ • Check Table ■ ■ ♣ 〒 ▼ ▼ • □ № ■ ▼ ■ ■ ■						
	CLIENT	EVENTID	RESULTGROUP	FUNCTIONID	TST_PROCESSED	SKIPPED	
	001	7264	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE887A54D2CA7C603FB	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7264	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE897CD8210043E1644	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7266	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE887A54D2CA7C603FB	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7266	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE897CD8210043E1644	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7268	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE887A54D2CA7C603FB	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7268	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE897CD8210043E1644	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7270	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE887A54D2CA7C603FB	20.181.204.101.629		
	001	7270	MOVEMENTS	02E05A2E017C1EE897CD8210043E1644	20.181.204.101.629		

Figure 7: rulerunner® Processing Log Example

Please Note: The Processing Log will only be updated if parameter <code>iv_update_processing_log</code> is set to ,X'.

When *rulerunner*[®] Events are processed the system checks if Events have identical parameters. If so, only the first Event is processed and all other Events are skipped. For Skipped Events the field "Skipped" equals to 'X' in the corresponding record of *Table ZRULERUN_PLOG*.

If parameter <code>iv_repeat_processing</code> is set to 'X' then <code>rulerunner</code> framework will process all BRFplus Functions that are assigned to the Event_Type/Resultgroup (see <code>Assigning BRFplus Functions to Event_Types/Resultgroups</code>). Otherwise it will process only those BRFplus Functions that have not been processed yet.

This is quite useful, if an Event has been processed yet and afterwards new BRFplus Functions have been added to the Event_Type/Resultgroup Customizing. In this case you can execute only those new BRFplus Functions by executing **PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS()** with

```
iv delta mode = '' and iv repeat processing = ''.
```

Page 14/37 Revision No. 182



If you don't need a Processing Log, please execute PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS() with iv update processing log = '' and iv repeat processing = ''.

3.3.2.6 Consuming rulerunner® Events in a SAP BW scenario

When used within a SAP BW datamodel, BRFplus Functions are used to calculate data that are stored in or consumed by an BW Infoprovider.

All stored *rulerunner*[®] Events can be loaded into the SAP BW PSA (Persistent Staging Area). The PSA contains a list of Event-ID's (together with other data from table Error: Reference source not found 7.5.2 Table ZRULERUN EVENTS).

From there the Events can be distributed into the target data providers via BW Transformations.

Package 7.1.2 Package ZRULERUNNER_BW contains the SAP BW Datasource (ODP and Classic) ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS (see Figure 8: BW Datasource for stored rulerunner® Events).

The Datasource provides Events in Delta Update Mode. Delta relevant Events are determined via the Planned Execution Timestamp (see chapter 3.3.2.3 Scheduling the execution of stored events)

* M K2D2 TKOLEKONINEK EAEM L2 WAHOONEY -> OD20 12MOAKER	NOÓTITA Ó SÁNTA EL PARTE DE LA PARTA DE LA PARTE DE LA	criange
🔻 🦻 rulerunner: Event Data	ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS	Change
 ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS ODP Delta 	ZPAK_7KOIWDZ65OXKECAYXEXIAN3WA	Execute

Figure 8: BW Datasource for stored rulerunner Events

Once the Events are loaded into the PSA, they may be consumed by <u>multiple BW Transformations</u>. An example dataflow is shown in *Figure 9: BW: Transformation from ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS to an Infoprovider*.

🕶 🦻 rulerunner: Event Data	ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS
• 🔞 ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS ODP Delta	ZPAK_7KOIWDZ65OXKECAYXEXIAN3WA
 Data Flow Upwards 	_DATAFLOW_UPWARDS
 Ismovked from PSA 	
▼ NSDS ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS A4HODPEX -> ODSO ISMOVKFG	OQQIIAQ3QCX52LKOPE58FKN98WIVKN1G 📃
• 😑 🛚 Movement Keyfigures	ISMOVKFG =

Figure 9: BW: Transformation from ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS to an Infoprovider

Datasource ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS provides the stored Event-ID's to the Transformations. These Event-ID's are consumed in the Start-, End- or Expert Routine of the Transformations. In order to process all Events of a list of Event-ID's *rulerunner*® provides the method **PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS**() (*Public method PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS*).

Example:

Transformation "ZRULERUNNER_EVENTS / A4HODPEX -> ISMOVKFG from PSA" uses an Expert Routine. The Expert Routine is very straight forward and looks like this:

```
METHOD expert_routine.
*=== Segments ===
```

Page 15/37 Revision No. 182



```
FIELD-SYMBOLS:
     <SOURCE FIELDS>
                       TYPE _ty_s_SC_1.
   DATA:
     RESULT FIELDS
                       TYPE _ty_s_TG_1.
*$*$ begin of routine - insert your code only below this line
   ... "insert your code here
   call method zcl rulerunner=>process multiple eventids
     exporting
       it table with eventid = SOURCE PACKAGE
       iv update processing log = 'X'
       iv_repeat_processing = 'X'
       iv package size = 1000
                          = 'MOVEMENTS'
      iv resultgroup
       it resultgroups
     importing
       eo result data = RESULT PACKAGE.
*$*$ end of routine - insert your code only before this line
 ENDMETHOD.
```

3.3.3 Accessing rulerunner® parameters within BRFplus Functions

All parameters that have been provided while calling a *rulerunner*[®] Event can be accessed within the BRFplus Function.

