

# Web Services Resource Access Working Group Charter (v062008)

The **mission** of the Web Services Resource Access Working Group, part of the [Web Services Activity](#), is to produce W3C Recommendations for a set of Web Services specifications by refining the “WS-Transfer”, “WS-ResourceTransfer”, “WS-Enumeration” and “WS-MetadataExchange” Member Submissions (referred to as “the submission specifications”), addressing implementation experience and interoperability feedback from the implementers and considering composition with other Web services standards.

The submission specifications define mechanisms for accessing and updating the XML representation and metadata of Web Service resources. WS-Transfer defines base CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) type of operations against Web Service resources. WS-ResourceTransfer enhances these operations, through the extensibility points of WS-Transfer, with the addition of fragment and batched access. WS-Enumeration provides a protocol that allows a resource to provide a session abstraction, called an enumeration context, to a consumer that represents a logical cursor through a sequence of data items. WS-MetadataExchange defines a mechanism by which metadata about a Web Service resource can be retrieved. When used in conjunction with WS-Transfer, WS-ResourceTransfer and WS-Enumeration, this metadata can be managed just like any other Web Service resource.

These specifications are relevant to other standardization efforts that need resource access mechanisms. To meet these needs, Web Services Resource Access Working Group should complete its work in a timely fashion.

[Join the Web Services Resource Access Working Group.](#)

<b>End date</b>	TBD (31 December 2009?)
<b>Confidentiality</b>	Proceedings are <a href="#">public</a>
<b>Initial Chairs</b>	TBD
<b>Initial Team Contacts</b> (FTE %: 35)	TBD
<b>Usual Meeting Schedule</b>	See <a href="#">Meetings</a>

## Scope

The Web Services Resource Access Working Group is chartered to standardize a general mechanism for accessing and updating the XML representation and metadata of Web Service resources. The following list of in scope features is intended to focus the work of the Working Group to prevent feature bloat and delay completion of its work:

1. The definition of the basic CRUD (Create, Read, Update, Delete) operations that provide access and update capabilities to a Web Service's XML representation.
2. A mechanism by which a fragment of the XML representation of a resource can be specified for the purpose of accessing, updating or deleting.
3. The definition of common Expression Dialects to identify these fragments.
4. A mechanism that allows for multiple (similar) Read and Update operations to be batched into one request.
5. A mechanism by which a Web Service can advertise, through its Metadata, the capabilities it supports with respect to the features defined by the Web Service Resource Access specifications.
6. A mechanism allowing a requester to retrieve the Metadata related to a Web Service. The supported Metadata forms returned include:
  - a. The Metadata itself.
  - b. An Endpoint Reference (EPR) to a Metadata Resource (whose XML representation is the Metadata).
  - c. A URL to a resource, whose content contains the Metadata.
7. A mechanism for embedding metadata within an EPR.
8. A mechanism for allowing a requester to specify the type(s) of Metadata returned by the Web Service – e.g. wsdl, schema...
9. A processing model in which CRUD operations can be used against the EPR to a Metadata Resource to access and manipulate the Metadata.
10. A mechanism by which a requester can iterate over, and retrieve in an incremental fashion, a large dataset.
11. Promote interoperability by ensuring that the Work Group's specifications conform with relevant WS-I Basic Profiles.

The Web Services Resource Access Working Group will take as its starting point the member submission versions of WS-Transfer, WS-ResourceTransfer, WS-Enumeration and WS-MetadataExchange. Appropriate consideration will be given to compatibility with the submission documents.

## Success Criteria

The Web Services Resource Access Working Group will define the specifics of their exit criteria before Last Call. The Working Group is expected to demonstrate at least four interoperable implementations during the [Call for Implementations](#) step for all of the output Recommendation specifications.

## Deliverables

### New publications

- W3C Recommendations for the output specifications of this Working Group. The Working Group may organize the structure of the specifications into one or more specifications.
- A test suite intended to promote implementation of the Candidate Recommendation, and to assess interoperability between these implementations.
- May author a primer that includes guidance on the use of the specifications.
- May propose a new charter for follow-on work on these specifications per the World Wide Web Consortium Process Document.

