IBM Software Group

WebSphere MQ V7.0

Overview of Publish / Subscribe

An IBM Proof of Technology

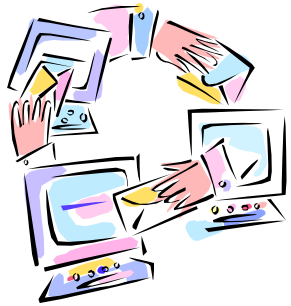
Unit Agenda

- Publish/Subscribe and WebSphere MQ
  - Advantages of Pub/Sub compared to point-to-point
  - Terminology - what are:
    - Topic objects, topic strings, topic space
    - Subscriptions, durable and non-durable
    - Destinations, managed and unmanaged
    - Publications, retained and otherwise
  - Topologies for pub/sub networks
  - Administration overview
- Lab 3 - Pub/Sub Administration using the WebSphere MQ Explorer

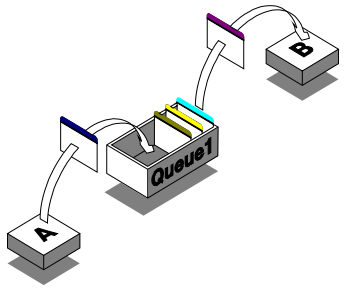
Point to Point Examples

- Post Card
  - Goes to just the person I send it to

- eMail
  - Might go to lots of people but I get to choose exactly who gets it



- Message Queuing
  - If I put a single message it will go to a single consumer



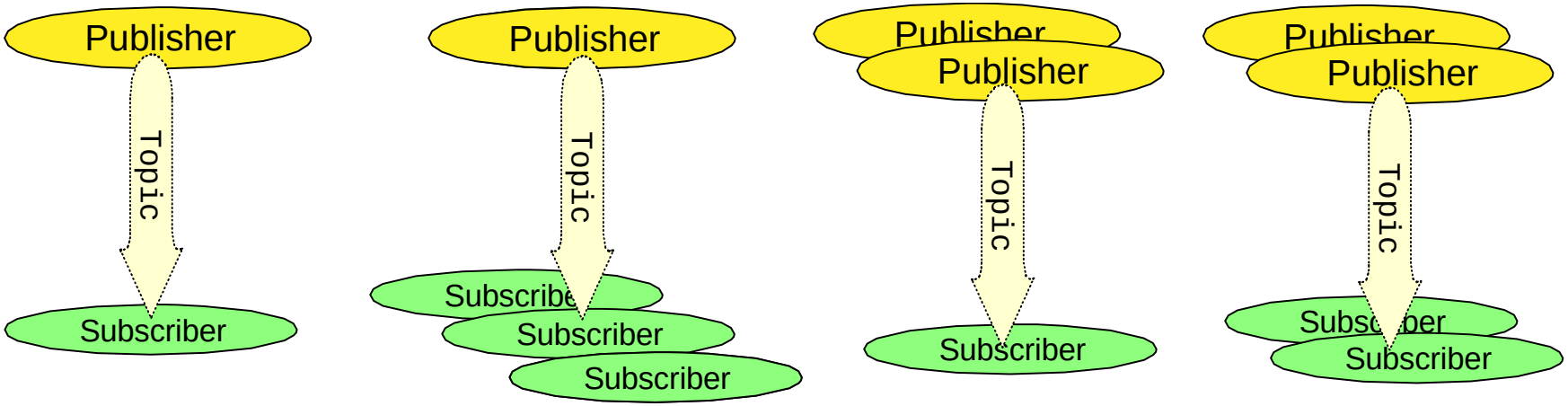
Publish / Subscribe Examples

- Magazine Publishing
  - In the US, over 10,000 titles published

- Airline Departure Boards
  - Boards might display (subscribe to)
    - All departures
    - Departures from this terminal
    - Departures by this airline

