

## Jimmy Zimmerman

APIs, Family History, Star Wars, and Other Random Writings

# SOAP Server with PHP5 – part3: the glue code

[Part 2](#) of this series of blog posts focused on creating your wsdl. Now we will move on to the “glue code” and putting it all together. In part 2, I created a wsdl that defined the application programming interface (API) for an inventory web service. We defined one simple function called `getItemCount` which takes a upc in the form of a string as a parameter and returns the count in the form of an integer.

Let's go ahead and code up the function:

```
<?php //inventory_functions.php
function getItemCount($upc){
//in reality, this data would be coming from a database
$items = array('12345'=>5, '19283'=>100, '23489'=>234);
return $items[$upc];
}
?>
```

It is important to test all of your functions outside the scope of your web service to iron out all of the bugs, otherwise, you'll be dealing with some nasty debugging as soon as you connect this with the SOAP glue code. I like to keep the functions or classes that are connected to the web service separated from the glue code, unlike the [php soap extension tutorial](#) does. That way I can test it more easily.

## The glue code

The glue code is responsible for handling incoming soap requests and returning valid soap xml. It takes the wsdl service definition and it connects it with your function or class. Here's what it looks like:

```
<?php //server.php
require 'inventory_functions.php';
ini_set("soap.wsdl_cache_enabled", "0"); // disabling WSDL cache
$server = new SoapServer("inventory.wsdl");
$server->addFunction("getItemCount");
$server->handle();
?>
```

The `inventory_functions.php` contains my `getItemCount` function. It is important that the function has been included (or required) before the `$server->addFunction("functionName");` is called. Also, make sure that you have no white space before or after your opening and closing php tags.

Once you know that your wsdl is correct, and you won't be changing it, remove the `ini_set` function from the glue code.

**Important:** Make sure your wsdl's service block is pointing to the http accessible url of the glue code (see [part 2](#) for details).

## Testing the service

Now is the moment of truth, to see if your service works like you had anticipated. Simply create a script like this one:

```
<?php //client-test.php
ini_set("soap.wsdl_cache_enabled", "0"); // disabling WSDL cache
$client = new SoapClient("http://[path to the service]/inventory.wsdl");
$return = $client->getItemCount('12345');
print_r($return);
?>
```

Substitute the [path to the service] with your url path, and execute the script. Hopefully, you should be seeing the results that you expected.

## Tutorial Files

For all the files that have been discussed in this tutorial, download the [tutorial.zip](#)

Sorry, this post has received a barrage of spam. I had to shut down comments. Try one of the other posts in this series.



Jimmy Z / February 20, 2007 / Web Services / php5, soap

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## 19 thoughts on “SOAP Server with PHP5 – part3: the glue code”

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**David Freeman**

March 15, 2007 at 1:35 pm

Thanks for this great resource. This really helped me out a lot.  
DCF



**oo oo**

March 25, 2007 at 1:45 pm

This is a great resource! Most books and tutorials online fail to provide enough information to make a WSDL work... and worse, are full of small bugs that are nearly impossible to find rendering the examples useless.

You have really done a great thing here. 😊



**ali**

June 3, 2008 at 8:22 am

first of all thanks its really nice Tutorial. i try to implement but its not working i put files in c:\php5\pear  
also i got this error

WSDLSOAP-ERROR: Parsing WSDL: Couldn't load from 'datamodel.wsdl' : failed to load external entity "datamodel.wsdl"

can u help me i am very greatfull to you

thanks



**Maarten De Block**

December 19, 2008 at 6:09 am

Thank you very much!



**Kiptieu**

March 2, 2009 at 2:11 pm

I tried running your code in the tutorial zip folder and i am having the following error code. Is there something i am not doing, I changed the following:

In the server file

```
$server = new SoapServer("c:/wamp/www/tutorial/inventory.wsdl");
```

In the client file:

```
$client = new SoapClient("http://localhost/tutorial/inventory.wsdl");
```

Any help pls.



**Kiptieu**

March 2, 2009 at 2:13 pm

sorry this the error message:

Warning: SoapClient::SoapClient(<http://localhost/tutorial/inventory.wsdl>)

[soapclient.soapclient]: failed to open stream: A connection attempt failed because the connected party did not properly respond after a period of time, or established connection failed because connected host has failed to respond. in C:\wamp\www\tutorial\client-test.php on line 3

Warning: SoapClient::SoapClient() [soapclient.soapclient]: I/O warning : failed to load external entity “http://localhost/tutorial/inventory.wsdl” in

C:\wamp\www\tutorial\client-test.php on line 3

Fatal error: Maximum execution time of 60 seconds exceeded in

C:\wamp\www\tutorial\client-test.php on line 6



**Philip**

March 13, 2009 at 1:09 am

HI I have put together my server and client and wsdl files. As soon as i add more functions to my function file my client tthrows this error.

SoapFault exception: [Client] looks like we got no XML document in /usr/www/users/veriix/includes/Soap\_client.php:5 Stack trace: #0 [internal function]: SoapClient->\_\_call('age', Array) #1 /usr/www/users/veriix/includes/Soap\_client.php(5): SoapClient->age('verib503xb-sa', '28', 'lessthan') #2 {main}

not sure why as soon as i blank out the new function i added all works well.

any ideas?

thanks



**Philip**

March 13, 2009 at 1:20 am

Hey No Worries my code was abit wrong was missing a couple of ;; and \$\$ you know..

thanks for the great tutorial.

Cheers

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**ElMehdi**

May 16, 2009 at 4:13 pm

Hello,

Thank you for your tutorial : it's clean and well detailed.

Regards,

ElMehdi

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**Joe**

March 31, 2011 at 6:06 pm

Just wanted to say thanks... Might be an old post, but I was able to create a working service in < 20min with no SOAP experience.

Now, on to see what else it can do!

Cheers

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**chris**

October 6, 2011 at 7:59 am

Uff, it helped me a lot. I only modified:

to:

to accept arrays as arguments and:

to:

to have result in array.

Thanks a lot!



**John**

October 17, 2011 at 9:06 pm

This helped me out a lot. Thanks!



**Parrish**

October 28, 2011 at 5:18 pm

Good job. Worked like a charm. This tutorial fills a major void of currently available online SOAP/PHP/Server knowledge.

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Pingback: [how can a php soap server listen to a soap client c program? | SeekPHP.com](#)



**Mads**

November 14, 2011 at 9:00 am

Thanks. \*\*\*\*\*



**omid**

January 30, 2012 at 11:59 pm

hi,thanks for your article.

when im running this code server folowing error accured:

(not respond)

Warning: SoapClient::SoapClient(<http://localhost/tutorial/inventory.wsdl>)  
[soapclient.soapclient]: failed to open stream: A connection attempt failed

because the connected party did not properly respond after a period of time, or established connection failed because connected host has failed to respond. in C:\xampp\htdocs\tutorial\client-test.php on line 3

...

any help?



**Jimmy Zimmerman**

February 2, 2012 at 8:30 am

@omid: I would have to take a look at what you have in your tutorial directory. Can you post the code to github.com or something like it so I could take a look? You can also email me directly via the contact info on the “contact me” page.



**Arvind Dubey**

November 7, 2012 at 9:22 pm

Thanks this is the great tutorial and very helpful.



**Prabahar**

January 24, 2013 at 3:36 pm

Hi,

<http://localhost/tutorial/inventory.wsdl> is not able view via browser instead it is getting downloaded. How can i view this in the browser. Please let me know

Regards,  
Prabahar. T

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**Comments are closed.**



