MCA Services Developer Guide

Version 2005, Rev. B

December 2005

Contents

1 What's New in This Release

What's New in MCA Services Developer Guide, Version 2005, Rev. B

Table 3 lists changes in this version of the document to support release 2005 of the software.

Table 1. What's New in MCA Services Developer Guide, Version 2005, Rev. B

Topic	Description
About Branch Teller Offline Transaction Processing, page 153	Added overview on how offline transactions are processed when the host is offline or when a HostConnectivityException is encountered.

What's New in MCA Services Developer Guide, Version 2005, Rev. A

Table 3 lists changes in this version of the document to support the stand-alone release of Foundation Services version 2005.

Table 2. What's New in MCA Services Developer Guide, Version 2005, Rev. A

Topic	Description
MCA Services Overview, page 17	Added descriptions for the sequence diagrams.
Launching the FPI Examples, page 155	Added the URL for launching the Financial Process Integrator examples.

What's New in MCA Services Developer Guide, Version 2005

Table 3 lists changes in this version of the documentation to support release 2005 of the software.

Table 3. What's New in MCA Services Developer Guide, Version 2005

Topic	Description
Front End Framework	The Front End Framework chapter has been removed as this framework is now deprecated. Refer to the Screen Orchestrator Guide for front end development.
Financial Component Framework, page 18	The Financial Component Framework overview has been updated to include the abstract method `processDataPackets()`. This method is defined to

Topic	Description
	cater for multiple DataPackets in a request, takes a Vector of `DataPacket`s as a parameter and returns a Vector of `DataPacket`s as a response. When data needs to be passed to a Financial Component, MCA Services invokes the `processDataPackets()` method. When the Financial Component has completed it returns its response data as a Vector of `DataPacket`s to MCA Services. A Financial Component `processDataPackets()` method may choose to invoke its `processDataPacket()` method if there is only one DataPacket in the request.
Caching Framework, page 27	Non-key Cache indexing support has been added to the caching Framework to optimally retrieve data from a cache when the key is not known.
Configuring HTTPSClient, page 37	The SSL protocol and SSL provider can now be configured. The configuration depends on the application server being used. The following two BankframeResource.properties settings need to be configured for the `HTTPSClient`: `channel.https.ssl.protocol=<class name of the SSL protocol>` and `channel.https.ssl.provider=<class name of the SSL provider>`.
Meta-Data, page 63	The `ResponseIndex` entity EJB has been added for modeling Meta-data information on which host transaction responses should be indexed.
Interaction of Financial Process Integrator Components, page 64	The persister lookup of the cache now supports both cache lookup by primary key and cache lookup by an index.
RESPONSE_META_DATA table, page 74	`ACCOUNT_NUMBER` has replaced `ACCOUNT_NAME` in the `DP_FIELD` and `TXN_FIELDNAME` columns of the `RESPONSE_META_DATA` table.
PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table, page 96	The `INDEX_NAME` column has been added to the `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` table to support cache indexing. The `INDEX_NAME` value specifies the name of the cache index to use to look up request data in the cache.
CustomerSearch Session EJB, page 151	An additional example finder method has been added to the `CustomerSearch` Session EJB. This method uses cache indexing as there is no corresponding host transaction to do a lookup by customer first name.

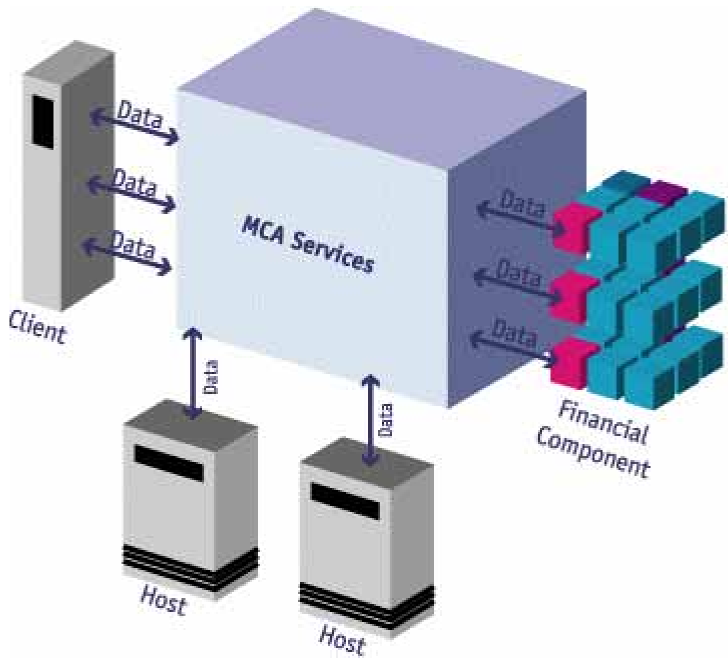
Topic	Description
Modeling the Customer and Address Entity Relationship, page 157	MasterEntityPersister now extends CacheIndexPersister therefore its EJB implementations now support cache indexing.
Configuring the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Table for CustomerSearch, page 160	The cache index CUSTOMER_FIRST_NAME_INDEX and the finder method findByFirstName have been added to the sample PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table configuration for the Customer entity EJB.
Configuring the RESPONSE_INDEX table for CustomerSearch, Page 167	The RESPONSE_INDEX table has been added to support cache indexing. This table must be configured to specify the index structures.
Configuring the INDEX_META_DATA table for CustomerSearch, page 167	The INDEX_META_DATA table has been added to support cache indexing. This table must be configured so that responses from the host system are indexed when cached.
Internationalization, page 238	Support for localizable arguments has been added to the MCA Services messaging framework. Localizable message arguments in BankframeMessages.properties are appended with an i8n qualifier to indicate that the argument needs to be localized. The argument is translated from a logical value to a localized textual value before being added to the message.
Configuring Generic Console Logger Settings, page 253	The logging of console logger debug messages has been made configurable. Turning off console logger debug messages reduces output and improves performance. The following two configurations are currently available: console.logger=DEBUG This configuration turns on debug level logging. console.logger= This configuration (leaving the console.logger value blank) turns off debug level logging.
Configuring LDAP Caching, page 273	The ldap.context.cache setting can now be configured to enable or disable server context caching.
com.bankframe.services.cache, page 335	The CacheIndexer and CacheListener interfaces have been added to the generic caching framework to support cache indexing.
com.bankframe.services.cache.GenericCache, page 336	The remove methods public Object remove(Object key); and public void remove(Set keySet); have been updated to notify CacheListeners of the removed key(s) by calling

Topic	Description
	cacheChanged(CacheEvent)
Cache and Cache Index Interaction, page 343	The public Object put(Object key) and public Collection get(Object data) methods have been added in CacheIndexer to support cache Indexing.

2 MCA Services Overview

MCA Services is a framework for building financial solutions. It provides the building blocks to implement a complete financial solution. All Siebel Retail Finance Modules are built on top of MCA Services.

At the core of MCA Services is a mechanism for passing data between Client applications and Financial Components. Also there is a mechanism for sending data between Financial Components and Host Systems.



Client applications never interact directly with Financial Components, they always communicate via MCA Services. Similarly Financial Components never communicate directly with Host Systems, they always communicate via MCA Services.

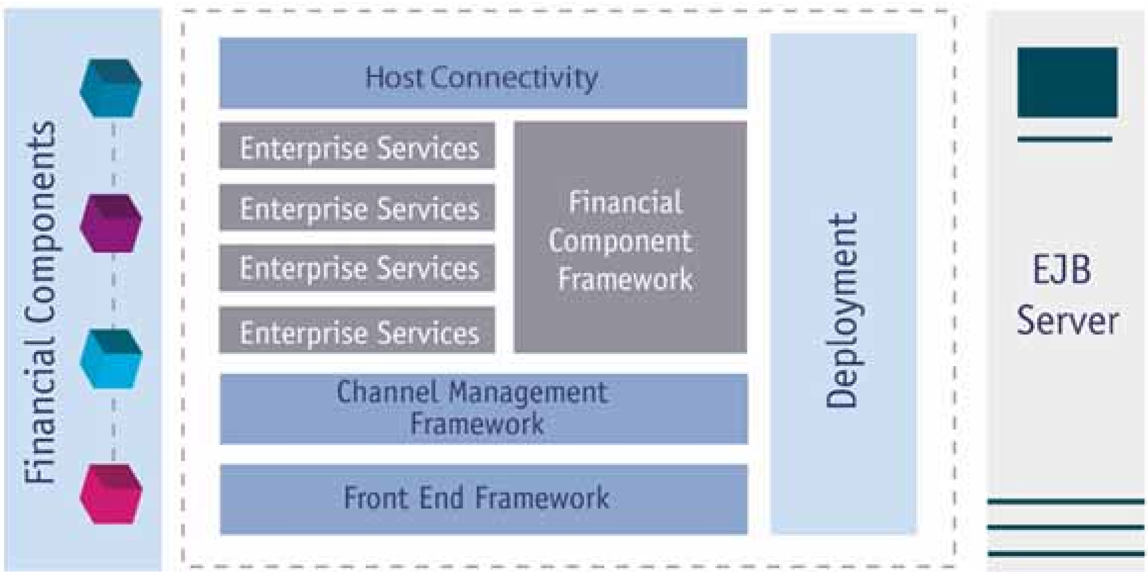
MCA Services mediates between Clients and Financial Components, so that clients do not have to worry about locating the Financial Components, this also allows MCA Services to provide secure access to Financial Components.

MCA Services mediates between Financial Components and Host Systems, so that Financial Components do not have to worry about how to communicate with Host Systems. Financial Components pass transactions to MCA Services, which takes care of routing the transactions to the correct Host System.

MCA Services can be categorized into the following functional areas:

Financial Component Framework	A standardized architecture for developing Financial Components.

Front-End Framework	A framework for rapidly building financial solution front-ends.
Channel Management	The means by which all clients communicate with MCA Services and thus with Financial Components.
Financial Process Integration	A framework for communicating with Host/legacy systems.
Enterprise Services	A set of services used by Financial Components e.g. Routing, User Authentication, Access Control and Internationalization.
Administration Tools	A set of tools for configuring and administrating MCA Services.



This chapter provides an overview of the following areas of MCA Services functionality:

- Channel Management
- Financial Component Framework
- Client to Financial Component Communication
- Financial Process Integration
- Security Provider Framework
- Enterprise Services
- Front-End Framework
- Administration Tools

Channel Management

Channel Management is the mechanism enabling Clients to connect to a Module. MCA Services separates Financial Components from channel specific functions, thereby increasing the portability of Financial Components.

Clients

A Client is a single user of a network application run from a central Server. MCA Services is capable of dealing with a range of Clients from web browsers to Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs).

Channels

A Channel can be seen as a pipe connecting the Client to a Module and is the means by which they interact; it is the network and the protocols that connect Clients to Servers. MCA Services is capable of supporting a number of different Channels including HTTP, WAP, PDA, and Digital TV. These channels have their own protocols and servers.

Protocols

A protocol is the set of rules governing the format of messages that are exchanged between a Client and a Server. MCA Services provides support for communicating over a number of protocols such as HTTP and RMI.

Channel Manager

Channel Management is the means by which all clients communicate with MCA Services and thus with Financial Components. MCA Services provides a variety of channel clients that communicate over a variety of protocols. A Channel Manager transforms data received from the client over a Channel into a format that Financial Components can understand. It also transforms data returned from Financial Components into the format required for the Channel the Client is using.

DataPacket

A `DataPacket` is the means by which MCA Services organizes data that is passed between Clients and Financial Components. It provides a standard format for all data used within a Module, which greatly simplifies the task of passing data from Clients to Financial Components and from Financial Components to other Financial Components. Information stored in `DataPacket`s can be transformed into a string representation or a serialized Java Object. This enables `DataPacket`s to be easily transmitted over various protocols.

A `DataPacket` is similar to a `Hashtable`, it is a container for holding data. Unique strings called Keys identify each piece of data. The data associated with the key can be any Java data-type. MCA Services defines a number of standard keys:

DATA PACKET NAME	The name of the DataPacket, this key is used to differentiate between different DataPackets.
OWNER	The name of the organization that created the DataPacket, normally eontec.
REQUEST_ID	This is a five-character string that identifies the Financial Component that the DataPacket should be sent to. See the Financial Component Framework section for more information on this.

XML

XML stands for eXtensible Mark-up Language. XML is a meta-language written in SGML that allows one to design a markup language, used to allow for the easy interchange of structured information.

MCA Services provides XML connectivity for Business-to-Business (B2B) applications. This enables third-party applications to communicate with Financial Components using XML and vice versa.

Financial Component Framework

A framework is provided for implementing Financial Components. This framework has the following functions:

- Provide a standard implementation of methods required by the EJB specification. This simplifies the process of creating Financial Components.
- Define a standard interface to all Financial Components. This ensures that all Financial Components can be invoked and managed in a uniform manner.

Financial Components are stateless Session EJBs. MCA Services requires that all Financial Components comply with the Financial Components Framework. The two requirements are:

- All Financial Component EJBs must extend the com.bankframe.ejb.ESessionBean class.
- All Financial Components must implement the processDataPacket() and processDataPackets() methods.

The com.bankframe.ejb.ESessionBean class defines standard implementations of all the methods required by the EJB Specification. This reduces the code that needs to be written for a Financial Component. In addition com.bankframe.ejb.ESessionBean defines an abstract method called processDataPacket(). Defining the method as abstract requires all Financial Components to provide an implementation of this method. This method takes a DataPacket as a parameter and returns a Vector of DataPackets. This method provides a standard interface to all Financial Components. Similarly, an abstract method called processDataPackets() is defined to cater for multiple datapackets in a request. This method takes a Vector of DataPackets as a parameter and returns a Vector of DataPackets as a response.

When data needs to be passed to a Financial Component, MCA Services invokes the processDataPackets() method. When the Financial Component has completed it returns its response data as a Vector of DataPackets to MCA Services. A Financial Component processDataPackets() method may choose to invoke its processDataPacket() method if there is only one DataPacket in the request.

Client to Financial Component Communication

This section covers how Clients send and receive information to/from Financial Components (Note that in order to keep the discussion simple details of how the Client authenticates itself with MCA Services have been omitted. This topic is covered in more detail in the security section). The high-level overview is as follows:

- Client creates `DataPacket` with the information it wants to send to the Financial Component.
- Client passes the `DataPacket` to MCA Services.
- MCA Services passes the `DataPacket` to the Financial Component.
- The Financial Component returns a Vector of `DataPacket`s to MCA Services.
- MCA Services returns the `DataPacket`s to the Client.

There are number of tasks in this process:

- The Client must put the information that the Financial Component is expecting in the `DataPacket`. (When the Client is being developed, the Financial Component design documentation must be consulted, to see what information the Financial Component expects to be in the `DataPacket`).
- The Client must specify which Financial Component the `DataPacket` should be sent to.
- The `DataPacket` must be transformed into the correct format for the protocol being used to communicate with MCA Services.
- MCA Services must interpret the information received from the Client and transform it back into a `DataPacket`.
- MCA Services must locate the Financial Component specified by the Client, instantiate the Financial Component, and pass it the `DataPacket`.
- The Financial Component must interpret the information in the `DataPacket`, carry out its business logic, and return its results in a Vector of `DataPacket`s to MCA Services.
- MCA Services must transform the result `DataPacket`s into the format for the protocol being used to communicate with the Client.
- The Client must transform the result data received from MCA Services back into a Vector of `DataPacket`s.

The important point to note is that the Client never communicates directly with the Financial Component, it always communicates via MCA Services.

Transforming the DataPacket into the Protocol format

Transforming a `DataPacket` to a protocol format (and vice versa) is achieved using a Communications Manager (CommsManager). MCA Services provides a number of CommsManagers that can transform `DataPacket`s to/from different protocols, for example the `EHTTPCommsManager` can transform `DataPacket`s into HTTP Requests.

So when a Client needs to send a DataPacket to MCA Services over HTTP it uses the EHTTPCommsManager class to send the DataPackets as HTTP requests to MCA Services. MCA Services uses another CommsManager: EHTTPServletCommsManager, to transform the HTTP requests back into DataPackets.

Specifying the Financial Component

One of the DataPacket key values defined by MCA Services is the REQUEST_ID key. This key contains a five-digit number. This five-digit number is used to identify which Financial Component a DataPacket should be sent to. Each Financial Component has a REQUEST_ID associated with it. When a Client wants to send a DataPacket to a Financial Component, it must put the REQUEST_ID associated with the Financial Component in the DataPacket.

When MCA Services receives the DataPacket from the client it examines the DataPacket to see what REQUEST_ID is specified. MCA Services then looks up a mapping of REQUEST_IDs to Financial Component names, finds the specified REQUEST_ID, and invokes the associated Financial Component.

Invoking the Financial Component

The Financial Component is an EJB Session bean. Every EJB has a unique JNDI (Java Naming & Directory Interface) Name. MCA Services maintains a mapping of REQUEST_IDs to JNDI names. When MCA Services has discovered a Financial Component's JNDI name, it asks the EJB Server to create an instance of the Financial Components. All Financial Components must have a method called processDataPacket(). MCA Services invokes this method, passing it the DataPacket received from the client.

Example of Client to Financial Component Communication

This example will illustrate how a credit transfer would be carried out using MCA Services. The following assumptions will be made:

- The Client is a Java application.
- The Client communicates with MCA Services over HTTP.
- The Financial Component that implements the credit transfer is called CreditTransferBean. It has the JNDI name: eontec.bankframe.CreditTransferBean.
- The Financial Component is associated with REQUEST_ID 40000.
- The CreditTransferBean expects a DataPacket with the following keys:

DATA_PACKET_NAME	Must have a value of 'CREDIT_TRANSFER'.
FROM_ACCOUNT	Account number of the account money is being transferred from.
TO_ACCOUNT	Account number of the account the money is being transferred to.

AMOUNT	Amount to be transferred.

- The Client is a Java GUI that allows the user to input the FROM_ACCOUNT, TO_ACCOUNT, and AMOUNT values: For this example the user has entered the following values:

FROM_ACCOUNT	11442255
TO_ACCOUNT	21673488
AMOUNT	$100.00

Client Creates DataPacket

The Client application must create a DataPacket with the following values:

Key	Value
NAME	CREDIT TRANSFER
REQUEST_ID	40000
FROM_ACCOUNT	11442255
TO_ACCOUNT	21673488
AMOUNT	$100.00

Client Sends DataPacket to MCA Services

The Client must use the EHTTPCommsManager class to send the DataPacket to MCA Services via a HTTP request.

MCA Services Converts the HTTP Request Back to a DataPacket

MCA Services uses the EHTTPServletCommsManager class to convert the HTTP request back to a DataPacket.

MCA Services Determines which Financial Component to Invoke

MCA Services checks the REQUEST_ID key in the DataPacket. It looks up the mapping of REQUEST_IDs to JNDI names, and determines that the DataPacket should be sent to the EJB named 'eontec.bankframe.CreditTransfer'.

MCA Services Passes the DataPacket to the Financial Component

MCA Services asks the EJB Container to create an instance of the bean named 'eontec.bankframe.CreditTransfer', i.e. CreditTransferBean. When the instance is created MCA

Services invokes `CreditTransferBean`'s `processDataPacket()` method, passing it the `DataPacket` from the Client.

CreditTransferBean Processes the DataPacket and Returns its Response Data

`CreditTransferBean` parses the information in the `DataPacket` and carries out the credit transfer. It returns a response `DataPacket` confirming the transaction was carried out and containing the new balance on the account the money was transferred from.

MCA Services Passes the Response Data back to the Client

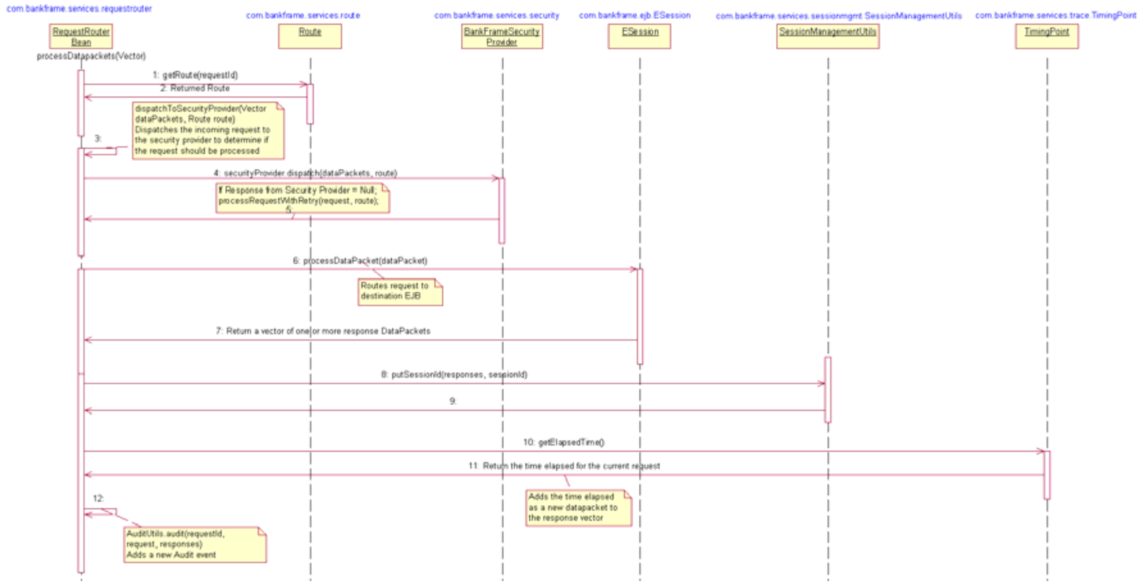
MCA Services uses the `EHTTPServletCommsManager` to send the response back to the Client as a HTTP response.

The Client Converts the HTTP Response back into DataPackets

The Client uses `EHTTPCommsManager` to convert the HTTP Response into a Vector of `DataPacket`s. In this case the Vector contains a single `DataPacket` with the information returned from the Financial Component.

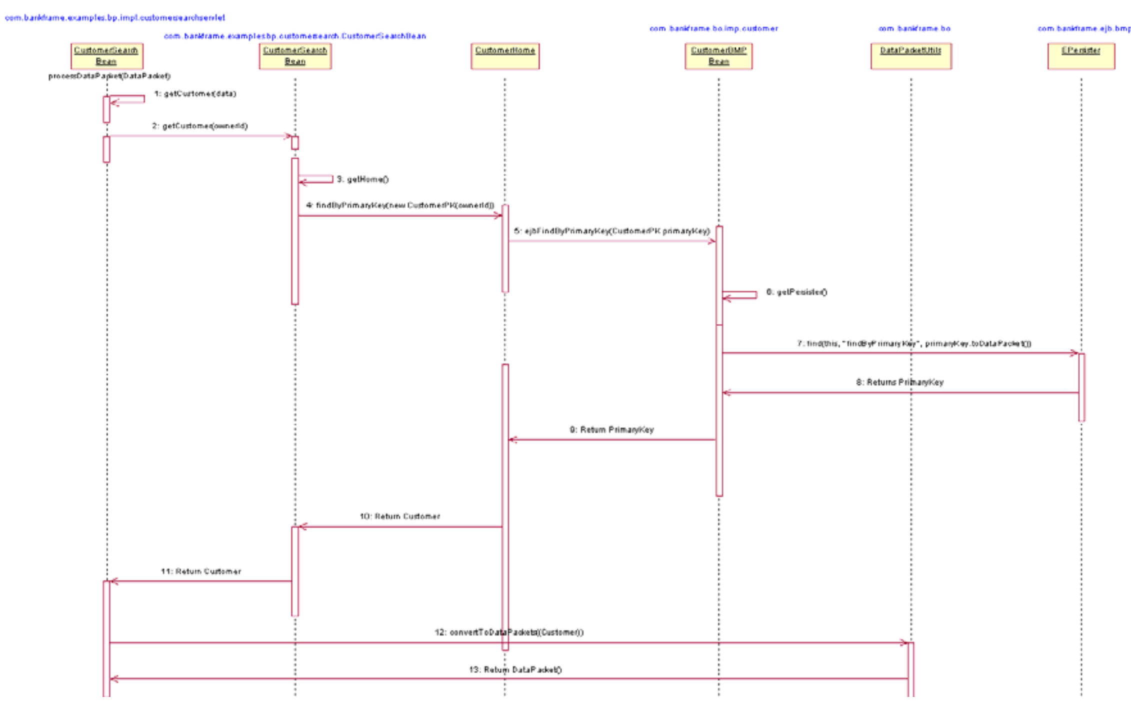
Requester Router to EJB Sequence Diagram

The Request Router to EJB sequence diagram outlines Request Router and Session EJB communication.



EJB to Financial Process Integrator Sequence Diagram

The EJB to Financial Process Integrator sequence diagram outlines how an entity bean interacts with the FPI using the `Epersister` interface.



Financial Process Integration

All financial institutions deploy a host of some description. This is where a financial institution's core business processes are run. These host systems are accessed via software known as Middleware. MCA Services can use a number of different Middleware technologies (such as IMS, MQ Series, CICS, Tuxedo) to communicate with Host systems.

All Middleware technologies do the same basic thing: they send request data to host systems and pass back response data from the host system. However they all do this in significantly different ways. MCA Services provides an abstraction layer that hides the differences between different Middleware technologies. This provides Financial Components with a simple interface for communicating with host systems. This abstraction is enabled by the Financial Process Integrator.

The Financial Process Integrator is not an off the shelf solution; because of the complexity of communicating with legacy or host systems, there will always be a certain amount of customization required for each host system.

The Financial Process Integrator has a number of components:

`TransactionHandler`	This is an EJB session bean that provides the interface through which Financial Components communicate with host systems.
Middleware Connector(s)	This is an EJB session bean that provides the means of communicating with a specific Middleware technology. MCA Services provides a number of connectors for Middleware technologies such as IMS or MQ Series.
`TransactionRoute`	This is an EJB Entity Bean that stores the information about which connector and `Data Formatter` to use for each transaction code and type.
`Destination`	This is an EJB Entity Bean that stores information necessary for invoking the connector to access a specific host.
Data Formatter	This is a class that formats the data to and from the Host System. This class uses the EJBs `RequestTransactionField`, `ResponseTransactionField`, `MetaData` and `TransactionErrorCondition` to obtain the structure of the host system data.
`RequestTransactionField`	This is an EJB Entity Bean that stores information about each field in the transaction request to send to the host system.
`ResponseTransactionField`	This is an EJB Entity Bean that stores information about each field in the transaction response from the host system.
MetaData	This is an EJB Entity Bean that stores information about the mapping from the host system transaction data to the Financial Component data.
`TransactionErrorCondition`	This is an EJB Entity Bean that stores information about error condition response transactions from the host

system.

All Financial Components interact with the Financial Process Integrator by passing it DataPackets, containing the information about the transaction to be sent to the host system. The `DataPacket` passed in will contain a transaction code and a transaction type. The Financial Process Integrator will use the `TransactionRoute` Bean to determine the following:

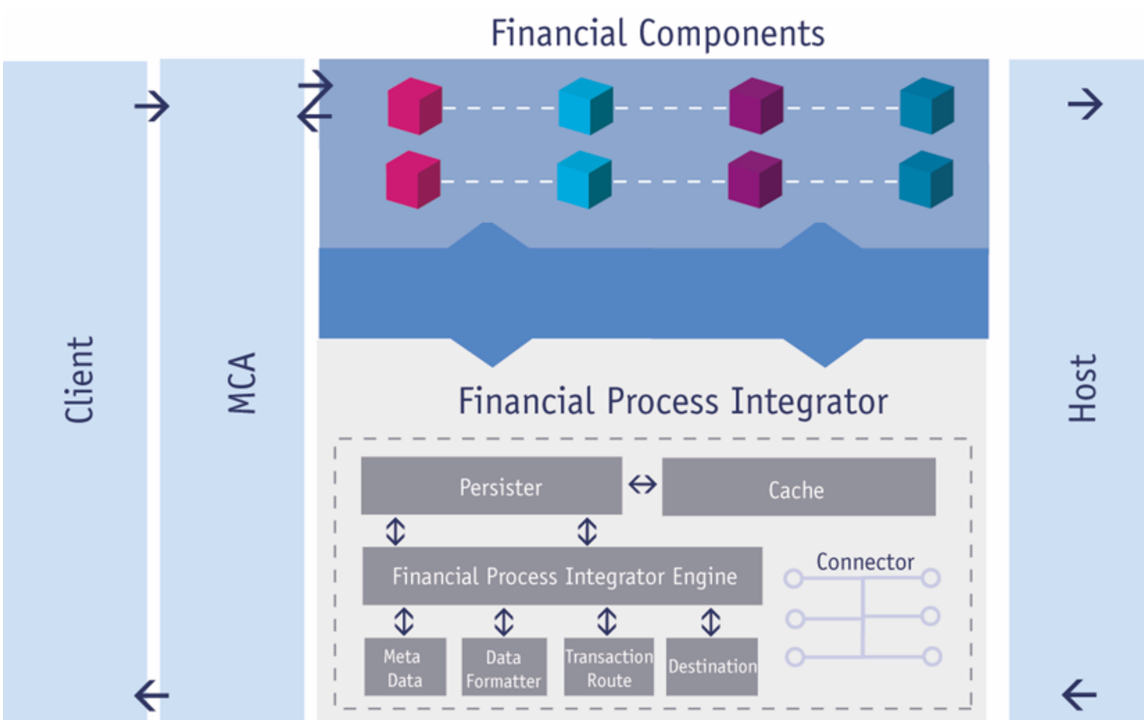
- Which `Destination` corresponds to the transaction code and transaction type and
- Which `Data Formatter` class is required to format the data to and from the host system.

The `TransactionRoute` contains information about which Middleware Connector to use, so the `TransactionHandler` will:

- Call the `Data Formatter` to transform the information in the `DataPacket` into a host system specific format and
- Instantiate the correct Connector and pass the formatted data to it.

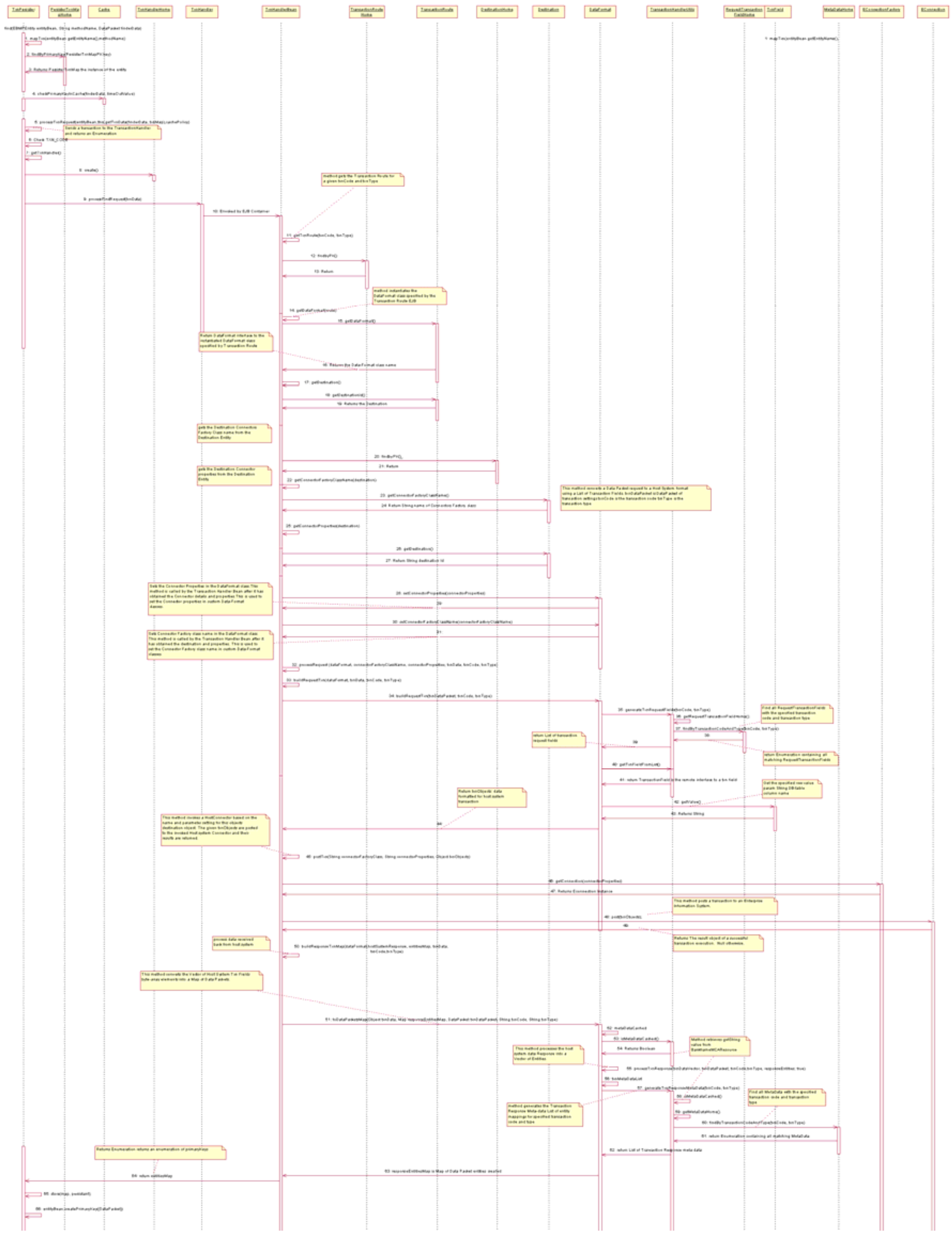
The Connector will send the information to the Host System.

The `Data Formatter` will also take any data passed back from the Host System and transform it into one or more `DataPacket`(s) and pass it/them back to the Financial Process Integrator. The Financial Process Integrator will then pass back the `DataPacket`(s) to the Financial Components.



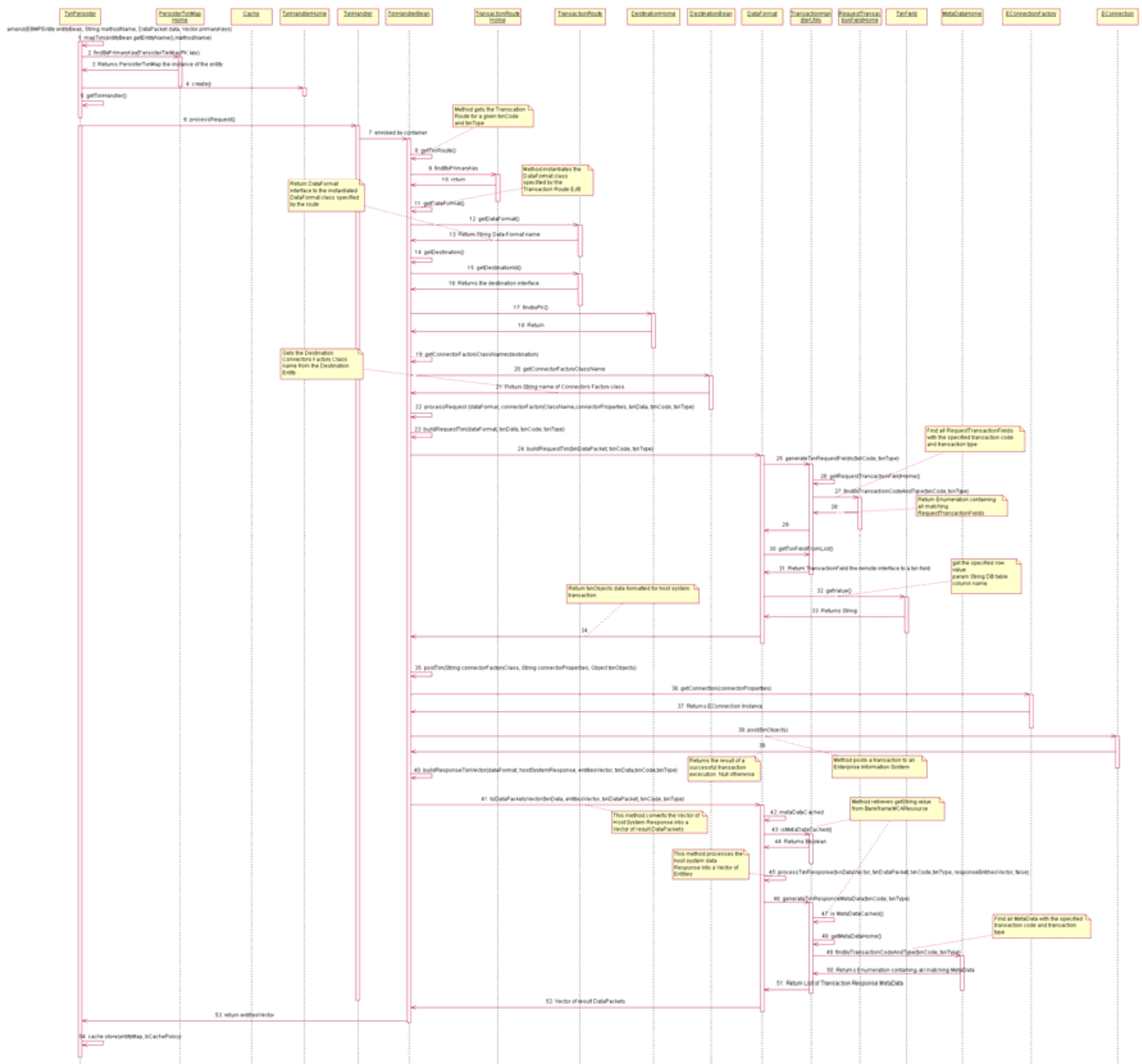
TxnHandler Find() Sequence Diagram

The TxnHandler Find() sequence diagram outlines the interaction between the components of the FPI when a Find method is invoked by an entity EJB on the FPI (TxnHandler).



TxnHandler Amend() Sequence Diagram

The TxnHandler Amend sequence diagram outlines the interaction between the components of the FPI when an amend method is invoked by an entity EJB on the FPI (TxnHandler).



Security Provider Framework

MCA Services provides a framework for ensuring that access to Financial Components is limited to authorized users. The framework provides both off the shelf security solutions and an extendable architecture enabling third-party security applications to be integrated with MCA Services.

The MCA Services Security Provider Framework consists of a `NullBankFrameSecurityProvider` and a `DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider` and the framework enables the implementation of custom security providers. The `NullBankFrameSecurityProvider` is used to turn off security and the `DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider` encompasses the following:

User Authentication	The process by which a user's identity is verified.
Session Management	The process of keeping track of which users are currently logged on to MCA Services.
Access Control	The process of determining which Financial Component(s) each user is permitted to access.

Below we discuss how MCA Services authenticates Clients and how access to Financial Components is controlled.

User Authentication

MCA Services must authenticate Clients before they are permitted to access Financial Components. The Client must send a special `DataPacket` (a logon request), which contains the user's authentication details. As with any other request the `DataPacket` must contain a `REQUEST_ID` In the case of a logon request, the `REQUEST_ID` must map to the EJB Session bean that carries out User Authentication. The logon request is passed to the User Authentication Bean, which will determine if the user's credentials are correct.

Session Management

If a Client's user credentials are determined to be correct then a user session is created for the user. This user session includes a unique session ID. This session ID is returned to the Client after a successful authentication. The Client must add this session ID to each subsequent `DataPacket` it sends to MCA Services. This requirement makes sure that only authenticated users gain access. Each time MCA Services receives a request from a Client it checks to ensure that the session ID is valid.

Access Control

Before passing a `DataPacket` from a Client to a Financial Component for processing the access control bean checks to ensure that the Client has access to the Financial Component. Each `DataPacket` from the Client will contain a unique session ID. This session ID corresponds to an individual user. The user's access rights will be checked to ensure the user has access to the requested Financial Component. If the user does not have access then the `DataPacket` will not be passed to the Financial Component, and an error will be returned to the Client, otherwise the `DataPacket` will be passed to the Financial Component as normal.

Enterprise Services

Required Enterprise Services	Required by MCA Services to function properly e.g. Routing or User Authentication.

Optional Enterprise Services	Useful but not required e.g. Mail.

Required Services

The following are required by MCA Services to function correctly:

Routing

The core of MCA Services; it takes `DataPacket`s received from Clients and determines which Financial Component they are intended for, and then passes the `DataPacket`s to the relevant Financial Component. When processing requests from Clients it uses the User Authentication service to log users on and off, the Session Management service to ensure users are logged on before they access Financial Components, and the Access Control service to make sure Clients only send `DataPacket`s to the Financial Components they are allowed access to.

User Authentication, Session Management, and Access Control

Refer to the MCA Services Security section for an overview of the above.

Internationalization

MCA Services code does not contain any hard-coded messages; all messages are loaded at run-time from a file. This means that localizing MCA Services to a new language is a simple matter of changing the content of the messages file.

Dynamic Configuration

Standard Java APIs for reading configuration information from `.properties` files require the application server to be re-started to pick up any configuration changes made. The MCA Dynamic Configuration framework enables changing MCA's configuration & enabling these changes to take effect without having to re-start the application server. The Dynamic Configuration framework re-reads the `.properties` file into in-memory cache from the disk file at set intervals. The interval period is configurable in the `BankframeResource.properties` file and can be turned off by setting the refresh rate to `-1`. The default is 15 minutes. The MCA Dynamic Configuration framework allows for the grouping of properties.

Optional Enterprise Services

MCA Services contains a number of optional Enterprise Services, which are not required for MCA Services to function correctly:

Audit

This service enables a record of all Business Transactions carried out by Financial Components to be recorded in a relational database table.

Logging

This service provides a facility for MCA Services and Financial Components to record actions carried out in a text file. A GUI-based log viewer tool is available in the Siebel Financial Transactions WorkBench – consult the WorkBench documentation for further information on same.

Mail

This service enables Financial Components to send e-mails.

Ping

This service is used to determine if MCA Services is working properly. Clients can invoke this service to determine if a connection to MCA Services can be made.

LDAP

This service provides connectivity to LDAP data-stores. It provides two levels of connectivity: an API for directly accessing data in the LDAP data-store, and a framework for developing Bean Managed Entity Beans that persist to an LDAP data-store.

Peripherals Support

MCA Services provides a framework for implementing support for peripherals such as cheque-readers, PIN-readers and receipt printers, MCA Services also provides some sample drivers for supporting these types of devices.

Printing Support

MCA Services provides printing support via the third party Accelio Central Pro product. Accelio Central Pro takes application data and merges it with an electronic document template. It accepts input from different sources and produces output in a variety of formats. Documents can be simultaneously output to print, fax, e-mail, PDF or the Web.

Caching Framework

The MCA Services Caching Framework reduces the effort required to implement caching and makes sure caching is done in a uniform manner. For use anytime it is expensive (in terms of time) to access some data. Supports both in-memory caching and persistent caching. A persistent cache can be read-only or read-write. The generic caching framework encompasses:

- A generic implementation of an in-memory cache.
- A plugable `CachePolicy` interface that allows the policy used for removing expired objects to be customized.A framework for implementing persistent caches - supports maintaining the cache consistency and flushing updates to the persistent store.
- An easy to use API; the `Cache` class implements the `java.util.Map` interface so that the `Cache` class can be easily integrated into code that previously used `Hashtable`s or `HashMap`s for caching data.
- Non key Cache indexing to optimally retrieve data from a cache when the key is not known.

Front-End Framework

The Siebel Screen Orchestrator tool is used for front end development – refer to the Screen Orchestrator Guide.

Administration Tools

MCA Services provides the following tools for administering MCA Services installations:

`RouteServlet`	A Servlet for administering the `REQUEST_ID`s that Financial Components are associated with.
`BankFrameSessionServlet`	A Servlet for administering MCA Services Session Management.
`MonitorServlet`	A Servlet for testing that MCA Services installations are correctly configured.

The administration tools are described in more detail in the Administrating MCA Services documentation.

3 Channel Management

RMI and HTTP

MCA Services Channel Management encompasses the following concepts:

DataPackets

Datapackets are the standard way in which any data is passed to, from and within MCA. Essentially DataPackets are hashtables that use a simple key, object mapping. There are a number of standard key names such as REQUEST_ID and DATA_PACKET_NAME that must be included in all DataPackets in order for them to be processed by MCA.

All data that is passed between channel clients and MCA is encoded as a Vector of DataPackets. This provides a standard format for all data used within MCA. All responses from MCA are also encoded as a Vector of DataPackets. This helps provide a standard view of MCA to all Siebel clients regardless of their type.

Channel Clients

A channel client is a class provided by MCA that is used by any fat client wishing to send data to, and receive data from MCA. It deals with all communication issues involved in sending a request to MCA and receiving the corresponding response. This ensures that the view provided by all channel clients to Siebel clients is consistent. However the data sent by each channel client to MCA will depend entirely on the network and network protocol over which the data is being sent. Therefore each channel client must be able to accept requests in a standard format (DataPackets) and convert this to a channel (network) specific format for transmission.

Channel Management

Channel Management is the means by which all clients communicate with MCA and thus to Financial Components. MCA provides a variety of channel clients that communicate over a variety of protocols. Requests can be comprised of multiple DataPackets. Most Siebel clients will use channel clients to communicate with Siebel Retail Finance. These channel clients will in turn communicate with channel servers that act as gateways to Financial Components. This means that Siebel clients will only ever deal with a channel client. This level of abstraction prevents Siebel clients from needing to know or understand the wire protocol over which they are communicating. However not all Siebel clients will need to use a Channel client to communicate with MCA. The most common example of this is web browsers. Here browsers will themselves send their request data in a HTTP Post/Get request. There is a mechanism provided to handle this situation, which is detailed in a later section.

Channel Servers

The main function of a channel server is to accept requests from a channel client, convert this request to a DataPacket and pass the DataPacket to the RequestRouter. The channel server will also appropriately encode the response from the Financial Component and return this to the calling channel client. This means that for most channel clients there will be a corresponding specific channel server that will understand the network specific format of the request and build a standard `DataPacket` request from this.

Codecs

Codecs are used to encode data that is sent between some channel clients and channel servers. Siebel client requests consist of one or more `DataPacket` objects. However `DataPacket` objects usually need to be converted to a specific form before they can be sent over a network connection. This is the job of the codec. It will convert a `DataPacket` representation of a request to a format that can be sent over the network. codecs must also be able to rebuild the original `DataPacket` request from the encoded request to allow the channel server to process it.

Thin and Fat Clients

The `com.bankframe.ei.channel.client` package provides two mechanisms for passing `DataPacket`s over http connections, one to be used with thin clients, the other with fat clients.

Thin client

A client program, which relies on all of the function of the system being on the Server. Some examples of thin clients include:

- HTML based clients, all processing is done on the server, and the client is the web-browser, which is used to present information to the user.
- WAP based clients, all processing is done on the server, and the built-in WAP functionality in the mobile phone is used to display information to the User.

Thin clients are implemented using a combination of Java Server Pages (JSPs), HTML and JavaScript. It should be remembered that most thin clients will not need to use a channel client to talk to MCA.

Fat Client

A client program, which relies on some of the function of the system being in the Client. Some examples of fat clients include:

- A Java application installed on a user's PC, the Java application contains functionality for displaying information and accepting user input, however all of the business logic is on the Server.
- A Java Applet. This is similar to a Java application, the only difference is that the Applet is not installed on the User's PC, instead it is downloaded through the Web-Browser that runs the Applet.

Fat clients are implemented using Java and the Java Swing GUI toolkit.

When to use Thin Clients

Thin clients are best used in the following scenarios:

- When the solution is accessed over the Internet, for example an online banking solution.
- When the cost of deploying fat clients would be too expensive, for example a large intranet project that would have thousands of users.

- When the technology requires it, for example all WAP based solutions must use a thin client architecture.
- When the network bandwidth is limited.

When to use Fat Clients

Fat clients are best used in the following scenarios:

- On a corporate intranet, for example a teller application.
- When the solution needs a complex windowed graphical user interface, for example a call-center solution.
- When business requirements specify that data validation should be part of the front-end.

Class Descriptions

Package: com.bankframe.ei.channel.client

This package contains the classes that are used by Siebel clients to communicate with MCA.

ChannelClient

All channel clients must implement this interface. It provides one method that all implementing classes must override. This is the `send(Vector)` method. This allows Siebel clients to build `DataPacket`s and call the send method without needing to understand or worry about the underlying wire protocol and subsequent encoding and decoding of data for that protocol.

ChannelClientFactory

This class uses the factory pattern to generate `com.bankframe.channel.ChannelClient` instances based on properties set in the `BankframeResource.properties` file. The purpose of this is to remove the need for code changes should a Siebel client wish to change the way (protocol) by which it transmits data. By using this factory pattern all the Siebel client needs to do is change the values within the properties file and the `ChannelClientFactory` will supply the appropriate class for the new transmission protocol. The factory can also be configured to return the same instance of a ChannelClient, or a new instance each time, by setting the `enforce.singleton` property in `BankframeResource.properties`. By default the `getChannelClient()` method will lookup `channel.client` property key. However, another property key can be specified through `getChannelClient(String clientName)`.

HttpClient

This is a client for transmitting `DataPacket`s over any HTTP connection. Fat clients communicating over HTTP should use this client. This client has a number of properties that must be set in the `BankframeResource.properties` file. Settings include what codec class to use to encode and decode a vector of DataPackets. The HttpClient can also add values from the first DataPacket as request properties to the http connection. This is all configurable in the properties file. Users of this client should read the Configuring and Administrating MCA Services document.

HttpsClient

This is a client for transmitting DataPackets over a secure HTTPS connection using SSL. Any application, that requires the transfer of information over a secure connection to a server should use this client. Before a secure connection can be made the client and server must have a truststore and also a keystore created. The truststore contains trusted certificates and the keystore holds the public-private keys used in SSL. This client has a number of properties that must be set in the BankframeResource.properties file. Users of this client should read the properties file section later in the document.

RmiIiopClient

This class is used to call the `RequestRouter` directly using an RMI call. `RequestRouter` stub classes are needed by the Siebel client when using this class.

Package: com.bankframe.ei.channel.server.

This package contains all the classes required to listen for and process incoming Siebel client requests. Each class will deal with a single combination of transmission protocol (HTTP, RMI) and data (XML etc.) format.

HttpServer

This is a servlet that listens for HTTP requests from any `HttpClient`. The server will decode the incoming requests to `DataPacket`s and pass them onto the relevant Financial Components. It will then take the response and appropriately encode this response for transmission back to the `HttpClient`. Again it uses settings in the `BankframeResource.properties` file to deduce the format of the request.

JspHttpServer

This is the class that processes requests that originate from JSPs. JSPs are generally used when user input is from HTML forms etc. MCA provides a mechanism by which Siebel client developers can encode multiple `DataPacket`s within a single HTTP post request. The syntax of this is described in the following section. The `JSPHttpServer` will process requests from the JSP bean class. It will interpret the form field names and data to produce request `DataPacket`(s). The response received from the Financial Component is returned to the JSP bean code, where it is handled in the `handleResponse()` method.

HttpBoomarangServer

This is a test servlet that extends HttpServer. Rather than routing the vector of `DataPackets` found in the request, it returns the vector as a response. It is useful for testing channel client and codec configuration. The vector sent and the vector received by the client should be the same. The servlet can be used by setting the `channel.http.client.url` property to the URL of the deployed servlet.

Package: com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec

This package contains classes that implement codecs (coders/decoders).

Codec

All codecs implement this interface. This defines the method signatures for sending and receiving DataPackets. All codecs will turn a vector of DataPackets into a string representation.

DPTPCodec

DPTP stands for 'DataPacket Transmission Protocol'. It is used for encoding character data. This codec converts a Vector of DataPackets into a string representation. This representation uses an XML format, however this is not a fully qualified XML representation as it doesn't specify a DTD. It is however valid XML. This XML therefore is only used between HttpClients and HttpServers.

JOTPCodec

JOTP stands for 'Java Object Transmission Protocol' and is used for encoding binary data. This codec turns a DataPacket into a hexadecimal string representation. The advantage of using this codec is that it can encode any java object as a string representation because it can represent any literal in a string format. For example the DPTPCodec could not encode DataPackets that contain binary data (such as integers, classes etc). In this instance the JOTPCodec should be used.

DPTPPaddingCodec

The DPTPPaddingCodec extends the DPTPCodec and it is used to wrap or pad out the special characters used by DPTPCodec in encoding and decoding. The special characters are <, > and their corresponding XML entity reference values < and >. If using DataPackets with XML elements as values, it may be appropriate to use the DPTPPaddingCodec to ensure data integrity. This codec uses a padding string defined by channel.codec.paddingstring property. If none is defined, it will default to ^.

com.bankframe.fe.jsp.BankframePage

All JSPs consist of two components: a java bean and a .jsp file. The java bean is used to store the information that is either input by the user or displayed on the HTML page. The .jsp file transforms this information into HTML.

The com.bankframe.fe.jsp.BankframePage class is the super-class that all java beans used with JSPs are derived from.

The BankframePage class has the following methods:

executeRequest()	A JSP sends a request to a Financial Component by invoking the java bean's executeRequest() method.
handleResponse()	Each java bean overrides this method in order to process the response data returned from the Financial Component.
isError()	This method can be invoked to check if the Financial Component returned an error.
getErrorMessage()	This message will return the error message if the Financial Component returned an error.

Communicating over HTTP

MCA Services provides a channel client and channel server to send data over HTTP connections. It is recommended that all data sent over HTTP connections should use these classes.

Currently the majority of requests that are made to Siebel are over HTTP connections. Channel management provides a customizable method of sending data over HTTP connections known as DPTP (`DataPacket` Transmission protocol). It sends a serializable string representation of `DataPacket`s over the HTTP connection. This is the most common way that fat Siebel clients will use to send and receive data to and from Financial Components.

When using DPTP, a codec is specified to encode/decode the data over the wire. For each codec there is an associated MIME type. For instance the MIME type `application/x-eontec-datapacket-hex` corresponds to the `JOTPCodec` class. All MIME types to codec mappings are specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file, while there is a client setting to specify which MIME type the HTTP channel client should use (and thus which codec to use). See the properties section for more information on the HTTP client settings.

The HTTP server is an instance of `the javax.servlet.http.HTTPServlet` class that listens for HTTP requests on a given port. It also uses the `BankframeResource.properties` file to determine all the codecs that it should support. It reads the MIME type to codec mappings and creates `Codec` objects for each specified mapping. Upon receiving a HTTP request it will read the `content-type` field from the HTTP header information and use the mapping information to select the codec to decode the request data. It will also use this mapping to encode the response to send back over the HTTP connection.

Thin clients using HTML forms

Introduction

A common way whereby clients send and receive data from MCA is through a web browser using HTML forms. In this case there is no Siebel channel client, instead the web browser is the client. This is because the browser will indirectly send the data to MCA.

This section shows how HTML forms should be written to allow data to be sent to MCA Services. Communication with MCA is handled through JSPs, which encapsulate the request data (HTTP post request) as a `ServletRequest` object. This object contains the data entered in the form along with the name of each field of the form. When this object gets passed to MCA, MCA must retrieve all the field names along with the data entered for those fields and convert this data into one or more `DataPacket`s. It is this requirement that multiple `DataPacket` requests must be constructed from a single HTTP post request which has led to the following HTML form syntax.

HTML Form Syntax

In order to send data from HTML forms to MCA Services, the names given to each field in the form must be valid. This allows form designers to name fields in such a way to allow requests to be encoded as either single or multiple `DataPackets`.

If data from a HTML form is to be converted to a single `DataPacket` request, then all form names must not contain the square brackets ('[' or ']'). Other than this convention any other previously valid names are still valid.

However if the data from a form should be converted into a multiple `DataPacket` request there are a number of rules that must be adhered to. Failure to adhere to these rules will cause the request to fail and the server to report an exception. The convention is that each field in the form must contain a number identifying which request `DataPacket` the data from that field should be part of.

Syntax rules

ALL form fields (including hidden fields) must have a valid request packet number in their name if they are to form a multiple `DataPacket` request. If the request is to be a single DataPacket request then no packet numbers are needed.

- This number must be immediately preceded with '`[`' and immediate followed by '`]`'.
- No additional characters may follow the ']' character.
- All characters between '`[`' and '`]`' must be numeric.
- The '`REQUEST_ID`' and '`DATA PACKET NAME`' fields must be followed with `[0]`, i.e. they must be contained in the first `DataPacket` of the request.
- There must be a sequential order for the packets numbers. I.e. if a field exists that has a packet number 5, then there must exist a field with packet number 4.

