

REPLACING YOUR ENGINE: Rules to ECA



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A long-exposure photograph of a busy city street, likely in Mexico City, showing a dense crowd of pedestrians crossing the road. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent purple filter. In the background, there are multi-story buildings, a traffic light, and a sign that reads "PASO PEATONAL EN DOS TIEMPOS DE UN VESTIDO". The text "Who's here?" is centered in the foreground in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

Who's here?

Conditionally-triggered actions (or reactive rules)

- Event → Condition → Action



Scope:

- "Ambitious site builders"
- Just enough code to break things
 - Not a developer
- We love a GUI

midcamp.org

the vision to

FOR
SITE BUILDERS



RULES and DRUPAL 8+

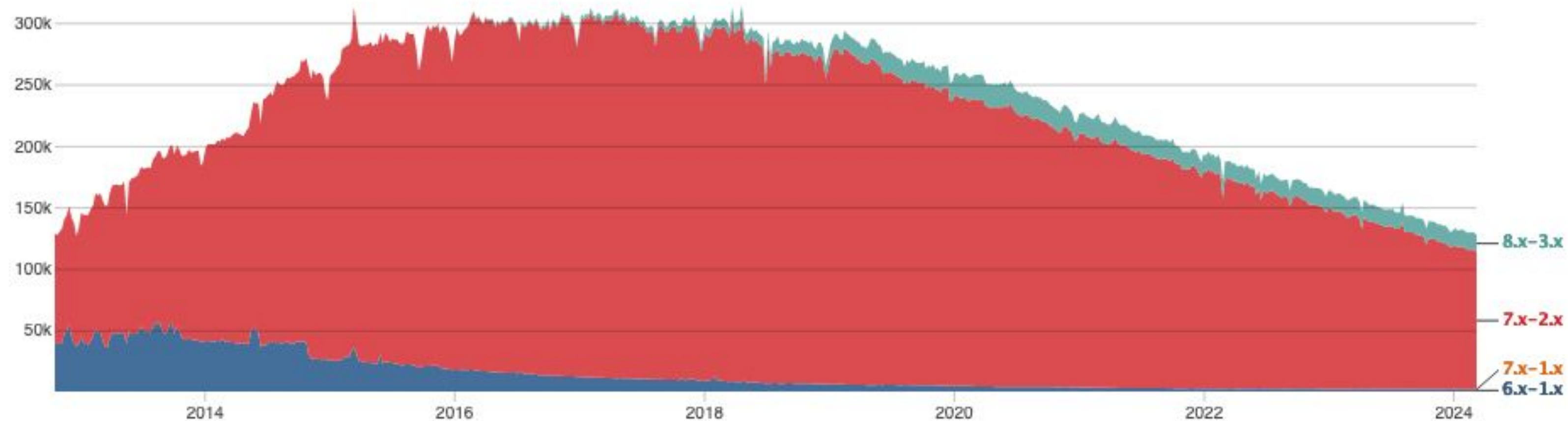
Usage statistics for *Rules*

? This page provides information about the usage of the *Rules* project, including summaries across all versions and details for each release. For each week beginning on the given date the figures show the number of sites that reported they are using a given version of the project.

These statistics are incomplete; only Drupal websites using the [Update Status](#) module are included in the data. This module has been included with the download of Drupal since version 6.x so the data does not include older sites. [Read more information about how these statistics are calculated.](#)

[Rules project page](#)
[Usage statistics for all projects](#)

Weekly project usage



Week	6.x-1.x	7.x-1.x	7.x-2.x	8.x-3.x	Total
March 10, 2024	1,696	0	111,966	13,466	127,128
March 3, 2024	1,786	0	113,345	14,090	129,221
February 25, 2024	1,791	0	113,521	14,356	129,668
February 18, 2024	1,865	0	113,476	13,777	129,118
February 11, 2024	1,897	0	113,705	13,746	129,348
February 4, 2024	1,872	0	114,915	13,874	130,661
January 28, 2024	1,806	0	116,354	14,018	132,178
January 21, 2024	1,796	0	115,530	13,890	131,216
January 14, 2024	1,888	0	115,555	13,700	131,143

- **Drupal 7 – Jan 2011**

- Rules 7.x-2.0 released Oct 2011

- **Drupal 8 – Nov 2015**

- Rules 8.x-3.0-alpha1 released Mar 2016
- Rules 8.x-3.0-alpha8 released Oct 2023

A new arrival...

