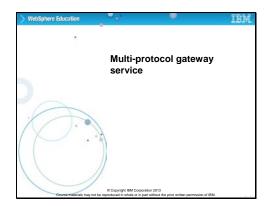
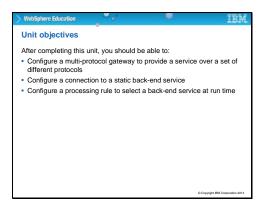
# Slide 1



The multi-protocol gateway service.

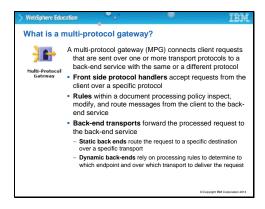


This unit assumes that students are familiar with the Web Service Proxy and XML firewall services on the IBM WebSphere DataPower SOA Appliance. Topics that are covered include processing actions and objects that relate to the multi-protocol gateway.

This unit takes a similar approach to the AAA unit in that it does not cover all of the protocol handlers. It covers the scenarios in which you can use the multi-protocol gateway service. The two scenarios that are covered are:

Providing multiple back-end transports by HTTP and HTTPS

Determining the back-end transport dynamically at execution by a style sheet



#### What is a multi-protocol gateway?

So, what is a Multi-Protocol Gateway (MPGW)?

It connects client requests that are sent over one or more transport protocols to a back-end service by using the same or a different protocol.

It has one or more front side protocol handlers that accept requests from the client, each one tailored for a specific protocol.

Rules within a document processing policy inspect, modify, and route messages from the client to the back-end service, just like in an XML Firewall.

Back-end transports forward the processed request to the back-end service by using various protocols.

Static back ends route the request to a specific destination over a specific transport. Dynamic back-ends rely on processing rules to determine to which endpoint and over which transport to deliver the request.

It is important to note that a single MPGW service can have several different protocols by being supplied by several different front side handlers all feeding to the same set of rules. The MPGW and the dynamic back-ends might also be connected by using various protocols, all being fed from the same single MPG. It might be regarded as a protocol "fan-in, fan-out" situation.

Handlers	Description
nanulers	Description
HTTP	Supports GET and POST operations. The POST operations payload might contain XML, SOAP, DIME, or SOAP with attachments, MTOM
HTTPS	Supports the same features as the HTTP protocol, which is secured over Transport Layer Security (TLS)
Stateful raw XML	A stateful implementation that allows messages to flow between the client and the back-end with persistent connections
Stateless raw XML	Supports the same features as the stateful raw XML protocol, with a stateless implementation
IBM WebSphere MQ	Places and retrieves messages on GET and PUT queues from an IBM WebSphere MQ system
TIBCO EMS	Supports the TIBCO Enterprise Message Service product

#### Protocol handlers at a glance (1 of 2)

Now look at the protocols that are handled by the MPG.

HTTP is a familiar protocol that supports GET and POST operations. The payload in POST operations might contain XML, SOAP, DIME, SOAP with attachments, or MTOM. More about POST operation payloads later.

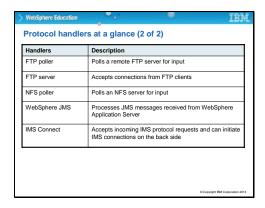
HTTPS is the secure version of HTTP, and it supports the same features. HTTPS is secured over Transport Layer Security (TLS).

Stateful raw XML is a stateful implementation that allows messages to flow between the client and the back-end server by using persistent connections.

Stateless raw XML supports the same features as the stateful raw XML protocol, by using a stateless implementation.

The WebSphere MQ handler places and retrieves messages on GET and PUT queues from an IBM WebSphere MQ system. DataPower acts as an WebSphere MQ client only, not an WebSphere MQ server, and it does not support the WebSphere MQ Extended Transactional Client.

The TIBCO EMS handler supports the TIBCO Enterprise Message Service product.



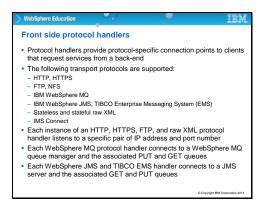
### Protocol handlers at a glance (2 of 2)

The FTP poller handler polls a remote FTP server for input, and can rename or delete the file that is used for input when completed. It can be configured to poll periodically, looking for new files at the remote location.