It should be noted that all fields in the form will get encoded as HTTP parameters and the Server processing them will process these HTTP parameters. However HTTP requests can also contain attributes. These can be set in Java code, and may be set in some classes that extend the `BankFramePage` class. These attributes should be named according to the above syntax. Failure to do this will result in these attributes being ignored. However an exception will not be thrown for an incorrectly formatted attribute as happens for incorrectly formatted parameters. This is because many application servers will introduce their own attributes. This means that when processing attributes there is no way of distinguishing between a Siebel attribute and an application server attribute, so incorrectly formatted attributes will be ignored to ensure that an exception is not raised for a server attribute.

Examples

Valid fields includes

`REQUEST_ID[0]`

`DATA PACKET NAME[0]`

`ADDRESS1[3]` - provided there exists a field with packet number 2.

Invalid fields include

`REQUEST_ID[3]` – REQUEST_ID must be in packet number 0.

`DATA PACKET NAME[56]` – must be in packet number 0.

`ADDRE[1]SS1` – '`]`' is not at the end of the string.

`[1]ADDRESS1` – '`]`' is not at the end of the string.

`ADDRESS1[3]` – if there does not exist a field with packet number 2.

`ADDRESS1[c3]` – packet number is not numeric.

Sample valid form

```
<form method="post" action="jspservertest.jsp">

<table>

<tr>

<td>Field 1:</td>

<td><input type="text" name="FIELD1[1]"></td>

</tr>

<tr>

<td>Field 2:</td>

<td><input type="text" name="FIELD2[2]"></td>

</tr>

<tr>

<td>Field 3:</td>

<td><input type="text" name="FIELD3[1]"></td>

</tr>

</table>

<input type="hidden" name="REQUEST_ID[0]" value="MC999">

<input type="hidden" name="DATA PACKET NAME[0]" value="TEST">

<input type="submit" value="Submit">

</form>
```

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

The channel management function of MCA adds some additional properties to the `BankframeResource.properties` file. This is done to allow Siebel clients to specify which channel client they are going to use without having to do so in code. The `ChannelManagerFactory` class will pick up these properties and supply an appropriate channel client class based on these properties.

Some properties are generic to all channel clients, while some are specific to a given channel client. All the generic properties are prefixed with the keyword `channel` only, while all specific properties are prefixed with a prefix specific to that client. The default constructer of all clients should accept no parameters and read all information needed to construct from the `BankframeResource.properties` file.

Codec Mapping Properties

These properties map MIME types to codec class names and are used by the HTTP client and server classes. All mappings are prefixed with `channel.http.codec.mapping` and followed with the actual mapping.

E.g. `channel.http.codec.mapping.application/x-eontec-datapacket-xml=com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec.DPTPCodec` will map the codec class

`DPTPCodec` to the MIME type `application/x-eontec-datapacket-xml.`

By using these mappings, all the valid codecs that a Http server can support are not hard coded into MCA. It is important to be aware that a HTTP channel property (`channel.http.client.contentType`) must match one of the mappings specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file.

Valid Properties

`channel.client` – The fully qualified class name of the channel client to be used. This allows the client channel factory to supply instances of this class.

`channel.http.client.url` - This specifies the URL of the Http Server (Servlet URL) that the HTTP client will connect to.

`channel.http.client.contentType` - A property specific to the Http client manager. This specifies the MIME type of the encoding that the client will use.

- `channel.http.codec.mapping.application/x-eontec-datapacket-xml=com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec.DPTPCodec` - A mapping property
- `channel.http.codec.mapping.application/x-eontec-datapacket-hex=com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec.JOTPCodec` - A mapping property

Configuring HttpsClient

The `BankframeResource.properties` file requires the following changes in order to configure the HTTPS client settings:

```
channel.client=com.bankframe.ei.channel.client.HttpsClient

channel.http.client.url=https://<URL of the HTTP server>

channel.https.truststore=<path to truststore>

channel.https.keystore=<path to identity keystore>

channel.https.keystorePassword=<keystore password>
```

`channel.https.ssl.protocol=<class name of the SSL protocol>.` Possible values are:

`com.sun.net.ssl.internal.www.protocol` for WebLogic and

`com.ibm.net.ssl.internal.www.protocol` for WebSphere.

`channel.https.ssl.provider=<class name of the SSL provider>.` Possible values are

`com.sun.net.ssl.internal.ssl.Provider` for WebLogic and `com.ibm.jsse.JSSEProvider` for WebSphere.

Developing Custom Channel Clients and Servers

If there is a channel that a Siebel client wishes to communicate over, but channel clients do not exist then developers can write their own channel client and server classes to handle that particular channel.

If this new channel uses HTTP then the developer need only write a custom codec class that adheres to the codec interface and edit the `BankframeResource.properties` file to include the new codec in the MIME type to codec class name mappings to use this new codec.

If however the channel is not over HTTP then the developer should write a server class (possibly a servlet) that can process incoming requests in the channel specific format. This means that the server will accept requests in the channel specific format and convert this to a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s that is forwarded to the `RequestRouter`. The server must then read the response (in `DataPacket`s) from the `RequestRouter` and return this over the channel in the channel specific format.

The developer must also develop a channel client class that implements the `com.bankframe.ei.channel.client.ChannelClient` interface that mandates that there must be `a send(Vector)` method. The developer should write this method to take a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s and send it to the server encoded in the channel specific format, handling any channel specific communication issues that may arise on the way. The aim is to make sending and receiving `DataPacket`s transparent to the Siebel client. This method should always return a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s to the Siebel client even if communication errors occur.

Thin and Fat Client Examples

The following examples illustrate how both thin client and fat client solutions can communicate with MCA over HTTP. For the sake of simplicity the following assumptions are made:

- There exists a Siebel Financial Component called `eontec.bankframe.examples.CreditTransfer`.
- The Financial Component is an implementation of a Credit Transfer.
- The Financial Component is deployed on Route: EX330.
- The Financial Component expects a request `DataPacket` with the following format as input:

Key	Value
`DATA_PACKET_NAME`	CREDIT_TRANSFER
`REQUEST_ID`	EX330
`FROM_ACCOUNT`	A/C Number money comes from
`TO_ACCOUNT`	A/C Number money goes to
`AMOUNT`	Amount to transfer

- The Financial Component returns a Vector of `DataPacket`s containing a single `DataPacket` with the following format:

Key	**Value**
DATA PACKET NAME	CREDIT_TRANSFER_RESPONSE
REQUEST_ID	00000
FROM_ACCOUNT	A/C Number money came from
TO_ACCOUNT	A/C Number money went to
AMOUNT	Amount transferred
NEW_BALANCE	New balance of a/c money was transferred from

The following example illustrates how a HTML based solution communicates with MCA. Siebel HTML solutions are built using Java Server Pages (JSPs) The following example illustrates a simple JSP that submits some information to a Financial Component.

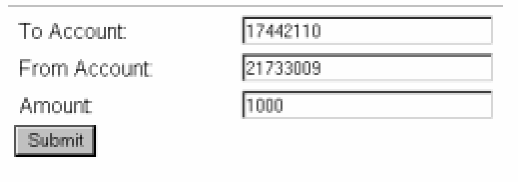
Thin client example

credittransfer.html

```
<html>

<head><title>Credit Transfer</title></head>

<body bgcolor="#ffffff">

<form method="post" action="credittransfer.jsp">

<table border="0" width="50%">

<tr><td>To Account:</td><td><input type="text" name="TO_ACCOUNT"
size="25"></td></tr>

<tr><td>From Account:</td><td><input type="text" name="FROM_ACCOUNT"
size="25"></td></tr>

<tr><td>Amount:</td><td><input type="text" name="AMOUNT" size="25"></td></tr>

</table>

<input type="hidden" name="REQUEST_ID" value="EX330">

<input type="hidden" name="DATA PACKET NAME" value="CREDIT_TRANSFER">

<input type="submit" value="Submit">
```

```
</form>

</body>

</html>
```

This HTML code will produce a form that looks like this:



credittransfer.html explanation

This is the HTML form used to submit the credit transfer information:

Note that the name of the input fields must match the name of the corresponding entry in the `DataPacket`. This is a single `DataPacket` request so we do not use '`[`' or '`]`'.

The first hidden input field contains the `REQUEST_ID` value to put in `the DataPacket`.

The second hidden input field contains the name to give the `DataPacket`.

When the Submit button on the HTML form is pressed the form data will be submitted to a JSP called `credittransfer.jsp`.

credittransfer.jsp

```
<%@ page import="com.BankFrame.examples.credittransfer.jsp.CreditTransferPage" %>

<jsp:useBean id="creditTransferPage" scope="page"
class="com.BankFrame.examples.credittransfer.jsp.CreditTransferPage" />

<%= creditTransferPage.executeRequest(config,request,response) %>

<html>

<head><title>Credit Transfer Completed</title></head>

<body bgcolor="#ffffff">

<table border="0" width="50%">

<tr><td>To Account:</td><td><jsp:getProperty name="creditTransferPage"
property="toAccount" /></td></tr>

<tr><td>From Account:</td><td><jsp:getProperty name="creditTransferPage"
property="fromAccount" /></td></tr>

<tr><td>Amount:</td><td><jsp:getProperty name="creditTransferPage"
property="amount" /></td></tr>
```

```
<tr><td>New Balance:</td><td><jsp:getProperty name="creditTransferPage"
property="newBalance" /></td></tr>

</table>

</body>

</html>
```

credittransfer.jsp Code Explanation

credittransfer.jsp carries out the following steps:

Imports a java bean called com.BankFrame.examples.credittransfer.jsp.CreditTransferPage.

Creates an instance of this java bean called creditTransferPage.

Invokes the creditTransferPage.executeRequest() method to send the data from the HTML form to MCA.

When the executeRequest() method is invoked, the HTML Form data is translated into a DataPacket and the DataPacket is passed to the Financial Component specified by the REQUEST_ID in the DataPacket. The response data from the Financial Component is returned to the CreditTransferPage java bean. The CreditTransferPage java bean parses and caches the response data.

The JSP uses the <jsp:getProperty/> tags to retrieve the response data cached in the CreditTransferPage java bean.

credittransfer.jsp is parsed by the JSP Engine to produce the HTML output. The output HTML will look something like this:

To Account:	17442110
From Account:	21733009
Amount:	1000
New Balance:	1050

CreditTransferPage

```
package com.BankFrame.examples.credittransfer.jsp;


import java.util.Vector;

import com.BankFrame.bo.DataPacket;

import com.BankFrame.fe.jsp.BankFramePage;


public class CreditTransferPage extends BankFramePage {

  private String fromAccount = null;

  private String toAccount = null;
```

```
  private String amount = null ;

  private String newBalance = null;


  public CreditTransferPage() {}

  public String getFromAccount() { return this.fromAccount; }

  public String getToAccount() { return this.toAccount; }

  public String getAmount() { return this.amount;}

  public String getNewBalance() { return this.newBalance; }

  public void setFromAccount(String fromAccount) { this.fromAccount =
fromAccount; }

  public void setToAccount(String toAccount) {this.toAccount = toAccount; }

  public void setAmount(String amount) {this.amount = amount; }

  public void setNewBalance(String newBalance) {this.newBalance = newBalance; }


  public void handleResponse(Vector DataPackets) {

    super.handleResponse(DataPackets);

    if ( this.isError() == false ) {

      DataPacket dp = (DataPacket)DataPackets.elementAt(0);

      this.fromAccount = dp.getString("FROM_ACCOUNT");

      this.toAccount = dp.getString("TO_ACCOUNT");

      this.amount = dp.getString("AMOUNT");

      this.newBalance = dp.getString("NEW_BALANCE");

    }

  }

}
```

CreditTransferPage Code Explanation

This java bean enables the JSP and the Financial Component to communicate. The bean has four attributes: `toAccount`, `fromAccount`, amount and `newBalance`. The first three represent information input by the user and the final attribute represents data returned from the Financial Component.

The bean is derived from the `com.BankFrame.fe.jsp.BankFramePage` class. This means the bean inherits `BankFramePage`'s `executeRequest()` method.

The JSP invokes the bean's `executeRequest()` method to send the data to the Financial Component. When the Financial Component has completed processing the bean's `handleResponse()` method will be invoked. This enables the bean to process the data returned from the Financial Component. In this case it stores the `toAccount`, `fromAccount`, amount, and `newBalance` values returned by the Financial Component. The JSP then uses the `<jsp:getProperty/>` tags to retrieve these values from the bean.

Fat client example

The following example illustrates a console based Client application that communicates with MCA over HTTP. The application expects the following command line parameters:

`to` - A/C number to transfer money to.

`from` - A/C number to transfer money from.

`amount` - Amount of money to transfer.

Code

```
package com.BankFrame.examples.credittransfer;


import java.util.Vector;

import com.BankFrame.bo.DataPacket;

import com.BankFrame.ei.comms.EHTTPCommsManager;


public class Client {

  private String toAccount;

  private String fromAccount;

  private String amount;


  public Client() {}


  public void init(String[] args) {

    for ( int i = 0 ; i < args.length ; ++i ) {

      if ( args[i].equals("-to") ) {

        this.toAccount = args[++i];

      }
```

```
    if ( args[i].equals("-from") ) {
      this.fromAccount = args[++i];
    }
    if ( args[i].equals("-amount") ) {
      this.amount = args[++i];
    }
  }
}

public void doCreditTransfer() {
  try {
    HttpClient client = new HttpClient();
    DataPacket dp = new DataPacket("CREDIT TRANSFER");
    dp.put(DataPacket.REQUEST_ID,"EX330");
    dp.put("TO_ACCOUNT",this.toAccount);
    dp.put("FROM_ACCOUNT",this.fromAccount);
    dp.put("AMOUNT",this.amount);
    Vector responses = client.send(dp);
    dp = (DataPacket)responses.elementAt(0);
    System.out.println("Transferred: " + dp.getString("AMOUNT") +
      " from a/c: " + dp.getString("FROM_ACCOUNT") +
      " to a/c: " + dp.getString("TO_ACCOUNT") +
      " new balance: " + dp.getString("NEW_BALANCE"));
  } catch (Exception e) {
    System.out.println("An exception occurred: " + ex.toString());
  }
}

public static void main(String[] args) {
```

```
      Client client = new Client();

      client.init(args);

      client.doCreditTransfer();

    }

  }
```

Code Explanation

The above code carries out the following actions:

- Parses the command-line flags, this is done in the `init()` method.
- Sends a `DataPacket` to the Financial Component, with the credit transfer details.
- Parses the response returned from the Financial Component and displays the results.

The `doCreditTransfer()` method does the following:

- Creates a `HttpClient` instance. This is the channel client used to communicate with MCA. The `HttpClient` instance is initialized with no parameters. This indicates that the channel specific properties from the `BankframeResource.properties` file should be read to initialize parameters.
- Creates a `DataPacket` with the information expected by the `eontec.bankframe.CreditTransfer` Financial Component.
- Uses the `HttpClient.send()` method to send the `DataPacket` to MCA.
- Parses the information returned from the Financial Component and displays this information.

XML B2B

The XML/XSL support in MCA Services uses DPTP (`DataPacket` Transmission Protocol) XML format. MCA provides three different options for communicating with Financial Components via XML. These options are:

- A custom XML parser that supports the parsing of DPTP only. This parser is optimized for speed but requires that all input be formatted correctly. This option is the best choice when performance is of paramount importance and the client is able to generate correctly formatted DPTP XML.
- A DPTP parser that uses the JAXP parser to parse the XML. This parser is not as fast as the first option but is more robust in handling incorrectly formatted XML. This option is a good choice for use during the development phase of a project as the JAXP parser will provide detailed error messages about any formatting issues with the incoming data.
- An XSL parser that uses XSL to transform an incoming request from an arbitrary XML format into DPTP XML. This option is the best choice when the client is not able to generate DPTP XML, it provides the most flexibility in the types of XML that can be processed. However the XSL transform requires a certain amount of overhead so this option will not be able to deliver the same levels of performance as the other two options.

These three options are implemented by a number of different codec classes described below:

Package: com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec

XMLDOMCodec

This is an abstract class that serves as a base class for codecs that use JAXP to encode XML data. This class provides methods for transforming String data to an XML DOM object and vice versa.

DPTPDOMCodec

This codec is similar to `DPTPCodec` in that it encodes XML data encoded in DPTP format, however it uses JAXP to parse the XML data. This provides more robust error handling at the expense of slower performance.

XMLXSLCodec

This is an abstract class which sub-classes `DPTPDOMCodec`. This class serves as a base class for codecs that use XSL to transform arbitrary XML into DPTP XML The incoming XML is parsed into a DOM tree, the transformation is applied to transform this DOM tree into DPTP XML and then the transformed data is parsed by the `DPTPDOMCodec`. On the return trip the reverse process is applied.

Package: com.bankframe.ei.xml

The codec classes defined above rely on the classes defined in the `com.bankframe.ei.xml` package to carry out processing of XML streams.

com.bankframe.ei.xml.EDocumentBuilder

This class is used to build an XML `Document` from an XML `InputSource`, the resulting `Document` can be XML of any type. The parse method in the `EDocumentBuilder` class is used to create XML `Document` objects. The `EDocumentBuilder` class also provides a `newDocument()` method to create an empty XML `Document` object, as well as methods that will let you determine the properties of the underlying XML parser being used.

The default implementation of the `EDocumentBuilder` class utilizes the Java API for XML Processing (JAXP), version 1.1 released by Sun. Therefore, the underlying XML parser that you wish the `EDocumentBuilder` to use can be specified using Java environment variables as described in the JAXP specification.

com.bankframe.ei.xml.EDocumentBuilderFactory

This class is used to obtain an instance of an `EDocumentBuilder`. The current release of MCA uses only the default implementation of an `EDocumentBuilder`, which is described above.

com.bankframe.ei.xml.XMLTransformer

This class is used to transform an XML `Document` object from one XML format to another. In most cases, this class will be used to transform non-Siebel XML `Documents` into Siebel XML `Documents`, or to transform Siebel XML Documents into non-Siebel XML `Documents`. The `XMLTransformer` class provides a `transform(Document, Document, String)` method that will accept a source XML `Document`, a result XML `Document` and the URL of the style sheet to carry out the transformation. The default implementation of the `XMLTransformer` utilizes the Java API for XML Processing, version 1.1 released by Sun. It transforms `Documents` using a user-defined XSL style sheet. Since the Siebel `XMLTransformer` utilizes JAXP, the underlying XML processor that you wish to use can be specified in Java environment variables, as noted in the JAXP specification.

com.bankframe.ei.xml.XMLErrorHandler

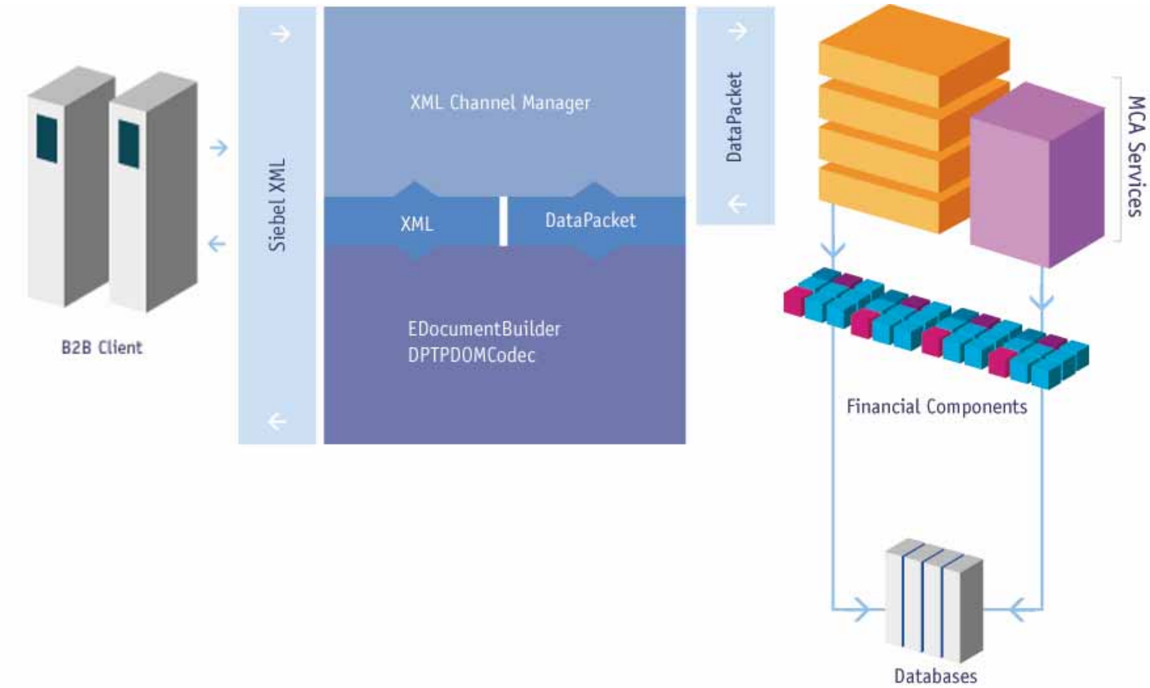
This class is used to report errors encountered during the processing of XML streams. This class redirects the error messages produced by the underlying JAXP parser to the BankFrame logging framework.

Mapping XML Requests to Financial Components

There are two scenarios to consider when MCA handles a request to a Financial Component in XML format:

XML Transactions In Siebel Format

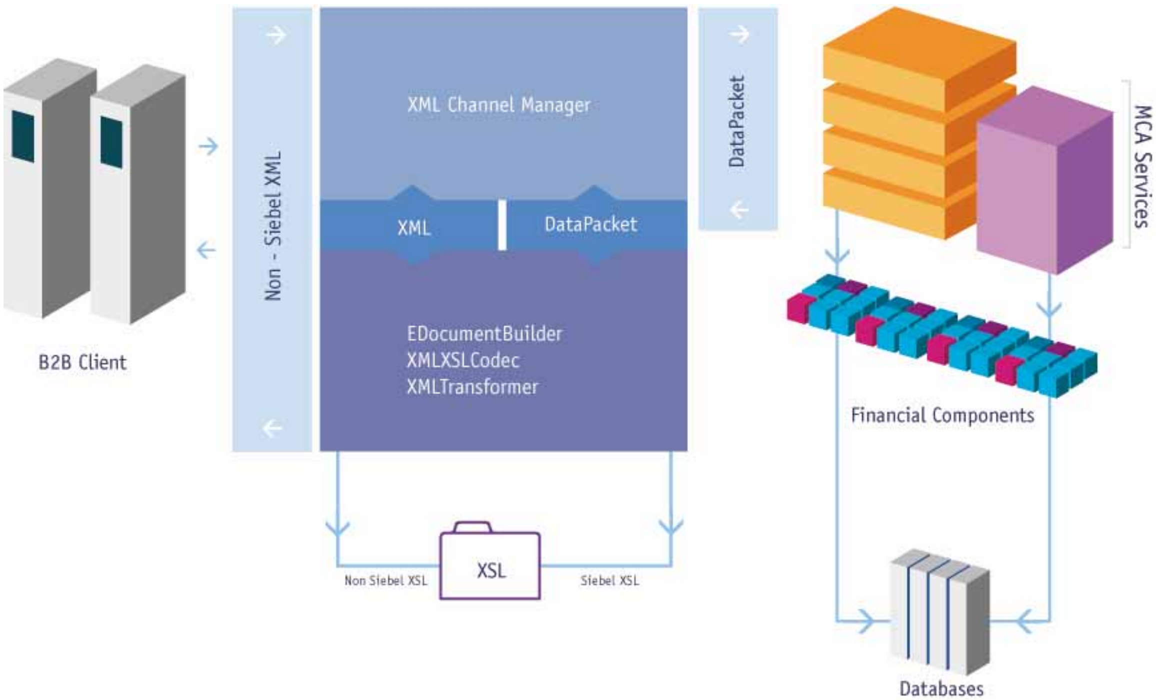
The first scenario is when a client (typically some third party B2B application) sends a request that adheres to the Siebel XML format. Therefore the client sends an XML request encoded in the DPTP XML format. The client also expects a response from MCA in the same format. In this instance, the Siebel XML Channel Manager does not require any extra configuration. Since the client will be using the MCA XML format, the request will be automatically converted into a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s and passed through the `RequestRouter` to the appropriate Financial Component. The `Vector` of `DataPacket`s response from the Financial Component will automatically be re-formatted into a Siebel XML `Document` and sent back to the client.



XML Transactions in Non-Siebel Format

In the second scenario, the client will be sending MCA a request that is in an arbitrary XML format (i.e. FpXML, cXML, fooXML etc.) In this instance, incoming requests must first be transformed into the Siebel XML format so that it can be parsed into a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s for processing. In order to accomplish this, the developer must determine a correspondence between the client XML transaction types, and Siebel Financial Components. It is assumed that it will be possible to find a mapping pattern between the client XML format and Siebel Financial Components. Once these mappings are defined, the developer is responsible for writing an XSL style sheet that transforms the incoming XML Document into a Siebel XML Document.

After the request is processed, the `Vector` of `DataPacket`s returned by the Financial Component must be re-formatted back into an XML format that the client expects. Once again, this is accomplished by defining an XSL stylesheet to transform the Siebel XML format into the client's XML format. Note that you will generally write two separate XSL stylesheets for each mapping. One stylesheet to transform incoming requests into Siebel XML format, and one stylesheet to transform outgoing responses back into the client XML format. The entire process is represented in the following diagram:



The name of the XSL stylesheets to be used in the transformation is defined by sub-classing the `XMLXSLCodec` class and defining the content types that the sub-class handles (It is assumed that each different XML encoding will have a different MIME content type). These content types are then mapped to the URL of an XSL file via settings defined in the `BankFrameResource.properties` file.

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

XML Properties

`xml.eDocBuilder.systemId`	Specify a default location for DTD files of incoming XML Documents. (This is used as a back-up if the DTD is not specified with a full URL in incoming XML Documents) E.g. `http://localhost/dtd` So, if an incoming XML doc specifies its DTD with a line `SYSTEM "fooXML.dtd"`, the parser will look for this file at the location specified by the `systemId` property. If the incoming XML doc specifies its DTD with a line `SYSTEM http://www.siebel.com/xml/dtd/fooXML.dtd` then the `systemId` property is ignored.
`xml.parser.validating`	Specify whether the underlying XML parser used should be

	validating or non-validating. Can be: `true` or `false`.
`xml.parser.ignoreComments`	Specify whether the underlying XML parser should ignore comments or not. Can be: `true` or `false`.
`xml.parser.ignoreElementContentWhiteSpace`	Specify whether the underlying XML parser should ignore white space or not. Can be: `true` or `false`.
`xml.parser.nameSpaceAware`	Specify whether the underlying XML parser is namespace aware or not. Can be: `true` or `false`.

XSL Properties

For each XML request/response that is processed by applying an XSL transformation a mapping must be defined to associate the MIME `content-type` of the request/response with the appropriate XSL style-sheet to apply. For example:

```
channel.http.xml.xsl.request.content-type.application/x-foo-request-xml=http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/foo-xml-request.xsl

channel.http.xml.xsl.response.content-type.application/x-foo-response-xml=http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/foo-xml-response.xsl
```

The settings above specify that for requests of type: application/x-foo-request-xml the style-sheet located at: http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/foo-xml-request.xsl should be applied to the incoming request.

Similarly for responses of type: `application/x-foo-response-xml` the style-sheet located at:

http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/foo-xml-response.xsl should be applied to the outgoing response.

Developing Custom XML and XSL Codecs

Custom XML Codecs

Codecs that must manipulate an XML stream can sub-class the `XMLDOMCodec` class which provides methods for marshalling String data to DOM trees and vice versa.

Custom XSL Codecs

Codecs that must use XSL to transform XML into DPTP format can sub-class the `XMLXSLCodec` class. The sub-class need only specify the `content-type` of the incoming request and outgoing response. Once this is done and the relevant `BankframeResource.properties` settings (see above) are configured this class will apply the appropriate XSL style-sheet to the incoming request and the outgoing response.

The DPTPCodec transmission format

The `DPTPCodec` marshals `Vector`s of `DataPacket`s to and from an XML based String representation. The XML format used is very simple and very compact, in order to keep the request and response message sizes as small as possible. The `DPTPCodec` parses the XML directly, it does not rely on third-party XML parsers such as Xerces or JAXP. This ensures that the `DPTPCodec` marshals data very quickly, but also requires that the XML data is formatted exactly as described below. The XML data is not validated before parsing so it is essential that the data is well formed.

Sample request file

The example below shows how the `CREDIT_TRANSFER` request described in the previous example would be encoded:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<v n="r">

    <d n="CREDIT_TRANSFER">

           <a n="OWNER">Siebel Ltd</a>

           <a n="AMOUNT">1400.00</a>

           <a n="FROM_ACCOUNT">11236745</a>

           <a n="TO_ACCOUNT">11246890</a>

           <a n="REQUEST_ID">EX330</a>

    </d>

</v>
```

- The file starts with the standard XML processing instruction.
- `Vector`s are denoted by the `<v>` element, every request will have a containing `Vector`, this `Vector` is given the name "`r`" (denoting root element) by convention.
- `DataPacket`s are denoted by the `<d>` element, each `DataPacket` has a name which is defined by the '`n`' (name) attribute.
- `DataPacket` attributes are denoted by the `<a>` element. Each attribute has a name defined by the '`n`' attribute. The value of the attribute is given between the enclosing `<a>` and `</a>` tags.
- The XML element and attribute tags are kept short to ensure the message size is as small as possible.
- The `DPTPCodec` strips all unnecessary white-space between elements for the same reason. Carriage returns and indentation have been added to the example above for clarity. The actual request would look like this:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?><v n="r"><d n="CREDIT_TRANSFER"><a n="OWNER">Siebel
Ltd</a><a n="AMOUNT">1400.00</a><a n="FROM_ACCOUNT">11236745</a><a
n="TO_ACCOUNT">11246890</a><a n="REQUEST_ID">EX330</a></d></v>
```

XML Format Description

- The Document must commence with an XML processing instruction.
- The root element must a have a Vector element (`<v>`).
- All `<v>` elements must have a name attribute (`n`).
- The root `Vector` element's name is always: `r`.
- The root `Vector` element can contain one or more `DataPacket` (`<d>`) elements.
- Each `DataPacket` element must have a name (`n`) attribute.
- Each `DataPacket` element can contain one or more `DataPacket` attribute (`<a>`) elements.
- Each `DataPacket` attribute element must have a name (`n`) attribute.
- The `DataPacket` attribute's value is located between the `<a>` and `</a>` tags.

XML and XSL Examples

This example assumes the reader is familiar with XSL and the DPTP XML format. This example builds on the example used to explain how the channel management framework works.

This example assumes that an XML stream encoded in the third-party `foo-corp-xml` format must be transformed to and from DPTP XML format so that it can be processed by a Siebel Financial component. The XML contains a credit transfer request which must be processed by a Siebel Financial component. Below is the input XML:

Input XML

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<!DOCTYPE foo-corp-xml SYSTEM "foo-corp-xml.dtd">

<foo-corp-xml>

    <payment type="credit-transfer">

           <source-account>1234567890</source-account>

           <destination-account>1111222245</destination-account>

           <amount currency="EUR">1200.00</amount>

           <narrative>J Bloggs</narrative>

    </payment>

</foo-corp-xml>
```

The data in this request must be converted to `DataPacket`s of information so that they can be passed to a Siebel Financial Component which expects data as described in the previous example.

The sender of the above request must ensure that the `content-type` header field in the HTTP request is set to the correct MIME type for the XML format. MCA uses the `content-type` field to determine the appropriate codec to use to decode the XML.

XSL Style-sheet

We must define an XSL style-sheet to transform the foo-corp-xml request into a DPTP request. Below is a style-sheet which does this:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

<xsl:transform xmlns:xsl="http://www.w3.org/1999/XSL/Transform"

    version="1.0"

    xmlns:xalan="http://xml.apache.org/xslt">

<xsl:template match ="/">

    <xsl:call-template name="payment-template"/>

</xsl:template>

<xsl:template name="payment-template">

    <v n="r">

            <xsl:for-each select="//payment">

                    <d n="CREDIT_TRANSFER">

                            <a n="REQUEST_ID">EX330</a>

                            <a n="FROM_ACCOUNT"><xsl:value-of select="source-
account"/></a>

                            <a n="TO_ACCOUNT"><xsl:value-of select="destination-
account"/></a>

                            <a n="AMOUNT"><xsl:value-of select="amount"/></a>

                    </d>

            </xsl:for-each>

    </v>

</xsl:template>

</xsl:transform>
```

This style-sheet supplies the `DataPacket` name and `REQUEST_ID` which is essential for routing the request to the correct Financial Component.

XSL Codec

Now we must define a codec that is capable of applying the above XSL to the incoming request. Below is the code for this codec:

```
package com.bankframe.examples.channel.xmlxsl;

import com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec.XMLXSLCodec;

public class FooXmlXslCodec extends XMLXSLCodec {

    public static final String REQUEST_CONTENT_TYPE="application/x-foo-request-
xml";

    public static final String RESPONSE_CONTENT_TYPE="application/x-foo-response-
xml";

    public FooXmlXslCodec() {

            super(REQUEST_CONTENT_TYPE,RESPONSE_CONTENT_TYPE);

    }

    public String getName() {

            return this.getClass().getName();

    }

}
```

XSL Codec Code Explanation

This class sub-classes `com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec.XMLXSLCodec`. `XMLXSLCodec` provides all the functionality required for applying an XSL transformation to incoming requests and outgoing responses. All that the `FooXmlXslCodec` class needs to do is define the `content-type`s of the incoming and outgoing requests. `XMLXSLCodec` uses the `content-type` to determine the XSL file to apply for the specified request or response.

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

To enable `XMLXSLCodec` to determine which XSL file to apply to the request and response the following properties must be added to `BankframeResource.properties`:

```
channel.http.xml.xsl.request.content-type.application/x-foo-request-
xml=http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/foo-request.xsl

channel.http.xml.xsl.response.content-type.application/x-foo-response-
xml=http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/foo-response.xsl
```

These settings assume that the appropriate style-sheets are located in `http://localhost/eontec/mca/stylesheets/`

Web Services

A Web service is any piece of software that makes itself available over the Internet and communicates with clients using a standardized XML messaging.

XML is used to encode all requests to a Web service. All responses from a Web service will similarly be encoded in XML. Because all requests and responses are in XML Web services are not tied down to any single platform or operating system.

This document is a guide to using the Web services provided by MCA Services. It is not a tutorial on Web services. There is a research pack available from Siebel Engineering that gives a more in-depth overview of Web services. This will give the reader a good insight into the Web services architecture.

MCA Services Web Services

Description

MCA services exposes the Request Router session bean as a Web service. This means that any request that is currently processed by the Request Router can be invoked via this Web service. The Request Router contains a `processDataPackets(Vector dataPackets)` method which allows any `DataPacket` request to reach any given EJB listed in the Routes database table. The Web service allows this method to be invoked on the `RequestRouter`. The Web service allows the `processDataPacket` method of the `RequestRouter` EJB to be invoked by any client regardless of the programming language the client is written in or operating system that it is run from.

Implementation

MCA Services provides a WSDL description of the Request Router Web service. This description describes the location of the Web service and how a client can interact with it. The WebLogic WSDL is shown below:

```
<definitions

targetNamespace="java:com.bankframe.services.requestrouter.webservice"

xmlns:tns="java:com.bankframe.services.requestrouter.webservice"

xmlns="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/"

xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema-instance"

xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema"

xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap/"

>

<types>

<schema targetNamespace='java:com.bankframe.services.requestrouter.webservice'

xmlns='http://www.w3.org/1999/XMLSchema'>
```

```
</schema>

</types>

<message name="processDataPacketsRequest">

<part name="arg0" type="xsd:string" />

</message>

<message name="processDataPacketsResponse">

<part name="return" type="xsd:string" />

</message>

<portType name="WebserviceRequestRouterPortType">

<operation name="processDataPackets">

<input message="tns:processDataPacketsRequest"/>

<output message="tns:processDataPacketsResponse"/>

</operation>

</portType>

<binding name="WebserviceRequestRouterBinding"
type="tns:WebserviceRequestRouterPortType"><soap:binding style="rpc"
transport="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/http"/>

<operation name="processDataPackets">

<soap:operation soapAction="urn:processDataPackets"/>

<input><soap:body use="encoded" namespace='urn:WebserviceRequestRouter'
encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/"/></input>

<output><soap:body use="encoded" namespace='urn:WebserviceRequestRouter'
encodingStyle="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/encoding/"/></output>

</operation>

</binding>

<service name="WebserviceRequestRouter"><documentation>todo</documentation><port
name="WebserviceRequestRouterPort"
binding="tns:WebserviceRequestRouterBinding"><soap:address
location="http://localhost:7001/BankFrameMCA/WebServices/RequestRouter"/></port><
/service></definitions>
```

The `<service>` tag in the WSDL defines the Web service. The sub-tag `<port>` defines where to find the Web service and the operations (methods) supported. In this WSDL we can see the port is called

WebserviceRequestRouterPort. It has one operation called processDataPackets which itself declares its input and output message. These are defined earlier in the WSDL. The second sub-tag is the <soap:address> tag which defines the actual location of the Web Service. In this case the Web service can be invoked by sending a SOAP request adhering to the definitions provided in the WSDL to http://localhost:7001/BankFrameMCA/WebServices/RequestRouter.

The data types that can be defined in the WSDL must be SOAP data types. SOAP data types map to primitive java data types such as long, double, float, string, but not to object data types such a DataPacket, Vector, etc. So in the example WSDL we can see that both messages are defined with a single part type. The part says that the argument to the message is of type xsd:String. When using WSDL all the arguments to operations that are declared must be a valid SOAP data type. This means that DataPackets which are used internally throughout MCA Services and by the Request Routers processDataPacket() method cannot be used as an input to or an output from the Web service.

Because of this limitation all requests to the Request Router Web service must be represented in XML. This means that a DataPacket or a Vector of DataPackets request must first be mapped to XML before it can be invoked using the Web service. To do this the com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec.DPTPCodec should be used. If the client is not a Java client or does not have this codec class, then they should ensure that the requests that they submit are correctly encoded. There is a later section describing the format of the XML produced by the DPTPCodec. This codec will convert a Vector of DataPackets to an XML string. This string can then be used as the request parameter to the Web service's processDataPackets method.

Web Services Application Servers

The MCA Services RequestRouter service provides access to all Siebel Retail Finance Financial Components. The RequestRouter can be deployed as a web service, effectively web enabling all the underlying services. For more details on how to do this please consult your application server vendor's documentation.

Class Descriptions

Package com.bankframe.services.requestrouter.webservice

This package defines a session bean that talks to the Request Router EJB. This session will map the incoming XML request to a Vector of DataPacket(s) before forwarding the DataPacket(s) to the Request Router.

Class WebserviceRequestRouterBean

This class contains a single method with the following signature:

```
public String processDataPackets(String request) throws ProcessingErrorException,
RemoteException
```

This method takes a String as a parameter and uses the DPTPCodec to convert it to a Vector of DataPackets. It then calls the RequestRouterUtils.processDataPackets(Vector dataPackets) which passes the generated DataPacket(s) to the Request Router EJB which then processes them.

When a response from the Request Router is received it converts it back to an XML string using the codec and returns this XML.

Package com.bankframe.ei.channel.codec

This package contains codecs that are used in MCA Services. The `WebserviceRequestRouter` session bean that that Web service is built on uses the `DPTPCodec`. An explanation of the codec and its usage follows.

Class DPTPCodec

The `DPTPCodec` marshals `Vector`s of `DataPacket`s to and from an XML based String representation. The XML format used is very simple and very compact, in order to keep the request and response message sizes as small as possible. The `DPTPCodec` parses the XML directly, it does not rely on third-party XML parsers such as Xerces or JAXP. This ensures that the `DPTPCodec` marshals data very quickly, but also requires that the XML data is formatted exactly as described below. The XML data is not validated before parsing so it is essential that the data is well formed.

Sample request file. The example below shows how a sample credit transfer request might be encoded using the DPTP codec:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>

<v n="r">

    <d n="CREDIT_TRANSFER">

           <a n="OWNER">eontec Ltd</a>

           <a n="AMOUNT">1400.00</a>

           <a n="FROM_ACCOUNT">11236745</a>

           <a n="TO_ACCOUNT">11246890</a>

           <a n="REQUEST_ID">EX330</a>

    </d>

</v>
```

- The file starts with the standard XML processing instruction.
- `Vector`s are denoted by the `<v>` element, every request will have a containing `Vector`, this `Vector` is given the name “`r`” (denoting root element) by convention.
- `DataPacket`s are denoted by the `<d>` element, each `DataPacket` has a name which is defined by the ‘`n`’ (name) attribute.
- `DataPacket` attributes are denoted by the `<a>` element. Each attribute has a name defined by the ‘`n`’ attribute. The value of the attribute is given between the enclosing `<a>` and `</a>` tags.
- The XML element and attribute tags are kept short to ensure the message size is as small as possible.

- The DPTPCodec strips all unnecessary white-space between elements for the same reason. Carriage returns and indentation have been added to the example above for clarity.

Session Affinity

Session Affinity is a mechanism whereby a unique string token is placed into all requests under a configurable key for the duration of a client's HTTP session. The unique token is placed into a request by the State Machine and added to the HTTP request's header within the HTTP Channel Client under a configurable key specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file.

Configuring Session Affinity

To configure Session Affinity the `BankframeResource.properties` file must be modified in two places.

- Firstly to notify the State Machine to include a unique token with every request the following must be set to true:

  ```
  include.session.id=true
  ```

- Secondly a configurable name must be specified as a key for the unique token when placed within a HTTP request's header. Therefore set the following:

  ```
  channel.http.client.header.HTTP_HEADER_ID=SM_SESSION_ID
  ```

  where `HTTP_HEADER_ID` is the configurable key.

  NOTE: The State Machine always places a key named SM_SESSION_ID in each request so this is not to be altered in the above setting.

Sample Application of Session Affinity

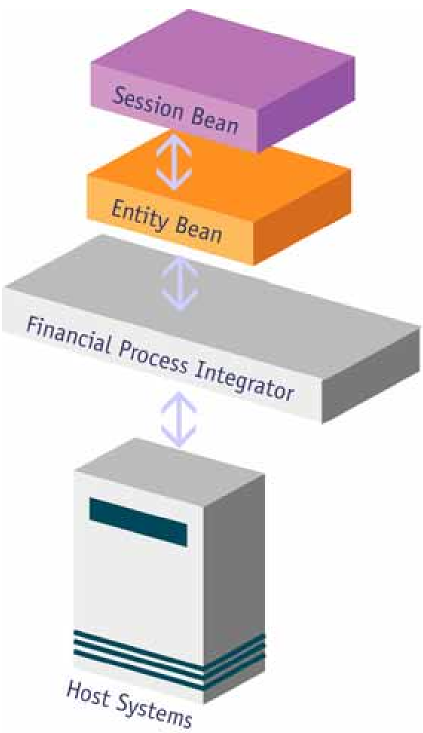
Suppose one has an application environment running multiple Java Virtual Machines, e.g. a cluster. Caching occurs at each node in the cluster so at certain points in time it is possible to have inconsistent caches of data across each node. To ensure that all requests within a user's session process data from the same cache all requests within the user's session must be routed to the same node in the cluster. Session Affinity can address this need to route requests to the same node by configuring the load balancing mechanism for the cluster to determine if requests have come from the same user session via the configured unique token in the HTTP request's header. When a request hits the load balancing mechanism the HTTP request's header is checked for a pre-defined key, e.g. `HTTP_HEADER_ID`, that will have been added by the Channel Client, and the load balancer will search for a mapping between `HTTP_HEADER_IDs` and IP addresses of the nodes in the cluster. If a record is not found then a node is chosen at random to route the request to and a mapping between the `HTTP_HEADER_ID` and an IP address is created. Otherwise, if a matching record is found, the request is routed to the node with the IP address matching that of the `HTTP_HEADER_ID`.

4 Financial Process Integration

About Financial Process Integration

There are two types of component in Siebel Modules such as Branch Teller & Internet Banking: entity beans and session beans. Entity beans model the data in the solution and session beans model the business logic.

Session beans communicate with host systems via entity beans. Entity beans use the Financial Process Integrator to communicate with the host system, as illustrated in the diagram below:



Host systems are accessed via software known as middleware. MCA can use a number of different middleware technologies (IMS, MQ, TUXEDO, and CICS) to communicate with Host systems. These middleware technologies send request data to host systems and pass back response data from the host system. However, each middleware layer does this in a different way. One of MCA's main strengths is that it provides an abstraction layer that hides the differences between different middleware technologies. This provides Siebel Modules with a simple interface for communicating with host systems. This layer is called the Financial Process Integrator.

Overview of Interfacing with a Host System

Typically a session bean needs to read some information stored on a host system. At a high level, this is how this would be modeled:

- The data stored on the host system is modeled as an entity bean.
- The session bean requests a specific instance of the entity bean.
- This request is transformed by the Financial Process Integrator into a host transaction.
- The host system processes the request, and returns some response data.
- The Financial Process Integrator transforms this response data into a format the entity bean can understand.
- The entity bean is initialized with the response data.
- The initialized entity bean instance is returned to the session bean.

The key point to note here is that the session bean does not interact directly with the Financial Process Integrator. In Siebel Modules all data in the system is modeled as entity beans. Session beans manipulate these entity beans, rather than interacting directly with the data-store (which, in the example above, is the host system). This approach maximizes the flexibility of Siebel Modules: the complexity of interacting with the data store is hidden within the implementation of entity beans.

Components of the Financial Process Integrator

Persister

Entity beans can be implemented using either container managed persistence (CMP) or bean-managed persistence (BMP). With CMP the task of persisting the entity bean's state is delegated to the EJB Container, whereas with BMP the entity bean is responsible for persisting its state itself.

When entity beans are used to model data on host systems they must be implemented using BMP. To do this they must interact with the Financial Process Integrator.

The task of communicating with the Financial Process Integrator is delegated to a persister helper object.

Cache

Typically communication with host systems is expensive, it can take a significant amount of time for a request to be processed by a host system. In addition the process of transforming data to/from the format understood by the host system can also be expensive. It is important to cache information so that communication with the host system and transformation of data is minimized. Caching is used in several places in the Financial Process Integrator to improve performance. The cache can be keyed by the entity primary key or the cache can be indexed.

Cache Indexing

To facilitate the retrieval of cached data by non-primary key attributes, the cache can be indexed. Cache indexing provides the following benefits:

- Results from non-key host transactions can be reused without the overhead of firing the host transaction again.
- Data returned by another host transaction can be retrieved even when a corresponding host transaction does not exist. For example, a host system may have a `retrieveCustomerProfile` transaction that returns customer details as well as account details, but may not have a single transaction for returning the account details alone.

Indexing does have its own overhead and not all host transaction responses need to be indexed. All cache index implementations must implement the basic methods defined in the `CacheIndexer` interface in the `com.bankframe.services.cache` package. The cache index structures are defined using the `IndexMetaData` entity. The Cache Indexing implementation is completely configurable. See the Caching Framework section for more information on indexing a cache.

Meta-Data

Meta-data is the information that describes how to transform data into the format that the host system understands. Meta-data information is modeled as follows:

- Meta-data information for creating the host request is modeled using the `RequestTransactionField` entity EJB.
- Meta-data information for processing the host system response is defined by the `TransactionMetaData` and `ResponseTransactionField` entity EJBs.
- Meta-data information for handling host system error responses is modeled using the `TransactionErrorCondition` entity EJB.
- Meta-data information on which host transaction responses should be indexed is modeled using the `ResponseIndex` entity EJB.

Data Formatter

The data formatter class is responsible for interpreting the meta-data and using it to transform the request data into the format that the host system understands, and conversely to transform the response data into a format the Siebel Module can understand.

Transaction Route

The `TransactionRoute` entity defines the Siebel connector to use for each transaction.

Destination

The `Destination` entity stores the configuration information required by the Siebel connector to locate and communicate with the host system.

Siebel Connector

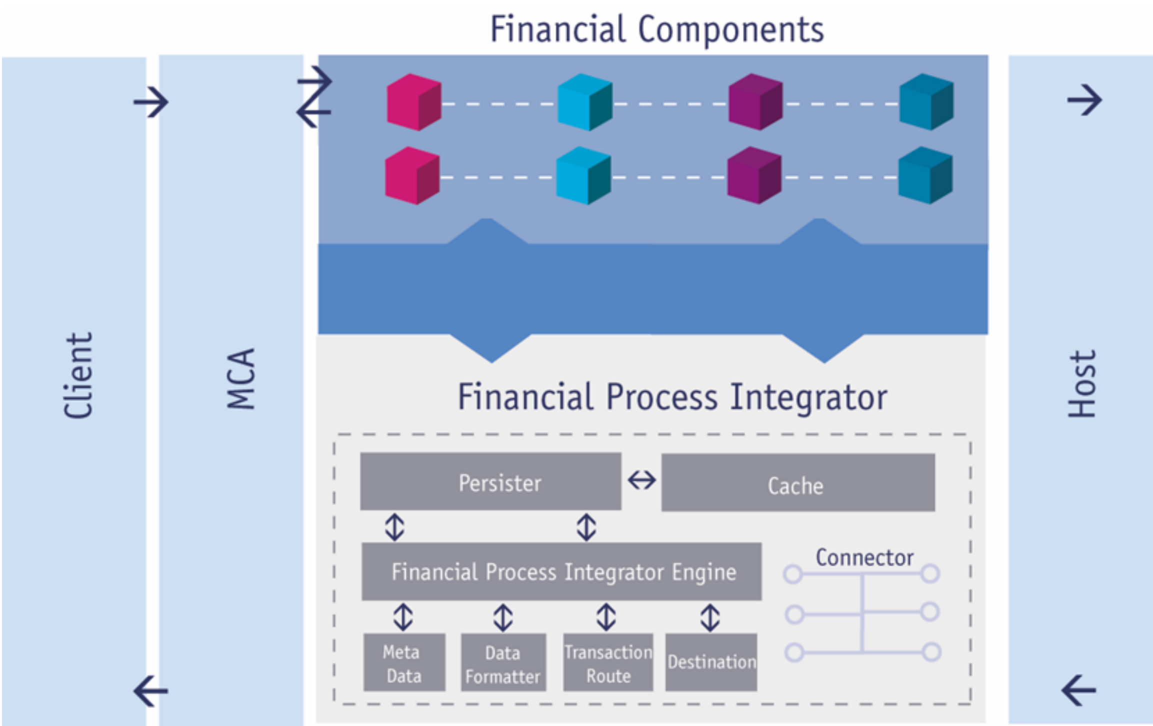
The Siebel connector is responsible for delivering data to and receiving data from the host system.

Store and Forward

The Store and Forward mechanism operates between the Siebel mid-tier (i.e. the Siebel Financial Components) and the host. The Financial Process Integrator's Store and Forward framework provides the means to store transactions, in the event of a host going offline, in order to forward them to the host at a later time. It will only enable the storing of data for update to the host, it will not store data retrieved from the host.

Interaction of Financial Process Integrator Components

The diagram below illustrates how the various components in the Financial Process Integrator interact and how the Financial Process Integrator interacts with Siebel Financial Components.



Outline of how the various components in the Financial Process Integrator typically interact and how the Financial Process Integrator interacts with Siebel Financial Components:

- The client makes a request of a Session EJB.
- This request is routed to the session bean by MCA Services.
- To fulfil the request the session bean must retrieve some data from the host.
- All data on the host is modelled as entity EJBs so the session bean must retrieve an entity EJB instance.
- The entity bean must populate itself with data from the host system. It delegates this task to the persister.

- The persister checks if the data is already in the cache either directly by primary key, or through an index if one is configured. If data is found in the cache, the persister populates the entity bean with the cached data, otherwise it sends a request to the host for the required data.
- The Financial Process Integrator retrieves the request meta-data for the specified request, and passes the request and the associated meta-data to the Data Formatter.
- The Data Formatter uses the meta-data to transform the request into a format the host can understand.
- The Financial Process Integrator retrieves the Transaction Route information for the specified request and locates the appropriate Siebel connector.
- If the Siebel connector is not already initialized, it initializes itself using the Destination information.
- The Siebel connector then passes the formatted request to the host system (using some middleware technology such as CICS or MQ).
- The host processes the request and returns a response.
- The Siebel connector passes the response back to the Financial Process Integrator.
- The Financial Process Integrator retrieves the response meta-data and passes the response and associated meta-data to the Data Formatter.
- The Data Formatter uses the meta-data to transform the response from the host into a format the persister can understand.
- The Financial Process Integrator returns the response to the persister.
- The persister populates the entity bean with the returned data, and stores the data in the cache. The response data in the cache can also be indexed.
- The session bean interacts with the entity bean as necessary and returns its response to the client.

Financial Process Integrator Meta-Data

The metadata defines the structure of the data that is sent to the host system for a transaction and the response data from the host system to a transaction request. The metadata is broken into transaction fields. Each transaction field represents an individual block of data in the host system data. To form a transaction request the all the appropriate transaction fields are extracted from the metadata and combined. To process a transaction response the transaction fields that are part of that type of transaction are extracted from the metadata and used to process and extract information from the host system response. The following sub-sections introduce some of the features of the Financial Process Integrator.

Separation of Request and Response

There are two sets of data that are represented by the Financial Process Integrator metadata:

- The structure of the host system request, which will be a host-specific format.
- The mapping of host system response fields to response `DataPacket` fields.

These two sets of data are represented separately.

The request metadata specifies the sequential transaction fields required for the host system request. Values necessary for the transaction are extracted from the `DataPacket` transaction request.

In the case of the host system response the metadata specifies the mappings of result `DataPacket`s to the host system response data. Only the required fields are extracted from the host system response. The required fields are referenced in the host system response by offset, the entire host system response does not have to be parsed, only the required fields.

Support for Error Conditions

The Financial Process Integrator has support for error condition responses from the host system. The Financial Process Integrator can determine if the host system response is an error response from the host system. Once it has been determined that an error has occurred appropriate action can be taken.

Support for Tiered Fields

The meta-data supports tiered fields. This concept is detailed in a later section.

Meta-Data Response Access by Offset

The Financial Process Integrator metadata for the host system response specifies the location of required transaction fields by offset and not by sequence. This means only the required transaction fields will be parsed out of the host system response. Previously the metadata contained a sequence number to locate transaction fields in the response. This meant every transaction field in the host system response had to be parsed in sequence to get to the field that was actually required. Even if only one field in a host system response of a hundred fields was required for the result all one hundred fields had to be parsed. Now the metadata contains the offset and not the sequence. Therefore if only one field is required in a host system response of one hundred fields only that one field is parsed and the remaining fields don't have to be read. This greatly improves performance.

Request Transaction Fields

The Financial Process Integrator creates transaction requests using the `RequestTransactionField` entity:

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionlayout.impl.request.RequestTransactionFiel
dBean
```

This entity maps to Table 4. `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` database.

Table 4. `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` database

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	FIELDNAME	SEQUENCE	LENGTH	DP_FIELD
TXN01	TYPE1	Cust-Number	1	2	Customer_Number
TXN01	TYPE1	Acc-Name	2	10	Account_Name

…

MANDATORY	DATA	FIELD_PAD_CHAR	FIELD_ALIGN	FIELD_ENCODING
Yes		0	LEFT	COMP
No		` `	RIGHT	ASCII

…

ISSIGNED_FIELD	DEC_BEFORE	DEC_AFTER
0	0	0
0	0	0

The main body of a transaction request, which will be passed to the Siebel Connector, is built by determining all the necessary transaction fields for the required transaction request. The `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` database table specifies the transaction fields necessary for host system requests. Each row of the `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` database table represents a transaction field.

A bank's COBOL Copybook is a typical source for determining the necessary entries in the request meta-data. Each transaction field, as defined in the COBOL Copybook, must be defined in the metadata to correctly form a host system request. Typically the `TXN_CODE` code is the `NAME` section of the COBOL Copybook.

The total number and type of columns in the `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` table depends on the host system requirements and may be customized for a specific host.

The main columns in the `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` table are as follows:

- The transaction code, `TXN_CODE`, specifies the transaction id as defined on the host system, this is an alphanumeric string that uniquely identifies the transaction.
- The transaction type, `TXN_TYPE`, indicates which host system the transaction request is being passed to.
- The `FIELDNAME` element identifies the transaction field as defined for the host system.
- The `SEQUENCE` element specifies the order in which the transaction fields are ordered for sending to the host and receiving from the host system. This element starts at `1`.
- The `LENGTH` element is the length of the transaction field as required by the host system.
- `DP_FIELD` defines the name of the field in the Request `DataPacket` that maps to the request transaction field `FIELDNAME`.
- The `MANDATORY` element specifies if the request `DataPacket`, passed to the Financial Process Integrator, must contain an element called `DP_FIELD` with a value to place in the transaction field. The `MANDATORY` element has the value `'yes'` or `'no'`. An Exception is thrown if a transaction request `DataPacket` passed to the Financial Process Integrator does not specify a value for a mandatory element. E.g. `CUSTOMER_NAME` for a "customer details" request, this element would likely be mapped to `CUST-NAME` in the host system data request and would be a mandatory element in the `DataPacket` for this type of request.
- The `DATA` element is a default value for the transaction field which will be passed to the host system.