### Milestones

#### Proposed Timeline For Work

*Note: The group will document significant changes from this initial schedule on the [group home page](#). The Advisory Committee MUST be notified of any significant schedule changes.*

FPWD	LC	CR	PR	Rec
Oct 2008	Jan 2009	Mar 2009	Jul 2009	Sep 2009

### Timeline View Summary

- August 2008: Working Group created.
- September 2008: The first face-to-face meeting will be hosted by XXX, in XXX, XX, USA, on September XX, XX and XX, 200X.
- October 2008: Publish First public drafts for output specifications.
- November 2008: The second face-to-face meeting is targeted for November XX, XX and XX, 2008.
- January 2009: The third face-to-face meeting. Publish Last call drafts for *output specifications*.
- March 2009: Fourth face-to-face meeting. Candidate Recommendation drafts for output specifications.
- May 2009: Fifth face-to-face meeting.
- July 2009: Sixth face-to-face meeting. Publish Proposed Recommendation drafts for *output specifications*.
- September 2009: W3C Recommendations for *output specifications*.
- October 2009 – December 2009: Post Recommendation work, next steps considerations

## Dependencies

## W3C Groups

The Web Services Resource Access Working Group should coordinate its efforts with other Working Groups involved in the Web Services Activity.

As part of the Web Services Activity, the Web Services Resource Access Working Group Chair and Team Contact will be represented in the Web Services Coordination Group.

## External Groups

The following organizations have groups that may utilize the Web Services Resource Access specifications:

### [Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards](#)

OASIS is a not-for-profit, international consortium that drives the development, convergence and adoption of e-business standards.

Relevant Technical Committees include: [UDDI](#), [WS-RX](#), [WS-TX](#), and [WS-SX](#), [WSDM](#).

### [Distributed Management Task Force, Inc.](#)

The DMTF is the industry organization leading the development, adoption and promotion of interoperable management initiatives and standards.

Relevant Working Groups include: WS-Management.

## Participation

Effective participation is expected to consume one or two workdays per week for each Working Group participant; two or more days per week for editors. The Chair shall ensure that the criteria for [Good Standing](#) are understood and followed.

To be successful, we expect the Web Services Resource Access Working Group to have 10 or more active participants for its duration.

Participants are expected to carry out their assignments in a timely fashion, attend most meetings, and to remain familiar with group documents and mailing list discussion (W3C Process Document, [section 6.2.1.7](#)). Active participation will help ensure rapid progress.

## Meetings

The Web Services Resource Access Working Group will have distributed and face-to-face meetings.

At least up until the Last Call period ends a Working Group distributed meeting will be held every week. Thereafter, a Working Group distributed meeting will be held every week. When necessary to meet agreed-upon deadlines, distributed meetings may be held twice a week. Face-to-face meetings are expected to occur as needed.

The Web Services Resource Access Working Group may adjust the timing and duration of meetings to address the workload and assure that the goals and schedule of this charter are achieved.

## Communication

This group primarily conducts its work on the public mailing list [public-ws-resourceAccess@w3.org](mailto:public-ws-resourceAccess@w3.org). A Member-only mailing list [member-ws-resourceAccess@w3.org](mailto:member-ws-resourceAccess@w3.org) is also available for administrative purposes.

Information about the group (deliverables, participants, face-to-face meetings, teleconferences, etc.) is available from the [Web Services Resource Access Working Group home page](#).

## Decision Policy

As explained in the Process Document ([section 3.3](#)), this group will seek to make decisions when there is consensus. When the Chair puts a question and observes dissent, after due consideration of different opinions, the Chair should record a decision (possibly after a formal vote) and any objections, and move on.

This charter is written in accordance with [Section 3.4, Votes](#) of the W3C Process Document and includes no voting procedures beyond what the Process Document requires.

## Patent Policy

This Working Group operates under the [W3C Patent Policy](#) (5 February 2004 Version). To promote the widest adoption of Web standards, W3C seeks to issue Recommendations that can be implemented, according to this policy, on a Royalty-Free basis.

For more information about disclosure obligations for this group, please see the [W3C Patent Policy Implementation](#).

## About this Charter

This charter for the Web Services Resource Access Working Group has been created according to [section 6.2](#) of the [Process Document](#). In the event of a conflict between this document or the provisions of any charter and the W3C Process, the W3C Process shall take precedence.

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