

TITLE: CICS and WebSphere Service Registry and Repository - Why is It Important to your SOA deployment

**HOST: Hi, and welcome to the "Did you say Mainframe?" podcast series. This is where we regularly interview IBM technical experts who can help you to understand important IBM mainframe hardware and software issues. I'm your host Sherrie Abshire.**

**Today we're going to talk about CICS and WebSphere Service Registry and Repository or WSRR.**

**Our guest today is Martin Cocks from the CICS group based in Hursley in the UK. Martin, it's great to have you here.**

**SME: It's great to be here.**

**HOST: Before we begin, I'd like to mention to our listeners that there is a support Pac titled 'CICS TS - Support for the WebSphere® Service Registry and Repository'. I'll be giving out more information at the end of this podcast.**

**HOST: Martin, tell me about WebSphere Service Registry and Repository and what advantages it brings to an SOA implementation involving CICS web services?**

Answer: Any SOA implementation whether or not it includes CICS web services will benefit from using WebSphere Service Registry and Repository. That is because it helps answer important questions that arise when implementing an SOA such as "How do I increase service reuse?", "How do I manage the services lifecycle?" and "How do I govern services as part of my SOA?" It does this by providing a central repository for services that is easily accessible to build and runtime environments. Along with this it provides the ability to associate a web service with meta data such as custom properties and classifications. This meta data can then be used to govern a service and to determine where it is throughout its lifecycle.

**HOST: I can see those capabilities being useful to any SOA implementation. For someone using the web service support available in CICS Transaction Server Version 3.1 and above, is there anything available to help me take advantages of these capabilities?**

Answer: Yes there is, in fact CICS has shown its commitment to helping our customers integrate with WSRR by having SupportPac CA1N available on the first day it was released in September 2006. This SupportPac provides utilities that can be run with the CICS web services assistants. These utilities enable the CICS web services assistants to consume WSDL documents that are stored in WSRR removing the need to manually extract a document before using the assistants. The CICS web service assistants don't just provide the capability of creating a language structure interface from a web service they also provide the capability to create a web

2008 WebSphere System z Podcasts - 'Did you say Mainframe?' service interface from a language structure. To SupportPac adds functionality to this to by enabling the newly defined web service interface to be published into WSRR and be managed appropriately.

With this technology you can envision a program that is highly available, reliable and secure that runs in CICS being transformed within minutes into a web service that is stored and governed in WSRR and visible to the whole enterprise.

**HOST: For some, being able to convert a program that easily into a service visible to the whole enterprise is a scary prospect. How can someone ensure that they have control over the services available within their enterprise?**

Answer: That's where the lifecycle management, governance and access control capabilities of WSRR are important. With governance comes the ability to perform validation of services as they are moved through the lifecycle. This means that for example a service end point could be validated as it gets changed to production to check that it doesn't still refer to the end point within the test environment. The access control is also important as it only allows users authorized to perform a specific role to change the governance state of a governed service.

**HOST: There is clearly a lot more to WSRR and the web services support in CICS than we have time to talk about today. Where can I find \ more about it?**

Answer: Well there are several ways other than just looking at the product websites on IBM.com. Impact 2008 in Las Vegas is one I'd recommend where you'll be able to learn more about WSRR, including web services governance, implementing web services policy and the CICS support. The conference is about far more than WSRR though it will give you the opportunity to hear about how to get the most from the latest functionality added to the CICS and the WebSphere portfolios from the experts in various fields. If you want a smaller subset of detailed technical information for a team of people then the other option I'd recommend is a CICS On Demand Seminar where IBM experts will visit your site to give technical presentations and have detailed discussions to help you get the most from CICS for your business. These will get tailored to your requirements so using WSRR with CICS is just one of many things we can help you with.

To download the SupportPac CA1N visit the CICS SupportPac webpage at [ibm.com](http://ibm.com). Whilst you are there don't forget to look at the other useful SupportPacs that are available.

**HOST: Martin, thank you that was really interesting.**

Martin: Thanks for giving me the opportunity to talk about CICS and WSRR. And by the way, we're continuously making improvements to CICS and the CICS technical information. There will be updates and enhancements to the Supportpac CA1N and the CICS newsletter is an excellent source of what

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is new out of the Labs. To sign up for this please go to  
[www.ibm.com/cics/enevs/register](http://www.ibm.com/cics/enevs/register)

HOST: Well, that wraps up this podcast discussion. To find  
out more about the Support Pac for CICS and WSRR I mentioned  
earlier, please go to the description for this podcast at:  
<http://www.ibm.com/software/os/systemz/podcasts/websphereonz/>  
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There you will also find the URL for registering for the IBM  
Impact 2008 event which is being held in Las Vegas in April.

And for more information on the capabilities of CICS  
Transaction Server please go to [www.ibm.com/cics](http://www.ibm.com/cics)

Join us next time as we talk about another important  
mainframe topic. For now, this is Sherrie Abshire saying  
"Thanks for listening".