ECA: Event - Condition - Action

- **Production stable**
 - 1.0.0, Jul 2022
- **Regular releases**
 - 1.1.5, Jan 2024
- **Small but growing user base**
 - 3x since last March
- **Supporting organizations**
 - LakeDrops and OpenCampus
- **Docs could be better but has responsive support community**



Installing and Using ECA

- **Install the processing engine and at least one modeller**
 - **BPMN.io**
 - "BPMN modeller with a feature-rich UI"
 - **Camunda**
 - "BPMN modeller desktop client for designing and deploying automated processes"
 - **ECA Classic**
 - "Simple modeller using the Drupal Form API"

ECA Classic Modeller

drupal.org/project/eca_cm

Rules (D7)

Home > Administration > Configuration > Workflow > Rules > Rules Send Email When Custom Page Is Ready

Events

EVENT	OPERATIONS
After updating existing content of type <i>Custom page</i>	delete
After updating existing content of type <i>Basic page</i>	delete
+ Add event	

Conditions

[Show row weights](#)

ELEMENTS	OPERATIONS
+ Entity has field Parameter: <i>Entity</i> : [node], <i>Field</i> : field_workflow	edit delete
+ Data comparison Parameter: <i>Data to compare</i> : [node:field-workflow], <i>Data value</i> : ready	edit delete
+ NOT Data comparison Parameter: <i>Data to compare</i> : [node-unchanged:field...], <i>Data value</i> : ready	edit delete
+ Add condition + Add or + Add and	

Actions

[Show row weights](#)

ELEMENTS	OPERATIONS
+ Send mail Parameter: <i>To</i> : emailnotifications@gmail..., <i>Subject</i> : Content "[node:title]...", <i>Message</i> : <div style="border...>, <i>From</i> : madtech...	edit delete

ECA Classic

Display notification for new content ECA Model ☆

Label*

Display notification for new content

Machine name: new_content_notify [\[Edit\]](#)

The human-readable name of this ECA configuration.

^ Events (1)

Event	Configuration	Successors	Operations
+ Insert content entity Machine name: <i>content_entity_insert</i>	type: 'node article'	- id: action_message_action_1 condition: eca_entity_field_value	Edit

^ Add event

^ Conditions (1)

Condition	Configuration	Operations
+ Entity: compare field value Machine name: <i>eca_entity_field_value</i>	expected_value: '1' field_name: field_tags operator: contains type: value case: false negate: false	Edit

^ Add condition

^ Actions (1)

Action	Configuration	Successors	Operations
+ Display new contest message to user <i>Display a message to the user</i> Machine name: <i>action_message_action_1</i>	message: 'NEW CONTEST!!!' replace_tokens: false	No successor	Edit

Display notification for new content ECA Model ☆

Label *


Display notification for new content

Machine name: new_content_notify [\[Edit\]](#)

The human-readable name of this ECA configuration.

^ Events (1)

⊙ Show row weights

Event	Configuration	Successors	Operations
 Insert content entity Machine name: <i>content_entity_insert</i>	type: 'node article'	- id: action_message_action_1 condition: eca_entity_field_value	Edit

∨ Add event

∨ Conditions (1)

∨ Actions (1)

BPMN.io

drupal.org/project/bpmn_io

Business Process Model and Notation (BPMN)

In Drupal, we'll use:

- **Flow objects**
 - **Events (circles)**
 - **Activities (rounded-corner rectangles)**
 - **Gateways (diamonds)**
- **Connecting objects**
 - **Sequences (solid line with arrowhead)**
- **Artifacts**
 - **Annotation (opening square bracket)**

