**Date:** November 2010

Java 5 Language PSM for DDS

Revised Submission 2

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**OMG Document Number: mars/2010-11-??**

**Associated File(s): omgdds.jar (mars/2010-11-??)**

**omgdds\_src.zip (mars/2010-11-??)**

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Preface

OMG

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Times/Times New Roman - 10 pt.: Standard body text

**Helvetica/Arial - 10 pt. Bold:** OMG Interface Definition Language (OMG IDL) and syntax elements.

**Courier - 10 pt. Bold:** Programming language elements.

Helvetica/Arial - 10 pt: Exceptions

NOTE: Terms that appear in italics are defined in the glossary. Italic text also represents the name of a document, specification, or other publication.

PART I - Introduction

# Response Details

## OMG RFP Response

This specification is submitted in response to the Java 5 Language PSM for DDS RFP issued in December 2009 with OMG document number mars/09-12-16.

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## Problem Statement

The DDS specification [DDS] uses an MDA approach to describe the API and behavior of the middleware. The specification defines a Platform Independent Model (PIM) and a Platform Specific Model (PSM).

The PIM uses UML to specify the interfaces the application can use to participate in a DDS system, including the creation of DDS Entities (DomainParticipants, Topics, Publishers, Subscribers, DataWriters, and DataReaders), the configuration of their QoS, the sending and reception of data, the reception of feedback and notifications from the middleware, etc. The PIM is independent of the concrete programming language (e.g. C++, Java) used by the application.

A typical application programmer, however, does not use UML directly. Rather, he or she must use the API bindings in their programming language of choice (e.g. C++, Java, C, etc.). In the DDS specification, these language mappings are defined using Platform-Specific Models (PSMs).

For convenience, instead of defining a PSM for each target programming language (C++, Java, C, C#, etc.), the DDS specification version 1.2 defines a single PSM to the IDL language. While IDL is not a “programming language” *per se*, the OMG has defined mappings from IDL to most programming languages, and therefore this process indirectly defines PSMs in most programming languages.

However, the use of IDL as an intermediate language in combination with the IDL mappings to concrete programming languages presents several problems. Specifically, in the case of Java 5:

* IDL does not support many natural Java 5 programming-language features, such as generic types.
* The IDL mapping does not use the standard Java 5 containers (*e.g.* java.util.List).
* In general, the Java community has a very strong culture of naming conventions and coding conventions. The IDL PSM and the Java API generated from it violate these conventions, which make DDS feel foreign and unfamiliar to Java programmers.
* APIs derived from the IDL mapping do not support Java Beans, java.io.Serializable, and other built-in capabilities of the Java platform.
* The IDL mapping to Java prevents crucial performance-enabling features of the DDS PIM, including loaning samples from a DataReader[[1]](#footnote-1).

The end result is a Java API that is artificially and unnecessarily limited in terms of both its performance and its usability.

With the increasing adoption of DDS for the integration of large distributed systems, it is desirable to define native language interfaces that would facilitate the use of the standard and increase vendor portability.

Extending IDL would not accomplish the same objectives. Currently, IDL offers a minimal set of features that can reasonably supported on most languages and provide a uniform interface across languages. On the other hand, the purpose of the native programming language PSMs is to be able to exploit the most natural features of each language. If IDL were to be extended to support all of these features, we would end up with an IDL that combines the features of all languages.

## Overview of this Specification

This specification defines a platform-specific model (PSM) for the OMG Data Distribution Service for Real-Time Systems (DDS). It is organized according to the modules defined by the DDS PIM and the types and operations defined within them. As background for this specification, readers may wish to review the DDS specification, which complements this specification.

Of primary concern to applications deploying DDS technology is the ability to integrate applications running on heterogeneous platforms, which may differ both in the programming language use as well as the underlying operating system. This goal is not compromised by the introduction of additional programming language PSMs.

More specifically:

* The new PSM is functionally equivalent to the IDL PSM. While the syntax may change, the application is able to accomplish exactly the same tasks as using the existing PSM.
* Applications programmed using different PSMs can interoperate transparently, *i.e.*, an application that communicates with another one need have no awareness, other than informational, of what PSM the peer application is using.
* The new PSM is derivable from the PIM by following a fairly small set of rules, which are described below.
* The new PSM uses common idioms for the Java language, *e.g.*, generic interfaces.

The new PSM is designed such that it can co-exist with other technologies; for example, it does not interfere with the namespaces used by other OMG specifications or commonly used packages.

## Design Rationale

This PSM has been designed according to the following principles:

* **Ease of use**. This PSM provides simplified method overloads to make DDS-standard operations easier to call. In addition, it aligns with common Java technologies and naming conventions in order to make it easier to use DDS alongside Java Beans, Collections, and Serialization.
* **Run-time portability**. Like the JMS API ([JMS]), this DDS PSM allows applications to be compiled against standard interfaces and then deployed against an arbitrary implementation of those interfaces. It is even possible for a single application to use multiple DDS implementations within a single JVM instance, making it possible—for example—to develop application-level bridging capabilities or to integrate components that were developed targeting different DDS implementations.
* **Dynamic loading and unloading**. This PSM does not require the implementer to maintain any static state. Implementations that do not use static state can be dynamically loaded and unloaded much more easily; this property is helpful when the target deployment environment is a managed container of some kind, such as an OSGi runtime or Java EE application server. Such a container may or may not use Java class loaders in a way that allows static state to be unloaded. Furthermore, such a container may be used to compose applications of independently-developed components, some of which may have been developed with different DDS implementations (or different versions of the “same” DDS implementation).
* **Performance**. Existing Java communication APIs, such as the DDS IDL PSM or JMS, artificially limit performance by forcing implementations to unnecessarily allocate new objects on the critical send and receive paths. This PSM avoids this pitfall, allowing for much higher-performing implementations.

## Statement of Proof of Concept

The submitter currently offers a number of DDS language PSMs as a commercial off-the-shelf offering. These all interoperate seamlessly—with one another and with DDS PSM implementations from other DDS vendors. This degree of decoupling between the PSM of the programming language API and the network protocol provides a high degree of confidence that this additional PSM will not impact interoperability.

In addition, the submitter has provided the Java interfaces that comprise this submission as open source for public comment. These are available in the DataDistrib4J project hosted on Google Code: <http://code.google.com/p/datadistrib4j/>.

## Resolution of RFP Requirements and Requests

The specification resolves the following mandatory requirements:

