

This presentation provides an introduction to the WebSphere Commerce REST services framework.



This presentation begins with an overview of the REST services solution architecture. Following the architecture overview is a series of examples that demonstrate the concepts covered in the overview. This presentation concludes with some example customization scenarios and problem determination tips.



This section introduces the REST services framework architecture.



REST services provide an alternate way of implementing a client-server communication model than SOAP-based web services. These lighter weight, simpler services can be easily adopted by a wide variety of clients. Some examples are discussed later in this presentation. Rather than defining an action verb within the service request as SOAP services do, REST services make use of the existing GET, POST, PUT and DELETE verbs supported by HTTP. The response format back to the client can be any internet media type. Common response types include JSON, XML and HTML.

Storefront and WebSphere Commerce Accelerator	Sales Center	Portal	Management Center	Android applications
JSP pages, HTML, JSTL Struts Tags	Eclipse Rich Client Platform	JSP, HTML, JSTL, Portlet Tags	OpenLaszlo	Java
Commerce Accelerator	Sales Center	Portal MVC portlet and	Web application	AEST to Chernic applications REST services and
SDO tag library	Control Layer	SDO tag library	SDO tag library	JAX-HS
usiness logic layer				
	WebSphere Com	merce services		
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The diagram shows where REST services fit in the overall WebSphere Commerce architecture. REST services act as a controller layer between RESTful client applications, such as the sample Android application, and the WebSphere Commerce business logic layer. The REST service framework makes use of the JAX-RS API to manage incoming resource requests and outgoing responses. The REST services invoke the existing WebSphere Commerce services to process the incoming request.

Sample RESTful applications	IBM
REST clients	
WebSphere Commerce server	
REST services abstraction	
OAGIS BOD Security Intergration DSL / DB OAuth Services	
Legend Internet On-Premise	
6 REST Services @	© 2012 IBM Corporation

Here are several examples of clients that might use REST services to communicate with WebSphere Commerce.

For mobile applications, REST services allow the application to use device-specific native user interfaces, or an embedded web browser for the user experience and REST services for data and updates. Web applications can include traditional storefronts or other websites that provide WebSphere Commerce functionality through REST services. Kiosk applications can use WebSphere Commerce services to bridge in-store shoppers with the online stores and services. Finally, social applications are rendered within social containers such as Facebook. Social applications can extend shopping and customer experiences.



JAX-RS, the Java API for RESTful web services, is used to simplify the development of new RESTful web services. JAX-RS runtime handles the processing of incoming client requests and responses from the WebSphere Commerce server. The API also provides support for best practices when developing new services. WebSphere Commerce is using the Apache Wink implementation of JAX-RS.



This slide defines several terms you will see in this presentation. A resource is a logical entity that the client can interact with, such as a shopping cart. A representation is a specific form of the resource, such as JavaScript Object Notation (JSON) object. Incoming REST service requests for a specific resource are routed to a resource handler. This is a Java class that provides method handlers for various types of resource requests, such as create and update. The @Path annotation is used to define which resources a specific class handles. A data object mapper is a configuration file responsible for converting between the Business Object Document (BOD) representation of a resource and its JSON representation. Finally, an entity provider is a Java class that transforms a resource from its server-side representation into the response format expected by the calling service.



This diagram shows the interactions between the REST web module and other WebSphere Commerce subsystems when handling authentication requests and regular requests. The authentication flow is marked by the orange numbers and the regular request flow is marked by the purple numbers. The authentication flow is explained first.

In step one, the client initiates an HTTP POST request to authenticate a registered shopper or get a temporary identity for a guest shopper. At step two, the JAX-RS framework invokes the request handler and matches the URL of the request to the appropriate JAX-RS resource handler. The resource handler converts the HTTP request into a WebSphere Commerce OAGIS service request to the member services. The WebSphere Commerce OAGIS service returns the result containing authentication information for the shopper in step three. In steps four and five, the REST layer calls the security runtime to create authentication tokens, WCToken and WCTrustedToken, for future requests. WCToken should be used in both non-secure and secure connections. WCTrustedToken should be used in secure connections. In step six, the JAX-RS resource invokes the entity provider to generate the response. Finally, in step seven, the response is created and returned to the client.

