

This presentation discusses numerous updates to Web services specifications and programming models provided by WebSphere Application Server version 7.



This presentation will begin by discussing features that have been integrated in WebSphere Application Server version 7 from the feature pack for Web services. Next it will explain updates to that content across various areas, including; Web services addressing, support for the Java API for XML based Web services version 2.1, the Java API for XML binding version 2.1, new support for using the JAX-WS programming model with Web services in the J2EE specification, enhancements to Web services security and other features.



The next section will explain the integration of features from the feature pack for Web services.



WebSphere Application Server Version 7 integrates the content provided by the IBM WebSphere Application Server Version 6.1 Feature Pack for Web Services. This includes the Apache Axis 2 runtime and the Java API for XML based Web services programming model. More information about the specific content introduced with the feature pack for Web services can be found in the IBM Education Assistant topics for that product. WebSphere Application Server Version 7 than adds new features that this presentation will go into greater detail on.



The feature pack for Web services provided a new Java community process based programming model for the Java API for XML based Web services. This included additional specifications for the Java API for XML Binding, and updates to the SOAP API for Attachments in Java and the SOAP specifications. This programming model provided an updated, standardized way to develop Web service based applications. It included annotations support, and an asynchronous messaging model. The feature pack for Web services also provided support for other Web services standards, such as the Reliable Asynchronous Messaging Profile or RAMP. This included standards for various qualities of server, such as reliable message, secure conversation and Web services addressing. The feature pack also provided support for a new SOAP Message Transmission Optimization Mechanism or MTOM. This standard describes a faster method for dealing with large binary attachments in Web services.



The next section will explain some minor updates to Web services addressing.



WebSphere Application Server version 7 adds support for the WS-Addressing meta data specification, this replaces the WS-Addressing WSDL binding specification so that is now deprecated. This allows for simplified interoperable client configuration using WS-Policy.



The next section explains the updates to the JAX-WS specification in version 2.1.



The Java API for XML based Web services (JAX-WS) version 2.1 introduces several updates to the specification. First, the API has been updated to now include support for WS-addressing, this allows developers to use the standardized API to create and use endpoint references to target a specific Web service endpoint. The updates also introduce an additional way to configure qualities of services for JAX-WS based services. Features can be used to specify addressing, bindings and MTOM capabilities of a service. These same qualities of service can also be identified using policy sets or annotations, both of which will be override use of features. This specification also uses the Java API for XML Bindings version 2.1 (JAX-B).



The next section will explain the JAX-WS version 2.1 API in more detail.



JAX-WS version 2.1 introduces new classes that are used to represent endpoint references. It also introduces new annotations that allow developers to map actions to WSDL operations.



The action annotations can be used to associate a WS-Addressing action message addressing property with the input, output or fault messages for the WSDL operation. The JAX-WS 2.1 specification does not require that the action mapping in the annotations be reflected in the WSDL for a deployed Web service endpoint. The FaultAction annotation is used within the Action annotation; it allows a developer to associate a message addressing property with the fault messages of a WSDL operation.



The feature pack for Web services shipped a proprietary WS-Addressing API for use with the JAX-WS programming model. This continues to be available in WebSphere Application Server version 7, with utility methods provided to convert between the two models. The JAX-WS version 2.1 API is limited in it ability to control the WS-Addressing headers, with only the ability to directly configure the To header. The proprietary API should be used for more direct control over the WS-Addressing headers, though developers should try to consistently use a single API so as to not run into problems.



The next section further explains the JAX-WS version 2.1 introduction of features.



Specific to the JAX-WS version 2.1 specification, a feature is a new way to programmatically control certain functions or behaviors of a service. All of the features supported by the specification are derived from the class

javax.xml.ws.WebServiceFeature, this allows a client developer to pass different types of features to other APIs. Each feature has a corresponding annotation, which can be inserted into the service endpoint interface or implementation bean to control the associated function or behavior for the service.



The addressing feature controls the use of WS-Addressing by JAX-WS; its associated annotation is @addressing. If this is enabled requests made to this service must include WS-Addressing headers. On both the client and server-sides the addressing feature can only be used with a SOAP 1.1 over HTTP or SOAP 1.2 over HTTP binding. If it is used with another binding, such as XML over HTTP, then this will fail. On the client-side an exception will be thrown, and on the server-side the Web service will fail to deploy.



The submission addressing feature allows a developer to control the use WS-Addressing specific to compliance with the WS-Addressing Member Submission specification. The MTOM feature is used by a developer to specify whether binary content in the body of a SOAP message is sent using MTOM. If it is enabled, binary content will be sent in the MTOM attachment form, if disabled, binary content will be sent as a base-64 encoded string. It also Includes a "Threshold" property that indicates to the runtime that binary data larger than the threshold should be sent using MTOM. The respect binding feature controls whether the JAX-WS implementation inspects the wsdl:binding for an endpoint at runtime. This insures that the parameter and return data complies with the binding type. It also checks that all wsdl:extensions that have the required attribute set to "true" are understood and are being used.