Table . Mandatory RFP Requirements

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Requirement | Description | Reference | Remarks |
| **6.5.1** | Proposals shall provide a PSM, derived from the DDS PIM, targeting the Java 5 language. It shall also include the rules by which this PSM was derived from that PIM. (These rules may be expressed either in prose or in a formal language.) | **Section 8** | **Satisfied**. Transformations are expressed in prose. |
| **6.5.1** | The proposed PSM shall implement the DDS PIM in its entirety. | **Section 8** | **Partially satisfied**; the PSM implements only the DCPS portion of the DDS PIM. It omits DLRL. |
| **6.5.3** | The use of the proposed PSM shall have no impact on interoperability (for a single vendor or between vendor products). An application that communicates with another one shall not require any awareness of the PSM used by the peer application. (The proposal *need not* support the use of multiple PSMs within the same Java virtual machine instance.) | **—** | **Satisfied**: the PSM does not refer to or impact the network protocol used by an implementation in any way. Note: the PSM does not preclude the use of multiple PSMs within the same JVM instance. |
| **6.5.4** | Proposals shall not introduce new container types without strong justification and shall instead use instead Java-standard types, such as java.util.List or java.lang.String. | **Section 8** | **Satisfied**: the PSM uses the Java SE-standard Collection, List, and Set interfaces. |
| **6.5.5** | Proposals shall not modify the existing language used for user-defined data types associated with published and subscribed Topics (data-type definitions) or the language mapping of those data types. | **—** | **Satisfied**. This PSM does not invalidate or modify any of the Type Representations or Language Bindings specified by [DDS-XTypes]. However, it does introduce an additional Type Representation: the Java Type Representation. |
| **6.5.6** | Proposals shall allow applications to choose among implementations of the PSM at runtime. That is, an application compiled against the proposed APIs shall be able to use at runtime any DDS implementation conformant to those APIs without modification. | **Section 8.2.1** | **Satisfied**; applications may choose one or more run-time implementations by means of a Java system property. |
| **6.5.7** | Proposals shall not introduce dependencies on any other communications middleware technology—including, but not limited to, CORBA or JMS—as doing so would necessarily modify the meaning of conformance for DDS and/or the other technology. | **—** | **Satisfied**. |
| **6.5.8** | Proposals shall indicate which Java Edition(s) (*i.e.*, Java Micro Edition, Java Standard Edition, and Java Enterprise Edition) they target. | **Section 7.2** | **Satisfied**: the specification targets Java SE. |
| **6.5.9** | Proposals shall be designed such that they can co-exist with other technologies. For example, they should not interfere with the namespaces used by other OMG specifications or commonly used packages. | **Section 8.1.1** | **Satisfied**: all types defined by this specification exist in packages named with the prefix org.omg.dds. The submitters are not aware of this package having been used by any other specification.  *However*: This package has been used by the JacORB implementation of DDS in a non-standard fashion without the consent of the OMG. Therefore, implementations of the PSM defined here will not be able to coexist within the same Java class loader as the non-standard JacORB DDS implementation. |
| **6.5.10** | The “DDS for Lightweight CCM” specification introduced QoS profiles, a powerful capability for specifying QoS policy values in XML documents. Proposals shall include an API to allow DDS applications to use these profiles. | **Section 3, 8.2.5.3** | **Satisfied**: The PSM defines methods to create new entities and to set their QoS on based on the contents of QoS profiles. |
| **6.5.11** | In the event that the “Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types for DDS” specification is adopted before final submissions to this RFP are due, those submissions shall encompass any APIs introduced by that specification. | **Section 8.7** | **Satisfied**. |
| **6.5.12** | Proposals shall express the PSM in the form of Java packages containing classes and/or interfaces. | **Section 3** | **Satisfied**: This submission includes both a prose description of the PSM—this document—as well as a set of Java source files. Both are normative. |

The proposed specification addresses the following optional requirements:

Table . Optional RFP Requirements

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Requirement | Description | Reference | Remarks |
| **6.6.1** | Proposals may define how QoS may be configured and status notifications monitored using the Java Management Extensions (JMX), a specification commonly used by monitoring and management tools and infrastructure. | **—** | **Unsatisfied.** |
| **6.6.2** | Proposals may define how data written and read through DDS may integrate with the built-in data serialization support in the Java platform (*e.g.* the interfaces java.io.Serializable, java.io.ObjectInput, and java.io.ObjectOutput). | **Section 9** | **Satisfied** by the Java Type Representation. |
| **6.6.3** | Proposals may define how dynamic applications can take advantage of the reflective capabilities of the Java platform. Possible uses of reflection include, but are not limited to: | *See below:* | |
| **6.6.3.1** | Proposals may comply with Java Beans-compatible design patterns. | **Section 8** | **Partially satisfied**: DDS types cannot be constructed in a typical Java Bean fashion: they are not concrete classes with default constructors. However, most accessor and mutator methods do form Java Bean properties, and listener callbacks follow some Java Bean conventions. |
| **6.6.3.2** | Proposals may integrate the Dynamic Type and/or Dynamic Data APIs (to be defined by an anticipated “Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types for DDS” specification) with the built-in Java type introspection capability. | **Section 8.7.1.3** | **Satisfied** by the method DynamicTypeFactory.createType(Class), which creates a DDS DynamicType object based on a Java Class object. |
| **6.6.3.3** | Proposals may provide reflective instantiation of, and/or access to, DataReaders and DataWriters corresponding to a given Java type. | **Sections 8.5.1, 8.6.1** | **Satisfied**. Types can be registered, and topics, readers, and writers created, based on Java Class objects. Furthermore, the Publisher and Subscriber interfaces provide look-up methods that act on generic Topic objects as well as the name-based look-up methods defined in the DDS PIM. |
| **6.6.4** | Proposals may define how applications can load and access a DDS implementation compliant with the proposed PSM in the context of OSGi. | **—** | **Unsatisfied**. However, this scoping decision with respect to this specification shall not be taken to preclude the use of implementations with OSGi. |

## Responses to RFP Issues to Be Discussed

The specification discusses the following issues:

Table . RFP Issues to Be Discussed

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Issue | Description | Reference | Remarks |
| **6.7.1** | Proposals shall discuss how performance is affected by the constructs and containers introduced by the new PSM and identify any situations that may degrade performance relative to the existing IDL PSM. As noted above, maintaining and improving performance is a significant goal of a new PSM. | **Section 1.6** | **Satisfied**. This PSM has no known performance degradation relative to the IDL PSM—and several performance improvements.  Note that DDS performance with respect to types instantiated reflectively according to the Java Type Representation may not reach the same level as when types are backed by generated code. This limitation is intrinsic to the characteristics of reflective versus compiled code. |
| **6.7.2** | Proposals shall discuss the memory resources utilized by the constructs in the new PSM. | **Section 8.1.3** | **Satisfied**. |
| **6.7.3** | Proposals shall discuss how vendors will be able to expose APIs that are specific to their implementations. They shall discuss how vendors can make their extensions consistent with the style and design patterns of the specified PSM without affecting compatibility across implementations of it for applications that choose not to use those extensions. | **Section 8.1.6** | **Satisfied**: Vendors can provide extension QoS policies, which applications can look up and use reflectively without compile-time knowledge. In addition, vendors may define their own subtypes of standard types that expose additional capabilities; applications can access these either reflectively or using a type cast. |
| **6.7.4** | Proposals shall discuss the tradeoff between stylistic consistency with the IDL-based PSM and adherence to the coding conventions of Java. | **Section 1.6** | **Satisfied**. This PSM respects the functionality and structure of the PIM and places a strong emphasis on conventional Java practice for ease of use. However, it does draw on the IDL PSM in cases where it does not conflict with these goals and/or where it offers a performance benefit. |
| **6.7.5** | Proposals shall discuss how the PSM may be affected by language and standard library features that may appear in subsequent versions of the Java language such as Java 6 (already available) and Java 7 (as of this writing, not yet available). | **—** | **Satisfied**: nothing to discuss. This PSM would not be affected by any of the changes available in Java 6 SE. And as of this writing, Java SE 7 remains without an official JSR defining its scope. |
| **6.7.6** | Proposals shall discuss the memory and lifecycle management for DDS Entities. | **Section 8.1.3** | **Satisfied**. |
| **6.7.7** | Proposals shall discuss how interoperability can be assured between users of the new PSM and the IDL-based PSM. | **—** | **Satisfied**: nothing to discuss. This PSM has no bearing or impact on interoperability. |
| **6.7.8** | Proposals shall discuss how they allow applications to choose an implementation of the PSM at runtime and discuss why they chose the mechanism they did. | **Section 8.2.1** | **Satisfied** by the Context class, which is designed to resemble the java.naming.InitialContext class. |
| **6.7.9** | Proposals shall discuss why they made the choice of Java Edition(s) (*i.e.*, Java Micro Edition, Java Standard Edition, and Java Enterprise Edition) they did and what the expected impact is on the adoption of DDS technology among targeted Java users. | **Section 7.2** | **Satisfied**. |

PART II – Java 5 Language PSM for DDS

# Scope

This specification defines a platform-specific model (PSM) for the OMG Data Distribution Service for Real-Time Systems (DDS). It specifies an API only for the Data-Centric Publish-Subscribe (DCPS) portion of that specification; it does not address the Data Local Reconstruction Layer (DLRL).

# Conformance

This specification consists of this document as well as a Java jar library file and the source files that generated it, identified on the cover page. All are normative. In the event of a conflict between them, the latter shall prevail.

Conformance to this specification parallels conformance to the DDS specification itself and consists of the same conformance levels. For example, an implementation may conform to the DDS Minimum Profile with respect to this PSM, meaning that all of the programming interfaces identified by the DDS specification as pertaining to that conformance level must be implemented in this PSM. The one exception to this rule is the Object Model Profile, which includes in part the Data Local Reconstruction Layer (DLRL); DLRL is outside of the scope of this PSM.