- The FIELD_PAD_CHAR element specifies the padding character to fill the transaction field data with if the data is less than LENGTH.
- The FIELD_ALIGN element specifies the alignment of padding data in the transaction field. 'LEFT' specifies that padding is placed to the left of the data in the transaction field. 'RIGHT' specifies that padding is placed to the right of the data in the transaction field.
- The FIELD_ENCODING element specifies the encoding used to format the host system data. Examples for textual data are ASCII, EBCDIC. Examples for numeric data are the Cobol types COMP-3, COMP, X, STD.
- The ISSIGNED_FIELD element specifies if the transaction field is signed.
- The DEC_BEFORE element specifies the number of places before the decimal point for numeric data.
- The DEC_AFTER element specifies the number of places after the decimal point for numeric data.

The Financial Process Integrator passes all transaction processing duties to the BasicDataFormat class. The BasicDataFormat class calls the RequestTransactionField entity bean home method findByTransactionCodeAndType (txnCode, txnType) to get the appropriate transaction fields required for the transaction request being processed by the Financial Process Integrator. This method returns a List of RequestTransactionField entity beans which are accessed using the interface TransactionField.

Example Transaction Request

The CustomerSearch example findByLastName operation has a transaction request defined by the following Cobol Copybook:

```
000400 01  MAIN-CUSTOMERSEARCH.

001400* INPUT DATA

001600   05 T-CODE              PIC X(12).

001800   05 T-RESTART-INDEX   PIC X(4).

002000   05 C-LAST-NAME   PIC X(20).
```

The request transaction fields for this transaction have the following form in Table 5. REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT.

Table 5. REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT database

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	FIELDNAME	SEQUENCE	LENGTH	DP_FIELD	MANDATORY
TESTFIND0002	TEST	T-CODE	1	12	TXN_ CODE	YES
TESTFIND0002	TEST	T-RESTART-INDEX	2	4	RESTART_ INDEX	NO
TESTFIND0002	TEST	C-LAST-NAME	3	20	LAST_ NAME	YES

The transaction is identified with `TXN_CODE=TESTFIND0002` and the host system is defined as `TXN_TYPE=TEST`. There are three transaction fields defined according to the Cobol Copybook definition.

- `T-CODE` is the first transaction field, this field is mapped to `TXN_CODE` in the request `DataPacket` which is passed to the Financial Process Integrator. This field is mandatory in the request `DataPacket`.
- `T-RESTART-INDEX` is the second transaction field, this field is mapped to `RESTART_INDEX` in the request `DataPacket` which is passed to the Financial Process Integrator. This field is not mandatory in the request `DataPacket`. The field is used for maintaining an index while making repeated calls to the host system for results.
- `C-LAST-NAME` is the third transaction field, this field is mapped to `LAST_NAME` in the request `DataPacket` which is passed to the Financial Process Integrator. This field is mandatory in the request `DataPacket`.

Processing Host System Response

The `BasicDataFormat` class determines the transaction fields in the host system response necessary for the transaction response by using the following steps:

1. The mapping of entity `DataPacket`s elements to required transaction fields in the host system response is specified by the `TransactionMetaData` entities.
2. The form of the transaction fields in the host system response data that are required for step 1 are specified by the `ResponseTransactionField` entities.

Response Meta Data Mapping

The response from a host system has to be converted from the host system specific format into entity results which are passed to the persister, which calls the Financial Process Integrator, as `DataPacket`s.

Therefore, the first step in extracting the necessary result data from the host system response is to determine which elements are necessary for the `DataPacket` result and map these required elements to transaction fields in the host system response.

For example, a `Customer` entity might make a request to the Financial Process Integrator, via the persister, to obtain the customer name and ID from the host system. The result `DataPacket` would have to contain the elements `CUSTOMER_NAME` and `CUSTOMER_ID`. These elements in the result `DataPacket` would be mapped to the host system response fields `CUST-ID` and `CUST_NAME`.

The `BasicDataFormat` class determines the required mappings using the `TransactionMetaData` entity:

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionresponse.metadata.MetaDataBean
```

This entity maps to Table 6. `RESPONSE_META_DATA`.

Table 6. RESPONSE_META_DATA database

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_INDEX	DP_PK_FIELD	DEFAULT_VALUE
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[0].ACCOUNT_NUMBER	1	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[0].Account_Number	1	Yes	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[1].ACCOUNT_NUMBER	2	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[1].Account_Number	2	Yes	defaultValue

The columns in the RESPONSE_META_DATA table are as follows:

- The transaction code, TXN_CODE, specifies the transaction ID as defined on the host system, this is an alphanumeric string that uniquely identifies the transaction.
- The transaction type, TXN_TYPE, indicates which host system the transaction request is being passed to.
- The DP_NAME element specifies the name of the entity bean that a response from the host system belongs to, e.g. 'TestBean'.
- The DP_FIELD element identifies the field member name in the entity bean that the result maps to.
- The DP_INDEX element identifies the entity that the response value belongs to. This is used to uniquely store each entity result returned from the host system. This number must be greater than or equal to 1.
- The DP_PK_FIELD element determines if the field is an element of the primary key for the entity object that is being mapped to. Each entity has a primary key to uniquely identify itself. This primary key may consist of several elements constructed from the host system response data during processing. If DP_PK_FIELD is 'Yes' then the field is a primary key element for the entity result.
- The TXN_FIELDNAME element identifies the transaction field in the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table that this meta-data element maps to.
- The DEFAULT_VALUE element specifies a default value for this field.

The Financial Process Integrator passes all response processing duties to the BasicDataFormat class. The BasicDataFormat class calls the TransactionMetaData entity bean home method findByTransactionCodeAndType (txnCode, txnType) to get the required transaction field mappings for the transaction being processed. This method returns a List of TransactionMetaData entity beans.

Response Transaction Fields

Once the required mappings from entity DataPackets elements to transaction fields have been determined it is necessary to obtain the form of each transaction field to be extracted from the host system response. The Financial Process Integrator determines the form of the required response transaction fields using the ResponseTransactionField entity:

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionlayout.impl.response.ResponseTransactionFi
eldBean
```

This entity maps to Table 7. RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT database.

Table 7. RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT database

FIELDNAME	OFFSET	LENGTH	FIELD_PAD_CHAR
Account_Info[0].Account_Number	0	10	0
Account_Info[0].Account_Name	10	10	` `
Account_Info[1].Account_Number	20	10	0
Account_Info[1].Account_Name	30	10	` `

…

FIELD_ALIGN	FIELD_ENCODING	ISSIGNED_FIELD	DEC_BEFORE	DEC_AFTER
LEFT	COMP	0	10	0
RIGHT	ASCII	0	0	0
LEFT	COMP	0	10	0
RIGHT	ASCII	0	0	0

The total number and type of columns in the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table depends on the host system requirements and can be customized for a specific host.

The main columns in the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table are as follows:

- The FIELDNAME element identifies the transaction field as defined for the host system.
- The OFFSET element specifies the offset of the transaction field in the host system data.
- The LENGTH element is the length of the transaction field in the host system data.
- The FIELD_PAD_CHAR element specifies the padding character to fill the transaction field data with if the data is less than LENGTH.
- The FIELD_ALIGN element specifies the alignment of padding data in the transaction field. 'LEFT' specifies that padding is placed to the left of the data in the transaction field. 'RIGHT' specifies that padding is placed to the right of the data in the transaction field.

- The FIELD_ENCODING element specifies the encoding used to format the host system data. Examples for textual data are ASCII, EBCDIC. Examples for numeric data are the Cobol types COMP-3, COMP, X, STD.
- The ISSIGNED_FIELD element specifies if the transaction field is signed.
- The DEC_BEFORE element specifies the number of places before the decimal point for numeric data.
- The DEC_AFTER element specifies the number of places after the decimal point for numeric data.

The BasicDataFormat class creates a Map of ResponseTransactionField entity beans. The BasicDataFormat class processes the meta-data mappings using necessary ResponseTransactionField entities from the Map. The transaction field data is extracted from the host system data using the ResponseTransactionField. The ResponseTransactionField entity beans are accessed using the interface TransactionField.

Each of the transaction fields defined in this table must have a unique name and therefore it may be necessary to append the TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE to the name of the field where many transactions might be defined in the meta-data. The naming convention therefore for transaction fields is TXN_CODE-TXN_TYPE-GROUP_NAME[INDEX]-FIELD_NAME-OFFSET.

Caching the Meta-Data (Transaction Fields)

To improve performance the Financial Process Integrator metadata can be cached. The transactionHandler.metaData.cache entry in the BankframeResource.properties file specifies whether caching of metadata is used by the Financial Process Integrator. This is either true or false.

This caching applies to the RequestTransactionField, ResponseTransactionField, ResponseMetaData and ResponseErrorCondition entities.

If metadata caching is enabled then meta-data is obtained from the database tables and stored to memory for quick access. The meta-data elements are accessed through the same interface as the entity beans.

The Financial Process Integrator uses the MCA generic caching framework for caching of meta-data.

It may be necessary for the BasicDataFormat class to determine if caching is being enabled. The BasicDataFormat class can determine this using the following method:

```
boolean metaDataCached =
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.TransactionHandlerUtils.isMetaDataCached();
```

TransactionField Interface

The BasicDataFormat class interacts with the RequestTransactionField and ResposneTransactionField entity beans through the interface com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionlayout.TransactionField.

The remote interface of these entity beans uses the same interface as the caching mechanism allowing the entity beans and cached entities to be accessed in the same manner.

The TransactionField interface is defined as follows:

```
public interface TransactionField {
```

```
    public String getValue(String colName) throws ProcessingErrorException,
RemoteException;

    public Map getValuesMap() throws ProcessingErrorException, RemoteException;

}
```

The generic method `getValue(String colName)` allows the `RequestTransactionField` entity bean to work against a `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` database table with any combination of database columns. This is necessary to avoid recoding of the `RequestTransactionField` entity bean for each host system as each host system may require a different definition of the `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` database table. The same applies to the `ResponseTransactionField` entity with the `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT` database table.

The argument to the `getValue(String colName)` method specifies the column name in the database table. The method returns the value of the specified column as a `java.lang.String`. This value has to be converted to the correct type. See the following `BasicDataFormat` code example for obtaining a `String` entry and an `int` value from a previously obtained transaction field:

```
Transaction txnField;

int fieldLength = new Integer(txnField.getValue("LENGTH")).intValue();

String dataPacketField = txnField.getValue("DP_FIELD");
```

The method `getValuesMap()` returns the `java.util.Map` interface to all the column elements. The keys to entries in the `Map` are the column names. The `Map` values are `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionlayout.HashTableElement` objects describing the value of the database column.

Example Response Mapping

Say we have the following COBOL copybook:

```
05 Account_Info occurs 2.

    010 Account_Number Pic X(10).

    010 Account_Name Pic X(10).
```

This would be represented in Table 8. `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT`.

Table 8. `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT`

FIELDNAME	OFFSET	LENGTH	DATA	FIELD_PAD_CHAR
Account_Info[0].Account_Number	0	10		0
Account_Info[0].Account_Name	10	10		` `
Account_Info[1].Account_Number	20	10		0
Account_Info[1].Account_Name	30	10		` `

...

FIELD_ALIGN	FIELD_ENCODING	ISSIGNED_FIELD	DEC_BEFORE	DEC_AFTER
LEFT	COMP	0	10	0
RIGHT	ASCII	0	0	0
LEFT	COMP	0	10	0
RIGHT	ASCII	0	0	0

Now say we have a `DataPacket` called `ACCOUNT_INFO` that we want to map to the above copy book. The `ACCOUNT_INFO DataPacket` contains the following fields:

`ACCOUNT_NAME`

`ACCOUNT_NUMBER`

We map these fields to the copybook using Table 9. `RESPONSE_META_DATA`.

Table 9. `RESPONSE_META_DATA`

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_INDEX	DP_PK_FIELD	DEFAULT_VALUE
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[0].ACCOUNT_NUMBER	1	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[0].Account_Number	1	Yes	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[1].ACCOUNT_NUMBER	2	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_INFO	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	Account_Info[1].Account_Number	2	Yes	defaultValue

- The `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` define what transaction the mapping belongs to.
- The `DataPacket` name, `DP_NAME`, defines the name of the `DataPacket` that the persister expects as a result for this transaction.
- The `DataPacket` field, `DP_FIELD`, defines the name of the field in the `DataPacket` result.
- The transaction field name, `TXN_FIELDNAME`, defines the name of the field in the `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT` table that this result element maps to.
- The `DataPacket` index, `DP_INDEX`, value specifies the index of the result entity that the element belongs to, the index always starts from `1`.

- The DP_PK_FIELD column determines if the field is a primary key field of the result entity, ACCOUNT_NUMBER is the primary key for the entities in the example above.

Support for Tier Fields

To understand the concept of tiered fields see the following example copybook:

```
05 Card_Number Pic X(10).

05 Account_Info occurs 2.

    010 Account_Number Pic X(10).

    010 Account_Name Pic X(10).
```

For the purpose of this example all the above fields map to two instances of an Account entity. This means that to map this data properly we need to create two Account DataPackets, and we need to treat Card_Number as if it belongs to the Account_Info tier, i.e. the Card_Number field will occur in both Account DataPackets.

This is an example of a more general problem that can occur when mapping from entities to cobol copybooks, the cobol copybook defines a hierarchy or grouping of fields that we do not want to impose on our entity beans.

Table 10 below illustrates how the REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT database table would be defined for this situation:

Table 10. RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT

FIELDNAME	OFFSET	LENGTH	FIELD_PAD_CHAR	FIELD_ALIGN
Card_Number	0	10	0	LEFT
Account_Info[0].Account_Number	10	10	0	LEFT
Account_Info[0].Account_Name	20	10	` `	RIGHT
Account_Info[1].Account_Number	30	10	0	LEFT
Account_Info[1].Account_Name	40	10	` `	RIGHT

…

FIELD_ENCODING	ISSIGNED_FIELD	DEC_BEFORE	DEC_AFTER
COMP	0	10	0
COMP	0	10	0
ASCII	0	0	0
COMP	0	10	0
ASCII	0	0	0

- The Card_Number is defined once for the host system data.
- A group of entries is put in the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT for each instance of the group Account_Info. The name of these group fields start with the group name and index of the group occurrence, e.g. Account_Info[0] being the first occurrence of the group in the host system data.

Table 11. RESPONSE_META_DATA, then defines how we map these fields to our entity DataPackets.

Table 11. RESPONSE_META_DATA

TXN_ CODE	TXN_TYPE	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_ INDEX	DP_PK_ FIELD	DEFAULT_ VALUE
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_ INFO	ACCOUNT_ NAME	Account_Info[0]. Account_Name	1	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_ INFO	ACCOUNT_ NUMBER	Account_Info[0]. Account_Number	1	Yes	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_ INFO	CARD_ NUMBER	Card_Number	1	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_ INFO	ACCOUNT_ NAME	Account_Info[1]. Account_Name	2	No	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_ INFO	ACCOUNT_ NUMBER	Account_Info[1]. Account_Number	2	Yes	defaultValue
TXN01	TYPE1	ACCOUNT_ INFO	CARD_ NUMBER	Card_Number	2	No	defaultValue

Since each field in the host system data is given an individual explicit name, we can easily map from any DataPacket element to any transaction field in the host system data.

Deeply Nested Cobol Copybooks

What if a cobol copybook has a deeply nested structure like the one below, and we want to map it to a single flat entity bean?

```
01 Customer_Details.
    02 Customer_Number Pic X(10).
    02 Last_Name Pic X(10).
    02 First_Name Pic X(10).
    02 Contact_Details.
        05 Best_Contact_Time Pic X(10).
        05 Preffered_Contact Pic X(10).
        05 Work_Details.
```

```
        010 Employer_Name Pic X(10).
        010 Phone_No Pic X(10).
    05 Home_Details.
        010 Phone_No Pic X(10).
        010 Home_Address Pic X(20).
```

Table 12 below illustrates how the `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT` table would be defined.

Table 12. `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT`

FIELDNAME	OFFSET	LENGTH	Fill Char	…
Customer_Details.Customer_Number	0	10	0	
Customer_Details.Last_Name	20	10	‘ ’	
Customer_Details.First_Name	30	10	‘ ‘	
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Best_Contact_Time	40	10	‘ ‘	
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Prefferred_Contact	50	10	‘ ‘	
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Work_Details. Employer_Name	60	10	‘ ‘	
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Work_Details. Phone_No	70	10	‘ ‘	
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Home_Details. Phone_No	80	10	‘ ‘	
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Home_Details. Home_Address	90	20	‘ ‘	

Now if we want to map this copybook to a `DataPacket` with the following fields:

```
CUSTOMER_NUMBER
LAST_NAME
FIRST_NAME
BEST_CONTACT_TIME
PREFERRED_CONTACT_METHOD
EMPLOYER_NAME
WORK_PHONE_NO
```

```
HOME_ADDRESS
HOME_PHONE_NO
```

We just need to define Table 13. `RESPONSE_META_DATA`, as follows:

Table 13. `RESPONSE_META_DATA`

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	CUSTOMER_NUMBER
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	LAST_NAME
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	FIRST_NAME
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	BEST_CONTACT_TIME
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	PREFFERRED_CONTACT_METHOD
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	EMPLOYER_NAME
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	WORK_PHONE_NO
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	HOME_ADDRESS
TXN01	TYPE1	CUSTOMER_DETAILS	HOME_PHONE_NO

…

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_INDEX	DP_PK_FIELD
Customer_Details.Customer_Number	1	Yes
Customer_Details.Last_Name	1	No
Customer_Details.First_Name	1	No
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Best_Contact_Time	1	No
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Preferred_Contact	1	No
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Work_Details.Employer_Name	1	No
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Work_Details.Phone_No	1	No
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Home_Details.Home_Address	1	No
Customer_Details.Contact_Details.Home_Details.Phone_No	1	No

Each cobol field has its own name so it can be easily mapped to any entity bean layout.

Mapping a Subset of Transaction Fields

This is one situation that this solution makes easy. Taking the previous example, if instead of mapping all the fields in the copybook we're only interested in mapping:

```
CUSTOMER_NUMBER

CUSTOMER_LAST_NAME

CUSTOMER_FIRST_NAME

HOME_ADDRESS
```

For this case only define the mappings for those fields in the RESPONSE_META_DATA table, don't add mappings for the other fields. If the transaction fields are not required by any entity then eliminate the fields from the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table.

Padding or "Filler" fields are not required, e.g., to deal with the gap between the CUSTOMER_FIRST_NAME field and the HOME_ADDRESS field in the host system data. Transaction fields are extracted by their OFFSET, and not a sequence number, so only the necessary fields have to be processed.

Recurring Fields

The host system data may contain recurring fields as follows:

```
05 Address_Details

    010 Street_Address Pic X(10) occurs 3

    010 State Pic X(2)

    010 Postcode Pic X(5)
```

For the system in question this has to be mapped to a single Address Entity. The entity members must be mapped to the Street_Address field. Entity beans cannot have array fields therefore we need to define 3 separate fields in the entity bean to represent each entry in the array, for example we could define the following fields:

```
STREET_ADDRESS1

STREET_ADDRESS2

STREET_ADDRESS3
```

Now its just a matter of mapping the above fields to the correct transaction fields as follows:

TXN_ CODE	TXN_TYPE	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	TXN_ FIELDNAME	DP_ INDEX	DP_PK_ FIELD	DEFAULT_ VALUE
TXN01	TYPE1	ADDRESS	STATE	Address_Details. State	1	No	default
TXN01	TYPE1	ADDRESS	POSTCODE	Address_Details. Postcode	1	No	default
TXN01	TYPE1	ADDRESS	STREET_ ADDRESS1	Address_Details. Street_Address[0]	1	No	default

TXN_ CODE	TXN_TYPE	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	TXN_ FIELDNAME	DP_ INDEX	DP_PK_ FIELD	DEFAULT_ VALUE
TXN01	TYPE1	ADDRESS	STREET_ ADDRESS2	Address_Details. Street_Address[1]	1	No	default
TXN01	TYPE1	ADDRESS	STREET_ ADDRESS3	Address_Details. Street_Address[2]	1	No	default

The above approach is the only way that array fields can really be handled in the MCA.

Handling Error Conditions

To determine if the host system response data is an error response the BasicDataFormat class must analyse the host system data for transaction field values that indicate that the response data is error data. The TransactionErrorCondition entity provides the information necessary for the BasicDataFormat class to determine if the host system data is an error result.

TransactionErrorCondition entity maps to Table 14. RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION:

Table 14. RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	SEQUENCE	TXN_FIELDNAME	CONDITION	VALUE
ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	1	Error-Flag	EQUALS	‘TRUE’
ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	2	Error-Type	NOT_EQUALS	‘ ‘

…

COMBINE_WITH_NEXT	ERROR_TXN_CODE	ERROR_TXN_TYPE
AND	ACCFIND_ERROR	TEST
NO	ACCFIND_ERROR	TEST

TXN_CODE	Defines the transaction the error condition applies to.
TXN_TYPE	Defines the transaction the error condition applies to.
SEQUENCE	Determines the order in which the error-conditions are used to determine if a host system response is an error. SEQUENCE starts at 1.
TXN_FIELDNAME	Defines the name of the transaction field in the host system response that is tested, the transaction field being defined in the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table.
CONDITION	Defines the condition that must be met to indicate an error, this column can have the following values: EQUALS - the value of the TXN_FIELDNAME must match the VALUE

	column exactly.
	STARTS_WITH - the value of the TXN_FIELDNAME must start with the string defined in the VALUE column.
	ENDS_WITH - the value of the TXN_FIELDNAME must end with the string defined in the VALUE column.
	CONTAIN - the value of the TXN_FIELDNAME must contain the string defined in the VALUE column somewhere in its contents.
	NOT_EQUAL - reverse of EQUALS.
	NOT_START_WITH - reverse of STARTS_WITH.
VALUE	Specifies the value to compare the transaction field value to. If the CONDITION is 'EQUALS' then the VALUE must be the same length as the LENGTH specified in the RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table for the transaction field. The VALUE for Error-Type in the above sample has to specify 20 spaces as the transaction field Error-Type defined in RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT table has a LENGTH of 20 bytes.
COMBINE_WITH_NEXT	Allows for combinations of error tests on the host system data. The logical tests can not be complex nested logical tests, only direct combinations as follows:
	AND - the result of this error test will be logically AND'd with the next error test; If the error is true and the next error is true then the combined error result is true.
	OR - the result of this error test will be logically OR'd with the next error test; If this error is true or the next error is true then the combined error result is true.
	XOR - the result of this error test will be logically Exclusively OR'd with the next error test; If this error is true or the next error is true, but both are not true, then the combined error result is true.
	No - the result of this error test will not be combined with the next error test; This is used for the last error test only, otherwise the error result will not be combined in the next or final result.
	' ' - same as No

- The ERROR_TXN_CODE and ERROR_TXN_TYPE allow the error condition to specify a specific meta-data format for the parsing of the remainder of the error result from the host system. The remainder of the error result may contain error information specific to that error result which has to be parsed and returned in a ProcessingErrorException to the user.
- The BasicDataFormat method handleHostSystemError( ) is over-ridden to specify what action to take when it has been determined that an error has occurred. This may involve parsing the remainder of the host system data using the error transaction meta data, defined by ERROR_TXN_CODE and ERROR_TXN_TYPE, to extract further error information from the host system response and/or throwing a ProcessingErrorException.

- The ERROR_TXN_CODE and ERROR_TXN_TYPE need not be specified or can be the same as the TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE of the transaction currently being processed. This allows the BasicDataFormat method handleHostSystemError( ) method to use the meta-data of the current transaction to be used to extract the remainder of the host system response if required.

Example Error Condition

For demonstration purposes a transaction with TXN_CODE=TESTFIND and TXN_TYPE=TEST has a host system response defined by the following Cobol copybook:

```
000400 01  MAIN-ACCOUNTFIND.
000410 010 ERROR-FLAG      PIC X(5).
000420 010 ERROR-TYPE      PIC X(20).
001300 010 CARD-NUMBER     PIC 9(5).
001500     05 ACCOUNT-INFO OCCURS 10 TIMES.
001700        010 ACCOUNT-NUMBER   PIC 9(5).
```

This results in a transaction defined with the following entries in Table 15. RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT:

Table 15. RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT

FIELDNAME	OFFSET	LENGTH	Data	Fill Char	…
Error-flag	0	5	FALSE	0	
Error-Type	5	20	' '	' '	
Card-Number	25	5		' '	
…					
…					

If it was determined that an error was indicated by the field ERROR-FLAG having a value equal to TRUE and ERROR-TYPE not being empty then the designer creates two entries in Table 16. RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION like:

Table 16. RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	SEQUENCE	TXN_FIELDNAME	CONDITION	VALUE	…	COMBINE_WITH_NEXT	ERROR_TXN_CODE	ERROR_TXN_TYPE
ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	1	Error-Flag	EQUALS	'TRUE'		AND	ACCOUNTFIND	TEST
ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	2	Error-Type	NOT_EQUALS	' '		NO	ACCOUNTFIND	TEST

NOTE: The length of the VALUE field must be equal to the length of the field specified in the cobol copybook, i.e. the host response field length, the VALUE for the ERROR-TYPE field must be 20 bytes in RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION.

The designer then has to determine what the remainder of the error response contains. The designer will implement the BasicDataFormat method handleHostSystemError( ) to handle the error. This might involve immediately throwing a ProcessingErrorException or might involve parsing the remainder of the response to extract error information to fill the ProcessingErrorException with useful information.

The RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION elements ERROR_TXN_CODE and ERROR_TXN_TYPE specify what response fields and response metadata to use to parse the error host response.

NOTE: The values of these two elements can be the same as the TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE of the transaction that called the host in which case the current response fields and response metadata are used to extract information from the host system response.

So it might be determined that the remainder of the error response is described the following Cobol copybook:

```
002020  01 HOST-SYSTEM-ERROR.
002030     05 ERROR-CODE      PIC 9(5).
002040     05 ERROR-MESSAGE   PIC X(30).
```

Therefore this metadata is entered in the response fields and response metadata tables and given the transaction code and type: TXN_CODE=ACCOUNTFIND_ERR and TXN_TYPE=TEST.

Now Table 17. RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION, is updated to contain the following:

Table 17. RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	SEQUENCE	TXN_FIELDNAME	CONDITION	VALUE
ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	1	Error-Flag	EQUALS	‘TRUE’
ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	2	Error-Type	NOT_EQUALS	‘ ’

…

COMBINE_WITH_NEXT	ERROR_TXN_CODE	ERROR_TXN_TYPE
AND	ACCOUNTFIND_ERR	TEST
NO	ACCOUNTFIND_ERR	TEST

Now the BasicDataFormat method handleHostSystemError( ) is coded to get the metadata for TXN_CODE=TESTFIND_ERR and TXN_TYPE=TEST and processes the response extracting the ERROR-CODE and ERROR-MESSAGE. The method creates a ProcessingErrorException containing the error information, i.e. "*Error processing transaction, host system error code: 1000, host system error message: ACCOUNT-NUMBER invalid*"

Some systems embed the error information in the original transaction response, in that each field in the host response is appended with an error-flag field and so the same metadata is used for processing the error response as the normal response.

For example a host response may be defined by the following Cobol copybook:

```
000400 01  MAIN-ACCOUNTFIND.
000410 010 ERROR-FLAG      PIC X(5).
001300 010 CARD-NUMBER     PIC 9(5).
001300 010 CARD-NUMBER-ERR PIC X(5).
001500 05 ACCOUNT-INFO OCCURS 10 TIMES.
001700 010 ACCOUNT-NUMBER   PIC 9(5).
001700 010 ACCOUNT-NUMBER-ERR   PIC X(5).
```

Each value field in the above transaction definition is followed by an error flag field. I.e. the error flag fields are `CARD-NUMBER-ERR` and `ACCOUNT-NUMBER-ERR`. The host system during processing marks the value field that caused an error by setting the corresponding error-flag field to `TRUE`.

In this case the designer codes the `handleHostSystemError( )` method to use the original metadata for the transaction to parse the remainder of the transaction response as normal. The code then determines which field in the response is causing the error by checking each error field, `CARD-NUMBER-ERR` and `ACCOUNT-NUMBER-ERR`.

The error flag field that has a value `TRUE` is shown in the resulting `ProcessingErrorException`. I.e. the host system determined that the `ACCOUNT-NUMBER` is invalid so `ACCOUNT-NUMBER-ERR=" TRUE"` and the `ProcessingErrorException` is created containing the information `"Error processing transaction, host system error field: ACCOUNT-NUMBER"`.

Notes:

- If `ERROR_TXN_CODE` and `ERROR_TXN_TYPE` are equal to `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` respectively then the original metadata is used to process the remainder of the host response.
- The `RESPONSE_ERROR_CONDITION` table only allows specification of one form of error for each transaction code and type. I.e., only one form of checking for an error condition, checking `ERROR-FLAG` and `ERROR-TYPE` in the example above. And only one form of error response metadata, i.e. `ERROR-CODE` and `ERROR-MESSAGE` in the example above. This should suffice as the error can contain any error message and so theoretically handle any error.
- error-conditions functionality only handles simple logic combinations of error condition fields, no nested combinations of error condition fields.
- The last error-condition field checked for a given transaction code and type determines the `ERROR_TXN_CODE` and `ERROR_TXN_TYPE` to use. I.e. the error-condition with the last `SEQUENCE`.

Transaction Field Naming

The names used for `FIELDNAME`, in the `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT` table can be of any form. However, the following rules are guide lines for how the transaction field name, `FIELDNAME`, in the `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT` table should be named:

- Each row in the `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT` and `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` tables represents a single transaction field. Only fields have entries, field groupings do not have an entry, instead each field in the group has an entry. If a group is repeated then each group of transaction fields is repeated in the metadata table.
- The field name will be preceded by the `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` and `OFFSET` if necessary to make the field unique to that transaction code and type.
- The field name will be the name of the field preceded by the name of each of the groups it is nested within.

- group names are delimited by the `'.'` Character, e.g. `Header-info.restart-flag`.
- If a group has an occurs clause then the fields for that group must be repeated N times where N is the value immediately after the occurs clause.
- If a group has an occurs clause then each occurrence of the group will be named as follows: `groupname[n]` where `n` is the actual occurrence of the group.
- If a field has an occurs clause then each occurrence of that field must be repeated N times where N is the value immediately after the occurs clause.
- If a field has an occurs clause then each occurrence of the field will be named as follows: `fieldname[n]` where `n` is actual occurrence of the group.

The example below illustrates these rules:

```
01 Level1

    02 Field1 Pic X(10)

    02 Field2 Pic X(15) occurs 2

    02 Level2 occurs 2

           03 FieldA Pic X(10)

           03 FieldB Pic X(20) occurs 2
```

This copybook will be mapped as follows:

FIELDNAME	OFFSET	LENGTH	FIELD_PAD_CHAR	...
Level1.Field1	0	10	' '	
Level1.Field2[0]	10	15	' '	
Level1.Field2[1]	25	15	' '	
Level2[0].FieldA	40	10	' '	
Level2[0].FieldB[0]	50	20	' '	
Level2[0].FieldB[1]	70	20	' '	
Level2[1].FieldA	90	10	' '	
Level2[1].FieldB[0]	100	20	' '	
Level2[1].FieldB[1]	120	20	' '	

Mapping Entity Beans to Transactions

Until now we have implicitly assumed that there is a one-to-one mapping between each entity bean and each transaction, however this is often not the case. A single transaction may contain the information to populate several entity beans, or conversely a single entity bean may need to be populated from the results of several transactions.

One Transaction to One Entity

This is the simplest scenario. The data in the transaction is mapped to a single entity bean instance.

One Transaction to Many Entities

There are several different scenarios where one transaction may map to many entity instances:

Repeating Entities of the Same Type

A search transaction returns one or more results. Each result corresponds to a single entity bean instance. All entity instances are of the same type. For example a search for all accounts could return several results, each corresponding to a single account instance.

Single Entity of One Type Plus Repeating Entities of the Same Type

A search transaction returns several results. The first result corresponds to an entity of one type, while the subsequent results correspond to repeating instances of an entity of a different type. For example an account statement transaction would return the statement details entity plus one or more account movement entities.

Master Entity with Dependent Entity

A search transaction returns data, which is modeled as two entities of different types. However there is a dependency between the two objects. For example a customer details transaction could contain the information for both a Customer entity and its dependent Address entity.

Entity Bean Persistence and the FPI

The job of a Persister is to manage writing and reading data in an Entity Bean instance to/from the data store. This means all the code for interacting with the data store is encapsulated in the Persister class. The Entity Bean instance talks to the Persister (through a well-defined interface) rather than directly to the data store.

This approach has the following advantages:

- The EJB developer does not have to worry about the complexities of talking to the Financial Process Integrator (e.g. knowing transaction codes etc.) making the EJB simpler to code.
- The EJB is protected from changes to the design of the Financial Process Integrator.

com.bankframe.ejb.bmp

This package contains the `EBMPEntity` and the `EPersister` class interfaces. It also contains the `EPersisterFactory` class that is used by an entity to get an instance of the persister.

com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPEntity

This interface defines the methods that all Siebel BMP Entity Beans must provide. To make it possible to define a single generic Financial Process Integrator persister that can be used by all BMP Entity Beans the `EBMPEntity` contains the `populate()` and the `createPrimaryKey()` methods, these methods are defined in the Entity Bean.

`getPersister()`	This method returns an instance of this Entity Bean's persister.
`getPrimaryKey()`	This method returns an instance of this Entity Bean's primary key.
`getEntityName()`	This method returns the `JNDI` name of the Entity Bean.
`createPrimaryKey(DataPacket dp)`	This method must be implemented by all sub-classes. It takes a `DataPacket` containing the information necessary to create a primary-key and returns an instance of the correctly initialised `EPrimaryKey` class.
`populate(DataPacket dp)`	This method must be implemented by all sub-classes. It takes a `DataPacket` containing the data for the Entity Bean's attributes. The `populate()` method must initialise the Entity Bean's attributes from this information.

Please refer to the 'Writing a Persister' section for more detail on how two write a BMP entity bean using the `EBMPEntity` interface.

com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EPersister

This interface defines the methods that all Siebel EJB persisters must provide.

```
public interface EPersister {

public Enumeration find(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket
finderData) throws ProcessingErrorException;

public void load(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException;

public void store(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException;

public void amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName) throws
ProcessingErrorException;

public EPrimaryKey create(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException;

public void remove(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException;}
```

`find(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket`	This method takes an instance of the calling entity; a `methodName` that specifies the name of the find operation to carry out and a `finderData`

finderData)	DataPacket that specifies the parameters of the find operation. This method will be called from Entity Bean ejbFindBy…() methods. It returns an Enumeration containing the matching primary keys for the specified search.
load(EBMPEntity entityBean)	This method takes an instance of the entity and loads its instance data from the data store. This method will be called from the Entity Bean's ejbLoad() method.
store(EBMPEntity entityBean)	This method takes an instance of the entity and writes it to the data store. This method will be called from the Entity Bean's ejbStore() method.
amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName)	This method takes an instance of the entity and a methodName that contains the name of the calling method and writes it to the data store. This method will be called from an Entity Bean's amend method when some or all of the entity is being updated.
create(EBMPEntity entityBean)	This method takes an instance of the entity and creates it in the data store and returns an instance of the entity's EPrimaryKey class.
remove(EBMPEntity entityBean)	This method takes an instance of the entity and removes it from the data store.

com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EPersisterFactory

The EPersisterFactory class is responsible for creating and returning an instance of the Entity Bean's persister.

```
getPersister(String jndiName)
```

This method takes a String containing the JNDI name of the entity bean and returns an instance of the EJB's persister class.

The persister is returned by appending persister. to the JNDI name of the entity bean and checking the BankframeResource.properties file for the corresponding persister class. If there is no persister.<EJB_JNDI_NAME> key the default persister will be used instead.

Below is an example of the persister class settings in the BankframeResource.properties:

```
persister.default=com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persister.TxnPersister
```

The default persister to be used for all BMP EJBs.

```
persister.eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer=com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persi
ster.MasterEntityPersister
```

Specifies the persister to use for the specified EJB JNDI name.

Once the persister class has been identified the factory class checks to see if an instance of the class exists if one does it will return it, other wise it creates a new instance.

The persister is a stateless class that provides utility functions that need no more information than their parameters. No state information can be stored in the class.

The factory creates the persister as a singleton, for more information on the singleton design pattern please refer to the following:

http://c2.com/cgi-bin/wiki?SingletonPattern

Writing a Persister

The following are examples of how to implement methods declared in the `EPersister` interface using the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persister.TxnPersister` as an example. `TxnPersister` is the Financial Process Integrator implementation of the `EPersister`.

find(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket finderData)

The `find()` method is the entry-point to all search transactions that can be run against the host-system. This method maps the Entity Bean's name and the `methodName` to a transaction code and a transaction type; it also retrieves the cache policy and decay time for the transaction. If the transaction can be cached it checks the cache for the data, to do this it calls the Cache's `checkPrimaryKeyInCache()` method which takes a `DataPacket` containing the primary key of the entity and a `long` containing the time-out value of the Transaction. If the transaction is not cached or the decay time has elapsed the transaction code and the transaction type are added to a `DataPacket` containing the parameters of the find operation and this `DataPacket` is sent to the Financial Process Integrator. The Financial Process Integrator will return a `Map` containing the search results. The persister stores the results in the cache by calling the Cache's `store()` method passing it the `Map` of results returned from the Financial Process Integrator.

```
public Enumeration find(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket
finderData) throws ProcessingErrorException {

    Enumeration result = null;

    //Using the entity name and the methodName get the txnCode,    //txnType,
cachePolicy, and timeOutValue of the transaction from              //the
PERSISTER_TXN_MAP database table.

    DataPacket txnMap = this.mapTxn(entityBean.getEntityName(), methodName);

    String cachePolicy = txnMap.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.CACHE_POLICY);

    long timeOutValue = new
Long(txnMap.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.TIME_OUT_VALUE)).longValue();


    //check the cache policy to see if the data is cached

    if (!cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.NOT_CACHED)) {

              //check cache for the primary key

        if (!this.checkPrimaryKeyInCache(finderData, timeOutValue)) {

           //calling the processTxnRequest() method to send request to //the
           Financial Process Integrator and to receive and cache the //response.

            result = this.processTxnRequest(entityBean, this.getTxnData(finderData,
txnMap), cachePolicy);
```

```
        }
        else {
             //the data is in the cache so return an enumeration of the
       //primary key
            Vector entityPk = new Vector();
          entityPk.addElement(entityBean.createPrimaryKey(finderData));
            result = new IteratorEnumeration(entityPk.iterator());
        }
    }
    else {
      //calling the processTxnRequest() method to send request to          //the
Financial Process Integrator and to receive and cache the
//response.
        result = this.processTxnRequest(entityBean, this.getTxnData(finderData,
txnMap), cachePolicy);
    }
    return result;
}
```

processTxnRequest(EBMPEntity entityBean, DataPacket txnData, String cachePolicy)

This protected method is called by the `find()` method. It is responsible for passing the transaction details to the Financial Process Integrator, receiving the response, placing it in the cache and returning an enumeration of primary keys.

```
protected Enumeration processTxnRequest(EBMPEntity entityBean, DataPacket txnData,
String cachePolicy) throws ProcessingErrorException {
    try {
        Vector entityPk = new Vector();
        String txnCode = txnData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_CODE);
        if ((txnCode == null) ||
txnCode.equalsIgnoreCase(TransactionHandlerConstants.FIELD_NA)) {
            // do nothing
        }
        else {
//Get an instance of the Financial Process Integrator and send the transaction
//data to the processFindRequest() method.
           TransactionHandler transactionHandler = this.getTxnHandler();
            Map map = transactionHandler.processFindRequest(txnData);
            boolean persistant;
//Before caching the data check to see if it is persistent or not. //Persistent
data will be written to a database as well as to memory.
```

```
            if
(cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.CACHE_PERSISTENT)) {
                persistant = true;
            }
            else if
(cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.CACHE_NON_PERSISTENT) ||
cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.NOT_CACHED)) {
                persistant = false;
            }
            else {
                //throw an exception
            }
//get the timeout value for the data and then store it in the cache.
            long timeOutValue = new
Long(txnData.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.TIME_OUT_VALUE)).longValue();
            this.storeInCache(map, timeOutValue, persistant);


//Process the keys of the map returned from the Financial Process Integrator to
//return an enumeration of primary keys.
            Set keys = map.keySet();
            Enumeration enum = Collections.enumeration(keys);
            while (enum.hasMoreElements()) {
                EPrimaryKey pk = entityBean.createPrimaryKey((DataPacket)
enum.nextElement());
                if (pk != null) {
                    entityPk.addElement(pk);
                }
            }
        }
        return new IteratorEnumeration(entityPk.iterator());
    }
    catch (CreateException ce) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(ce);
    }
    catch (RemoteException re) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
    }
}
```

mapTxn(String entityName, String methodName)

The persister class to get instances of the `PersisterTxnMap` Entity uses this protected method. Using the entity name and the `methodName` the `txnCode`, `txnType`, `cachePolicy`, and `timeOutValue` of the transaction from the `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` database table.

```
protected DataPacket mapTxn(String entityName, String methodName) throws
ProcessingErrorException {
    try {
        PersisterTxnMapHome txnMaphome = (PersisterTxnMapHome)
ObjectLookup.lookup(PersisterTxnMapConstants.PERSISTERTXNMAP_JNDI_NAME,
PersisterTxnMapHome.class);
        PersisterTxnMapPK primaryKey = new PersisterTxnMapPK();
        primaryKey.entityName = entityName;
        primaryKey.methodName = methodName;
        PersisterTxnMap persisterTxnMap = (PersisterTxnMap)
txnMaphome.findByPrimaryKey(primaryKey);
        DataPacket result = persisterTxnMap.toDataPacket();
        return result;
    }
    catch (FinderException fe) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(fe);
    }
    catch (RemoteException re) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
    }
}
```

load(EBMPEntity entityBean)

The `load()` method is called by the entity bean’s `ejbLoad()` method. All data returned by the Financial Process Integrator from the host is cached. The `load()` method uses the Entity Bean's primary key to retrieve the entity's data from the cache. It then calls the Entity Bean's `populate()` method to update the entity's attributes with the cached data.

```
public void load(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException {
    EPrimaryKey pk = entityBean.getPrimaryKey();
    //retrieve the data from the cache.
    DataPacket cacheData = cache.retrieve(pk.toDataPacket());
    if (cacheData == null) {
        //throw an exception
    }
    //call the entity’s populate method
    entityBean.populate(cacheData);
}
```

amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName)

The `amend()` method is called by an entity's `amend…()` method. It takes an instance of the entity and the `methodName`, calls the `toDataPacket()` on the entity bean and then calls the persister's `amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket amendData)`. The `amend()` is used for updating some or all of an entity's attributes.

```
public void amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName) throws
ProcessingErrorException {

    try {

        this.amend(entityBean, methodName, entityBean.toDataPacket);

    }

    catch (RemoteException re) {

        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);

    }

}
```

amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName)

The `amend()` method is called by an entity's `amend…()` method, it takes an instance of the entity, the `methodName` and a `DataPacket` of data to use to update the entity and then calls the persister's protected `amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket data, Vector primaryKeys, boolean removeOperation)` method. The `amend()` is used for updating some or all of an entity's attributes.

```
public void amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket amendData)
throws ProcessingErrorException {

    Vector pksOfEntitiesToAmend = new Vector();

   pksOfEntitiesToAmend.add(entityBean.getPrimaryKey().toDataPacket());

    this.amend(entityBean, methodName, amendData, pksOfEntitiesToAmend, false);

}
```

amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket data, Vector primaryKeys, boolean removeOperation)

The protected `amend()` method is called by the persister's `amend…()` method. The `amend()` checks if the `txnCode` is set to `CACHE_ONLY`, if it is then it will only update the cache, otherwise it adds the transaction code and the transaction type to a `DataPacket` containing the entity bean's update attributes and sends the `DataPacket` to the Financial Process Integrator. It also takes a `boolean` value which indicates if a remove operation is to be carried out on the host or from the cache. The `amend()` is used for updating some or all of an entity's attributes.

The key `persister.cache.updateOnAmend` in `BankframeResource.properties` determines if the cache is updated or removed after the amend operation is sent to the Financial Process Integrator.

```
protected void amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket data, Vector
primaryKeys, boolean removeOperation) throws ProcessingErrorException {
    try {
        //Using the entity name and the methodName get the txnCode,
```

```
        //txnType, cachePolicy, and timeOutValue of the transaction from
         //the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP database table.
         DataPacket amendData = this.mapTxn(entityBean.getEntityName(), methodName);
        String txnCode = amendData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_CODE);
        String txnType = amendData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_TYPE);
        long timeOutValue = new
Long(amendData.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.TIME_OUT_VALUE)).longValue();

        if (getIgnoreHost(txnCode) == false) {
            TransactionHandler transactionHandler = this.getTxnHandler();
            DataPacket update = new DataPacket(data.DATA_PACKET_NAME);
            update.append(update, data);
            //Add txnCode and txnType
            update.put(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_CODE, txnCode);
            update.put(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_TYPE, txnType);
            //send data to the Financial Process Integrator processRequest() method
            transactionHandler.processRequest(update);
        }
        if (removeOperation || getRemoveFromCache()) {
            this.removeFromCache(primaryKeys);
        }
        else {
            //put data into a map (same data used for each primary key):
            Map entityMap = new HashMap();
            for (int index = 0; index < primaryKeys.size(); index++) {
                entityMap.put(primaryKeys.elementAt(index), data);
            }
            String cachePolicy =
amendData.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.CACHE_POLICY);
            boolean bCachePolicy =
(cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.CACHE_PERSISTENT)) ? true : false;
            this.storeInCache(entityMap, timeOutValue, bCachePolicy);
        }
    }
    catch (RemoteException re) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
    }
    catch (CreateException ce) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(ce);
    }
}
```

store(EBMPEntity entityBean)

The `store()` method notifies the Financial Process Integrator of a change to an Entity Bean instance. This method maps the Entity Bean's name to a transaction code and a transaction type. It adds the transaction code and the transaction type to a `DataPacket` containing the entity bean's update attributes and sends the `DataPacket` to the Financial Process Integrator. The `store()` is used for updating all of an entity's attributes. The `store()` method is called from the Entity Bean's `ejbStore`. This `store()` method is provided to allow for it to be overwritten for a specific implementation but typically it calls the `amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName)` method with a `methodName` variable with a value of `store`.

```
public void store(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException {

        this.amend(entityBean, TxnPersisterConstants.STORE_NAME);

}
```

storeInCache(Map data, long timeOutValue, boolean persistent)

The protected `storeInCache()` method used by the persister to determine which cache to store the host data in either the default cache or the time out cache.

```
protected void storeInCache(Map data, long timeOutValue, boolean persistent)
throws ProcessingErrorException {
    if (this.timeoutCache != null) {
        this.timeoutCache.store(data, timeOutValue, persistent);
    }
    else {
        cache.store(data, persistent);
    }
}
```

create(EBMPEntity entityBean)

The `create()` method notifies the Financial Process Integrator that a new record needs to be created on the Host System. The `create()` method is called form the entity bean's `ejbPostCreate()` method to create a new record on the Host System. This `create()` method is provided to allow for it to be overwritten for a specific implementation but typically it calls the `amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName)` method with a `methodName` variable with a value of `create`. Returns the primary key if the create was successful.

```
    public EPrimaryKey create(EBMPEntity entityBean)
            throws ProcessingErrorException {
            try {
                    this.amend(entityBean, TxnPersisterConstants.CREATE_NAME);
                    EPrimaryKey pk =
entityBean.createPrimaryKey(entityBean.toDataPacket());

                    return pk;
            } catch (RemoteException re) {
                    throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
            }
    }
```

remove(EBMPEntity entityBean)

The `remove()` method notifies the Financial Process Integrator that a record on the Host System should be deleted. The `remove()` method notifies the Financial Process Integrator that a record on the Host System should be deleted. This `remove()` method is provided to allow for it to be overwritten for a specific implementation but typically it calls the `amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName)` method with a `methodName` variable with a value of `remove`.

```
    public void remove(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws ProcessingErrorException {
            this.amend(entityBean, TxnPersisterConstants.REMOVE_NAME, true);
```

```
    }
```

removeFromCache(EBMPEntity entityBean)

The `removeFromCache()` method is used to delete an Entity's cached data from the cache.

```
public void removeFromCache(EBMPEntity entityBean) throws
ProcessingErrorException {
    try {
        DataPacket pk =
entityBean.createPrimaryKey(entityBean.toDataPacket()).toDataPacket();
        Vector pks = new Vector();
        pks.addElement(pk);
        this.removeFromCache(primaryKeys);
    }
    catch (RemoteException re) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
    }
}
```

removeFromCache(Vector primaryKeys)

This protected method is used by the persister to delete an Entity's cached data from the cache.

```
protected void removeFromCache(Vector primaryKeys) throws
ProcessingErrorException {
    cache.remove(primaryKeys, true);
}
```

PersisterTxnMap

PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Table

The Persister transfers information to and from the Financial Process Integrator. In order to do this the persister must be able to match the entity and method called to the `txnCode` and `txnType` and does so using the `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` table. The Persister retrieves the `txnCode` and `txnType by` using the method name and the entity's `JNDI` name. The `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` table also contains details of the caching policy and decay time for the specified Transaction. The persister checks the cache to see if the information it needs is stored there. If the Transaction is cached a time out value is specified so that the persister can check if the data in the cache needs to be refreshed or is still valid.

Table 18. PERSISTER_TXN_MAP

ENTITY_ NAME	METHOD_ NAME	TXN_ CODE	TXN_ TYPE	CACHE_ POLICY	INDEX_ NAME	TIME_OUT _VAULE
eontec. bankframe.Account	getAccountDetails()	MQ_ACC01	MQIMS	none		5

ENTITY_NAME

The ENTITY_NAME attribute in the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table maps to the entityName attribute in the Persister class. The entityName is the JNDI name of the bean e.g. eontec.bankframe.Account.

METHOD_NAME

The METHOD_NAME attribute in the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table maps to the methodName attribute in the Persister class. The methodName is the name of the method which is being called e.g. getAccountDetails().

TXN_CODE

This attribute contains the code number for the host transaction.

TXN_TYPE

This attribute identifies the middleware associated with a transaction such as MQSeries, IMS, TUXEDO or CICS.

CACHE_POLICY

The CACHE_POLICY field states whether the data from the Financial Process Integrator is cached or not. The CACHE_POLICY should be configured as follows:

CACHE_POLICY Setting	Description
none	The transaction results cannot be cached.
persistent	The cache is to be written to a database so it is available even if there is a system failure.
memory	The transaction results are to be cached in memory.

Note that unless an INDEX_NAME is provided, the cache will be queried by the primary key.

INDEX_NAME

The name of the cache index to use to look up request data in the cache. This column is only applicable if CACHE_POLICY is set to memory. The INDEX_NAME value corresponds to the name of a cache index defined in the BankframeResource.properties file under the cache.index key. If there is no entry in the BankframeResource.properties file, the CacheIndexFactory returns an instance of

CacheIndex by default. The CacheIndex class uses the IndexMetaData bean to determine the index structure and the name of the index to cache.

TIME_OUT_VALUE

The TIME_OUT_VALUE attribute in the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP specifies the length of time in milliseconds that the stored data remains valid. When data is retrieved from the cache its creation time is compared to the current time and if the difference is greater than the TIME_OUT_VALUE the data is requested from the host.

Configuring the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Table

Please refer to the CustomerSearch and AccountSearch examples section for more details on how to configure the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table.

com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persistertxnmap

PersisterTxnMapBean

PersisterTxnMapBean is a container-managed entity bean that houses information about the relation of an entity bean's methods to host transactions. It maps to the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table in the database. The PersisterTxnMapBean solution set layer is located in the com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persistertxnmap package and its implementation is in the com.bankframe.ei.impl.txnhandler.persistertxnmap package.

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

Table 19. Configuring BankframeResource.properties

Key Name	Example Value	Description
persister.cache.updateOnAmend	yes	Determines if the cache is updated or removed after an amend operation. Possible values are yes or no.
persister.default	com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persister.TxnPersister	The default persister to be used for all BMP EJBs.
persister.*<EJB_JNDI_NAME>*	com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persister.MasterEntityPersister	Specifies the persister to use for the specified EJB JNDI name.

Financial Process Integrator Caching

The host cache package supersedes by the caching framework package. Each cache class in the `com.bankrame.ei.txnhandler.hostcache` package can be described by a `Cache`/`CachePolicy` combination from the `com.bankframe.services.cache` package. Please read the Caching Framework section in the Enterprise Services chapter for more information on caches and cache policies.

Host Cache Examples

Generally it is recommended to create a new `com.bankframe.services.cache.Cache` instance with a given cache policy whenever caching is needed. However should you need to create a cache based on the deprecated host cache settings in `BankFrameResource.properties` then the following method should be used:

```
com.bankframe.services.cache.CacheFactory.getHostCache(String cacheName)
```

This method will return an instance of `com.bankframe.services.cache.Cache`. This cache can be manipulated by methods described in the Caching Framework document. This cache will also have a Caching Policy associated with it that describes how the cache deals with removal of expired entries.

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

These settings are legacy settings from `BankframeResource.properties` related to the host cache and are deprecated. Since all caching should be done through the caching framework, these are retained for backwards compatibility. These settings are used by the `com.bankframe.services.cache.CacheFactory.getHostCache(String cacheName)` method to return a cache instance from the caching framework that correctly reflects the cache properties described in these settings.

Deprecated Host Cache Settings

Table 20. Deprecated Host Cache Settings

Key Name	Example Value	Description
`transactionHandler.hostcache.maxMemCacheSize`	`500`	The maximum memory cache size.
`transactionHandler.hostcache.threshold`	`20`	Used to determine how many entries to move at once.
`transactionHandler.hostcache.cacheType`	`SINGLEJVM`, `CLUSTERABLE` or `MEMORY`	The cache implementation to use.

We also require that 0 < `threshold` < `maxMemCacheSize` < `maxDbCacheSize`.

Financial Process Integrator Engine

The Financial Process Integrator engine is the core of the Financial Process Integrator; it must perform the following tasks:

- Transform `DataPacket` requests into data messages of the correct format for the host system.
- Route data messages to the appropriate host system using a Siebel Connector.
- Transform incoming data responses from Siebel Connector into `DataPacket` results.

The Financial Process Integrator has two usage scenarios:

- It is invoked by a persister class, this is usually done in response to a call from an Entity Bean finder method, i.e. a search operation.
- It is invoked from a session bean, this is usually done for amend operations.

The Financial Process Integrator provides an interface to support both these usage scenarios.

For each new host system that MCA Services is to transact with, the following customizations have to be made in the Financial Process Integrator Engine:

1. The `DESTINATION` and `TXN_ROUTE` database tables have to be edited to specify a Siebel Connector appropriate for the type of host system.
2. The meta-data has to be designed and edited. The meta-data defines the form of the host system requests and responses. The Financial Process Integrator engine uses the meta-data definitions to process the transaction requests to and from the host system. The meta-data is explained further in the meta-data chapter.
3. The `BasicDataFormat` class may have to be customized. The Financial Process Integrator engine uses the `BasicDataFormat` class for host system specific formatting and processing of transaction requests and responses.
4. The necessary entries in `BankframeResource.properties` have to be edited. This is detailed further in the section on configuring `BankframeResource.properties`.

These steps are described in the following sections.