Now, the regular request in the purple numbers is explained. In step one, the client initiates a HTTP request, which can be GET, POST, PUT, or DELETE. If the related noun operation requires authentication, the security tokens must be sent in the HTTP request header. For non-secure requests, only the WCToken should be sent. For secure requests, both the WCToken and WCTrustedToken should be sent. The Apache Wink JAX-RS framework invokes the request handler in step two. The request handler creates the business context and calls the security runtime to verify the authentication tokens. In step three, the security runtime verifies the authentication tokens. Next, in step four, the request handler converts the incoming REST request into a WebSphere Commerce OAGIS service request. The service returns the result in BOD format in step five. In step six, the data mapper configuration file for the response BOD is loaded by the entity provider to convert the response to JSON. Finally, in step seven, the JSON response is returned to the client.

RESTServices.ppt

Page 9 of 47



The available resource handlers need to be registered so that incoming requests can be directed to them. There are two property files to register resource handlers, one predefined file and one extensions file. When you create or modify a resource handler, you should register the implementation in the extensions file.

In addition to the properties file to register resource handlers, there is also an XML configuration file that maps resource URIs to the access profile to use when making the corresponding WebSphere Commerce service request.



Entity providers also have a pair of property files for registering available implementations. When you create or modify an entity provider, you should register the implementation in the extensions file. For entity providers, there is an additional XML configuration file that maps the supported response formats to their internet media types. This file also defines the default response format.



This slide summarizes the WebSphere Commerce resources that are accessible through REST services in Feature Pack 4. All services are intended for business-to-consumer use only. More information on individual services is available in the Information Center. A link is provided on the resources page at the end of this presentation.



A client calls a REST service by identifying the resource it wants to act on and the action it wants to take. The action is one of GET, PUT, POST or DELETE. If PUT and DELETE are not supported, you can use the "X-HTTP-Method-Override" property in the header to specify the action. The resource to act on is specified by the URI. The URI has a fixed portion "/wcs/resources/store" followed by a client-specified portion. The client specifies the ID of the store for the request, the name of the resource and, if needed, an identifier for the resource.

The default input and output format for WebSphere Commerce REST services is JSON. XML is also supported as both an input and output format but XML input is converted to JSON before the request is processed. A specific XML format is required for the input. The details can be found in the WebSphere Commerce Information Center.

When you are passing input data in a POST or PUT request, make sure you set the content-type attribute in the header to the internet media type you are using. When making requests for an authenticated user, make sure the authentication tokens are included in the header. The WCToken is needed for regular requests and both the WCToken and WCTrustedToken are needed for secure requests.



Caching REST service responses helps to improve the performance of your client application. There are two types of caching available for REST services. Server-side caching is the standard method of caching service responses. This caching method uses dynacache and the cache configuration is defined in the cachespec.xml file. A sample configuration is provided with Feature Pack 4. Client-side caching improves performance even further by reducing calls to the server. By specifying cache directives in the response header, you can identify public or private resources to be cached by the client. WebSphere Commerce only makes use of public resource caching by default. The default client-side caching is defined in the XML configuration file shown on the slide. You can extend or modify the default cache policies by creating a custom file in an extension folder.



This section provides some examples to demonstrate the REST services framework.



The first example looks at service invocation and working with security tokens. The second example looks at how a GET request is processed on the server side.



The code for the first example comes from the sample Madisons Android application. The next five slides show how different types of requests are created and how security tokens are managed. The example starts with customer authentication through logging in to the store and continues on with payment information requests made by the logged in shopper while checking out an order.



The method shown here is used to build the REST service request for a shopper to log in. There are no tokens to pass in a login request, only the content type is set in the request header. A JSON object containing the logon ID and password supplied by the shopper is passed as the content of this secure POST request. The last line shown initiates the request and captures the response back.

The number one on the slide shows where the request header is set, the number two shows where the content is set for the POST request. An example of the content is shown in the call-out on the slide. The number three shows the REST service being invoked.



The call-out on this slide shows the response to the login request. The login details for this shopper, such as their user ID and authentication tokens, are saved in a shared login details object so they are available for future requests.

The number one on the slide shows the JSON response object and the number two shows the response data being populated in the login details object.



When the shopper takes an action in the store, such as adding payment information to their order, the authentication tokens are retrieved from the shared login details object.

The number one on the slide shows that this code snippet is for dealing with secure requests. The number two on the slide shows the user ID and authentication tokens being retrieved for a logged in shopper. For guest shoppers, the guest tokens are retrieved by the code next to the number three.



