WDI 3.3 FAQ – February 14, 2007

This FAQ contains answers to generally expected business (Type=B) and technical (Type=T) questions. The answers are deemed to be correct as of the date of publication, but subject to change without notice.

ID	Type	Question
1.	B	What are the new features in WDI 3.3? ▪ Migration to browser-based reporting ▪ Improved error and notification handling ▪ Improved group and role-based management ▪ Extended management reporting to data-transformation maps ▪ Improved audit-trail function ▪ Enhancements to Document Store tables ▪ Support for submitting transaction replay/resend from the WDI Client ▪ Ad hoc submission of transformation commands ▪ Support for multiple and expanded record IDs ▪ Streaming function to support large messages ▪ Support for international (Unicode) data ▪ Support for new ANSI X12 envelope data elements (ST03) ▪ Support for new ANSI X12 functional acknowledgments (X12 999) ▪ Java API for invoking WDI as a Web service for use in SOAs ▪ Java API for parsing XML-format event log data enabling the creation of CBE/CEI-compliant messages for use in SOAs ▪ Support for directory-based triggering of WebSphere Data Interchange Server ▪ Support for IBM Support Assistant and IBM Education Assistant ▪ Currency updates
2.	B	How do new customers get WDI 3.3? A customer generally works with a salesperson(s) to purchase software and maintenance for the first 12 months. When a sale is finalized, the customer receives a customer number and access (password) to the Passport Advantage Customer Site (URL included below). http://www-306.ibm.com/software/howtobuy/passportadvantage/
3.	B	How do existing WDI 3.2 for MP customers get WDI 3.3 for MP? Passport Advantage customers with active software maintenance coverage can request upgrades "on demand." Whenever an upgrade (announced version or release) that a customer is entitled to becomes available, an eNotification e-mail message is sent to the primary contact on record notifying the customer that an upgrade is available. Three options are available for the customer: 1) download the software upgrade from the Passport Advantage site, 2) order the Media Pack at no additional cost from the Passport Advantage Customer site, or 3) take no action. eNotification Process: eNotification messages are sent out weekly, bi-

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		weekly, or monthly (default is monthly). Customers can choose which notification frequency they prefer.
		The electronic assembly GA date (Planned/Revised FCS date listed in the IPLA-R system) triggers the eNotification. The electronic assembly long description(s) will be listed in the eNotification email.
		Customer(s) can review the list and take the following actions: (1) do nothing; (2) click the hot link to reach Passport Advantage Online; (3) long on to Passport Advantage Online and navigate to review all maintenance upgrades available.
		Once the customer(s) logs on-to Passport Advantage Online, they will see the default view of all Software Maintenance entitlements sorted by GA date with most current listed first. The Passport Advantage Customer site will list the electronic assemblies, electronic GA dates and corresponding Media Packs based on version, language, platform and sub-id matches.
		The weekly eNotification messages are sent very Sunday. The bi-weekly eNotification are sent on the 1st and 16th of each month, and the monthly eNotification messages are sent on the 5th of each month.
4.	B	How do existing WDI 3.1 for MP and earlier customers get WDI 3.3 for MP?
		WDI 3.1 for MP and earlier versions for MP are no longer supported.
		Case 1: Customers who have an active maintenance agreement, they would be entitled to upgrade to 3.3. Customers will be informed via the Passport Advantage process of the availability of WDI 3.3.
		Case 2: Customers who do not have an active maintenance contact, they may be able to renew their maintenance agreement. If such renewal is not possible, then such customers would have to purchase WDI 3.3 from scratch, similar to how a new customer would purchase WDI 3.3.
5.	B	How does one get support for WDI 3.3?
		Support contact phone numbers, by country, are available through http://www.ibm.com/planetwide/
		For the US, the support contact phone number is 1-800-IBM-SERV (1-800-426-7378). Customers will need their customer number under which they are entitled when contacting Support.
		Information on support contracts is available as follows:
		WDI z/OS falls under SoftwareXcel: General info: http://www-935.ibm.com/services/us/its/pdf/swxcel.pdf List of products: http://www-03.ibm.com/services/sl/swxcel/#w2
		WDI MP falls under Passport Advantage:

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		http://www-306.ibm.com/software/howtobuy/passportadvantage/
6.	B	During the migration period from WDI 3.2 to 3.3, how does one get support for both versions? Customers with current maintenance support contracts are entitled to support on both versions. For migration problems, customers should seek support under WDI 3.3.
7.	B	How long will WDI 3.2 be supported? IBM has not yet set an EOS date for WDI 3.2.
8.	B	Are IBM services available to support migration? Yes. IBM Software Services for WebSphere (ISSW) has two offerings to support migration: 1) a migration assessment to assess what would be required to migrate to WDI 3.3 from an earlier version, which would produce a detailed report describing a step-by-step roadmap for conducting a migration, and a time and cost estimate, and 2) services to actually conduct the migration. Additional information on ISSW services is available through: http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/services/contacts.html
9.	B	Is there training available to conduct a migration from WDI 3.1/3.2 to 3.3? Yes, IBM Software Services for WebSphere (ISSW) offers customized training for preparing customers to migrate to WDI 3.3. Additional information on ISSW services is available through: http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/services/contacts.html
10.	B	Is there training available on the new functions in WDI 3.3? Yes, course SW334 (IBM WebSphere Data Interchange Implementation for ANSI X12) and SW335 (IBM WebSphere Data Interchange Implementation for UN/EDIFACT) will cover new functions in WDI 3.3. Additional information on IBM training is available through: http://www.ibm.com/products/finder/us/finders?pg=trfinder Self-training on new features is also available through the IBM Educational Assistant.
11.	B	Whom can I contact for if I have additional business questions? Please contact Joe Kaczmarek (Global Sales Executive, WebSphere B2B

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		Integration, IBM Software Group) at joe.kaczmarek@us.ibm.com should you have any further business questions.
12.	T	How does one migrate from WDI 3.2 to 3.3? The WDI 3.3 Installation process will move WDI 3.2 build-time objects to WDI 3.3. The WDI Export facility will extract objects from WDI 3.2 and the WDI Import facility will insert the objects into WDI 3.3. Migration and conversion of Service Profiles is handled during the import into WDI 3.3. Migration of WDI 3.2 operational data – Document Store, SAP Status, and Management Reporting data, requires a data conversion. The Install process will extract data from WDI 3.2 tables and convert and load that data into WDI 3.3.
13.	T	Can one run both WDI 3.2 and 3.3 concurrently? Yes. In a z/OS environment, the STEPLIB should point to the appropriate Load libraries for the desired version. DB2 Plan names can be modified for each version to accommodate customer requirements. In the MP environment, the PATH identifies where the WDI executable is obtained. When executing WDI, the customer should insure that the PATH statement has the desired version in the PATH. There is no required sharing of objects between WDI 3.2 and WDI 3.3 and there are no dependencies of objects between WDI 3.2 and WDI 3.3.
14.	T	When migrating from WDI 3.2 to 3.3, does one have to re-compile all the maps? No. WDI 3.2 control strings will operate in WDI 3.3. The control string compilation process will generate a different control string than that of WDI 3.2. WDI detects the version of the control string and operates accordingly at execution-time.
15.	T	How would one back-out WDI 3.3 and resume using 3.2? WDI 3.3 is not backwardly compatible with WDI 3.2. Customers wishing to maintain the option of reverting, must entertain a dual maintenance technique for doing so. Obviously, new features of WDI 3.3 created in the "side by side" period would not be supported upon reverting to WDI 3.2. Document Store data would be lost. Maps and build time objects should be maintained on both systems during the "decision window".
16.	T	How does one migrate from WDI 3.1 to 3.3? WDI 3.1 built time objects must undergo the same format conversion that occurred during WDI 3.1 to WDI 3.2 installation. The WDI 3.2 conversion algorithms exist in WDI 3.3. WDI 3.1 objects must be imported into WDI 3.3 specifying the import control "conversion" flag. A set of instructions for migrating from WDI 3.1 to WDI 3.3 are contained in the Z/OS Installation