- RSS News Feeds

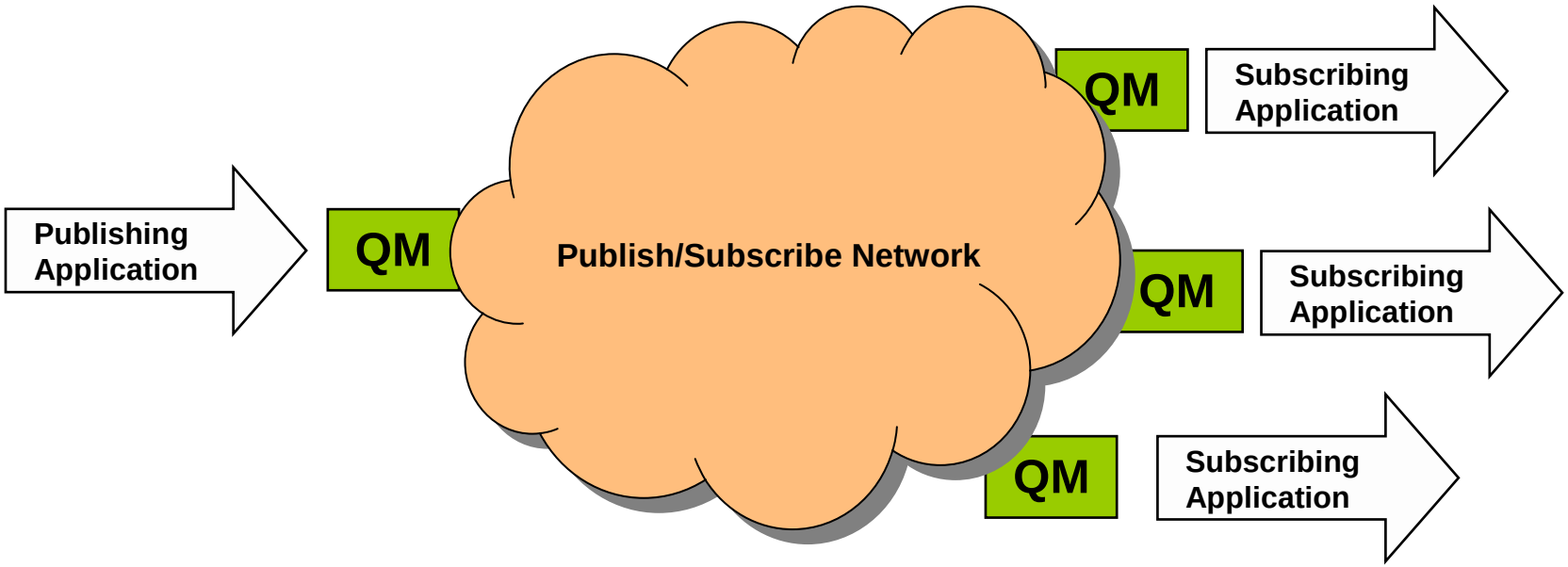
Loose coupling with Pub/Sub



WebSphere MQ Implementation of Publish/Subscribe

- Central concept is the *TOPIC STRING*
- Messages are “published” to a Topic string
  - Each act of publishing is to a single Topic string
- Subscribers are delivered messages that were published to the Topic string(s) they registered an interest in (subscribed to)
  - Subscribers may register interest in multiple topics
  - Wildcards can be used to filter topic names
  - Selectors can be used to filter message properties
- Topic strings can be created and secured administratively, or dynamically by simply being referenced by publishers and subscribers

Publish/Subscribe applications

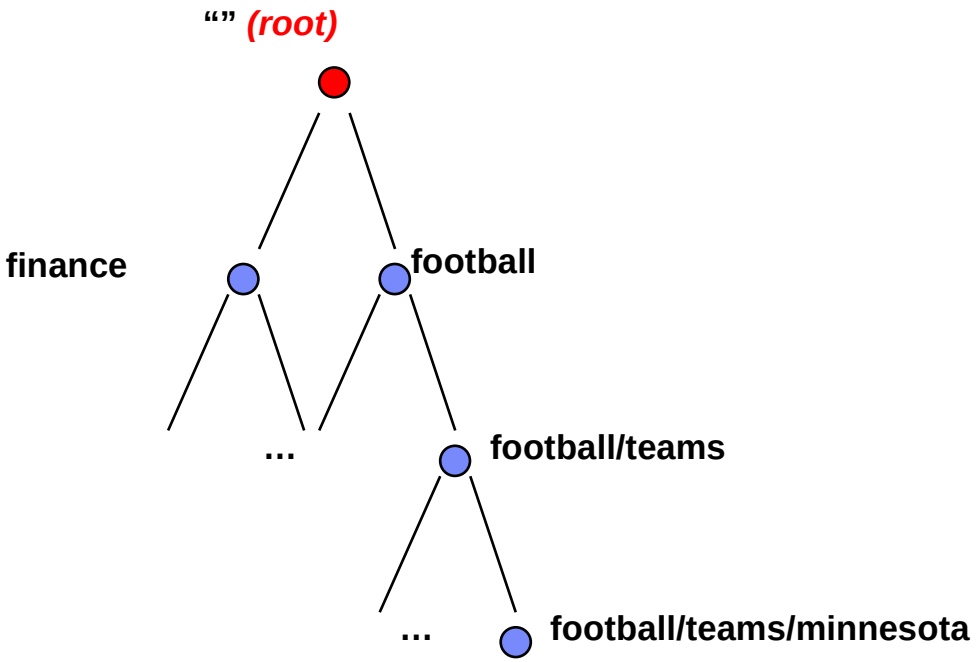


- Applications connect to local queue managers
- They can be different queue managers connected by a network.
- Can use JMS as well as any MQ API
- They are “connected” through a *topic string*

Concepts – Topic String

- A Topic *string* is an unlimited length string
- A topic string “connects” publishers and subscribers
- Has a “structure” and a semantics in it
  - The structure is supplied by the “/” slash character
  - Similar to directory structure on UNIX® or Windows®
    - e.g. ***”/news/sports/football/teams/minnesota”***
- The semantics are implied by the use of wildcards in subscriptions
  - “#” and ‘+’ are used as wildcard characters in subscriptions
    - e.g. ***”/news/+/football/#”***

Concepts – Topic Tree

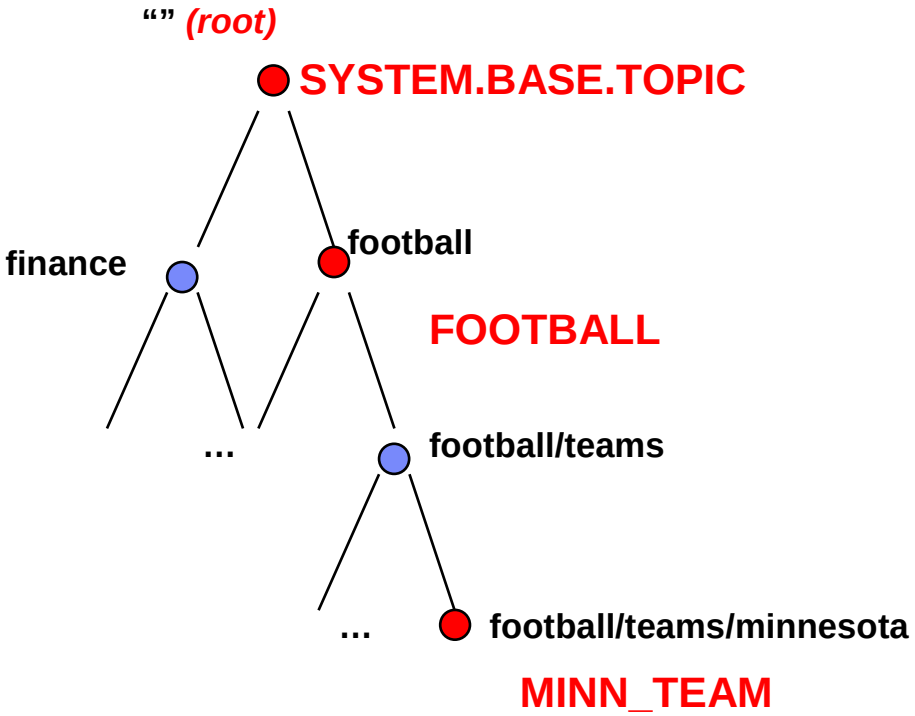


- A topic tree is an internal representation of the topic hierarchy
- It has a root node at the very top
- It is implied from the complete set of topic strings in use - defined, published to, subscribed to.
- There is ***not necessarily*** a one-to-one mapping between topic *objects* and *nodes* in the tree

