

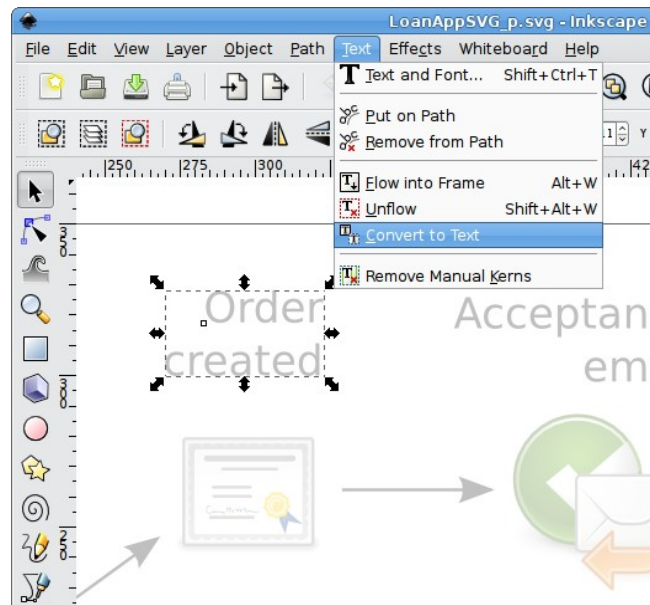
Creating SVG models for BPMonitor with Inkscape

First of all, you'll need to download and install Inkscape from <http://www.inkscape.org>. There are versions available for Linux, Mac and Windows.

Create a new empty document, and set the page size to 650x450 (File → Document Properties). Although you can create SVG of any size, these settings will allow your model to fit neatly into the panel in the web application, without the need for scrolling or zooming.

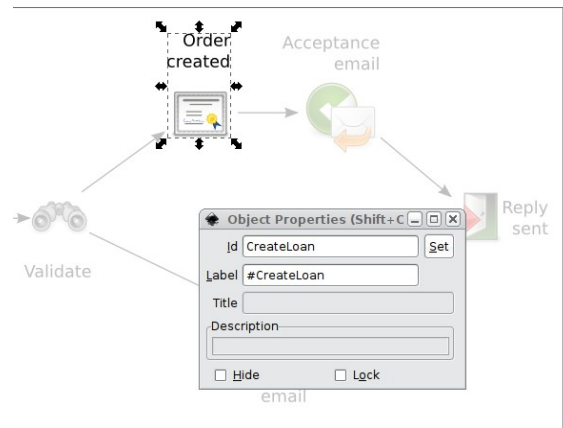
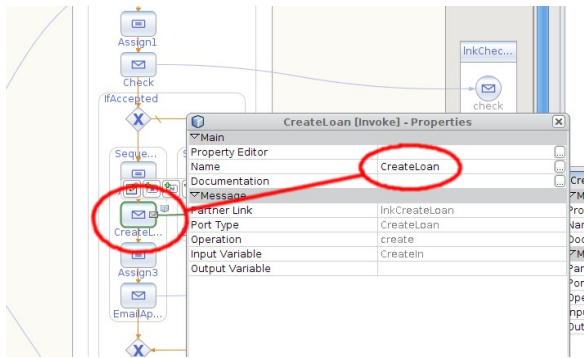
Draw your model. You can be as creative as you like, or if you are as poor an artist as I am, find some existing SVG icons and drag them into the canvas. You can find many at <http://www.clker.com>, and Linux (Ubuntu) has some in /usr/share/icons/gnome/scalable.

If you are using text in your model – and this is likely – you must convert it to text. Sounds weird, yes? SVG has a couple of different ways of representing text nodes and the default one will not render correctly within firefox; you will see black rectangles in strange places. Select the text, and from the menu choose “Text → Convert to Text”.



Once you are finished with your SVG, you should group objects together and give them an ID which correlates with an ID in the BPEL model.

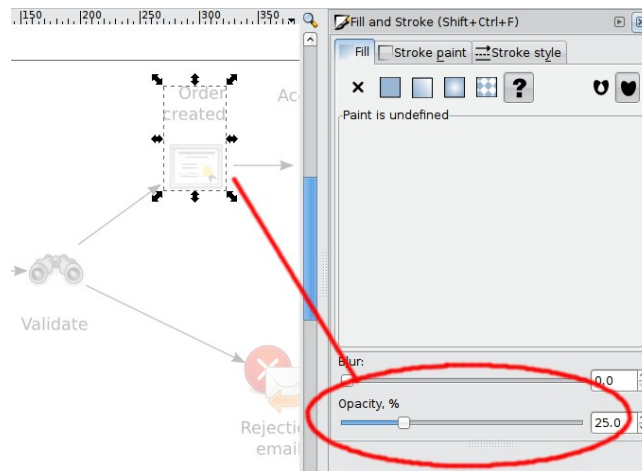
First, to group objects, select them (shift+click to select multiple objects) and press CTRL+g. Then right-click on the group, and select “Object Properties”. Set the Id field to be the same name as the activity in the BPEL model you want to monitor.



It is not necessary to include all BPEL activities in your SVG model – just the ones which you are interested in monitoring! This allows your SVG to be more representative of the business flow and to hide a lot of the technical details. You can also add additional graphical elements to your SVG for presentation purposes, which are displayed as-is by the monitor.

For every monitored activity in the SVG, you should lower the opacity of the item (group of elements). I typically choose 20-25%. When an activity changes to “completed”, the rendering engine for the monitor raises the opacity to 100% and you get the effect of the element going from “greyed-out” to “solid”.

Open up the Fill and Stroke menu (Object → Fill and Stroke). Select each activity in turn and lower the opacity.



When you're done, save the model and upload it to the application database using the maintenance application.