In addition to the conformance level defined in the DDS specification itself, this PSM recognizes and implements the Extensible and Dynamic Types conformance level for DDS defined by the *Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types for DDS* specification.

This PSM furthermore defines methods to create Entities and to set their QoS based on the XML QoS libraries and profiles defined by the *DDS for Lightweight CCM* specification. Implementations that support these XML QoS profiles shall implement these operations fully; other implementations shall throw java.lang.UnsupportedOperationException.

Finally, any conformant implementation must support at least one of the OMG-specified Type Representations defined by [DDS-XTypes] and/or in the Java Type Representation section of this specification (9 below).

# References

## Normative References

The following normative documents contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this specification. For dated references, subsequent amendments to, or revisions of, any of these publications do not apply.

* **[DDS]** *Data Distribution Service for Real-Time Systems Specification*, version 1.2 (OMG document formal/2007-01-01).
* **[DDS-CCM]** *DDS for Lightweight CCM*, version 1.0 Beta 1 (OMG document ptc/2009-02-02).
* **[DDS-XTypes]** *Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types for DDS*, version 1.0 Beta 1 (OMG document ptc/2010-05-12).
* **[Java-Lang]** *The Java Language Specification, Third Edition*, published by Addison Wesley in 2005 with ISBN 0321246780
* **[XML]** *Extensible Markup Language* (XML), version 1.1, Second Edition (W3C recommendation, August 2006).

## Non-Normative References

The following non-normative references are provided for informational purposes.

* **[JMS]** *Java Message Service Specification*, version 1.1 (Sun Microsystems, <http://java.sun.com/products/jms/docs.html>).

# Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this specification, the following terms and definitions apply.

Data-Centric Publish-Subscribe (DCPS)

The mandatory portion of the DDS specification used to provide the functionality required for an application to publish and subscribe to the values of data objects.

Data Distribution Service (DDS)

An OMG distributed data communications specification that allows Quality of Service policies to be specified for data timeliness and reliability. It is independent of implementation languages.

Java Archive (JAR)

A zip file, whose name ends in the suffix .jar, that contains the compiled Java class files and other artifacts that comprise a Java library.

Java Runtime Environment (JRE)

The environment within which Java applications execute. The JRE consists of an executing instance of a JVM, a set of class libraries, and potentially other components.

Java Virtual Machine (JVM)

An abstract computing machine capable of executing interpreted and/or compiled Java byte code. JVM implementations typically take the form of executables that run as processes under operating systems, but this style of implementation is not mandatory.

Platform-Independent Model (PIM)

An abstract definition of a facility, often expressed with the aid of formal or semi-formal modeling languages such as OMG UML, that does not depend on any particular implementation technology.

Platform-Specific Model (PSM)

A concrete definition of a facility, typically based on a corresponding PIM, in which all implementation-specific dependencies have been resolved.

# Symbols

This specification does not define any symbols or abbreviations.

# Additional Information

## Changes to Adopted OMG Specifications

This specification does not extend or modify any existing OMG specifications.

## Relationships to Non-OMG Specifications

This specification depends on version 5 of the Java Standard Edition platform. Service implementations may impose additional constraints; the nature and scope of these, if any, are unspecified.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

As of the publication of this specification, Java SE remains the predominant platform for the development and deployment of DDS Java applications.

* Introducing a dependency on Java EE would have brought little additional capability to the PSM and would have put it outside of the reach of many potential users, especially those deploying to embedded operating systems (many of which do support Java SE).
* Allowing the PSM to support Java ME would have made it less usable for the majority of potential users: as of the publication of this specification, Java ME platforms lack support for many modern collections and Java language features. At the same time, support for Java ME would not have significantly increased the availability of implementations of this specification: many embedded platforms already support Java SE, and existing DDS vendors have not observed significant customer demand for Java ME support in existing products.

## Acknowledgements

The following companies submitted this specification:

* Real-Time Innovations, Inc. (RTI)
* PrismTech

# Java 5 Language PSM for DDS

The specification below is organized according to the module defined by the DDS specification and the types and operations defined within them.

## General Concerns and Conventions

This section defines those elements of this specification that cut across multiple DDS modules.

### Packages and Type Organization

This PSM is defined in a set of Java packages, the names of each beginning with the prefix org.omg.dds. Each of these contains a Java type for each type in the corresponding DDS module; most of these are interfaces.

All of these packages, and the types within them, are packaged into a single JAR file, omgdds.jar (see *Annex A: Java JAR Library File*).

All those types that are abstract—including interfaces and abstract classes—are intended to be implemented concretely by the Service implementation. In addition, the subtypes defined by the implementation may expose additional implementation-specific properties and operations; however, the nature of these, if any, is undefined.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

This PSM defines only a few classes, all of them abstract; classes, as opposed to interfaces, constrain implementations and/or defeat runtime portability. It defines a number of enumerations, which must be concrete; however, these are either stateless or have only trivial state.

This PSM divides the types it defines into multiple packages, rather than collocating them in a single package, for the following reasons:

* DDS defines a large number of types. Grouping them into multiple packages makes it clear which are more closely related to one another.
* The package organization improves traceability to the DDS PIM ([DDS]).
* The package organization parallels the namespace organization of the C++ PSM for DDS, facilitating cross-training across languages.

### Implementation Coexistence

To facilitate the coexistence of multiple DDS implementations within the same JVM instance, each implementation of this PSM shall be compatible with other implementations in at least the following ways:

* It shall be possible to pass an instance of any value type (see section 8.2.3) created by one DDS implementation to a method implemented by another. For example, the method DataWriter.write optionally accepts an argument of type InstanceHandle; this object may have been created by the same DDS implementation that created the DataWriter or by another DDS implementation.
* It shall be possible to read or take samples from a DataReader provided by one DDS implementation and immediately write them using a DataWriter provided by another DDS implementation, provided that the samples are of a type compatible with that DataWriter.

*Note* that passing an object from one implementation to another may incur a performance cost, as the “receiving” implementation may have to copy the object in question before operating on it.

Otherwise, unless elsewhere noted in this specification, a Service implementation may raise an exception or behave in an undefined way if it encounters a concrete type defined by another party. For example, the concrete WaitSet implementation provided by one DDS vendor need not support the attachment of Condition implementations provided by another DDS vendor.

### Resource Management

The use of interfaces instead of classes requires the introduction of an explicit factory pattern for the construction of objects of all DDS types. For some types (Entities in particular), this pattern is already explicit in the DDS PIM. For other types (such as QoS policies), it is a property solely of the PIM-to-PSM mapping. For these latter types—those without PIM-defined factory construction methods—the Context class (see below) serves as the factory.

This PSM maps the factory deletion methods of the DDS PIM (*e.g.* DomainParticipant.delete\_publisher) to close methods on the “product” interfaces themselves (*e.g.* Publisher.close). Closing an Entity implicitly closes all of its contained objects, if any. For example, closing a Publisher also closes all of its contained DataWriters.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

The close destruction design pattern is intended to be familiar to those developers who have used java.io stream APIs and/or [JMS] and eliminates the possibility that an object could be deleted using a factory other than the one that created it.

Users of this PSM are recommended to call close once they are finished using such heavyweight objects. In addition, implementations *may automatically* close objects that the JRE deems to be no longer in use—for example, they may call close() in an Object.finalize() override—subject to the following restrictions:

* Any object to which the application has a direct reference is still in use.
* Any entity with a non-null listener is still in use.
* Any object that has been explicitly retained is still in use
* The creator of any object that is still in use is itself still in use.

### Concurrency and Reentrancy

It is expected that most Service implementations will be used frequently in multi-threaded environments. Therefore, for the sake of portability, this PSM constrains the level of thread safety that applications may expect:

* All DataReader and DataWriter operations shall be reentrant.
* All Topic (and other TopicDescription extension interfaces), Publisher, Subscriber, and DomainParticipant operations shall be reentrant with the exception that close may not be called on a given object concurrently with any other call of any method on that object or on any contained object.
* All Context and DomainParticipantFactory operations shall be reentrant with the exception that DomainParticipantFactory.close may not be called on a given object concurrently with any other call of any method on that object or on any contained object.
* All WaitSet and Condition (including Condition extension interfaces) operations shall be reentrant.
* Code within a DDS listener callback may not safely call any method on any DDS Entity but the one on which the status change occurred.
* Any method of any value type may be non-reentrant.