All you need to do is to include the BRFplus table GT_RULERUNNER_CONTEXT into the context of your BRFplus Function, see *Figure 8: BW Datasource for stored rulerunner*® *Events*.

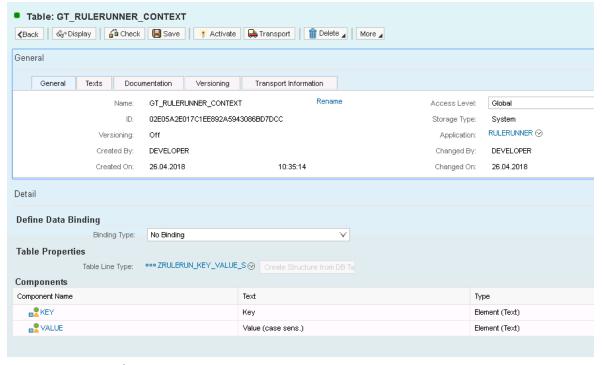


Figure 10: rulerunner® BRFplus Context Table

Page 16/37 Revision No. 182



Table GT_RULERUNNER_CONTEXT is part of the RULERUNNER Application (see *Figure 3: rulerunner*® *BRFplus Application*).

Rulerunner® framework will automatically transfer all parameters into the Context table.

3.4 Persistence vs. on the fly – generic OData service

Please note:

The generic rulerunner® OData service is still work in progress. At this point in time your BRFplus Function must return a key-value result table in order to work properly.

Databases like HANA become more and more powerful.

Therefore complex calculations can be executed on the fly instead of storing the results in a BW Infoprovider or a database table.

With rulerunner® framework and BRFplus you can define business logic that can be consumed in either way. The results of the same logic can be stored in a DB or used on the fly.

In order to consume BRFplus Functions on the fly an OData service must be created. *Rulerunner*[®] framework provides a generic OData service (see also chapter 7.1.4Package ZRULERUNNER_ODATA). To work properly an appropriate OData service Data model has been defined. The data model should work independently of the Result Data Objects of the BRFplus Functions

The data model uses a key value type Entity Set, see *Figure 11: rulerunner OData Service: Data Model.*

Please note:

The OData service is still work in progress. The current Data Model is a flat structure without associations. All import parameters for the execution of rulerunner®methods have to be provided using the fields with prefix "IV".

The result data are provided in the fields "KEY" and "VALUE". The BRFplus Functions must provide a result structure or table containing the fields "KEY" and "VALUE".

Only up to 3 key/value parameters and 1 resultgroup can be passed.

This Data Model should be re-engineered in the future.

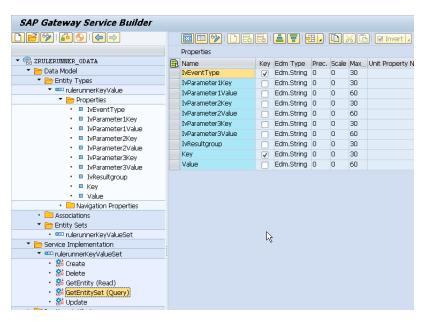


Figure 11: rulerunner OData Service: Data Model

Page 17/37 Revision No. 182

The implementation of the GetEntitySet service is very straight forward. It makes use of the *rulerunner*® process_event_directly method (7.3.4 Public method PROCESS_EVENT_DIRECTLY), see

Figure 12: rulerunner OData Service: GetEntitySet implementation.

Figure 12: rulerunner OData Service: GetEntitySet implementation

Page 18/37 Revision No. 182



3.5

Rulerunner® metadata conversion and BRFplus Result Data Object

BRFplus Functions provide a Result Data Object (Actions are not supported by *rulerunner*®). After being executed, the Result Data Object contains the data (*Figure 13: BRFplus Result Data*

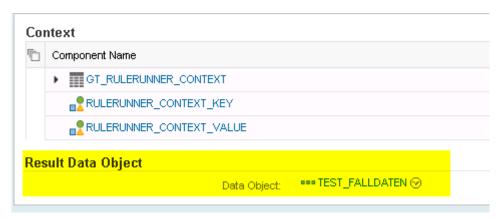


Figure 13: BRFplus Result Data Object

Object).

With *rulerunner*[®] the results of all BRFplus Functions are transferred automatically into the target data object.

The target data object is supplied with the parameter **eo_result_data** (type any) when the consuming method is called (*Public method PROCESS_EVENT_DIRECTLY*, *Public method PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS*, *Public method PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS*).

