

Glossary

This is a glossary of terms for Blue Prism Cloud.

Generic terms

Term	Definition
Automation Lifecycle Management	An intuitive web-based interface that empowers businesses to capture and document the business process definitions along with the applicable applications and any business exceptions. Automation Lifecycle Management is provided as a licensed plugin in Blue Prism® Hub.
Application Object	The name given to objects created in Blue Prism Cloud which define a set of configuration rules that specify how a digital worker or workforce should interact with an application by replicating human interactions.
Application Server	A component that manages database connections and removes the need to configure direct connections between the various Blue Prism components and the database. When implemented, all Blue Prism components (interactive clients and runtime resources) connect to the Blue Prism Server service.
Blue Prism Hub	A web-based technology platform that provides access to plugins, including Blue Prism® Interact and Blue Prism® Automation Lifecycle Management.
Component Library	The name given to the repository containing common and reusable automation utilities and procedures which can be used as part of an automation workflow.
Credential Store	A secure repository for retention or encrypted access credentials which may be required by a digital worker when executing a process.
Digital Worker	The name given to the resource within the platform which executes the defined automated processes it receives, interacting with the various local and remote applications, systems, tools, and devices required to complete the process. The digital worker is a Windows runtime component, it is the execution layer and emulates the activities of a human. It takes a process, an item, and the necessary credentials and follows the procedural steps to complete the defined task(s).
IADA® (Intelligent Automated Digital Assistant)	An API which is used by Blue Prism Cloud components to receive and orchestrate work items.
IADA.ai	A shared instance of IADA® which allows access to an evolving range of proprietary and third-party cognitive services which can be called as actions from within a workflow and configured by any automation designer or business user.

Term	Definition
Intelligent Automation	Intelligent Automation, also referred to as Intelligent Process Automation (IPA) is a term used to reference a combination of robotic process automation and artificial intelligence to provide a more capable digital workforce.
OCR	A sub-component of the platform which manages the extraction and translation of information from document images into machine-usable data using optical character and image recognition approaches.
Interact	An intuitive web-based interface that allows internal or external users to interact with digital workforces, triggering execution of automated processes by creating submissions, providing input by completing information or approvals, and/or observing outputs.
Platform	The name given to the digital workforce technology, provided as a subscription-based Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) onto which customers or partners build business process workflows to automate and digitize work.
Process	The name given to an object-oriented workflow configuration which links decision logic, application objects and other processes to create an automated and digitized work process.
RPA	Robotic Processing Automation (RPA) is the process of a digital worker mimicking a human's actions to complete a rules-based task.
RPO	Recovery Point Objective (RPO) refers to the amount of data at risk. It is the time between data protection events and reflects the amount of data that potentially could be lost during a disaster recovery.
RTO	Recovery Time Objective (RTO) refers to the amount of time taken to recover the environment in the event of a disaster occurring.
Surface Automation	The technique used by an application object which connects to an application presented through Citrix, RDP, or another thin-client technology by employing image recognition.

Component-specific terms

Automation Lifecycle Management

Term	Definition
Application	The applications that are used as part of the process that is being automated.
Business process	The business process in ALM should reflect your organization's real-world business process that the automation intends to cover. A process definition will be attached to the business process, and the steps for the business process will be contained in the process definition.

Term	Definition
Exception	Exceptions are defined for processes and determine what the automation should do if something unexpected happens in the process. For example, an exception can be defined to handle the entry of incorrect credentials. By default, ALM includes an Unplanned Exception which acts to catch any errors that do not have a specific exception defined.
Process definition	<p>A process definition is a document, whether a physical document or an electronic version, that describes in detail a business process. A process definition document should consist of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A summary of what the overall process and solution is. • Definitions of unique language used within the business process. Scope and expectations as to what the automation should achieve. • Volumes, how many instances of this task are going to be ran each day. • Interact design to dictate what the solution would visually look like. • A list of applications that your automation will interact with as well as their versions. • A high-level process map of what the goal is. • Low level steps, keystroke level details of the process. • Inputs, triggers and outputs relevant to the automation. • Exceptions, what varying scenarios should you expect and handle.
Template	A section of a business process or an exception that can be re-used and applied to one or more than process definition. For example, the action of logging into an application may be present in multiple processes, using a "log in" template means that it does not have to be recreated in each process.
Wireframer	A web-based user interface that enables automation developers to create the structure (wireframe) of the business process that is being automated by defining business objects and actions, along with best practice techniques, and then deploy the wireframe of the automation to Blue Prism where it can be further enhanced.