Financial Process Integrator Engine Interface

The Financial Process Integrator engine is implemented as a stateless EJB session bean called `TransactionHandler`. The `TransactionHandler` solution set layer is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionhandler` package and its implementation is in the `com.bankframe.ei.impl.txnhandler.transactionhandler` package. Its remote interface provides the following methods:

`java.util.Map processFindRequest ( DataPacket txnData)`	process a `findBy` request transaction. This is a search.
`Vector processRequest (DataPacket txnData)`	process a create, amend or remove operation.

processFindRequest (DataPacket dataPacket)

This method is called whenever a `findBy` request transaction needs to be sent to the host system. The `DataPacket` parameter `txnData` specifies values that will be placed in the transaction request that is sent to the host system. The method `processFindRequest()` returns a `Map` that contains all the entities that make up the host system response. The key to a `Map` element is a `DataPacket` of the primary key for that entity in the `Map`. This method throws a `java.rmi.RemoteException` or a `com.bankframe.ejb.ProcessingErrorException` if an error occurs.

processRequest (DataPacket dataPacket)

This method is called by a session bean to update data on the host system. It takes a `DataPacket` indicating what fields to amend. The session bean creates a `DataPacket` of all the values in the host system that have to be updated and passes the `DataPacket` to this method on the Financial Process Integrator.

The `processRequest()` returns a `Vector` containing all the entities that make up the host system response.

This method throws a `java.rmi.RemoteException` or a `com.bankframe.ejb.ProcessingErrorException` if an error occurs.

Transaction Request DataPacket

The transaction request `DataPacket` is the `DataPacket` passed to the Financial Process Integrator by a client, i.e., the persister, to request that a transaction be processed. The table below shows the elements of a sample transaction request `DataPacket`.

TXN_CODE	TEST_ACC
TXN_TYPE	TXNMQ
ACCOUNT_NAME	John Williams

The transaction code, `TXN_CODE`, specifies the transaction ID as defined on the host system.

The transaction type, `TXN_TYPE`, specifies which host system the transaction is sent to.

`TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` are used to determine:

- Which Siebel Connector will be used to communicate with the host system.
- Which transaction fields the specific transaction request to the host system must contain.
- Which transaction fields the specific transaction response from the host system contains.

In the sample `DataPacket` shown above `ACCOUNT_NAME` is the data value that is required for the host system to process the transaction request. The name of the customer in this case is `'John Williams'`. This name will be used in all the transaction fields passed to the host system that require an `ACCOUNT_NAME` value.

Transaction Request Processing Steps

A transaction request data object has to be created from the transaction request `DataPacket`, shown in the previous section, to pass to the host system. The form of this transaction request depends on the host system and the Siebel Connector being used to connect to the host system. The transaction request has to be built by the Financial Process Integrator to work with the appropriate Siebel Connector and host system, this requires a conversion from the string based transaction request `DataPacket` to a host system specific format.

The steps the Financial Process Integrator performs to handle a transaction request are:

1. Build all the necessary fields for the transaction request by querying the entity bean `RequestTransactionField` with the `TXN_CODE`, `TXN_TYPE`, i.e. obtain all the transaction fields that are necessary for this type of transaction request to be processed on the host system. This entity bean is covered further in the meta-data chapter.
2. The `BasicDataFormat` class fills the appropriate transaction fields with data from the transaction request `DataPacket` i.e., using the transaction request `DataPacket` shown in the previous section the transaction field values that require a value for the `ACCOUNT_NAME` are filled with the value `'John Williams'`. The `BasicDataFormat` class is described in a later section.
3. The `BasicDataFormat` class forms a host system formatted data object request consisting of the selected transaction fields.
4. The host system data object is passed to the appropriate Siebel Connector. The appropriate Siebel Connector is determined by querying the `TransactionRoute` and `Destination` entity beans.
5. The Connector's responsibility is to pass the request on to the host system. This is covered further in the Connectors chapter.
6. The data object response is returned by the host system via the Siebel Connector.
7. The necessary transaction fields for the host system response are determined by querying the entity beans `ResponseTransactionField` and `TransactionMetaData` with the `TXN_CODE`, `TXN_TYPE`. These entity beans are covered further in the meta-data chapter.
8. The `BasicDataFormat` class extracts the appropriate fields from the host system response using the transaction fields determined in 7.
9. The `BasicDataFormat` class determines if the host system response is an error result by querying the entity bean `TransactionErrorCondition` with the `TXN_CODE`, `TXN_TYPE` and the host system response data. This is described in more detail in the meta-data chapter.
10. The `BasicDataFormat` class creates a `Map` or `Vector` (depending if the operation is a find or an amend) of response `DataPacket`s from the extracted data.
11. The `BasicDataFormat` determines if another request has to be sent to the host system due to the host sending the response data in sub-parts, the entire process is repeated if necessary.

The Response `DataPacket`s are returned to the calling client in the form of a `Map` or `Vector`.

Transaction Data-Format Class

The Financial Process Integrator uses a data-format class for:

- Processing of request `DataPacket`s into host system specific data.

- Processing of host system response data into `DataPacket`s.
- Creating/removing and processing of the transaction headers.
- Pre-processing the response before the transaction fields are processed.
- Formatting the transaction fields for making a request to the Siebel Connector.
- Formatting the transaction fields in the response from the Siebel Connector.
- Determine if repeated requests are required to be sent to the host system.

The Financial Process Integrator engine determines the correct data-format class to use at run-time by querying the `TransactionRoute` entity bean (the `TransactionRoute` entity bean will be covered in more detail in a later section).

For each form of host system the `BasicDataFormat` class may have to be customized. The Siebel MCA class `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.basic.BasicDataFormat` is a generic base data-format class implementation. This can be sub-classed to reuse the main functionality.

DataFormat Class Interface

All data-format classes must implement the `DataFormat` interface `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.DataFormat`. This interface has the following definition:

```
import com.bankframe.ejb.ProcessingErrorException;

public interface DataFormat {


    public void toDataPacketsMap(Object txnData, Map responseEntitiesMap,
DataPacket txnDataPacket, String txnCode, String txnType) throws
ProcessingErrorException;


    public void toDataPacketsVector(Object txnData, Vector
responseEntitiesVector, DataPacket txnDataPacket, String txnCode, String txnType)
throws ProcessingErrorException;


    public Object buildRequestTxn(DataPacket txnDataPacket, String txnCode,
String txnType) throws ProcessingErrorException;


    public boolean moreToRequest();


    public void notifyProcessingFinished();
```

```
    public void setConnectionSpecification(Object command, String
connectorProperties) throws ProcessingErrorException;

}
```

Any modifications necessary for transaction processing can be made in the data-format class without modifying the Financial Process Integrator source code.

The methods `buildRequestTxn()`, `toDataPacketsMap()` and `toDataPacketsVector()` use:

- the utility class `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.DataFormatUtils` to perform common routines such as converting ASCII text to EBCDIC format.
- the following class to get all meta-data required to process the transaction:

    `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.TransactionHandlerUtils`

Instantiating the Data-Format Class

The Financial Process Integrator instantiates the specified data-format class as shown in the following pseudo-code:

```
//The Transaction Route Entity Bean used to get the DataFormat class name:

TransactionRoute txnRoute;


//Obtain DataFormat class name from the Transaction Route Entity Bean

String dataFormatClass = txnRoute.getDataFormatName();


//load and instantiate class using reflection

Class classFactory = Class.forName(dataFormatClass);

DataFormat dataFormat = (DataFormat) classFactory.newInstance();


//call the required method, e.g.,

boolean moretoRequest = dataFormat.moreToRequest();
```

Data-Format Class Request Processing Steps

The Financial Process Integrator creates the host system request using the Data-Format method `buildRequestTxn(txnDataPacket, txnCode, txnType)`. The implementation of the `BasicDataFormat` processing depends on the host system format and can be customized depending on the host system requirements.

`buildRequestTxn(txnDataPacket, txnCode, txnType)` makes the following processing steps:

- A byte stream is created to contain the transaction request that will be passed to the host system via the host Connector.
- The request transaction fields necessary for the specified transaction code and type are obtained by calling the `TransactionHandlerUtils` method `generateTxnRequestFields(txnCode, txnType)`.
- For each request transaction field a value for the field is obtained from the request `DataPacket`, `txnDataPacket`. If the field value is not a `MANDATORY` field in the request `DataPacket` then the default value specified in `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` is used.
- Each request transaction field value is formatted according to the settings specified in `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` and added to the byte stream. This is performed by the method `fillTxnField(TransactionField txnField, String dataValue)`.
- The byte stream is returned to the Financial Process Integrator.

Data-Format Class Response Processing Steps

The Financial Process Integrator calls the method `toDataPacketsMap()` to process the host system response for a find operation. The Financial Process Integrator calls the method `toDataPacketsVector()` to process the host system response for an amend operation.

The implementation of the `BasicDataFormat` processing depends on the host system format and can be customized depending on the host system requirements.

The two methods make the following processing steps:

1. `processTxnResponse ()` is called for the host system response data.
2. `processTxnResponse ()` calls the method `checkForErrorCondition()` to test the host system response to determine if it is an error result from the host system.
3. `checkForErrorCondition()` calls `checkForErrorValue()` to determine if a transaction field value matches an error condition.
4. If an error occurred then `processTxnResponse ()` calls the method `handleHostSystemError()`. The method `handleHostSystemError()` is customised if error handling is required for a host system. It takes appropriate action such as further processing of meta-data and throwing of a `ProcessingErrorException`. See `BasicDataFormat` class for an example.
5. If no error occurred then `processTxnResponse()` calls the method `processTransactionRecord()`.
6. The method processTransactionRecord() gets the necessary meta-data specified by the TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE in the request DataPacket using the class com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.TransactionHandlerUtils.
7. The method `processTransactionRecord()` calls the method `preProcessTxnData()` to pre-process the response data, i.e., removes the header information if necessary.
8. The method `processTransactionRecord()` processes the host system data extracting data necessary for each entity specified by the meta-data. Entity `DataPacket` results processed from the host system data are added to the `Vector` of entity bean results, `responseEntities`. If a `Map` of entities is being created (due to `toDataPacketMap()` starting the process) then for each element in the `Vector responseEntities` a `Vector` of all the associated primary key `DataPacket`s is added for later processing. The `Vector` of associated primary keys is updated as primary key values are extracted from the host system response data.

9 Processing returns at this point to `toDataPacketsMap()` and `toDataPacketsVector()`.

10 `checkIfNoEntitiesFound()` is called to check if any entity `DataPacket`s were processed from the host system data. If none were processed then the `BasicDataFormat` class returns from processing.

11 `checkIfMoreToRequest()` is called to update the flag indicating if this transaction requires further calls to the host system.

12 The method `postProcessResponseData()` is called to perform any necessary post processing of the `Vector` of entities, `responseEntities`, which were created from the host system data.

13 At this point the method `toDataPacketsMap()` converts the `Vector` of entities into a `Map` of entities. The key to each entity in the `Map` is the primary key `DataPacket` created previously during step 8.

14 The method `toDataPacketsMap()` returns the `Map` of entities to the Financial Process Integrator engine. The method `toDataPacketsVector()` returns the `Vector` of entities to the Financial Process Integrator engine.

The Financial Process Integrator engine will call `moreToRequest(…)` to check if the request has to be generated again, more data retrieved from the host system and the above steps repeated to process the response.

toDataPacketsVector( )

The method `toDataPacketsVector(Object txnData, Vector responseEntitiesVector, DataPacket txnDataPacket, String txnCode, String txnType)` converts the host system response data object elements into `DataPacket`s to respond to the client. The method returns the results in a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s called `responsEntitiesVector` that will be sent to the client.

The resulting `DataPacket` contents depend on the meta-data definition.

The names of the `DataPacket`s in the `Vector` are specified by the `DP_NAME` field in the meta-data table `RESPONSE_META_DATA`. The names of the elements in the `DataPacket` are the `DP_FIELD` values specified in the meta-data table `RESPONSE_META_DATA`, this is described in detail in the meta-data chapter.

This is called by the Financial Process Integrator method `processRequest()` for amending data on the host system. The session bean that called the Financial Process Integrator in this case expects a `Vector` of results `DataPacket`s.

toDataPacketsMap( )

The method `toDataPacketsMap(Object txnData, Map responseEntitiesMap, DataPacket txnDataPacket, String txnCode, String txnType)` converts the response from the host system into `DataPacket`s to respond to the client. The method returns the results in the `Map responseEtitiesMap` in the form of `DataPacket`s which will be sent to the client. This is called by the Financial Process Integrator method `processFindRequest()` for getting data on the host system. The entity bean that called the Financial Process Integrator in this case expects a `Map` of results `DataPacket`s

The `Map` elements are the entity elements determined from the host system response.

The key to an element in the map is a `DataPacket` object containing the primary key elements of the entity in question.

The name of the DataPacket takes the form: <ENTITYNAME>

For example an entity called TEST could have a primary key DataPacket with the following values:

```
DATA PACKET NAME = TEST

SORT_CODE = 99-99-99

ACCOUNT_NUMBER = 11223344
```

This is the key to the entity element in the Map. Associated with the key is an element containing the DataPacket of values for the entity in question.

The name of the DataPacket is specified by the DP_NAME field in the meta-data table RESPONSE_META_DATA. The names of the elements in the DataPacket are the DP_FIELD values specified in the meta-data table RESPONSE_META_DATA, these are the names understood by the persister object that calls the Financial Process Integrator. The meta-data tables are described in detail in the meta-data chapter.

For example the element associated with the key shown previously could be a DataPacket with the following values:

```
DATAPACKET NAME = TEST

ACCOUNT_NAME = John Williams

SORT_CODE = 99-99-99

ACCOUNT_NUMBER = 11223344
```

moreToRequest ( )

When the Financial Process Integrator uses the BasicDataFormat class to process the response data from the host system the BasicDataFormat class determines if there is more data still to process from the host system. This may be the case where the header in the response data specifies that the response from the host system has been broken into several parts. This method allows the Financial Process Integrator to detect if the host system is finished sending response data or if there is more data to be received and processed.

The BasicDataFormat class generally determines if there are more requests to send to the host system as follows:

1. The definition of the meta-data for the host system defines two header fields: a flag indicating that the host system has to be called again and a counter for the current count of calls made to the host system for the request.
2. After processing the host system response the BasicDataFormat checks the above flags, this is performed in the BasicDataFormat method checkIfMoreToRequest(DataPacket txnRequest, Vector responseEntities).
3. checkIfMoreToRequest(DataPacket txnRequest, Vector responseEntities) modifies the request settings in txnRequest if necessary for the next call to the host system, i.e. the current count of calls is incremented and updated in the request settings.
4. If the method checkIfMoreToRequest(DataPacket txnRequest, Vector responseEntities)determines from the flags in the header fields that there are more requests to

be made then a `boolean` flag is set to `true`. The request `DataPacket` is updated if necessary with new settings if further requests will be needed to the host system. The method `moreToRequest()` returns the value of this `boolean` flag when called by the Financial Process Integrator engine.

5 The Financial Process Integrator calls the method `moreToRequest()`. If the result is `true` then the Financial Process Integrator generates another transaction request and posts the request to the host system requesting further data. The updated request settings are used by the `BasicDataFormat` class to process the transaction request.

6 The Financial Process Integrator Engine repeats this process until `moreToRequest()` returns `false`. The default value returned by `moreToRequest()` is `false`.

See the example data-format class:
`com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.dataformat.testcustomer. TestCustomerDataFormat`

notifyProcessingFinished( )

The method `notifyProcessingFinished()` is called by the Financial Process Integrator engine when all processing of a transaction is complete. This allows the data-format class to clean up any temporary data and variables.

setConnectionSpecification(Object command, String connectorProperties)

The method `setConnectionSpecification(Object command, String connectorProperties)` is called by the Financial Process Integrator engine to set the Connector Specification of an EAB Command Bean. These are the Connector properties obtained from the Destination EJB.

TransactionHandlerUtils helper class

The methods `buildRequestTxn()`, `toDataPacketsMap()` and `toDataPacketsVector()` use the helper class `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.TransactionHandlerUtils` to obtain the necessary meta-data for processing of transactions.

This class has the following helper methods:

`boolean isMetaDataCached()`	Determines from `BankframeResource.properties` if caching has been enabled for the meta-data.
`boolean isRoutesCached()`	Determines from `BankframeResource.properties` if caching has been enabled for the routes.
`TransactionField getTxnFieldFromList(Iterator txnFields)`	Returns the next `TransactionField` interface from the `List`.
`MetaData getMetaDataFromIterator(Iterator txnMetaData)`	Returns the interface of the next `MetaData` interface from a `List`.

`TransactionField getTxnResponseFieldFromName(ResponseTransactionFieldHome txnFieldHome, String txnFieldName, boolean metaDataCached)`	Finds the `TransactionField` interface to a transaction field entity from the transaction field name.
`List generateTxnRequestFields(String txnCode, String txnType)`	Generates the Transaction Request fields `List` for specified transaction code and type.
`List generateTxnResponseMetaData(String txnCode, String txnType)`	Generates the Transaction Response Meta-data `List` of entity mappings for specified transaction code and type.
`Map generateTxnResponseFields(List txnMetaDataList)`	Generates a `Map` of the Response Transaction Fields from the field names that are specified in the Meta-data `List`.
`Map generateTxnResponseErrorConditions(String txnCode, String txnType)`	Generates the `Map` of Transaction Response Error-Conditions for the specified transaction code and type.
`getErrorConditionFromEnum(Enumeration txnErrorConditions)`	Returns a `TransactionErrorCondition` interface from the Enumeration.
`RequestTransactionFieldHome getRequestTransactionFieldHome()`	Returns a RequestTransactionFieldHome object.
`ResponseTransactionFieldHome getResponseTransactionFieldHome()`	Returns a ResponseTransactionFieldHome interface.
`MetaDataHome getMetaDataHome()`	Returns a `MetaDataHome` interface representation.
`TransactionErrorConditionHome getTxnErrorConditionHome()`	Returns a TransactionErrorConditionHome interface.

DataFormatUtils helper class

The methods `buildRequestTxn()`, `toDataPacketsMap()` and `toDataPacketsVector()` use the helper class `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.DataFormatUtils` to perform common routines such as converting ASCII text to EBCDIC format.

This class has the following helper methods:

`byte[] subset(byte data[], int startIndex, int endIndex)`	extracts the specified amount from the data byte-array and returns the result

`byte[] toEbcdic(String input)`	converts ASCII to EBCDIC
`String ebcdicToString(byte ebcdic[])`	converts EBCDIC to ASCII String
`byte[] toComp(String input, Boolean signed, int inputSize)`	converts the numerical string to a Cobol number
`byte[] toComp3(String input, boolean signed, int maxWholeDigits, int maxFractionalDigits)`	converts numerical `String` to a Cobol number COMP-3 format
`String compToString(byte input[])`	converts a Cobol number into a numerical `String`
`String comp3ToString(byte input[], int numWholeDigits, int numFractionalDigits)`	converts a Cobol number, Comp 3, into a numerical `String`
`byte[] toStandard(String input, boolean signed, int maxWholeDigits, int maxFractionalDigits)`	converts a numerical `String` to a Cobol Standard format
`String standardToString(byte input[], int numWholeDigits, int numFractionalDigits)`	converts a Cobol Standard to a numerical `String`
`ToHex(byte input, StringBuffer buf)`	converts an input `byte` into a `StringBuffer` hexadecimal representation
`ToHex(byte input[], StringBuffer buf)`	converts an input `byte[]` into a `StringBuffer` hexadecimal representation
`ToHex(int input, StringBuffer buf)`	converts an input `int` into a `StringBuffer` hexadecimal representation
`String toHexString(byte input)`	converts an input `byte` into a `String` hexadecimal representation
`String toHexString(byte input[])`	converts an input `byte[]` into a `String` `hexadecimal` representation
`String toHexString(int input)`	converts an input `int` into a `String` hexadecimal representation

Transaction Route Entity Bean

To determine which Siebel Connector the Financial Process Integrator will use to communicate with the host system the `TransactionRoute` and `Destination` entity beans are queried. The `TransactionRoute` solution set layer is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionroute` package and its implementation is in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.impl.transactionroute` package.

The TransactionRoute entity bean maps to Table 21. TXN_ROUTE Database, which has the following form:

Table 21. TXN_ROUTE Database

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	DESTINATION_ID	DATAFORMAT
TEST_ACC	TXN_DUMMY	C002	com.ims.DataFormat
TEST_ACC	TXNMQ	C001	com.mqs.DataFormat

The TransactionRoute entity bean is queried with the TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE specified in the transaction request DataPacket to determine:

- The Siebel Connector used to communicate with the host system; the DESTINATION_ID is a key into the DESTINATION database table.
- The data-format class used to convert the request transaction into a host-specific format and to convert the response into a Siebel-specific format.

Caching of Transaction Routes

The Financial Process Integrator can cache the queried transaction routes to improve performance.

The transactionHandler.routes.cache entry in the BankframeResource.properties file specifies whether caching of Transaction Routes is enabled for the Financial Process Integrator.

The caching is performed by the class com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transationroute.TransactionRouteCache. This class uses the MCA generic caching framework.

Destination Entity Bean

To determine which Siebel Connector to instantiate and which Connector properties to use the Destination entity bean is queried. The Destination solution set layer is located in the com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.destination package and its implementation is in the com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.impl.destination package.

The Destination entity bean maps to Table 22. DESTINATION database, which has the following form:

Table 22. DESTINATION database

DESTINATION_ID	CONNECTOR_FACTORY_ CLASSNAME	CONNECTOR_ PROPERTIES

C001	com.bankframe.examples.
	txnhandler.connector.
	testcustomer.TestCusto
	merConnectionFactory
		offlineMode=disable;
		Port=9999;
		channel=SENDER.CHANNEL;
		hostname=99.999.999.99;

DESTINATION_ID	CONNECTOR_FACTORY_ CLASSNAME	CONNECTOR_ PROPERTIES
		queueManager=QM_test; requestQueue=QUEUE.REQ; responseQueue=QUEUE.REPLY; wait.interval=200; characterset=37
C002	com.bankframe.examples. txnhandler.connector. coboltest. CobolTestConnectionFactory	offlineMode=fetch;

The `DESTINATION` table has three fields:

- The `DESTINATION_ID` is a key index into the table from the `TXN_ROUTE` table.
- The `CONNECTOR_FACTORY_CLASSNAME` is the Factory class name of the Siebel Connector Factory, which is instantiated to obtain a Connector.
- The `CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES` is a semi-colon delimited string containing connector properties, which the Siebel Connector Factory uses during initialization.

The Siebel Connector properties determine if an off-line Connector will be used for testing the system.

The off-line Connector setting can be either:

- `"disable"`, not to be used.
- `"fetch"` mode.
- `"store"` mode.

The Siebel Connector properties has the following key to specify the off-line mode:

```
offlineMode=<mode>;
```

The Siebel Connector properties string is passed to the `open()` method of the instantiated Siebel Connector Factory.

Caching of Destinations

The Financial Process Integrator can cache the queried destinations to improve performance.

The `transactionHandler.routes.cache` entry in the `BankframeResource.properties` file specifies whether caching of destinations is enabled for the Financial Process Integrator.

The caching is performed in the class `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.destination.DestinationCache`. This class uses the MCA generic caching framework.

Posting the Transaction Request data Object to the Host Connector

Once the transaction request DataPacket has been converted into the appropriate data format for the host system the data object is passed to the specified Siebel Connector. All Connectors implement the interface:

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.connector.EConnection
```

The Financial Process Integrator interacts with all Connectors through the methods of this interface. The steps to post the transaction request java.lang.Object to the Siebel Connector are:

The Siebel Connector Factory class specified by the DESTINATION table is instantiated.

1 An interface to the required Connector is obtained from the Connector Factory using the method getConnection(String connectorProperties). The parameter connectionProperties is the Connector Properties String obtained from the DESTINATION entity bean.

2 The EConnection method public Object post(Object txns) is called. The parameter Object txns is the host system specific transaction request data object.

3 The method post(Object txns) returns a data Object containing the results from the host system.

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

The Financial Process Integrator requires a number of entries in the BankframeResource.properties file to function.

transactionHandler.dataSource.jndiName= jdbc/bankfrm	The data source that the Financial Process Integrator uses for database access, for example, jdbc/bankfrm.
transactionHandler.metaData.cache	Specifies if the meta data caching is enabled, true or false.
transactionHandler.routes.cache	Specifies if caching for the transaction routes and destinations is enabled, true or false.
transactionHandler.routes.cache.maxSize	Max size of the routes cache.

`transactionHandler.requesttxnlayout.cache.maxSize`	Max size of the request transaction layout cache.
`transactionHandler.responsetxnlayout.cache.maxSize`	Max size of the response transaction layout cache.
`transactionHandler.errorConditions.cache.maxSize`	Max size of the response error conditions cache.
`transactionHandler.metaData.cache.maxSize`	Max size of the response metadata cache.

Financial Process Integrator Testing using Test Servlet

MCA Services supplies several servlets for testing the core functionality of the Financial Process Integrator Engine. The servlets are described in the following sections.

TransactionHandlerHomePage

The main Financial Process Integrator servlet is

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.TransactionHandlerHomePage
```

This servlet provides links to all the Financial Process Integrator test servlets and is accessible from the main MCA `ServiceServlet`.

TransactionHandlerTestServlet

The main servlet for testing the functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.TransactionHandlerTestServlet
```

`TransactionHandlerTestServlet` tests the entire transaction processing cycle of the Financial Process Integrator engine. It generates the specified transaction, determines the route and destination, sends the generated request to the specified Connector, processes the response from the host system and displays the results of the request. The caching configuration specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file is used for the processing cycle.

To use the servlet to test the Financial Process Integrator the user first creates the necessary request `DataPacket` that will be sent to the Financial Process Integrator. The two operations provided for this are:

- `"Add a new field"`, adds a field to the request `DataPacket`. The user specifies the `DataPacket` field name and its value and clicks on the button `"Add"`.
- `"Remove a field"`, removes a field from the request `DataPacket`. The user specifies the `DataPacket` field name to remove and clicks on the button `"Remove"`.

After the necessary request `DataPacket` fields have been created and given the correct values for the transaction request the `"Update"` button is clicked to update the text box displaying the `"Current DataPacket"`.

The user can choose the following requests to send to the Financial Process Integrator:

- find operation, this calls the Financial Process Integrator method `processFindRequest( )` with the specified `DataPacket` to simulate a findBy operation being performed.
- amend operation, this calls the Financial Process Integrator method `processRequest( )` with the specified `DataPacket` to simulate an amend operation being performed.

For example the `AccountSearch` findBy example requires the following settings:

- TXN_CODE=ACCOUNTFIND
- TXN_TYPE=TEST

The `CustomerSearch` findBy example requires the following settings:

- TXN_CODE=TESTFIND0001
- TXN_TYPE=TEST
- OWNER_ID=1234560010

The `CustomerSearch` findBy example operation requires that the `OWNER_ID` field is added to the request `DataPacket`. The Financial Process Integrator throws an exception if this is missing because it is specified in the metadata for the example as a mandatory field.

The `CustomerSearch` amend example requires the following settings:

- TXN_CODE=TESTAMND0001
- TXN_TYPE=TEST
- OWNER_ID=1234560010
- FIRST_NAME=JOHN

This amend operation will amend the first name of the user with the `OWNER_ID 1234560010` to `JOHN` and remove all the other settings for this user.

The results of the transaction request are displayed on a result page. The results consist of a table of all the entity `DataPacket` results. The time to process the transaction request is determined by the servlet and shown on the result page.

TransactionRouteTestServlet

The servlet for testing the transaction route functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionroute.TransactionRouteTestServlet
```

`TransactionRouteTestServlet` tests that the transaction route details for a given `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` can be determined from the MCA database. These details are used for determining which data-format class to instantiate and which `DESTINATION_ID` to use. This test however does not instantiate the data-format class or use the `DESTINATION_ID`, it just displays details for the transaction route.

The caching configuration specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file is used.

The `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` are modified for the transaction route that has to be tested and the `“Update”` button clicked. The transaction route details are requested by clicking on the `“Request”` button.

If the details are obtained successfully than they are displayed.

The `AccountSearch` example uses `TXN_CODE=ACCOUNTFIND` and `TXN_TYPE=TEST`.

DestinationTestServlet

The servlet for testing the destination functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is

`com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.destination.DestinationTestServlet.`

`DestinationTestServlet` tests that the destination details for a given `DESTINATION_ID` can be determined from the MCA database. These details are used for creating and initializing the Connector for communicating with the host system. This test however does not communicate with the host system, it just displays details for the host Connector.

The caching configuration specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file is used.

The `DESTINATION_ID` is modified for the destination that has to be tested and the `“Update”` button clicked. The destination details are requested by clicking on the `“Request”` button.

If the details are obtained successfully than they are displayed.

The `AccountSearch` example uses the `DESTINATION_ID=C002`.

RequestTransactionFieldServlet

The servlet for testing the transaction request fields functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is

`com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionlayout.impl.request.`

`RequestTransactionFieldServlet`

`RequestTransactionFieldServlet` tests that the transaction request field details for a given `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` can be determined from the MCA database. These details are used for creating the transaction request to send to the host system. This test however does not generate the host system specific request, it just displays details for the transaction request fields.

The caching configuration specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file is used.

The `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` are modified for the transaction request fields that have to be tested and the `“Update”` button clicked. The transaction request field details are requested by clicking on the `“Request”` button.

If the details are obtained successfully than they are displayed as bullet points for each transaction request field.

The `AccountSearch` example uses `TXN_CODE=ACCOUNTFIND` and `TXN_TYPE=TEST`.

ResponseTransactionFieldServlet

The servlet for testing the transaction response fields functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionlayout.impl.response.ResponseTransactionFieldServlet.

ResponseTransactionFieldServlet tests that the transaction response field details for a given transaction FIELDNAME can be determined from the MCA database. These details are used for processing the transaction response data from the host system. This test however does not process a host system response, it just displays details for the specified transaction response field.

The caching configuration specified in the BankframeResource.properties file is used.

The FIELDNAME is modified for the transaction response field to be tested and the "Update" button clicked. The transaction response field details are requested by clicking on the "Request" button.

If the details are obtained successfully than they are displayed.

The AccountSearch example uses a transaction field with FIELDNAME=CARD-NUMBER.

MetaDataServlet

The servlet for testing the transaction response metadata functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is

com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionresponse.metadata.MetaDataServlet.

MetaDataServlet tests that the transaction response metadata details for a given TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE can be determined from the MCA database. These details are used for mapping transaction fields in the host system response to result entity DataPacket results. This test however does not process the mappings, it just displays details for the transaction response metadata.

The caching configuration specified in the BankframeResource.properties file is used.

The TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE are modified for the transaction response metadata that have to be tested and the "Update" button clicked. The transaction response metadata details are requested by clicking on the "Request" button.

If the details are obtained successfully than each entity mapping is displayed as a bullet point.

The AccountSearch example uses TXN_CODE=ACCOUNTFIND and TXN_TYPE=TEST.

TransactionErrorConditionServlet

The servlet for testing the transaction response error-condition functionality of the Financial Process Integrator is

com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.transactionresponse.errorcondition.TransactionErrorConditionServlet.

TransactionErrorConditionServlet tests that the transaction response error-condition details for a given TXN_CODE and TXN_TYPE can be determined from the MCA database. These details are used to determine if a host system response is an error. This test however does not process any host system response, it just displays details for the transaction response error-conditions.

The caching configuration specified in the BankframeResource.properties file is used.

The `TXN_CODE` and `TXN_TYPE` are modified for the transaction response error-conditions that have to be tested and the `"Update"` button clicked. The transaction response error-condition details are requested by clicking on the `"Request"` button.

If the details are obtained successfully than each response error-condition is displayed as a bullet point, otherwise there are no error-conditions for the specified transaction code and type.

The `AccountSearch` example uses `TXN_CODE=ACCOUNTFIND` and `TXN_TYPE=TEST`.

EIS Connectors

The first section discusses the MCA Services Connector Architecture. The second section discusses JCA support.

MCA Services Connector Architecture

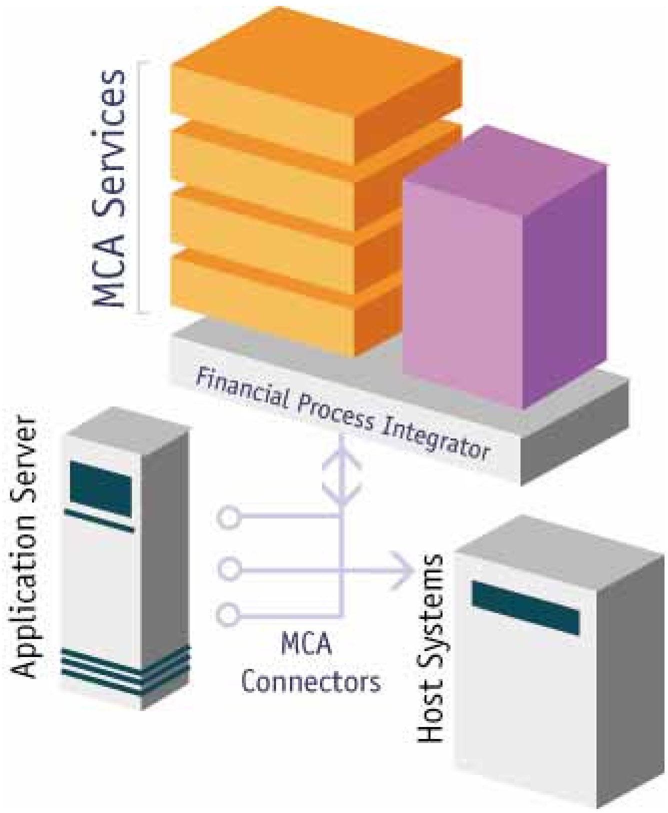
The MCA Services Connector architecture defines a standard architecture for connecting Siebel applications to heterogeneous host or middleware systems. Examples of systems that a host connector might communicate with include MQSeries, IMS, CICS etc. The Connector architecture allows you utilize pre-built connectors provided with MCA, or build customized Connectors for any number of enterprise host systems.

An MCA Connector is a package of Java classes, which are used to connect an enterprise Java application to a Host or middleware system. The connector architecture enables a developer to provide a standard connector for a given host system. The connector plugs into an application server and provides connectivity between the Siebel application, the application server, and the host system.

The Siebel Host Connector Architecture is similar in structure to the Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) interfaces. A Host Connector provides similar functionality to a JDBC driver, except that it connects to a host system instead of a relational database. In fact, it is possible to write a host connector for a DBMS quite easily.

Host Connectors can also optionally provide functionality for connection pooling and connection management. The Connector architecture defines a standard interface for integrating with connection management implementations, whether they are provided by the connector provider or an application server.

The Connector architecture also defines the manner in which all clients connect to host system resources. Once a connector has been successfully deployed on an application server, Siebel applications call the `post(Object)` method of the desired connector to forward the request onto the host system. When used within the Siebel Financial Process Integrator environment, the connectors are called automatically from the Financial Process Integrator engine. Refer also to the section on JCA support.



Siebel Connector Interfaces/Components

A Siebel Connector is made up of several Java components that make it easy to support connection pooling and management. The following interfaces make up the generic Siebel Connector architecture, and are implemented by all MCA Host Connectors. They are found in the package `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.connector.` They are as follows:

EConnection Interface

An `EConnection` represents an application-level handle that is used by a client to access the underlying physical connection. The actual physical connection associated with an `EConnection` instance is represented by an `EManagedConnection` instance. A client gets an `EConnection` instance by using the `getConnection()` method on an `EConnectionFactory` instance.

All Siebel Host Connectors must implement the `post(Object)` and `close()` methods of the `EConnection` interface. The `post()` method of all connectors should forward a client's transaction request to the middleware or host system that the Connector interfaces with, and should return an object representing the response from the system. The `close()` method must close the physical connection between the connector and its host system, or if it is running in a pooled environment it must release the connection back to the connection pool, for re-use by another client.

EConnectionEvent Class

The `EConnectionEvent` class provides information about the source of a connection related event. An `EConnectionEvent` instance contains the following information:

- The type of the connection event, i.e. `CONNECTION_CLOSED` or `CONNECTION_ERROR_OCCURRED`.
- The `EManagedConnection` instance that generated the connection event. An `EManagedConnection` instance is returned from the method `EConnectionEvent.getSource()`.
- The `EConnection` handle associated with the `EManagedConnection` instance. This is required for the `CONNECTION_CLOSED` event and optional for the other event types.
- Optionally, an exception indicating the connection related error. Note that the exception is used for `CONNECTION_ERROR_OCCURRED`.

The `EConnectionEvent` class defines a `CONNECTION_CLOSED` and a `CONNECTION_ERROR_OCCURRED` type of event notifications.

EConnectionEventListener Interface

The `EConnectionEventListener` interface provides an event callback mechanism to enable a Connection Manager to receive notifications from an `EManagedConnection` instance. A Connection Manager uses these event notifications to manage its connection pool, and to clean up any invalid or terminated connections. Typically, the Connection Manager will implement a `ConnectionEventListener` interface (or one of its helper classes will). The Connection Manager registers a connection listener with an `EManagedConnection` instance by using `EManagedConnection.addConnectionEventListener(EventListener)` method.

The Connection Manager (or helper class that implements the `EConnectionEventListener` interface) must ensure that it handles the events to close a connection and to handle errors. It does this by implementing the `connectionClosed(EConnectionEvent)` and `connectionErrorOccurred(EConnectionEvent)` interfaces of the `EconnectionEventListener`.

EConnectionFactory Interface

The `EConnectionFactory` provides an interface for getting a connection to a

Host system. Each individual Siebel connector will provide an implementation of the `EConnectionFactory` interface. A client application that wishes to use a Siebel Host Connector must first instantiate the Connection Factory class.

A client application obtains an `EConnection` from an `EconnectionFactory` implementation in the following manner:

```
String connectorFactoryClassName=”com.test.MyConnectionFactory”;

Class classFactory = Class.forName(connectorFactoryClass);

EConnectionFactory cxf = (EConnectionFactory) classFactory.newInstance();

EConnection connection = cxf.getConnection(connectorProperties);
```

EConnectionManager Interface

The `EConnectionManager` interface provides a hook for a Siebel Connector to pass a connection request to the application server or Connection Manager. The application server or the Connector provider typically provides an implementation of the `EConnectionManager` interface. The `EConnectionManager` implementation handles or delegates connection pooling and management. The connector architecture does not specify how a Connection Manager implements these services; the implementation can be specific to an application server, or to a specific connector.

After a Connection Manager hooks-in its services, the connection request gets delegated to an `EManagedConnectionFactory` instance either for the creation of a new physical connection or for the matching of an already existing physical connection.

An implementation class for `EConnectionManager` interface is required to implement the `java.io.Serializable` interface. In the non-managed application scenario, the `EConnectionManager` implementation class can be provided either by a connector (as a default `EConnectionManager` implementation) or by application developers.

EManagedConnection Interface

The `EManagedConnection` class represents a physical connection to the underlying Host system. Managed connections are often re-cycled and used in connection pools to improve performance.

EManagedConnectionFactory Interface

The `EManagedConnectionFactory` instance is a factory of both `EManagedConnection` and connector-specific connection factory instances. This interface supports connection pooling by providing methods for the matching and creation of `EManagedConnection` instances. Implementations of this interface must provide a `createManagedConnection(String)` method and a `matchManagedConnections(Set, String)` method.

Using a Siebel Connector with the Financial Process Integrator

The Siebel Financial Process Integrator engine is set-up to automatically format data for a host or middleware system, and pass these requests to the Siebel connector that corresponds to that system. This section of the documentation will describe how the Financial Process Integrator engine integrates with MCA Connectors. Details on other aspects of the Financial Process Integrator Engine can be found in the previous section about the Financial Process Integrator engine.

There is a Database table (that is created when you install MCA Services) named `DESTINATION`. This table is the key mediator between the Financial Process Integrator engine and Siebel Connectors. The schema of this table contains the following columns:

`DESTINATION_ID`	This column corresponds to the foreign key `DESTINATION_ID` in the `TXN_ROUTE` database table. It is used to correlate a particular host transaction request to its corresponding Siebel Host Connector information in the `DESTINATION` table. e.g. `C001`
`CONNECTOR_FACTORY_CLASSNAME`	This column specifies the Connection Factory class to instantiate. From this Factory class an `EConnection` is obtained to the Host Connector. The Host Connector is used to send a transaction to its destination host system. This name must correspond to the value of the `transactionHandler.connector.~~.ConnectionFactory_Impl` key specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` file for the Connector:

CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES	This column is a list of properties that are specific to a connection created by an MCA connector. The properties must be in the format: `<name>=<value>;<name2>=<value2>`. Note that multiple properties are separated by a semi-colon delimiter. e.g. offlineMode=fetch;user=bankfrm;password=bankfrm… Note that all Connectors that support OffLine processing must contain a property called `offlineMode` in the `CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES` field. Details on the OffLine Connector are covered in a subsequent section.

Therefore, to configure which connector you want to use through the Financial Process Integrator engine, you will have to manipulate the `DESTINATION` database table. For each transaction code you have, you must insert the correct Connector Factory class name of the connector that you wish to use (in the `CONNECTOR_FACTORY_CLASSNAME` column), and insert the desired properties of that connector (in the `CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES` column), where individual properties are separated by semi-colons.

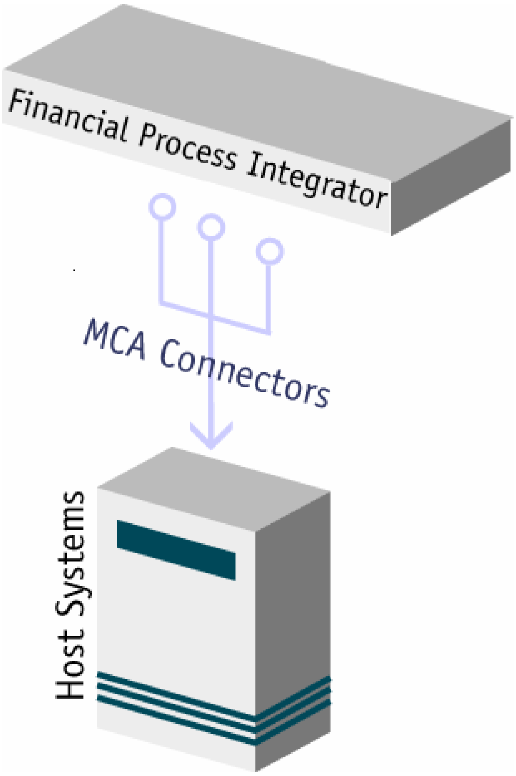
For more details on how to configure the Financial Process Integrator engine for processing and formatting requests, refer to the chapter on the Financial Process Integrator engine.

OffLine Connector

One of the pre-built connectors that are provided with MCA is the OffLine Connector. This connector is designed for testing and development purposes, to simulate posting transactions to a live host system. The OffLine Connector sits between a standard Siebel connector and a middleware or host system. The OffLine Connector simulates transactions to a live host system by capturing request and response data that passes through the original Siebel connector and storing it in a relational database table. Then, the original Siebel connector has the option of setting its `offlineMode` property to either `fetch`, `store` or `disable`.

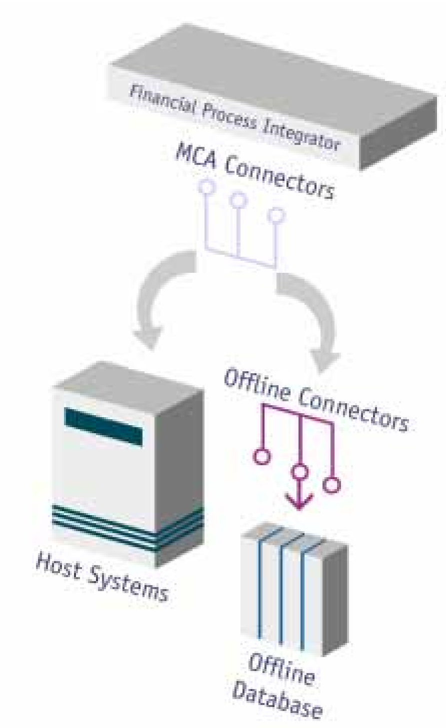
OffLine Disable Mode

If a Siebel connector is running in OffLine `disable` mode (i.e. it is not in `fetch` or `store`), then the original Siebel connector sends all requests directly to the host system, and returns responses directly to the Financial Process Integrator engine. There is no interaction with the OffLine Connector. This mode should be the default mode for all connectors.



OffLine Store Mode

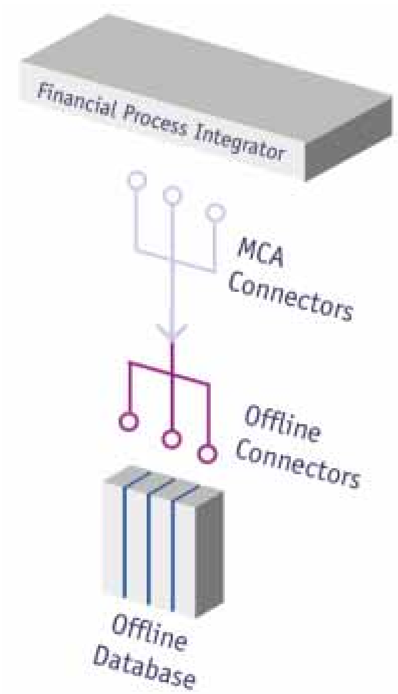
A Siebel connector can run in OffLine store mode by setting its `offlineMode` property to `store`. When a connector is in store mode, it continues to send transaction requests to its live middleware or host system. However, after the response has been obtained from the host or middleware system, the original connector makes a call to the OffLine connector to store both the transaction request and the transaction response in the OffLine database. This ensures that the connector can process this same request at a future time when running in offline `fetch` mode.



1. Financial Process Integrator forwards client request to an MCA Connector.
2. MCA Connector `post`s request to the Host system and waits for the response.
3. MCA Connector sends original request and host response to the OffLine Connector before sending host response back to the Financial Process Integrator.
4. Siebel OffLine Connector stores the request and response in a Database.

OffLine Fetch Mode

A Siebel connector can run in OffLine fetch mode by setting its `offlineMode` property to `fetch`. When a connector is in fetch mode, it re-directs all transaction requests to the OffLine Connector, instead of making a connection to the live host or middleware system. The OffLine Connector will then look-up the response to the transaction request in the OffLine Database and return the expected response back to the original connector, which in turn returns to the Financial Process Integrator engine. Note that a request sent to the OffLine Connector will only be retrieved properly if that same transaction request had previously been made while the connector was in offline `store` mode.



OffLine Connector Implementation

The Siebel OffLine Connector is a standard implementation of the Siebel Connector interfaces. It also provides an implementation of a connection manager and a connection pool, which utilize JDBC `DataSource` objects to obtain sql connections to the OffLine database table.

The OffLine Connector contains the following Java classes, found in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.connector.offline` package.

OffLineConnection. This class represents an application-level handle to the OffLine Database that is used by a client to access the underlying physical connection. Siebel Host Connectors will call the `post(Object)` method of this connection to either fetch requests from the offline database when they do not want to run against the live host system, or they will call the `post(Object, Object)` method to store requests and responses in the offline database for later offline transactions. All objects sent through the `post()` method must be serializable, so that they can be stored offline. If they are not serializable then the `post()` method will return null, and requests will not be stored or fetched from the OffLine database. The OffLine connector writes and retrieves the objects passed into the `post()` methods as serializable `byte` streams to the OffLine Database. The `OffLineConnection` also provides a `close()` method that must be called when you are finished with the connection, so that it can be released back to the pool, or destroyed.

OffLineConnectionFactory. This class provides a means for an MCA Connector to obtain a connection to the OffLine Connector database. The `OffLineConnectionFactory` is instantiated by a Connector to enable access to the Offline Connector. The application then uses the `getConnection(String)` method to obtain an instance of the corresponding `EConnection` class.

The only parameter that needs to be passed in to the `getConnection(String)` method of the OffLine Connector is the `offlineMode` value. This value can be set to `disable`, `fetch`, or `store` (as described in the sections above). The `getConnection(String)` method for setting the OffLine Connector to store mode would be:

```
EConnection con = cf.getConnection("offlineMode=store");
```

When an MCA Connector calls the `post(Object)` method of the OffLine Connector, it will receive back the exact same type of object that it would expect to receive from the host or middleware system that it communicates with.

OffLineConnectionManager. This class acts as a resource manager for the OffLine Connector. It provides connection pooling and management for an application that is using multiple OffLine Connectors. The connection manager is initialized and associated with the connector at deploy time, and its execution is invisible to the developer during connector interaction. There are two settings in the `BankframeResource.properties` file for configuring the OffLine connection manager. The maxConnections setting lets you specify a maximum number of settings that you want the OffLine Connector to be allowed. Setting this to `0` will allow unlimited number of connections to be created by the connector (although, this is in turn limited by a `DataSource` and the connection pool settings that you have in your application server).

```
transactionHandler.connector.OffLineConnector.maxConnections=3
```

The `timeOut` setting lets you specify the amount of time to wait for a connection that is in use. If all of the connections in a pool are currently in use, the connector will wait for a period of `timeOut` seconds for a connection. If it does not obtain a connection when this time has expired, it will stop waiting and return `null`.

```
transactionHandler.connector.OffLineConnector.timeOut=10
```

OffLineConnectionPool. This class is a Connection Pool for the OffLine Connector. It stores and manages a series of physical (`EManaged`) connections to the offline database. This class is used in conjunction with the `OffLineConnectionManager`, for situations where a JDBC `DataSource` object is available from the application server. The `OffLineConnectionPool` is used by the `OffLineConnectionManager`, and its interaction with the connector is invisible to the user.

OffLineManagedConnection. This class is an implementation of the `EManagedConnection` class for the OffLine Connector. It represents the physical connection to the offline database. All interaction with the OffLine Connector should be through the `OffLineConnection`, and you should never need to use the `OffLineManagedConnection` directly.

OffLineManagedConnectionFactory. The `OffLineManagedConnectionFactory` class is a factory for `OffLineManagedConnection` instances. This class supports connection pooling by providing methods for the matching and creation of `OffLineManagedConnection` instances. All interaction with the OffLine Connector should be through the `OffLineConnection`, and you should never need to use the `OffLineManagedConnection` directly.

HTTPConnector

One of the pre-built connectors provided with MCA is the HTTPConnector. This connector is designed for connecting to systems over the HTTP protocol and can be used in a message based SOAP environment. It has one connection property: `URL_STRING`. Use the Financial Process Integration tool to config the `URL_STRING` connection property for the HTTPConnector.

XMLDataFormat

HTTPConnector uses XMLDataFormat to encode and decode the request for transport over HTTP. XMLDataFormat uses DPTPDomCodec to convert a Vector of DataPackets to and from an XML string.

When using DPTPDomCodec, XML validation should be disabled. To do this, set xml.parser.validating=false in the properties file BankframeResource.properties. The XMLDataFormat can transform the DPTPDomCodex XML string by applying an XML stylesheet. Different XSLT strings can be defined for requests and responses using the XSL_STYLESHEET column in REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT, RESPONSE_META_DATA and RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT tables. Note that for a request or response, because the XSLT will define the record structure, and the DPTPDomCodec will be used to convert to and from a Vector of DataPackets, there is only one record required in REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT, RESPONSE_META_DATA and RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT tables for each host request and response.

For example, RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT normally defines the response field positions and the RESPONSE_META_DATA is used to define the mapping of fields to DataPacket keys. Since the XSLT will define the response structure, and the DPTPDomCodec will be used to produce the Vector of DataPackets, there is only one record required for RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT with the TXN_CODE and XSL_STYLESHEET columns set. Other columns, while can have default values. Similarly, the RESPONSE_META_DATA also only requires one record with the TXN_CODE and XSL_STYLESHEET columsn set.

JCA Support

This section outlines how the MCA Financial Process Integrator facilitates support for JCA connectors. JCA is an open-ended specification for connecting to EIS systems from within an application server environment. JCA resource adapters are packaged within .rar files and deployed on an application server in the same way as EJBs or Web applications. Generally a middleware vendor will supply this resource adapter for interaction with their software. These resource adapters are likely to support connection management, transaction management and security management. To interact with an EIS via a resource adapter a client API is needed. This can be a standard API such as the Client Connection Interface (CCI) from JCA, or a proprietary API supplied by the middleware vender. It is at the discretion of the middleware vendor as to which API they support.

To demonstrate the potential use of JCA within the Financial Process Integrator, we have developed a simple resource adapter that mimics a resource adapter that is supplied by a middleware vendor. This is deployed in the application server. For this example the resource adapter will interact with a file containing customer data. This is the same file used by the customer search example. Only a brief examination of the resource adapter follows because in any real world scenario using JCA the resource adapter will be available from the middleware vendor, and its actual working should be hidden from a client developer.

Defining the Resource adapter

Below is a resource adapter deployment descriptor that is bundled within our .rar file. The important elements in this XML are the following tags:

`<managedconnectionfactory-class> -` This class will be the class that the application server interacts with to match requests to connections or to create new connections when required.

`<connectionfactory-interface> -` This is the interface that the above class implements.

`<connectionfactory-impl-class>` - This is the factory class that allows an application component to get a connection to the EIS. This class will be used by the managedconnectionfactory-class defined above to get the actual connection, thus handing over responsibility to the application server for connection pooling etc. An object of this type will be returned from the application when a component does a JNDI lookup on the connector component.

`<connection-interface>` - This is the interface that the connection class implements. It must contain a getConnection() method.

`<connection-impl-class>` - This is the class that provides connectivity to the EIS. This is got from the connectionfactory implementation class.