A vendor may choose to provide stronger guarantees than the rules above, but if so, those guarantees are unspecified.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

Objects that are likely to “own” mutexes within their implementation need not permit close invocations currently with other method invocations. This is to allow implementations to dispose of these mutexes within the close method without creating a race condition or requiring an additional level of locking.

Method invocations are restricted within listener callbacks in order to avoid deadlocks, especially in Service implementations that invoke callbacks within shared Service-managed threads.

### Method Signature Conventions

This PSM maps the underscore-formatted names of the DDS PIM and IDL PSM (such as get\_qos) into conventional Java “camel-case” names (such as getQos). This mapping makes the API look more familiar to Java developers and makes it interoperate better with Java technologies, such as Java Beans, that require this naming convention.

Properties defined by the DDS PIM are expressed as sets of accessor and mutator methods. The signatures of these methods conform to the following convention:

* Mutators are named set<*PropertyName*>. (For example, the mutator for a property “Foo” would be named setFoo.) They take a single argument: the new value of the property.
* Accessors for properties that are either of immutable objects (such as those of primitive types, primitive box types, and strings) or pointers to the internal state of an object are named get<*PropertyName*>. (For example, the accessor for an integer property “Foo” would be named getFoo.) They take no arguments. The accessor and its corresponding mutator, if any, thereby form a single Java Bean property.
* Accessors for properties that are of mutable types, and that may change asynchronously after they are retrieved, are named get<*PropertyName*>. They take a pre-allocated object of the property type as their first argument, the contents of which shall be overwritten by the method. To facilitate method chaining, these methods also return a reference to this argument. This pattern forces the caller to make a copy, thereby avoiding unexpected changes to the property. An Entity’s status is an example of a property of this kind.

### API Extensibility

Implementation-specific extensions to the types specified by this PSM are by definition unspecified. However, implementations may provide such a capability by providing extended implementation-specific interfaces and returning instances of these interfaces from the specified factory methods.

Implementations shall not place their extensions, if any, in any interface or class in the package org.omg.dds or in any other package whose name begins with that prefix.

## Infrastructure Module

This PSM realizes the Infrastructure Module from the DDS specification with two packages: org.omg.dds.core and org.omg.dds.core.policy. The latter contains all QoS policy classes, since a given QoS policy may apply to multiple DDS Entity types. The former contains all other Infrastructure types, including for example Entity and Condition base interfaces.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

These two packages have been made distinct from one another for two reasons: First, the QoS policies constitute a significant proportion of the total set of types in the Infrastructure Module, and the contents of the module are thus easier to understand when they are divided along this line. Second, a dedicated package for QoS policies makes the code completion features of modern programming environments easier to use, because it allows users to narrow the set of classes through which they must search in order to find the one they’re looking for.

The term “core” has been preferred to “infrastructure” for the sake of brevity (such as when using fully qualified names) and for consistency with the C++ PSM for DDS, which uses the term “core” as well.

### Bootstrap Class

A Bootstrap object is the root for all other DDS objects. It provides factory methods for the creation of all types that lack PIM-derived factory methods, and it provides access to the DomainParticipantFactory “singleton” (which is not a true singleton, but a singleton per Bootstrap instance). All stateful types in this PSM implement an interface DDSObject, through a getBootstrap method on which they can provide access to the Bootstrap from which they are ultimately derived. (Bootstrap itself implements this interface; a Bootstrap always returns this from its getBootstrap operation.)

The Bootstrap class allows implementations to avoid the presence of static state, if desired. It also allows multiple DDS implementations—or multiple versions of the “same” implementation—to potentially coexist within the same Java run-time environment. A DDS application’s first step is to instantiate a Bootstrap, which represents the DDS implementation that it will use. From there, it can create all of its additional DDS objects.

The Bootstrap class is abstract. To avoid compile-time dependencies on concrete Bootstrap implementations, an application can instantiate a Bootstrap by means of a static createInstance method on the Bootstrap class. This method looks up a concrete Bootstrap subclass using a Java system property containing the name of that subclass. This subclass must be provided by implementers and will therefore have an implementation-specific name.

### Error Handling and Exceptions

The PSM maps the ReturnCode\_t type from the DDS PIM into a combination of standard Java exceptions (where their semantics match those expressed in the PIM) and new exception classes defined by this PSM. This mapping is as follows:

* With the exception of java.util.concurrent.TimeoutException, all exceptions are unchecked (that is, they extend java.lang.RuntimeException directly or indirectly).
* The exception classes defined by this PSM extend the base class DDSException. All of the PSM-defined exception classes are defined in the package org.omg.dds.core. All of these classes are abstract so as not to specify the representation of state; implementations shall provide concrete implementations.

Table ReturnCode\_t 🡪 exception mapping

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ReturnCode\_t Value | Exception Class |
| RETCODE\_OK | Normal return; no exception |
| RETCODE\_NO\_DATA | An informational state (e.g. a Boolean result) attached to a normal return; no exception |
| RETCODE\_ERROR | DDSException |
| RETCODE\_BAD\_PARAMETER | java.lang.IllegalArgumentException |
| RETCODE\_TIMEOUT | java.util.concurrent.TimeoutException |
| RETCODE\_UNSUPPORTED | java.lang.UnsupportedOperationException |
| RETCODE\_ALREADY\_DELETED | AlreadyClosedException |
| RETCODE\_ILLEGAL\_OPERATION | IllegalOperationException |
| RETCODE\_NOT\_ENABLED | NotEnabledException |
| RETCODE\_PRECONDITION\_NOT\_MET | PreconditionNotMetException |
| RETCODE\_IMMUTABLE\_POLICY | ImmutablePolicyException |
| RETCODE\_INCONSISTENT\_POLICY | InconsistentPolicyException |
| RETCODE\_OUT\_OF\_RESOURCES | OutOfResourcesException |

In addition, this PSM permits implementations to throw exceptions to indicate errors in operations that in the PIM return an object reference. The PIM uses the convention of modeling failure conditions as operation return results, making it impossible to provide finer failure-detection granularity than a simple nil/non-nil result check in the case of methods that must return something other than a return code. The Java language, with built-in exception support, eliminates that restriction, and this PSM takes advantage of that fact.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

This PSM uses checked and unchecked exceptions according to the following rationale: Where the exception represents a *fault*—a design flaw, implementation mistake, or runtime failure—it is unchecked. Where it represents a *contingency*—an uncommon-but-expected return scenario, for which the caller is expected to have a coping strategy—it is checked[[2]](#footnote-2).

Most exceptions in the DDS API represent faults, not contingencies.

Within each category, this PSM reuses existing JRE exception classes when they are available and appropriate.

### Value Types

All DDS types with value semantics implement the interface org.omg.dds.core.Value[[3]](#footnote-3). These include QoS, QoS policy, status, time, and other types.

The Value interface extends the standard Java SE interfaces java.lang.Cloneable and java.io.Serializable, allowing objects of implementing types to be copied by value as well as serialized and deserialized using built-in Java mechanisms.

In addition, it defines a small number of additional methods. It defines a method copyFrom that accepts a source object of the same type as the object itself. This method overwrites the state of the target object (“this”) with the state of the argument object; it is similar to clone but does not require allocating a new object. Value implementers are also expected to override their inherited implementations of Object.equals and Object.hashCode in order to enforce value semantics.

Some value types come in modifiable and unmodifiable varieties—notably QoS and QoS policies. The “modifiable” interface extends the “unmodifiable” one.

* The latter provides an operation modify that returns an instance of the former. Classes that implement the unmodifiable interface but not the modifiable one shall implement this operation to return a new modifiable object containing a copy of the state of the target unmodifiable object. Classes that implement the modifiable interface shall return a pointer to themselves.
* Modifiable value types with unmodifiable counterparts have an inverse operation: finishModification. In many cases, calling this operation is optional, as modifiable interfaces extend unmodifiable ones. However, in some cases, a truly unmodifiable object is desirable, such as when it will be shared among threads without locking.

