

WebSphere Partner Gateway (WPG) 6.1 FAQ – February 19, 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	<p>What are the new features in WPG 6.1?</p> <p>Specific new functions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ebXML Messaging Service Specification (ebMS 2.0) (Drummond-certified) ▪ ebXML Collaborative Partner Profile Agreement (CPA) ▪ EDIINT AS3 ▪ CIDX Chem eStandards (Version 4) ▪ SOAP with attachments ▪ Generalized XPATH ▪ Improved terminology ▪ Search on user-defined fields ▪ Trading partner profile import/export capability ▪ Enhanced non-repudiation support ▪ Enhanced archiving support ▪ Role-based resend capability ▪ EDI configuration wizards ▪ Enhanced accessibility ▪ Enhanced reliability, availability and serviceability ▪ Improved large file handling ▪ Improved performance ▪ Support for additional platforms ▪ Support for newer versions of middleware ▪ Integration with WebSphere Transformation Extender and Trading Manager ▪ WebSphere Application Server Network Deployment (WAS ND) bundling and support ▪ Support for Single Sign-on through LDAP-based directory integration ▪ IPv6 support ▪ Support for IBM Education Assistant ▪ Support for IBM Support Assistant
2.	B	<p>How do new customers get WPG 6.1?</p> <p>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).</p> <p>http://www-306.ibm.com/software/howtobuy/passportadvantage/</p>
3.	B	<p>How do existing WPG or WebSphere Business Integration Connect (WBIC) customers get WPG 6.1?</p> <p>Passport Advantage customers with active software maintenance coverage can request upgrades "on demand." Whenever an upgrade (announced version or</p>

ID	Type	Question
		<p>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.</p> <p>eNotification Process: eNotification messages are sent out weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly (default is monthly). Customers can choose which notification frequency they prefer.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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) log on to Passport Advantage Online and navigate to review all maintenance upgrades available.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The weekly eNotification messages are sent every 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.</p>
4.	B	<p>How does one get support for WPG 6.1?</p> <p>Support contact phone numbers, by country, are available through http://www.ibm.com/planetwide/</p> <p>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.</p> <p>WPG falls under Passport Advantage:</p> <p>http://www-306.ibm.com/software/howtobuy/passportadvantage/</p>
5.	B	<p>During the migration period from WPG 6.0 or WBIC 4.2, how does one get support for both versions?</p> <p>Customers with current maintenance support contracts are entitled to support on both versions. For migration problems, customers should seek support under WPG 6.1.</p>
6.	B	<p>What are the End of Support (EOS) dates for previous WBIC versions?</p>

ID	Type	Question
		WBIC 4.2.2 – 4/30/2008 WBIC 4.2.3 – 4/30/2008
7.	B	<p>Are IBM services available to support migration?</p> <p>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 WPG 6.1. 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.</p> <p>Additional information on ISSW services is available through: http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/services/contacts.html</p>
8.	B	<p>Is there training available to conduct a migration from WPG 6.0 or WBIC 4.2 to WPG 6.1?</p> <p>Yes, IBM Software Services for WebSphere (ISSW) offers customized training for preparing customers to migrate to WPG 6.1.</p> <p>Additional information on ISSW services is available through: http://www-128.ibm.com/developerworks/websphere/services/contacts.html</p>
9.	B	<p>Is there training available on the new functions in WPG 6.1?</p> <p>Yes, courses BI154 (WebSphere Partner Gateway Implementation) and BI155 (WebSphere Partner Gateway Advanced Topics) will cover new functions in WPG 6.1. Additional information on IBM training is available through:</p> <p>http://www.ibm.com/products/finder/us/finders?pg=trfinder</p> <p>Self-training on new features is also available through the IBM Education Assistant.</p>
10.	B	<p>Whom can I contact for if I have additional business questions?</p> <p>Please contact Joe Kaczmarek (Global Sales Executive, WebSphere B2B Integration, IBM Software Group) at joe.kaczmarek@us.ibm.com should you have any further business questions.</p>
11.	T	<p>Which ebXML functions does WPG 6.1 support?</p> <p>The ebXML specifications consist of 5 separate specifications. The Messaging Service specifications define a method for exchanging eBusiness messages. The Collaboration Protocol Profile and Agreements define a way for trading partners to exchange technical capabilities and expectations. The Business Process Specification Schemas define standardized and interoperable business processes for use by trading partners. The Registry Repository specifications define</p>