This method is used to build a secure POST request to add payment details to the order. The user ID and authentication tokens obtained from the shared login details object are added to the request header. The content of the POST request is a JSON object representing the item being added.

The number one shows the information retrieved in the previous example being passed in to this service invocation method. The number two shows where the authentication tokens are added to the request header. Since this is a secure request, both tokens are needed. The number three shows where the payment details are added for the POST request and number four shows the REST service being invoked.



If the shopper later decides to update the payment details for their order, a secure PUT request is created. The creation of the secure PUT request is very similar to the secure POST request. The difference is the extra header attribute for X-HTTP-Method-Override. This extra line is marked with the number one.



The second example follows the processing of a GET request from invocation to the response being returned.



This is the request from the client. It is a request to get the shopping cart for the current shopper. Authentication tokens identifying the shopper are included in the request header.



The URI in the request is matched to a corresponding resource handler in WebSphere Commerce. Resource handlers identify which URL's they support using the @Path annotation. Within the resource handler class, there are methods that process specific types of requests for the resource such GET requests and POST requests. The second code snippet you see here is the method header for the method that will process the GET cart request. In order to get the shopper's cart details, the resource handler method uses the OrderFacadeClient to call the OAGIS service. The cart details are returned in the response BOD.



Since the cart details are returned to the resource handler in BOD format but the REST service is expected to return JSON format some data mapping is needed to convert one form to the other. This mapping is very similar to the mapping in Management Center that is used to convert BOD format to the internal Management Center object format. Each resource type has it's own mapping file. The code snippet here shows a portion of the cart resource mapping file. Each element in the BOD is mapped to an element in the JSON object. The return attribute specifies whether to include the data in the REST service response. These same mapping files are also used to convert JSON to BOD format for POST and PUT requests.

The number one shows the logical name for this part of the mapping. The numbers two and three show the REST representation and BOD representation of the data. The number four shows the return attribute. Setting this attribute to true means the data should be returned in the REST response. False means the data should not be included.



The response formatting is handled by the JSON entity provider which is a subclass of the abstract entity provider. It uses a method provided by the abstract entity provider that converts the SDO to a JSON object using the mapping files. The JSON object is then returned as the service response. For custom entity providers, the abstract entity provider also provides a JSP formatting option.



Here you see a portion of the shopping cart details in JSON format. This response is then parsed by the client and the shopping cart is displayed.



This section introduces the REST services customization scenarios.

	IBM
Customization scenarios	
 Create a new REST service for a custom noun 	
 Update an existing REST service response Include more BOD data in the REST representation Remove specific BOD data from the REST representation Include user data Change the access profile 	
 Create a new entity provider for a custom response format 	
30 REST Services	© 2012 IBM Corporation

There are three main areas of customization for the REST service framework. The first is to create a new REST service for a new or customized noun. The second is to modify an existing REST service response either by adding or removing data. The third is to create a new entity provider to support a custom response format.

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2 =	Eclipse.org	EMF Code Generat	ion UI 2.4	4.0.v2009	org.eclipse.emf.codegen.ui	
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1	Sig Provider	Plug-in Name	Version	Plug-in I	▲ ▲	
R	82	Service Module	7.0.0.2	com.ibm	.commerce.toolkit.internal.pattern.com	
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R	IBM	WebSphere Commerce Devel	7.0.0.7	com.ibm	.commerce.toolkit.internal.plugin	
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B	IBM	Licensecheck Plug-in	3.1.0.v2009	9 com.ibm	.data.licensecheck	
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Creating a new service is done using the JET code generation capability in WebSphere Commerce Developer. You need to have the plug-ins shown here installed in your development environment to generate code. You can find more information on installing plug-ins in WebSphere Commerce Information Center.



The first step in code generation is creating a pattern file as the input to the code generator. This slide shows the template for the XML pattern file.

The number one is the component name of the web service that you want to create a REST service for. Numbers two and three are the name of the noun within the component that is modified through the REST service. In Feature Pack 4, the convention is to use the singular version of the noun name so both of these attributes can be set to the same value. The number four is the name of the REST resource you want to create. Number five is the action expression for the noun or noun part that corresponds to the resource. The numbers six, seven and eight are the client library methods to call for the different resource actions. Six is the findBy method name used for GET requests. Seven is the creation method used for POST requests and eight is the update method used for PUT requests.



Here is an example of a complete pattern file for the Person noun. The numbers highlight the sections in the pattern described on the previous slide.