Rulerunner® will analyse the metadata of the target data object and **all** Result Data Objects (multiple BRFplus Functions may be executed at once, see 3.2 Customizing the rulerunner® framework).

Then it tries to create a field mapping between the source data (BRFplus Result Data Objects) and the target data object.

Currently *rulerunner*[®] is able to convert automatically:

- structure to structure
- structure to table
- table to table
- table to structure

Currently *rulerunner*[®] is able to convert automatically the nested BRFplus date/time/timestamp format into a non-nested format (and vice versa).

The fieldmapping is create by a simple "source-fieldname = target-fieldname" approach.

This logic could be extended in future releases.

Please note:

The **result data** of each BRFplus Result Data Object **are always added** to the target data object. Currently there is no way of overwriting or deleting data in the target data object.

Page 19/37 Revision No. 182



3.6 Rulerunner® Context handover

The *rulerunner*[®] framework supports the mass execution of rules.

In SAP BW it is a very common scenario to execute business logic multiple times, e.g. in a loop over the resultpackage in an Endroutine of a Transformation.

Each BRFplus Function usually has some Context data objects. These Context objects contain data according to the requirements of the business logic.

The Context data objects may contain data, that are also relevant for the next calls of the BRFplus Function. For example the Context may contain masterdata that have to be read from database.

In order to avoid redundant data operations (e.g. database reads) *rulerunner*® framework automatically has a feature called **Context handover**.

If a consuming method (*Public method PROCESS_EVENT_DIRECTLY*, *Public method PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS*, *Public method PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS*) is called **multiple** times, then for each BRFplus Function **all Context data objects are handed over**.

Please note:

When designing your BRFplus Functions you must be aware, that all Context data objects may contain data due to the Context handover. This data come from the last call of the BRFplus function.

Please note:

Context handover is currently only supported for the same BRFplus Function. There is no Context handover between different BRFplus Functions.

Page 20/37 Revision No. 182



4 SAP BW specifics

4.1 General

Chapter *SAP BW specifics* discusses some special aspects when using *rulerunner*® framework and BRFplus in combination with SAP BW.

4.2 When should we use rulerunner® and BRFplus

As described in chapter 1.2 Basic idea from a Business Perspective the intention is to make the Business logic much more transparent.

It is not required to implement every single logic with *rulerunner*[®] framework and BRFplus. We suggest to use *rulerunner*[®] when:

- Business data are not transferred 1:1 but require some kind of calculations in SAP BW
- Masterdata need to be harmonized between heterogeneous sources, especially with legacy systems.
- Organizational structures are modified when processing data (e.g. cost centers, company codes, divisions, etc.)

When it comes to data cleansing while staging data, it might not be necessary to use *rulerunner*[®].

4.3 Complex BW Delta scenarios and *rulerunner*[®] Asynchronous Execution mode

With regard to complex calculations in SAP BW a common pattern can be found.

Usually the processing logic (especially in the Business Data Layer) is build in a way that only new or changed data must be processed, the so called Delta Update mode.

Whenever a calculation requires data from different BW sources (transactional or masterdata) it becomes very complicated to determine, which delta records must be processed. It is even more complicated to implement an appropriate BW model that respects all deltas in the different BW sources.

Sometimes this problem is ignored or solved by a full load from time to time.

With *rulerunner*[®] Asynchronous Execution mode we can address this problem in a very different way.

If a calculation logic is based on data from different BW sources, then each change of a record in the BW sources is considered as an *rulerunner*[®] Event. These Events must be registered in the *rulerunner*[®] Event Queue via the ADD_EVENT method (3.3.2.2 Adding events). The registration has to be implemented in all relevant Transformations where the deltas occur.

At the end, all delta records are stored in the *rulerunner*® Event Queue (only keys as parameters). The calculation of the business logic is triggered by the Events stored in *rulerunner*® then. This is described in chapter 3.3.2.6 Consuming rulerunner® Events in a SAP BW scenario in detail. Therefore a transformation from the *rulerunner*® Datasource to the target infoprovider has to be created. In order to consume multiple *rulerunner*® Event Types you can define an appropriate Resultgroup (see 3.2 Customizing the rulerunner® framework) that comprises different Event Types.

Page 21/37 Revision No. 182



Rulerunner® Asynchronous Execution mode facilitates a streamlined way to process complex delta scenarios. But how to deal with Initialisations or Full Loads?

We do not recommend to use *rulerunner*[®] Asynchronous Execution mode for Full loads or Delta Initialisations. It is better to create a Transformation from one of the BW sources into the target Infoprovider. The transformation uses the same *rulerunner*[®] Eventtype and Resultgroups like the transformation from *rulerunner*[®] Datasource to the target Infoprovider.

4.4 Detection of DTP simulation

The ADD_EVENT (3.3.2.2 Adding events) method can be used in BW Transformations in order to store *rulerunner*® Events. Data Transfer Processes (DTP) are used to start the process of loading data into a target.