The FTP server handler accepts connections from FTP clients and allows them to upload files, from which records are extracted and processed by the policy rules within the MPG.

The NFS poller handler polls an NFS server for input in much the same way as the FPT poller operates.

The WebSphere JMS handler processes JMS messages received from WebSphere Application Server similar to the WebSphere MQ handler. This processing is not a generic JMS implementation in that it does not use a JNDI and connection factories. It specifically links only to the WebSphere Application Server proprietary interfaces. The IMS Connect handler accepts incoming IMS protocol requests and can initiate IMS connections on the back-side.



### Front-side protocol handlers

As covered on the previous slides, protocol handlers provide protocol-specific connection points to clients that request services from a back-end server, and they support all these protocols:

HTTP, HTTPS

FTP, NFS

IBM WebSphere MQ

IBM WebSphere JMS, TIBCO Enterprise Messaging System (EMS)

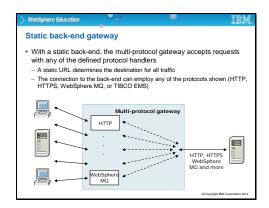
Stateless and stateful raw XML

**IMS Connect** 

Each instance of an HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, and raw XML protocol handler listens to a specific pair of IP address and port number.

Each WebSphere MQ protocol handler refers to a WebSphere MQ queue manager and the associated PUT and GET queues that are used for communication.

Each WebSphere JMS and TIBCO EMS handler refers to a JMS server and the associated GET and PUT queues.

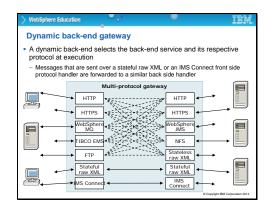


## Static back-end gateway

With a static back-end, the multi-protocol gateway accepts requests through any of the defined protocol handlers.

A static URL determines the destination for all traffic.

The connection to the back-end server can employ any of the protocols shown (HTTP, HTTPS, WebSphere MQ, or TIBCO EMS).

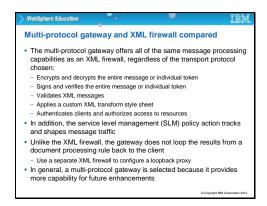


## Dynamic back-end gateway

A dynamic back-end selects the back-end service and its respective protocol at run time. So, technically, you might have a single MPG acting as a message-switching service as shown in this diagram: taking messages from anywhere, and sending them anywhere.

Messages that are sent over a stateful raw XML front side protocol handler must be forwarded to a stateful raw XML back side handler.

This example is extreme; it is unlikely that anyone would want to have a single MPG acting as a universal router.



#### Multi-protocol gateway and XML firewall compared

So, why use the MPG service rather than the XML Firewall? Well, the multi-protocol gateway offers all of the same message processing capabilities as an XML firewall, regardless of the transport protocol chosen. It can encrypt and decrypt the entire message or individual fields. It can sign and verify the entire message or individual fields. It can validate XML messages by using a schema document; it can apply a custom XML transform style sheet; it can authenticate clients and authorize access to resources.

In addition, the service level management (SLM) policy action monitors and shapes message traffic.

Unlike the XML firewall, the gateway cannot loop the results from a document processing rule back to the client. If you really want loopback capability for testing an MPG, you can use a separate XML firewall to configure a loopback proxy, and "back-end" it onto the MPG. In general, whenever you have a choice between using an XML Firewall, or a multi-protocol gateway, the MPG should be selected because it provides more capability for future enhancements.



### Multi-protocol gateway editor

As you can see, the MPG configuration editor looks remarkably similar to the XML Firewall configuration editor.

Number 1 shows the usual Apply and Cancel buttons.

Number 2 allows you to name your MPG.

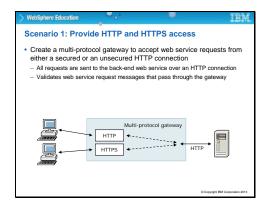
Number 3 allows you to select whether it uses a dynamic or a static back-end. You do not have a loop-back option, like the XML Firewall.