Concepts – Topic Object

- A Topic *Object* is a WebSphere MQ object that can be administered
- A Topic Object has a name following the same rules as other WebSphere MQ objects (Queues etc)
- The Topic *String* is one of the properties of a Topic Object
  - Topic Objects can have other properties set
- Security can be applied to Topic Objects
- Application programs using the MQI can use the topic object as a full or partial alternative to topic string when publishing or subscribing
  - JMS programs would use the Destination object, which maps to a Topic or Queue object in WebSphere MQ

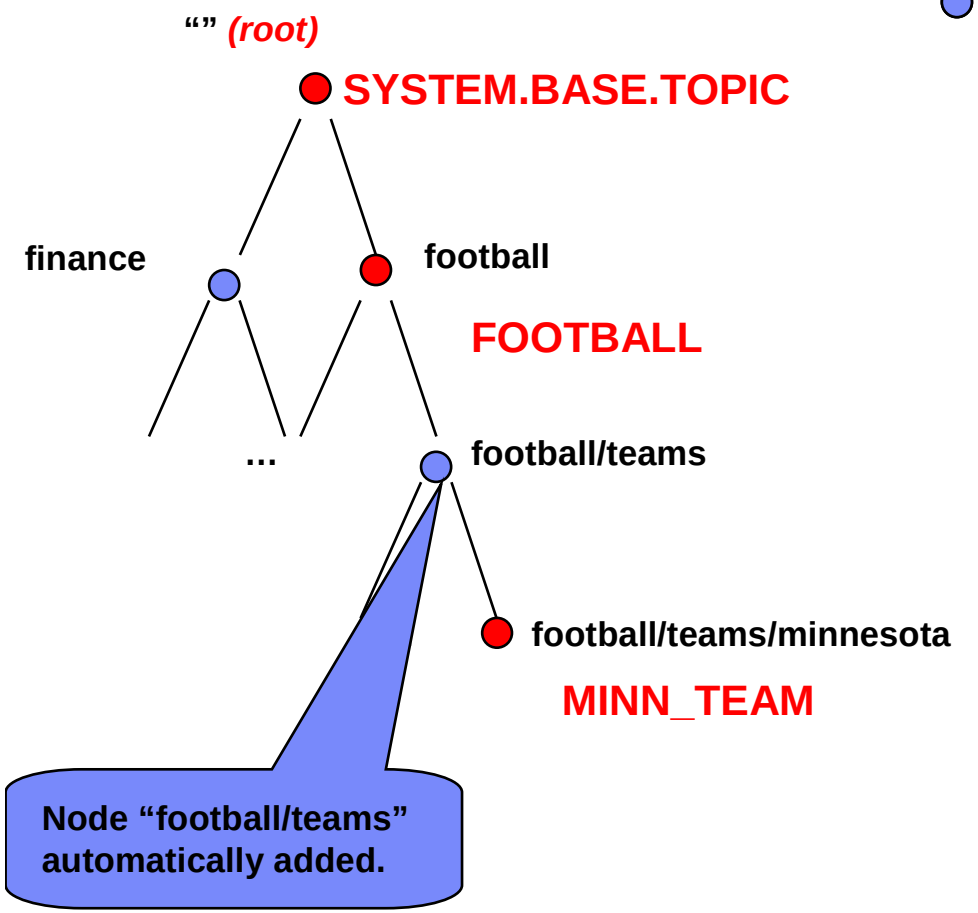
Concepts – Topic Tree



- Nodes which have topic objects defined for them can be thought of as *administered nodes*
- They are permanent parts of the hierarchy
- They can have properties specified for them
- They have topic object names, which need not reflect the topic strings

DEFINE TOPIC(FOOTBALL) TOPICSTR('football')

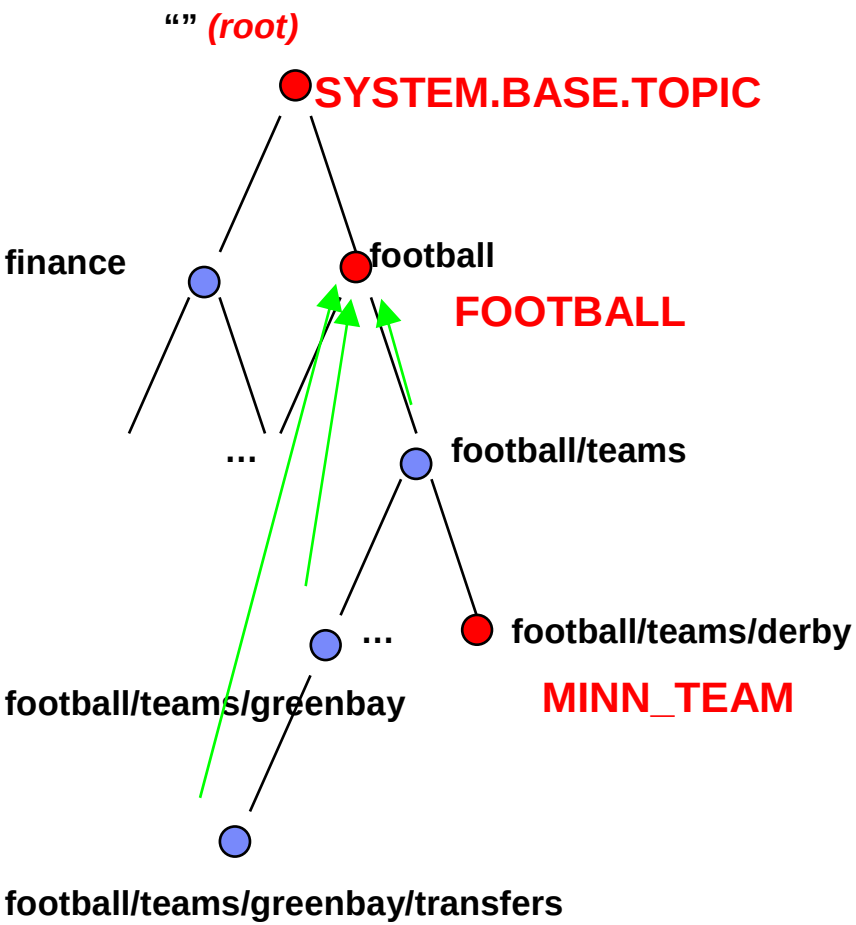
Concepts – Topic Tree



- **Admin node**
- **Non-admin node**

- The Topic Tree can be dynamically extended by a publisher and/or subscriber
  - Any missing parts of the tree hierarchy will be "filled in" when administered nodes are defined
- Dynamically added nodes in the Topic Tree inherit all properties from their parent, i.e. from an administered node above them