The complete descriptor follows:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>


<!DOCTYPE connector PUBLIC '-//Sun Microsystems, Inc.//DTD Connector 1.0//EN'
'http://java.sun.com/j2ee/dtds/connector_1_0.dtd'>


<connector>
    <display-name>Some JCA</display-name>
    <vendor-name>Some Vendor</vendor-name>
    <spec-version>1.0</spec-version>
    <eis-type>EIS definition</eis-type>
    <version>1.0</version>
    <resourceadapter>
        <managedconnectionfactory-
class>com.bankframe.jca.samplefileadapter.SampleManagedConnectionFactory</managed
connectionfactory-class>
        <connectionfactory-
interface>javax.resource.cci.ConnectionFactory</connectionfactory-interface>
        <connectionfactory-impl-
class>com.bankframe.jca.samplefileadapter.SampleConnectionFactory</connectionfact
ory-impl-class>
        <connection-interface>javax.resource.cci.Connection</connection-
interface>
        <connection-impl-
class>com.bankframe.jca.samplefileadapter.SampleConnection</connection-impl-
class>
        <transaction-support>NoTransaction</transaction-support>
```

```
        <authentication-mechanism>
            <authentication-mechanism-type>BasicPassword</authentication-
mechanism-type>
            <credential-
interface>javax.resource.security.PasswordCredential</credential-interface>
        </authentication-mechanism>
        <reauthentication-support>false</reauthentication-support>
    </resourceadapter>
</connector>
```

Interacting with the resource adapter

Since the adapter is a standard J2EE component it can be found via a JNDI lookup. When we perform a JNDI lookup on our resource adapter we will get a reference to the `ConnectionFactory` class. Using this class the application component (e.g. the Financial Process Integrator bean) can call the `getConnection()` method on the `ConnectionFactory` object. This will return an object with which the Financial Process Integrator can send requests to the EIS and receive responses. It should be noted that JCA supports asynchronous communication only.

For the sake of simplicity the sample resource adapter can be sent requests and receive responses in the form of `DataPacket`s. This is within the scope of the JCA specification as it doesn't restrict the resource adapter vendor to follow any specific interface. Rather it specifies that any interfaces that are used must contain at least a specific method, such as `getConnection()`, in the case of the `ConnectionFactory` class.

In order for the FPI to support a specific JCA adapter a data formatter class will have to be developed to format the data between `DataPacket`s and the correctly formatted request object needed to interact with the EIS through the resource adapter. For our sample JCA adapter we just deal with `DataPacket`s. This negates the need for a data formatter, as we can just pass the `DataPacket` request to the resource adapter, which will return a `DataPacket` response.

To demonstrate the use of JCA from an application component there is a JSP that will perform a JNDI lookup for the resource adapter and then send a request in `DataPacket` format, wait for a response and then display the response. This example demonstrates the core functionality of JCA.

Store and Forward

The Financial Process Integrator's Store and Forward framework provides the means to store transactions, e.g. in the event of a host going offline, in order to forward them to the host at a later time.

Refer also to the sample file `storeandforward.sql` supplied in the MCA Services `Install` folder.

This document describes a store and forward system that operates between the Siebel mid-tier (i.e. the Siebel Financial Components) and the host. The Store and Forward system will only enable the storing of data for update to the host, it will not store data retrieved from the host.

Overview

Determining if the host is offline

When a transaction fails to go to the host, the host is marked as offline and the transaction is stored for forwarding. The flow of execution is as follows:

- Each time a transaction is passed to the Financial Process Integrator it will attempt to send it to the host.
- The Financial Process Integrator will check with the host that it received the transaction.
- If the host did not receive the transaction or the host cannot be contacted then the transaction is stored for later forwarding and the host status will be set to offline.
- When a host is marked as offline it will remain marked as such for a specified period (e.g. 5 minutes). During that specified period no further attempts will be made to send transactions to that host; all transactions will instead be stored (except for transactions that are not permitted to be stored, these instead will result in an exception being thrown). This time period is configurable.
- When the time period has expired the forwarding mechanism will try to send the first entry on the queue to the host.
- If the first entry is forwarded successfully then the host is determined to be back online. The host status will be set to read-only and the forwarding thread will commence forwarding all stored transactions in batches. This batch figure will be configurable.
- If the first entry is not forwarded successfully then the forwarder will wait for the time period mentioned above, and then attempt to forward the first entry again. It will repeat this process until the host comes back online.
- When the store has been emptied of stored transactions the host will be marked online.
- When the host is forwarding the transactions those which are completed successfully will be added to the `SUCCESSFUL_TRANSACTION` table while those transactions which return an error from the host will be added to the `ERROR_TRANSACTION` table.

Host Status

The host has three states; these are:

ON_LINE

When the host status is set to `ON_LINE` all transactions are processed normally.

OFF_LINE

When the host status is set to `OFF_LINE` any read transactions will throw an exception while write transactions will be stored to be forwarded later.

FORCE_OFF_LINE

When the host is set to `FORCE_OFF_LINE` any read transactions will throw an exception while write transactions will be stored to be forwarded later. This ensures that when the host is set offline no attempts will be made to check if the host is back online until it has been set to online.

Host Operation types

The Financial Process Integrator Meta data must identify which transactions are read transactions and which transactions are write transactions.

Read transactions

- Read transactions cannot be carried out when the host is offline.
- Read transactions should not be stored if the host is offline, an exception should be thrown if an attempt is made to carry out a read transaction when the host is offline.
- Read transactions should become available as soon as the host comes back online.

Write transactions

- Write transactions cannot be carried out when the host is offline, but it is permissible to store some kinds of write transactions when the host is offline, and forward them when the host is back online.

Destination Entity Bean

To determine which Siebel Connector to instantiate and which Connector properties to use the `Destination` entity bean is queried. The `DESTINATION` table has been extended to include a new field; `HOST_STATUS`, which is used by the Financial Components and the Persister to check if the host is online.

The `HOST_STATUS` field has three settings:

- `ON_LINE`: host is online - transactions carried out normally.
- `OFF_LINE`: host is offline - transactions are either stored or an offline exception is thrown.
- `FORCE_OFF_LINE`: host is set to offline - no transactions will be sent to the host until the host is set back to online.

DestinationEjbMap Entity Bean

The Financial Components will need to know if the host is online or offline so they can apply the appropriate business logic. In order to do this it must be able to match the EJB and method called to the host destination, to do this it uses the `DESTINATION_EJB_MAP` table. Using the method name and the `JNDI` name the `isHostOnline()` method in the `StoreAndForwardUtils` class retrieves the host destination. The `DESTINATION_EJB_MAP` table also contains details of the host operation type; whether the transaction is read or write, and a setting for backwards compatibility. When current versions of existing Financial Components are updated to add Store and Forward functionality they must be guaranteed to be able to be configured to work exactly as they used to work, i.e. any new version of a

Financial Component with no change apart from support for store and forward behavior must continue to work identically to the older version. This means the call to the Financial Process Integrator to determine if the host is online must always return true (even if the host is not online), to assure the online business logic is always invoked. This is done by setting the `ALWAYS_ONLINE` field to `Y`. The `STOREABLE` field is used to check if a transaction, that was initiated when the host was online but now encounters an offline host, should be stored, or if a `HostOfflineException` should be thrown instead. The `DestinationEjbMap` solution set layer is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.destinationejbmap` package and its implementation is in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.impl.destinationejbmap` package.

EJB_NAME	EJB_ OPERATION	DESTINATION_ ID	OPERATION_ TYPE	STOREABLE	ALWAYS_ ONLINE
eontec.bp. retail. customersearch	retrieveCustomerDetailsByAccountNumberAndBranchCode	C0004	READ	N	N

Store and Forward Classes and Package Structure

The Store and Forward solution is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward` package and its implementation is in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward.impl` package.

StoreAndForwardConstants

The Constants class for Store and Forward is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward` package.

StoreAndForwardUtils

This class provides utility methods for allowing Financial Processes to use the store and forward features of the Financial Process Integrator and is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward` package.

It contains the following methods:

`isHostOnline(String ejbName, String ejbOperation)`	This method takes two `String`s, containing the name of the calling EJB and the name of the method, and determines if the host(s) used by the specified transaction is/are online.
`isHostOnline(String ejbName, String ejbOperation, String companyCode)`	As above except it also takes a `String` containing the company code.

setOffline()	This method is used to force the host offline by setting the hostStatus to FORCE_OFF_LINE.
setOnline()	This method is used to update the host destinations to ON_LINE.
transactionStoreable(String ejbName, String ejbOperation)	This method determines if the specified transaction can be stored if the host goes offline, after it was initiated online.

isHostOnline() methods

This method allows the Financial Components to ascertain the host status when initiating a transaction in order to use the correct set of business rules as often differing rules will apply to online and offline transactions. In order to check the host status the isHostOnline() method is passed the name of the calling EJB and the name of the method being called. Using these values the method performs a look up on the DESTINATION_EJB_MAP table to get the host(s) destination(s) for the transaction as well as the transaction type. The method then performs the following checks:

- If the ALWAYS_ONLINE value is set to Y then true is returned
- If the transactionHandler.storeAndForward.status setting in the BankframeResource.Properties is set OFF_LINE and the operation type is WRITE then false is returned or if the operation type is READ a HostOfflineException is thrown
- If the DESTINATION hostStatus is ON_LINE true is returned
- If the DESTINATION hostStatus is OFF_LINE and the operation type is WRITE false is returned or if the operation type is READ a HostOfflineException is thrown
- If the DESTINATION hostStatus is READ_ONLY and the operation type is WRITE false is returned or if the operation type is READ true is returned

InternalStoreAndForwardUtils

This class provides utility methods for use by the Store and Forward features of the Financial Process Integrator and is located in the com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward.impl package.

It contains the following methods:

addToStore(DataPacket txnData)	This method takes a DataPacket of request data and adds it to the store using the StoreQueueBean.
convertSortedSetToString(SortedSet set)	This method is a convenience method to convert a sorted set to a String that can be passed over HTTP using the channel management API. This is only to be used by Store and Forward because it assumes that the objects in the set are all of type Integer.
convertStringToSortedSet(String	This method is a convenience method to convert a String back to a sorted set. This

string)	is only to be used by Store and Forward because it assumes that the objects in the set are all of type Integer.
getNextSequenceNo(String sequencePk)	This method takes a String containing a primary key value to retrieve the next sequence number from the SequenceGeneratorBean. It does this by getting the current sequence number value and incrementing it by one then updating the table with the new value. Returns an int.
hostDestinationStatus()	This method checks to see if any of the host destinations in the DESTINATION table have been set to OFF_LINE or FORCE_OFF_LINE, if so it returns same, otherwise it returns ON_LINE. Returns a String containing the host status. (This method only checks the destination table).
hostOnline()	This method is used to determine the host status. It returns true if the host is online or false if it is offline.
resetSequenceNo(String sequencePk)	This method is used to reset the sequence number on the SequenceGeneratorBean initializing it back to 0.
setAllDestinations(String status)	This method takes a String containing a status to update all the host destinations with.
updateDestination(String txnCode, String txnType)	This method is used to update the host destination to OFF_LINE when a HostConnectivityException is encountered.

StoreTransactionBean

The host transactions are stored in a database table called STORE_TRANSACTION which is mapped by the StoreTransactionBean. The implementation of this bean is located in the package com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward.impl.storetransaction.

The request DataPacket is converted to a string to be stored using the DPTPCodec which is also used to convert it back into a DataPacket.

SEQUENCE_NO	TIMESTAMP	REQUEST_TRANSACTION	BATCHED_FOR_FORWARD
Sequence number of the transaction.	Timestamp when the transaction is added to the store.	A string containing the request transaction details.	Boolean value which indicates if the transaction has already been added to a forwarding batch.

StoreQueueBean

This session bean is responsible for processing the transactions contained in the store. The implementation of this bean is located in the package `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward.impl.storequeue`. It contains the following methods:

`addTransactionToCompleted(int sequenceNo)`	This method removes the transaction from the store queue and adds the transaction to the successful queue, with the given sequence number.
`addTransactionToError(int sequenceNo)`	This method removes the transaction from the store queue and adds it to the error queue, with the given sequence number.
`createStoredTransaction(Vector request)`	This method adds a new transaction to the store queue.
`findAllErrorTransactions()`	This method will find all the transactions on the error queue.
`findAllSuccessfulTransactions()`	This method will find all the transactions on the successful queue.
`isStoreEmpty()`	This method will determine if the store has transactions in it.
`removeTransactionFromError(int sequenceNo)`	This method removes the transaction from the error queue with the given `sequenceNo`.
`removeTransactionFromSuccessful(int sequenceNo)`	This method removes the transaction from the successful queue with the given `sequenceNo`.
`findAllStoredTransactions()`	This method will find all the transactions on the store queue.
`findNextStoredTransaction()`	This method will return the transaction at the head of the store queue.
`findStoredTransactionBySequenceNo(int sequenceNo)`	This method performs a lookup on the Store queue by `sequenceNo`.
`findStoredTransactionsInTimePeriod(long startTime, long endTime)`	This method performs a lookup on the store queue for a specified time period.
`nextStoredTransactionBatch()`	This method will returns a `Vector` containing a `"-"` delimited String of Sequence Numbers to be forwarded in the batch. This method also updates the `BATCHED_FOR_FORWARD` flag on the `STORE_TRANSACTION` from false to true

	to prevent the transaction from being added to any additional batches.

CompletedForwardTransactionBean

The completed host transactions are stored in a database table mapped by the `CompletedForwardTransactionBean`. There are two implementations of this bean located in the packages:
`com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward.completedforwardtransaction.impl.successfultransaction` and
`com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.storeandforward.completedforwardtransaction.impl.errortransaction`

SuccessfulTransactionBean

This entity maps to the `SUCCESSFUL_TRANSACTION` database and is used to record successfully forwarded transactions.

SEQUENCE_NO	STORED_TIMESTAMP	COMPLETED_TIMESTAMP	REQUEST_TRANSACTION
Sequence number of the transaction.	Timestamp when the transaction is added to the store.	Timestamp when the transaction was forwarded successfully to the host.	A string containing the request transaction details.

ErrorTransactionBean

This entity maps to the `ERROR_TRANSACTION` database and is used to record host transactions which return a `ProcessingErrorException` when forwarded to the host.

SEQUENCE_NO	STORED_TIMESTAMP	ERROR_TIMESTAMP	REQUEST_TRANSACTION
Sequence number of the transaction.	Timestamp when the transaction is added to the store.	Timestamp when the transaction was forwarded erroneously to the host.	A string containing the request transaction details.

ForwardTransactionBean

This session bean is responsible for coordinating the forwarding of the stored host transactions. It is responsible for initiating the host status monitor and once the host is back online starting a thread to forward all the transactions. It contains the following methods:

`forwardAll(String threadName)`	This method takes a `String` containing the name to call the Forwarding thread. It is used to forward all the transactions to the host. It will terminate when the queue is empty or if the queue goes offline.
`forwardAll(String threadName, int rate)`	This method takes a `String` containing the name to call the Forwarding thread and an `int` value which is the time interval to wait

	between each batch of transactions it forwards to the host. It will terminate when the queue is empty or if the queue goes offline.
`forwardSingle(String threadName, int sequenceNumber)`	This method takes a `String` containing the name to call the Forwarding thread. It will forward an individual request identified by the `sequenceNumber` from the queue.
`forwardSubset(String threadName, SortedSet transactions, int rate)`	This method takes a `String` containing the name to call the Forwarding thread. It will forward a `SortedSet` of stored transactions to the host in batches using the given time interval.
`setMonitorStatus(int rate)`	This method will set the status of the host monitor. This method assigns the rate parameter as the number of milliseconds to delay between each try to forward a request to the store. If this is set to `-1` then the monitor is suspended.

ForwardOperationsBean

This session bean is responsible for controlling the rate at which transactions are forwarded to the host. It contains the following methods:

`forwardNextRequest()`	This method will try and forward the request transaction at the head of the store queue. When the host is offline this method is used to check if it has gone back online by sending the request to the host and checking if it has been successfully sent.
`forwardRequest(int sequenceNumber)`	This method will try and forward a transaction by `sequenceNumber`.
`isStoreEmpty()`	This method will test if there are any requests on the store.
`updateDestination(String status)`	This method will amend the online/offline status of the destination associated with the transaction at the head of the store queue.

HostStatusMonitor

This thread class monitors the connection to the host system. It is used with the store class to determine whether requests in the store can be released to the host system. Every n seconds the thread will attempt to send a request to the host system. This will only happen if the store is non-empty. The class has the following constructors:

`HostStatusMonitor()`	Default `HostStatusMonitor` constructor. It reads the `BankframeResource.properties` file for the monitor delay value.
`HostStatusMonitor(int delay)`	`HostStatusMonitor` constructor. This constructor takes an `int` value for the monitor delay.

And contains the following methods:

`run()`	This method will check if the store is empty every n seconds. If it is and the host status is currently offline, then it tries to send a request from the store to the host system. If this request is successful then the online attribute of the destination entity corresponding to that host is set to true.
`setDelay(int newDelay)`	This method sets the time that the thread waits between checking the host status.
`start()`	This method starts the monitor thread at the lowest priority.
`stop()`	This method will shut down the thread.

ForwardingThread

This thread class will attempt to send a request to the host system. This class has the following constructors:

`ForwardingThread()`	Forwarding thread constructor. This constructor reads the delay time from the `BankFrameResource.properties` file and is set to forward all transactions in the store.
`ForwardingThread(int delay)`	Forwarding thread constructor. This constructor takes the delay time from the passed parameter and is set to forward all transactions in the store.
`ForwardingThread(SortedSet list)`	Forwarding thread constructor. This constructor takes the delay time from the `BankframeResource.properties` file and is set to forward a passed subset of transactions in the store.
`ForwardingThread(SortedSet list, int delay)`	Forwarding thread constructor. This constructor takes the delay time from the passed parameter and is set to forward a passed subset of transactions in the store.

It contains the following methods.

forwardAll(ForwardOperations operations)	This method will forward all the transactions in the store delaying for the specified delay time between each forward.
forwardSubset(ForwardOperations operations)	This method will forward a subset of the transactions in the store, delaying for the specified time between each forward.
run()	This method forwards transactions from the store.
start()	This method starts the forwarding thread at the lowest priority.

Forcing the host online or offline

It must be possible to force the status of a host to online or offline. This is required for the following reasons:

- To test the store and forward functionality. Since a host is not available for testing, it must be possible to manually force the host online or offline.
- For maintenance reasons. The Financial Institution may want to restrict access to certain hosts to carry out maintenance on the host. The Financial Institution will want to be able to do this in an orderly manner.

The forwarding process should not be invoked and transactions should not attempt to be sent until the host has been forced back online. There are two `set…()` methods in the `StoreAndForwardUtils` class for setting the host either offline or online. The `setOffline()` method updates all the host destinations with a `hostStatus` of `FORCE_OFF_LINE`, this will ensure that the forwarding process will not be invoked until the `setOnline()` method has been used to set all the `hostStatus` back to `ON_LINE`.

Exceptions

To apply the appropriate business logic the Financial Component must determine at the start of execution of the Financial Component whether the host is online or offline. Three new exception classes that extend the `ProcessingErrorException` class were added to MCA for Store and Forward:

HostConnectivityException

This class is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler` package and is thrown when the Financial Process Integrator fails to connect to the host.

HostOfflineException

This class is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler` package. There are two instances when this exception will be thrown:

- At the start of execution the host is determined to be online, but when the Financial Process Integrator attempts to post the transaction the host is offline. In this case the Financial Component will have applied the ‘online’ business rules, but the host is offline, however online transactions should never be stored.
- When the host is offline and a read transaction is attempted against the host.

HostProcessingErrorException

This class is located in the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler` package and is thrown when the host returns an error response.

BankframeResource.properties settings

A number of new settings have been added to the `BankframeResource.properties` file for Store and Forward. In order to locate them search for the following key:

```
# Transaction Handler Store and Forward Settings
```

The settings are as follows:

transactionHandler.storeAndForward.forwardingDelay

This setting is used by the default constructor of the `ForwardingThread` to set the time interval, in milliseconds, between batches being sent to the host:

```
transactionHandler.storeAndForward.forwardingDelay=2000
```

transactionHandler.storeAndForward.hostStatusDelay

This setting is used by the default constructor of the `HostStatusMonitor` to set the time interval, in milliseconds, to wait between checks on the host status:

```
transactionHandler.storeAndForward.hostStatusDelay=30000
```

transactionHandler.storeAndForward.url

This setting is used to specify the URL of the `ForwardTransactionServlet`

```
transactionHandler.storeAndForward.url=http://localhost:7001/ForwardTransactionSe
rvlet
```

transactionHandler.storeAndForward.startHostMonitorAutomatically

This setting is used to specify whether or not the `HostStatusMonitor` starts up automatically when the App server is started or not. It can have a setting of either `true` or `false`.

```
transactionHandler.storeAndForward.startHostMonitorAutomatically=true
```

transactionHandler.storeAndForward.nextTransactionBatchAmount

This setting is used to specify the amount of transactions the `ForwardingThread` is to forward in a batch:

```
transactionHandler.storeAndForward.nextTransactionBatchAmount=50
```

Implementing Store and Forward

It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the Siebel Financial Process Integrator and EJB lifecycle before reading this document.

StoreAndForwardPersister

This persister class extends from the `TxnPersister` class. The class overwrites the `TxnPersisters processTxnRequest()` and the `amend()` method.

processTxnRequest(EBMPEntity entityBean, DataPacket txnData, String cachePolicy)

This protected method is called by the `find()` method. It is responsible for passing the transaction details to the Financial Process Integrator, receiving the response, placing it in the cache and returning an enumeration of primary keys. The `StoreAndForwardPersister` version also checks the host status against the host status when the transaction was initiated, this is so the persister will know whether to store the transaction, send it to the host or throw an exception.

```
protected Enumeration processTxnRequest(EBMPEntity entityBean, DataPacket txnData,
String cachePolicy) throws ProcessingErrorException {

    try {

        Vector entityPk = new Vector();

        String txnCode = txnData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_CODE);

           String hostStatus =
   txnData.getString(StoreAndForwardConstants.HOST_ONLINE_STATUS);


        if (StoreAndForwardUtils.hostOnline()) {

                if ((txnCode == null) ||
txnCode.equalsIgnoreCase(TransactionHandlerConstants.FIELD_NA)) {

              // do nothing

        }

              else {

//Get an instance of the transaction handler and send the transaction //data to the
processFindRequest() method.

                     TransactionHandler transactionHandler = this.getTxnHandler();

                     try {

                         map = transactionHandler.processFindRequest(txnData);

                     }

                     catch (HostProcessingErrorException hpex) {
```

```
                        throw new ProcessingErrorException(hpex);
                    }
                    catch (HostConnectivityException hcex) {
                        BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.DEBUG,
   BankFrameLogConstants.TXNHANDLER_SUBSYSTEM, "Store Persister::processTxnRequest::
   HostConnectivityException");
                        StoreAndForwardUtils.updateDestination(txnCode,
   txnData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_TYPE),
   StoreAndForwardConstants.OFF_LINE);
                        throw new ProcessingErrorException(new
   BankFrameMessage(HOST_OFFLINE_EXCEPTION));
                    }
            boolean persistant;
//Before caching the data check to see if it is persistent or not. //Persistent
data will be written to a database as well as to memory.
            if
(cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.CACHE_PERSISTENT)) {
                persistant = true;
            }
            else if
(cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.CACHE_NON_PERSISTENT) ||
cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.NOT_CACHED)) {
                persistant = false;
            }
            else {
                //throw an exception
            }
//get the timeout value for the data and then store it in the cache.
            long timeOutValue = new
Long(txnData.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.TIME_OUT_VALUE)).longValue();
            this.storeInCache(map, timeOutValue, persistant);


//Process the keys of the map returned from the transaction handler to //return an
enumeration of primary keys.
            Set keys = map.keySet();
            Enumeration enum = Collections.enumeration(keys);
            while (enum.hasMoreElements()) {
                EPrimaryKey pk = entityBean.createPrimaryKey((DataPacket)
enum.nextElement());
                if (pk != null) {
                    entityPk.addElement(pk);
                }
            }
```

```
        }
        return new IteratorEnumeration(entityPk.iterator());
        }
           else {
               BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.DEBUG,
   BankFrameLogConstants.TXNHANDLER_SUBSYSTEM, "TxnPersister::processTxnRequest::
   offline");
               throw new ProcessingErrorException(new
   BankFrameMessage(HOST_OFFLINE_EXCEPTION));
        }    catch (CreateException ce) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(ce);
    }
    catch (RemoteException re) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
    }
}
```

amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket data, Vector primaryKeys, boolean removeOperation)

The protected `amend()` method is called by the persister's `amend…()` method. The `amend()` method checks if the transaction policy is set to `CACHE_ONLY`, if it is then it will only update the cache, otherwise it adds the transaction code and the transaction type to a `DataPacket` containing the entity bean's update attributes and sends the `DataPacket` to the Financial Process Integrator. It also takes a `boolean` value which indicates if a remove operation is to be carried out on the host or from the cache. The `amend()` method is used for updating some or all of an entity's attributes. The `StoreAndForwardPersister` version also checks the current host status against the host status when the transaction was initiated, this is so the persister will know whether to store the transaction, send it to the host or throw an exception.

```
protected void amend(EBMPEntity entityBean, String methodName, DataPacket data, Vector
primaryKeys, boolean removeOperation) throws ProcessingErrorException,
HostOfflineException, HostConnectivityException {

    //DataPacket of data to be updated on the host
    DataPacket update = new DataPacket(data.DATA_PACKET_NAME);
    //Get txnCode and txnType from PERSISTER_TXN_MAP
    DataPacket amendData = this.mapTxn(entityBean.getEntityName(), methodName);
    String txnCode = amendData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_CODE);
    String txnType = amendData.getString(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_TYPE);
    long timeOutValue = new
Long(amendData.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.TIME_OUT_VALUE)).longValue();
    //the host status when the transaction was initiated
    String hostTransactionStatus =
data.getString(StoreAndForwardConstants.HOST_ONLINE_STATUS);
    try {

        update.append(update, data);
        //Add txnCode and txnType
        update.put(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_CODE, txnCode);
        update.put(TransactionHandlerConstants.TXN_TYPE, txnType);
```

```
        //check the host online status
        String hostOnlineStatus = StoreAndForwardUtils.hostOnline();
        boolean storeable = StoreAndForwardUtils.transactionStoreable(txnCode,
txnType);
        //if the host is offline and an offline transaction was initiated store the
transaction
        if (hostOnlineStatus == StoreAndForwardConstants.OFF_LINE &&
hostTransactionStatus == StoreAndForwardConstants.OFF_LINE) {
            StoreAndForwardUtils.addToStore(update);
        }
        //if an online transaction was initiated but the host is offline
        else if (hostOnlineStatus == StoreAndForwardConstants.OFF_LINE &&
hostTransactionStatus == StoreAndForwardConstants.ON_LINE) {
            throw new HostOfflineException(new
BankFrameMessage(HOST_OFFLINE_EXCEPTION));
        }
        //otherwise forward the transaction to the host
        else {
            if (getIgnoreHost(txnCode) == false) {

                TransactionHandler transactionHandler = this.getTxnHandler();

                try {
                    transactionHandler.processRequest(update);
                }
                catch (HostProcessingErrorException hpex) {
                    throw new ProcessingErrorException(hpex);
                }
                catch (HostConnectivityException hcex) {
                    StoreAndForwardUtils.updateDestination(txnCode, txnType,
StoreAndForwardConstants.OFF_LINE);
                    throw new HostConnectivityException(new
BankFrameMessage(HOST_CONNECTIVITY_EXCEPTION));
                }
            }

            if (removeOperation || getRemoveFromCache()) {
                this.removeFromCache(primaryKeys);
            }
            else {
                //put data into a map (same data used for each primary key):
                Map entityMap = new HashMap();
                for (int index = 0; index < primaryKeys.size(); index++) {
                    entityMap.put(primaryKeys.elementAt(index), data);
                }
                String cachePolicy =
amendData.getString(PersisterTxnMapConstants.CACHE_POLICY);
                boolean bCachePolicy =
(cachePolicy.equalsIgnoreCase(TxnPersisterConstants.CACHE_PERSISTENT)) ? true : false;
                this.storeInCache(entityMap, timeOutValue, bCachePolicy);
            }
        }
    }
    catch (CreateException ce) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(ce);
    }
    catch (RemoteException re) {
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(re);
    }
```

```
}
```

Teller Example of Store and Forward

One of the Financial Components of Teller to be enhanced with Store and Forward is Deposit. The changes to the deposit component are as follows:

TransactionDetails

The BMP version of this bean was written implementing the `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPEntity` interface, for details on this please refer to the Persister documentation. A new variable `hostOnLineStatus` was added to the BMP class to pass along the host status at the time the transaction was initiated. This variable is used to determine if the transaction should be processed or if a `HostOfflineException` should be thrown, depending on the host status.

IsSystemAvailabilityBean

This session bean is used to interact with the `StoreAndForwardUtils` class to ascertain the host status. It contains the following two methods:

- `imIsHostOnline(String sessionName, String processName, String companyCode)` this method is used to check if the Host is offline or online.
- `imIsTransactionStoreable(String sessionName, String processName)` this method is used to check whether or not a transaction can be stored.

IsMakeDeposit

This has been changed to throw new transaction handler exceptions: `HostConnectivityException` and `HostOfflineException`.

MakeDeposit

The `makeDepositBC` method was updated as follows: to process an online transaction when `true` is returned from the `imIsHostOnline()` method and to process an offline transaction when `false` is returned from the `imIsHostOnline()` method. One of the requirements for Store and Forward is the status of the host at the time the transaction was initiated. If the host was online when the transaction was started but has subsequently gone offline either a `HostConnectivityException` or a `HostOfflineException` will be thrown. In the example below these exceptions are caught and if the transaction is storeable then an offline transaction is sent to the host, otherwise the exception is re-thrown.

```
public Vector makeDepositBC(FinancialTransactionCommonAttributesVO
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO, FinancialTransactionDestinationAccountVO
financialTransactionDestinationAccountVO, Vector
financialTransactionNegotiableInstrumentVOVector) throws
ProcessingErrorException, ValidationException, HostOfflineException,
HostConnectivityException {
```

```
    Vector batchStateMessageVector = new Vector();

    try {

           //check the host status

        this.online =
this.getIsSystemAvailability().imIsHostOnline(MakeDepositHome.JNDI_LOOKUP_NAME,
"makeDepositBC",
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO.getCompanyCode()).booleanValue();

        //if the host is online try to send an online request

        if (online) {

       this.getUserAdministration().imIsUserValidForOperation(
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO.getCompanyCode(),
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO.getUserId(),
com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getValueInList(0,
TellerConstantsKeysImpl.TASK_ID_MAKE_DEPOSIT_ONLINE).toString(),
DataTypeConvertor.getDouble(com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getText(TellerConstantsKe
ysImpl.DEFAULT_LIMIT_VALUE_TEXT)));

            try {

                batchStateMessageVector =
this.getIsMakeDeposit().imMakeOnlineDepositBC(financialTransactionCommonAttribute
sVO, financialTransactionDestinationAccountVO,
financialTransactionNegotiableInstrumentVOVector, "ON_LINE");

            }

         //if a HostConnectivityException is returned then check if

        //the transaction is storeable

            catch (HostConnectivityException hex) {

                if
(this.getIsSystemAvailability().imIsTransactionStoreable(MakeDepositHome.JNDI_LOO
KUP_NAME, "makeDepositBC").booleanValue()) {
```

```
this.getUserAdministration().imIsUserValidForOperation(financialTransactionCommon
AttributesVO.getCompanyCode(),
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO.getUserId(),
com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getValueInList(0,
TellerConstantsKeysImpl.TASK_ID_MAKE_DEPOSIT_OFFLINE).toString(),
DataTypeConvertor.getDouble(com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getText(TellerConstantsKe
ysImpl.DEFAULT_LIMIT_VALUE_TEXT)));
                    batchStateMessageVector =
this.getIsMakeDeposit().imMakeOfflineDepositBC(financialTransactionCommonAttribut
esVO, financialTransactionDestinationAccountVO,
financialTransactionNegotiableInstrumentVOVector, "OFF_LINE");
                }
                else
                    throw new HostConnectivityException(hex);


            }
        //if a HostOfflineException is returned then check if the
        //transaction is storeable
            catch (HostOfflineException hex) {
                if
(this.getIsSystemAvailability().imIsTransactionStoreable(MakeDepositHome.JNDI_LOO
KUP_NAME, "makeDepositBC").booleanValue()) {

this.getUserAdministration().imIsUserValidForOperation(financialTransactionCommon
AttributesVO.getCompanyCode(),
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO.getUserId(),
com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getValueInList(0,
TellerConstantsKeysImpl.TASK_ID_MAKE_DEPOSIT_OFFLINE).toString(),
DataTypeConvertor.getDouble(com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getText(TellerConstantsKe
ysImpl.DEFAULT_LIMIT_VALUE_TEXT)));
                    batchStateMessageVector =
this.getIsMakeDeposit().imMakeOfflineDepositBC(financialTransactionCommonAttribut
esVO, financialTransactionDestinationAccountVO,
financialTransactionNegotiableInstrumentVOVector, "OFF_LINE");
```

```
                }
                else
                    throw new HostOfflineException(hex);

            }
        }
        //if the host is offline send an offline request
        else if (!online) {

this.getUserAdministration().imIsUserValidForOperation(financialTransactionCommon
AttributesVO.getCompanyCode(),
financialTransactionCommonAttributesVO.getUserId(),
com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getValueInList(0,
TellerConstantsKeysImpl.TASK_ID_MAKE_DEPOSIT_OFFLINE).toString(),
DataTypeConvertor.getDouble(com.bankframe.bfa.Constants.getText(TellerConstantsKe
ysImpl.DEFAULT_LIMIT_VALUE_TEXT)));
            batchStateMessageVector =
this.getIsMakeDeposit().imMakeOfflineDepositBC(financialTransactionCommonAttribut
esVO, financialTransactionDestinationAccountVO,
financialTransactionNegotiableInstrumentVOVector, "OFF_LINE");
        }
    }
    catch (RemoteException remoteException) {
        //throw new
ProcessingErrorException(TellerErrorNumberImpl.REMOTE_EXCEPTION_NUMBER, new
String[] { "MakeDeposit", "makeDepositBC" });
        throw new ProcessingErrorException(remoteException);
    }
    return batchStateMessageVector;
}
```

MaintainFinancialTransaction

Has been changed to throw new transaction handler exceptions; `HostConnectivityException` and `HostOfflineException`.

About Branch Teller Offline Transaction Processing

This section provides an overview of Branch Teller Offline Transaction Processing. A transaction is written to the store is if the host is offline or if a HostConnectivityException is encountered. The session EJBs should be coded as per the MakeDeposit example.

Processing a Timeout between Siebel Retail Finance and the Host System

If there is a timeout between Siebel Retail Finance and the host system it should be detected when the connector tries to post the transaction. It should throw a ProcessingErrorException which is converted to a HostConnectivityException. If you are using the StoreAndForwardPersister then this HostConnectivityException is caught and it marks the host as offline. You need to use the StoreAndForwardPersister if you want to use level two offline support. If a new connector is developed it should throw an exception if it cannot post the transaction correctly.

Store and Forward Mid-Tier Processing when the Host is Offline

The host will be marked as offline by the StoreAndForwardPersister. The mid-tier session has to be written to take a different path depending on whether the host is offline or online. The MakeDeposit session in the MCA Services Developer guide provides a good example.

Processing Failed Stored Transactions

If a stored transaction fails it is written to an error queue. The custom implementation will determine how the transaction in the error queue is handled.

Financial Process Integrator Examples

Extracting the Source Code for the FPI Examples

The source code for the FPI examples referred to in this section is provided on the software CD for reference as follows:

- If you have licensed the Siebel Retail Finance banking application the FPI example files are available on the Common Software Resources CD, typically located at `siebel\Common\mcaresources\examples.jar`.
- If you have licensed Siebel Foundation Services the FPI example files are available on the Foundation Services CD, typically located at `FoundationServices\examples\examples.jar`

This source code is for reference purposes only and should not be amended.

Launching the FPI Examples

To launch the Financial Process Integrator examples, the application server must be configured and the EAR must be deployed. For a banking application deployment refer to the banking application installation guide. For a Foundation Services deployment refer to the MCA Services installation guide.

The Financial Process Integrator examples can be launched from the following URL:

http://localhost:<port_number>/BankFrameMCA/CustomerSearchServlet

The CustomerSearch Example

This section illustrates how the Financial Process Integrator works using two entity beans and a session bean:

Name	EJB Type	Description
`Address`	Entity	Models the common attributes of a postal address
`Customer`	Entity	Models the name attributes of a customer
`CustomerSearch`	Session	Searches for `Customer` instances and their associated `Address` instances Allows `Customer` and `Address` details to be amended

These examples illustrate the following:

- How entity beans interact with the persister
- How the persister interacts with the Financial Process Integrator
- How to configure the Financial Process Integrator meta-data
- How to configure the Financial Process Integrator routes and destinations

Scope

It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the best practices for modeling entity beans and session beans.

The Address Entity EJB

The `Address` entity has the following attributes:

Attribute	Description
`ownerId`	The ID of the entity that the address belongs to

Attribute	Description
addressLine1	The first line of the address
addressLine2	The second line of the address
addressLine3	The third line of the address
addressLine4	The fourth line of the address
country	The country of the address
postcode	The postal code

The Customer Entity EJB

The Customer entity has the following attributes:

Attribute	Description
ownerId	The customer's unique ID number
title	The customer's formal title
firstName	The customer's first name
lastName	The customer's last name

Relationship between the Customer and Address Entity EJBs

Every Customer entity must have an associated Address entity. This means that a Customer entity cannot exist without having a corresponding Address entity. We say that the existence of an Address entity is dependent on the existence of a Customer entity.

Each Customer entity has a unique ownerId attribute. For each Customer entity there will be a corresponding Address entity whose ownerId is equal to the Customer's ownerId attribute.

The CustomerSearch Session EJB

The CustomerSearch session EJB must be able to:

- Find a Customer by ownerId
- Find one or more Customers by last name
- Find one or more Customers by first name. This finder method uses cache indexing as there is no corresponding host transaction to do a lookup by customer first name. The example configuration has the response from find by last name being indexed by first name.
- Amend Customer details, including Address details.

Interfacing the Entities with the Financial Process Integrator

Below we will describe how we have modelled the `Address` entity bean, concentrating on issues relevant to connecting the entity bean to the Financial Process Integrator.

com.bankframe.examples.impl.address.AddressBMPBean

This class is the Bean Managed Persistence (BMP) implementation of the `Address` entity bean.

This class must persist its attributes to/from the host system.

EBMPEntity Methods

As described previously all BMP entity beans must implement the

`com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPEntity` interface. Below we will describe how `AddressBMPBean` implements each of the methods defined in the `EBMPEntity` interface.

createPrimaryKey()

```
public EPrimaryKey createPrimaryKey(DataPacket dp) throws
ProcessingErrorException {
  if ( dp.getName().equals("ADDRESS") ) {
    return new AddressPK(dp.getString("OWNER_ID"));
  } else {
    return null;
  }
}
```

This method must create an instance of the entity bean's primary key type from the information in the supplied `DataPacket`. The method must check that the `DataPacket` being passed in is of the correct type, i.e. that the `DataPacket` name matches the entity bean's name.

getEntityName()

```
public String getEntityName() {
  return AddressHome.JNDI_NAME;
}
```

This method must provide a `String` that uniquely identifies this *type* of entity bean. By convention this name must be the JNDI name of the entity bean.

getPersister()

```
public EPersister getPersister() {
  try {
```

```
      return EPersisterFactory.getPersister(this.getEntityName());
    } catch ( ProcessingErrorException pex ) {
      BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.WARN, "BANKFRAME.MCA",pex);
      throw new RuntimeException(pex.getMessage());
    }
  }
```

This method must return an instance of the persister object to be used for persisting this entity bean. This method delegates the task of locating the persister to the `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EPersisterFactory` class. This enables the persister used by an entity bean to be changed without having to recompile or re-deploy the entity bean. Note that all BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

getPrimaryKey()

```
public EPrimaryKey getPrimaryKey() {
  return (EPrimaryKey)this.ctx.getPrimaryKey();
}
```

This method must return an instance of this entity bean instance's primary key object. The primary key for each entity bean instance is stored in the entity bean's `EntityContext`, so this method just returns the primary key reference stored in the `EntityContext`. Note that all BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

populate()

```
public void populate(DataPacket dp) {
  this.ownerId = dp.getString("OWNER_ID");
  this.addressLine1 = dp.getString("ADDRESS_LINE1");
  this.addressLine2 = dp.getString("ADDRESS_LINE2");
  this.addressLine3 = dp.getString("ADDRESS_LINE3");
  this.addressLine4 = dp.getString("ADDRESS_LINE4");
  this.country = dp.getString("COUNTRY");
  this.postCode = dp.getString("POST_CODE");
}
```

This method must populate the entity bean's attributes with the data retrieved from the supplied `DataPacket`.

AddressBMPBean methods

`AddressBMPBean` must implement the methods required by the `javax.ejb.EntityBean` interface.

Below we will describe how `AddressBMPBean` implements each of these methods.

ejbActivate(). This method is called by the EJB container when an entity bean instance is about to be used. In this method the entity bean should acquire any resources it requires. The `AddressBMPBean` does not need to acquire any resources so this method is empty.

ejbCreate(). This method is called by the EJB container when a new entity bean instance is being created. This method must create the corresponding data in the data-store, and return a primary key object for the new instance.

```
  public AddressPK ejbCreate(String ownerId,String addressLine1, String
addressLine2, String addressLine3, String addressLine4,String
country,String postCode) throws CreateException,ValidationException,
ProcessingErrorException  {


super.create(ownerId,addressLine1,addressLine2,addressLine3,addressLine4,
country,postCode);

    return  (AddressPK)this.getPersister().create(this);

  }
```

This method first calls the super-classes' `create()` method to initialise the new instance. It then calls the persister's `create()` method, which takes care of creating the data on the host system. The persister's `create()` method also returns a primary key object for the new instance.

ejbLoad() . This method is called by the EJB container when the entity bean must refresh its attributes from the data-store.

```
public void ejbLoad() {

  try {

    this.getPersister().load(this);

  } catch ( ProcessingErrorException pex ) {

    BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.WARN, "BANKFRAME.MCA",pex);

  }

}
```

This method calls the persister's `load()` method, which takes care of reading the data from the data-store, and calling the entity bean's `populate()` method to initialise the entity bean's attributes.

ejbPassivate(). This method is called by the EJB container when an entity bean instance is about to be de-activated. In this method the entity bean should release any resources it has been using. The `AddressBMPBean` does not use any resources, so this method is empty.

ejbPostCreate(). This method is called by the EJB container immediately after a new entity bean instance has been created.

```
  public void ejbPostCreate(String ownerId,String addressLine1, String
addressLine2, String addressLine3, String addressLine4,String
country,String postCode) {

    setModified(false); // reset the modified status

  }
```

This method sets the `modified` flag to `false`. This will be explained in more detail in the `ejbStore()` section. All BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

ejbRemove(). This method is called by the EJB container when the entity bean instance should be deleted from the data store.

```
public void ejbRemove() {

  try {

    this.getPersister().remove(this);

  } catch ( ProcessingErrorException pex ) {

    BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.WARN, "BANKFRAME.MCA",pex);

  }

}
```

This method calls the persister's `remove()` method to remove the data from the data store. All BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

ejbStore(). This method is called by the EJB container when the entity bean instance should be written to the data store.

```
public void ejbStore() {

  try {

    if ( this.modified == true ) {

      this.getPersister().store(this);

      this.setModified(false);

    }

  } catch ( ProcessingErrorException pex ) {

    BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.WARN, "BANKFRAME.MCA",pex);

  }
```

```
}
```

This method calls the persister's `store()` method to actually store the data to the data store. This method will only call the persister's `store()` method if the `modified` flag is set to `true`. This is an optimisation to prevent unnecessary updates to the data store. It is imperative that all entity bean methods which modify an entity bean's attributes must set the `modified` flag to `true`.

All BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

setEntityContext(). This method is called by the EJB Container when an entity bean is about to be used. The entity bean must store the supplied context.

```
public void setEntityContext(EntityContext newCtx) {

  this.ctx = newCtx;

  this.setModified(false);

}
```

All BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

unsetEntityContext(). This method is called by the EJB Container when it is finished using an entity bean. The entity bean must null its context.

```
public void unsetEntityContext() {

  this.ctx = null;

}
```

All BMP entity beans will use the exact code shown above.

ejbFindByPrimaryKey(). This method is called by the EJB Container when a `findByPrimaryKey()` is invoked on the entity bean's home interface. It must verify that the specified entity bean instance exists in the data store. If it does exist then this method must return the supplied primary key, otherwise this method must throw a `javax.ejb.ObjectNotFoundException`

```
  public AddressPK ejbFindByPrimaryKey(AddressPK primaryKey) throws
FinderException, ValidationException {

    try {

      this.validator.validateOwnerId(primaryKey.ownerId);

      Enumeration enum =
this.getPersister().find(this,"findByPrimaryKey",primaryKey.toDataPacket(
));

      if ( enum.hasMoreElements() == false ) {

        throw new
javax.ejb.ObjectNotFoundException(primaryKey.toDataPacket().toString());
```

```
        }
        return primaryKey;
      } catch ( ProcessingErrorException pex ) {
        throw new FinderException(pex.getMessage());
      }
    }
```

This method first validates that the primary key object contains a legal value for the `ownerId`. It then calls the persister's `find()` method passing it the primary key object in `DataPacket` form. If the instance does exist then the `find()` method will return an `Enumeration` containing the entity's primary key object, otherwise it will return an empty `Enumeration`. If the `Enumeration` is empty then this method will throw a `javax.ejb.ObjectNotFoundException()`.

ejbFind<Method>() Methods. The `AddressBMPBean` has a number of `ejbFind<Method>()` methods, each of which has a corresponding method in the `AddressHome` interface. These methods must return an `Enumeration` of primary key objects that match the specified search criteria. It no matches are found then it must return an empty `Enumeration`.

Below is the code for the `ejbFindByPostCode()` method.

```
    public Enumeration ejbFindByPostCode(String postCode) throws
  FinderException, ValidationException {
      try {
        this.validator.validatePostCode(postCode);
        DataPacket dp = new DataPacket("FIND_BY_POST_CODE");
        dp.put("POST_CODE",postCode);
        return this.getPersister().find(this,"findByPostCode",dp);
      } catch ( ProcessingErrorException pex ) {
        throw new FinderException(pex.getMessage());
      }
    }
```

The amend() method

All Siebel entity beans have an `amend()` method which is used to modify the entity bean's attributes.

```
    public void amend(String addressLine1, String addressLine2, String
  addressLine3, String addressLine4,String country,String postCode) throws
  ValidationException {
```

```
    super.amend(addressLine1,addressLine2,addressLine3,addressLine4,country,p
    ostCode);

    this.setModified(true);

}
```

This method calls its super-classes' `amend()` method to actually perform the amend, and then sets the `modified` flag to `true` (as explained in the `ejbStore()` section).

CustomerBMPBean Methods

The `com.bankframe.examples.bo.impl.customer.CustomerBMPBean` has very similar methods to the `AddressBMPBean`. The only difference is some extra methods to handle the relationship between `Customer` Entities and `Address` Entities.

Modeling the Customer and Address Entity Relationship

The `Customer` entity is called a master entity because it has an associated entity (or dependent entity) that cannot exist by itself. An `Address` entity cannot exist without a corresponding `Customer` entity also existing.

In a real system, an `Address` entity could be associated with other types of entity other than a `Customer` entity; for example, an `Address` entity could be associated with a `BranchOffice` entity. This means that an `Address` entity cannot know which entity it is associated with.

The example host system has only one amend transaction, which must be used for amending both `Customer` and `Address` information. This transaction requires that all the attributes from the `Customer` entity and the `Address` entity be present in the transaction. Therefore, to generate the transaction we must merge the data from the `Customer` and `Address` entities.

When amending the `Customer` entity it is straightforward to locate the corresponding `Address` entity, and merge the two entities to produce the complete amend transaction.

However when amending the `Address` entity we cannot determine which entity it is associated with. This means that the `Address` entity does not have enough information to create a complete amend transaction.

The solution to this problem is to add a new method to the `Customer` method called `amendAddress()`. This method is used when the `Address` details associated with a `Customer` must be updated. This method takes care of locating the `Address` associated with the `Customer` and calling the `Address`'s `amend()` method, and then merging the data from the two entities to create the complete amend transaction required by the host.

There is a second problem which must also be addressed: since data is cached when it is read from the host, we must make sure to remove old entries from the cache when entities are amended. When an address is amended, it must be removed from the cache and its associated `Customer` must also be removed from the cache.

To make sure this happens the `Customer` entity must implement the `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPMasterEntity` interface, and must also be configured to use the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.persister.MasterEntityPersister` persister.

`MasterEntityPersister` extends `CacheIndexPersister` therefore the EJBs using it support cache indexing.

CustomerBean Methods

The `com.bankframe.examples.bo.impl.customer.CustomerBean` has the following methods to model the relationship between the `Customer` entity and the `Address` entity.

getAddress()

This method returns an instance of the `Address` entity associated with the `Customer` entity.

```
try {

AddressHome home =
(AddressHome)ObjectLookup.lookup(AddressHome.JNDI_NAME,AddressHome.class)
;

return home.findByPrimaryKey(new AddressPK(this.ownerId));

} catch ( javax.ejb.FinderException fex ) {

  BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.WARN, "BANKFRAME.MCA",fex);

  throw ExceptionUtils.toProcessingErrorException(fex);

} catch ( ValidationException vex ) {

  BankFrameLog.log(BankFrameLog.WARN, "BANKFRAME.MCA",vex);

  throw ExceptionUtils.toProcessingErrorException(vex);

}
```

This method does a `findByPrimaryKey()` to find the corresponding `Address` instance and returns the corresponding instance.

amendAddress()

This method amends the `Address` entity associated with the `Customer` entity. This method should be called rather than calling the `Address.amend()` method directly.

```
  public Address amendAddress(String addressLine1, String addressLine2,
String addressLine3, String addressLine4,String country,String postCode)
throws ProcessingErrorException, ValidationException, RemoteException {

    Address address = this.getAddress();
```

```
address.amend(addressLine1,addressLine2,addressLine3,addressLine4,country
,postCode);
    this.setModified(true);
    return address;
  }
```

This method sets the `modified` flag to `true` so that the `Customer` entity data is stored to the host. This will cause the `Address` entity data to be stored as well.

CustomerBMPBean Methods

The `CustomerBMPBean` class has very similar methods to the `AddressBMPBean`. The only extra methods are for managing the `Customer-Address` relationship.

Since `CustomerBMPBean` is a master entity, it must implement the `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPMasterEntity` interface. The `EBMPMasterEntity` interface extends the `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPEntity` interface, adding the following method:

```
public Vector getDependentEntities() throws ProcessingErrorException,
RemoteException ;
```

This method must return a `Vector` of `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EEntity` instances, where each instance is a dependent entity of the master entity.

Below is `CustomerBMPBean`'s implementation of this method:

```
  public Vector getDependentEntities() throws ProcessingErrorException,
RemoteException {
    Vector dependents = new Vector(1);
    dependents.add(this.getAddress());
    return dependents;
  }
```

This method calls the `getAddress()` method and adds the returned instance to the `Vector` of dependent instances.

Configuring the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Table for CustomerSearch

The `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` database table must be correctly configured to connect the BMP (bean managed persistence) entity beans to the Financial Process Integrator. Table 23 below illustrates the data used to configure the `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` table for the `Customer` and `Address` entities. These entities use different persister classes in their examples. Cache indexing is used in the Customer entity where `findByFirstName` looks up the cache populated by the `findByLastName` responses.

Table 23. PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Database

ENTITYNAME	METHODNAME	TXNCODE	TXNTYPE	CACHE POLICY	TIMEOUT VALUE	INDEX NAME
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer	findByPrimaryKey	TESTFIND0001	TEST	memory	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer	findByLastName	TESTFIND0002	TEST	none	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer	findAll	TESTFIND0004	TEST	none	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer	store	TESTAMND0001	TEST	none	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.address	findByPrimaryKey	TESTFIND0001	TEST	memory	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.address	store	NA	NA	memory	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer	amendAddress	TESTAMND0001	TEST	none	100000	
eontec.bankframe.examples.bo.customer	findByFirstName	NA	NA	memory	100000	CUSTOMER_FIRST_NAME_INDEX

This table maps entity names and method names to transaction codes and transaction types. Note that some entity name, method name pairs may be mapped to a special transaction code: 'NA'. The 'NA' value indicates that the specified method is not connected to the Financial Process Integrator. In the above example the store() method for the Address entity is marked 'NA' because the Address entity is unable to persist itself.

The CACHEPOLICY value specifies whether the results of the transaction are cacheable. If they are, then the TIMEOUTVALUE specifies the number of milliseconds the results should be cached. In cases where the cache response could be used by looking up a cache index, the timeout value should be set to make sure the data is still in the cache when it is needed. The `INDEX_NAME` value, when set, specifies the name of the cache index to do the data lookup on.

Configuring the Meta-Data Tables for CustomerSearch

The `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT`, `RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT`, `RESPONSE_META_DATA`, `RESPONSE_INDEX` and `INDEX_META_DATA` database tables must be correctly configured to map the `DataPacket`s received from the persister to the host transaction fields, and vice versa. The `INDEX_META_DATA` table contains both the index structure and the name of the cache that it is indexed by. Since `CacheIndexPersister` extends `TxnPersister`, the cache name used is `txnPersister`.

NOTE: In the interests of clarity some of the columns in the tables have been omitted from the representation of the tables below. Consult the `txnsampledata.sql` file supplied with MCA Services for the complete meta-data.

Format of TESTFIND0001

Transaction `TESTFIND0001` corresponds to the `Customer` entity bean's `findByPrimaryKey()` method.

Table 24. `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT` has the following format:

Table 24. `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT`

FIELDNAME	DP_FIELD	LENGTH	SEQUENCE	Sample value
T-CODE	TXN_CODE	12	1	TESTFIND0001
T-RESTART-INDEX	RESTART_INDEX	4	2	0000
C-OWNER-ID	OWNER_ID	10	3	1234560010

Table 25. `RESPONSE_META_DATA` has the following format:

Table 25. `RESPONSE_META_DATA`

DP_NAME	DP_INDEX	DP_FIELD	TXN_FIELDNAME
HEADER	1	RECORD_COUNT	H-RECORDS
HEADER	1	RESTART_FLAG	H-RESTART
CUSTOMER	2	OWNER_ID	C-OWNER-ID
CUSTOMER	2	FIRST_NAME	C-FIRST-NAME
CUSTOMER	2	LAST_NAME	C-LAST-NAME
CUSTOMER	2	TITLE	C-TITLE

DP_NAME	DP_INDEX	DP_FIELD	TXN_FIELDNAME
ADDRESS	3	POST_CODE	A-POST-CODE
ADDRESS	3	ADDRESS_LINE1	A-LINE-1
ADDRESS	3	ADDRESS_LINE2	A-LINE-2
ADDRESS	3	ADDRESS_LINE3	A-LINE-3
ADDRESS	3	ADDRESS_LINE4	A-LINE-4
ADDRESS	3	COUNTRY	A-COUNTRY

The response is parsed into three DataPackets:

- The header DataPacket which contains the header information
- The Customer DataPacket which contains the data for the Customer entity
- The Address DataPacket which contains the data for the Address entity associated with the Customer entity

Format of TESTFIND0002

Transaction TESTFIND0002 corresponds to the Customer entity bean's findByLastName() method.

Table 26. REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT, has the following format:

Table 26. REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT

FIELDNAME	DP_FIELD	LENGTH	SEQUENCE	Sample value
T-CODE	TXN_CODE	12	1	TESTFIND0002
T-RESTART-INDEX	RESTART_INDEX	4	2	0000
C-LAST-NAME	LAST_NAME	20	3	Walsh

Table 27. RESPONSE_META_DATA, has the following format:

Table 27. RESPONSE_META_DATA

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	DP_INDEX
H-RECORDS	HEADER	RECORD_COUNT	1
H-RESTART	HEADER	RESTART_FLAG	1
C-OWNER-ID	CUSTOMER	OWNER_ID	2

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	DP_INDEX
C-FIRST-NAME	CUSTOMER	FIRST_NAME	2
C-LAST-NAME	CUSTOMER	LAST_NAME	2
C-TITLE	CUSTOMER	TITLE	2
A-POST-CODE	ADDRESS	POST_CODE	3
A-LINE-1	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE1	3
A-LINE-2	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE2	3
A-LINE-3	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE3	3
A-LINE-4	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE4	3
A-COUNTRY	ADDRESS	COUNTRY	3
C-OWNER-ID	CUSTOMER	OWNER_ID	4
C-FIRST-NAME	CUSTOMER	FIRST_NAME	4
C-LAST-NAME	CUSTOMER	LAST_NAME	4
C-TITLE	CUSTOMER	TITLE	4
A-POST-CODE	ADDRESS	POST_CODE	5
A-LINE-1	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE1	5
A-LINE-2	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE2	5
A-LINE-3	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE3	5
A-LINE-4	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE4	5
A-COUNTRY	ADDRESS	COUNTRY	5
C-OWNER-ID	CUSTOMER	OWNER_ID	6

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	DP_INDEX
C-FIRST-NAME	CUSTOMER	FIRST_NAME	6
C-LAST-NAME	CUSTOMER	LAST_NAME	6
C-TITLE	CUSTOMER	TITLE	6
A-POST-CODE	ADDRESS	POST_CODE	7
A-LINE-1	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE1	7
A-LINE-2	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE2	7
A-LINE-3	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE3	7
A-LINE-4	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE4	7
A-COUNTRY	ADDRESS	COUNTRY	7
C-OWNER-ID	CUSTOMER	OWNER_ID	8
C-FIRST-NAME	CUSTOMER	FIRST_NAME	8
C-LAST-NAME	CUSTOMER	LAST_NAME	8
C-TITLE	CUSTOMER	TITLE	8
A-POST-CODE	ADDRESS	POST_CODE	9
A-LINE-1	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE1	9
A-LINE-2	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE2	9
A-LINE-3	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE3	9
A-LINE-4	ADDRESS	ADDRESS_LINE4	9
A-COUNTRY	ADDRESS	COUNTRY	9

As you can see, the response is quite long! `TESTFIND003` is an example of a transaction that has repeating groups. The response may contain the data for zero or more `Customer` and `Address` entities, furthermore the host will only return four results at a time, so the transaction must be fired against the host multiple times to get the complete result set.

The `H-RECORDS` field in the response indicates how many records were returned by the host.

The `H-RESTART` field indicates whether there are more records to be retrieved from the host. If this field has a value of '`1`' then there are more results to be retrieved, otherwise there are no more results.

Since the host returns four results at a time the meta-data for the `Customer` and `Address` entities must be repeated four times, with each entity instance being given a different entity occurrence value.

Format of TESTAMND0001

Transaction `TESTAMND0001` corresponds to the `Customer` entity's `store()` or `amendAddress()` methods. Both `store()` and `amendAddress()` must use this transaction to amend `Customer` and/or `Address` data because the host only provides a single transaction for amending `Customer` and `Address` attributes.

Table 28. `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT`, has the following format:

Table 28. `REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT`

FIELDNAME	SEQUENCE	DP_FIELD	LENGTH
T-CODE	1	TXN_CODE	12
C-OWNER-ID	2	OWNER_ID	10
C-FIRST-NAME	3	FIRST_NAME	20
C-LAST-NAME	4	LAST_NAME	20
C-TITLE	5	TITLE	5
A-POST-CODE	6	POST_CODE	15
A-LINE-1	7	ADDRESS_LINE1	20
A-LINE-2	8	ADDRESS_LINE2	20
A-LINE-3	9	ADDRESS_LINE3	20
A-LINE-4	10	ADDRESS_LINE4	20
A-COUNTRY	11	COUNTRY	20

Table 29. RESPONSE_META_DATA, has the following format:

Table 29. RESPONSE_META_DATA

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_INDEX	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD
H-STATUS	1	CUSTOMER	STATUS

The request transaction contains the transaction code and all the attributes of the Customer and Address entities. The response transaction contains a single field indicating if the amend operation succeeded. If the operation succeeds the field will contain 'OK', otherwise the field will contain 'ERROR'.

Configuring the TXN_ROUTE Table for CustomerSearch

The TXN_ROUTE table must be correctly configured to map requests to the correct connector and to specify which data formatter class to use. Table 30 below illustrates the data used to configure the TXN_ROUTE table:

Table 30. TXN_ROUTE

TXN_CODE	TXN_ TYPE	DESTIONATION_ ID	DATAFORMAT
TESTFIND0001	TEST	C001	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler. dataformat.testcustomer.TestCustomerDataFormat
TESTFIND0002	TEST	C001	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler. dataformat.testcustomer.TestCustomerDataFormat
TESTFIND0004	TEST	C001	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler. dataformat.testcustomer.TestCustomerDataFormat
TESTAMND0001	TEST	C001	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler. dataformat.testcustomer.TestCustomerDataFormat

In all cases the data formatter class used is:

com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.dataformat.testcustomer.TestCustomerDataFormat

Similarly all transactions use the same destination: C001

Configuring the DESTINATION Table for CustomerSearch

Table 31 must be configured to specify which connector to use for communicating with the host system:

Table 31. DESTINATION

DESTINATION_ID	CONNECTOR_FACTORY_CLASSNAME	CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES
C001	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.connector.testcustomer.TestCustomerConnectionFactory	offlineMode=disable

Where the connector is defined in the BankframeResource.properties file.

Configuring the RESPONSE_INDEX Table for CustomerSearch

The RESPONSE_INDEX table must be configured as follows so that responses from the host system are indexed when cached:

Table 32. RESPONSE_INDEX

TXN_CODE	TXN_TYPE	INDEX_NAME
TESTFIND0002	TEST	CUSTOMER_FIRST_NAME_INDEX

The configuration shown above in the RESPONSE-INDEX table specifies that the response to TESTFIND0002 (findByLastName) will be indexed. In this example the response CUSTOMER DataPacket will be indexed by the first name attribute.

Configuring the INDEX_META_DATA Table for CustomerSearch

The INDEX_META_DATA table must be configured as follows to specify the index structures:

Table 33. INDEX_META_DATA

INDEX_NAME	CACHE_NAME	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD
CUSTOMER_FIRST_NAME_INDEX	txnPersister	CUSTOMER	FIRST_NAME

The CacheIndexer class for managing the index is defined in the BankframeResource.properties file under the cache.index.<INDEX_NAME> key. If a specific CacheIndexer is not defined the default CacheIndexer is used. The default CacheIndexer gets its index structure from the INDEX_META_DATA table. This table contains the name of the cache to index as well as the DataPacket name and the fields to index by. The configuration shown above in the INDEX_META_DATA table will index the FIRST_NAME attribute in the CUSTOMER DataPacket.

Configuring the Cobol Test Connector for CustomerSearch

The Account example uses the Cobol Test Connector:

```
com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.connector.coboltest.*
```

The Cobol Test Connector generates Cobol binary data from a specified Cobol copybook file and returns the data to the Financial Process Integrator. This can be used to test the Financial Process Integrator meta-data and entity bean's design for a simulated host system.

The Cobol test Connector key `transactionHandler.connector.CobolTestConnector.*` in `BankframeResource.properties` has the following options:

Setting	Description
`midfile`	Specifies the path of the cobol copybook that defines the format of the data request to the host system.
`modfile`	Specifies the path of the cobol copybook that defines the format of the cobol data response from the host system.
`cobol.numbtype`	Specifies the format of the numbers in the created cobol data; `COMP-3, COMP, X, STD`
`cobol.texttype`	Specifies the format of text created in the cobol data; `ASCII, EBCDIC`
`midfile.debug`	Specifies if debug information is displayed while host request is being processed; `TRUE, FALSE`
`modfile.debug`	Specifies if debug information is displayed while the host response is being processed; `TRUE, FALSE`
`modfile.fillfield.<field name>=<value>`	Specifies a specific value, `<value>`, for the field called `<field name>` in the host response, to simulate an error response.

Configuring the CustomerSearch Example

If your application server is installed in a folder other than the default location defined in the deployment guide and you wish to use the CustomerSearch example then the following changes must be made:

- Edit the `BankframeResource.properties` file and locate the `transactionHandler.test.customerData` setting.
- Change the value of this setting to point to the correct location of the `TestCustomerData.properties` (`TestCustomerData.properties` will be located in the same folder as `BankframeResource.properties`).
- Edit the `TestCustomerData.properties` file and locate the `this.absolutePath` setting.
- Change the value of this setting to point to the correct location of the `TestCustomerData.properties`.

The AccountSearch Example

This section illustrates how the Financial Process Integrator works using the Account Entity EJB and the AccountSearch Session EJB.

Name	EJB Type	Description
`Account`	Entity	Models the common attributes of an account
`AccountSearch`	Session	Searches for `Account` instances

These examples aim to show:

- How an entity bean interacts with the persister
- How the persister interacts with the Financial Process Integrator
- How to configure the Financial Process Integrator meta-data
- How to configure the Financial Process Integrator routes and destinations
- How to configure the example Cobol Test Connector

The Account Entity EJB

The `Account` entity has the following attributes:

Attribute	Description
`cardNumber`	The customers card number
`accountNumber`	The account number
`accountName`	The account name

The AccountSearch Session EJB

The `AccountSearch` session bean must be able to find all the `Account` entities.

Interfacing the Account Entities with the Financial Process Integrator

Below we will describe how we have modelled the `Account` entity bean, concentrating on issues relevant to connecting the entity bean to the Financial Process Integrator.

com.bankframe.examples.impl.account.AccountBMPBean

This class is the Bean Managed Persistence (BMP) implementation of the `Account` entity bean.

This class must persist its attributes to/from the host system.

EBMPEntity Methods

As described previously all BMP entity beans must implement the `com.bankframe.ejb.bmp.EBMPEntity` interface. This is achieved in a similar manner to the

CustomerBMPBean example described previously. Below we will describe how AddressBMPBean implements each of the methods defined in the EBMPEntity interface.

Configuring the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Table for AccountSearch

The PERSISTER_TXN_MAP database table must be correctly configured to connect the BMP entity beans to the Financial Process Integrator. Table 34 below illustrates the data used to configure the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table for the Account entity:

Table 34. PERSISTER_TXN_MAP Database

ENTITYNAME	METHODNAME	TXNCODE	TXNTYPE	CACHE POLICY	TIMEOUT VALUE
eontec.bankframe. examples.bo.account	findAll	ACCOUNTFIND	TEST	none	0

This table maps entity names and method names to transaction codes and transaction types. The CACHEPOLICY value specifies whether the results of the transaction are cacheable. If they are then the TIMEOUTVALUE specifies how many milliseconds the results should be cached for.

Configuring the Meta-Data Tables for AccountSearch

The REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT, RESPONSE_TXN_LAYOUT and RESPONSE_META_DATA database tables must be correctly configured to map the DataPackets received from the persister to the host transaction fields, and vice versa.

NOTE: In the interests of clarity some of the columns in the tables have been omitted from the tables below. Consult the txnsampledata.sql file supplied with MCA Services for the complete meta-data.

Format of ACCOUNTFIND

Transaction ACCOUNTFIND corresponds to the Account entity's findAll() method. Table 35. REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT has the following format:

Table 35. REQUEST_TXN_LAYOUT

FIELDNAME	DP_FIELD	LENGTH	SEQUENCE	Sample value
T-CODE	TXN_CODE	12	1	TESTFIND0001

Table 36. RESPONSE_META_DATA, has the following format:

Table 36. RESPONSE_META_DATA

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	DP_INDEX
CARD-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	CARD_NUMBER	1

TXN_FIELDNAME	DP_NAME	DP_FIELD	DP_INDEX
ACCOUNT-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	1
ACCOUNT-NAME	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NAME	1
CARD-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	CARD_NUMBER	2
ACCOUNT-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	2
ACCOUNT-NAME	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NAME	2
CARD-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	CARD_NUMBER	3
ACCOUNT-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	3
ACCOUNT-NAME	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NAME	3
CARD-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	CARD_NUMBER	4
ACCOUNT-NUMBER	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NUMBER	4
ACCOUNT-NAME	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT_NAME	4
…	…	…	…

The response is parsed into ten `Account DataPacket`s which contain the data for the `Account` entities.

Configuring the TXN_ROUTE Table for AccountSearch

The `TXN_ROUTE` table must be correctly configured to map requests to the correct connector and to specify which data formatter class to use. Table 37 below illustrates the data used to configure the `TXN_ROUTE` table:

Table 37. `TXN_ROUTE`

DESTINATION_ID	CONNECTOR_FACTORY_CLASSNAME	CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES
C002	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.connector.coboltest.CobolTestConnectionFactory	offlineMode=disable

In all cases the data formatter class used is:

```
com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.dataformat.testaccount.TestAccountDataF
ormat
```

This data-format class is derived from

```
com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.basic.BasicDataFormat
```

Similarly all transactions use the same destination: `C002`

Configuring the DESTINATION Table for AccountSearch

Table 38. `DESTINATION`, must be correctly configured to specify the correct connector to use for communicating with the host system:

Table 38. `DESTINATION`

DESTINATION _ID	CONNECTOR_FACTORY_CLASSNAME	CONNECTOR_PROPERTIES
C002	com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.connector .coboltest.CobolTest ConnectionFactory	offlineMode=disable

The settings for this connector are defined in `BankframeResource.properties`.

The `Account` example uses the following Cobol copybook, `modAccountTestCobol.txt`, to define the request to the host system from the Financial Process Integrator:

```
000400    01  MAIN-ACCOUNTFIND.

001400* INPUT DATA

001500    03 ACCOUNTFIND-DATA.

001600    05 T-CODE   PIC X(5).
```

The Cobol Test Connector parses the Cobol data request generated by the Financial Process Integrator using this Cobol copybook. This parsing of Cobol data from the Financial Process Integrator is used to test the design of the request transaction fields in the Financial Process Integrator meta-data. The `BankframeResource.properties` property `transactionHandler.connector.CobolTestConnector.cobol.debug` is set to `TRUE` to view the results of the parsing.

The `Account` example uses the following Cobol copybook, `midAccountTestCobol.txt`, to define the response from the host system to the Financial Process Integrator:

```
000400 01  MAIN-ACCOUNTFIND.

000410 010 ERROR-FLAG PIC X(5).

000420 010 ERROR-TYPE PIC X(20).

000430 010 FILLER          PIC X(5).
```

```
000450* FOLLOWING IS A REPEATING FIELD, USED IN EACH OF
000500* THE FOLLOWING ENTITIES:
001300 010 CARD-NUMBER      PIC 9(5).
001400* EACH OCCURANCE OF THIS GROUP MAPS TO AN INSTANCE OF AN ENTITY:
001500     05 ACCOUNT-INFO OCCURS 10 TIMES.
001700        010 ACCOUNT-NUMBER   PIC 9(5).
001800        010 ACCOUNT-NAME     PIC X(10).
001850***************************************************
001900* APPENDING HOST-SYSTEM ERROR COBOL COPYBOOK HERE
002000* SO IT CAN BE USED BY TXN HANDLER SAMPLE META-DATA
002010* WHEN AN ERROR IS BEING SIMULATED:
002015***************************************************
002020     05 HOST-SYSTEM-ERROR.
002030            010 ERROR-CODE       PIC 9(5).
002040        010 ERROR-MESSAGE    PIC X(30).
```

The Cobol Test Connector generates the Cobol binary data host system response that is expected by the Financial Process Integrator for the transaction being tested. This is used to test the design of the response transaction fields in the Financial Process Integrator meta-data.

The Cobol Test Connector generates values for the transaction fields in the response by one of the following three methods in this order:

- The `BankframeResource.properties` key `transactionHandler.connector.CobolTestConnector.modfile.fillfield.<field name>=<value>` can be used to generate a specific value for transaction fields in the host system response.
- Field names in the mod Cobol copybook file that match field names in the mid Cobol copybook file result in the response transaction field taking the value of that request field when the transaction is being processed. The full group name is not used for comparing request and response field names, only the transaction field name, i.e., if the sample modAccountTestCobol.txt, and hence response, above had a transaction field called T-CODE it would use the value of the T-CODE given in the request transaction, defined by midAccountTestCobol.txt.
- A unique sample text is generated for each field in the host response. For text fields the values are A1, A2, etc. For number fields the values are 1,2,3, etc.

Financial Process Integrator Advanced Topics

Handling Complex Amend and Find Operations

In some cases, it may be necessary to invoke amend or find operations directly from a session bean, rather than via the `amend()` or findByXXX() methods of an entity bean, for example:

- If the data to be amended is not modelled as an entity bean
- If the data from many entities need to be merged, and these entities cannot be modelled using a master-dependent relationship

To facilitate these cases a class called: `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.broker.TxnHandlerBroker` is provided:

TxnHandlerBroker

The Financial Process Integrator Broker provides an amend() and find() interface into the Financial Process Integrator, that is not dependant on mapping entity beans to host transactions. To provide as flexible a framework as possible, interfaces are provided to allow behaviour to be customised at various stages of the broker's operation. Default implementations of these interfaces are provided with the MCA. This can be extended to provide specific behaviour for a host transaction request and the caching of data.

HostTransactionObject and HostTransactionObjectFactory

The HostTransactionObject is used to hold data and vector of primary keys to be used by the TxnHandlerPersister when performing either a find or amend operation. The HostTransactionObjectFactory is used to create HostTransactionObjects from values in a HashMap. The factory inspects the type of object in the map and determines how the DataPacket of data and Vector of primary keys will be created. The getHostTransactionObject method can be overridden to provide different behaviour for a specific EJB or method name.

Amend operations

There are two static amend methods in `TxnHandlerBroker`. Both take EJB name and method name as parameters. However, one also takes a DataPacket with amend data and Vector of DataPackets representing the primary keys for data to be stored, or removed from the cache used by the `TxnPersister`. The other amend method takes a HashMap of objects that the broker will pass to a `HostTransactionObjectFactory` to get the amend data and vector of primary keys to pass to the former amend method. When performing an amend the TxnHandlerBroker will also check the transactionHandler.broker.removeFromCacheOperation.<ejb name>.<method name> boolean property to pass to the persister. If none specified, the transactionHandler.broker.removeFromCacheOperation.default will be used. The persister will determine what behaviour will be implemented to remove or updated the persisters cache. The amend methods will return the Vector of `DataPackets` returned by the persister.

Find operations

Similar to amend, there are two static find methods in `TxnHandlerBroker`.Both take ejb name and method name as parameters. However, one also takes a DataPacket with finder data to be used by the `TxnPersister`. The other amend method takes a HashMap of objects that the broker will pass to a `HostTransactionObjectFactory` to get the amend data to pass to the former find method. The find methods will return the Vector of `DataPackets` returned by the persister.

Handling Create and Remove Operations

In the EJB model new data is created by calling the `create()` method of an entity bean's home interface, similarly data is deleted by calling the home's `remove()` method. It is assumed that these operations are carried out synchronously and immediately.

In many banking environments create and remove operations may not be performed immediately, instead they may be batched up to be performed only once per day. For example creation of new customer bank account's are usually performed as a batch operation carried out after the close of business.

Create and remove operations which are not carried out immediately should be implemented using a session bean which calls the `TxnHandlerBroker.amend()` method.

Create and remove operations which are carried out immediately should be implemented by defining the appropriate operations in the `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP` table, and the correct meta-data in the `TXN_FIELD` table.

Immediate create operation example

The example below illustrates how to configure a create operation for the `Customer` entity (assuming the create is carried out immediately by the host).

Configuring the PERSISTER_TXN_MAP table

Table 39. `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP`, should have the following entry:

Table 39. `PERSISTER_TXN_MAP`

Entity Name	Method Name	Transaction Code	Transaction Type	Cache Policy	Time out value
eontec.bankframe. examples. bo.customer	create	TESTCREA0001	TEST	none	0

Configuring the TXN_FIELD table

Table 40. `TXN_FIELD`, should have the following data:

Table 40. `TXN_FIELD`

Field Name	Sequence	DataPacket Field Name	Length
T-CODE	1	TXN_CODE	12
C-OWNER-ID	2	OWNER_ID	10
C-FIRST-NAME	3	FIRST_NAME	20
C-LAST-NAME	4	LAST_NAME	20
C-TITLE	5	TITLE	5
A-POST-CODE	6	POST_CODE	15
A-LINE-1	7	ADDRESS_LINE1	20
A-LINE-2	8	ADDRESS_LINE2	20
A-LINE-3	9	ADDRESS_LINE3	20
A-LINE-4	10	ADDRESS_LINE4	20
A-COUNTRY	11	COUNTRY	20
H-STATUS	1	STATUS	5

An example data formatter class

The data formatter class is responsible for interpreting the meta-data and using it to transform the request data into the format that the host system understands, and conversely to transform the response data into a format the Financial Process Integrator can understand.

The `Customer` and `Address` examples above require a custom data formatter class which is implemented by:

```
com.bankframe.examples.txnhandler.dataformat.testcustomer.TestCustomerDataFormat
```

This class extends the `com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.dataformat.basic.BasicDataFormat` class. The `BasicDataFormat` class provides a number of methods that can be overridden these are described below:

checkIfMoreToRequest()

This method is called by `BasicDataFormat` after the response from the host has been parsed into `DataPacket`s. Its purpose is to determine if the complete result set has been received from the host, if not then another request transaction must be sent to the host to get more results. Below is the code for the `TestCustomerDataFormat` implementation of this method:

```
protected boolean checkIfMoreToRequest(DataPacket txnRequest, Vector
responseData) throws ProcessingErrorException {

 DataPacket header = (DataPacket)responseData.elementAt(0);
```

```
    if ( header != null) {
     String restartIndexString    = txnRequest.getString("RESTART_INDEX");
     String recordCountString     = header.getString("RECORD_COUNT");
     String restartFlagString     = header.getString("RESTART_FLAG");
     if(recordCountString == null || restartFlagString == null ) {
      return false;
     }
     int recordCount = Integer.parseInt(recordCountString);
     int continueFlag = Integer.parseInt(restartFlagString);
     int restartIndex = 0;
     if ( restartIndexString != null ) {
       restartIndex = Integer.parseInt(restartIndexString);
     } if(continueFlag == 1) {
       txnRequest.put("RESTART_INDEX", Integer.toString(restartIndex +
   recordCount));
       return true;
     }
    }
    return false;
   }
```

This method carries out the following steps:

- Extracts the header `DataPacket` from the response `DataPacket`s
- Extracts the restart index from the request `DataPacket`
- Extracts the record count value from the header `DataPacket`
- Extracts the restart flag from the header `DataPacket`
- If the restart flag is equal to '`1`' then modify the request `DataPacket` to request the next set of results and return `true`
- Otherwise return `false`

checkIfNoEntitiesFound()

This method is called by `BasicDataFormat` after the response from the host has been parsed into `DataPacket`s. Its purpose is to determine if the response received from the host does not contain any entity data. Below is the code for the `TestCustomerDataFormat` implementation of this method:

```
protected boolean checkIfNoEntitiesFound(Vector responseData) throws
ProcessingErrorException {
  if(super.checkIfNoEntitiesFound(responseData)) {
   return true;
  }
  if(responseData.size() == 1) {
   DataPacket header = (DataPacket)responseData.elementAt(0);
   int recordCount = Integer.parseInt(header.getString("RECORD_COUNT"));
   if(recordCount == 0) {
    return true;
   }
  }
  return false;
 }
```

This method carries out the following steps:

- Call the super-classes' `checkIfNoEntitiesFound()` method to check that the response data `Vector` is not empty or `null`.
- Check if the response data contains only a single `DataPacket`.
- If it does then assume the `DataPacket` is the header `DataPacket`, and check the record count value.
- If the record count is zero return `true` otherwise return `false`.

postProcessResponseData()

This method is called by `BasicDataFormat` after the response from the host has been parsed into `DataPacket`s. Its purpose is to carry out any extra processing that may be necessary on the response `DataPacket`s.

5 Enterprise Services

Security Provider Framework

MCA Services provides a customizable Security Provider Framework. As part of the processing of a client request the MCA request router dispatches the request to the specified Security Provider. A custom security provider can be written which will invoke any necessary security implementation to verify if the request is permitted to be processed.

Security Provider Framework Classes and Package Structure

The Security Provider Framework is located in the `com.bankframe.services.security` package. It consists of a security provider interface named `BankFrameSecurityProvider` and comes complete with two security provider implementations: `DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider` and the `NullBankFrameSecurityProvider`.

The Security Provider interface (which all providers must implement) consists of the following method:

`public Vector dispatch(Vector request, Route route) throws ProcessingErrorException, RemoteException`	Takes a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s (which is the original client request) and a `Route` object which the request router has determined is the correct route to match the client request's `REQUEST_ID`.

This method must verify that the specified request is permitted to be processed.

If this method returns `null` then it is assumed that the request be permitted. However, if this method returns a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s then these will be returned to the client and the request will be considered to be processed. If a request is not to be permitted then a `ProcessingErrorException` (or subclass) will be thrown.

Configuration of the Security Provider

The Security Provider for a solution runtime is configured using the `security.provider` key in the `BankframeResource.properties` configuration file.

The key takes a fully qualified class name of the required Security Provider implementation.

It is imperative that the configured Security Provider implementation fully implements the `com.bankframe.services.security.BankFrameSecurityProvider` interface as described above.

For example, if a solution wished to switch off security (i.e. switch off user authentication, session management and access control) and allow all client requests to attempt processing then the included `NullBankFrameSecurityProvider` would be used and configured as follows:

```
security.provider=com.bankframe.services.security.NullBankFrameSecurityProvider
```

There is an example configuration of the Security Provider included in the default `BankframeResource.properties` file – which ships with MCA Services.

It is worth noting that the individual Security Providers are likely to require implementation specific configuration. For an example of this refer to the included `DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider` which uses the following keys: `security.sessionMgmtJndiName` and `security.accessControljndiName`.

Security Providers included with MCA Services

Included with MCA Services are the following Security Providers:

`com.bankframe.services.security.NullBankFrameSecurityProvider`

`com.bankframe.services.security.DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider`

com.bankframe.services.security. NullBankFrameSecurityProvider

Description

The Null Security Provider will allow all client requests to be processed, and as such is a means of turning off security if it is not required or is being debugged.

Configuration

The Null Security Provider is extremely simple to configure. All that needs to be done is set the `security.provider` in the `BankframeResource.properties` configuration file to the `com.bankframe.services.security.NullBankFrameSecurityProvider` implementation.

For example:

```
security.provider=com.bankframe.services.security.NullBankFrameSecurityProvider
```

Caution should be observed if making this change on a production solution as it will effectively disable security.

com.bankframe.services.security. DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider

Description

The Default Security Provider brings together and uses the User Authentication, Session Management and Access Control services described in later chapters and exposes them using the MCA Security Provider Framework.

Configuration

Configuring the Default Security Provider requires the setting of the following keys in the `BankframeResource.properties` configuration file:

`security.provider`

```
security.sessionMgmtJndiName

security.accessControljndiName
```

The security.provider key should be set to com.bankframe.services.security.DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvider. Both the security.sessionMgmtJndiName and security.accessControljndiName keys should be set to the JNDI name of the Session Management EJB and Access Control EJB respectively.

For example,

```
security.provider=com.bankframe.services.security.DefaultBankFrameSecurityProvide
r

security.sessionMgmtJndiName=eontec.bankframe.EJBSessionManagement

security.accessControljndiName=eontec.bankframe.EJBAccessControl
```

Refer to the sections on Session Management, Access Control and User Authentication for further details.

Implementing a Security Provider

A custom security provider allows one to customize the implementation of security. To write a security provider you need to write a class which implements the `com.bankframe.services.security.BankFrameSecurityProvider` interface. This interface prescribes the `dispatch()` method that will be called by the MCA `RequestRouter`. When implementing your own Security Provider then any necessary logic can be inserted into `dispatch()` to determine if a particular client request may be permitted. There are three valid types of returns from this method:

`null` – Whenever a call to dispatch returns `null` this will be interpreted by the `RequestRouter` as having passed security and to be ready for processing.

`Vector` of `DataPackets` – Return a `Vector` if the security provider has fully processed the request. This `Vector` will then be returned to the client by the MCA `RequestRouter`. This case arises if the client requests to logon and the security provider can fully process this request and return a response to the client.

Method throws `ProcessingErrorException` – This exception should be thrown if you do not wish to continue processing a user's request, for example, if the user has failed security checks.

The following is a brief overview of how a simple security provider can be implemented and the code behind the `NullBankFrameSecurityProvider`.

```
public class NullBankFrameSecurityProvider implements BankFrameSecurityProvider {

    public Vector dispatch(Vector datapacket, Route route) throws
ProcessingErrorException, RemoteException {

            return null;

    }

}
```

As can be seen from this example any request and route passed into the `dispatch()` method will result in a return of null, therefore all client requests will continue to be processed.

User Authentication

User Authentication is part of the MCA Services Security Provider Framework – refer to the Security Provider Framework section for further information on the Security Provider.

Purpose

The purpose of MCA User Authentication is:

- provide a set of standard authentication mechanisms
- provide a framework for implementing custom authentication mechanisms

User authentication is needed to facilitate the session management and access control mechanisms.

Framework for custom authentication mechanisms

In many scenarios a custom authentication mechanism will be needed to capture the data required to authenticate a user, or to integrate with an existing authentication mechanism. MCA provides an interface that custom authentication mechanisms must comply with. Authentication mechanisms that implement this interface can be plugged into MCA.

Standard authentication mechanisms

MCA provides two standard authentication mechanisms:

- Authenticating users against a database table
- Authenticating users against an LDAP repository

The logon process

Before a client can access MCA it must log on. A client achieves this by carrying out the following steps:

- Send a request for any free services that are required in carrying out user authentication (a 'free service' is an MCA Service or a Siebel Financial Component that is not session managed). For example a call may be made to the `GenerateRandomNumbers` service in order to decide which digits from a PIN code to prompt the user for.
- Send a request to the user authentication mechanism with the necessary data to authenticate the user.
- If the request is successful then the user authentication mechanism will return a response to the client, otherwise an exception `DataPacket` will be returned to the client.
- If the request is successful then the first returned `DataPacket` will contain the session ID of the user session that was created for the user. The client should store this session ID so that it can

pass it back to MCA with all subsequent requests. See Session Management for more detail on this.

The logoff process

When a user is finished using the client application, then the MCA Session should be terminated. A client achieves this by carrying out the following steps:

- Send a logoff request with the session ID for the user's current session to the user authentication mechanism.
- If the request is successful then a response will be sent back to the client confirming the logoff request succeeded, otherwise an exception `DataPacket` will be returned to the client.
- If the logoff request is successful then the user session will be deleted. Therefore the client must establish another session before it can again use MCA Services.

com.bankframe.services.authentication package

The `com.bankframe.services.authentication` package defines the interfaces that all MCA User Authentication Mechanisms must comply with. The packages contains the following classes/interface:

`AuthenticationBean`	Abstract EJB session bean class that defines the methods that all authentication mechanisms must implement.
`AuthenticationException`	Exception class thrown when user authentication fails.
`Authentication`	Remote Interface that the authentication EJBs must extend.
`AuthenticationUtils`	Utility class that provides methods for simplifying interaction with MCA User Authentication Mechanisms.

com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationBean

The basic functionality that all authentication methods must provide is defined in the `com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationBean` class. This class defines two abstract methods:

- processLogon(DataPacket data)
- processLogoff(DataPacket data)

`AuthenticationBean` extends the `com.bankframe.ejb.ESessionBean` class. It provides a standard implementation of the required `processDataPacket()` method, which checks if the incoming request is a logon or a logoff request and passes the request on to `processLogon()` or `processLogoff()` as appropriate. This means that all MCA User Authentication Mechanisms are implicitly standard MCA Services.

processLogon(DataPacket data)

```
public abstract Vector processLogon(DataPacket data) throws
ProcessingErrorException;
```

This method is responsible for retrieving the authentication information from the `DataPacket` passed in and verifying that the information is correct. If the information is not correct then it should throw an `AuthenticationException`. If the information is correct it should return a Vector of `DataPacket`s. The first `DataPacket` in the Vector must have a field named `com.bankframe.services.authentication.Authentication.USER_ID`. This field must have a String value that is the unique user ID for the authenticated user. The returned Vector of `DataPacket`s will be passed back to the client.

processLogoff(DataPacket data)

```
public abstract Vector processLogoff(DataPacket data) throws
ProcessingErrorException;
```

This method is called whenever a user attempts to logoff. It allows the custom authentication mechanism to be notified when the user logs off, and to perform any clean ups that need to be carried out. If an error occurs then this method should throw a `ProcessingErrorException`, for example if the user is already logged off. If the logoff attempt is successful then a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s with the logoff response is returned. This `Vector` of `DataPacket`s will be passed back to the client.

com.bankframe.services.authentication. AuthenticationException

This exception class extends the `com.bankframe.ejb.ProcessingErrorException` class. It should be thrown by user authentication mechanisms whenever user authentication fails. When this exception class is converted to a `DataPacket`, the `DataPacket` name will be `AUTHENTICATION EXCEPTION`.

com.bankframe.services.authentication.Authentication

This remote interface extends the `com.bankframe.ejb.EsessionRemote` interface. All MCA Authentication Mechanisms' remote interfaces must extend this interface. It defines the following two methods:

- public Vector processLogon(DataPacket data) throws AuthenticationException;
- public Vector processLogoff(DataPacket data) throws ProcessingErrorException;

com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationUtils

This utility class provides static methods to simplify interaction with MCA Authentication Mechanisms. These methods are typically used by client applications to create `DataPacket`s that are correctly formatted for making user authentication requests. The methods provided are:

`public static void makeLogonPacket(DataPacket dp)`	Add the data to a `DataPacket` that identifies it as a logon request.
`Public static void makeLogoffPacket(DataPacket dp,`	Add the data to a `DataPacket` that identifies it as a logoff request.

`String sessionId)`	
`Public static boolean checkIsLogonPacket(DataPacket dp)`	Checks if a `DataPacket` is a logon request.
`Public static boolean checkIsLogoffPacket(DataPacket dp)`	Checks if a `DataPacket` is a logoff request.
`Public static String getUserId(DataPacket dp)`	Extracts the unique user ID from a `DataPacket`.
`Public static String putUserId(DataPacket dp, String userId)`	Puts a user ID field into a `DataPacket`.

Implementing a custom authentication mechanism

Introduction to Custom Authentication

The best way to illustrate how to implement a custom authentication mechanism is through an example. The example below will implement an MCA Authentication Mechanism that interfaces with an imaginary third party authentication mechanism defined as follows:

```
public class ThirdPartyAuthenticationMechanism {

  public static void logon(String userId,String password) throws
ThirdPartyException;

  public static void logoff(String userId) throws ThirdPartyException;

}
```

We will call our example bean: `SampleAuthenticationBean`

Create the bean implementation

The Bean Implementation Class

```
import com.bankframe.bo.DataPacket;

import com.bankframe.ejb.ProcessingErrorException;


import com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationBean;

import com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationException;

import com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationUtils;
```

```
public class SampleAuthenticationBean extends AuthenticationBean {

  private final static int LOGON_ERROR=10026;

  private final static int LOGOFF_ERROR=10027;

  public Vector processLogon(DataPacket data) throws AuthenticationException {

    String userId = null;

    try {

      userId = data.getString(SampleAuthentication.USER_ID);

      String password = data.getString(SampleAuthentication.PASSWORD);


      ThirdPartyAuthenticationMechanism.logon(userId,password);

      return this.getLogonResponse(userId);

    } catch ( ThirdPartyException ex ) {

      String[] params = new String[1];

      params[0] = userId;

    throw new AuthenticationException(this.LOGON_ERROR,params);

    }

  }

  public Vector processLogoff(DataPacket data) throws ProcessingErrorException {

    String userId = null;

    try {

      userId = data.getString(SampleAuthentication.USER_ID);

      ThirdPartyAuthenticationMechanism.logoff(userId);

      return this.getLogoffResponse(userId);

    } catch ( ThirdPartyException ex ) {

      String[] params = new String[1];

      params[0] = userId;

      throw new ProcessingErrorException(LOGOFF_ERROR,params);

    }
```

```
  }

  private Vector getLogonResponse(String userId) {

    Vector v = new Vector();

    DataPacket response = new DataPacket("LOGON RESULT");

    response.put(AuthenticationUtils.USER_ID,userId);

    v.addElement(response);

    return v;

  }

  private Vector getLogoffResponse(String userId) {

    Vector v = new Vector();

    DataPacket response = new DataPacket("LOGOFF RESULT");

    response.put(AuthenticationUtils.USER_ID,userId);

    v.addElement(response);

    return v;

  }

}
```

The Bean Implementation Code explanation

The bean implementation is fairly straightforward. The `SampleAuthenticationBean` class extends the `com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationBean` class. It provides implementations of the two abstract methods: `processLogon()` and `processLogoff()`.

SampleAuthenticationBean.processLogon()

This method carries out the following steps:

- Extract the user ID and password from the incoming `DataPacket`.
- Attempt to authenticate the user by invoking `ThirdPartyAuthenticationMechanism.logon()`.
- If the authentication is successful then produce a response to be sent back to the client by calling the `getLogonResponse()` method.
- If the authentication fails then a `ThirdPartyException` is raised. This is caught and a `AuthenticationException` is thrown.

SampleAuthenticationBean.processLogoff()

This method carries out the following steps:

- Extract the user ID from the incoming `DataPacket`.
- Attempt to logoff the user by invoking ThirdPartyAuthenticationMechanism.logoff().
- If the logoff is successful then produce a response to be sent back to the client by calling the `getLogoffResponse()` method.
- If the logoff fails then a `ThirdPartyException` is raised. This is caught and a `AuthenticationException` is thrown.

SampleAuthenticationBean.getLogonResponse()

This method simply produces a response `DataPacket` to be sent back to the client confirming that the logon was successful.

SampleAuthenticationBean.getLogoffResponse()

This method simply produces a response `DataPacket` to be sent back to the client confirming that the logoff was successful.

Define the Remote Interface

The Remote Interface for the `SampleAuthenticationBean` is defined as follows:

```
import com.bankframe.services.authentication.Authentication;


public interface SampleAuthentication extends Authentication {

  public final String USER_ID=”userId”;

  public final String PASSWORD=”password”;

}
```

This interface defines two constants; `USER_ID` and `PASSWORD`, that define the names of the fields in logon request `DataPacket`s that the user ID and password, required by the third party authentication mechanism, are stored in.

Define the Home Interface

The Home Interface for the `SampleAuthenticationBean` is defined as follows:

```
import java.rmi.RemoteException;

import javax.ejb.EJBHome;

import javax.ejb.CreateException;


public interface SampleAuthenticationHome extends EJBHome {

  public SampleAuthentication create() throws CreateException,RemoteException;
```

```
}
```

This interface simply defines the `create()` method used to create instances of the `SampleAuthenticationBean`.

Define the Deployment Descriptor

The deployment descriptor format differs from one application server to another. Consult your application server documentation for details on how to create a deployment descriptor.

Build & Deploy the bean

Build `SampleAuthenticationBean` the same as any other session bean using the tools appropriate for the application server you are targeting. Deploy the bean to the application server as normal. Finally register the bean with MCA as detailed below.

Conclusions

Developing a custom authentication mechanism is a straightforward process. The main task is implementing the `processLogon()` and `processLogoff()` methods. Apart from that the process is identical to developing any EJB session bean.

Registering Authentication Mechanisms with MCA Services

See the Administrating MCA Services documentation.

Implementing a client application that can authenticate against MCA

In order for client applications to be able to access MCA Services the client must be able to authenticate itself with MCA. The example below illustrates a simple Java application that authenticates itself with MCA using the `SampleAuthenticationBean` example above. The `SampleAuthenticationBean` is deployed to Route 30003.

The SampleAuthenticationBean

```
import java.util.Vector;


import com.bankframe.bo.DataPacket;

import com.bankframe.ei.comms.EHTTPCommsManager;

import com.bankframe.services.sessionmgmt.SessionManagementUtils;

import com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationUtils;

public class SampleClient {
```

```
public final static String AUTH_REQUEST_ID="30003";

public static void main(String[] args) {

 try {

  String appserver = args[0];

  String userId = args[1];

  String password = args[2];


  DataPacket dp = new DataPacket("SAMPLE LOGON REQUEST");

  AuthenticationUtils.makeLogonPacket(dp);

  dp.put(SampleAuthentication.USER_ID,userId);

  dp.put(SampleAuthentication.PASSWORD,password);

  dp.put(DataPacket.REQUEST_ID,AUTH_REQUEST_ID);

  EHTTPCommsManager commsMgr = new EHTTPCommsManager("sample",appserver);

  Vector response = commsMgr.sendDataPacket(dp);

  String sessionId =
SessionManagementUtils.getSessionId((DataPacket)response.elementAt(0));

  if ( sessionId != null ) {

   System.out.println("user: " + userId + " was successfully authenticated");

   dp = new DataPacket("SAMPLE LOGOFF REQUEST");

   AuthenticationUtils.makeLogoffRequest(dp,sessionId);

   dp.put(DataPacket.REQUEST_ID,AUTH_REQUEST_ID);

   response = commsMgr.sendDataPacket(dp);

   userId = AuthenticationUtils.getUserId((DataPacket)response.elementAt(0));

   if ( userId != null ) {

    System.out.println("logged off successfully");

   } else {

    System.out.println("failed to logoff successfully");

   }

  } else {
```

```
      System.out.println("user: " + userID + " was not successfully authenticated");
     }
    } catch ( Exception ex ) {
      System.out.println(ex.toString());
    }
   }
```

SampleAuthenticationBean Code explanation

The sample client carries out the following steps

Create the logon request

- The client creates a `DataPacket`, the name is unimportant, (in this case it is: 'SAMPLE LOGON REQUEST')
- Uses the `AuthenticationUtils.makeLogonRequest()` to turn the `DataPacket` into a logon request
- Adds the userId and password information required by `SampleAuthenticationBean` to the `DataPacket`
- Sets the `DataPacket REQUEST_ID` to 30003, so that the request is routed to the `SampleAuthenticationBean`

Send the DataPacket to MCA

- The client creates an `EHTTPCommsManager` instance, passing it the URL of the application server where MCA is running.
- The client calls the comms manager's `sendDataPacket()` method to send the logon request to MCA.
- MCA receives the request and routes it to `SampleAuthenticationBean`, which in turn authenticates the request.
- MCA passes back the response from `SampleAuthenticationBean` to the client. This is the return value from the `sendDataPacket()` method call.

Check if the logon was successful

- The client uses the `SessionManagementUtils.getSessionId()` method to see if the returned response contains a session ID.
- If it does then the logon attempt was successful, because MCA will only generate a sessionId when the client has been successfully authenticated.
- If it does not then the user authentication must have failed.

Logoff

- If the logon attempt was successful, then the client attempts to logoff
- The client creates another `DataPacket`.
- It calls `AuthenticationUtils.makeLogoffPacket()` to convert the `DataPacket` to a logoff request.
- It sets the `REQUEST_ID` of the `DataPacket` to 30003 so the logoff request is routed to the `SampleAuthenticationBean`.
- If the logoff attempt is successful then, the returned `DataPacket` will contain an `AuthenticationUtils.USER_ID` field.
- If the attempt is not successful then, the `DataPacket` will not contain an `AuthenticationsUtils.USER_ID` field.

LDAP Authentication

Introduction to LDAP Authentication

LDAP based Authentication is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.authentication.ldap` package. It can authenticate any user defined in an LDAP repository.

Configuring LDAP Authentication

- Deploy the `ldapauthentication.jar` EJB on the application server.
- Register the ldap authentication bean with MCA. The JNDI for the ldap authentication bean is: `eontec.bankframe.LDAPAuthentication`.

LDAP Authentication uses the ldap context named: `bankframeusers` to connect to the LDAP server (See the MCA LDAP documentation for more detail on LDAP contexts).

The configuration settings for the `bankframeusers` ldap context must be specified in `BankframeResource.properties` as follows:

The following settings are required, if they are not defined then LDAP Authentication will not be able to function:
`bankframeusers.ldap.baseDn` – Specifies the location in the LDAP server hierarchy within which to search for users, e.g. `ou=Users,o=SomeOrganization`.
`bankframeusers.ldap.defaultSearchFilter` - Specifies the search filter to use to find a specific user e.g. `cn={0}`

All other `LDAPServerContext` settings can optionally be specified for the `bankframeusers` context. If they are not specified then default values will be inherited from the `ldap.default.*` settings defined elsewhere in `BankframeResource.properties`.

RDBMS Authentication

Introduction to RDBMS Authentication

User authentication within a typical RDBMS is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.authentication.ejb.user` package. It uses one session bean, `EJBUserAuthenticationBean`, and one entity bean, `EJBUserBean`.

Component Overview

EJBUserBean

`EJBUserBean` is a container-managed entity bean that houses information about `Users`. It maps to the `EJBUSERS` table in the database. This table has the following attributes.

USERID	VARCHAR2(80)	NOT NULL
PASSWORD	VARCHAR2(80)	
USERNAME	VARCHAR2(80)	

The Primary Key Field here is the `USERID`.

The `EJBUserBean` provides the following functionality.

- getUserId()
- getName()
- validatePassword()
- toDataPacket()

EJBUserAuthenticationBean

The `EJBUserAuthenticationBean` is a session bean used to validate users against passwords and to process user logon and logoff requests. This session bean is a subclass and implementation of the abstract `com.bankframe.services.authentication.AuthenticationBean` discussed previously in this document. It provides the following functionality:

`processLogon()`	This takes a `DataPacket` with userId and password and returns a Vector of logon responses.
`processLogoff()`	Takes a `DataPacket` containing a sessionId and returns a Vector of logoff responses.

EJBUser table and Access Control to EJBs. The `EJBUSER` Table is used elsewhere within MCA to perform access control on specific EJBs. This is discussed further in the “MCA Access Control” document.

Configuring RDBMS User Authentication

- Deploy `userauthentication.jar` and `ejbuser.jar` EJBs on the server.
- Register the beans with MCA. The JNDI for the EJB authentication bean is `eontec.bankframe.EJBUserAuthentication`.

The JNDI name for the EJB user entity bean is `eontec.bankframe.EJBUser`.

Encrypting Sensitive Data

Message Digest Overview

A Message Digest is a digital fingerprint of a block of data. A number of algorithms have been designed to compute message digests – two of the most widely used are SHA, the secure hash algorithm and MD5.

MCA Message Digest service

MCA Services provides a Message Digest service enabling customers to ensure that sensitive information, e.g. customer passwords, are stored/transmitted in a non-clear text format. The hashing service is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.security.MessageDigestUtils` class.

MCA Message Digest Configuration

The Message Digest service is configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file - a name/value pair entry is configured to the indicate which Message Digest algorithm is to be used. The entry in `BankframeResource.properties` is as follows:

```
# Defines the message digest algorithm to use

# Possible values are defined by the JCA

# Typical values are: MD5 | SHA-1

messageDigest.algorithm=SHA-1
```

Calling the `MessageDigest.digest(clearText)` service will return a String in non-clear text format. This non-clear text string will be based on the MessageDigest algorithm configured in `BankframeResource.properties`.

Refer to your JCA documentation and the Configuring MCA Services documentation for further information.

Session Management

Session Management is part of the MCA Security Provider Framework – refer to the Security Provider Framework section for further info on the Security Provider.

Purpose

The purpose of session management is to track which users are logged on. MCA provides both a framework for implementing session management and a standard implementation of session management. This allows custom solutions to be implemented which are integrated with MCA

Relationship to other session management systems

MCA Session Management is independent of, and does not rely on, other session management systems such as HTTP sessions.

Components of MCA Services Session Management

Client	Can be a Java applet, application, servlet or JSP.
User	Authentication Mechanism.
`BankframeServlet` or `BankframePage`	Channel Managers
`RequestRouter`	Validates and routes requests to business processes.
`SessionManagment` implementation	Manages user sessions.
`BankFrameSessionServlet`	Provides administration facilities for session management.

Use Cases

There are four use cases for MCA session management:

Free Services	Services that can be used without a user being logged on.
Logging On	Authenticating the user.
Normal Use	Normal use of Financial Components
Logging Off	Ending an MCA Services session.

Free Services

Free Services are Financial Components which can be accessed without requiring a user to be logged on. Typically these services are required in the process of establishing the user session. For example the `GenerateRandomNumbers` service is normally a free service because it is required to generate the random selection of PIN digits that a user logging on should enter.

Logging On

Logging on is part of the user authentication process and is covered in more detail in the User Authentication document. MCA Services requires that all user authentication mechanisms provide a user ID that uniquely identifies the user. This user ID is used to generate the session ID that uniquely identifies each user session. When a user is successfully authenticated and a user ID is passed to the session management system, a new session is created for the user.

Normal Use

Once a session has been established the client can access the Siebel Financial Components. Each time the client sends a request to MCA Services it must include the session ID in the request. If the client does not include the session ID then MCA will refuse to process the request. When MCA receives the request it validates the session ID (e.g. to make sure that the user session has not timed out through inactivity). If the session is determined to be valid the request is passed on to the access control mechanism (which will determine if the user has access rights to the requested business service). If the session is not valid then an exception will be returned to the client.

Logging Off

When a user wishes to log off they must inform MCA. When MCA receives a log off request, it informs the user authentication mechanism that the user is logging off, and deletes the user's session.

com.bankframe.services.sessionmgmt

MCA Session Management is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.sessionmgmt package`. This package defines the functionality that all session management implementations must support. The package contains the following classes/interfaces

`BankFrameSession`	An interface that declares the methods all user sessions must expose.
`SessionManagementBean`	Abstract base class that all session management beans must extend.
`SessionManagement`	Remote Interface that declares the methods that session management beans must expose.
`SessionManagementUtils`	Utility class that facilitates the use of session management functionality.
`InvalidSessionException`	Exception thrown when an attempt is made to use an invalid session ID.
`Client`	Test application for testing user authentication and session management functionality

BankFrameSession

This interface defines the methods that all user sessions must have. It is up to the specific implementation to provide an implementation of this interface.

SessionManagementBean

This abstract base class defines the functionality that all session management implementations must provide. The class defines the following abstract methods:

`createSession()`	Create a new user session.

`deleteSession()`	Delete an existing user session.
`retrieveSession()`	Retrieve a user session instance, using the specified session ID.
`getNumValidSessions()`	Get the number of valid user sessions.
`getSessions()`	Retrieve a vector of all valid user sessions.
`removeInvalidSessions()`	Remove all invalid (expired) user sessions.
`removeAllSessions()`	Remove all users sessions, effectively logging off all users.

SessionManagement

This remote interface defines the functionality exposed by all session management implementations.

SessionManagementUtils

This class is a Utility class that facilitates the use of session management

InvalidSessionException

This exception is thrown whenever an attempt is made to use an invalid session ID A session ID is invalid if:

- The session it corresponds to has been deleted because the user has logged off
- The session it corresponds to has timed out through user inactivity
- MCA has not created a session for the specified ID.

com.bankframe.services.sessionmgmt.Client

This class is a test application used to test session management functionality

Implementing a session management aware client application

Before a client application can access MCA services it must establish a user session. This requires the client to authenticate itself with MCA. When the client application is finished it should inform MCA by logging off.

A detailed example of how to logon, access Siebel Services and logoff is provided in the MCA User Authentication documentation in the section titled ‘Implementing a client application that can authenticate against MCA’

Implementing a custom session management implementation

In most cases one of the standard MCA implementations of session management should be sufficient, however in some cases it may be necessary to provide a custom implementation; for example if the session management system must integrate with some third party product.

All custom implementations must extend the `com.bankframe.services.sessionmgmt.SessionManagementBean` class. As described this class defines a number of abstract methods that must be implemented by the custom implementation.

The custom implementation must also provide an implementation of the `com.bankframe.services.sessionmgmt.BankFrameSession` interface.

Consult the JavaDocs reference for a full explanation of what behavior the above methods must implement.

Configuring and Administering Session Management

Deploying a Session Management Implementation

The session management implementation must be deployed on the application server, the same as any other service.

Secondly the session management implementation must be registered with MCA by assigning the implementation a Siebel Route. Assigning services to routes is covered in the MCA Deployment and Administration documentation.

Finally MCA must be told which EJB the session management implementation is deployed on. Setting the `security.sessionMgmtJndiName` property in `BankframeResource.properties` does this, e.g.
`security.sessionMgmtJndiName=eontec.bankframe.EJBSessionManagement`

Administering MCA Sessions

MCA sessions are administered using the `BankFrameSessionServlet`. Check that this servlet has been deployed on your application server (The servlet is implemented in the `com.bankframe.ei.servlet.BankFrameSessionServlet`). The `BankFrameSessionServlet` allows you to carry out the following operations:

- List all current sessions
- Remove expired sessions
- Remove all sessions
- Delete a specific session

List all current sessions

This option presents a list of all users currently logged on to MCA Services

Remove expired sessions

This option removes all sessions that have timed out due to user inactivity

Remove all sessions

This option logs off all users from MCA by deleting their sessions

Delete a specific session

This logs off a specific user by deleting their session

Standard Session Management Implementations

MCA Services provides two standard implementations of session management:

- A container managed Entity bean implementation that stores user sessions in an RDBMS
- A bean managed Entity bean implementation that stores user sessions in an LDAP repository

The first implementation generally gives better performance because user sessions need to have their time-stamp updated every time the user accesses an MCA service and LDAP servers are typically optimized for reads, not updates. This causes the LDAP implementation to perform slower than the RDBMS implementation.

The LDAP implementation may be useful for customers who want to keep all user related information in an LDAP repository.

RDBMS implementation

The RDBMS implementation is contained in the `ejbsessionmgmt.jar` JAR file. The RDBMS implementation has the following JNDI name: `eontec.bankframe.EJBSessionManagement`

The RDBMS implementation requires a database table called `SESSIONMGMT` to be created. The script to create this table is supplied with MCA Services.

LDAP Implementation

The ldap implementation is contained in the `ldapsessionmgmt.jar` JAR file. The ldap implementation has the following JNDI name: `eontec.bankframe.LDAPSessionManagement`

The LDAP implementation requires that a new object class is defined in the LDAP server's schema. The script to define this object class is supplied with MCA

Access Control

Access Control is part of the MCA Security Provider Framework – refer to the Security Provider Framework section.

Purpose

MCA Access Control provides secure access to MCA Financial Components. It controls which users can access which Financial Components.

Scope

This document assumes familiarity with MCA and Enterprise Java Beans.

Overview

Actors

The following actors exist in the MCA Access Control Model:

Users	Individual MCA Users.
User Groups	Arbitrary groupings of Users. A User Group contains one or more members. A User can belong to zero or more Groups.
Financial Component	A service available to Users.

MCA Access Control limits access to Financial Components to only those Users and/or Groups that have been granted access to the Financial Component.

Before a Siebel user can access Siebel Financial Components, they must authenticate themselves. This process is covered in the MCA User Authentication documentation.

When a user is successfully authenticated, a Siebel Session is created for that user. This session is uniquely identified by a session ID. Every time the user wishes to access a Siebel Financial Component they must provide a session ID. Before being granted access to the Financial Component the session ID is checked to ensure it is valid. After the session ID has been validated the access control rights for the corresponding user are checked to see if the user has access to the requested Financial Component. The user must have been granted access rights to the Financial Component, or alternatively be a member of a group with access to the Financial Component, before s/he can access the Financial Component. If the user does not have access an error will be reported.

Dependencies

MCA Access Control is dependent on the MCA User Authentication service to uniquely identify MCA Users.

MCA Access Control is dependent on the MCA Session Management service to ensure users are currently logged on.

Implementations

MCA provides two standard implementations of access control:

- An LDAP based Access Control Mechanism that leverages the access control mechanisms inherent in LDAP servers
- A CMP EJB based mechanism that uses several database tables to implement access control

Customisation

MCA provides an architecture for custom access control mechanisms to be implemented.

com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol

The MCA Access Control mechanism is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol` package. This package provides a framework for implementing access control mechanisms. The package contains the following classes/interfaces:

`AccessControlBean`	Abstract base class that all access control mechanisms must extend.
`AccessControl`	Remote Interface that defines what functionality access control mechanisms expose.
`AccessControlException`	Exception thrown when an attempt is made to access a prohibited resource.

com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControlBean

This base class defines the functionality that all access control mechanisms should implement. The class extends `com.bankframe.ejb.ESessionBean`. This means that access control mechanisms are standard Siebel Services. `AccessControlBean` provides a standard implementation of the required `processDataPacket()` method. `AccessControlBean` defines the following abstract method that must be defined by implementations:

```
public abstract boolean validateUserRequest(String userId,String requestId)
throws AccessControlException ;
```

This method takes a `userId` and a `requestId` as parameters and returns true if the user is allowed to access the Financial Component identified by `requestId`. If the user is not allowed access to the Financial Component then an `AccessControlException` will be thrown. An `AccessControlException` should also be thrown if the specified user or Financial Component cannot be located.

com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControl

This remote interface defines the functionality exposed by access control mechanisms. The interface extends the `com.bankframe.ejb.EsessionRemote` interface. It defines the following method:

```
public boolean validateUserRequest(String userId,String requestId) throws
AccessControlException, RemoteException ;
```

This method can be invoked to check if a user has access to the Financial Component identified by `requested`.

com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControlException

This exception is thrown when a user attempts to access a prohibited service.

Implementing a custom access control mechanism

To illustrate how to implement a custom access control mechanism we will use an imaginary example where we need to integrate with a third party product that determines access rights. Assume the third party product has the following interface:

```
Public class ThirdPartyAccessControl {

 Public static Boolean checkAccess(String user,String resource) throws
ThirdPartyException ;

   }
```

We will call this example: `SampleAccessControlBean`

Create the bean implementation

The Bean Implementation

```
import com.bankframe.services.authentication.ldap.LDAPAuthentication;

import com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControlBean;

import com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControlException;


public class SampleAccessControlBean extends AccessControlBean {


  public boolean validateUserRequest(String userId,String requestId) throws
AccessControlException {

    try {

    ThirdPartyAccessControl.checkAccess(userId,requestId);

      return true;

    } catch ( ThirdPartyException ex ) {

      String[] errparams = new String[2];

      errparams[0] = userId;

      errparams[1] = requestId;

      return new AccessControlException(10030,errparams);

    }

  }

}
```

The Bean Implementation Code Explanation

The bean implementation needs to implement a single method: `validateUserRequest()`. In this example the implementation of `validateUserRequest()` delegates the task of verifying access rights to the `ThirdPartyAccessControl.checkAccess()` method. This method call is wrapped in a try-catch block which catches any `ThirdPartyExceptions`. If the user does have access to the resource (`requestId`) then the method will return true, otherwise a `ThirdPartyException` is thrown. This exception is caught and an `AccessControlException` is thrown instead.

Remote Interface

The remote interface for this bean just extends the `com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControl` remote interface. It does not add an extra members or fields:

```
Import com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.AccessControl;

Public interface SampleAccessControl extends AccessControl {

}
```

Home Interface

The home interface defines the `create()` method used to create bean instances:

```
Import java.rmi.RemoteException;

Import javax.ejb.EJBHome;

Import javax.ejb.CreateException;


Public interface SampleAccessControlHome extends EJBHome {

  SampleAccessControl create() throws CreateException,RemoteException;