Once your pattern file is ready, launch the Run Configuration window in WebSphere Commerce Developer and select your pattern file. Run the code generation. The details of the code generation process can be found in the WebSphere Commerce Information Center.



The left side of this screen shows the files generated using the sample Person pattern file.

The numbers one and two indicate the new resource handler and a helper file for calling the corresponding OAGIS service. Numbers three, four and five indicate configuration files including the mapping file and the resource handler definition file. These files need to be merged with the existing files in the Rest WAR as shown on the slide.



The second main area of customization is modifying the response of an existing REST service. Whether you are adding or removing data, the first step is to create an extension mapping file. In this file you only need the elements you want to change. To add new data, you add one or more property mappings and set the return attribute for each to true.



To remove data from the REST service response, you follow the same steps as the previous slide including adding each property to be removed into the extension mapping file. You then set the return attribute to false and each element specified are ignored when building the JSON response.



Another way to update a REST service response is to include user data. The existing WebSphere Commerce REST services return the user data fields for their corresponding nouns. If you generate a new REST service, you need to populate the mapping file including any user data contained in your custom noun. A code snippet for adding user data to your mapping file is shown on the slide. Notice that the type attribute indicates this is a user data field. The remaining code examples show sample user data name value pairs and the resulting JSON format for the data.



If you have created a custom access profile or search profile to return extra data, you need to configure the REST service to use the new profiles. The first step is to create an extension resource configuration file to define the new access profile mappings. You should not change the default file directly. Once the extension file has been created, copy over the GetUri elements that have changes in their access profiles. If you are adding new mappings, you can use those in the default file as a template. Set the accessProfile attribute to the name of your new access profile. If there is an associated search profile that has been customized, specify the new search profile name as well. Once this change is complete, your REST service will use the updated access profile mapping and the Custom data is returned in the BOD response. If necessary, add additional data to the BOD mapping file as described in the previous slides.



The final customization scenario is creating a new entity provider. The WebSphere Commerce REST framework supports JSON and XML response formats. If your client requires a different format, you need to create a new entity provider. There is no code generation for creating an entity provider. You extend the AbstractEntityProvider class and provide your custom mapping in one or more JSP files. To make the new entity provider available, the new provider class and the new response format need to be registered in the files shown on the slide. Detailed steps and sample code for this customization are provided in the Information Center.



This section provides some problem determination tips.



There are several different trace strings that you can use to help debug problems with REST services. The different trace options and the part of the framework they support are shown on the slide.

chrome://poster - Poster - Mozilla Firefox	Response	
Request	POST on https://myh Status: 200 OK	nost.com/wcs/resources/store/10001/loginidentity
JRL: https://myhost.com/wcs/resources/store/10001/loginidentity	{	
Jser Auth:	"WCToker "507%2cg6c6o8Rh	ı": /1blz6XnJcm5i7S%2fwBWcmUdXWOIPEWtPSSiFCNQv1
Eimoput (c): 20	6PKid8C58ndN31L(%0d%0aOpigjIW5zs)9uD%2fRT4%2bH %ZkPx3%2fG1CdgV1zWkxKW9mu2I%2fA4UnfNDU9t%2f
	J8XIJJW4E6XZP004 "WCTrust	⊌3d", ≎edToken":
Actions	"507%2c3mxjh5U1k "persona	onNo3H1sJlf9Xu3Qyks%3d", alizationID": "1319834244560-4",
GET POST PUT DELETE C	"userId	: "507"
Content to Send Headers Parameters		
Browse		
Content Type. application/json	 Headers:	
Content Options:Base64 EncodeBody from Parameters	Content-Type	application/json
l "logonid": "tester1",	Vary	Accept
"logonPassword": "tester11"	Content-Language	en-US
	Content-Length	302
	Date	Wed, 16 Nov 2011 23:25:29 GMT
"Destar" add an fan Finafau	Server	WebSphere Application Server/7.0
"Poster" add-on for Firefox		Close

The Poster add-on for Firefox is helpful for testing REST services. You can manually enter a service request including JSON content and then invoke the service. The JSON response is returned along with the response headers.



This slide contains some references for further reading on this topic.



This presentation began with an overview of the REST services solution architecture. Following the architecture overview was a series of examples that demonstrated the concepts covered in the overview. This presentation concluded with some example customization scenarios and problem determination tips.



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