Concepts – Topic Tree



- **Admin node**
- **Non-admin node**

- Publishing or subscribing to a topic string that is not yet in the tree causes the tree to be extended
- They are temporary parts of the hierarchy and will be removed when no remaining publishers or subscribers exist
- These nodes inherit all properties from their parent, and so from an administered node above them

MQSUB('/football/teams/greenbay/transfers')

Concept - Subscriptions

- A subscription is to a *topic string*
  - Wildcards can be used to set them up, but in essence they are to a topic string
  - Corresponds to a node in the topic tree
- Subscriptions can be *durable*, or not
  - Non-durable subscriptions mean messages are delivered to you only while you are connected
  - Messages for durable subscriptions are delivered even when disconnected, and can be retrieved when you next connect
- Subscription destinations can be *managed*, or not
  - With a managed destination a subscription queue is automatically created when you create a subscription, and is tidied up automatically in accordance with the durability of the subscription
  - With an unmanaged destination, you specify your own queue at the time the subscription is opened
- Subscriptions can be registered programmatically or administratively

Concept - Retained Publications

- Most recent message published on a given topic
  - Each node on the topic tree can have at most **one** Retained Publication
- Whether a publication is “retained” is determined at publish time by the application program
- A subscriber can request, at anytime, the current retained publication for a given topic
- Example *StockPrice.CurrentPrice* is a retained publication
  - I can be notified whenever it changes – ticker tape
  - Or I can request it at any time

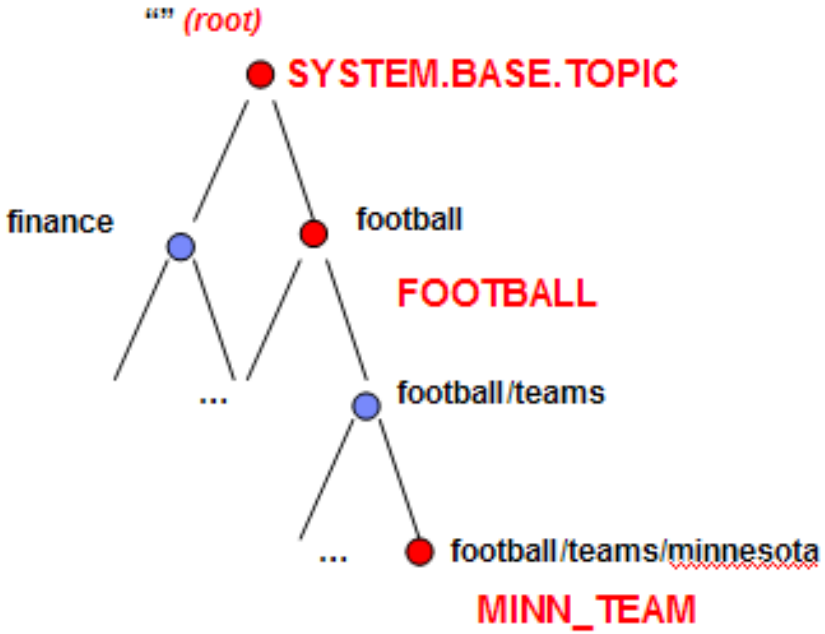
Administered Subscription

- Has a name conforming to usual MQ rules
  - Sample attributes
    - **TOPICSTR** – Topic string, basically unlimited length

      TOPICSTR('/football/teams/#')
    - **DEST** – Name of object to which messages for this subscription will be forwarded

      DEST(MY.QUEUE)
    - **DESTQMGR** – Remote queue manager to which messages are forwarded

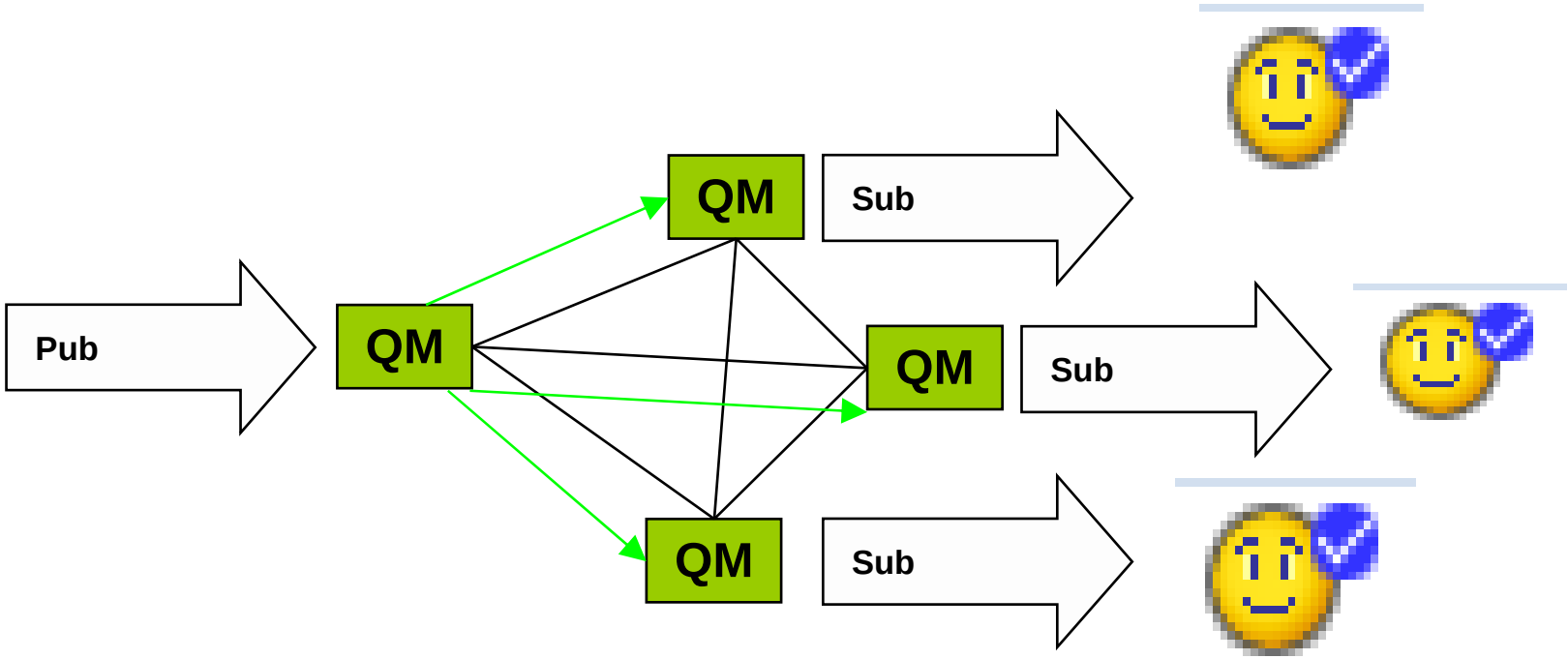
      DESTQMGR(REMOTE.QMGR)