}
```

Deployment Descriptor

The deployment descriptor format differs from one application server to another. Consult your application server documentation for details on how to create a deployment descriptor.

Conclusion

Implementing a custom access control mechanism is very similar to implementing any other MCA Service; the only difference is that the `validateUserRequest()` method must be implemented.

LDAP Access Control Mechanism

Introduction to LDAP Access Control Mechanism

The LDAP based Access Control Mechanism is implemented in the: `com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.ldap package`. This implementation leverages the access control facilities inherent in LDAP servers such as IBM SecureWay Directory.

Configuring LDAP Access Control

- Deploy the `ldapaccesscontrol.jar` EJB on the application server
- Register the ldap access control bean with MCA (see the MCA routing documentation for details on how to do this). The JNDI for the ldap access control bean is: `eontec.bankframe.LDAPAccessControl`.
- LDAP Authentication uses two ldap contexts (`bankframeusers` & `bankframeroutes`) to connect to the LDAP server (See the MCA LDAP documentation for more details on LDAP contexts). The `bankframeusers` context is used for validating users, and the `bankframeroutes` context is used for validating Financial Components.

The configuration settings for the `bankframeusers` ldap context must be specified in `BankframeResource.properties` as follows:

The following settings are required, if they are not defined then LDAP access control will not be able to function: `bankframeusers.ldap.baseDn` – Specifies the location in the LDAP server hierarchy within which to search for users, e.g. `ou=Users,o=SomeOrganization` `bankframeusers.ldap.defaultSearchFilter`- Specifies the search filter to use to find a specific user e.g. `cn={0}.`

All other `LDAPServerContext` settings can optionally be specified for the `bankframeusers` context. If they are not specified then default values will be inherited from the `ldap.default.*` settings defined elsewhere in `BankframeResource.properties.`

The configuration settings for the `bankframeroutes` ldap context must be specified in `BankframeResource.properties` as follows:

The following settings are required, if they are not defined then LDAP access control will not be able to function: `bankframeroutes.ldap.baseDn` – specifies the base distinguished name where MCA route information is stored. `bankframeroutes.ldap.rdnAttribute` – specifies the name of the attribute used to form the relative distinguished name of each object.

All other `LDAPServerContext` settings can optionally be specified for the `bankframeroutes` context. If they are not specified then default values will be inherited from the `ldap.default.*` settings defined elsewhere in `BankframeResource.properties.`

Configuring Access Rights

Overview

Since the LDAP access control mechanism leverages the access control facilities in the LDAP server, the process for configuring Siebel Access Rights is identical to the process used to configure access rights to any other kind of resource in the LDAP server. You will need to consult your LDAP server documentation for details of how to configure access control, since each LDAP server product has differing implementations of access control.

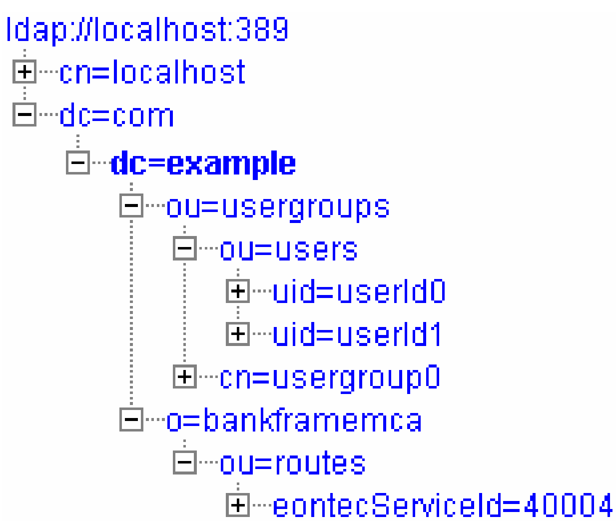
The worked example below illustrates how to configure access control rights using IBM SecureWay Directory.

Worked Example

This worked example assumes the following settings for the `bankframeusers` and `bankframeroutes` ldap contexts:

```
bankframeusers.ldap.baseDn=ou=users,ou=usergroups,dc=example,dc=com

bankframeusers.ldap.defaultSearchFilter=uid={0}

bankframeroutes.ldap.basedDn=ou=routes,o=bankframemca,dc=example,dc=com

bankframeroute.ldap.rdnAttribute=eontecServiceId
```

The example assumes the following tree structure in the LDAP server:



`UserId0` and `UserId1` are both members of the `usergroup0`

In this example we want to grant access to the Siebel Financial Component assigned to route 40004. We do this as follows

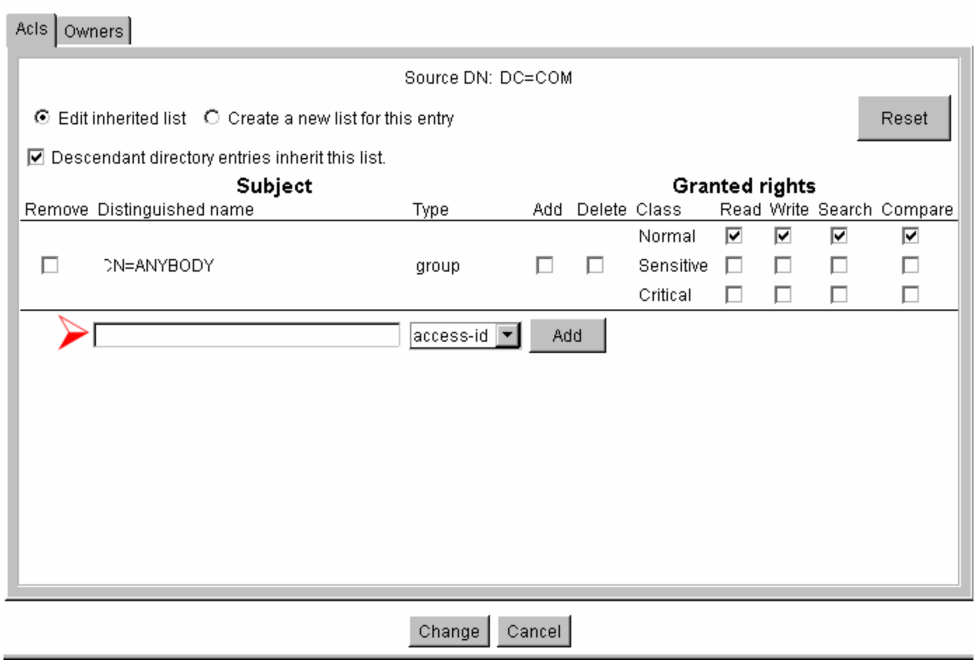
1 Launch the IBM Secureway Directory Management Tool

2 Log in using the administrator account

3 Select Browse Tree from the menu on the left

4 Expand the tree until you have selected the `eontecServiceId=40004,ou=routes,o=bankframemca,dc=example,dc=com node`.

5 Press the ACL button on the toolbar above the ldap tree window, the following window will appear:



6 In the edit box indicated by the red arrow type:
`cn=usergroup0,ou=usergroups,dc=example,dc=com`

7 Select group from the drop down list and press the Add button

8 A new ACL entry will appear for `usergroup0`. Tick all the boxes under the Granted rights heading for this ACL entry

9 Press the change button.

The members of `usergroup0` have now been granted access to the Siebel Financial Component assigned to route 40004

EJB Access Control Implementation

Introduction to EJB Access Control Implementation

MCA supports access control for EJBs within a conventional relational database system. A user can therefore be configured to only have access to certain Financial Components within this framework.

Configuring access rights

Model overview

There are conceptually two entities within this ejb access control system, users and groups. It behaves as follows:

- A group can be named and assigned various permissions.

- A user can be assigned to one or more groups. That user in turn inherits all the permissions assigned to his/her group(s).
- A user can be assigned specific permissions but does not have to be a member of a group.

This model has several advantages:

- Users can be grouped according to organizational status.
- Although a user is part of a group, a user can have permissions that extend beyond those of their predefined group.
- A user can use Financial Components independently of a group should the need arise.

Table overview

The system uses the following five database tables.

- EJBUSERS
- EJBUSER_PERMISSIONS
- EJBGROUPS
- EJBGROUP_MEMBERS
- EJBGROUP_PERMISSIONS

EJBUSERS. This table, discussed in the MCA Services User Authentication document, is a representation of all registered Siebel MCA Users. It has the following fields:

USERID	VARCHAR2(80)	NOT NULL
PASSWORD	VARCHAR2(80)	
USERNAME	VARCHAR2(80)	

The Primary Key field here is the `USERID`. This field should be denoted preferably by a non-numeric code, which is similar to the real name of the user. For example, the `userId` of "Joe Bloggs" should resemble something like "jbloggs".

EJBUSER_PERMISSSIONS. This table will have one entry for each permission a user is assigned. This table will only have an entry if either of these conditions is satisfied:

- The user is not a member of a group and wants specific permissions.
- The user wants to be a member of a group but also wants extra permissions beyond the current scope of his/her assigned group.

It contains the following fields:

USERID	VARCHAR2(20)	NOT NULL
REQUESTID	VARCHAR2(15)	NOT NULL

The primary key field here is composed of both the `userId` and `requestId` to uniquely identify a `userId`/`requestId` pairing.

The userId in this table is a foreign key of userId in the EJBUSERS table. This means that for a user to have an entry in this table, they must have a corresponding entry in the EJBUSERS table. Similarly, a user cannot be removed from the EJBUSERS table if they are being referenced by an entry in this table.

EJBGROUPS. This table is a representation of the various user groups within MCA. It contains the following fields.

GROUPID	VARCHAR2(20)	NOT NULL
GROUPNAME	VARCHAR2(20)	

The primary key field here is the groupId.

EJBGROUP_MEMBERS. This table assigns users to groups. It contains the following fields. Note that a user can be a member of more than one group.

USERID	VARCHAR2(20)	NOT NULL
GROUPID	VARCHAR2(20)	NOT NULL

The primary key field here is a combination of the userId and groupId. This uniquely identifies a userId/groupId pairing.

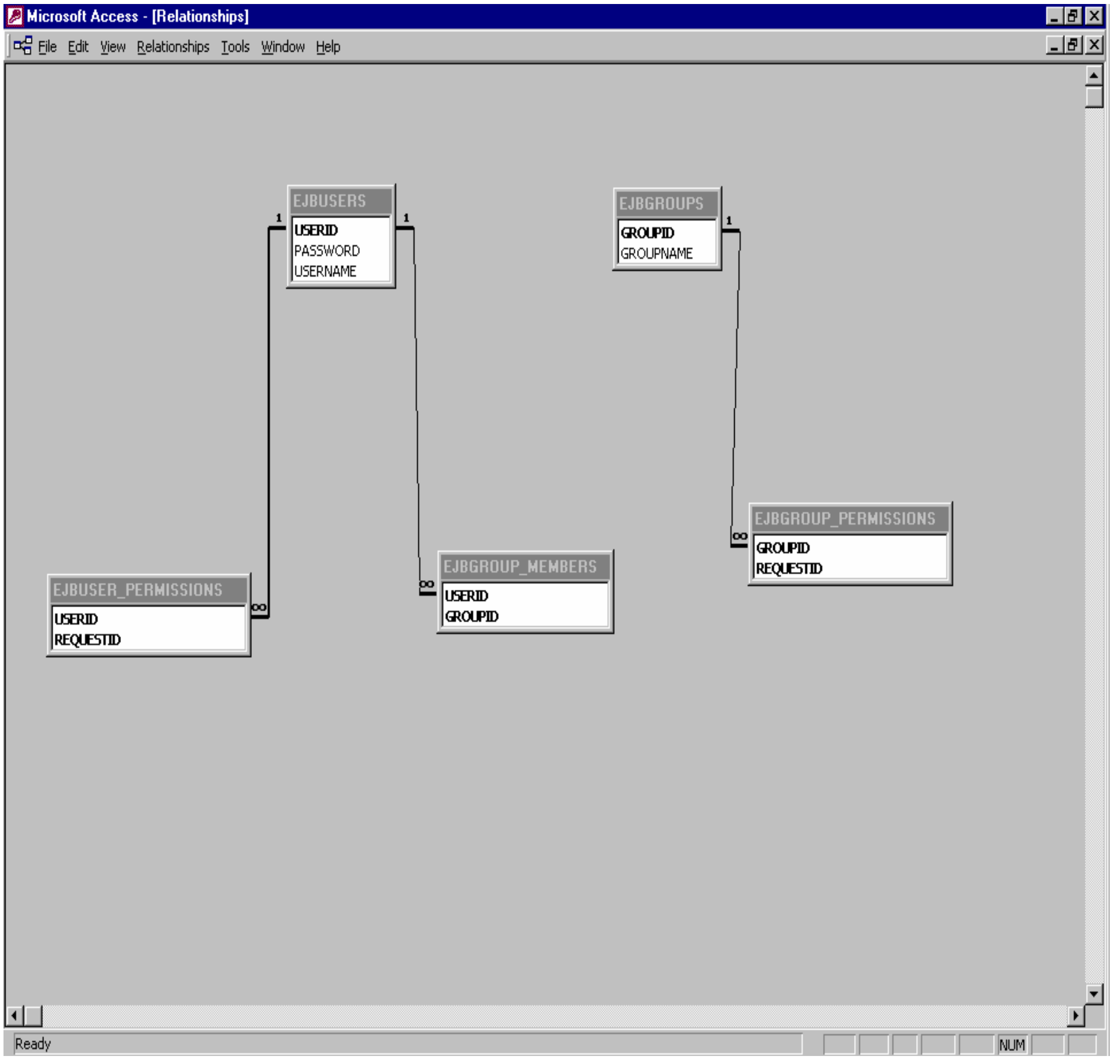
UserId here is a foreign key of userId in the EJBUSERS table. A user therefore cannot be removed from the EJBUSERS table if a record in this table references them. Likewise, a user cannot be added to this table if they do not have a record to reference in the EJBUSERS table.

EJBGROUP_PERMISSIONS. This table is a list of the permissions assigned to each group. This table will have one entry for each permission a group is assigned. It is conceptually equivalent to the EJBUSER_PERMISSIONS table. It contains the following fields,

GROUPID	VARCHAR2(20)	NOT NULL
REQUESTID	VARCHAR2(20)	NOT NULL

The primary key field here is a combination of the GROUPID and REQUESTID. It uniquely identifies a groupid/requestId pairing.

GroupId here is a foreign key of groupId in the EJBGROUPS table. This constraint means that a record in the EJBGroups table cannot be deleted if referenced by an entry in this table. Also, a record cannot be entered in this table if there is not a corresponding entry for it to reference in the EJBGROUPS table. The overall layout of these tables is shown through the following entity-relationship diagram.



EJB Overview

The access control system is implemented via one session bean, (EJBAccessControlBean) and five entity beans. They are:

EJBUserBean	An instance of this bean represents one record in the EJBUsers table.
EJBGroupBean	An instance of this bean represents one record in the EJBGROUPS table.
EJBGroupMemberBean	An instance of this bean represents one record in the EJBGROUP_MEMBERS table.
EJBGroupPermissionBean	An instance of this bean represents a record in the EJBGROUP_PERMISSIONS table.
EJBUserPermissionBean	An instance of this bean represents one row in the

	EJBUSER_PERMISSIONS table.

Session Bean Overview

The only session bean involved here is the EJBAccessControlBean. This session bean represents an implementation and subclass of the abstract AccessControlBean, a bean that declares common functionality to be implemented by all Siebel Access Control Mechanisms.

An instance of this bean exposes a single public method to a client.

validateUserRequest()	Validates a user against a requestId or permission. Returns true if user has access to the specified REQUEST_ID. Otherwise throws an AccessControlException.

User and Group Administration Session Beans

UserAdministrationBean

This session bean represents an implementation and subclass of the abstract ESessionBean, it is the class responsible for the creation and removal of users and their permissions for Siebel MCA.

com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.adminstration.user

The MCA User Administration mechanism is implemented in the com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.adminstration.user package. This package provides a framework for implementing User Administration mechanisms. The package contains the following classes/interfaces:

UserAdministrationBean	The User Administration bean implementation.
UserAdministration	Remote Interface to the User Administration Bean
UserAdministrationHome	User Administration home interface.
Client	Application to test User Administration bean functionality

The JNDI name of the UserAdministrationBean is eontec.bankframe.UserAdministration

The UserAdministrationBean's Methods

An instance of this bean exposes the following public methods to a client.

getAllUsers()	Returns an Enumeration of User objects for all users registered with MCA Services.
getUser(String userId)	Finds a user by userId and returns an instance of that user.

getUserPermissions(String userId)	Takes a userId and returns a Vector of that users permissions.
deleteUser(String userId)	Finds a user by userId and deletes that user. Returns void.
createUser(String userId, String userName, String password)	Creates a new user. Returns void.
deleteUserPermission(String userId, String permission)	Takes a userId and a permission and removes the permission from the user. Returns void.
addUserPermission(String userId, String permission)	Takes a userId and a permission and assigns the permission to the user. Returns void.
addUserToGroup(String userId, String group)	Takes a userId and a group and adds the user to the group. Returns void.
deleteUserFromGroup(String userId, String group)	Takes a userId and a group and removes the user from the group. Returns void.
unassignedUserPermissions(String userId)	Takes a userId and returns a Vector of the permissions the user doesn't have.

processDataPacket()

In order to invoke the methods of the UserAdministrationBean the client uses the processDataPacket() method.

getAllUsers(). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_ALL_USERS
REQUEST_ID	MC054
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each user with the following structure.

DATA PACKET NAME	USERS_DETAILS
USER_ID	The userId of the user
USER_NAME	The full name of the user
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000

OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

getUser(String userId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_USER
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with the user details in it. This DataPacket has the same structure as one of the DataPackets returned by getAllUsers().

getUserPermissions(String userId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_USER_PERMISSIONS
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each permission with the following structure.

DATA PACKET NAME	ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	The requestID of the permission
JNDI_NAME	JNDI name of the permission
IS_SESSION_MANAGED	yes or no
DESCRIPTION	Description of the permission
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

deleteUser(String userId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	DELETE_USER
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of DELETE_USER if successful or USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

createUser(String userId, String userName, String password). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	CREATE_USER
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
USER_NAME	The full name of the user
PASSWORD	A password for the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of CREATE_USER if successful or USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

deleteUserPermission(String userId, String permission). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	DELETE_USER_PERMISSION
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
PERMISSION	The requestId of the permission to be removed.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of DELETE_USER_PERMISSION if successful or USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

addUserPermission(String userId, String permission). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	ADD_USER_PERMISSION
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
PERMISSION	The requestId of the permission to be assigned.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of ADD_USER_PERMISSION if successful or USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

addUserToGroup(String userId, String group). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	ADD_USER_TO_GROUP

REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
GROUP	The groupId of the group to add user to.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of DELETE_USER_PERMISSION if successful or USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

deleteUserFromGroup(String userId, String permission). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	DELETE_USER_FROM_GROUP
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
GROUP	The groupId of the group to remove user from.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of ADD_USER_PERMISSION if successful or USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

unassignedUserPermissions(String userId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client.

DATA PACKET NAME	UNASSIGNED_USER_PERMISSIONS
REQUEST_ID	MC054
USER_ID	The userId of the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each permission with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	The requestID of the permission
JNDI_NAME	JNDI name of the permission
IS_SESSION_MANAGED	yes or no
DESCRIPTION	Description of the permission
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION. When an exception is thrown by the above methods a Vector is returned containing a DataPacket with the following structure.

DATA PACKET NAME	USER_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
Message	A description of the problem which caused the exception to be thrown
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

GroupAdministrationBean

This session bean represents an implementation and subclass of the abstract ESessionBean, it is the class responsible for the creation and removal of groups, their permissions and members.

com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.adminstration.group

The MCA Group Administration mechanism is implemented in the com.bankframe.services.accesscontrol.adminstration.group package. This package provides a framework for implementing Group Administration mechanisms. The package contains the following classes/interfaces:

GroupAdministrationBean	The Group Administration bean implementation.
GroupAdministration	Remote Interface to the Group Administration Bean
GroupAdministrationHome	Group Administration home interface.
Client	Application to test Group Administration bean functionality

The JNDI name of the GroupAdministrationBean is eontec.bankframe.GroupAdministration

The GroupAdministrationBean's Methods

An instance of this bean exposes the following public methods to a client:

getAllGroups()	Returns an Enumeration of Group objects for all groups registered with MCA.
getGroup(String groupId)	Finds a group by groupId and returns an instance of that group.
getGroupPermissions(String groupId)	Takes a groupId and returns a Vector of that groups permissions.
deleteGroup(String groupId)	Finds a group by groupId and deletes that group. Returns void.
createGroup(String groupId, String groupName)	Creates a new group. Returns void.

deleteGroupPermission(String groupId, String permission)	Takes a groupId and a permission and removes the permission from the group. Returns void.
addGroupPermission(String groupId, String permission)	Takes a groupId and a permission and assigns the permission to the group. Returns void.
getUnassignedGroups(String userId)	Takes a userId and returns a Vector of the groups the user is not assigned to.
getGroupMembers(String groupId)	Takes a groupId and returns a Vector of the users assigned to it.
getUserGroups(String userId)	Takes a userId and returns a Vector of the groups the user is assigned to.
unassignedGroupPermissions(String groupId)	Takes a groupId and returns a Vector of the permissions the group doesn't have.

processDataPacket()

In order to invoke the methods of the GroupAdministrationBean the client uses the processDataPacket() method.

getAllGroups(). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_ALL_GROUPS
REQUEST_ID	MC053
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each group with the following structure.

DATA PACKET NAME	GROUPS_DETAILS
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
GROUP_NAME	The name of the group
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

getGroup(String groupId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_GROUP

REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with the group details in it. This DataPacket has the same structure as one of the DataPackets returned by getAllGroups().

getGroupPermissions(String groupId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_GROUP_PERMISSIONS
REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each permission with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	The requestID of the permission
JNDI_NAME	JNDI name of the permission
IS_SESSION_MANAGED	yes or no
DESCRIPTION	Description of the permission
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

deleteGroup(String groupId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	DELETE_GROUP
REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of DELETE_GROUP if successful or GROUP_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

createGroup(String groupId, String groupName). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	CREATE_GROUP

REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
GROUP_NAME	The name of the group
PASSWORD	A password for the group
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of CREATE_GROUP if successful or GROUP_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

deleteGroupPermission(String groupId, String permission). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	DELETE_GROUP_PERMISSION
REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
PERMISSION	The requestId of the permission to be removed.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of DELETE_GROUP_PERMISSION if successful or GROUP_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

addGroupPermission(String groupId, String permission). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	ADD_GROUP_PERMISSION
REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
PERMISSION	The requestId of the permission to be assigned.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of ADD_GROUP_PERMISSION if successful or GROUP_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

getUnassignedGroups(String userId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_UNASSIGNED_GROUPS
REQUEST_ID	MC053
USER_ID	The userId of the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector containing a DataPacket for each group with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	GROUPS_DETAILS
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
GROUP_NAME	The name of the group
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

getGroupMembers(String groupId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_GROUP_MEMBERS
REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the Group
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each user with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	USERS_DETAILS
USER_ID	The userId of the user
USER_NAME	The full name of the user
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

getUserGroups(String userId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_USER_GROUPS
REQUEST_ID	MC053
USER_ID	The userId of the user
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each group with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	GROUPS_DETAILS

GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
GROUP_NAME	The name of the group
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

unassignedGroupPermissions(String groupId). To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	UNASSIGNED_GROUP_PERMISSIONS
REQUEST_ID	MC053
GROUP_ID	The groupId of the group
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a Vector of one or more DataPackets containing a DataPacket for each permission with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	The requestID of the permission
JNDI_NAME	JNDI name of the permission
IS_SESSION_MANAGED	Yes or no
DESCRIPTION	Description of the permission
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

GROUP_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION. When an exception is thrown by the above methods a Vector is returned containing a DataPacket with the following structure.

DATA PACKET NAME	GROUP_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
Message	A description of the problem which caused the exception to be thrown
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

Routing

MCA Services Routing provides a flexible means for multiple clients communicating over multiple delivery channels to interact with Siebel Financial Components. The Routing Service takes care of delivering requests from clients to the correct Financial Components and returning the response data from those Financial Components to the client.

How MCA Services Routing works

Rather than hard-code the name of the Financial Component into a client it is preferable to identify the Financial Component using a unique identifier called a `REQUEST_ID` and couple this to the Financial Component's name at runtime. (This allows a Financial Component's implementation to be replaced with a different implementation without affecting the client). This coupling is what the Routing Service provides.

The Routing Service is implemented using an EJB session bean that contains the business logic for the Routing Service and an EJB entity bean that is used to store the routing data. The EJB Session bean is called the `RequestRouter` bean. The EJB Entity Bean is called the `Route` bean.

Each channel manager invokes the `RequestRouter` to route client requests to the correct Financial Component. The `RequestRouter` looks for the `REQUEST_ID` in each `DataPacket` sent from the client. It uses this five digit identifier to find a particular service. The `RequestRouter` maintains a mapping from `REQUEST_ID`s to Financial Components. Each time a request is received the `RequestRouter` looks up this mapping and translates the `REQUEST_ID` into the Financial Component name. Once the `RequestRouter` has discovered the Financial Components name, it creates an instance of the Financial Component and passes the client request on to the Financial Component. When the Financial Components has dealt with the request the `RequestRouter` returns the response data to the channel manager, which in turn passes the response back to the client.

This design is dependent on all the Financial Components conforming to the same interface - namely implementing the method `processDataPacket()`. This method is defined as abstract in the class `com.bankframe.ejb.EsessionBean class`. All Siebel Financial Components extend this class and provide an implementation of this method.

Note that clients never interact directly with the `RequestRouter` service; they always interact with the service via the client connectivity framework.

In addition to performing routing of requests, the `RequestRouter` bean also uses the User Authentication, Session Management, and Access Control Services to ensure that clients only access the Financial Components they have been granted access to.

RequestRouter and Transactions

Accessing more than one database within the course of a single J2EE container managed transaction requires the application server and the JDBC driver to support the Java Transaction API (JTA). Many application servers and JDBC drivers do not provide full support for JTA specification.

The `RequestRouter` EJB accesses the `BANKFRM` database (via the `EJBRoute` EJB), to determine the appropriate Financial Component to invoke. In turn the Financial Component will usually access some other application specific database. If the `RequestRouter` EJB did use a transaction when either the application server or JDBC does not support JTA then the application server will produce a runtime exception when the Financial Component attempts to access the second database.

To work around this issue by default the `RequestRouter` EJB is configured not to use a transaction, thus only the Financial Component will access a database within the context of a transaction.

This workaround has one caveat which is that the Audit Provider and Security Provider which are invoked by the `RequestRouter` EJB cannot participate in the same transaction as the one used by the Financial Component, therefore it is impossible for the Audit Provider or the Security Provider to cause the rollback of the Financial Component transaction.

If the application server and JDBC driver being used do fully support the JTA specification then this issue can be remedied by updating the `RequestRouter` EJB deployment descriptor to use a container managed transaction, consult your application server vendor's documentation for information on how to do this.

If the application server and JDBC driver do not fully support JTA then the only workaround is to change all Financial Components to use the `BANKFRM` database, and to update the `RequestRouter` EJB deployment descriptor to use a container managed transaction.

The com.bankframe.services.requestrouter package

The business logic for the Routing Service is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.requestrouter` package. This package consists of the following classes/interfaces:

`RequestRouterBean`	The session bean that implements MCA's routing logic.
`RequestRouter`	The remote Interface that declares the functionality `RequestRouterBean` exposes.
`RequestRouterHome`	The home interface used to create `RequestRouterBean` instances.
`RequestRouterException`	Exception thrown when an error occurs during the routing process.
`RequestRouterUtils`	Utility class to simplify channel manager's interactions with the `RequestRouterBean`.

RequestRouterBean

This class provides the implementation of MCA's Routing Service. Every time the `RequestRouterBean` receives a `DataPacket` it carries out the following operations:

- Check the `DataPacket` has a non-zero `REQUEST_ID`.
- Look up the `Route` identified by the `REQUEST_ID`.
- Check the `DataPacket` has a valid session ID.
- If the session ID is not present check to see if the DataPacket is a logon or logoff request; if so send the request to the User Authentication and Session Management Services.
- Otherwise use the Session Management service.
- Create an instance of the named Financial Component named in the `Route` and pass the `DataPacket` to the Financial Component, by invoking the EJB's `processDataPacket()` method.
- Pass back the returned response data from the Financial Component.

RequestRouter

This remote interface defines the methods that RequestRouterBean exposes. RequestRouterBean is a standard MCA Enterprise Service and exposes only the standard processDataPacket() method.

RequestRouterHome

This home interface has a single create() method used to create instances of the RequestRouterBean

RequestRouterException

Exception is thrown when an error occurs during the routing process.

RequestRouterUtils

This utility class contains a single static method:

```
Vector processDataPacket(DataPacket data) throws RequestRouterException;
```

This method creates an instance of the RequestRouterBean and passes it the specified DataPacket.

Channel Managers that need to pass DataPackets to the RequestRouterBean should use the above method to do so.

The com.bankframe.services.route package

This package contains the implementations of two entity beans that are used to persist the mapping of REQUEST_IDs to JNDI names. The two beans are EJBRouteBean and LDAPRouteBean. EJBRouteBean persists data to an RDBMS, LDAPRouteBean persists data to an LDAP server. Apart from the datastore that the beans persist to, they are identical. This is reflected in the fact that both beans share the same home and remote interfaces and primary key class.

The com.bankframe.services.route package contains the following classes/interfaces:

EJBRouteBean	Container managed bean implementation.
LDAPRouteBean	Bean managed bean implementation that persists to LDAP server.
Route	Remote Interface that declares the methods of the Route Entity bean.
RouteHome	Home Interface used to create instances of the Route Entity bean.
RoutePK	Primary key class used to uniquely identify Route Entity bean instances.

EJBRouteBean

This is the standard container managed implementation of the Route bean

LDAPRouteBean

This is the ldap based implementation of the `Route` bean. It uses the `bankframeroutes` ldap context specified in the `BankframeResource.properties` configuration file

Route

This remote interface defines the attributes that the `Route` bean has. These are:

`REQUEST_ID`	The `REQUEST_ID` this Financial Component is mapped to.
`JNDI_NAME`	The JNDI name of the Financial Component.
`DESCRIPTION`	Brief description of the Financial Component.
`SESSION_MANAGED`	Boolean value that indicates if the Financial Component requires a user session to be established before it can be accessed. Refer to the MCA Services Session Management documentation for further detail.

RouteHome

This home interface declares the methods that can be used to create `Route` instances; these are:

`Create()`	Create a new `Route` instance.
`FindByPrimaryKey()`	Retrieve a specific instance.
`FindAll()`	Retrieve an enumeration of all instances.

RoutePK

This class uniquely identifies `Route` bean instances. The `Route` bean's primary key attribute is the `REQUEST_ID`.

Route Administration Session Bean

This session bean represents an implementation and subclass of the abstract `ESessionBean`, it is the class responsible for the creation and removal of Routes.

com.bankframe.services.route.adminstration

The MCA Route Administration mechanism is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.route.administration` package. This package provides a framework for implementing Route Administration mechanisms. The package contains the following classes/interfaces:

`RouteAdministrationBean`	The Route Administration implementation bean.
`RouteAdministration`	Route Administration remote interface.

`RouteAdministrationHome`	Route Administration home interface.
`Client`	Application to test Route Administration bean functionality.

The JNDI name of the `RouteAdministrationBean` is `eontec.bankframe.RouteAdministration`

The RouteAdministrationBean's Methods

An instance of this bean exposes the following public methods to a client:

`getAllRoutes()`	Returns an `Enumeration` of `Route` objects for all MCA routes.
`getRoute(String requestId)`	Finds a route by `requestId` and returns an instance of that route.
`deleteRoute (String requestId)`	Finds a route by `requestId` and deletes that route. Returns `void`.
`createRoute(String requestId, String ejbName, String description, boolean isSessionManaged)`	Creates a new route. Returns `void`.

processDataPacket()

In order to invoke the methods of the `RouteAdministrationBean` the client uses the `processDataPacket()` method.

getAllRoutes()

To invoke this method using the `processDataPacket()` method a `DataPacket` with the following structure is sent by the client:

`DATA PACKET NAME`	`GET_ALL_ROUTES`
`REQUEST_ID`	`MC002`
`OWNER`	Usually `Eontec LTD`

The `processDataPacket()` method returns a vector of one or more `DataPacket`s containing a `DataPacket` for each route with the following structure.

`DATA PACKET NAME`	`ROUTE`
`REQUEST_ID`	The `requestId` of the route
`JNDI_NAME`	JNDI name of the route
`IS_SESSION_MANAGED`	`yes` or `no`

DESCRIPTION	Description of the route
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

getRoute(String requestId)

To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	GET_ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	MC002
ROUTE_REQUEST_ID	The requestId of the route to be found.
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a vector containing a DataPacket with the route details in it. This DataPacket has the same structure as one of the DataPackets returned by getAllRoutes().

deleteRoute(String requestId)

To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	DELETE_ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	MC002
ROUTE_REQUEST_ID	The requestId of the route
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of DELETE_ROUTE if successful, or ROUTE_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

createRoute(String requestId, String ejbName, String description, boolean isSessionManaged)

To invoke this method using the processDataPacket() method a DataPacket with the following structure is sent by the client:

DATA PACKET NAME	CREATE_ROUTE
REQUEST_ID	MC002
ROUTE_REQUEST_ID	The requestId of the route
JNDI_NAME	JNDI name of the route
SESSION_MANAGED	yes or no
DESCRIPTION	Description of the route

OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

The processDataPacket() method returns a vector containing a DataPacket with a DATA PACKET NAME of CREATE_ROUTE if successful, or ROUTE_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION if unsuccessful.

ROUTE_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION

When an exception is thrown by the above methods a Vector is returned containing a DataPacket with the following structure:

DATA PACKET NAME	ROUTE_ADMINISTRATION_EXCEPTION
REQUEST_ID	Default REQUEST_ID always 00000
Message	A description of the problem which caused the exception to be thrown
OWNER	Usually Eontec LTD

Request Contexts

Request Contexts are objects associated with requests that store some state. This state can then be maintained across all method invocations within the request call stack. One application of storing this state is for tracking transactions from start to finish.

Request Contexts and Threads

Request Contexts are based on the fact that in an application server a request corresponds to a single thread of execution. Leveraging this fact it is possible to associate some information with each thread. At the start of the processing of a request the Request Context object is created and initialized in the RequestRouterBean.processDataPackets() method. This information then exists for the duration of the request and can be accessed at any time.

The com.bankframe.services.requestcontext package

The business logic for the Request Context Service is implemented in the com.bankframe.services.requestcontext package. This package consists of the following classes/interfaces:

DataPacketsRequest	A wrapper object that maps a Vector of DataPackets to a Request object.
NullRequestContextFactory	The default RequestContextFactory. It does not associate any context with a request.
Request	This is a tagging interface to identify the data that makes up a request.
RequestContext	This is a tagging interface used to identify objects that are associated with a request.

RequestContextFactory	This class creates and configures RequestContext instances.
SampleRequestContextFactory	A sample factory for creating RequestContext objects that store the request DataPacket's REQUEST_ID and DATA PACKET NAME.

Configuring Request Contexts

To configure Request Contexts the BankframeResource.properties file must be modified as follows:

Specify a RequestContextFactory like below

requestContext.factory=com.bankframe.services.requestcontext.*PreferredRequestContextFactory*
where *PreferredRequestContextFactory* is used to create and associate state with the preferred RequestContext.

NOTE: If this setting is not modified the default NullRequestContextFactory is used which doesn't associate any context with a request.

Accessing the state of a RequestContext

If one needs to access the state associated with a RequestContext object, then the following code can be used to obtain the instance of the RequestContext and access the information it holds.

```
RequestContext rc = RequestContextFactory.getRequestContext()

PreferredRequestContext src = (PreferredRequestContext)rc;

Object state = src.get();
```

The PreferredRequestContextFactory will be the same Request Context Factory specified in BankframeResource.properties. In the above example the variable state will contain the information PreferredRequestContext associated with the thread of execution.

Writing Custom Request Context Factory Classes

When needing to employ the Request Context mechanism it will be necessary to write a customised RequestContextFactory and RequestContext to associate one's desired information with the thread of execution. This information to be stored needs to be available in the request sent to the RequestRouter i.e. the Vector of DataPackets. The RequestRouter will then wrap the request in a DataPacketRequest object and send it to the RequestContextFactory class. At this point the customised RequestContextFactory and RequestContext will be called. Customising the RequestContext and RequestContextFactory are described below.

Customising the Request Context

Firstly write a RequestContext class e.g. MyRequestContext that will specify the data from the request to be associated with the thread of execution. The MyRequestContext class must implement the RequestContext interface. The MyRequestContext class should be a simple class with some setter and getter methods to enable access to the desired fields. However there are performance issues to consider when deciding what to associate with the thread. This is discussed later in the section 'Request Contexts and Performance'

Customising the Request Context Factory

Once the customised `RequestContext`, `MyRequestContext`, is written a `RequestContextFactory`, e.g. `MyRequestContextFactory` must be written. To do this one should subclass the `RequestContextFactory` class and implement its abstract methods `newRequestContext()` and `configureRequestContext(RequestContext, Request)`.

- The `newRequestContext()` method should instantiate and return an instance of the new Request Context class `MyRequestContext`.
- The `configureRequestContext(RequestContext, Request)` method should take the `RequestContext` object passed as parameter and if it is an instance of the `MyRequestContext` class (which it should be), then cast it to the `MyRequestContext` class. Now extract the information one wants to associate with the thread of execution from the `Request` passed as a parameter and use the setter methods on `MyRequestContext` to associate this information with the thread.

Now the information is available at any point in the request through accessing the `MyRequestContext` object.

Request Contexts and Performance

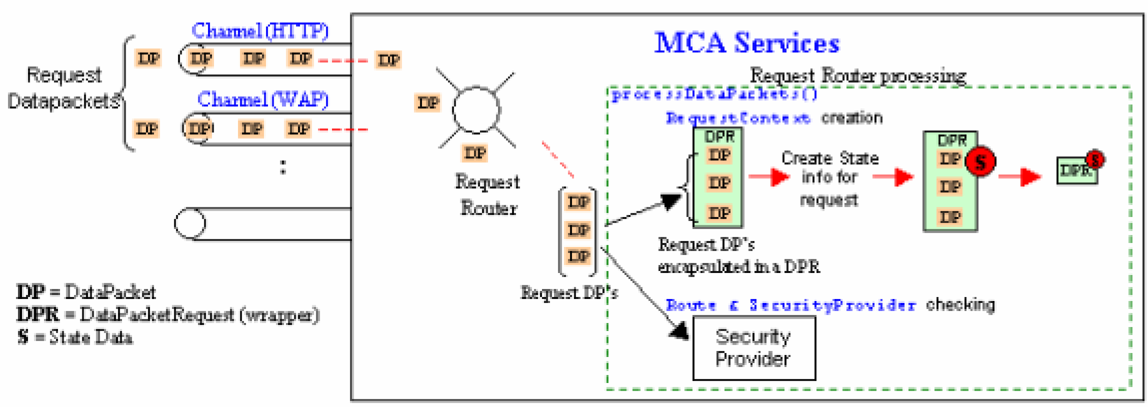
When deciding what information one wants to associate with a thread, one must take some points into consideration.

- The first point to understand is the lifecycle of the `RequestContext` object. One and only one `RequestContext` instance will be created for each thread in the application server. This instance will be re-initialized at the start of each request. This avoids unnecessary object creation overhead by re-using the `RequestContext` instance for multiple requests.
- The second point is that since there is one instance created per thread and the application may have hundreds or thousands of threads it is imperative that the `RequestContext` object does not require much memory. For example if each `RequestContext` object required 20Kb of storage and the application server is serving 5000 customers, with one thread per customer then you will need 20*5000 = ~100Mb of storage. Obviously this amount of data will cause a lot of extra page faults and will significantly decrease performance and scalability.
- The third point is that since the `RequestContext` object may be used several times in the course of a request, the methods invoked on the `RequestContext` object should be of reasonable performance. For example a poor `RequestContext` implementation might use a `Map` or other `Collection` type internally to store some state. This is inadvisable since manipulating or interacting with `Collection` type objects is likely to lead to a lot of temporary objects being created. When this is being done thousands of times per second this is likely to significantly impact system performance.

Hence it is important to choose a reasonable amount of data to store and a suitable storage type for the customized `RequestContext` object.

Request Context Example

When a DataPacket is sent to the Request Router, this corresponds to a request on some channel. The Request Router then processes the DataPackets associated with this request. Within the processing the DataPackets for a request are wrapped inside a DataPacketRequest object, then the RequestContextFactory is called and this creates a RequestContext object which is used to store the state information for the request which then exists for the duration of the request.



The RequestContextFactory uses the java.lang.ThreadLocal to store the relevant RequestContext data for a request. Remember that it was previously stated that a request corresponds to a single thread of execution. ThreadLocal is used to store state for a Thread as long as it remains alive, and hence is used. The RequestContext can be customized in order to store specific state information for a request. In the following example the RequestId and Data Packet Name are the only state information that is stored for each request.

```
//Customized Request Context
public static class MyRequestContext implements RequestContext {
       //declare the state information required
       private String requestId;
       private String dataPacketName;

       protected MyRequestContext() {
              super();
       }
       //get and set methods for request Id
       public String getRequestId() {
              return requestId;
       }
       public void setRequestId(String string) {
              requestId = string;
       }
       //get and set methods for the Data Packet Name
       public String getDataPacketName() {
              return dataPacketName;
       }
       public void setDataPacketName(String string) {
              dataPacketName = string;
       }
}
```

Next the customized Request Context Factory is defined, which allows the creation of new instances of the customized Request Context (MyRequestContext), and also the setting of the state information.

```
//Customized Request Context Factory
public class MyRequestContextFactory extends RequestContextFactory {
	public MyRequestContextFactory() {
		super();
	}

protected RequestContext newRequestContext() {
		return new MyRequestContext();
	}
protected void configureRequestContext(RequestContext requestContext,Request request)
{
		if (request instanceof DataPacketsRequest) {
MyRequestContext sample = (MyRequestContext) requestContext;

			DataPacketsRequest dps =(DataPacketsRequest) request;
			//set the state information
			sample.setRequestId(dps.getRequestId());
sample.setDataPacketName(((DataPacket)dps.getDataPackets().elementAt(0)).getName());
		}
	}
}
```

Remote Notification

The Siebel Remote Notification Service provides a means for client applications to transmit notification messages to any remote machine that is registered with the notification server.

How Siebel Notification Works

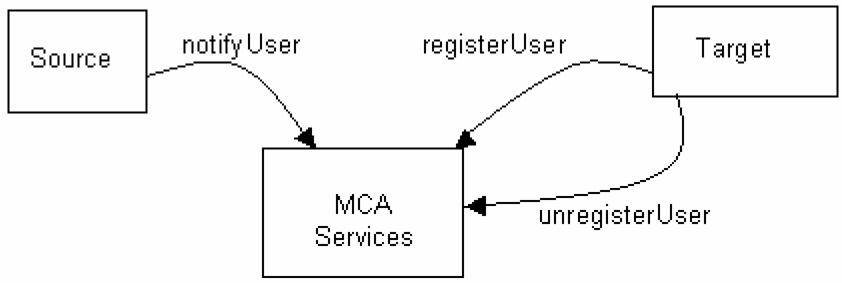
Peer to peer using mid-tier server

The mid tier acts as a repository in which targets register when they log on. The server maintains a list of registered addresses, which correspond to users who are logged on. Initially when a user registers as a registered address any previous entries for that user are removed to ensure that only the latest IP address is maintained for that user.

When a user logs off the corresponding registered address are removed from the repository. The only details that must be maintained are a user ID, the IP address from where the user logged on and the Port number that the target server is listening on. This implementation allows all types of users who are registered with the Notification Server and who have a local server running on their specific machines awaiting incoming connections, to communicate with each other.

High Level overview

At logon the target user sends the registration request via the HttpClient to the EJB server. This then creates a record of the registration along with the IP address of the target, in the mid tier database by means of a RegisteredAddress container managed bean. The source front end communicates with the mid-tier in the usual manner. Once the target’s IP address is retrieved from the mid-tier the communication from source to target is carried out by the mid tier forwarding the request to the target on behalf of the client source – this communication is outlined in the diagram below

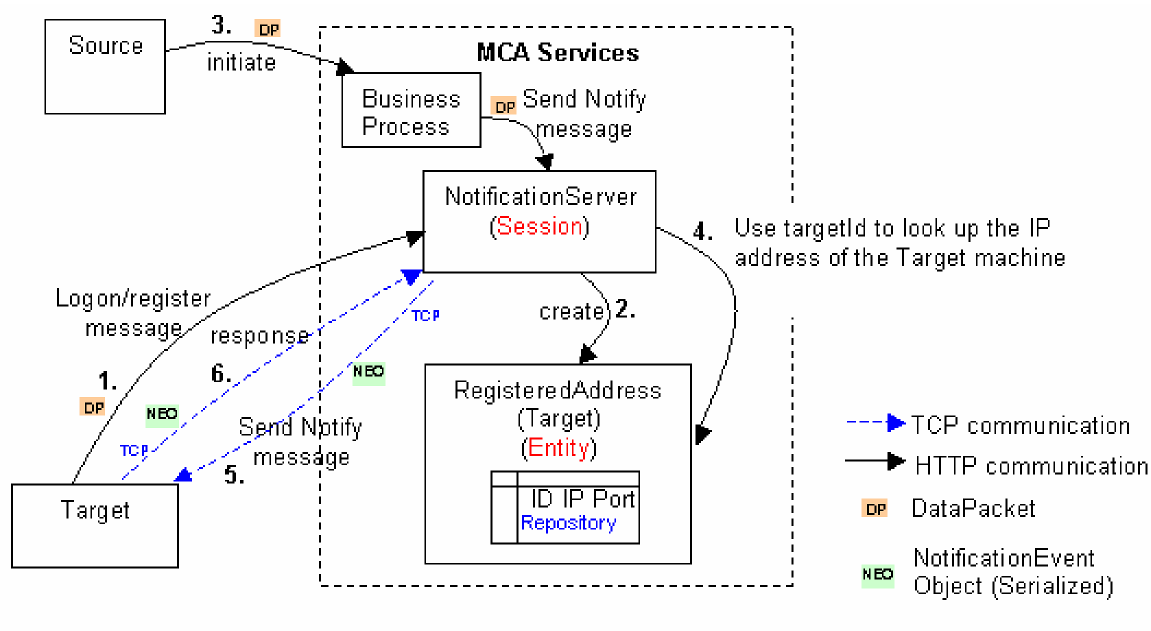


Meanwhile the target front-end starts a server listening on the agreed port. This port number is configured through the `BankframeResource.properties` file, and is passed to the NotificationServer when the Target registers and is stored in the database. The NotificationServer communicates with the Target machine via this port. The server is started upon target logon. This server receives incoming requests from clients and passes them to a Java thread whose job it is to deal with the message.

Remote Notification Architecture

If an event occurs on the Source workstation requiring notification then the `notifyUser(sourceId,targetId,action,date,payload)` method on the NotificationServer is called. A targetId representing the target user may or may not be passed into this method, if it is then the targetIp representing the target user's IP address is obtained using the targetId which is the primary key. If no targetId is passed in (the source doesn't know the target's ID) then the notification server selects a recipient based on a target selection algorithm specified in `com.bankframe.services.notification.targetselection`.

The steps involved in Remote Notification are outlined in the following diagram and explained below:



The following steps are involved in creating a target RegisteredAddress:

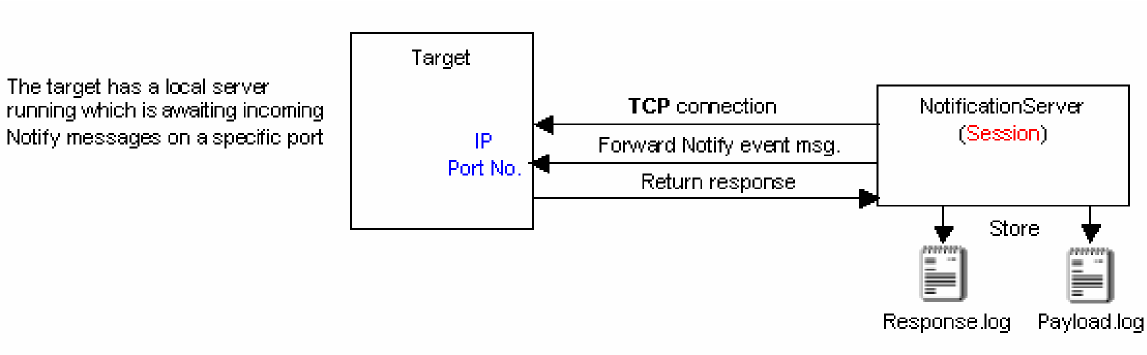
- The target registers with the notification server.
- The NotificationServer creates the new RegisteredAddress entity using the targets's ID, target's IP address and port number passed in.

The following steps are involved when a Notification Event occurs:

- Notification event occurs on the source workstation which initiates a business process on the server side. The business process then calls notifyUser passing source id, destination id, action, date and payload to the NotificationServer.
- If a targetId was passed in with the notify message then this is used to determine the appropriate IP address for the target, if no targetId is passed in then the method `getTargetIPForSource` is called. The default implementation of this method is to retrieve all registered addresses (targets) and select the frst one. This method can be over-ridden to reflect the actual algorithm for selecting the appropriate target IP address.
- Using the selected target IP address a TCP connection is made to the target machine using the IP address and a known Port number. The notification event object is constructed and sent to the target via this connection.
- The target responds with an appropriate message - either Fail/Success.

NotificationServer and Target Communication Procedure

The locations of the response and payload log files, as shown in the diagram below, are configured through the `BankframeResource.properties` file. The notification event message is in standard `DataPacket` format, within the NotificationServer this `DataPacket` is transformed into a `NotificationEvent` object. This notification event object message is a serialisable object.



The NotificationEvent object consists of the following:

sourceIp	The IP address of the Source workstation that the message originated on.
targetIp	The IP address of the Target workstation that the NotificationServer connected to
Date	The date the message was sent
Action	The action to perform on the client
payload	The notification event message details. This is a serializable object

Timeout and Retry Mechanism

A timeout and retry mechanism is included, which:

- prevents a socket blocking indefinitely while waiting for a response from a machine which may not be alive
- ensures that a target actually receives the Notification Event message and if not reports back a failure message

A certain number of retries is allowed until eventually a response is received or the notification fails. An appropriate message is forwarded back to the Source. Two types of messages are reported back to the Source - either Success or Failure. The timeout value and number of retries are configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file – refer to the Configuring MCA Services documentation for further information.

Receiving Notification Event messages

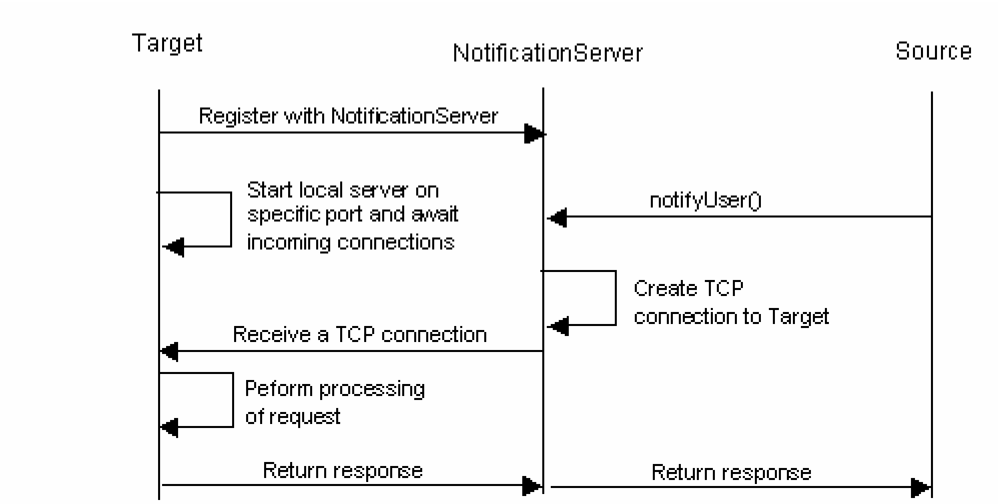
When a Target machine registers to receive notifications:

- The NotificationServer first checks to see if the TargetId is already in the RegisteredAddress table
- If it is then the TargetId is deleted and the TargetId along with the new TargetIp is updated to the RegisteredAddress table

Carrying out the registration in this way ensures that:

- If a Target workstation crashes and the TargetId remains in the RegisteredAddress table then this old value is over written
- if a Target user logs off without sending the unregister message to the NotificationServer and re-logs in on another machine the new IP address associated with this TargetId is updated to the RegisteredAddress table.

In order for a client to recevive NotificationEvent messages they must have a local server running on their machines which is listening on a specified port for incoming connections. The registering process can be seen in the diagram below.



Remote Notification API

The com.bankframe.services.notification package

The `com.bankframe.services.notification` package contains the following:

`NotificationEvent`	This is the NotificationEvent class which encapsulates the message to be sent to the Target
`SourceFrame`	This is an example Source front-end GUI which imitates the functionality of the Source machine
`TargetFrame`	This is an example Target front-end GUI which imitates the functionality of the Target machine
`TargetServer`	The is an example of how the target server listens for notification event messages from the notification server via a TCP connection
`WorkerThread`	This is an example worker class which shows how the notification message can be processed by the Target

The NotificationEvent Methods

`toString()`	Returns a String representation of the NotificationEvent details
`getSourceId()`	This method returns the Source ID
`setSourceId(String sourceId)`	This method sets the Source ID
`getTargetIp()`	This method gets the Target IP address
`setTargetIp(String targetIp)`	This method sets the Target IP address
`getPayload()`	This method gets the payload object
`setPayload(Object payload)`	This method sets the payload
`getDate()`	This method gets the date the message was sent
`setDate(String date)`	This method sets the date
`getAction()`	This method gets the action
`setAction(String action)`	This method sets the action

The com.bankframe.services.notification.notificationserver package

`NotificationServer`	The remote Interface that declares the functionality `NotificationServerBean` exposes.
`NotificationServerBean`	The session bean that implements MCA Service's notification logic.

The NotificationServer Methods

`registerUser(String targetId, String targetIp,String targetPort)`	This method allows a target machine to register with the NotificationServer
`unregisterUser(String targetId, String targetIp,String targetPort)`	This method allows a target machine to un-register from the NotificationServer
`notifyUser(String sourceId,String targetId,String action,String date,Object payload)`	This method is called by the source in order to notify a target about a particular notification event

The com.bankframe.services.notification.registeredaddress package

This package contains the implementations of the entity bean `RegisteredAddress`

`RegisteredAddress`	Remote Interface that declares the methods of the `RegisteredAddress` Entity bean.
`RegisteredAddressBean`	Container managed bean implementation.
`RegisteredAddressFinders`	The `RegisteredAddress` finders interface

The RegisteredAddressBean Methods

`create(String targetId,String targetIp,String targetPort)`	This method creates a new `RegisteredAddress`
`getTargetId()`	This method gets the Target ID
`setTargetId(String targeted)`	This method sets the Target ID
`getTargetIp()`	This method gets the Target IP address
`setTargetIp(String targetIp)`	This method sets the Target IP address
`getTargetPort()`	This method gets the Target Port
`SetTargetPort(String targetPort)`	This method sets the Target Port

The com.bankframe.services.notification.targetselection package

This package contains a `TargetSelectionFactory` which, creates new instances of the `TrargetSelectionFactoryImpl` class that is used to select a target specified by the algorithm in the `getTargetForSource(String sourceId)` method.

`TargetSelectionFactory`	This class is used to create a new instance of the `TargetSelectionFactory` implementation specified by the targetSelectionFactory setting in `BankframeResource.properties`
`DefaultTargetSelectionFactoryImpl`	This is the default `TargetSelectionFactory` implementation, this default algorithm returns the first Target IP address found in the `RegisteredAddress` table. The method `getTargetForSource(String sourceId)` must be implemented by any new factory implementations.

The TargetSelectionFactory Methods

`getInstance()`	This method returns a `TargetSelectionFactory` instance
`getTargetIPForSource(String sourceId)`	This method returns a target IP address based on the sourceId passed in.

Internationalization

This section describes the internationalization facilities provided by MCA Services. For information on date & time localization refer to the MCA Services Data Validation section.

All SRF internationalization is done on the client-side. This involves making sure that all data that needs to be localised is passed to the client in addition to any additional information that is required by the client to localise the data.

It may be appropriate to provide further localization to message arguments. For example the message `MSG001=Can not withdraw funds because account status is {0}` can be localized, however the status value in the message at `{0}` would not be. The MCA internalization framework allows for further localization by adding an additional attribute to the message key. The message can be stored in `BankframeMessages.properties` as `MSG001=Can not withdraw funds because account status is {0, 18n}`. The `18n` attribute tells MCA Services to replace the message argument value with a corresponding value from `BankframeMessages.properties`. The message can have another key `CLOSED=closed`. Therefore, a message `MSG001` with argument `CLOSED` would cause the MCA to look up the `CLOSED` key in `BankframeMessages.properties` to support status values. The resulting text message will read `Can not withdraw funds because account status is closed`.

Resource Bundles

Localised resources (i.e. localised messages) are organised into resource bundles. A resource bundle is a set of property files, which contain locale specific text. For each locale a property file containing the localised text is required. The property files must follow the following naming convention: `BundleName_language_country`. The country is optional, it is only used if a language has a sub dialect specific to a country. This naming convention is required as the Java resource manager uses the class name to locate the most appropriate resource bundle for a locale. For example if a resource bundle for the Swiss-German locale was requested the resource manager would search for an appropriate resource bundle class using the following pattern:

`BundleName_de_CH` - Swiss-German locale resource bundle.

`BundleName_de` - general German language resource bundle.

`BundleName` - root resource bundle.

So first of all the resource manager searches for the Swiss German resource bundle, if it cannot find Swiss German resources it will search for the German resource bundle, and if it cannot find German resources it will use the default resource bundle.

BankframeMessages.properties

All messages are stored in a file called `BankframeMessages.properties`. Each locale will have a separate file containing the localised text for that locale. The file is named using the convention described above:

`BankframeMessages.properties`	The default messages file
`BankframeMessages_en_US.properties`	The US English message file
`BankframeMessages_de.properties`	The generic German message file
`BankframeMessages_de_CH.properties`	The Swiss German message file

MCA Internationalization Framework

The MCA Internationalization framework is implemented in the `com.bankframe.localization` package. This package contains the following classes:

BankFrameMessage

This class represents a message that can be localized. This class has the following methods:

BankFrameMessage(String messageKey)

This constructor creates a `BankFrameMessage` instance that uses the specified `messageKey` to obtain the localized message from the `BankframeMessages.properties` file

BankFrameMessage(String messageKey, String[] arguments)

This constructor creates a `BankFrameMessage` instance that uses the specified `messageKey` to obtain the localized message from the `BankframeMessages.properties` file and substitutes the specified arguments into the localized message.

BankFrameMessage(DataPacket bankframeMessageDataPacket)

This constructor creates a `BankFrameMessage` instance that uses the localization information in the specified `DataPacket`.

setMessageKey()

This method is used to set the message key. This method has the following signature:

```
public void setMessageKey(String messageKey);
```

- The `messageKey` parameter identifies the key of the localised message stored in the `BankframeMessages.properties` file

setMessageArguments()

This method is used to set the arguments for a message. This method has the following signature:

```
public void setMessageArguments(String[] arguments);
```

- The `arguments` parameter contains the arguments for the message

toString()

This method converts the `BankFrameMessage` to a localised `String`. This method has two forms:

```
public String toString();
```

- This method converts the `BankFrameMessage` using the default system locale. Use of this method is not recommended because the system locale may not match the user's locale.

