10 Ways to Build Web Services in .NET Review

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Services Covered

- **ASMX**
  - One of the first ways to create a web service in .NET, but currently deprecated
- **WCF**
  - Current standard in .NET to create RPC/SOAP-based services
- **WCF AJAX**
  - Generates a JavaScript proxy to easily access the Web API service
- **WCF REST**
  - Enables custom routes over a Web API service
- **WCF Data**
  - Accepts OData queries against your own data sets

Services Covered

- **MVC3**
  - Returning data from the web application framework
- **MVC4**
  - A more refined approach to Web APIs in MVC
- **FubuMVC**
  - Open source library that focuses on behaviors and customization
- **ServiceStack**
  - Open source framework that provides a complete set of services and serializers
- **Nancy**
  - Open source library built to make web service development easy

Clients Covered

- **Add Service Reference**
    - Adding a reference to RPC/SOAP based services via Visual Studio
- **JavaScript Proxy**
    - Generated as part of WCF AJAX, creates a proxy file for use in JavaScript applications
- **WebClient / HttpWebRequest**
    - .NET 2.0 way of making HTTP requests in .NET applications
- **OData Client**
    - Uses LINQ to send OData queries to web service
- **HttpClient**
    - .NET 4.0 way of making asynchronous HTTP requests in .NET applications

Clients Covered

- **EasyHTTP**
  - Open source client library that supports static and dynamic deserialized objects

- **Spring.NET REST Client**
  - Open source application library for sending and receiving HTTP Requests

- **ServiceStack Client**
  - Open source client library that can reuse request models from a ServiceStack web service

- **RestSharp**
  - Open source client library for sending restful requests to a web service

Things We Didn't Talk About

- **Authorization and Authentication**
- **Caching**
- **Transactions**
- **Security**
- **Error Handling**
- **Testing**
- **Documentation**

Additional Resources

- **Aaron Skonnard – WCF Fundamentals**

- **Jon Flanders – Introduction to the ASP.NET Web API**

- **Howard Dierking – REST Funadmentals**

- **John Sonmez – Using ServiceStack to Build APIs**

- **msdn.microsoft.com**
- **mvc.fubu-project.org**
- **servicestack.net**
- **nancyfx.org**