Distributed Pub/Sub Topologies

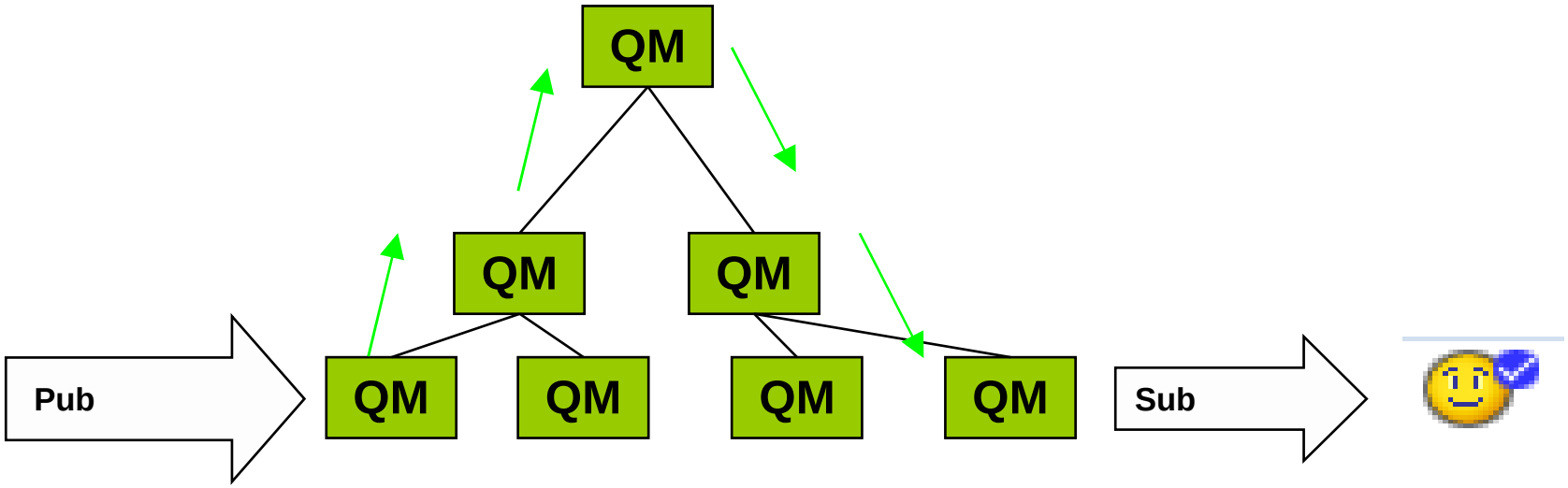
- Two types of distributed Pub/Sub topologies are supported
  - Publish/Subscribe *Clusters*
    - Queue managers are connected using a “network” or “mesh” connectivity model
    - MQ Clustering technology is used to provide connectivity between participating queue managers
    - Publications from any queue manager in the cluster may be subscribed to by any other
    - Enables multiple paths for publications, can eliminate single points of failure
  - Publish/Subscribe *Hierarchies*
    - Queue managers are arranged in a Parent/Child Hierarchy
    - Each Queue manager may have only one Parent
    - Queue managers may exchange Pub/Sub information directly between only their parent or children
    - This approach may require multiple hops and/or create single points of failure
- A Publish/Subscribe network can be created that combines both of these topologies