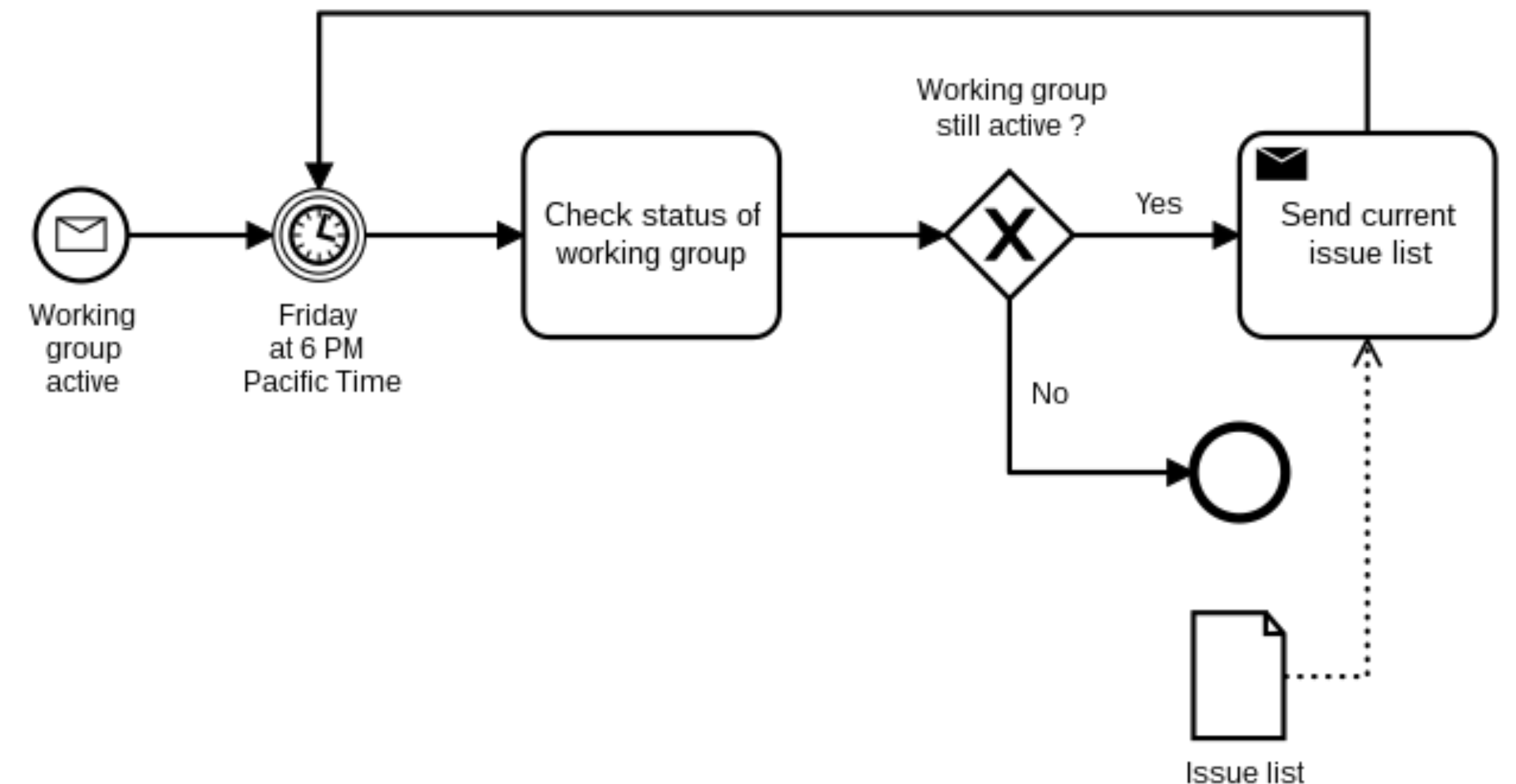
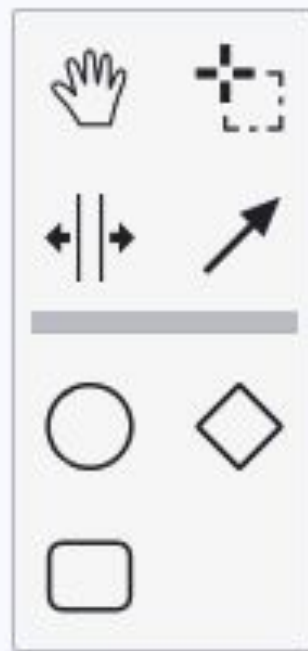


image from Wikimedia, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:BPMN-AProcessWithNormalFlow.svg>

BPMN.iO

Display notification for new contest articles ECA Model ☆



ECA Classic

Display notification for new content ECA Model ☆

Label *
Display notification for new content Machine name: new_content_notify [Edit]
The human-readable name of this ECA configuration.

^ Events (1)

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✚ Insert content entity Machine name: content_entity_insert	type: 'node article'	- id: action_message_action_1 condition: eca_entity_field_value	[Edit]

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Condition	Configuration	Operations
✚ Entity: compare field value Machine name: eca_entity_field_value	expected_value: '1' field_name: field_tags operator: contains type: value case: false negate: false	[Edit]

^ Actions (1)

Action	Configuration	Successors	Operations
✚ Display new contest message to user Display a message to the user Machine name: action_message_action_1	message: 'NEW CONTEST!!!' replace_tokens: false	No successor	[Edit]

ECA Resources

- **ECA module**
 - drupal.org/project/eca
- **Documentation**
 - ecaguide.org
- **Community Support**
 - **#eca channel in Drupal Slack**

Demo Installation: Modules

- **Admin stuff**
 - **DDEV Gin Admin Theme (gin), Gin Toolbar (gin_toolbar), Admin Toolbar (admin_toolbar), Admin Toolbar Extras (admin_toolbar_tools)**
- **Useful contrib**
 - **Token (token), Webform (webform), Webform Views (webform_views), Webform ECA (webform_eca)**
- **ECA main**
 - **ECA (eca), ECA Classic Modeller (eca_cm), BPMN.io (bpmn_io)**
- **ECA events, conditions, and actions**
 - **ECA Base, ECA Core, ECA Form, ECA Content, ECA User, ECA Views, etc.**

Demo Installation: Content and Config

- **Webform: "Registration"**
- **Content type: "Gathering"**
 - **Has date and webform fields, Editorial workflow**
- **View: "Registrations for ECA Handling"**
- **Content: gathering "Pizza Party" (unpublished)**
- **Webform submissions: a few to "Pizza Party"**

Credits and Thanks

- **Images from Unsplash, Wikimedia, and Dries**
- **Webform registration reminder rule inspired by/copied from Josh Fabean (Bookable Calendar)**

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR FEEDBACK!

mid.camp/8555



CONTRIBUTION DAY

Friday 8:30am to 5pm

You don't have to know code to give back!

First Time Contribution training beginning at 9am
with **Matthew Radcliffe** of Kosada

**THANK YOU,
QUESTIONS?**