ID	Type	Question
		<p>services for registering, locating, and accessing information about trading partners and their capabilities. The Core Components specifications provide building blocks to be used in defining eBusiness messages.</p> <p>WPG supports the ebXML specifications that fall in the domain of a B2B Gateway product. These are the Messaging Service Specification (ebMS 2.0) allowing WPG customers to exchange ebXML messages, and the Collaborative Partner Profile Agreement (CPA) which allows WPG customers to import the capabilities and expectations of their trading partners. WPG has been certified by Drummond for interoperability according to the ebMS 2.0 specification.</p> <p>Further, WPG 6.1 includes Drummond Group certification for the following ebXML Profiles:</p> <p>The Basic profile, designed to exercise all ebMS Core features.</p> <p>XML Encryption Profile, designed to test message-based encryption. The technical details of this profile are based on requirements and methods originally defined by the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) which uses ebMS in its Public Health Information Network applications.</p> <p>Automotive Retail Profile, based upon requirements and recommendations from the STAR consortium (Standards for Technology in Automotive Retail), which includes testing of gzip-based compression.</p>
12.	T	<p>Since EDIINT AS3 is now supported, when would I use EDIINT AS3 rather than AS1 or AS2?</p> <p>There are three EDIINT standards: AS1 (Applicability Statement 1 for SMTP protocol), AS2 (Applicability Statement 2 for HTTP protocol), and AS3 (Applicability Statement 3 for FTP Protocol). The AS1 uses email attachments with S/MIME (Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) encryption and security over SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol); AS2 provides S/MIME encryption over HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol); while AS3 provides S/MIME encryption over FTP (File Transfer Protocol) in a client/server model manner.</p> <p>AS3 is the most appropriate protocol to use for large file transfer. It transfers large amounts of data very efficiently. Batch type scenarios work very well with AS3 (FTP). Since it is not "synchronous" or "interactive", and the set up time for a connection is somewhat long compared to other protocols, it is usually not appropriate for applications where many small messages are sent, particularly if a synchronous reply message is required. A good example AS3 scenario is where the trading partner requests that you deposit a single file containing all the documents destined for that partner on their server at 10 pm each day.</p>
13.	T	<p>What support for CIDX business messages and transport protocol is provided in WPG 6.1?</p> <p>The Chemical Industry Data Exchange (CIDX) consortium has developed an XML implementation entitled Chem eStandards. It contains business process</p>

ID	Type	Question
		<p>guidelines (UML diagrams), message specifications (XML Schemas), and envelope and security specifications (which leverage RNIF 1.1 over HTTP/HTTPS). CIDX has currently defined approximately 60 messages.</p> <p>WPG 6.1 adds support for v3.0 of the Chem eStandards envelope & security specifications and v4.0 of the Chem eStandards message specifications, and two message-based packages (E41 Order Create and E42 Order Response) are provided as templates. Further, customers may build packages for additional messages.</p>
14.	T	<p>When would one use the new SOAP with attachments feature, and what are its benefits?</p> <p>SOAP is a lightweight protocol intended for exchanging structured information in a decentralized, distributed environment using XML technologies, and an extensible messaging framework. The framework has been designed to be independent of any particular programming model and other implementation specific semantics.</p> <p>A restriction of SOAP messages is that they can contain only XML encoded information within the envelope. To handle non-XML data, a SOAP message is transmitted together with attachments. The attachments can be almost any type of information ranging from facsimile images of legal documents to engineering drawings. Such data are often in some binary format. For example, most images on the Internet are transmitted using either GIF or JPEG data formats. The SOAP with attachments specification describes a standard way to associate a SOAP message with one or more attachments in their native format in a multipart MIME structure for transport. SOAP with Attachments (SwA) also refers to the method of using Web Services to send and receive files using a combination of SOAP and MIME, primarily over HTTP.</p> <p>Support for using SOAP with attachments has been added in WPG 6.1 based on the SOAP with attachments specification 1.1. This is now available via pass-through action over HTTP/S. Similarly, support for web services compliant to WS-I Attachments Profile version 1.0 has also been added. Consequently, the user can now upload a WSDL with MIME Bindings for attachments support as specified in WSDL 1.1 and WS-I Attachment Profile 1.0 specifications.</p>
15.	T	<p>What is generalized XPATH, when would I use it, and how does it compare to the XPATH support in WPG 6.0?</p> <p>WPG 6.0 had some limitations relative to its XPATH support, and the document type had to be determined based upon the root element of the document. This caused some problems when sophisticated XPATH statements were required to determine things like the sender, receiver or document ID. The fact that the document type was determined solely by the name of the root element also caused problems when multiple trading partners sent in XML documents conforming to different schemas, but using the same root element name (e.g. <PurchaseOrder>).</p> <p>Full XPATH support has been added in WPG 6.1, so customers now have the full</p>