Example of a Publish/Subscribe Cluster

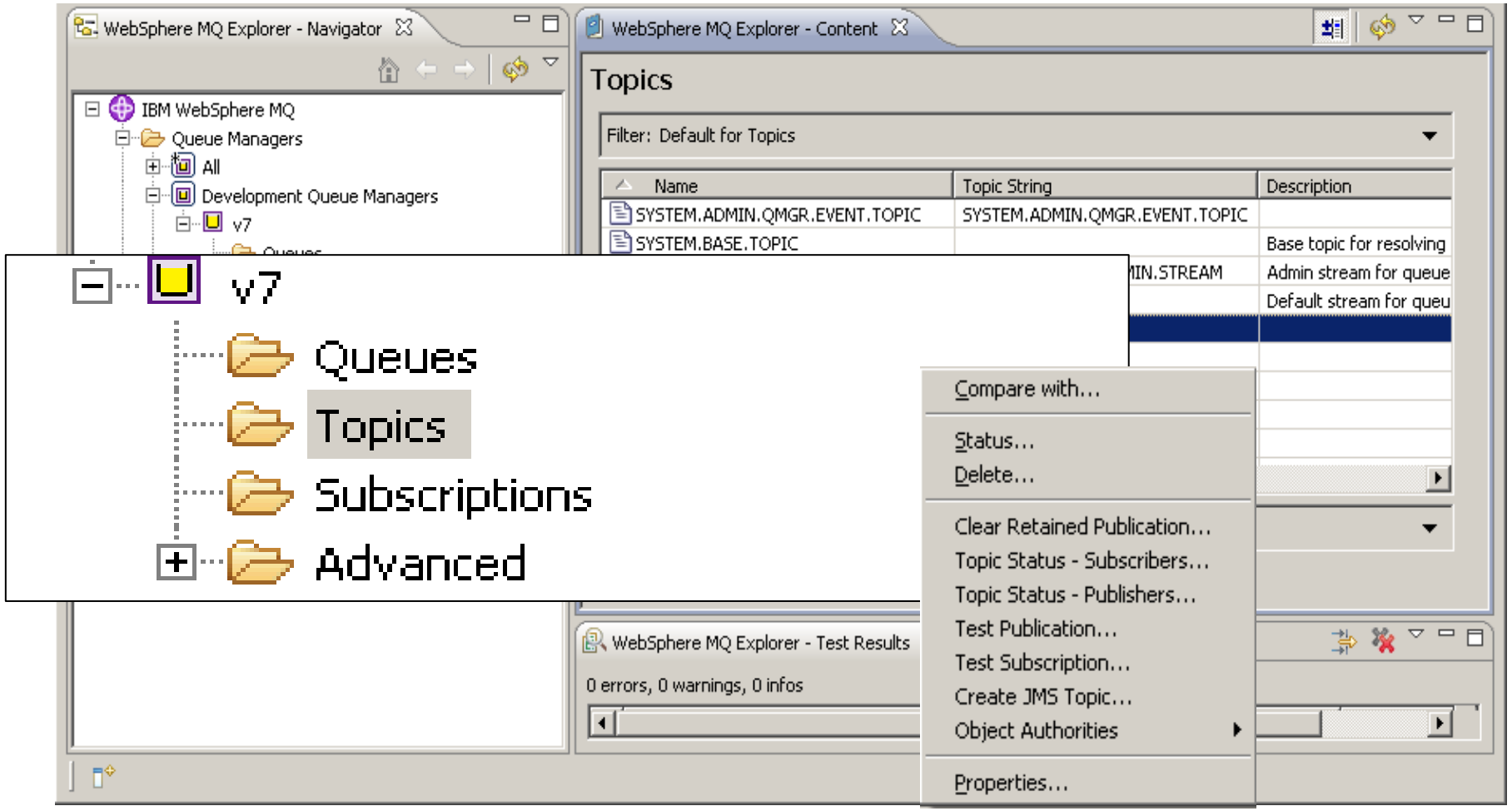


- **Consistent definitions in cluster**
- **Multiple routes across cluster**

Example of a Publish/Subscribe Hierarchy

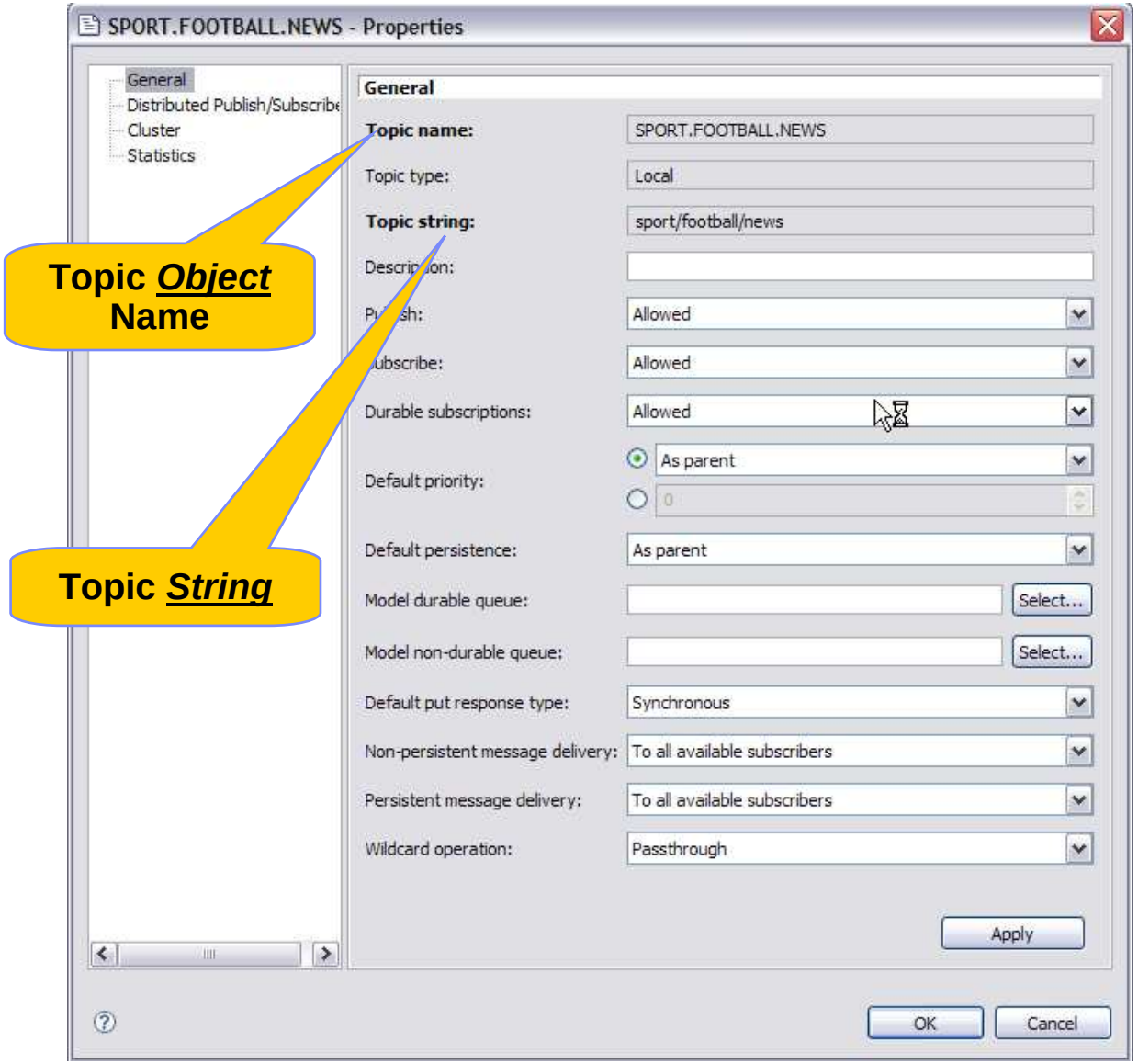


Publish/Subscribe in the WebSphere MQ Explorer



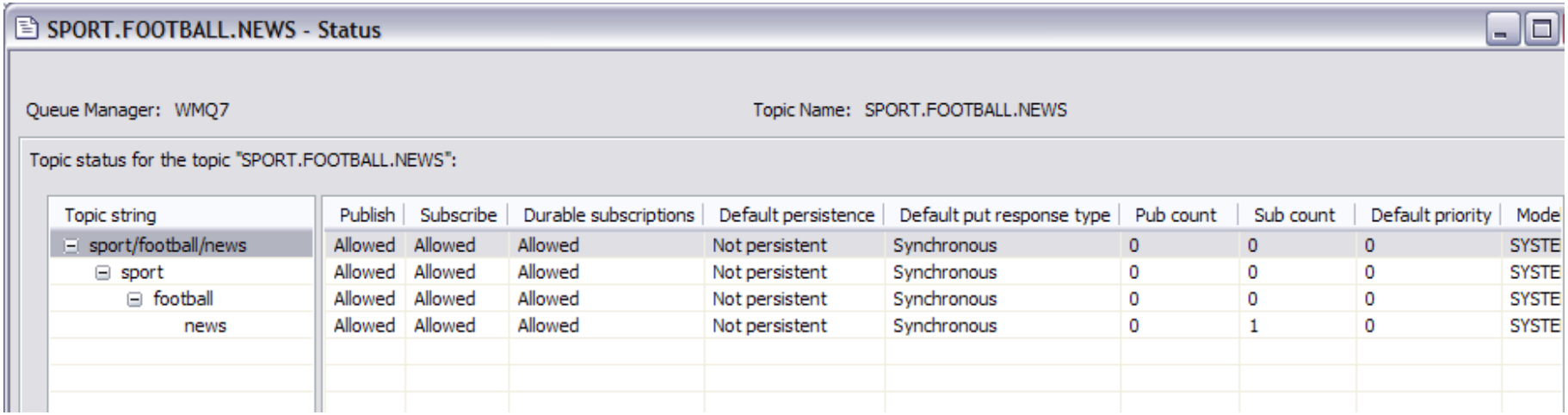
Topic Objects

- Topic Attributes are associated with a Topic ***Object***
- The Topic Object is a WebSphere MQ object that can be administered
- The Topic ***String*** is one of the properties of a Topic Object
- The topic string "connects" publishers and subscribers