Since features also provide a configuration model for JAX-WS based services, similar to policy sets, there is a potential for conflict. The policy set configuration will override programmatic configuration data stored in features. WS-Policy setting may also override features as well; the JAX-WS specification makes no mention of this other specification at this time.



The next section briefly explains the minor updates in the Java API for XML bindings version 2.1 specification.



There have been two major enhancements to the JAX-B specification. The first is that the schema generation and compiler tools now have an option to not generate specific artifacts. The compiler tool, xjc, can use an option to not generate class files. The schema generation tool can use this option to not generate the XML schema. The second major change is that a new annotation has been added, that instructs JAX-B to look for a bind additional classes. The @XMLSeeAlso annotation allows for specific sub-classes to be included in the binding operations that previously may have been overlooked.



The next section will talk about enhancements with the JAX-WS programming model supporting JSR 109, or the Web services in the J2EE specification, within WebSphere Application Server version 7.



WebSphere Application Server V7 adds support for JSR 109 V1.2, or the Web services in J2EE, to be used along with the JAX-WS programming model. This allows JAX-WS services to use the Web services deployment descriptor to define end points rather than using annotations. Information configured in the deployment descriptor will override the annotations. This also adds support for managed JAX-WS based clients, with the addition of client side deployment descriptors and annotations. It also allows JAX-WS services to use the handler model described by JSR 109.



Two important annotations have been added to support client applications,

@WebServiceRef and @Resource can be used to request injection of JAX-WS service and port instances. Examples of these annotations and how to use them are shown here.



The next section will explain some updates to WS-Security in WebSphere Application Server version 7.



WebSphere Application Server version 7 adds WS-Security Kerberos Token Profile support for both JAX-RPC and JAX-WS based applications. For JAX-RPC applications, the Kerberos token can only be used as an authentication token. With JAX-WS applications, the Kerberos token can be used for both authentication and message protection. Support is also added for LTPA version 2 tokens. Services developed with the feature pack for Web services may need to have their bindings updated to be compatible with WebSphere Application Server version 7.



The next section describes several updates to Web services development.



WebSphere Application Server version 7 adds the capability to develop JAX-WS services based on enterprise beans, this was not available in the feature pack for Web services. By adding the appropriate JAX-WS annotations to the bean implementation, it will be defined as a JAX-WS service. JAX-WS services can optionally use a service endpoint interface as well. This is only possible for stateless session beans, and must be packaged as EJB 3.0 or higher modules. Beans defined as JAX-WS services can use either the HTTP or JMS transports.



WebSphere Application Server version 7 introduces support for a new proposed industry standard SOAP over JMS protocol. Based on the Worldwide Web Consortium's SOAP over JMS specification, this provides a standard set of interoperability guidelines. The previous IBM specific implementation of a SOAP over JMS protocol is still available and may be used by both JAX-WS and JAX_RPC applications, it is deprecated in this release though. If there is a client that will invoke a enterprise bean based services supported by an earlier version of WebSphere Application Server, then your client needs to use this earlier version of the protocol.



The next section describes some enhancements made to the MTOM support in WebSphere Application Server version 7.



WebSphere Application Server version 7 introduces a new chunking behavior for MTOM attachments. By default MTOM attachments will be sent using HTTP chunking. Attachments are chunked into 32 kilobyte pieces. This size was chosen for the best performance. This change allows for greater scalability and performance when using MTOM, it allows for attachments of up to 1 gigabyte to be sent using MTOM. This feature can be disabled on the HTTP transport policy. No application changes are needed to change the behavior used.



Next is the summary for the presentation.



There have been significant updates to Web services in WebSphere Application Server version 7. The content from the feature pack for Web services has been integrated into this release, and been improved on in numerous ways. Updates to the support for various Web services specifications have occurred, including JAX-WS 2.1, JAX-B 2.1 and others. The JAX-WS development model has seen enhancements in the support of JSR 109, and the ability to expose EJB 3.0 beans as services, and the inclusion of a SOAP over JMS transport option for JAX-WS services.



Following is the appendix for this presentation.



A client application developer will be able to pass an instance of one of the supported subclasses of EndpointReference to the JAX-WS 2.1 client-side API in order to invoke a Web service endpoint. An application developer will also be able to create new EndpointReferences using client-side or server-side APIs. On the server-side, it will also be possible to return an EndpointReference as the response to a Web service invocation. The content of the EndpointReference is then sent to the client in the body of the SOAP message.



The W3C endpoint reference class is a subclass of javax.xml.ws.EndpointReference it can be used anywhere that the superclass can be used. JAXB 2.1 will automatically bind instances of W3CEndpointReference to the WSAddressing 1.0 schema for endpoint references.



JAXB 2.1 will not automatically bind instances of SubmissionEndpointReference to the WS-Addressing Member Submission schema for endpoint references.

WebSphere Application Server version 7 ships an external bindings file that can be passed to the JAXB tools, using the command line interface, so that the proprietary endpoint reference type can be used in generated code.



The action annotation allows explicit association of a WSAddressing Action message addressing property with input, output, and fault messages of the mapped WSDL operation. You can see its usage in the sample shown here.



The fault action annotation is used inside an Action annotation to map the WS-Addressing Action message addressing property with the fault messages of the WSDL operation.



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