IBM WebSphere Business Connection

IBM

Release Notes

Version 1.1.0

> **Note!**
>
> Before using this information and the product it supports, be sure to read the general information under "Notices" on page 7.

Contents

WebSphere Business Connection Version 1.1 Release Notes

Welcome to the IBM^(R) WebSphere^(R) Business Connection Version 1.1 family of offerings.

Overview of WebSphere Business Connection

The WebSphere Business Connection offerings enable business-to-business process integration and data sharing among trading partners of all types and sizes. A typical use of WebSphere Business Connection is shown in the following illustration, in which Trading Partner B registers with Trading Partner A, discovers services it can use, and subscribes to those services.

Figure: Overview of how trading partners communicate

WebSphere Business Connection is composed of the following three editions, which are designed to meet a wide range of needs:

- Business Connection Enterprise Edition
- Business Connection
- Business Connection Express Edition

See the WebSphere Business Connection documents, located on the same site from which you viewed or downloaded these Release Notes, for information on how to install and use WebSphere Business Connection.

How this document is organized

The remainder of this document contains information to supplement the WebSphere Business Connection documents. Included is information on required software levels as well as known limitations and restrictions.

This document is divided into two sections.

- Part I lists software limitations and technical restrictions that apply to *all editions* of WebSphere Business Connection, including the Express Edition.
- Part II covers additional restrictions that apply *only* to the Business Connection and Business Connection Enterprise Editions.

Part I - All editions

This section applies to all editions of WebSphere Business Connection.

Required software

The entire set of required software is listed in the *Installation and Configuration Guide*. The following is a list of key points you should be aware of before you begin installation:

- **Supported browser**: Only Internet Explorer 5.5 or higher is supported. There is no support for Netscape.
- **Supported database**: Only IBM DB/2$^{(R)}$ is supported.
- **HTTP Server:** Problems occur when Business Connection is run with IBM HTTP Server v1.3.19.3. The *Installation and Configuration Guide* suggests installing v1.3.19.2 instead.

Web Services Gateway restrictions

The following list documents some restrictions in using the Web Services Gateway. Be aware that some of these restrictions discuss components (such as Document Exchange) that are not available on WebSphere Business Connection Express Edition.

- **RPC-style and document-style messaging**: The Web Services Gateway supports only RPC-style messages, while CrossWorlds$^{(R)}$ generated Web services use document-style messaging. When you use CrossWorlds with Web Services Gateway, CrossWorlds-generated SOAP messages have to be structured such that they satisfy the RPC model. A solution provided by WebSphere Business Connection describes how to use the SOAP connector to produce a message with an RPC structure that can pass through the Web Services Gateway. Please refer to WebSphere Business Connection Web Services Advanced Topics and WebSphere Business Connection Web Services Technical Reference documentation for information and a documented solution.
- **Top-level elements**: The Body of a SOAP request message sent to the Web Services Gateway contains one or more top-level elements that correspond to parameters that will be used to invoke a Web service. The Web Services Gateway requires that all of these top-level elements be filled in with data that is of the appropriate type as described for the message (in the WSDL file for the Web service). If any of these elements is missing or not filled in, the Web Services Gateway cannot process the message. WebSphere Business Connection provides a utility program (CWGenUtility) to produce business-object definitions and maps so that you can wrap your generic business objects in such a way that only one top-level element (the wrapper field) is visible to the Web Services Gateway.
- **Web Services Gateway support**: Web Services Gateway does not support SOAP messages with attachments.
- **Service calls**: If you are using the Document Exchange service, be aware that you should activate security only on messages coming *into* an enterprise. This limitation is necessary because the Web Services Gateway does not distinguish between outbound calls from a service and inbound calls to a service, and the Document Exchange service uses the same name on both enterprises. If you check the secure box in the Document Exchange service in the gateway, a

security challenge is presented when a message is   sent (outbound) from one enterprise to the other. The security challenge should be active only on messages coming *into* the enterprise.

- **Company Identifier and Exchange Password**: The Web Services Gateway supplies the company identifier and exchange password in a single parameter for each registered trading partner.   It does not supply unique credentials for each partner.   A security restriction therefore exists when a company wants to perform Document Exchange with multiple trading partners. In this case, and because of the restriction, the company must provide the same user identifier and exchange password to all its trading partners. This represents a security compromise because the company identifier and exchange password are known by all trading partners.

