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# Working with AwareIM in Hosting Environment

The main components of the **AwareIM** software are the **AwareIM** Server and the Configuration Tool. **AwareIM** Server is the core component of the software that stores configuration and operational data and executes processes and business rules, whereas the Configuration Tool provides the functionality that allows configurators to define business objects, processes, business rules and other elements of an application.

Normally the Configuration Tool works in tandem with the **AwareIM** Server - the changes to the configuration data performed in the Configuration Tool are stored on the **AwareIM** Server and vice versa - the Configuration Tool obtains the initial configuration data from the **AwareIM** Server (see also [Configuration Process](#)). This makes it possible to store and update the configuration information in one repository managed by the **AwareIM** Server.

**Aware IM** allows users to access their business space in the Operation Mode from any location via the Internet using a standard Web browser. This requires the **AwareIM** Server to be installed on a computer that has a permanent connection to the Internet with sufficient speed and bandwidth. The users who do not have a suitable Internet connection can run the **AwareIM** Server on a remote computer managed by an Internet hosting service provider (this set-up is called a hosting environment - see also "[AwareIM Installation Guide](#)"). Users who only need to access their application within a single location do not need a hosting environment.

In the hosting environment the Configuration Tool is unable to work with the **AwareIM** Server directly. However, one can prepare and test configurations on the local machine and then export the configuration into a BSV file. Once saved to a file the configuration information can then be uploaded to the remote **AwareIM** Server from the user interface of the Operation Mode.

In order to upload the configuration file to the **AwareIM** Server the system has to be configured to include the menu item of the "Publish Business Space Version" type (see [Setting Menu Item Properties](#)). When the user selects this menu item in the Operation Mode **AwareIM** displays a form where the user can specify the configuration file and provide the description of the changes. When the user submits the form the version is uploaded to the **AwareIM** Server and becomes operational (at this point **AwareIM** also performs the usual checks of the version to make sure that it is consistent - see [Checking Version Integrity](#)).

A few other features that can be very helpful for users that need to operate with the remote **AwareIM** Server can also be configured:

1. Operation of the "List Business Space Versions" type shows all business space versions available on the server in the Operation Mode. One can view the properties of the versions and delete them if necessary. This is like having a bit of functionality of the Configuration Tool in the Operation Mode
2. Operation of the "Create Business Space" type allows creating a new business space in the Operation Mode. The functionality is equivalent to the similar functionality in the Configuration Tool. A system of an Internet host may include this operation to allow their users to create their own business space and work in it.

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