### Time and Duration

This PSM maps the DDS Time\_t and Duration\_t types into the value types Time and Duration respectively. In addition to providing their seconds and nanoseconds state through Java Bean properties, these classes provide a small number of convenience operations:

* Time objects can be incremented by durations expressed as seconds, nanoseconds, milliseconds (the conventional unit on the Java platform), or Duration objects.
* Time objects can be converted from times expressed in milliseconds (such as are returned from java.lang.System.currentTimeMillis) or as java.util.Date objects. They can be converted (by truncation or rounding at the implementation’s discretion) into quantities in milliseconds.
* Duration objects can be incremented by durations expressed as seconds, nanoseconds, milliseconds (the conventional unit on the Java platform), or Duration objects.
* Duration objects can be converted to and from durations expressed in milliseconds.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

The names of these types omit the underscore and ‘t’ characters from the ends of their names. That naming convention, while common among C POSIX programmers, is not conventional in Java.

### QoS and QoS Policies

QoS-related types fall into two categories, as expressed in the DDS PIM: individual QoS policies (such as reliability) and the collections of policies that apply to a particular DDS Entity type. This PSM represents the former with the base interface org.omg.dds.core.policy.QosPolicy and the latter with the base interface org.omg.dds.core.Qos.

#### QoS Policies

The DDS PIM represents each QoS policy in three ways; this PSM maps them as follows:

Table QoS policy representation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DDS PIM | Java 5 PSM |
| QoS policy structure containing the state of an instance of that policy | QoS policy interface extending org.omg.dds.core.policy.QosPolicy. Each policy provides Java Bean-style properties. |
| Unique QoS policy ID, represented by an instance of the enumeration QosPolicyId\_t | Unique QoS policy ID, represented by an instance of the nested enumeration org.omg.dds.core.policy.QosPolicy.Id. The numeric value given in the IDL PSM is preserved in the Id integer member value. |
| Unique QoS policy name, represented by a string property QosPolicy.name | Unique QoS policy ID, represented by an instance of the nested enumeration org.omg.dds.core.policy.QosPolicy.Id. The name is preserved in the Id string member name. |

#### Entity QoS

Each Entity QoS (e.g. DataReaderQos) is an interface extending org.omg.dds.core.Qos. These sub-interfaces provide direct access to their policies as in the IDL PSM. However, the base interface also provide for generic access using the java.util.Map interface. This interface allows applications to look up policies by ID and to iterate over them in a generic way, including vendor-specific extension policies, without introducing compile-time dependencies on vendor-specific APIs.

The contents of a QoS object are only meaningful in relation to the current QoS or default QoS of some Entity or group of Entities. Therefore, these objects cannot be created directly; they can only be cloned from pre-existing state maintained by the Service implementation.

QoS objects as returned by Entities shall be immutable; applications shall never observe them to change. Applications that wish to modify QoS values must first call modify to obtain a modifiable QoS object; after making their desired modifications, they must pass their new QoS values to setQos.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

The copy-on-write idiom described above has several benefits:

* The getQos operation can operate maximally efficiently: it need not allocate any memory or perform any copies.
* The immutable result of getQos can be used safely concurrently from multiple threads.
* The getQos and setQos methods form a conventional Java Bean property.

#### QoS Libraries and Profiles

The *DDS for Lightweight CCM* specification [DDS-CCM] defines a format for QoS libraries and profiles. These libraries and profiles provide a mechanism for entity QoS configuration administration. This PSM provides the following APIs for accessing these administered QoS configurations:

* The org.omg.dds.core.Entity interface allows any Entity’s QoS to be set based on the names of a QoS library and profile.
* Each Entity factory interface—DomainParticipantFactory, DomainParticipant, Publisher, and Subscriber—provides methods to create new “product” Entities and to set their default QoS based on the names of a QoS library and profile.

### Entity Base Interfaces

As in the DDS PIM, all Entity interfaces extend—directly or indirectly—the interface Entity. In this PSM, this interface is generic; it is parameterized by the Entity’s QoS and listener types. These parameters allow applications to call common operations like getQos or getListener in a type-safe way while still working with Entities polymorphically.

Also as in the DDS PIM, Entities other than DomainParticipant extend the interface DomainEntity. These Entities provide operations to get the creating parent Entity; in this PSM, this operation is the polymorphic DomainEntity.getParent.

### Entity Status Changes

This section describes the objects pertaining to the status changes of DDS Entities: the Status types themselves, listeners, conditions, and wait sets.

#### Status Classes

This PSM represents each status identified by the DDS PIM as an abstract class extending org.omg.dds.core.Status, which in turn extends java.util.EventObject. (The Java Beans specification requires that all classes representing an event posted to a listener extend EventObject.)

The DDS PIM also identifies statuses using a “status kind”; these are composed into a mask that is used when setting listeners and at other times. This PSM represents status kinds using the nested enumeration Status.Kind and status masks as java.util.Sets[[4]](#footnote-4) of status kinds.

Status objects passed to listeners in callbacks may be pooled and reused by the implementation. Therefore, applications that wish to retain these objects—or any objects found within them, such as instance handles—for later use outside of the callback are responsible for copying them.

#### Listeners

This PSM maps the Listener interface from the DDS PIM to the java.util.EventListener interface contained within the Java SE standard library. The Java Beans specification mandates that all listeners implement this empty marker interface.

For each listener sub-interface (*e.g.* DataWriterListener), this PSM provides a concrete implementation of that interface in which all methods have empty implementations. These concrete classes are named like the listener interfaces they implement, but with the word “Listener” replaced by “Adapter.”

In the DDS PIM, each listener callback receives two arguments: the Entity, the status of which has changed, and the new value of that status. In this PSM, the former is unnecessary and is omitted: it is available through the read-only Source property of the status object.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

The listener + adapter design pattern is consistent with that used in the standard AWT and Swing UI libraries and elsewhere. It allows applications that are only interested in a subset of the callbacks provided by an interface to override only those methods and ignore the others.

This PSM distinguishes between listener interfaces, the implementations of which are likely to do type-specific things, and higher-level listener interfaces, the implementations of which are likely to do type-agnostic things.

* The former category includes TopicListener, DataReaderListener, and DataWriterListener. These classes are generic; their type parameters match that of the Entities on which they are set. This convention allows applications to read and write data within the context of a callback in a statically type-safe way.
* The latter category includes PublisherListener, SubscriberListener, and DomainParticipantListener. The Topics, DataReaders, and DataWriters passed to these listeners’ callbacks are parameterized with the generic wildcard ‘?’. Because of this difference between these listeners and those in the former category, there are no inheritance relationships between these categories, unlike in the PIM.

#### Conditions

Conditions extend the base interface org.omg.dds.core.Condition.

The interface StatusCondition, which extends Condition, is a generic interface with a type parameter that is the type of the Entity to which it belongs. This type parameter allows its getEntity method to be both polymorphic and type safe.

#### Wait Sets

Wait sets extend the base interface org.omg.dds.core.WaitSet.

In the DDS PIM, an application indicates its intention to wait for a condition to be triggered by invoking the operation WaitSet.wait. However, in Java, this operation overloads unintentionally with the inherited method Object.wait. This inherited method has a different meaning; the overload is inappropriate. Therefore, this PSM maps the DDS PIM wait operation to the more explicit method name waitForConditions.

## Domain Module

This PSM realizes the Domain Module from the DDS specification with two packages: org.omg.dds.domain and org.omg.dds.domain.discovery. The latter package contains those types pertaining to the DDS built-in topics used for discovery. The former contains DomainParticipant, DomainParticipantFactory, and the rest of the Domain Module.

### DomainParticipantFactory Interface

The DomainParticipantFactory is a per-Context singleton. An instance of this interface can be obtained not from a get\_instance method on the class itself, as in the DDS PIM, but from a getParticipantFactory method on the Context.

### DomainParticipant Interface

This PSM represents the DomainParticipant classifier from the DDS PIM with the interface org.omg.dds.domain.DomainParticipant.

