

Tag and Broadcast Notifications in Hybrid Applications

Relevant to:



Overview

Prerequisite: Make sure to read the [Push Notifications in Hybrid Applications](#) tutorial first.

Tag notifications are notification messages that are targeted to all the devices that are subscribed to a particular tag.

Tags represent topics of interest to the user and provide the ability to receive notifications according to the chosen interest.

Broadcast notifications are a form of tag push notifications that are targeted to all subscribed devices. Broadcast notifications are enabled by default for any push-enabled MobileFirst application by a subscription to a reserved `Push.all` tag (auto-created for every device). Broadcast notifications can be disabled by unsubscribing from the reserved `Push.all` tag.

Agenda

- [Notifications configuration](#)
- [Notifications API](#)

Notifications configuration

Tag Notifications configuration

Setting up tags

Tags are defined in the `application-descriptor.xml` file:

```
<application xmlns="http://www.worklight.com/application-descriptor"
  id="HybridTagNotifications" platformVersion="7.0.0.00.20150312-0731">
  ...
  ...
  ...
  <tags>
    <tag>
      <name>my tag 1</name>
      <description>About my tag 1</description>
    </tag>
    <tag>
      <name>my tag 2</name>
      <description>About my tag 2</description>
    </tag>
  </tags>
```

Notifications API

API methods for tag notifications

Client-side API

- `WL.Client.Push.subscribeTag(tagName, options)` – Subscribes the device to the specified tag name.
- `WL.Client.Push.unsubscribeTag(tagName, options)` – Unsubscribes the device from the specified tag name.
- `WL.Client.Push.isPushSupported()` – Returns `true` if push notifications are supported by the platform, or `false` otherwise.
- `WL.Client.Push.isTagSubscribed(tagName)` – Returns whether the device is subscribed to a specified tag name.

Common API methods for tag and broadcast notifications

Client-side API

`WL.Client.Push.onMessage (props, payload)`

This method is called when a push notification is received by the device.

```
WL.Client.Push.onMessage = function (props, payload) {
    alert("Provider notification data: " + Object.toJSON(props));
    alert("Application notification data: " + Object.toJSON(payload));
}
```

- **props** – A JSON block that contains the notification properties of the platform.
- **payload** – A JSON block that contains other data that is sent from MobileFirst Server. The JSON block also contains the tag name for tag-based or broadcast notification. The tag name appears in the “tag” element. For broadcast notification, the default tag name is `Push.ALL`.

Server-side API

`WL.Server.sendMessage(applicationId, notificationOptions)`

This method submits a notification based on the specified target parameters.

applicationId – (mandatory) The name of the MobileFirst application.

notificationOptions – (mandatory) A JSON block containing message properties.

For more information about tag and broadcast notifications, see the “tag-based notification” and “broadcast notification” topics in the user documentation.

Sample application

[Click to download](#) the MobileFirst project.

The provided sample application demonstrates how to send a broadcast notification to the default auto-subscribed `push.ALL` tag.

The sample also demonstrates how to send notifications to two predefined tags, `sample-tag1` and `sample-tag2`, to which the user can subscribe in the application.