- A Topic string is an unlimited length string
  - Topic Objects can have other properties set



Topic Status – current usage of topics

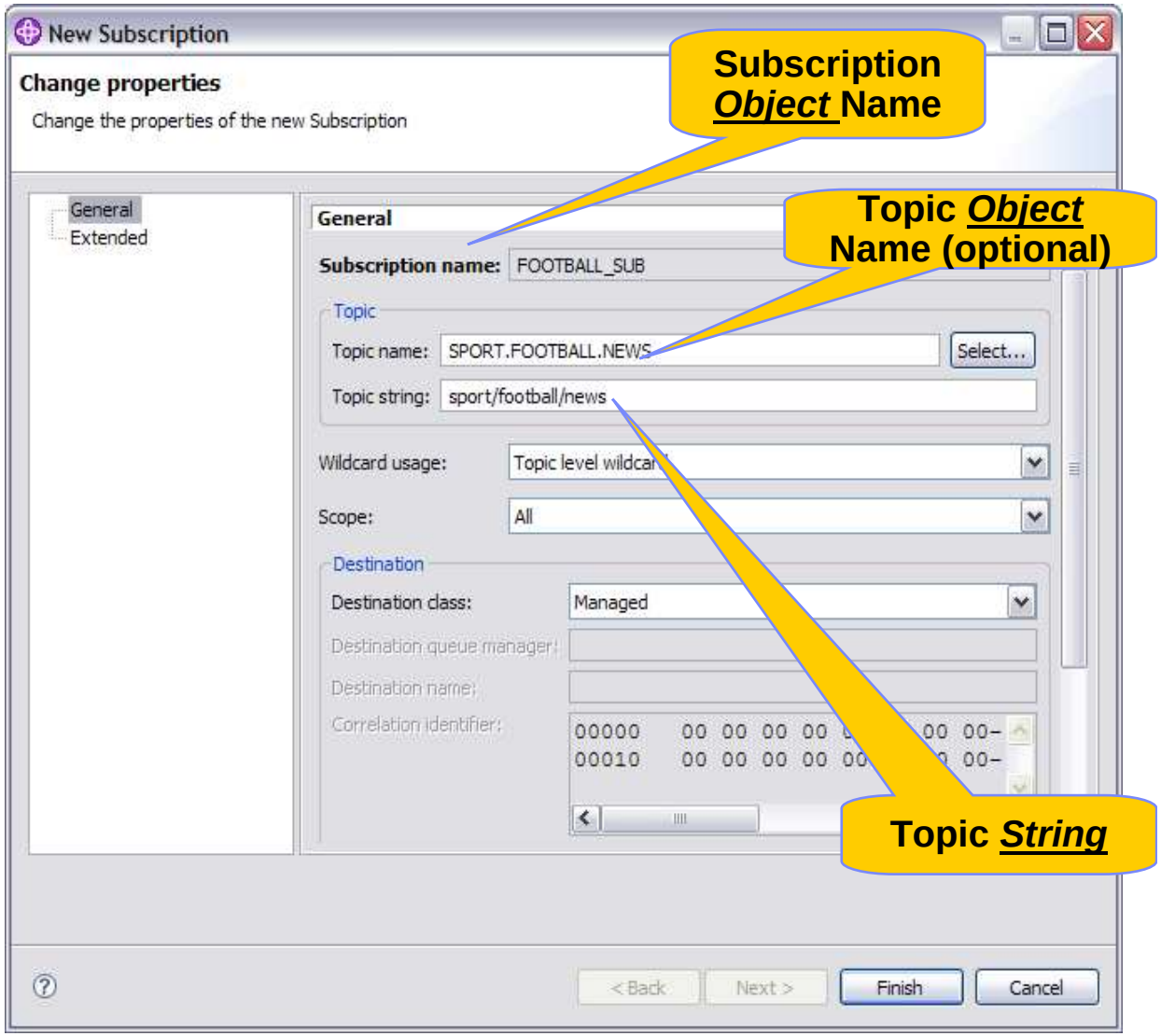
- DISPLAY TPSTATUS(*topic-string*)
  - Topic attributes (TYPE(TOPIC))
    - Number of publishers and subscribers
    - Whether a retained publication exists
  - Subscriber info (TYPE(SUB)):
    - Last resume date of subscription and last message delivery time
    - Number of messages sent to this subscriber
  - Publisher info (TYPE(PUB)):
    - Last publish time
    - Number of messages published