Number 4 configures the back-end. Notice there Is some extra buttons that allow you to generate a URL to handle connections other than a normal web service.

Number 5 is where you choose your XML manager.

Number 6 allows you to select, create, or edit your Policy.

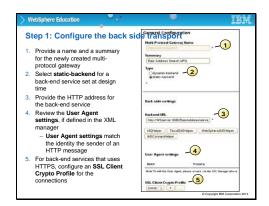
Number 7 is where you can populate a list of front-side handlers from a pick list of choices. As is usual with such lists, you can create a front-side handler dynamically.



#### Scenario 1: Provide HTTP and HTTPS access

Look at some typical uses of the MPG. The first scenario shows how to create a multi-protocol gateway to accept web service requests from either a secured or unsecured HTTP connection.

All requests are sent to the back-end web service over an HTTP connection, and the Service Policy validates web service request messages that pass through the gateway.



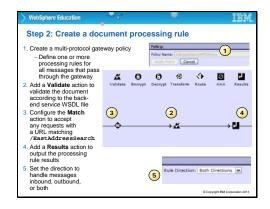
## **Step 1: Configure the back-end transport**

Here is how to would configure the MPG to handle this scenario.

First, provide a name and a summary for the newly created multi-protocol gateway. Then, select a static-backend and provide the HTTP address for the back-end service. Check the User Agent settings, if they were defined in the XML manager. The user Agent settings match the identity of the sender of an HTTP message.

And finally, for back-end services that use HTTPS, configure an SSL Client crypto.

And finally, for back-end services that use HTTPS, configure an SSL Client crypto Profile for the connections.



### Step 2: Create a document processing rule

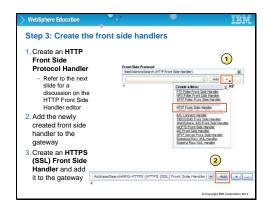
Next, define how to process the messages, so create a multi-protocol gateway policy, which includes one or more processing rules for all messages that passes through the gateway.

In this example, add a Validate action, highlighted as number 2 to validate the document according to the back-end service WSDL file.

Also, configure the Match Action, indicated as number 3 to accept any requests with a URL matching /EastAddressSearch.

Then, add a Results action (number 4) to output the processing rule results to the server.

Finally, set the direction to handle messages inbound, outbound, or both, before clicking "Apply Policy" to save the changes.

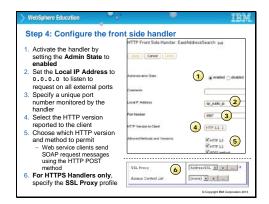


### Step 3: Create the front side handlers

Next, create an HTTP Front Side Protocol Handler, which is covered in more detail on the next slide.

Create and add a front side handler to the gateway. You begin this action by clicking the plus sign beside the Front Side Handle pick list, which causes a menu to be displayed. Choose the protocol that you want, and a configuration screen appear. (See that on the next slide.) There is a minor error on this slide in that the button indicated as #1 should actually be the plus sign, not "Add".

When you create a Front Side Handler, you can click "Add" to add it to the list, which is correctly labeled as number 2.



#### Step 4: Configure the front side handler

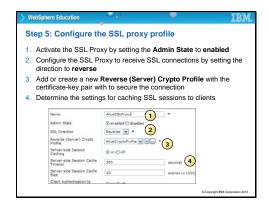
For example, configure the HTTP front-side handler. It would look like the diagram. Number 1 shows how to activate or deactivate the handler by setting the Admin State radio button.

Number 2 shows how to set the Local IP address to 0.0.0.0 to listen to requests on all external Ethernet interfaces.

Number 3 shows how to specify a unique port number that is monitored by the handler.

Numbers 4 is where to select the HTTP version that is reported to the client, and also choose which HTTP version and method to allow, indicated by number 5. Web service clients send SOAP request messages by using the HTTP POST method.

When you configure the HTTPS Handlers, the lower part of the form has some extra fields for configuring the SSL Proxy Profile, as indicated by number 6.



### Step 5: Configure the SSL Proxy profile

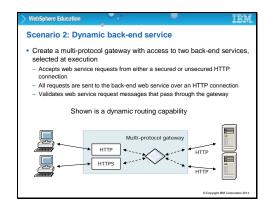
Here is how to configure the SSL Proxy Profile.

