

# Welcome to the Flow Framework

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## 1. Overview

The Flow Framework is an OSGi Service Platform extension leveraging service *deployment*, providing transitive service *dependency management* at runtime. The framework supports service and service dependency declaration via annotations (`@Service`, `@Inject`) and participates in the lifecycle of OSGi bundles, providing maximum flexibility at **runtime**.

Flow is a **pragmatic approach to SOA**, limiting its infrastructure and footprint to a minimum.

## 2. Getting started

[Follow this tutorial](#) to get up and running and to learn how to develop and deploy services with the Flow Framework.

## 3. Implementation status

The Flow Framework is currently in alpha state, ie. not stable nor production ready. The currently available release is an early-access release to showcase the ideas and concepts behind the framework.

The final 1.0 release will include the following features:

- Dynamic runtime management of services
- Transitive service dependency management at runtime
- Participation in lifecycle state changes of OSGi bundles
- Service declaration via annotations (`@Service`)
- Service dependency declaration via annotations (`@Inject`)
- Service discovery at runtime
- Support for "autostart" services

For subsequent releases remote services as well as different runtime-configuration user interfaces (UI) are planned (SWT, Web...).

## 4. Download Flow

Both binary and source distributions are available at the [download page](#).