### Discovery Interfaces

The data types pertaining to the DDS built-in discovery topics are contained in the package org.omg.dds.domain.discovery. These types provide only accessors for their state, not mutators, to reflect the read-only (from an application’s point of view) nature of discovery.

## Topic Module

This PSM realizes the Topic Module from the DDS specification with the packages org.omg.dds.type and org.omg.dds.topic.

### Type Support

As in the DDS PIM, each type to be published or subscribed with DDS is represented by a class implementing the TypeSupport interface (in the package org.omg.dds.type). Applications obtain instances of these interfaces by calling the operation Context.createTypeSupport, passing this method the Java Class object of the type they wish to support and optionally a name under which that type should be registered. If no such name is provided, the type shall be registered under the fully qualified name of the provided Class.

This PSM modifies slightly the capability for type registration provided by the DDS PIM. In the PIM, types are registered by invoking a TypeSupport.register\_type operation. Subsequently, applications provide the registered type name to the DomainParticipant.create\_topic operation in order to refer to the registered type. This PSM instead asks applications to instantiate each TypeSupport object with a name and then provide that TypeSupport itself to the create\_topic method.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

By requiring the application to pass an instance of the generic TypeSupport interface to the createTopic method, this PSM maintains unbroken static type safety all the way from type registration to data publication or reception. A pattern of type access based on the name strings would require a type cast.

### Topic Interface

The Topic interface adds only a single operation to the set of those it inherits from its TopicDescription and DomainEntity super-types: an accessor for the inconsistent topic status. Topic—like all TopicDescriptions, and like DataReader and DataWriter—is a generic interface with a type parameter that identifies the type of the data with which it is associated. Although Topic provides no type-specific operations, its type parameter preserves type safety from Topic creation (actually all the way from type registration) through data publication and/or subscription.

The InconsistentTopicStatus class also has a generic type parameter to match the Topic on which this status has changed. InconsistentTopicStatus is a java.util.EventObject; this type parameter allows the status to provide its source object in a strongly typed way.

### ContentFilteredTopic and MultiTopic Interfaces

ContentFilteredTopic and MultiTopic are generic interfaces with type parameters that identify the types of the data with which they are associated.

Note that the type parameter of a ContentFilteredTopic does not need to match that of its related Topic exactly; it can be any supertype. So for example, if the user-defined type Bar extends the user-defined type Foo, a ContentFilteredTopic<Foo> can wrap a Topic<Bar>.

## Publication Module

This PSM realizes the Publication Module from the DDS specification with the package org.omg.dds.pub.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

The term “pub” has been preferred to the longer “publication” for the sake of brevity (such as when using fully qualified names) and for consistency with the C++ PSM for DDS, which uses the term “pub” as well.

### Publisher Interface

Publishers are represented by instances of the org.omg.dds.pub.Publisher interface.

In addition to the methods defined for this interface by [DDS], it additionally provides a lookupDataWriter overload that acts on the basis of a Topic object rather than solely on the topic’s name. This overload is provided for the sake of additional static type safety.

### DataWriter Interface

DataWriters are represented by instances of the org.omg.dds.pub.DataWriter interface. This is a generic interface, parameterized by the type of the data samples to be written by a given writer. The DDS PIM distinguishes between a type-specific DataWriter (FooDataWriter) and one whose type is not statically known (DataWriter itself); these are related by an inheritance relationship. This PSM makes no such distinction: Java’s generic wildcard syntax (DataWriter<?>) makes it possible to express all type-specific DataWriter operations on the DataWriter interface itself; there is no FooDataWriter.

For most type-specific operations, the DDS PIM provides variants that accept an explicit timestamp (to allow applications to manage the passage of time themselves) and variants that do not (indicating that the Service implementation should provide this); these two sets of operations use different naming conventions. In addition, the PIM includes an instance handle parameter in the signatures of these operations, despite the fact that not all types are keyed and therefore have any use for instance handles. These design choices reflect the existence of the IDL PSM: IDL does not support method overloading. Java does; therefore, the provision of timestamps and/or instance handles is optional and is handled by means of method overloads. For example, the write method provides the following overloads: one accepting a data sample only, another accepting a sample and an instance handle, and another accepting both of these as well as a timestamp. Users of DataWriters of unkeyed types may choose to call the overloads that accept instance handle arguments; if they do, the handle argument must be a nil handle (as explained in the DDS PIM).

## Subscription Module

This PSM realizes the Subscription Module from the DDS specification with the package org.omg.dds.sub.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

The term “sub” has been preferred to the longer “subscription” for the sake of brevity (such as when using fully qualified names) and for consistency with the C++ PSM for DDS, which uses the term “sub” as well.

### Subscriber Interface

Subscribers are represented by instances of the org.omg.dds.sub.Subscriber interface.

In addition to the methods defined for this interface by [DDS], it additionally provides a lookupDataReader overload that acts on the basis of a TopicDescription object rather than solely on the topic description’s name. This overload is provided for the sake of additional static type safety.

### Sample Interface

This PSM follows the guidance of the DDS PIM rather than of the IDL PSM: it represents data samples as single objects that incorporate both data and metadata. Each sample is represented by an instance of the org.omg.dds.sub.Sample interface. It provides its data via a getData method; if there is no valid data (corresponding to a false value for SampleInfo.valid\_data in the IDL PSM), this operation returns null. It provides its metadata (corresponding to the other SampleInfo properties in the IDL PSM) as read-only Java Bean properties.

The Sample interface also defines a nested interface: Sample.Iterator, an iterator that extends java.util.ListIterator. An iterator of this type provides read-only access to an ordered series of samples of a single type; such iterators are used by the DataReader read and take methods (see below).

### DataReader Interface

DataReaders are represented by instances of the org.omg.dds.sub.DataReader interface. This is a generic interface, parameterized by the type of the data samples to be read by a given reader. The DDS PIM distinguishes between a type-specific DataReader (FooDataReader) and one whose type is not statically known (DataReader itself); these are related by an inheritance relationship. This PSM makes no such distinction: Java’s generic wildcard syntax (DataReader<?>) makes it possible to express all type-specific DataReader operations on the DataReader interface itself; there is no FooDataReader.

The DataReader interface provides an extensive set of read and take method overloads. In addition to the distinction between read vs. take semantics (as defined in the DDS PIM), these operations come in two “flavors”: one that loans samples from a Service pool and returns a Sample.Iterator and another that deeply copies into an application-provided java.util.List.

* Applications that read or take loans must eventually return those loans; this PSM maps the return\_loan operation from the DDS PIM to an operation returnLoan on the Sample.Iterator.
* Applications that read or take copies may provide to the Service destination Lists with any number of Samples already in them (including empty Lists). Regardless of the number of Samples already in the list when the method is called, when it returns, the List shall contain the number of Samples requested by the application (or fewer, if fewer were available). The Service implementation may—for example, in order to avoid object allocations—elect to overwrite the contents of any Samples that are passed into it by invocations of these methods.

The read and take operations defined by the DDS PIM do not take advantage of overloading, because they were designed with the IDL PSM in mind, and IDL does not support overloading. Java does; therefore, this PSM both simplifies the operations’ signatures as well as captures commonalities among them as follows:

* Several operation variants accept large numbers of infrequently used parameters (for example, sets of sample, instance, and view states). These operations have been split into two overloaded methods: one that accepts the minimum number of arguments and a second that accepts the full list.
* Operations accepting ReadConditions in the PIM have names ending in “\_w\_condition.” This PSM removes this suffix, transforming these operations into overloads.
* Operations accepting instance handles in the PIM have “\_instance” in their names. This PSM removes this infix, transforming these operations into overloads.
* This PSM renames both of the operation families read\_/take\_next\_sample and read\_/take\_next\_instance to simply read/takeNext, transforming these operations into overloads of one another.

## Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types Module

This section of this specification addresses those additions to DDS introduced by the *Extensible and Dynamic Topic Types for DDS* specification [DDS-XTypes]. The additions fall into the following categories:

* **Types pertaining to TypeObject Type Representations** are defined in the package org.omg.dds.type.typeobject.
* **Types pertaining to the Dynamic Language Binding** are defined in the package org.omg.dds.type.dynamic.
* **The TypeKind enumeration**, which pertains to both of the above, is defined in the package org.omg.dds.type.
* **The built-in types** are defined in the package org.omg.dds.type.builtin.
* **Extensions by [DDS-XTypes] to types defined by [DDS]** (such as the built-in topic data types) are contained within those types.

### Dynamic Language Binding

The Dynamic Language Binding, as defined by [DDS-XTypes], consists of DynamicType, DynamicTypeMember, DynamicData, their respective factories, and several “descriptor” value types.

#### DynamicTypeFactory and DynamicDataFactory Interfaces

These factories are per-Context singletons. The accessors Context.getTypeFactory and Context.getDataFactory take the places of the static get\_instance operations on the factory interfaces themselves in [DDS-XTypes]. The static delete\_instance operations defined in [DDS-XTypes] have been omitted in this PSM; the Context implementation shall manage the life cycles of the factories as appropriate for a given Service implementation.

#### DynamicTypeSupport Interface

The interface DynamicTypeSupport defined by [DDS-XTypes] does not provide any capability beyond what the generic TypeSupport interface provided by this PSM already provides. Therefore, it has been omitted from this PSM.

#### DynamicType and DynamicTypeMember Interfaces

These interfaces are expressed in this PSM according to the mapping rules expressed elsewhere in this document. In addition, the following changes to this mapping have been made:

* Operations that provide their result as an in-out value in their first parameter and return DDS::ReturnCode\_t have been changed such that they instead return their results directly. (This change, made for the convenience of the caller, is possible because DDS::ReturnCode\_t is mapped to a set of exceptions in this PSM.)
* The equals and clone operations on these types have been mapped to overrides of the Java-standard Object.equals and Object.clone, respectively.
* DynamicTypeMember is a reference type, and instances of it are obtained from DynamicType.addMember. This change avoids the need to provide an additional factory method for DynamicTypeMember instances.
* On each type, the operations get\_annotation\_count and get\_annotation (by index) have been unified into a single getAnnotations method that returns a list of annotations. The lists returned from these methods shall not be modifiable.

In addition to the methods specified by [DDS-XTypes], DynamicTypeFactory provides one additional factory method: createType(Class<?>). This method shall inspect the given type reflectively in accordance with the Java Type Representation (section 9 below) and instantiate an equivalent DynamicType object.

#### DynamicData Interface

This interface is expressed in this PSM according to the mapping rules expressed elsewhere in this document. In addition, the following changes to this mapping have been made:

* Operations that provide their result as an in-out value in their first parameter and return DDS::ReturnCode\_t have been changed such that they instead return their results directly. (This change, made for the convenience of the caller, is possible because DDS::ReturnCode\_t is mapped to a set of exceptions in this PSM.)
* The equals and clone operations on these types have been mapped to overrides of the Java-standard Object.equals and Object.clone, respectively.
* Methods dealing with unsigned integer types have been omitted. Applications may access unsigned data using the signed type of the same size (*e.g.* UInt32 becomes Int32), which preserves bitwise representation but not logical value, or by using the signed type one size up (*e.g.* UInt32 becomes Int64), which preserves logical value but not representation (and may therefore require additional range checking by the implementation). In the case of UInt64, the “type one size up” is java.math.BigInteger.
* The 128-bit Float128 type has been represented using java.math.BigDecimal.

#### Descriptor Interfaces

The following interfaces are values types with modifiable and unmodifiable variants, as described in section 8.2.3 above:

* AnnotationDescriptor (and ModifiableAnnotationDescriptor)
* MemberDescriptor (and ModifiablememberDescriptor)
* TypeDescriptor (and ModifiableTypeDescriptor)

### Built-in Types

[DDS-XTypes] specifies four built-in types: DDS::String, DDS::Bytes, DDS::KeyedString, and DDS::KeyedBytes.

* DDS::String is mapped to java.lang.String.
* DDS::Bytes is mapped to byte[].
* DDS::KeyedString and DDS::KeyedBytes are mapped to modifiable value type interfaces.

The DataReader and DataWriter specializations for these built-in types provide additional overloaded methods not implied by the generic versions of these interfaces. Therefore, this PSM defines extended interfaces StringDataReader, StringDataWriter, BytesDataReader, BytesDataWriter, and so on. It furthermore provides additional Subscriber.createDataReader and Publisher.createDataWriter variants specially tailored to the built-in types that return these extended interface types to allow applications to take advantage of these additional methods while maintaining static type safety. Note that the existence of these built-in-type-specific Publisher and Subscriber factory methods does not imply that the generic versions of these methods do not apply to the built-in types; they do.

### Representing Types with TypeObject

The types in this package are expressed as modifiable value types according to the mapping rules expressed elsewhere in this document. In addition, the following changes to this mapping have been made:

* Top-level constants are moved into related interfaces, for example: Member.MEMBER\_ID\_INVALID.
* Enumerations of member ID values are nested final classes within the interfaces for which they provide the member’s IDs. These classes have constant integer fields, for example: MapType.MemberId. BOUND\_MAPTYPE\_MEMBER\_ID.
* Mutator methods that accept sequence values are provided in two overloaded versions: one accepting a list and the other an implicit array (“...” syntax).

# Java Type Representation and Language Binding

The Java Type Representation defined in this section provides a means for Java developers to publish and subscribe to DDS topics typed by plain Java objects without resorting to code generation or the reflective style of the Dynamic Language Binding.

By its very nature as an expression of the Java programming language, this Type Representation implicitly and simultaneously defines a Language Binding for DDS types. That is, a Java type necessarily defines a Java API to itself as part of its definition. Therefore, this Type Representation is intended for the run-time use of implementations of this PSM. While this specification does not preclude Service implementations from using this Type Representation for other purposes—for example, generating a Plain Language Binding in C for a DDS type represented in Java—such uses are non-normative and unspecified.

The Java platform provides a mechanism by which Java type definitions can be used to define how objects can be serialized for transmission over a network: the java.io.Serializable interface and its related types. Since the transmission of data from Java programs over DDS is a related problem, this specification builds on that mechanism. Any Java type that implements Serializable (directly or indirectly) shall be available for publishing and/or subscribing over DDS as defined below. *Note* that the DDS serialization of a type will not generally be the same as the JRE serialization of the same type, even if the type designer’s specification of which data to serialize can be shared between these two mechanisms.

## Default Mappings

The following table defines the default mappings from Java type system definitions to DDS type system ones:

Table — Default type mappings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Java Type | DDS Type |
| int, java.lang.Integer | Int32 |
| short, java.lang.Short | Int16 |
| long, java.lang.Long | Int64 |
| float, java.lang.Float | Float32 |
| double, java.lang.Double | Float64 |
| char, java.lang.Character | Char8 |
| byte, java.lang.Byte | Byte |
| boolean, java.lang.Boolean | Boolean |
| java.lang.String | string<Char8> |
| java.util.Map | map |
| java.lang.Collection, array | sequence |
| java.lang.Object | Structure |

A type designer may modify these defaults on a type-by-type and/or field-by-field basis by applying the annotation org.omg.dds.type.annotation.SerializeAs:

public @interface SerializeAs {

public TypeKind value();

…

}

## Metadata

The type system metadata represented with built-in annotations in the IDL Type Representation (such as @Key, @ID) shall be represented by equivalent Java annotations unless otherwise noted. These annotations are in the package org.omg.dds.type.annotation.

The annotations in this package logically govern the behavior of concrete classes, not of polymorphic interfaces. As such, they may be applied to classes or to their fields, as appropriate. Interface designers wishing to document the DDS serialization of a type may additionally apply them to interfaces or to property accessor and/or mutator methods; however, they have no specified behavior in such cases.