Number 1 shows how to activate the SSL Proxy by setting the Admin State to enabled.

Number 2 is where to configure the SSL Proxy to receive SSL connections by setting the direction to reverse.

Number 3 allows one to add or create a new Reverse (Server) crypto Profile with the certificate-key pair used to secure the connection.

Number 4 shows where to determine the settings for caching SSL sessions to clients.



## Scenario 2: Dynamic back-end service

Now for a second scenario:

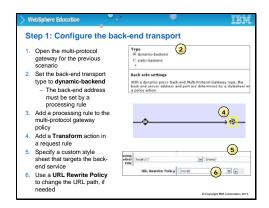
In this example, create a multi-protocol gateway with access to two back-end services, selected dynamically at run time.

This MPG accepts web service requests from either a secured or unsecured HTTP connection.

 $\mbox{\ensuremath{\mathsf{AII}}}$  requests are sent to the back-end web service over an HTTP connection.

It validates web service request messages that pass through the gateway.

The slide illustrates a dynamic routing capability.



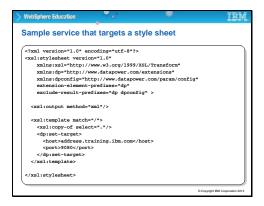
## **Step 1: Configure the back-end transport**

Now go through the steps that are needed to set up this MPG. First, configure the back-end transport.

Open the multi-protocol gateway for the previous scenario, then set the back-end transport type to dynamic-backend, as indicated by number 2. The back-end address is set by a processing rule, so add a processing rule to the multi-protocol gateway policy. Then, add a Transform action to it, as indicated by number 4.

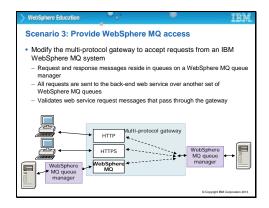
Edit the Transform Action to specify a custom style sheet that targets the back-end service, as indicated by number 5.

And finally, number 6 shows how to use a URL Rewrite Policy to change the URL path, if needed.



# Sample service that targets style sheet

Here is a snippet of XSL code that shows how certain DataPower extensions can be used to set parameters such as "host" and "port."



#### Scenario 3: Provide WebSphere MQ access

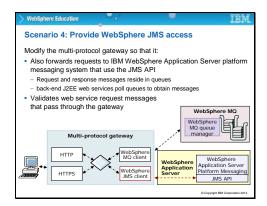
And now, for the third scenario, a modifying the previous example to add another front-side handler that gets messages from an WebSphere MQ queue in parallel with receiving messages with an HTTP and HTTPS. In this example, is also using WebSphere MQ as the back-end server. There can be issues that relate to transactional control between queue managers in such a scenario. WebSphere MQ in covered in greater detail a later section.

To implement this scenario, one must modify the multi-protocol gateway to accept requests from an IBM WebSphere MQ system.

Request and response messages exist in queues on a WebSphere MQ queue manager.

All requests are sent to the back-end web service over another set of WebSphere MQ queues.

The MPG includes Policy Rules that validate web service request messages that pass through the service.

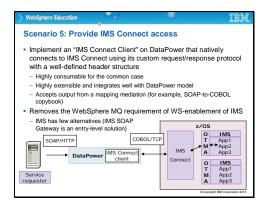


### Scenario 4: Provide WebSphere JMS access

For the fourth scenario, WebSphere Application Server's JMS is added as an extra back-end server, and are dynamically choosing which messaging system to use based on message content.

Modify the multi-protocol gateway so that it also forwards requests to IBM WebSphere Application Server messaging system by using the JMS API. Request and response messages exist in queues, and the back-end Java Platform, Enterprise Edition web services poll those queues to obtain messages.

When again, MPG validates web service request messages that pass through the service.

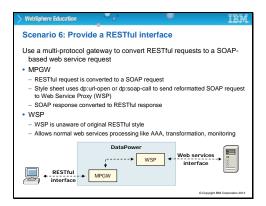


#### Scenario 5: Provide IMS Connect access

The fifth scenario is aimed at existing systems still by using IMS. In this example, DataPower provides an IMS Connect client that effectively allows access to the IMS transactions as though they were web services.