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		manual. There is no supported opportunity to convert operational data in a WDI 3.1 to WDI 3.3 migration.
17.	T	Does IBM support migration to WDI 3.3 from WDI/DI releases earlier than 3.1? While migration from releases earlier that WDI 3.1 is possible, there is no supported path for doing so. A technique that could be used would be do execute the build time conversion programs of the intermediate releases, i.e. 2.1, 3.1, 4.1, to get the objects into a WDI 3.1 format. Then the WDI 3.1 migration instructions could be followed. Likewise the operational data would require a customer written conversion program to the 3.3 formats for operational data migration.
18.	T	How does one integrate WDI 3.3 with WPG? WDI 3.3 integrates with WPG in the same manner as WDI 3.2. WMQ is the vehicle for integration. WPG places data on a WMQ queue and WDI reads the queue, processes data, and puts results back on a WMQ queue for continued processing by WPG.
19.	T	How does one integrate WDI 3.3 with WebSphere Message Broker (WMB)? WDI 3.3 integrates with WPG in the same manner as WDI 3.2. WMQ is the vehicle for integration. WMB places data on a WMQ queue and WDI reads the queue, processes data, and puts results back on a WMQ queue for continued processing by WMB. WDI continues to use the MCD profiles for determining and specifying the message content of WMB.
20.	T	How can the e-mail Java plug-in be used in WDI 3.3? With WDI 3.3, the opportunity for WDI to send e-mail notification when operational errors are detected is now available. The new Destination Profile and Common Event Handling Infrastructure allows for this. A sample e-mail Java plug-in is provided in source form. While it works as installed, the code can be modified to the customer's desires or replaced with a plug-in of it's own. See the WDI Users Guide for implementation instructions.
21.	T	When is data written to the Document Store, and how does one control the amount of data that is written? WDI 3.3 extends the EDI Document Store to a full-fledged Document Store when using Data Transformation maps. XML and flat-file data (aka "fixed-to-fixed") can now be stored, viewed and processed as was Send map or Receive map data of WDI 3.2. New options have been added to the Application Definition Profile (APPDEFS) that extend to customers ability to restrict TS or DS data by data type.
22.	T	Can Service Profiles be used in z/OS or CICS?

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		Yes. Service profiles dynamically execute PERFORM commands based on output to logical datasets. Command chaining must start with the PERFORM PROCESS or PERFORM RECEIVE AND PROCESS command. While WDI on z/OS always had the ability to "stack commands" in the SYSIN file, Service profiles provide a variation on the "stacking" technique.
23.	T	How can one integrate WDI with Tivoli or other business monitors? In WDI 3.3, the Common Event Architecture (CEI) was introduced. This allows for the creating of print files and error handling files in formats that can be integrated with monitoring applications such as WebSphere Business Monitor or IBM Tivoli Monitor. There is no sample provided for integration, but the "plug-in" style of WDI 3.3, allows the customer to develop an interface module to convert WDI XML data to CEI format data for use with available monitoring applications..
24.	T	Is there a Java API and why would one use it? WDI 3.3 introduces a Java API to the transformation functions. This interface wrappers the existing C++ API and the function calls and parameters are similar to that API. The Java API can be used to integrate with WPS. Data objects can be passed from and to a WPS flow.
25.	T	Does WDI 3.3 support international character encodings such as Unicode? Yes. WDI 3.3 has been updated to allow Data Transformation maps to process input and output data that contains Unicode characters, including UTF-16 and UTF-8 data. Many other encodings and codepages are also supported. There are some limitations to the use of Unicode. For example, Unicode data is not supported for Send and Receive maps, or for some of the reporting functions.
26.	T	Does WDI 3.3 require WebSphere Application Server (WAS)? No. WDI is not a J2EE application and does not run within an application server such as WAS. WDI is a standalone C application written, and not a J2EE application, and does not run within, or require the use/services of, an application server such as WAS. It runs directly on top of the operating system.
27.	T	Is WDI 3.3 an Eclipse-based product? No. WDI Client is a Windows C++ application.
28.	T	How does WDI fit into my SOA? WDI can be used in a SOA in multiple ways: The easiest ways typically use the WDI Java API (a JNI API). This API is similar to the C++ API that has been part of WDI since 2001. In pure web services environment, the procedure usually begins with the definition of a web service that meets

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		your requirements, for example a "SendPoToTradingPartner" service. After creating your WSDL in a development tool such as IBM's Rational Software Architect (RSA), or Rational Application Developer (RAD), you can instruct to the tool to generate a skeleton web service with a Java POJO (plain old Java program) implementation. Then you would edit the skeleton to call WDI as required via the Java API.

In a WebSphere Process Server (WPS) environment the process is basically the same, but you have more options: You would start by creating a Service Component Architecture (SCA) component with a Java implementation. Define the interface as required and export it. Bind the interface as required using any of WPS's supported bindings (web service, JMS queue, HTTP, etc.), or adapters (file, etc.). Generate a skeleton Java program for the SCA component and edit the skeleton code to call WDI via the Java API. |
| 29. | T | Whom can I contact for if I have additional technical questions?

Please contact Support per the answer to Question 5. |