## Primitive Types

By default, Java primitive types are mapped to DDS primitive types as defined in Table 6 above. The @SerializeAs annotation may be used to modify these mappings as follows:

Table — Customized primitive type mappings

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DDS Type | Permitted Java Primitive Types |
| Int32 | int, java.lang.Integer |
| UInt32 | int, long, java.lang.Integer, java.lang.Long |
| Int16 | short, java.lang.Short |
| UInt16 | short, int, java.lang.Short, java.lang.Integer |
| Int64 | long, java.lang.Long |
| UInt64 | long, java.lang.Long, java.math.BigInteger |
| Float32 | float, java.lang.Float |
| Float64 | double, java.lang.Double |
| Float128 | double, java.lang.Double, java.math.BigDecimal |
| Byte | byte, java.lang.Byte |
| Boolean | boolean, java.lang.Boolean |
| Char8 | char, java.lang.Character |
| Char32 | char, int, java.lang.Character, java.lang.Integer |

The DDS Type System ([DDS-XTypes]) defines unsigned integer types; the Java type system does not. As a result, this Type Representation must map unsigned values to “equivalent” signed types. Type designers have two choices, reflected in the table above:

* **Preserve representation**: Map the DDS unsigned type to a Java signed type of the same size. Designers can be confident that every value in the range of the DDS type has an equivalent value in the range of the Java type. However, logical values will not be preserved in all cases: for example, large unsigned (positive) values will appear as negative values to Java applications.
* **Preserve logical value**: Map the DDS unsigned type to the next-larger Java signed type such that all values in the range of the DDS type can be reflected faithfully in the range of the Java type. However, applications must be prepared to deal with failures that may occur when data values that are logically unsigned mistakenly take a negative value that cannot be faithfully represented on the DDS network.

## Collections

[DDS-XTypes] recognizes three categories of collections: strings (variable-length lists of narrow or wide characters), sequences (variable-length lists of any single element type), and maps (homogeneously typed key-value mappings).

### Strings

DDS strings, whether of narrow or wide characters, are represented by Java String objects.

* If a string is to be of narrow characters (the default), each Java character shall be truncated to its least-significant byte.
* If a string is to be of wide characters (in which case it must be so marked with @SerializeAs), each Java code point shall become a single DDS wide character.

### Maps

Any object whose class implements the interface java.util.Map shall be considered a DDS map unless marked otherwise with @SerializeAs.

### Sequences and Arrays

Any object whose class implements the interface java.util.Collection shall be considered DDS sequences unless marked otherwise with @SerializeAs. If the class implements java.util.List, the order of the elements in the sequence shall corresponds exactly to the order of the elements in the list. Otherwise, the order of the elements in the sequence shall correspond to that returned by the collection’s iterator.

Objects of array types shall be considered DDS sequences unless marked otherwise with @SerializeAs.

Any Java collection or array may be designated as a DDS array with @SerializeAs.

Design Rationale (non-normative)

Objects of array types must receive special care, because a Java array—like any Java object—is stored by reference only. Therefore, although a given array object itself is not of variable length, the reference to it may be reassigned to point to an array of a different length. Even if the reference does not change, the length of the array pointed to cannot in general be discovered by analysis of the type itself and may vary from object to object of the same type.

## Aggregated Types

[DDS-XTypes] recognizes two kinds of aggregated types: structures and unions.

Any DDS type that is not a nested type (in the sense of that word defined by [DDS-XTypes], as indicated in this Type Representation by the annotation @Nested) must define a no-argument constructor for use by the Service implementation. Service implementations shall have the capability to invoke this constructor reflectively, even if it is not public.

The fields in the DDS structured type shall correspond to those of the Java class. Their order shall be that returned by the method java.lang.reflect.Class.getDeclaredFields. Static and/or transient fields shall be omitted. Service implementations shall have the capability to get and set the values of fields reflectively regardless of their declared access level (e.g. public, protected, private).

Service implementations need not address the following cases:

* A Java Security Manager (java.lang.SecurityManager) prevents privileged access to a non-public field or constructor.
* A field that is neither static nor transient is declared final, preventing its value from being modified.
* Object references form a cycle. (Cycles are not permitted by the DDS Type System.)

### Structures

Every Java class that is not a collection or map shall be considered a structure by default.

#### Inheritance

Java class extension shall map to structure inheritance in the DDS Type System [DDS-XTypes], subject to the restrictions documented by the java.io.Serializable interface, such as those pertaining to non-Serializable base types.

#### Extensibility

The extensibility kind shall be determined in the following manner:

* FINAL: If the class extends java.lang.Object directly and is final, or if explicitly indicated.
* EXTENSIBLE: In all other cases, by default, or if explicitly indicated.
* MUTABLE: Only if explicitly indicated.

### Unions

Any class may be annotated as a union with @SerializeAs.

* Such a class must annotate exactly one field to be the discriminator with @UnionDiscriminator.
* All other fields that are not transient or static must be annotated with @UnionMember, which shall identify the discriminator value associated with that field.

## Enumerations and Bit Sets

By default, any Java enumeration class will be considered to be a DDS enumeration.

As in IDL, a type that is syntactically an enumeration may be annotated as a bit set type. In this case, objects of these types must also be annotated in order to be serialized correctly. A type member of type java.util.EnumSet or java.util.BitSet will be serialized as a bit set if marked with @BitSet.

## Modules

Each segment of a Java type’s package name shall correspond to a module in the DDS Type System [DDS-XTypes]. For example, a class com.acme.project.TheClass would be in the nested modules com::acme::project.

Annex A: Java JAR Library File

In addition to this document, this specification includes a Java Archive (JAR) library, omgdds.jar. This library contains compiled Java \*.class files for all of the classes and interfaces specified by this PSM.

This library comprises the compile-time portion of this specification: users shall be able to compile their PSM-compliant code against this library and then deploy the result against any conformant implementation.

Distributors of binary implementations of this PSM may elect to distribute the omgdds library alongside their implementation libraries or to package both the contents of omgdds.jar and their implementation into a single library.

Annex B: Java Source Code

In addition to this document, this specification includes the Java source code to all of the classes and interfaces specified by this PSM in the zip archive omgdds\_src.zip. This source code, in the directory srcJava within the archive, corresponds to the binary distribution found in the library omgdds.jar and is also normative with respect to both its programming interfaces and its embedded documentation comments.

For the convenience of both implementers and application developers, the archive contains additional files that are neither API source code nor documentation. These file are non-normative and include:

* **Code examples**: Short code segments, intended to be illustrative to application developers, can be found in the directory srcJavaExample within the archive.
* **build.xml**: A build script, compatible with version 1.6 of the Apache Ant tool[[5]](#footnote-5), can be found in the top-level directory of the archive. It is capable of creating both the omgdds.jar and omg\_src.zip files
* **Project files**: Project definition files compatible with version 3.5 of the Eclipse IDE for Java can be found in the top-level directory of the archive.

1. The DataReader read() and take() operations, as specified in the DDS PIM, take in two sequences, which they fill with sample data and meta-data. The output lengths of these sequences correspond to the number of samples retrieved. The IDL-to-Java mapping for sequences maps them to arrays, which has two problems: (*1*) There is a conflation between the current and maximum lengths of the sequence, which requires the operations to allocate new arrays (and the garbage collector to reclaim the old ones), and reassign all the pointers in them, any time the logical length changes. (*2*) There is no abstract interface a DDS vendor can implement in terms of its efficient internal data structures. Instead, it must copy samples into the arrays one at a time. Furthermore, it must find some other place to store the state of the loan. The result of both of these limitations is an implementation that uses more memory and is substantially lower performing. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The fault/contingency model of Java exceptions was first described by Barry Ruzek, then of BEA, in late 2006 or early 2007 in the article *Effective Java Exceptions*. This article was originally published at <http://dev2dev.bea.com/pub/a/2006/11/effective-exceptions.html> and is now available at <http://crmondemand.oracle.com/technetwork/articles/entarch/effective-exceptions-092345.html>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. The term “value type” refers to any data type for which object identity is considered to be established solely based on the state of the objects of that type. Such types generally provide deep copy and comparison operations. (For example, integers are an example of a value type: every occurrence of the quantity 42 is considered to refer to the same number as every other.) The term should not be confused with an IDL valuetype as defined by the CORBA specification. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The Java SE standard library provides a Set implementation EnumSet that is designed for efficient access to objects of enumerated types. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. See <http://ant.apache.org>. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)