To do processing, one implements an "IMS Connect Client" on DataPower that natively connects to IMS Connect by using its custom request/response protocol with a well-defined header structure. It is highly consumable for the common case, is highly extensible, and integrates well with the DataPower model. It also accepts output from a mapping mediation, such as a SOAP-to-COBOL copybook.

In the past, the only way to integrate with IMS was to connect with WebSphere MQ. The DataPower IMS Connect Client removes that requirement by effectively making IMS available as a web service. Besides, WebSphere MQ and now DataPower, IMS has few alternatives to such integration, although there is an entry-level solution in the form of the IMS SOAP Gateway.

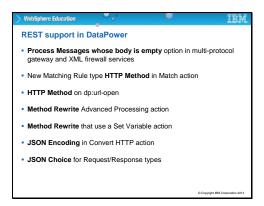


#### Scenario 6: Provide a RESTful interface

And finally, for the sixth scenario, the topic is how to implement a RESTful interface. Representational State Transfer is supported as a front-side handler, allowing such transactions to interface with other systems.

In this example, a multi-protocol gateway is used to convert RESTful requests to a SOAP-based web service request that is then handled by a Web Services Proxy before being sent to a back-end web server.

In the MPG, the RESTful request is converted to a SOAP request, and a style sheet then uses dp:url-open or dp:soap-call to send reformatted SOAP request to the WSP. SOAP responses from the WSP are then converted back into to RESTful responses. The WSP is unaware of the original RESTful style; it just receives the SOAP request from the MPG like any other SOAP request. The WSP does its normal web services that process like AAA, transformation, and monitoring as the message passes through the service policy.



## **REST support in DataPower**

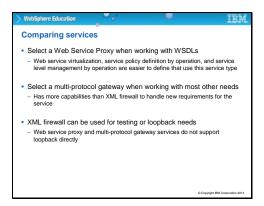
Here are some of the parameters that support REST in DataPower.

There is a "Process Message whose body is empty" option in the multi-protocol gateway and XML firewall services, and a new Matching Rule type called "HTTP Method" in the Match Action.

One can specify "HTTP Method" in the dp:url-open XSL extension.

In the Advanced Processing Action, there is a "Method Rewrite" option, which can also be configured by using the Set Variable action.

And the Convert HTTP action supports JSON encoding.



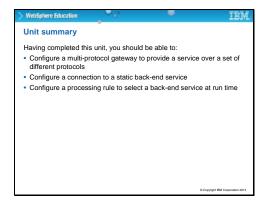
#### Comparing services

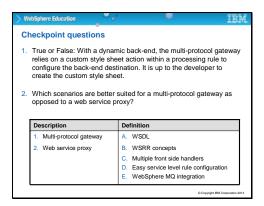
Given that there are several services that seem to offer similar capabilities, when is one chosen over the other?

Generally speaking, select a web service proxy when working with WSDLs since it offers web service virtualization, service policy definition by operation, and service level management by operation. All of which are easier to define by using this service type.

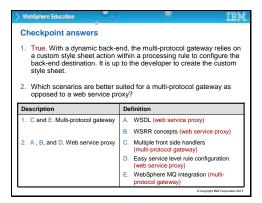
Select a multi-protocol gateway when working with most other needs. It has more capabilities than XML firewall to handle new requirements for the service.

The XML firewall can be used for testing or loopback needs. Remember, the web service proxy and multi-protocol gateway services do not support loopback directly.

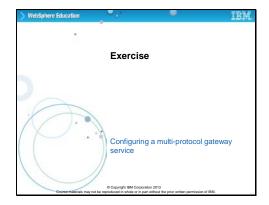




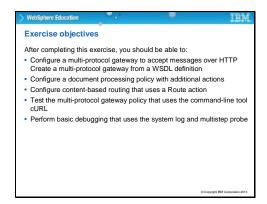
Take a few moments to read over the questions and write down their answers in the blank spaces in the student notes.



The correct answers are highlighted in red.



This slide provides an introduction to the demonstration.



Here is a list of the exercise objectives.

