



THE COVAST EBMS ADAPTER FOR MICROSOFT BIZTALK SERVER DATA SHEET

EBMS – AN INTRODUCTION

The ebXML Message Service (ebMS) is part of the ebXML set of standards for doing electronic business.

The ebXML Message Service defines the message enveloping and header document schema used to transfer ebXML messages over a communications protocol such as HTTP or SMTP and the behavior of software sending and receiving ebXML messages.

ebMS is used to exchange messages in B2B (business-to-business) scenarios.

At the moment, the most frequently used version of ebMS is 2.0.

COVAST EBMS ADAPTER - ARCHITECTURE

The Covast ebMS Adapter for Microsoft BizTalk Server has been designed and built as a set of pipeline, configuration and monitoring components integrated fully in the BizTalk Server architecture.

An ebMS Send Pipeline takes care of the assembly, enveloping, encryption and signing of messages according to the ebMS 2.0 standard. Actual transport takes place by means of the in-the-box BizTalk HTTP(/s) or SMTP adapters.

On the inbound, the ebMS Receive Pipeline takes care of signature verification, decryption, de-enveloping and disassembly of transactions according to the ebMS 2.0 standard.

Configuration of the ebMS adapter can be done from within the BizTalk Administration console. The adapter has features to import meta data specified as standard ebXML CPA (Collaboration Protocol Agreement) documents. The information stored in these CPA's is used at runtime to apply the right settings to ebMS envelopes and payloads and to verify them on the inbound.

Monitoring of acknowledgements is done through a set of SQL Server stored procedures and an Orchestration and the status of communications is visualized through a dashboard in the BizTalk Administration Console.

Sending and receiving messages using the ebMS adapter can be done by either statically configuring

BizTalk Send Ports and Receive Locations or by invoking and configuring them dynamically from within Orchestrations.

Messages and status are tracked in the ebMS Audit Trail, a SQL Server database, exposed via the BizTalk Administration Console.

COVAST EBMS ADAPTER - FEATURES

The ebMS adapter supports the following 2.0 mandatory requirements:

- ebXML Message packaging
- ebXML SOAP Envelope Extensions
- Error Handling
- Security (Encryption and Signatures)
- SyncReply
- Ping/Pong service status inquiry

The following ebMS 2.0 optional features are supported as well:

- Reliable Messaging
- Message Status Services
- Guaranteed Message Order

The ebMS adapter can be used in combination with the following BizTalk Server Transport Adapters:

- HTTP(/s)
- SMTP/POP3 (email)

Both synchronous and asynchronous handling of messages and acknowledgements are supported.

THE TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

The Covast ebMS Adapter has been designed to run on Microsoft BizTalk Server 2006 and R2 and SQL Server 2005. Any requirements defined for these products apply to the ebMS adapter as well.

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