Nick Garrod: Mobile devices, you see them everywhere. They're the proliferation of data coming from exponential data workloads and we need backend servers like CICS to serve this information in a quality and dependable way. Now I'm joined here by Indi who is from the CICS development team in the UK and I'd just like to ask you Indi, how does CICS get information held in CICS to these sort of devices?

Indi Singh: Sure, thank you. It's actually quite quick really. We tend to suggest that you use something like IBM Worklight as a stopgap but that's not even really necessary. Really the key is to web service enable your CICS applications so that there exposes json services. Now that json can then just be consumed by any JavaScript application which you might write on your mobile.

NG: So the key here really is this support within CICS now called...

IS: json web services, that's right.

NG: And then that talks to - CICS is on a backend server, we've got a mobile device at the other end, and Worklight sits between the two.

IS: Worklight there really sits in the middle. It understands how to communicate with CICS and then exposes that data that it gets from CICS to the mobile apps that you may be running.

NG: And there are toolkits available to help you develop these applications?

IS: There are. IBM Worklight itself actually has the development environment which you can use to generate these.

NG: And then from the CICS end is the configuration simple?
IS: Anyone who knows existing web services, it’s exactly the same. There’s a tiny change of a few characters in some JCL and CICS goes and handles the rest for you.

NG: So just for people who are not familiar with CICS, what kind of things might you see on a mobile device that actually has really come from CICS at the backend that would normally have been handled by perhaps a green screen or something?

IS: Well, possibilities are endless really. It could be anything from a transaction going between businesses, changes of purchasing products, it could be bank accounts, it could be details, it could be purchasing airline tickets, it could be, really any data could be stored in CICS and you could be seeing that coming through on a mobile device.

NG: So it could just be extending existing CICS applications?

IS: Or making new ones.

NG: Thank you very much.

IS: You’re welcome Nick.