

This presentation covers spring support in the SCA feature pack.



You will start with a short overview of spring framework followed by its support in SCA feature pack.



The Spring framework is a popular platform used to construct Java applications. It aims to reduce the complexity of the programming environment and it shares many of the same design principles as SCA. In particular, Spring provides a runtime container that provides *dependency injection* so that application components can avoid the need to program directly to middleware APIs. This is also one of the key principles of SCA.

The Spring framework also uses an application context written in XML to instantiate, configure and assemble the objects in your application.

The Spring framework is an open source project. It provides a framework for simple Java objects that enables them to use the Java EE container through wrapper classes and XML configuration.



Support for the Spring framework in SCA is provided at a **coarse-grained level**. It is possible to use an existing Spring application context as a component implementation in SCA. An SCA runtime that supports Spring integration can use an application context as-is in an SCA assembly. For such a component it is possible to wire Spring services and references without the need to introduce SCA metadata into the Spring configuration. The integration with Spring is at the SCA Composite level, where a Spring application context provides a complete composite, exposing services and using references through SCA. This means that a Spring application context defines the internal structure of a composite implementation.

SCA allows you to explicitly define which Spring resources are defined as services, references and properties. It does so by using SCA XML extensions. It also provides default mapping.

Note that you must use Spring 2.5.5 for the SCA composite component implementation. The product does not support other levels of Spring.

Also note that the support is for Spring applications following J2SE model. JEE local namespace is NOT available.



A Spring application context is used as an implementation within an SCA composite component.

Conceptually, this can be represented as shown on the diagram. The diagram shows a simple SCA domain composed of two composites, both of which are implemented by Spring application contexts. In this diagram, there are two composites defined by separate Spring application contexts, each with one declared service. Composite A is composed of two Spring beans, and bean X is exposed to SCA through an SCA service. Bean Y has a reference to an external SCA service. This service reference is wired to another Spring context, Composite B, which has a single declared service entry point, which is wired to Bean Z.

As mentioned in the previous slide, a component that uses Spring for an implementation can wire SCA services and references without introducing SCA metadata into the Spring configuration. The Spring context knows very little about the SCA environment. All policy enforcement occurs in the SCA runtime implementation and does not enter into the Spring space.



This diagram shows two of the points where the SCA runtime interacts with the Spring context: services and references. Any policy enforcement is done by the SCA runtime on calls into the Spring application context before the final message is delivered to the target Spring bean. On outbound calls from the application context, references supplied by the SCA can provide policy enforcement.



Here is a look at a direct use of SCA references.

The SCA runtime hosting the Spring application context implementing a composite creates a parent application context in which all SCA references are defined as beans using the SCA reference name as the bean name. These beans are automatically visible in the child (or user application) context. The shown Spring configuration provides a model for Spring application context A shown in a previous slide. In that example, there are two Spring beans, X and Y. The bean named "X" is the entry point from SCA into the Spring context and Spring bean Y contains a reference to a service supplied by SCA. Two beans are defined. Taking a closer look at the code, the bean named "X" contains one property named "food" which refers to the second bean in the context, named "Y". The bean "Y" also has a single property named "bare" which refers to the SCA service reference, given the name "SCAReference."



The Spring component implementation SCDL has the format shown here, where the location attribute of that element specifies the target URI of an archive file or directory or the fully qualified path that contains the Spring application context files.

An example of all three ways of specifying the target URI in the location attribute is shown in the information center under the topic "Using Spring 2.5.5 containers in Service Component Architecture applications."



The feature pack supports the injection of SCA references and properties within Spring bean constructors. Define <constructor-arg> elements that specify the appropriate type of the SCA references or properties to use. If the elements do not specify the type attribute, then at least specify the index attribute. Note that currently the product does not support constructor injection for an unannotated Spring bean with multiple constructors.

The feature pack also supports loading of multiple application context files using the ClassPathXmlApplicationContext bean definition. In this case, use a list value that points to an application context XML file in the <constructor-arg> element.

The feature pack supports use of <import> elements in application context files. Each <import> element points to an application context XML file.



Here is an example of loading of multiple application context files.

In this scenario, use a *list* value that points to an application context XML file in the <constructor-arg> element as shown here.



Here is another example of the <import> elements in application context file.

Each **<import>** element points to an application context XML file as shown in this example.



You can use the SCA programming model to invoke beans in a Spring 2.5.5 container. The SCA feature pack supports components implemented with Spring Framework that use <implementation.spring> in composite definitions.

Here are the steps to use Spring application context as an implementation within an SCA composite component:

1. First, define a component implementation that uses the Spring Framework in a composite definition. The Spring component implementation in a composite definition has this format:

<implementation.spring location="targetURI"/>

2. Next, add the SCA schema to the application context. Specify a Spring application context that defines the SCA schema namespace and makes the Spring application aware of the SCA-related beans.