If a DTP is started in Simulation mode than the data are not transferred to the target.

In this case it might be necessary to avoid storing *rulerunner*® Events.

This can be done by adding import parameter <code>iv_bw_dtp_request = request to the signature of method ADD_EVENT</code>. The variable <code>request exists only within a BW transformation and contains the number of an DTP instance/request</code>. In case of a Simulation DTP it contains the specific value 'DTPR_SIMULATION' that enables <code>rulerunner</code> to automatically detect a simulation.

4.5 Detection of Delta DTP's

The ADD_EVENT (3.3.2.2 Adding events) method can be used in BW Transformations in order to store *rulerunner*® Events. Data Transfer Processes (DTP) are used to start the process of loading data into a target.

It can be relevant to add events only in case that the DTP is executed in Delta mode. Therefore the ADD_EVENT method has the import parameter iv bw dtp delta mode = lv updatemode.

The variable Iv updatemode can be determined with the following lines of code:

```
data: lv_updatemode type RSBKUPDMODE.
lv updatemode = p r request->get updmode().
```

This code works only within a BW Transformation (i.e. Start-,End-,Export or Field-routines).

Page 22/37 Revision No. 182



5 Enhancements

5.1 BRFplus DB Lookup Expression -Enhancement

For SAP BW objects like (e.g.) DSO or Infoobjects the database tables are generated by SAP BW. These generated tables may contain references to other tables. This happens quite often in case that currencies or units are involved.

When accessing these tables via the BRFplus DB Lookup Expression these reference fields lead to errors like this (*Figure 14: BRFplus DB Lookup: Error due to reference fields*):

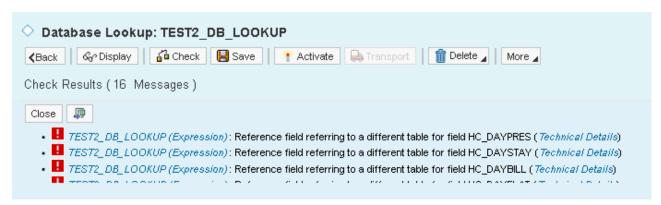


Figure 14: BRFplus DB Lookup: Error due to reference fields

In order to suppress these error messages implement the following static implicit enhancement

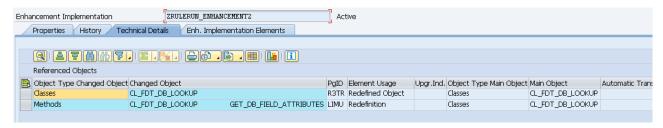


Figure 15: BRFplus DB Lookup: RefField Enhancement Metadata

Please note:

The enhancement will not provide any reference table and field.

Page 23/37 Revision No. 182



```
GET_DB_FIELD_ATTRIBUTES
Method
                                                                Active
                 eo_tmp_element->if_fdt_data_object~set_ddic_binding( iv_ddic_typename = <1s_db_field_buffer>-ddic_typename ).
   174
                Default Element with no DDIC knowledge (ONLY UPPER CASE, Field Length, etc.).
                  eo_tmp_element->set_element_type( <ls_db_field_buffer>-element_type )
                 IF <ls_db_field_buffer>-element_type EQ if_fdt_constants=>gc_element_type_timepoint.
   176
                  eo_tmp_element->set_element_type_attributes
                      iv_timepoint_type = <ls_db_field_buffer>-timepoint_type ).
   180
               ENDIF.
   181
              ENDIF.
   182
   183
        - *$*$-Start: (1)-
   185 ENHANCEMENT 1 ZRULERUN_ENHANCEMENT2. "active version
          * rulerunner: Ignore reference tables and fields
   186
   187
           CLEAR ev_reffield.
   188
           clear ev_reftable.
   189
        - ENDENHANCEMENT.
   190
          *$*$-End:
   191
           ENDMETHOD.
   192
```

Figure 16: BRFplus DB Lookup: RefField Enhancement Coding

5.2 Jump to BRFplus from ABAP Editor -Enhancement

Please note:

This Enhancement works only with a classic SAP GUI Code Editor like SE80.

In an ABAP Editor there is a build in navigation path to the object-definition when double-clicking it

When double-clicking a *rulerunner*[®] method call, then the standard navigation opens up the source code of the *rulerunner*[®] method.

For an analyst this behaviour is not appropriate, because the business logic is not defined inside the source code of the *rulerunner*® method but in the BRFplus Function.

Page 24/37 Revision No. 182



Therefore you can implement an Enhancement, that opens up the BRFplus Workbench whenever you double-click on the class name "ZCL_RULERUNNER" in an ABAP editor, e.g. in a BW Transformation.

The enhancement will open up BRFplus Workbench with the *rulerunner*® BRFplus Function **get_eventtype_metadata** (see chapter *3.2.1 Basics*).

To do so, please add an implicit enhancement to ABAP Include LRSAAF01 at the beginning of FORM user command 0100 (see)

Add the following lines of code:

ENDIF.

