Desirable Properties

1. Modular
   * Loosely coupled
   * Reusable and combinable
   * Services are meant to be mixed and match
2. Composable
   * Used in combination to create usable applications or other services
3. Platform- and Language- Independent
   * E.g. A service coded in Java can be called by a service coded in Ruby
   * XML/HTTP requests
4. Self-Describing
   * Describe its own interface
   * What input it takes, what output it gives
   * Standards: WSDL (Web Service Description Language)
5. Self-Advertising
   * Must know it is available
   * Standards: UDDI (Universal Description, Discovery and Integration