3. Package the SCA application context file in your service JAR file at the location specified in your composite definition. For example, the SCA application context file in a Spring service JAR file can be called helloworld-spring.jar.

4. Create a Spring runtime JAR file that contains Spring and Feature Pack for SCA runtime files. Because the Spring runtime binary files are not shipped with the product, you must create an asset that contains three Spring framework JAR files and one Feature Pack for SCA JAR file. See information center for more details on how to do this.

5. Import the Spring runtime JAR file as an asset using administrative console or wsadmin commands

6. Import the Spring service JAR file as an asset with a dependency on the Spring runtime asset. After you import your Spring service JAR file, create a dependency on the Spring runtime asset, springAsset.jar. The dependency enables the product to access the necessary Spring classes. The result is the Spring runtime JAR file and Spring service JAR file are imported assets available for use in a business-level application. The Spring service JAR asset has a dependency on the Spring runtime asset.

Note that the information center provides details of these steps. The next slide is a pictorial view of these steps.



Here is a picture of the main steps for adding spring containers in SCA as discussed in the previous slide. As a recap,

First, define a component implementation that uses the Spring Framework in a composite definition.

Then add the SCA schema to the application context. Package the SCA application context file in your service JAR file at the location specified in your composite definition. You then create a Spring runtime JAR file that contains Spring and Feature Pack for SCA runtime files. Import the Spring runtime JAR file as an asset in the administrative console. Finally, in step 6, import the Spring service JAR file as an asset with a dependency on the Spring runtime asset in the administrative console.

There are a couple of slides provided that show you how to import the jars as assets and to create dependancy on the administrative console.



Here is an example of an application context that uses the explicit mapping and with the schema added as detailed in step 2 of the previous slide.



On the administrative side, to make Spring visible to an SCA service, first you import SpringSharedLibAsset.jar as an asset using the Asset menu in the administrative console. This SpringSharedLibAsset.jar is made up of SCA-implementation-spring -runtime-1.0.1.jar from the WebSphere Application Server installation, and spring-beans.jar, springcontext.jar, and spring-core.jar from Spring 2.5.5. During the jar import, create a dependency on SpringSharedLibAsset.jar. Once you have imported the jar with the dependency, when the jar is added to a business level application, the administrative code will automatically add the SpringSharedLibAsset.jar to the business level application. For example, when you add the helloworld-spring.jar to a business level application, the administrative code will automatically pull in a copy of SpringSharedLibAsset.jar.

IBM Software Group	
Import Spring SCA	asset
View: All tasks	Assets
Welcome	Upload asset
Guided Activities	
⊞ Servers	Select the asset package to import.
Applications	Path to the asset
 New Application Application Types WebSphere enterprise applications Business-level applications Assets 	C:\WAS-SCA-I6-2\samples Browse Remote file system Specify path Browse
Services	
Resources	Next Cancel
	Next Cancer
Environment	
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Monitoring and Tuning	
Troubleshooting	
Service integration	Menu:
E UDDI	
	Applications->Application Types->Assets
	Spring support

On the menu click Applications->Application Types->Assets ->Import. Locate Spring SCA asset and import it, then click **Next.**

View: All tasks Welcome	Cell=jennthomNode01Cell, P	rofile=AppSrv01
Guided Activities		
Servers	Use this wizard to import	assets to the asset repository.
New Application Description Types Substrate AveN applications Substrate AveN applications Substrate AveN applications Services Resources Security Denvironment System administration Users and Groups Monitoring and Truning Troubleshooting Service integration	Step 2: Summary	Asset settings. Asset name helioworld-spring.jar Asset description Asset binaries destination URL Asset type aspects none File permissions Allow all files to be read but not written to Allow executables to execute Allow HTML and image files to be read by everyone
	Next Cancel	."\.dll=755#."\.so=755#."\.a=755#."\.sl=755 Asset relationships Current asset relationships Manage Relationships Validate asset

On the next screen click "Manage Relationships..." to access that menu option.

IBM Software Group	IBM
Create dependency on "SpringSharedLibA	Asset.jar"
Current asset relationships	? -
Current asset relationships	
Use this page to manage asset relationships. Asset relationships require that composition units for the created before or during the addition of the named asset to a business-level application.	related asset be
Select an asset in the Available list. To move the asset to the Selected list, click >>.	
Available: Selected:	
WebSphere:assetname=SpringSharedLibAsset.jar	
OK Cancel	
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On the "Current asset relationships" screen, create a dependency on "

SpringSharedLibAsset.jar " by moving " SpringSharedLibAsset.jar " to the right then click OK.