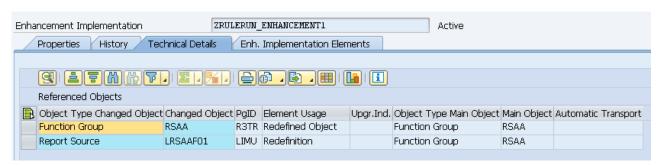


Figure 17: ABAP Editor Enhancement: Metadata

Please note:

The method zcl_rulerunner=>show_rulerunner_customizing() can open up any BRFplus object by adding the import parameter iv_brf_component_id. You need to pass the ID of a BRFplus object. By default the method opens the *rulerunner*® BRFplus Function get_eventtype_metadata.

Page 25/37 Revision No. 182



```
ABAP Editor: Display Include LRSAAF01
🗢 🖈 | 🦫 😘 🖆 🎯 | 🚰 🥕 📇 🚭 | 📠 🏯 🖽 🔢 | 👰 🧠 Pattern | 🏰 🗂 Insert 🔠 Replace 🛒 Delete 📑
          ENDIF.
                       " set fcode
       ENDFORM.
   60 FORM user_command_0100.
   63 ENHANCEMENT 2 ZRULERUN_ENHANCEMENT1. "active version
   65 F IF fcode = 'WB_SELECT_OBJECT'.
        # get target object
CALL METHOD editor->get_navigation_object
   68
        EXPORTING
          p_operation = swbm_c_op_display
IMPORTING
p_wb_request = wb_request
   70
71
72
      "if target object = rulerunner then call BRFplus Workbench in a Webbrowser

IF wb_request->object_name = 'ZCL_RULERUNNER'.

zcl_rulerunner=>show_rulerunner_customizing().

ENDIF.
   74
75
76
   77
78
79
           ENDIF.
```

5.3 BRFplus For All Entries In - Enhancement

In BRFplus the Database Lookup expression lacks a "Select for all entries in " feature.

With the current release *rulerunner*[®] provides a static method *Public method SELECT_FOR_ALL_ENTRIES_IN* that can be used in BRFplus directly.

Page 26/37 Revision No. 182



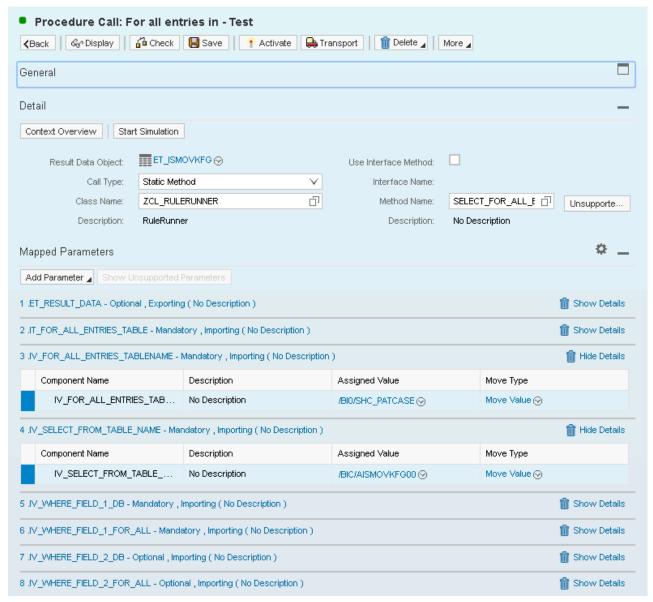


Figure 18: BRFplus Select For All Entries In - Enhancement

Please provide mapped parameters 1 to 6 according to *Figure 18: BRFplus Select For All Entries In - Enhancement.*

These parameters are mandatory.

You may provide up to 4 additional pairs of fieldnames (iv_where_field_x_db + iv_where_field_x_for_all).

Please note:

You **cannot** assign **fixed values** to a database field as a **where condition**. Only data in the internal table can be used as where conditions.

Page 27/37 Revision No. 182



6 Future improvements

6.1 Cross Function Context Handover

Context Handover functionality can be implemented in a way that BRFplus Context objects that are used in multiple BRFplus Functions are handed over from Function to Function.

Page 28/37 Revision No. 182



7 Appendix

7.1 Development Packages

7.1.1 Package ZRULERUNNER

This package is the Superpackage for the *rulerunner*® framework.

7.1.2 Package ZRULERUNNER_BW

Package contains all objects that are specific to SAP BW functionality. At present the package contains a standard and a ODP datasource for stored *rulerunner*® Events.