Miscellaneous restrictions

- **Routing filter works with SOAP channel only**: The routing filter packaged in bctwsroutingfiltersoap.ear works with messages received into the SOAP channel. It is possible that it works with messages received into other channels, but these configurations have not been tested.
- **Changing IP address and Host name**: WebSphere Business Connection will not work if you change the IP address or host name after WebSphere Business Connection is installed and configured. You would have to re-install WebSphere Business Connection.
- **Installation**: You must manually uninstall pieces of manually-configured code because the program used to uninstall WebSphere Business Connection removes only unmodified files that it installed.

Part II - Business Connection and Business Connection Enterprise Editions

This section applies to WebSphere Business Connection and Business Connection Enterprise Editions only.   For information on Business Connection Express Edition, see Part I.

The limitations and restrictions listed in this section are in addition to those in Part I.

Registration and Provisioning

- **Registration**: Do not use the organization name as the administrator's user ID for the exchange. For example, if the Organization name is IBM, do not use IBM as the user ID for the person administering the IBM exchange.
- **De-registration**: De-registration of users is not supported for WebSphere Business Connection 1.1. This could be done as a service engagement with a customer-specific workflow solution.
- **Update Profile not supported**: Profile update is not supported for WebSphere Business Connection 1.1. This could be done as a service engagement with a customer-specific workflow solution.
- **Federating Data Interchange partner profile**: For the WebSphere Business Connection Enterprise Edition, there is no federation of partner-profile information from WebSphere Data Interchange.

Security

- **Passwords in the clear**: Be aware that passwords are left in the clear in some WebSphere Business Connection properties files. These files are:
  - BCT.properties file (used by Registration and Provisioning).
  - wbcui.out file (used by Registration and Provisioning).
  - BCT_SRAconsol.property file (used by System Resource Administration).
  - configurationList.properties file (used only during installation and configuration); you can delete this file after the system is installed and configured.
- **Client Certificates**: Client certificates are not available in WebSphere Business Connection 1.1.
- **Document Exchange with Large File Transfer**: A company that uses WebSphere Business Connection and performs Document Exchange over the Large File Transfer (LFT) channel with multiple trading partners has to use the same company identifier and exchange password with all trading partners involved. This represents a security compromise, since the company identifier and exchange password are known amongst all trading partners.

CrossWorlds restrictions

The following list describes CrossWorlds-related restrictions:

- **Namespace support**: The CrossWorlds SOAP connector can only produce a message that contains a single namespace for all its parts. This means that you cannot call a Web service with multiple namespaces from the SOAP connector..

- **RPC-style messages**: You can simulate RPC-style messages to non-CrossWorlds services with the following restrictions:
  - Only a single namespace is allowed in the SOAP message.
  - Only the data types that are available to CrossWorlds can appear in the interface to the service. The available data types are those that can be defined in a business object.
- **Primitive data types**: CrossWorlds does not support arrays of primitive data types. Arrays of business objects are supported.
- **SOAP connector**: The CrossWorlds SOAP connector does not provide security credentials in the http SOAP message.
- **Password in the clear in CrossWorlds configuration file**: The WSGenUtility in this release of CrossWorlds produces the user ID and password in clear text in the **.cfg** file. This is a Java$^{(TM)}$ properties file used by the proxy class that WsGenUtility also generates. At this time, the information cannot be encrypted.
- **Business Object Designer**: Using the CrossWorlds Business Object Designer, you cannot create business objects that contain periods in their names. A solution is to create the business object with an underscore in its name, export it to a file, edit the file, replacing the underscore with a period, and then import the modified file. This process is described in Web Services Technical Reference.

Miscellaneous

- **Non-repudiation**: A non-repudiation log sufficient for legal purposes is not supported in WebSphere Business Connection 1.1. Non-repudiation is proof that a transaction occurred, or that you sent or received a message.
- **Correlation-ID design issue**: WebSphere Business Connection business objects do not have a correlation-ID field. This is needed for logging purposes and for maintaining the context between CrossWorlds and WebSphere Gateway.

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