AMQ RFC008
AMQ Terminology

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iMatix Corporation <amq@imatix.com>

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1.1 State of this Document

This document is a request for comments. Distribution of this document is currently limited to iMatix and JPMorgan internal use.

This document describes a work in progress. This document is a formal standard. This document is ready for review.

1.2 Copyright Notice

1.3 Authors

This document was written by Pieter Hintjens <ph@imatix.com>.

1.4 Abstract

We list the words that have a special technical or functional meaning within the context of the AMQ RFCs, source code, and other documents. These terms are assumed to be understood by all serious users of the product.

2 Terminology

AMQ A standard architecture and protocol for message queueing middleware.

AMQP The Advanced Message Queuing Protocol. AMQP provides applications with a simple, reliable, high-performance, and asynchronous way to exchange information across a Service Oriented Area Network (SOAN).

SOAN (Service Oriented Area Network) A set of applications, clients and servers that work together as a coordinated information processing system. In a SOAN, resources are made available to participants in the network as independent services that are accessed in a standard way.

Application A data processing application, the principle user of SOAN services (SOAN services also use each other internally).

Destination An abstract data store that can act variously as a queue, topic, table, and so on. Applications communicate by talking to destinations (rather than directly to each other).

Service A destination subclass that provides a specific service and may as well provide access to data. Services are the intelligence of the SOAN. Application programs can be instantiated as services.

Server A package of destinations and services provided to the rest of the SOAN. A server is an operating system process rather than a system; i.e. one physical box can run many servers.

Client A layer that talks to servers on behalf of an application. Clients can be written in any suitable programming language and are embedded in the application as required.

AMQP URI The syntax by which an application specifies the location of a destination on a SOAN.

Path The leading part of a URI. Within one SOAN, the path defines the server for a destination, and within that server, the virtual location of the destination.

Root Services The services that handle authentication, registration, name translation, and other principal SOAN services.

Root Server The server that provides the root services. There is exactly one root server in a SOAN.

Session A single context in which messages are produced and consumed. Usually a session corresponds to a business process. It is used as the basis for transaction management.

Consumer A channel between a client and a server used for receiving messages from a destination.

Producer A channel between a client and a server used for sending messages to a destination.

Channel A virtual connection between a client and a server. We allow multiple channels to co-exist on a single network connection.

Command The unit of work across a channel. Commands carry messages and control information between clients and destinations.

Message The general form of communication between applications using the SOAN. Applications communicate by sending messages to destinations and asking for messages from destinations.

Request A consumer sends a request for some set of messages from a specific destination. The request defines which messages are wanted, using an implementation-defined request language.

OpenAMQ A multi-platform open source implementation of AMQ.

Kernel In OpenAMQ, the core functionality of the server.

Module An extension that changes the server's functionality in some specific way. Modules can be developed by outside parties and may be included in a server either at compile- or run-time.

Terminal A class of module that handles communications between the kernel and a set of clients. One or more terminals are present in a single server.

Driver A class of module that handles requests for a specific class of destination, or that implements a particular SOAN service. Drivers register on one or more paths.

Dispatcher A class of module responsible for maintaining and resolving requests.

Parser A class of module responsible for analysing messages and requests into matching criteria. An example of a parser would be a parser that can read and analyse XML documents.

3 Comments on this Document

3.1 Date, name

No comments at present.