7.1.3 Package ZRULERUNNER_MAIN

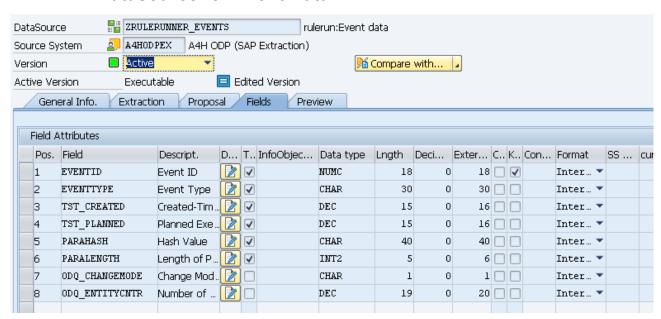
This package contains all the basic data- and programming objects. The ABAP codeline resides within the static class ZCL_RULERUNNER.

7.1.4 Package ZRULERUNNER_ODATA

This package contains a prototype of a generic OData service.

In the SAP Gateway Service Builder (SEGW) the project ZRULERUNNER_ODATA has been created. The package contains the definition of the service and all generated development artifacts.

7.2 BW Datasource for Event Data



This SAP BW Datasource for Event Data reads data from database *Table ZRULERUN_EVENTS*. It uses the generic extraction mode and is delta capable. The relevant database column for delta extractions is field "TST_PLANNED".

Page 29/37 Revision No. 182



7.3 Class zcl_rulerunner

7.3.1 Public method ADD_EVENT

Adds an event to the rulerunner® Event-table.

If parameter iv suppress exceptions is set to 'X' no exceptions will be thrown.

Exceptions might be thrown in case the list of parameters is too large.

Signature:

```
class-methods add event
  importing
           !iv event type
                                         type zrulerun evtyp
                   <!-- can be any string (up to 30 characters) -->
           !iv suppress exceptions type abap bool
                   <!-- set to 'X' means that no exception is thrown
                        Exceptions might be thrown in case the list of
                        parameters is too large for database -->
                                  type zrulerun key value t optional
           !it parameters
                   <!-- optional table with key/value pairs that
                        should be transferred to BRFplus Functions-->
           !iv parameter 1 key type any optional
                   <!-- can be any string (up to 30 characters) -->
           !iv parameter 1 value type any optional
                   <!-- represents the value that belongs to key 1
                      can be any string up to 60 chars-->
                                   type any optional
           !iv parameter 2 key
                                       type any optional type any optional
           !iv_parameter_2_value
           !iv parameter 3 key
           !iv parameter 3 value type any optional
           !iv planned execution timestamp type zrulerun timestamp pla
                                               optional
                   <!-- timestamp in short format (yyyymmddhhmmss)
                        events will only be processed in case that
                        the actual time > this timestamp -->
           !iv bw dtp request type tyv bw request optional
                   <!-- SAP BW DTP Request Number
       In a BW Transformation the Req.No is stored in
                        variable REQUEST (iv bw dtp request = request)
                         is used to identify a Simulation Request-->
           !iv bw dtp delta mode type tyv bw upd mode optional
                   <!-- is used to identify Delta DTP's
                   can be derived by the following code:
                        data: lv updatemode type RSBKUPDMODE.
                        lv updatemode = p r request->get updmode().
                         iv bw dtp delta mode = lv updatemode-->
 exporting
           !ev returncode
                                         type syst-subrc
                   <!-- value 0 = success -->
                                 type zrulerun events extended s
           !es event data
                   <!-- returns the record inserted into Event table -->
           zcx rulerunner
  raising
```

Page 30/37 Revision No. 182



Please note:

Key and Value fields are transferred and stored as they are.

No conversions happen.

Please take care of leading spaces and other pitfalls.

7.3.2 Public method DELETE_EVENTS

Deletes records from Event and Event-Log tables.

Signature:

```
class-methods delete events
  importing
           iv delete unprocessed events type abap bool
                  <!-- unprocessed (yet) Events
                       will only be deleted in case that
                      this parameter is set to 'X' -->
           iv delete future events type abap bool
                  <!-- Events with a planned timestamp in the future
                        will only be deleted in case that
                        this parameter is set to 'X' -->
           iv test mode
                                   type abap bool default 'X'
           it range event id type tyt range event id
                  <!-- range table with Event ID's to be deleted -->
           it range resultgroups type tyt range resultgroups
                  <!-- range table of Resultgroup to be deleted -->
           it range event types type type type types
                  <!-- range table of Event Types to be deleted -->
           it range timestamp created type tyt range timestamp
                  <!-- range table of Timestamps Created to be deleted-->
           <!-- Events up to this Timestamp Planned are deleted-->
           it range timestamp processed type tyt range timestamp
                  <!--range table of Timestamps Processed to be deleted
           iv display messages
                                      type abap bool default 'X'
                  <!-- Messages are displayed-->
 exporting
           et messages
                                     type tyt messages
                  <!-- Table of messages created during
                        processing -->
 raising zcx rulerunner
```

7.3.3 Public method MOVE_DATA_SOURCE_TO_TARGET

Method moves data from a source to a target.