Note that if the SpringSharedLibAsset.jar is not available, add the asset first then open the asset and then access the "Manage Relationships.." menu where you can then create the dependency.

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Dependa	ancy in place - Import asset	2 =
Use this wiz	izard to import assets to the asset repository.	
→ Step 1	1: Select Select options for importing an asset	
importi	ting on asset Asset settings.	
Step 2	2: Summary Asset name	
	helloworld-spring.jar	
	Asset description	
	Asset binaries destination URL	
	Asset type aspects none	
	File permissions Allow all files to be read but not written to Allow executables to execute Allow HTML and image files to be read by everyone .*\.dll=755#.*\.se=755#.*\.s=755#.*\.s=755	
	Asset relationships Current asset relationships WebSphere:assetname=SpringSharedLibAsset.jar Manage Relationships	
	Validate asset	
Next	Cancel	
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You can see the dependency has been created and you can proceed to import the asset as usual.

Once you have imported the jar with the dependency, when the jar is added to a business level application, the administrative code will automatically add the SpringSharedLibAsset.jar to the business level application. For example, when you add the helloworld-spring.jar to a business level application, the administrative code will automatically pull in a copy of SpringSharedLibAsset.jar.

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Hello wo	rld examp	le			
Business-lev Business- Use this p	el applications level applications > HelloWorldSp	ring	rel application.		? =
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		Spring suppo	rt		20 © 2009 IBM Corporation

As a follow-up example of the "hello world" mentioned in the previous slide, if you create a new HelloWorldSpring business level application and add helloworld-spring.jar asset to that application, your application will contain two assets: SpringHelloWorld and SpringSharedLibAsset_0001.jar, as shown. The SpringSharedLibAsset.jar file is the shared library you created as explained in the previous slides.

The Result is an SCA component that uses implemention.spring and is visible to the SCA runtime.



Authorization and security identity for implementation.spring components is handled by the SCA container. SCA policy sets, defined in the definitions.xml file, can be attached to the implementation to enforce authorization and security identity policies. These policy sets are used in conjunction with the interaction policies on the bindings to authenticate and authorize access to the spring components. Administrative and application security needs to be enabled in order for security roles to be enforced.



Transaction support for services are handled by the implementation. The required transaction attributed should be specified in the Spring application-context.xml file. SCA transaction intents can be specified on the reference side to propagate or suspend transactions. This requires the SpringSharedLibAsset.jar to contain all spring libraries and the aspecjweaver.jar.

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Example application-context file	
<tx:advice id="txAdvice" transaction-manager="transactionManager"> <tx:attributes> <tx:method name="*" propagation="REQUIRED"></tx:method> </tx:attributes> </tx:advice>	
<aop:config> <aop:config> <aop:pointcut expression="execution(* test.sca.service.tx.DataAccessServiceImpl.getValue())" id="readOperation"></aop:pointcut> <aop:pointcut expression="execution(* test.sca.service.tx.DataAccessServiceImpl.setValue())" id="writeOperation"></aop:pointcut> <aop:advisor advice-ref="txAdvice" pointcut-ref="readOperation"></aop:advisor> <aop:advisor advice-ref="txAdvice" pointcut-ref="writeOperation"></aop:advisor> <aop:advisor advice-ref="txAdvice" pointcut-ref="writeOperation"></aop:advisor> <aop:config></aop:config></aop:config></aop:config>	
<bean class="test.sca.service.tx.DataAccessServiceImpl" id="dataAccessBean"></bean>	
<pre><sca:service name="DataAccessService" target="dataAccessBean" type="test.sca.service.tx.DataAccessService"></sca:service></pre>	
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Here is an example of application-context file with transaction attributes.



Exposing a Spring bean as a service is not supported when the bean implements multiple interfaces. To resolve this problem, explicitly define an <sca:service> element in the Spring application context file. If no explicit definition of <sca:service> is available, the problem remains by default when you expose all the beans as defined in the Spring context as services. Also, callbacks and pass-by-reference are not supported.

The only supported bindings are Web services, EJB, JMS and SCA default binding.

The Spring framework in SCA uses the J2SE model and, like SCA applications, does not have access to the local namespace, which is required for elements accessed through "java:comp…". Use explicit or direct JNDI lookups instead.



To summarize, the Spring Framework is an open source project that provides a framework for simple Java objects. It enables them to use the Java EE container through wrapper classes and XML configuration. SCA feature pack provides support for components implemented with the Spring Framework version 2.5.5. Implementation.Spring allows SCA to compose spring applications with other types of applications. It also exposes the spring application through the various bindings supported by the SCA Feature Pack.



Here is a list of useful reference links.



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