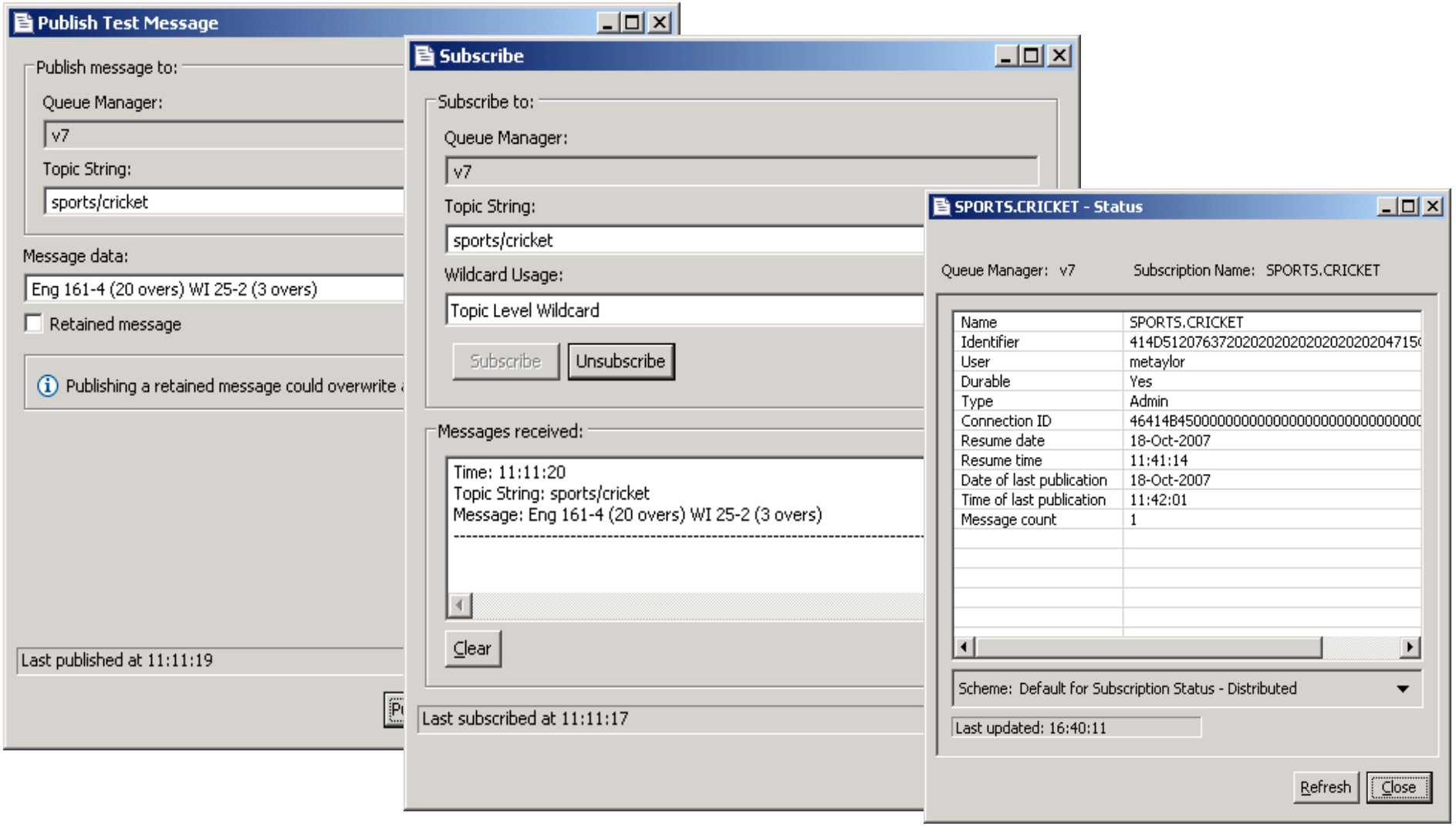
Topic string	Publish	Subscribe	Durable subscriptions	Default persistence	Default put response type	Pub count	Sub count	Default priority	Mode
sport/football/news	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not persistent	Synchronous	0	0	0	SYSTE
sport	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not persistent	Synchronous	0	0	0	SYSTE
football	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not persistent	Synchronous	0	0	0	SYSTE
news	Allowed	Allowed	Allowed	Not persistent	Synchronous	0	1	0	SYSTE

Administered Subscriptions

- Subscriptions that are administratively created require a name
- A Topic ***Object*** can optionally be referenced
- The Topic ***String*** is required
- Wildcards may be used
- By definition, an administered subscriptions is ***durable***
- Administered subscriptions can use either managed or unmanaged destinations



Testing Publish and Subscribe



Benefits of Publish/Subscribe with WebSphere MQ

- Applications are more loosely coupled than with point-to-point
  - No need to agree on queue names, number of receivers, etc
- Applications decide their message exchange patterns
  - One-to-one
  - One-to-many
  - Many-to-one
  - Many-to-many
- Messages are “published” to a Topic string
  - Which can be created dynamically
  - …or administratively for more control over security, etc
- Subscribers receive messages they registered an interest in
  - Subscribers may register interest in multiple topics
  - Wildcards can be used to filter topic names
  - Selectors can be used to filter message properties