ID	Type	Question
		power of XPATH at their disposal when designating elements within an XML document such and sender and receiver ID elements. Also the document type can now be determined based upon any element in the message.
16.	T	<p>How and why would one use the “Search on User Defined fields” function?</p> <p>The interface to the WPG 6.0 message repository was somewhat technical, requiring users to understand the details of the B2B protocols to be able to find messages of interest. The new user defined fields function allows the customer to create more of a business view of the message repository by designating fields within messages (for example purchase order or invoice number) which should be searchable in the message store. That way a business oriented user, such as a buyer, can find out what happened to their purchase order by directly searching on the purchase order number in WPG.</p>
17.	T	<p>What is the benefit of the trading partner profile import/export capability?</p> <p>In WPG 6.0, there wasn’t an easy way to move configuration artifacts from one WPG system to another. This made it cumbersome to do things like promote artifacts (e.g. trading partners) from test to production. The new trading partner profile migration capability allows the user to easily move artifacts from one system to another via a command line utility. It also has a published Java API, so that customers can write programs to automate common tasks like promoting from test to production.</p>
18.	T	<p>When would one use the enhanced non-repudiation by trading partner and/or document type function?</p> <p>In organizations which process thousands of transactions an hour, saving the images of all inbound messages for non-repudiation purposes can require large amounts of disk space, increase network traffic (in the case of NAS), and reduce throughput. Typically, not all types messages (and not all messages of a particular type) need non-repudiation support. Since non-repudiation was controlled at a global level in WPG 6.0, customers had to save either all inbound messages or none at all. The new release provides a finer grain of control over which documents are saved for non-repudiation purposes. Non-repudiation can now be applied by trading partner or by document type.</p>
19.	T	<p>What is the benefit of the new Selective Archiving function?</p> <p>When archiving from the database in WPG 6.0, there was basically only one criterion that could be used to specify which messages to archive; “messages sent/received before this date”. Many customers see WPG as a step in multiple distinct business processes (e.g. CRM vs. SCM, etc.), and need to be able to archive data separately according to which business process it supports. The new release provides a finer grain of control over which documents will be archived.</p>
20.	T	<p>What is the role-based resend capability, and when would one use it?</p>

ID	Type	Question
		<p>The enhancements allows the hub administrator to assign/delegate the authority to resend documents to other roles roles/users. For example, within a company, buyers in the purchasing department may be authorized only to resend documents to suppliers without being able to administer WPG in any other way.</p>
21.	T	<p>What are the benefits of the EDI configuration wizards, and when would one use them?</p> <p>The EDI configuration wizards may be used to define and configure the document flows that are required to set-up an EDI connection. The wizards simplify the work needed to set-up an EDI connection. They should be used whenever importing maps from the DIS Client, and when creating the document flows for a new EDI transaction.</p>
22.	T	<p>What are the performance enhancements in WPG 6.1?</p> <p>The changes in WPG 6.1 improve performance by supporting increased throughput and improved use of server and network resources. However, please note that the magnitude of performance improvement will vary based upon each configuration and environment.</p>
23.	T	<p>What are the benefits of using WebSphere Application Server Network Deployment (WAS ND) support?</p> <p>In general, WPG 6.1 bundles WAS ND to provide enhanced manageability and deployability.</p> <p>In particular, the WAS ND Deployment Manager may be used to support efficient installation and deployment of WPG components on multiple machines, consolidated management (logging, tracing, thread management) may be leveraged via a single WAS ND Console, component-level clustering may be leveraged to provide centralized management, high availability and load balancing support reduces the risk of a single point of failure and provides first-failure data capture to report and analyze problems in multiple machine deployments, WebSphere Platform Messaging (WPM) (common infrastructure messaging) may be leveraged to support inter-component and inter-application communication, and common WAS ND skills and resources in an organization may also be leveraged to support WPG.</p>
24.	T	<p>What are the benefits of Single Sign-on through LDAP-based user directory integration?</p> <p>To simplify the management of users, some customers use LDAP-based authentication and single sign-on for all their authentication requirements in the J2EE environment. This gives them a single place to go to when managing users for all their J2EE applications. WPG 6.1 adds support for the use of LDAP. WPG leverages and integrates with WAS-supported user directory and repository applications.</p>
25.	T	<p>What are the benefits of using WAS tracing facilities for WPG 6.1?</p>