Data types are casted as decribed in chapter 3.5 Rulerunner® metadata conversion and BRFplus Result Data Object

Signature:

```
class-methods move_data_source_to_target
importing
```

Page 31/37 Revision No. 182



```
io_source_data type any
exporting
eo_target_data type any
raising zcx_rulerunner.
```

7.3.4 Public method PROCESS_EVENT_DIRECTLY

Executes BRFplus Functions in synchronous mode (for details see chapter 3.3.1 Synchronous Execution of Business Rules).

Signature:

```
class-methods process event directly
  importing
           !iv event type type zrulerun evtyp
                  <!-- can be any string (up to 30 characters) -->
           <!-- optional table with key/value pairs that
                        should be transferred to BRFplus Functions-->
           !iv parameter 1 key type any optional
                   <!-- can be any string (up to 30 characters) -->
           !iv parameter 1 value type any optional
                   <!-- represents the value that belongs to key 1
                   can be any string up to 60 chars-->
           !iv parameter 2 key type any optional
           !iv parameter 2 value type any optional
           !iv parameter 3 key type any optional
           !iv parameter 3 value type any optional
           !iv resultgroup type zrulerun resultgroup optional
                   <!-- optional resultgroup, see also chapter
                   Error: Reference source not found;
                   can be any string up to 60 chars-->
           !it resultgroups type tyts resultgroups optional
                   <!-- table of resultgroup, see also chapter
                   Error: Reference source not found;
 exporting
           !ev returncode
                               type syst-subrc
           !eo result data type any
                   <!-- any data object, retrieves the BRFplus results
                   see chapter
                   Error: Reference source not found -->
 raising
           zcx rulerunner.
```

7.3.5 Public method PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS

Method is intended to be used in SAP BW Transformations. It processes a list of existing EVENT ID's, that have been stored in *rulerunner*® Error: Reference source not found before (see *Adding events*). The list of EVENT ID's must be passed to the method. See also 3.3.2.6 Consuming rulerunner® Events in a SAP BW scenario.

Please note:

The method needs only the Event ID. All other data (e.g. parameters) of an Event are beeing read from the database.

Page 32/37 Revision No. 182



Please note:

The method does **not check** the Event's **planned execution** timestamp. That has to be done when getting the Event ID's.

Signature:

```
class-methods process multiple eventids
  importing
            it table with eventid type any table
                    <!-- table must contain field EVENTID
                    the EVENTID's should exist in rulerunner® table
                    ZRULERUN EVENTS, if so they are processed -->
            iv update processing log type abap bool default 'X'
                    <!-- if 'X' then processing log is stored in
                    Error: Reference source not found
            iv repeat processing type abap bool
                    <!-- `X' = processing BRFplus Functions per Event
                    that have been processed yet -->
            iv package size
                              type I
                    <!-- defines, how many EVENT ID's are read and
                    processed in one package-->
            iv resultgroup
                             type zrulerun resultgroup optional
                    <!-- optional resultgroup, see also chapter
                     Error: Reference source not found:
                    can be any string up to 60 chars-->
            it resultgroups type tyts resultgroups optional
                    <!-- table of resultgroup, see also chapter
                     Error: Reference source not found;
  exporting
            eo result data
                                  type any
                    <!-- any data object, retrieves the BRFplus results
                    see chapter
                    Error: Reference source not found-->
  raising
            zcx rulerunner.
```

7.3.6 Public method PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS

The Method processs stored *rulerunner*[®] Events.

The Events must have been added to the *rulerunner*[®] Event Queue using *Public method ADD_EVENT* see (*Adding events*).

Signature:

Page 33/37 Revision No. 182

```
!iv timestamp planned from type zrulerun timestamp pla
                        <!-- lower limit of a planned timestamp of an Event;
                        used as a filter of Events -->
                !iv timestamp planned to type zrulerun timestamp pla
                        <!-- upper limit of a planned timestamp of an Event;
                        used as a filter of Events -->
                !iv event type
                                 type zrulerun evtyp
                        <!-- can be any string (up to 30 characters) -->
                !it event type range type tyt range event types optional
                        <!-- range table of Event Types -->
                !iv resultgroup
                                          type zrulerun resultgroup optional
                        <!-- optional resultgroup, see also chapter
                        Error: Reference source not found:
                        can be any string up to 60 chars-->
                                   type tyts resultgroups optional
                !it resultgroups
                        <!-- table of resultgroup, see also chapter
                         Error: Reference source not found;
                Error: Reference source not found type abap bool
                        <!-- if 'X' then processing log is stored in
                        Error: Reference source not found
                iv repeat processing
                                      type abap bool
                        <!-- if 'X' then processing log is stored in
                        Error: Reference source not found
                iv update delta timestamp type abap bool
                        <!-- see chapter Error: Reference source not found Error: Reference
source not found-->
                iv delta mode
                                          type tyv delta mode
                        <!-- see chapter Error: Reference source not found Error: Reference
source not found-->
                iv test mode
                                           type abap bool
                        <!-- see chapter
                        Error: Reference source not found Error: Reference
source not found-->
     exporting
                !et event id
                                          type tyt event id
                        <!-- table with EVENT master data
                         ( but w/o parameters )
                !eo result data
                                           type any
                        <!-- any data object, retrieves the BRFplus results
                        see chapter
                        Error: Reference source not found -->
                !ev no more data
                                        type abap bool
                zcx rulerunner.
      raising
```

7.3.7 Public method SELECT_FOR_ALL_ENTRIES_IN

This method is to be used directly in BRFplus.