Blue Prism

Term	Definition
Action	An Action stage allows a business object to be used in a process. It is similar to a Page Reference in that it takes the flow of the process down to another page, but instead of being in the same diagram it is a page within a business object.
Block	<p>Blocks are used for a variety of purposes, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grouping variables, for example, inputs and output parameters for easier readability • Exception handling, to facilitate handling exceptions thrown by different stages • To avoid infinite loops raised due to exception handling

Term	Definition
Business Exception	A business exception is a “planned” exception. This is an expected break in a business process because of potentially missing or incorrectly formatted data. These exceptions can be planned for in the automation and may be recoverable.
Business Object	A business object is an object that models the applications that the digital worker interacts with. It normally has multiple pages to simulate the functions of an application such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Opening and closing an application• Writing into fields• Reading messages on screen• Clicking on buttons and menu items.
Component	A component is a mid-layer object that allows you to group common actions from one or more objects together to create a reusable and flexible module that can be embedded in your process workflow, but can also be used in other workflows. Creating these bite-size chunks will improve delivery and follows a holistic deployment approach.
Data Item	Data Items are containers for variables. They are where values are stored that can be used with automations. They can support different types, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Binary• Date• DateTime• Flag• Image• Number• Password• Text• Time• TimeSpan For more information, see Data Types in the Blue Prism documentation .
Environment Variable	An environment variable is a dynamic-named value that can affect the behavior of running processes on a computer. They are part of the Environment in which an automation runs. Once an environment variable has been created it is available for use in Object or Process Studio. Environment variables are used to keep the value of that variable dynamic and can be used whenever wanted.
Page	A page is a mechanism for splitting up a complex processes. Pages allow the process to be defined in smaller, less complex sections which can be tested in isolation. A Page Reference is used to join the pages and its contents together.

Term	Definition
Process	A process is intended to obey instructions performing a repetitive task. Those instructions could be, for example, extracting data from a spreadsheet. Alternatively, a process might be designed to launch an application and check a diary for available slots for patient appointments.
Queue Item	A queue item is a job that is in a work queue waiting to be processed.
Queue Item Key	The queue item key is a unique identifier of the queue item within the work queue.
Stage	Stages are items that can be used within an automation to simulate the interactions of a human performing a task. For a complete list of the stages, see Stage types in the Blue Prism documentation .
System Exception	This is an “unplanned” exception typically caused by a failure of a server, service, network, or infrastructure resource. These may be recoverable if the event recovers in a predictable time and the automation has waited for the resource to become available. Otherwise these are unrecoverable exceptions.
Work Queue	A work queue is an internal configurable list that enables a process to manage its workload. A process can use different work queues and a work queue can be shared by multiple processes if required.

Hub

Term	Definition
Plugins	Self-contained features that can be individually installed to provide information about your digital workforce.
Role	Roles control access to Hub and the plugins. They also define the level of access, for example, a Hub administrator or a Hub user. In addition, there are some automatically generated roles based on the plugins that have been installed. These roles cannot be deleted, but users can be added to and removed from them.
Widgets	A small-scale version of plugins that is used on the Hub Dashboard.

IADA®

Term	Definition
Cross-Queue Search	In traditional RPA deployments, work is aligned to a queue and work is selected on a First In First Out (FIFO) basis. Cross-queue search allows all queues to be searched in parallel.
GNPI (Get Next Prioritised Item)	A function available within IADA to allow a digital worker to select an item based on its importance. This function allows for cross-queue searching.
SLA and Priority Management	The term given to selecting work based on its importance. Each item (a task within one of the various queues of work) is tagged with a priority value and a SLA.

Interact

Term	Definition
Drafts	A holding area for a request that has been partially completed.
Fields	Elements that can be used within a form to capture information from the user.
Form	An entity within Interact that holds a range of properties such as a fields, rules, roles, privilege checks, and association to a queue.
Process	A collection of procedural steps which allow the digital workers to follow a business process, for example, a New Starter Process, allowing a digital worker to understand how a user is onboarded into the organization.
Queue	A container for items. Queues do not need to be associated to a process (new starter queue) but usually are.
Rules	Dictate how the fields behave depending on user interaction.
Status	A value used to track the lifecycle of a submission.
Submission	The term given to a partially (Draft) or fully (Submitted) completed Interact form.

OCR

Term	Definition
Confidence	The level of confidence the technology has that the characters have been identified correctly.
Document Definition Template	Used to define a structure identifying specific fields or areas of text to extract information from.
Export	The process to produce the output once extracted and verified.
Extraction	The reading of information from the images identified using the Document Definition Template.
FlexiLayout Studio	Used to identify/create the specific areas or regions within a scanned document requiring capture during the recognition process.
Hot Folder	Location where the scanned images are sent prior to recognition.
Ingestion	The process of loading images from the Hot Folder.
Project Setup Station	Used to establish the profile and configuration for the specific project.
Projects	Used to control the overall process.
Verification	The process used to verify items that did not meet the 100% confidence level.
Verification Station	Used to verify documents or correct verification errors after they have been processed.