ID	Type	Question
		<p>WPG 6.0 had its own facilities for tracing. This required the customer to acquire skills in using the WPG trace facility. WPG 6.1 uses the tracing facilities of WAS, so the customer can leverage the skills they already have in using the WAS trace facility. This also makes it easier to correlate the trace information from WPG with the trace information from other related applications that use the WAS tracing facility.</p>
26.	T	<p>What is the IBM Education Assistant?</p> <p>The IBM Education Assistant is a resource which integrates narrated presentations, tutorials, and resource links to help customers successfully use IBM software. It allows them to find critical information they are looking for quickly and in a standardized format. Since it is used for many IBM products, it leverages skill developed in solving problems with other IBM software.</p> <p>For more information, please see http://www-306.ibm.com/software/info/education/assistant/.</p>
27.	T	<p>What is the IBM Support Assistant?</p> <p>The IBM Support Assistant is a free local software serviceability workbench that helps you resolve questions and problems with IBM software products. It provides quick access to support-related information along with serviceability tools for problem determination.</p> <p>For more information, please see http://www-306.ibm.com/software/support/isa/.</p>
28.	T	<p>How does one migrate from earlier versions (WBIC 4.2 or WPG 6.0) to WPG 6.1?</p> <p>WPG 6.1 comes with migration utilities that allow the customer to migrate from WBIC 4.2 or WPG 6.0 to WPG 6.1. Just follow the steps in the Installation Guide. All the configuration artifacts, such as trading partners, capabilities, connections, etc. will be migrated.</p>
29.	T	<p>Can one concurrently operate both WPG 6.0 and WPG 6.1 on the same machine?</p> <p>Yes, from a technical perspective, both WPG 6.0 and WPG 6.1 can coexist on the same machine.</p>
30.	T	<p>When migrating from WPG 6.0 to WPG 6.1, does one have to re-compile the maps created using the DIS Client?</p> <p>No, it is not necessary to recompile the maps. The transformation engine in WPG 6.1 is backward compatible with the transformation engine in WPG 6.0.</p>
31.	T	<p>How would one back-out WPG 6.1 and resume using WPG 6.0?</p>

ID	Type	Question
		Restore the WPG 6.0 database using the backup you created just before migrating to WPG 6.1. Reinstall WPG 6.0. Apply any fixpacks that you were using. Configure WPG 6.0 to use the restored database.
32.	T	<p>How does one integrate WPG 6.1 with WDI or WTX?</p> <p>Please see instructions for integrating WPG 6.1 with WDI and WTX are included in the WebSphere Business Integration Information Center under the Partner Gateway Enterprise and Advanced Editions -> Configuring and Customizing -> Enterprise Integration Guide topic.</p> <p>WPG may be integrated with WDI using a JMS/WMQ Series queue, and WPG may be integrated with WTX using a User Exit or using WTX Extender for Message Broker.</p>
33.	T	<p>How does one integrate WPG 6.1 with WMB?</p> <p>Instructions for integrating WPG 6.1 with WMB are included in the WebSphere Business Integration Information Center under the Partner Gateway Enterprise and Advanced Editions -> Configuring and Customizing -> Enterprise Integration Guide topic. Typically, the integration is based upon 2 or more WMQ queues.</p>
34.	T	<p>How does one integrate WPG with IBM Tivoli Monitor or WebSphere Business Monitor?</p> <p>WPG can generate Common Base Events (CBE) which may be collected, processed and viewed in monitoring applications such as the IBM Tivoli Monitor or WebSphere Business Monitor.</p> <p>Please See http://www-306.ibm.com/software/tivoli/features/cei/ for more information on Common Base Events (CBE) and Common Event Infrastructure (CEI).</p>
35.	T	<p>Is WPG 6.1 an Eclipse-based product?</p> <p>Eclipse is a rich graphical development environment that is used extensively in IBM build-time tooling. The build-time tooling of WPG is not graphical and does not require the power of a rich graphical environment. Therefore it has been implemented as web browser application for the convenience of the user. Web browser applications are light weight and do not have to be installed, which allows them to be accessed from anywhere a browser is available. Versioning and maintenance is not a problem either, because all users run the same version which resides on the server, rather than what is installed on their desktop computer. IBM may in the future decide to re-implement the build-time componentry of WPG as an Eclipse plug-in if it becomes apparent that there are advantages to the customer in doing so.</p>
36.	T	How does WPG fit into my SOA?

ID	Type	Question
		<p>WPG can participate in, and fully support, a SOA implementation.</p> <p>WPG supports Web Services and can function in a SOA by integrating with WebSphere Enterprise Service Bus (WESB) or WebSphere Message Broker (WMB). In addition, WPG integrates with WebSphere Process Server (WPS) within the context of enterprise business process management.</p> <p>Instructions for using WPG 6.1 with WPS are included in the WebSphere Business Integration Information Center under the Partner Gateway Enterprise and Advanced Editions -> Configuring and Customizing -> Enterprise Integration Guide -> Integrating With WebSphere Process Server topic.</p>
37.	T	<p>What are the benefits of the Multiple Hub Administrators function, and when would one use it?</p> <p>With WPG 6.1, the hub administrator role may be shared by multiple people, each with a unique user ID and password. This allows multiple administrators to share the administrative responsibilities of the hub administrator role, supports separation of duties within the hub administrator role, and allows multiple hub administrators not to have to share a single user ID and password.</p>
38.	T	<p>Whom can I contact for if I have additional technical questions?</p> <p>Please feel free to contact Support. Contact information for Support is included in the answer to Question 4.</p>