It provides an ABAP OPEN SQL "For All Entries In" functionality inside a BRFplus Function. For details see chapter 5.3 BRFplus For All Entries In – Enhancement.

Signature:

Page 34/37 Revision No. 182



```
class-methods select for all entries in
 importing
          iv select from table name
                                  type any
          it for all entries table
                                  type any table
          iv for all entries tablename type any
          iv where field 1 db type any
          iv where field 2 db
                                  type any optional
          iv_where_field_2_for_all type any optional
          iv where field 3 db
                                  type any optional
          iv_where_field_3_for_all
                                 type any optional
          iv where field 4 db
                                  type any optional
          iv where_field_4_for_all type any optional
                                  type any optional
          iv_where_field_5_db
          iv where field 5 for all type any optional
 exporting
          et result data
                                  type any table
          zcx rulerunner.
 raising
```

7.3.8 Public methodSHOW_RULERUNNER_CUSTOMIZING

Method opens up the BRFplus Workbench. For details see chapter 5.2 Jump to BRFplus from ABAP Editor -Enhancement.

Signature:

7.4 Class zcx_rulerunner

Global exeption class used throughout *rulerunner*® framework.

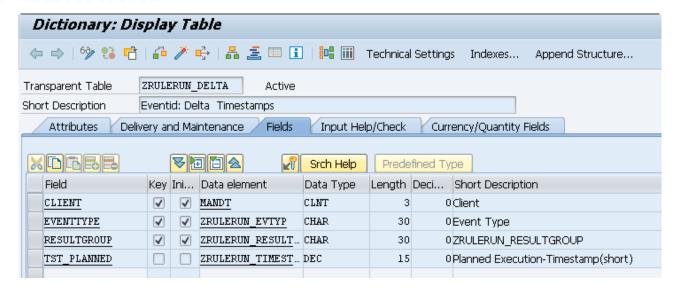
7.5 Dictionary objects

7.5.1 Table ZRULERUN DELTA

Contains Delta Timestamps per EVENT_TYPE and Resultgroup, see chapter 3.3.2.5 Consuming rulerunner®Events in ABAP.

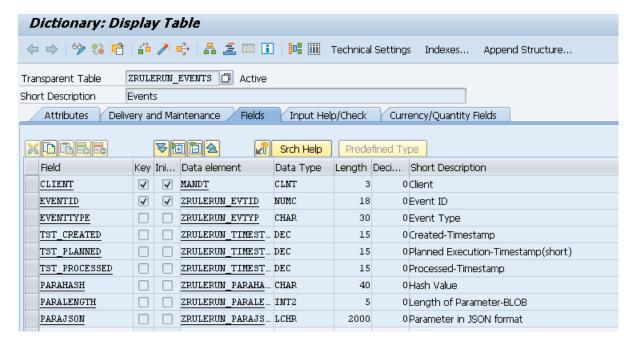
Page 35/37 Revision No. 182





7.5.2 Table ZRULERUN_EVENTS

Table contains *rulerunner*[®] Events that have been added to the *rulerunner*[®] Event Queue via *Public method ADD_EVENT*.

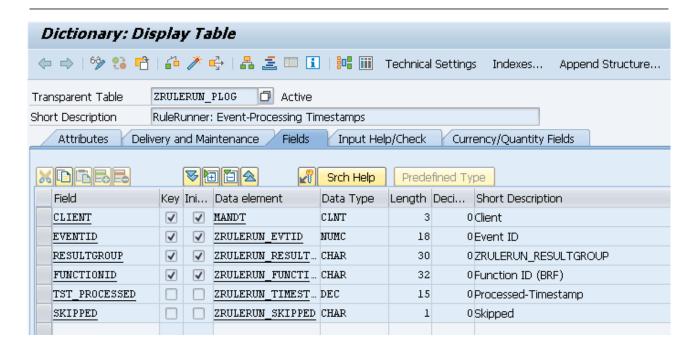


7.5.3 Table ZRULERUN_PLOG

Contains the *rulerunner*® Processing Log per EVENT_ID, Resultgroup and BRFplus Function_ID. Is only updated if import parameter <code>iv_update_processing_log</code> is set to 'X' when calling *Public method PROCESS_STORED_EVENTS* or *Public method PROCESS_MULTIPLE_EVENTIDS*. For details see chapter 3.3.2.5 Consuming rulerunner®Events in ABAP.

Page 36/37 Revision No. 182





7.6 Message class

Message class ZRULERUNNER_MSG contains all messages.

Page 37/37 Revision No. 182