```
public String toString(Locale locale);
```

- This method converts the `BankFrameMessage` using the specified locale.

toDataPacket()

This method converts the `BankFrameMessage` to a `DataPacket`. This method has the following signature:

```
public DataPacket toDataPacket();
```

- This method returns a `DataPacket` containing the information necessary for localising the message

fromDataPacket()

This method sets the `messageKey` and arguments for this `BankFrameMessage` from the information contained in the specified `DataPacket`. This method has the following signature:

```
public void fromDataPacket(DataPacket data);
```

- The data parameter specifies a `DataPacket` containing the information for the `BankFrameMessage`

BankFrameException

This class is the base class for all exceptions. This class works hand in hand with the `BankFrameMessage` class. Whereas most Java exceptions are created using a `String` error message, `BankFrameExceptions` are created using a `BankFrameMessage` error message.

This class contains the following methods:

BankFrameException()

This constructor creates an instance of `BankFrameException` using the specified `BankFrameMessage` for the error message. This constructor has the following signature:

```
public BankFrameException(BankFrameMessage message);
```

getBankFrameMessage()

This method returns the `BankFrameMessage` associated with this exception. This method has the following signature:

```
public BankFrameMessage getBankFrameMessage();
```

getMessage()

This method gets the error message for this `BankFrameException`. This method has two forms:

```
public String getMessage();
```

- Using this method is not recommended since it uses the default system locale to localise the error message, which may not match the user's locale

```
public String getMessage(Locale locale);
```

- This method gets the error message for this exception, localising the message using the specified locale

toDataPacket()

This method converts the exception to a `DataPacket`. This method has the following signature:

```
public DataPacket toDataPacket();
```

BankFrameMessageUtils

This class contains utility methods for manipulating `BankFrameMessage`s. This class contains the following methods:

parseDataPacket()

This method converts a `DataPacket` to a `BankFrameMessage`. This method has the following signature:

```
public static BankFrameMessage parseDataPacket(DataPacket data);
```

- The `data` parameter is a `DataPacket` containing the information necessary to construct a `BankFrameMessage`.
- A `BankFrameMessage` instance is returned, or `null` if the `DataPacket` does not contain any `BankFrameMessage` data.

toString()

This method converts a `DataPacket` containing `BankFrameMessage` data to a `String`. This method has the following signature:

```
public static String toString(DataPacket bankframeMessageDataPacket, Locale
locale);
```

- The `bankframeMessageDataPacket` parameter is a `DataPacket` containing the information necessary to construct a `BankFrameMessage`.

- The locale parameter specifies the `Locale` to use for localizing the message
- The localized message is returned or `null` if the `DataPacket` does not contain any `BankFrameMessage` data.

containsBankFrameMessage()

This method determines if the specified `DataPacket` contains `BankFrameMessage` data. This method has the following signature:

```
public static boolean containsBankFrameMessage(DataPacket data);
```

- The `data` parameter is a `DataPacket` containing the information necessary to construct a `BankFrameMessage`.
- This method returns `true` if the `DataPacket` contains `BankFrameMessage` data, `false` otherwise.

BankFrameExceptionUtils

This class contains utility methods for manipulating `BankFrameExceptions`. This class contains the following methods:

containsBankFrameException()

This method determines if the specified `Vector` of `DataPackets` contains `BankFrameException` data. This method has the following signature:

```
public static boolean containsBankFrameException(Vector dataPackets);
```

- The `dataPackets` parameter is a `Vector` of one or more `DataPackets`.
- This method returns `true` if the first `DataPacket` in the `Vector` contains `BankFrameException` data, or `false` otherwise.

getMessage()

This method gets the error message for the `BankFrameException` data contained in the specified `Vector` of `DataPacket`s. This method has the following signature:

```
public static String getMessage(Vector dataPackets, Locale locale);
```

- The `dataPackets` parameter is a `Vector` of one or more `DataPacket`s.
- The locale parameter specifies the `Locale` to use for localizing the message
- The localized message is returned or `null` if the `Vector` of `DataPacket`s does not contain any `BankFrameException` data.

toBankFrameException()

This method converts a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s to a `BankFrameException`. This method has the following signature:

```
public static BankFrameException toBankFrameException(Vector dataPackets);
```

- The `dataPackets` parameter is a `Vector` of one or more `DataPacket`s
- The `BankFrameException` is returned or `null` if the `Vector` of `DataPacket`s does not contain any `BankFrameException` data.

toVectorResponse()

This method converts a `BankFrameException` to a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s. This method has the following signature:

```
public static Vector toVectorResponse(BankFrameException ex);
```

- The `ex` parameter is the `BankFrameException` to be converted.
- A `Vector` containing a single `DataPacket` with the `BankFrameException` data is returned.

Examples

Using BankFrameMessage

Below is some sample code that uses the `com.bankframe.localization.BankFrameMessage` class:

```
import com.bankframe.localization.BankFrameMessage;

public class Sample {

    public static final String HELLO_MSG_KEY="HELLO";

    public static void main(String[] args) {

            BankFrameMessage msg = new BankFrameMessage(HELLO_MSG_KEY,new
String[]{getUserName()});

            System.out(msg);

    }

}
```

Assuming `BankframeMessages.properties` contains the following line:

```
HELLO=Hello {0}
```

the host system locale is English - `en` and the `getUserName()` method returns a string containing '`John Doe`' the above application will produce the following output:

```
Hello John Doe
```

Using BankFrameException

Below is some sample code that uses the `com.bankframe.localization.BankFrameException` class:

```
import com.bankframe.localization.BankFrameMessage;
```

```
import com.bankframe.localization.BankFrameException;

public class Sample {
    public static final String ERROR_MSG_KEY="ERROR";
    public static void main() {
    try {
        BankFrameMessage msg = new BankFrameMessage(ERROR_MSG_KEY);
        throw new BankFrameException(msg);
    } catch ( BankFrameException ex ) {
        System.out.println(ex.getMessage());
    }
}
```

Assuming `BankframeMessages.properties` contains the line `ERROR=An error occurred`

And the host system locale is English (`en`) the above application will produce the output: `An error occurred`

References

The Java Tutorial on internationalisation

http://web2.java.sun.com/docs/books/tutorial/i18n/index.html

ISO-639 - Language codes

Official site:

http://www.infoterm.org/

W3C's List:

http://www.w3.org/WAI/ER/IG/ert/iso639.htm

ISO-3166 - Country Codes

Official site:

http://www.din.de/gremien/nas/nabd/iso3166ma/

Official site full list:

http://www.din.de/gremien/nas/nabd/iso3166ma/codlstp1/en_listp1.html

Logging

Financial Components need messages to be logged at different times while performing processing; to meet this requirement MCA Services provides an extensible logging service.

The MCA logging service is a thin bridge between different logging libraries. Logging libraries supported include:

- BEA WebLogic 6.1 Logging Framework
- Apache Foundation LOG4J framework
- Generic Console output

The WebLogic Logging framework is a proprietary API available in WebLogic 6.1 and later. It enables logging messages to be logged directly into WebLogic's own log file. The benefits of this are:

- MCA logging messages are logged in sequence in the same file as WebLogic logging messages. This aids problem determination since it is possible to see the exact order in which events occurred
- Administration and configuration of the logging system can be done via the WebLogic Administration Console
- Logging Messages can be viewed in the WebLogic Administration Console

The LOG4J framework is a widely used logging framework developed under the auspices of the Apache Foundation. It provides an extremely rich library that be configured to format logging messages into any required format and to be logged to a number of different destinations including:

- Console output
- File output
- Rolling file output
- UDP datagrams
- Unix Syslog
- NT Event Log

The Generic console support enables log messages to be printed directly to the console. This option is provided for when neither of the two options above is available.

Classes and Package Structure

The logging service is implemented by the `com.bankframe.services.logger` package and its sub-packages.

The com.bankframe.services.logger package

The `ELogger` interface defines the methods that the logging service provides:

`boolean isDebugEnabled()`	Indicates whether `DEBUG` level messages should be logged. This method should be called before logging large `DEBUG` messages, in order to improve overall performance
`void debug(String msg)`	Logs the specified message at `DEBUG` level
`void debug(String s, Throwable throwable)`	Logs the specified exception at `DEBUG` level
`void info(String msg)`	Logs the specified message at `INFO` level
`void info(String s, Throwable throwable)`	Logs the specified exception at `INFO` level
`void warn(String msg)`	Logs the specified message at `WARN` level
`void warn(String s, Throwable throwable)`	Logs the specified exception at `WARN` level
`void error(String msg)`	Logs the specified message at `ERROR` level
`void error(String s, Throwable throwable)`	Logs the specified exception at `ERROR` level
`void fatal(String msg)`	Logs the specified message at `FATAL` level
`void fatal(String s, Throwable throwable)`	Logs the specified exception at `FATAL` level

The `ELoggerFactory` class is used to create `ELogger` instances. This class provides the following method:

`public static ELogger getLogger(Class subsystem)`	This method returns the logger for the specified subsystem. This method should be called by Siebel Financial Components to create `ELogger` instances.

The com.bankframe.services.logger.wl61 package

This package contains classes that provide an `ELogger` instance that communicates with the WebLogic 6.1 Logging Framework. The classes in this package must not be called directly by Siebel Financial Components

The com.bankframe.services.logger.log4j package

This package contains classes that provide an `ELogger` instance that communicate with the LOG4J logging framework. The classes in this package must not be called directly by Siebel Financial components

The com.bankframe.services.logger.console package

This package contains classes that provide an `ELogger` instance that prints logging messages directly to the `System.out` stream. The classes in this package must not be called directly by Siebel Financial components

Using the Logging Service

Logging Levels

There are five levels of logging which can be used:

`FATAL`	Use only in cases where it is impossible for the Siebel application to recover or continue.
`ERROR`	Use when the request cannot be processed but the overall system is still functioning.
`WARN`	Use the `WARN` level for recording exceptions that indicate that something may be wrong but do not prevent the request being processed.
`INFO`	Use the `INFO` level for providing information about the running system, for example timing information.
`DEBUG`	Use the `DEBUG` level for recording information about how the system works, to aid in determining the cause of runtime problems.

These log levels are used to determine if a log message is of interest for a particular runtime configuration. For example, in a production system MCA Services could be configured to only log messages which are `FATAL` and the actual Siebel Modules could log messages of `WARN` or higher.

Logging Subsystems

In a production system it is useful to be able to filter log messages by the functional area that they belong to, for example to be able to only view log messages relating to funds transfer. To enable this to be done we must categorise the logging messages produced by the Siebel Solution. The simplest way to do this is to categorise messages by the name of the class from which the message was produced. Since the names of all Siebel classes indicate which functional area they belong too, this becomes a powerful means for filtering messages by functional area.

Logging Best Practices

When writing a log statement in your code you have to determine what the message will be, what log level it requires and what subsystem it should be sent to. Follow the guidelines below to ensure you log messages appropriately

Define a private static log variable

Each Financial component should define a private static final `log` variable coded as follows:

```
import com.bankframe.services.logger.ELogger;

import com.bankframe.services.logger.ELoggerFactory;

...

public class Foo {

private static final ELogger log = ELoggerFactory.getLogger(Foo.class);

}
```

Defining a `log` instance for each class enables logging to be switched on and off by functional area. This is important when trying to detect the cause of problems in a production system. In a production system it will not be feasible to turn on logging in all classes because this would produce such a large volume of logging information that it would degrade the performance of the system. Instead it must be possible to configure only a subset of logging messages to be turned on. The full name of each class is used to uniquely identify each `ELogger` instance. The `ELoggerFactory` class caches `ELogger` instances so that only one instance will be created per `ELogger` subsystem.

The log variable must be `static` so that it can be shared between all instances of that class. It must be `private` so that it is not visible by sub-classes. Making the variable `final` guarantees that it cannot be reassigned, thus assuring that there will only ever be one logger instance per class, in effect the logger instance becomes a singleton.

Always invoke the logger via the log variable

Always invoke the logger via the `log` variable as defined above, for example:

```
public class SomeClass {

   ...

    public void someMethod() {

           log.debug("This is a debug message");

    }

    ...

}
```

This ensures that the correct logger for the current class is always invoked.

Logging exceptions

Always use the overridden logging method provided for logging exceptions, for example:

```
...

try {
```

```
        <some code which throws an exception>
    } catch (Exception ex) {
        log.warn( "An error occurred", ex);
    }
    ...
```

This will ensure that the full stack trace for the exception is logged. Having a full stack trace for an exception makes it much easier to determine the root cause of a problem.

Use the isDebugEnabled() method

Even though logging output may be turned off in a production system the method calls to the logging framework are still invoked. If the arguments to the logging method involve time consuming evaluations then the overall performance of the system will be degraded, sometimes by a large amount. This is particularly true of `DEBUG` level log messages, which often print out large amounts of information such as the contents of a `DataPacket`. Therefore it is extremely important to ensure that these expensive `DEBUG` level log messages are not invoked when the system is running in production mode. This can be accomplished using code similar to the following:

```
    ...
    if ( log.isDebugEnabled() ) {
        log.debug("These are the contents of the datapacket : " + someDataPacket);
    }
    ...
```

Use the correct log level

When a system is running in production mode it should produce very little log output, therefore it is important to ensure that logging messages are logged at the correct level. For example it might be tempting to log all exceptions at `ERROR` level, however this would not be correct. Only exceptions that actually represent a true error condition, such as a `RemoteException` should be logged at this level.

The Logging context

When examining a large log file that contains many different log messages from many different threads it can be difficult to determine which log messages are related. Therefore it can be helpful to prepend information to each log message to better identify the source of the message. The `ELogger.Context` interface provides the means to do this. This interface has the following methods:

`void push(String context)`	This method pushes the specified String onto the context stack.
`void pop()`	This method removes the topmost element on the context stack.

Each thread will get its own logging context. This means by pushing a descriptive string onto the logging context it becomes possible to identify which thread produced a particular log message.

The `ELogger.Context` interface is accessed via the `getContext()` method of the `ELogger` interface.

As an example imagine we want to identify all logging messages from within a financial component, or any other financial components it invokes - we could do the following:

```
public class SomeFinancialComponentBean {

...

    public Vector processDataPacket(DataPacket dataPacket) {

            try {

                    log.getContext().push("SomeFinancialComponent");

                    log.debug("This is a debug message");

                    ...

            } finally {

                    log.getContext().pop();

            }

    }

}
```

Now all logging calls from within `SomeFinancialComponentBean` will be prefaced with the string: '`SomeFinancialComponentBean`' making it easier to identify those logging messages.

Techniques for problem resolution using the logging framework

Examine logged stack traces

When an exception is logged, the full stack trace for that exception is logged. This stack trace should show the class and line number where the exception was raised. Often this information is sufficient to identify the cause of a problem

Filter by functional area

If you are attempting to identify the cause of a problem in a production system you can opt to turn on logging for only a subset of code. For example, assume we are trying to identify a problem in the Transfers component of the Teller Module, and we are using LOG4J for doing our logging.

The Transfers component is implemented in two packages:

```
com.bankframe.bp.retail.solutionset.transfers

com.bankframe.bp.retail.solutionset.impl.transfers
```

Since we create loggers by passing a `Class` object to the `ELogger.getLogger()` method, each logger instance is categorised by the name of the class that created it. Thus we can configure LOG4J to only log messages produced by a specific class or package. In this case we want to configure LOG4J to only display messages produced by the two packages above, to do this we need to configure the LOG4J configuration file; `log4j.properties`, as follows:

```
# Default to only logging ERRORs

log4j.rootLogger=ERROR, CONSOLE

log4j.appender.CONSOLE=org.apache.log4j.ConsoleAppender



# Turn on logging of DEBUG and above messages for the Transfers functional area

log4j.logger.com.bankframe.bp.retail.solutionset.transfers=DEBUG

log4j.logger.com.bankframe.bp.retail.solutionset.impl.transfers=DEBUG
```

Filter by logging context

When there is a large volume of logging information being produced by logs it can become difficult to determine the flow or order in which events occurred. E.g. if we think we are having a problem somewhere within the Transfers component but we're not sure where exactly the problem is arising, we can use the logging context to easily identify all method calls that are invoked from within the transfers component.

We can do this by adding the code below to the `processDataPackets()` method of the `TransfersSessionBean` class:

```
public Vector processDataPackets(Vector allData) throws ProcessingErrorException
{

try {

   log.push("Transfers");

    Vector response = super.processDataPackets(allData);

    if (!DataPacketUtils.isAValidResponse(response, false, null, false)) {

        this.getSessionContext().setRollbackOnly();

    }

    return response;

} finally {

  log.getContext().pop();

}

}
```

The `log.getContext().push("Transfers")` method call will cause the text 'Transfers' to be prepended to all log messages generated within the Transfers component, or any other components that the Transfers component calls. Then when examining the log files you can search for the 'Transfers' string to quickly identify those methods invoked from within the Transfers component.

Configuring the Logging Service

This section describes how to configure the Logging Service.

Configuration Parameters

The logging service is configured by entries placed in the Java System Properties, or `eloggerfactory.properties` in the application classpath. These entries are defined at application server startup time, and cannot be changed once the application server has started.

Configuring the Logging Implementation factory Class

The first parameter to set is the one that determines which logging implementation to use. The parameter is set by specifying the following argument in the application server startup script:

```
java -Dcom.eontec.mca.elogger.factory=<logging implementation factory class>
```

Where `<logging implementation factory class>` is the full name of the factory class for the logging framework that you wish to use

The valid values for this setting are as follows:

`com.bankframe.services.logger.wl61.WL61LoggerFactory`	WebLogic 6.1 logging
`com.bankframe.services.logger.log4j.LOG4JLoggerFactory`	LOG4J logging
`com.bankframe.services.logger.console.ConsoleLoggerFactory`	Console logging

If this setting is not defined as a Java System property, the logging service will look for the property in a eloggerfactory.properties file. If the file does not exist, or the object defined cannot be instanciated, then the logging service will default to using an instance of `com.bankframe.services.logger.console.ConsoleLoggerFactory`

By checking Java System property first, and then eloggerfactory.properties, the logging service allows for enterprise applications deployed in the same server to have separate logging factories.

Enabling or Disabling All Logging

The entire logging framework can be enabled or disabled by specifying the following argument in the application server startup script to `true` or `false`:

```
java -Dcom.eontec.mca.elogger.enabled=<true|false>
```

The value of this setting is case sensitive.

Configuring WebLogic Settings

The following settings can be configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file when using the WebLogic logging framework:

`wl61.debugLoggingEnabled=<true|false>`

This setting determines whether DEBUG level log messages should be forwarded to the WebLogic logging framework. This setting is case sensitive

`wl61.redirectDebugToInfo=<true|false>`

This setting determines whether DEBUG level log messages should be forwarded as INFO level messages to the WebLogic logging framework. This setting is case sensitive

Configuring LOG4J Settings

The following settings can be configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file when using the LOG4J logging framework:

`log4j.config.path=</path/to/some/log4j.properties>`

This setting determines which LOG4J configuration file to use for configuring LOG4J. This setting must specify the absolute path to the properties file

`log4j.config.refresh=<some time value in seconds>`

This sets how often LOG4J checks its configuration file to see if any configuration changes have occurred. This value is specified in seconds

Please consult the LOG4J website for more detailed information on configuring LOG4J

Configuring Generic Console Logger Settings

The following setting can be configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file when using the Generic Console logging framework:

`console.logger=<logging level to use>.`

Only `DEBUG` level messages are currently available. To switch debug level messages off in the console logger leave the console.logger value blank. This reduces console output and improves performance.

Configuring the value as `console.logger=DEBUG` enables debug level messages.

Integrating with other Logging Frameworks

The MCA Logging Service is designed to be extensible so that it can be adapted to direct logging messages to any logging service. This section describes the steps required to do this using the `com.bankframe.services.logger.console` package as an example

Create a class that implements the ELogger interface

This class must do the actual logging of the logging messages. In most implementations this class will really be an adaptor class that redirects the logging message to third party logging framework. In the case of `ConsoleLogger` this class prints the message to the console using calls to `System.out.println()`.

Create a class that implements the ELogger.Context interface

This class must maintain a stack of per thread context information. Most implementations can just delegate this task to the `com.bankframe.services.logger.E:oggerContext` class:

```
protected static class ConsoleContext implements ELogger.Context {

        public void push(String context) {

                ELoggerContext.push(context);

        }

        public String pop() {

                return ELoggerContext.pop();

        }

        public ConsoleContext() {

        }

}
```

Create a factory class that extends ELoggerFactory

This class is responsible for creating `ELogger` instances. This class must extend `ELoggerFactory` and provide an implementation for the abstract `createLogger()` method. This method must create an `ELogger` instance for the specified subsystem. It should not cache instances as `ELoggerFactroy` does this itself. Below is the source code for `ConsoleLoggerFactory`:

```
public class ConsoleLoggerFactory extends ELoggerFactory {

    public ConsoleLoggerFactory() {

          super();

    }

    protected ELogger createLogger(String subsystem) {

          return instance;

    }

    protected final static ELogger instance = new ConsoleLogger();

}
```

Since the console based logger only ever has one instance it creates a single static instance and always returns that through the `createLogger()` method.

Update application server startup script

To use your custom logger you must update the `com.eontec.mca.elogger.factory` setting in your application server startup script as follows:

```
java -Dcom.eontec.mca.elogger.factory=<logging implementation factory class>
```

Where `<logging implementation factory class>` is the full name of the factory class for the logging framework that you wish to use.

Deprecations

BankFrameLog

The `com.bankframe.services.log.BankFrameLog` class has been deprecated and the `BankFrameLog` class has been updated to redirect all logging messages to the Logging Service described in this chapter

ESystem.out

The `com.bankframe.ESystem` object has been deprecated. The `ESystem` class has been updated to redirect all logging messages to the Logging Service described in this chapter. As there is no argument for subsystems all messages logged using the `ESystem` object will be sent to the `com.bankframe` subsystem.

References

Apache LOG4J service:

http://jakarta.apache.org/log4j/

WebLogic Logging Framework:

http://e-docs.bea.com/wls/docs61/javadocs/weblogic/logging/NonCatalogLogger.html

Audit

The MCA Audit Service provides the means to record an audit of transactions carried out by Siebel Modules.

Audit Classes and Package Structure

The Audit Service is located in the `com.bankframe.services.audit` package and its implementation is in the `com.bankframe.services.impl.audit` package.

Configuring the Audit Service

The Audit Service uses an Audit Provider framework (similar in operation to the Security Provider) to dispatch Audit requests to an Audit Implementation. The interface of the Audit Provider is `com.bankframe.services.audit.BankFrameAuditProvider` and all custom Audit Providers must implement this interface. MCA is supplied with two Audit Provider implementations:

`com.bankframe.services.audit.NullBankFrameAuditProvider`

`com.bankframe.services.audit.DefaultBankFrameAuditProvider`

The Audit Provider is configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file using the `audit.provider` key and its value is set to the Audit Provider class, which is required for use in the runtime system.

For example, if a test MCA installation does not require any audit functionality then the Null Audit Provider would be configured as follows:

```
audit.provider=com.bankframe.services.audit.NullBankFrameAuditProvider
```

com.bankframe.services.audit.NullBankFrameAuditProvider

The `com.bankframe.services.audit.NullBankFrameAuditProvider` provides a dummy implementation which does not send any dispatched requests to an Audit Service. This Audit Provider can be used to switch off all Auditing of an MCA system and is often used in test installations which don't require an audit function.

com.bankframe.services.audit.DefaultBankFrameAuditProvider

The `com.bankframe.services.audit.DefaultBankFrameAuditProvider` dispatches to the default MCA Audit Service. This default service is implemented by three EJBs:

EJB Bean Name	EJB Implementation Package	EJB Type
`AuditBean`	`com.bankframe.services.impl.audit`	Session
`AuditRoute`	`com.bankframe.services.impl.audit.auditroute`	CMP Entity
`AuditRecord`	`com.bankframe.services.impl.audit.auditrecord`	CMP Entity

The `AuditBean` session EJB contains the logic of the audit service. The `AuditRoute` is an entity EJB that maps to a lookup table on the database which maps a Fianancial Component's `REQUEST_ID` to the Audit Service. This allows a BankFrame system to be configured to only a specified set of routes. Finally, the `AuditRecord` entity EJB maps to the `AUDIT_TRAIL` table on the database and contain the details of an audit.

An `AuditRecord` stores the following attributes for each Audit event:

`AUDIT_DATE`

`AUDIT_TIME`

`REQUEST_ID`

REQUEST

RESPONSE

The REQUEST and RESPONSE attributes are large strings (stored as VARCHAR(7000) in the underlying database) which contain an XML representation of the client request and the servers response respectively.

When MCA is configured to use this Audit Provider then the RequestRouter behaves as follows:

- Just before the RequestRouter returns a response to a client it invokes the com.bankframe.services.audit.DefaultBankFrameAuditProvider
- This provider performs a lookup on the Audit session EJB.
- The provider then calls the audit() method, passing in the current REQUEST_ID, the request and the response which is about to be returned.
- The Audit Session EJB then looks up the AuditRoutes entity EJB to enquire if the current REQUEST_ID represents a Fianancial Component which needs to be audited.
- If the route is auditable, then the Audit session EJB creates an AuditRecord entity EJB instance to contain the current date, time, REQUEST_ID, request and response and then stores them to the database.

Configuring Routes to the Audit Service

If the audit.provider is set to DefaultBankFrameAuditProvider, than the RouteServlet will show an extra option, as follows:

- Configure Default Audit Service

Selecting this displays the options available within the AuditServlet, which are as follows:

- Add a route to the Audit Service
- Delete a route from the Audit Service
- List all routes mapped to the Audit Service

Using these features any Fianancial Component may be added or deleted from the Audit Service, or a list of all the Fianancial Components currently mapped to the Audit Service is available. It is worth noting that deleting a Fianancial Component (using its REQUEST_ID) from the Audit Service does not delete it from the Routing Service.

Calling the Audit Service from within custom code

If an Audit event is required in custom code then the com.bankframe.services.audit.AuditUtils class can be used. This class contains the following methods,

audit(String requestId, Vector request, Vector response)	This method is the same as used by the RequestRouter. It takes a REQUEST_ID and a request/response set of DataPackets.

`audit(Vector datapackets)`	This method is used when the concept of a `REQUEST_ID` and a request/response set of `DataPacket`s make no sense within the context of the audit call. In this case then the database will have the text '`AUDIT`' in the place of `REQUEST_ID` and both the request and response will contain the same XML representation of the `DataPacket`s.

Exceptions in the Audit Service

Because the Audit Service partakes in the overall transaction (often initiated by the `RequestRouter`) and is a critical component, if an exception occurs within the Audit Service then the entire transaction is rolled back.

If you want this behavior in custom code which calls the Audit Service then calls to the `AuditUtils` class should be nested within a try/catch block which catches exceptions of type `ProcessingErrorException` and rollback the current transaction (using the `setRollbackOnly()` method on the `EJBContext` object) if the exception is caught.

If should be noted that the `EJBContext` object is usually only available within the context of an EJB.

For example,

```
try {

  AuditUtils.audit(requestId, request, responses);

} catch (ProcessingErrorException ex) {

   this.getSessionContext().setRollbackOnly(); //rollback tx
```

Timing Points

The Timing Point Service provides a facility for determining the length of time required for Siebel components to carry out their actions. The service is very useful in aiding the identification of performance bottlenecks. The service is highly flexible; allowing configuration of output into different formats while writing to either file or console, providing a framework for writing custom factory classes to create specialized Timing Points, and allowing for plug-in analyzer classes to carry out heuristics and analysis.

The com.bankframe.services.trace package

The business logic for the Timing Point Service is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.trace` package. This package consists of the following classes/interfaces:

`BankFrameTrace` (deprecated - to be replaced by	Provides a facility for determining the length of time required for Siebel components to carry out their actions.

Timing Point created through `TimingPointFactory` class)	
`DefaultTimingPointAnalyser`	This class logs a Timing Point. It provides no analyzing of the Timing Point.
`DefaultTimingPointFactory`	This class is the default class used for the creation of Timing Points.
`EndToEndTrace` (deprecated: to be replaced by Timing Point created through `TimingPointFactory` class)	This class enables the sampling of elapsed time between timing points, aiding the identification of performance bottlenecks.
`NullTimingPointAnalyser`	This class logs a Timing Point. It provides no analyzing of the Timing Point.
`TimingPoint`	This class is a Timing Point. It is used in order to time events or actions within Siebel code.
`TimingPointAnalyser`	Implementers of this interface analyze a timing point. The `TimingPointUtil` class will call the `analyse()` method of an implementing class to allow some additional custom analysis to be done.
`TimingPointConstants`	Constants used for Timing Points.
`TimingPointFactory`	This class creates and configures Timing Point instances.
`TimingPointProperties`	This class is used for the storing of optional key value pairs for inclusion in the logging of Timing Points.
`TimingPointUtil`	This class provides utilities to work with Timing Points.

BankFrameTrace

This class provides a mechanism for creating a `Trace` object, calling `Trace.start()` to start recording the elapsed time, and finally calling `Trace.stop()` to finish recording. When `Trace.stopAndReport()` is called an informational message is displayed in the log indicating the elapsed time, e.g.

```
Trace trace = new Trace();

trace.start("A sample description here");

...some code here ...

trace.stopAndReport();
```

NOTE: The use of this mechanism for time measurement has been deprecated and has been replaced by the use of a `TimingPointFactory` for creation of Timing Points.

EndToEndTrace

The `EndToEndTrace` class is similar to the `BankFrameTrace` class, however it provides the added extra of being able to specify the logging of timing points at specific intervals through the following setting in the `BankframeResource.properties` file:

```
trace.sampleSize
```

Configuring this setting to e.g. `trace.sampleSize =20` means that after every 20 requests, the tracing times for the previous 20 requests will be written to the console. The default setting is 1000.

It is also possible to disable the `EndToEndTrace` utility through the `BankframeResource.properties` file. This was not possible in the `BankFrameTrace` class. Do so by modifying the `trace.enabled` setting in the `BankframeResource.properties` file as follows:

```
trace.enabled=false
```

this will disable the utility while setting it to `true` will enable it.

NOTE: This class has now been deprecated. This is because recorded timing points are stored by associating them with the `java.lang.ThreadLocal` variable via a `HashMap`. This has a performance overhead, especially if e.g. one is storing 1000 timing points within the `ThreadLocal` variable. The `EndToEndTrace` class is to be replaced by creating a `TimingPoint` through a `TimingPointFactory` class.

TimingPoint

The `TimingPoint` class is used to time events or actions within Siebel code. A Timing Point records the start time, object and also the subsystem in which the timing point occurs. Subsystems are a mechanism by which it is possible to group Timing Points together i.e. creating a Timing Point as part of a subsystem and enabling that subsystem ensures the Timing Point, and all other Timing Points in that subsystem, are logged to file or disk as appropriate. The Timing Point is recorded by calling the `exit()` method which will pass the Timing Point onto a utility class that will then process it.

TimingPointProperties

This class is used for the storing of mandatory and optional key/value pairs for inclusion in the logging of timing points. Its constructor takes as parameter an array of `Objects`. These objects form the properties to be included in the timing point logging. This array of `Objects` must be instantiated in the form:

```
Object[] objects = new Object[]{key0, value0, key1, value1, key2, value2};
```

where keyx is the key that indexes valuex.

This array of `Objects` is then used to instantiate a `TimingPointProperties` object as follows:

```
TimingPointProperties properties = new TimingPointProperties(objects);
```

The variable `properties` then forms the parameter for the construction of a `TimingPoint`.

TimingPointFactory

This abstract class is used for the creation of Timing Points. The `createTimingPointFactory()` method creates an instance of the concrete singleton `TimingPointFactory` class as specified by the following setting in the `BankframeResource.properties` file:

```
timingPoint.factory=com.bankframe.services.trace.DefaultTimingPointFactory
```

where `DefaultTimingPointFactory` is the default `TimingPointFactory` class.

Writing Timing Points into Code

To place a Timing Point in a suitable location in the code, the following must be done:

- Create an `Object` Array containing all the properties one wishes to associate with the Timing Point.
- Create a `TimingPointProperties` object using this Object Array.
- Use the `TimingPointFactory.getTimingPoint()` method to create a Timing Point.

Use the following code as an example:

```
//create the Object Array

Object[] objects = new Object[]{TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_SUBSYSTEM,
BankFrameLogConstants.MCA_SUBSYSTEM, TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_TYPE,
"Request Router", TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_MAJOR_TYPE,
TimingPointUtil.MAJORTYPE_SERVLET_STRING,
TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_REQUEST, this};


//create the TimingPointProperties object and create the Timing Point

TimingPoint tp = TimingPointFactory.getTimingPoint(new
TimingPointProperties(objects));
```

And to stop or exit this Timing Point:

```
tp.exit(this);
```

Customized TimingPointFactory classes

It is possible to write a customized `TimingPointFactory` class and specify its use instead of the `DefaultTimingPointFactory`. A customized class is useful when adding some extra properties to a Timing Point which may not be available in the client of the `TimingPointFactory.getTimingPoint()` method. It can also serve as a place for doing operations on the contents of the `TimingPointProperties` object used to create a Timing Point.

Guidelines for writing a Customized TimingPointFactory class. This customized class must, at the least, extend the `com.bankframe.services.trace.TimingPointFactory` class and provide an implementation of the `configureTimingPoint()` method. The `configureTimingPoint()` method must do the following:

- create a new instance of a TimingPoint.

- set the startTime on the newly created TimingPoint.
- set the user on the newly created TimingPoint.

The following step should be done for any of the following values which appear as a key in the `TimingPointProperties` object passed as parameter to the `configureTimingPoint() method`

```
TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_START_TIME

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_END_TIME

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_ELAPSED_TIME

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_SUBSYSTEM

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_USER

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_REQUEST

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_RESPONSE

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_TIMING_POINT_ID

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_THREAD_ID

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_TYPE

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_MAJOR_TYPE

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_HOST_RECORDING

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_SERVLET_RECORDING

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_CUSTOM_RECORDING

TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_TXN_HANDLER_RECORDING
```

So for example, if the `TimingPointProperties` object had a key of `TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_MAJOR_TYPE`, one should do the following:

set the `majorType` on the newly created `TimingPoint`, if there was a value returned for `majorType` in the following code:

```
String
majorType=(String)properties.getProperty(TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_MAJOR_
TYPE);
```

At this point, if a value was found, the property should be removed from the `TimingPointProperties` object named `properties` using the following code:

```
properties.removeProperty(TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_MAJOR_TYPE);
```

Once all these keys have been addressed and removed from `properties`, any additional processing or setting values in the `properties` object should be done now.

Finally the remaining `properties` from the passed `TimingPointProperties` object should be set on the `TimingPoint` as follows:

```
timingPoint.setProperties(properties)
```

where *timingPoint* is the `TimingPoint` created as first step of this `configureTimingPoint()` method.

DefaultTimingPointFactory

This class is used for the creation of Timing Points. The class extends the abstract class `TimingPointFactory` and provides an implementation for the `configureTimingPoint()` method. The `configureTimingPoint()` method uses the `TimingPointProperties` object passed as parameter to create and set values on a Timing Point.

TimingPointAnalyser

Classes that implement this interface are used to analyze a Timing Point. Implementing classes will write an `analyse()` method, taking a `TimingPoint` object as parameter. The `TimingPointUtil` class will call the analyse() method of an implementing class to allow some additional custom analysis to be done. The default `TimingPointAnalyser` is the `com.bankframe.services.trace.DefaultTimingPointAnalyzer` class that only prints the `TimingPoint` object passed as parameter to the console/file log. It is possible to write Custom `TimingPointAnalyser` classes and have their `analyse()` method called during execution. Simply implement the `TimingPointAnalyser` interface, replace the default setting in `BankframeResource.properties` file with the new custom `TimingPointAnalyser` class as follows:

```
timingPoint.analyzerClassName=com.bankframe.services.trace.myCustomTimingPointAna
lyzer
```

where `com.bankframe.services.trace.myCustomTimingPointAnalyzer` is the fully qualified name of this new custom class.

Configuring Timing Points

The settings in the `BankframeResource.properties` file that control the configuration of Timing Point Services are as follows:

EndToEndTrace

EndToEndTrace is set as follows:

```
trace.sampleSize=1000

trace.enabled=true
```

timingPoint

Timing Points are set as follows:

```
timingPoint.enabled=true
```

where `timingPoint.enabled` can have value of `true` or `false`

timingPoint.writePointsToDisk

timingPoint.writePointsToDisk is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.writePointsToDisk=true
```

where `timingPoint.writePointsToDisk` can have a value of `true` or `false` and `timingPoint.writePointsToDisk=true` means data will be written to console and not to file.

timingPoint.subsystem.BANKFRAME.MCA

timingPoint.subsystem.BANKFRAME.MCA is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.subsystem.BANKFRAME.MCA=BANKFRAME.MCA
```

where Timing Points can be grouped in a subsystem named `BANKFRAME.MCA`. It is possible to have many settings with the prefix `timingPoint.subsystem` and this means all subsystems listed here will have their data flushed to file or console.

timingPoint.doSummary

timingPoint.doSummary is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.doSummary=false
```

this will flush a summary all timing points to file or console.

timingPoint.fileName

timingPoint.fileName is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.fileName=/export/home/server/bea/user_projects/eontec/timingpoints.log
```

this will flush the timing points to the file `/export/home/server/bea/user_projects/eontec/timingpoints.log`

timingPoint.bufferSize

timingPoint.bufferSize is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.bufferSize=1000
```

the maximum size of buffer to hold timing points. Once this is exceeded all timing points will be flushed to file or console.

timingPoint.analyzerClassName

timingPoint.analyzerClassName is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.analyzerClassName=com.bankframe.services.trace.DefaultTimingPointAnal
yzer
```

where `com.bankframe.services.trace.DefaultTimingPointAnalyzer` is the name of the analyzer class to process timing points.

timingPoint.transactionHandler.recording

timingPoint.transactionHandler.recording is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.transactionHandler.recording=true
```

where `timingPoint.transactionHandler.recording` is an alternative to subsystems and would be placed within Financial Process Integrator code. It can have the value `true` or `false`, specifying whether the timing point is to be recorded or not.

timingPoint.custom.recording

timingPoint.custom.recording is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.custom.recording=true
```

where `timingPoint.custom.recording` is an alternative to subsystems and could be placed anywhere in code. It can have the value `true` or `false`, specifying whether the timing point is to be recorded or not.

timingPoint.host.recording

timingPoint.host.recording is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.host.recording=true
```

where `timingPoint.host.recording` is an alternative to subsystems and would be placed within host transaction code. It can have the value `true` or `false`, specifying whether the timing point is to be recorded or not.

timingPoint.servlet.recording

timingPoint.servlet.recording is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.servlet.recording=true
```

where `timingPoint.servlet.recording` is an alternative to subsystems and would be placed within servlet code. It can have the value `true` or `false`, specifying whether the timing point be recorded or not.

timingPoint.format

timingPoint.format is set as follows:

```
timingPoint.format=TIMING_POINT_ID;THREAD_ID;MAJOR_TYPE;SUBSYSTEM;
TYPE;USER;START_TIME;END_TIME;ELAPSED_TIME;REQUEST;RESPONSE
```

above is the format string representing how a timing point will be logged to console or file. Above are all the possible base values that can be arranged in any order as long as they are delimited by a semi-colon.

If upon instantiation of a TimingPoint object in the code an additional parameter has been added to be output with the Timing Point, e.g. if one has a Timing Point constructed as follows with an additional string named `'TRACE_ID'`:

```
Object[] objects = new Object[]{TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_SUBSYSTEM,
BankFrameLogConstants.MCA_SUBSYSTEM, TimingPointConstants.TIMING_POINT_TYPE,
"Request Router", "TRACE_ID", "1234"};
```

Then the `timingPoint.format` setting should include the `'TRACE_ID'` as follows:

```
timingPoint.format=TRACE_ID;TIMING_POINT_ID;THREAD_ID;MAJOR_TYPE;
SUBSYSTEM;TYPE;USER;START_TIME;END_TIME;ELAPSED_TIME;REQUEST;RESPONSE
```

NOTE: `TRACE_ID` can appear anywhere in the format string.

Mail

It is often necessary to provide an application with the ability to send e-mail messages to an administrator or user on the system, for example, when a user's account is updated, the system might send an e-mail message to the account holder containing details of the transaction.

The Mail service allows an MCA Services based system to send e-mail messages to a specified user over the Internet or Intranet. It uses Sun's `javax.mail` API to create and send e-mail messages and is implemented using a stateless session EJB. Note that the MCA mail service only sends e-mail.

Classes and Package Structure

The mail service is contained in the following package.

```
com.bankframe.services.mail
```

It consists of the following files:

`SendMailBean`	The Actual Mail Bean
`SendMail`	Remote Interface to the Mail Bean
`SendMailHome`	`SendMailBean` home interface
`Client`	Application to test mail bean functionality

Here is a rundown of the methods in the `SendMailBean` that can be invoked by a `MailBean` client.

`processDataPacket()`	Pulls out all the details from the `DataPacket` and passes them to `sendMail()`
`sendMail(String mailFrom, String[] addresses, String subject, String message)`	Sends the mail via the `javax.mail` API. This method takes a String message
`sendMail(String mailFrom, String[] addresses, String subject, StringBuffer message)`	Sends the mail via the `javax.mail` API. This method takes a StringBuffer message
`sendMail(String mailFrom, String[] addresses, String[] ccAddresses, String subject, String text, String content, String`	Sends the mail via the `javax.mail` API. This method takes a String message. This method has optional parameters for CC'd addresses, content type, connection timeout and enabling the javax.mail API debug mode

`connTimeout, String debug)`	
`sendMail(String mailFrom, String[] addresses, String[] ccAddresses, String subject, StringBuffer message, String content, String connTimeout, String debug)`	Sends the mail via the `javax.mail` API. This method takes a StringBuffer message. This method has optional parameters for CC'd addresses, content type, connection timeout and enabling the javax.mail API in debug mode

DataPacket Structure

In order for the `processDataPacket()` method in the mail service to work properly, the `DataPacket` passed as an argument must conform to the following structure:

`NAME`	Name of the `DataPacket`
`REQUEST_ID`	Request ID of the mail bean
`FROM`	String containing the sender of the mail
`SUBJECT`	String containing mail subject
`MESSAGE`	String containing mail message
`ADDRESS_1-n`	1- n number of addresses to send the mail to
`NUMBER_OF_RECEIVERS`	Number of receivers for the mail
`CONNECTION_TIMEOUT`	This is an optional parameter specifying the connection timeout period for sending the email. E.g., `15000` => 15 seconds
`CONTENT`	This is an optional parameter specifying the content type of the e-mail message. E.g., `text/html`
`CC_ADDRESS_1-n`	1- n number of addresses to CC the mail to. This is an optional parameter
`NUMBER_OF_CC_RECEIVERS`	Number of CC receivers for the mail. This is an optional parameter
`DEBUG`	This is an optional parameter specifying that the `javax.mail` API operates in debug mode

The response `DataPacket` passed back to the client will be of the following form:

`NAME`	`SENT MAIL`
`TO`	String concatenated with all the addresses the mail was intended for.
`SUBJECT`	String containing mail subject

Also note that in addition to deploying the mail bean on the server you must provide a name for an SMTP mail server using the property `mail.smtpServer` in the `BankframeResource.properties` file.

Using the Mail Service

In order to use the mail service, the client must communicate with the `EHHTPCommsManager` on the server and pass to it a `DataPacket` matching the structure discussed previously.

The following client example shows how to do this:

```
import java.util.Vector;


import com.bankframe.bo.DataPacket;


import com.bankframe.ei.channel.client.HttpClient


public class MailClient {


    public static void main(String [] args) {


        DataPacket dp = new DataPacket("SEND MAIL");

        dp.put("REQUEST_ID", "MC201");

        dp.put("FROM", "Administrator@eontec.com");

        dp.put("SUBJECT", "Test");

        dp.put("MESSAGE", "Testing Mail Bean");

        dp.put("ADDRESS_1", "User1@eontec.com");

        dp.put("ADDRESS_2", "User2@eontec.com");

        dp.put("ADDRESS_3", "User3@eontec.com");

        dp.put("NUMBER_OF_RECEIVERS", "3");

        dp.put("CC_ADDRESS_1", "User4@eontec.com");

        dp.put("NUMBER_OF_CC_RECEIVERS", "1");

        dp.put("CONNECTION_TIMEOUT", "10000");//10 seconds timeout


         HttpClient client = new HttpClient();

          Vector responses = client.send(dp);

  }
```

}

This client will return a Vector of response DataPackets, each one matching the structure discussed in the previous section.

Ping

The Ping utility is used to confirm that an MCA Services installation is working and that the servlets on the web server are communicating with the MCA installation correctly. This utility should be used when setting up the environment. It is part of MCA and can be executed from a browser or from the command line.

When a request is sent to the Ping EJB, it will respond with a `DataPacket` that gives the time of the request and a message indicating that the deployment environment is live.

Classes and Package Structure

The ping service is contained in the following package.

`com.bankframe.services.ping`

It consists of the following files:

`PingBean`	The Actual Ping Bean.
`Ping`	Remote Interface to the Ping Bean.
`PingHome`	`PingBean` home interface.
`Client`	Application to test ping bean functionality.

DataPacket Structure

The `DataPacket` passed to the server must be supplied the `REQUEST_ID` of the Ping bean so the server can find it and route the `DataPacket` to it.

`NAME`	Name of the `DataPacket`
`REQUEST_ID`	Request ID of the Ping bean

The returned `DataPacket` will have the following fields.

`NAME`	`PING RESULT`
`RESULT`	String representing the result of the Ping

Using the Ping Service

Calling the Ping Service using a client

The following piece of client code will generate a `DataPacket` by supplying the `REQUEST_ID` and sending it to the server via the `EHTTPCommsManager` for processing.

This client uses the URL `http://host name:portnumber` as an example http server.

NOTE: The `REQUEST_ID` of the Ping bean is usually "`MC999`", but verify this.

```
import java.util.Vector;

import com.bankframe.bo.DataPacket;

import com.bankframe.ei.comms.EHTTPCommsManager;


public class PingClient {

    public static void main(String [] args) {

DataPacket dp = new DataPacket("TEST PING");

dp.put("REQUEST_ID", "MC999");

EHTTPCommsManager commsManager = new EHTTPCommsManager("",
"http://hostname:portnumber/BankframeServlet");

Vector response = commsManager.sendDataPacket(dp);

DataPacket data = (DataPacket) response.elementAt(0);

System.out.println(data.getString("Result"));

    }

}
```

This client will result in the following being printed to the console:

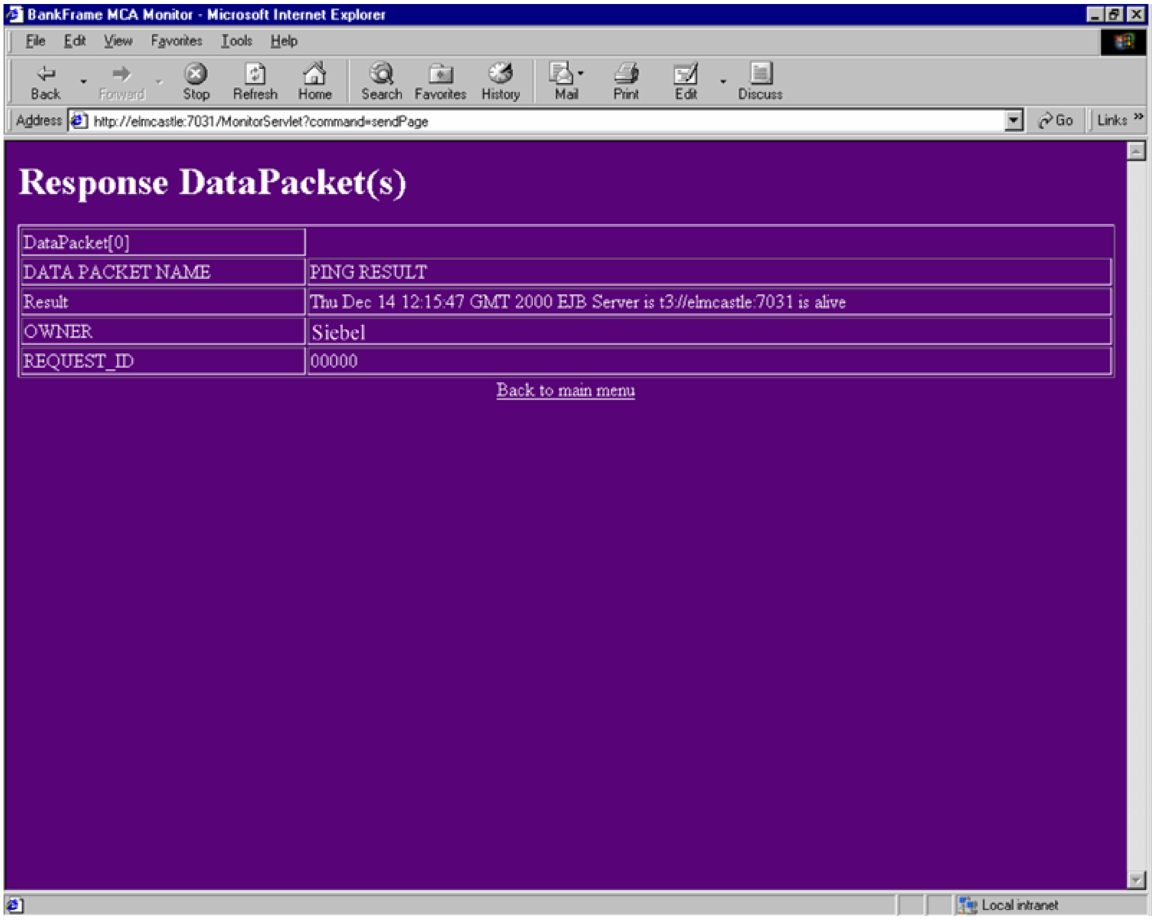
```
Tue Nov 28 16:57:47 GMT 2000 EJB Server is t3://hostname:portnumber is alive
```

Calling the Ping Service using a browser

The Ping Service can also be called from a browser using the `MonitorServlet` to do this type in the following url:

```
http://hostname:portnumber/MonitorServlet
```

Using the GUI you can input the `REQUEST_ID` of the Ping Service usually '`MC999`'. The result will be displayed in a table as illustrated in the screen shot below.



Refer to the Administrating MCA documentation for more information on how to use the `MonitorServlet`.

LDAP Connectivity

LDAP stands for: Lightweight Directory Access Protocol. LDAP defines a standard protocol for accessing information stored in directory services. Typically directory services are used for storing information such as User information, names & addresses, phone numbers, e-mail addresses and user ID's, etc. Information in LDAP repositories is stored in a hierarchical structure. Each LDAP repository has a schema, which defines the types of objects that can be stored in the repository.

MCA Services & LDAP

In order to ease integration with customers' existing IT infrastructure MCA needs to be able to access information stored in LDAP repositories. MCA provides this connectivity through the `com.bankframe.ei.ldap` package. This package provides facilities for accessing LDAP repositories directly and for creating Bean Managed Entity beans that persist data to/from LDAP repositories.

com.bankframe.ei.ldap

The `com.bankframe.ei.ldap` package provides MCA's LDAP connectivity. The package contains the following classes/interfaces:

`LDAPServerContext`	Represents a connection to an LDAP server.
`LDAPServerContextFactory`	Creates and manages connections to the LDAP server.
`LDAPEntityBean`	Abstract class used for implementing BMP Entity beans that map attributes to data stored in the LDAP server.
`LDAPPrimaryKey`	Interface used to encapsulate the data that comprises the primary key of an `LDAPEntityBean` instance.
`LDAPEntityBeanPK`	Standard implementation of `LDAPPrimaryKey`

com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPServerContext

This class provides the connectivity to an LDAP server. Connecting to the server requires several configuration parameters; these are defined as the following constant fields in this class:

`PROVIDER_URL`	URL of the ldap server
`INITIAL_CONTEXT_FACTORY`	The JNDI factory class to use to make the connection.
`SECURITY_AUTHENTICATION`	The authentication method.
`SECURITY_PRINCIPAL`	The user to authenticate.
`SECURITY_CREDENTIALS`	The password to use for authentication.
`SECURITY_PROTOCOL`	Specifies whether to connect using Secure Sockets Layer.
`BASE_DN`	Specifies the base distinguished name of this context.
`RDN_ATTRIBUTE`	Specifies the name of the attribute that is used to form the dn.
`DEFAULT_SEARCH_FILTER`	Specifies a default search filter to use for searches.
`CONTEXT_ALIAS`	Specifies the name of the alias that defines the above settings.

These parameters are passed to the constructor as key-value pairs in a `Hashtable`. All the parameters may not be required, for example the LDAP server may not require authentication, so the security parameters will not need to be specified.

NOTE: When an `LDAPServerContext` instance is created the physical connection to the server is not immediately established. It will only be created when it is required, i.e. when one of its methods is invoked. The physical connection will be closed when the context is destroyed, it can also be closed explicitly by calling the `close()` method. The `open()` method can be used to explicitly establish the physical connection. See the JavaDocs for this class for more details of the methods it implements.

com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPServerContextFactory

This class simplifies the task of creating correctly configured `LDAPServerContext` instances. It maps an alias to sets of `LDAPServerContext` configuration properties, which are stored in the `BankFrameResource.properties` configuration file. Instead of explicitly specifying all the configuration properties in order to create an `LDAPServerContext` instance, you can call the `LDAPServerContextFactory.getServerContext(String aliasName)` method, which will retrieve the settings from `BankFrameResource.properties` and create an `LDAPServerContext` with those settings. Here's an example set of configuration settings:

```
samplecontext.java.naming.factory.initial=com.sun.jndi.ldap.LdapCtxFactory

samplecontext.java.naming.security.authentication=simple

samplecontext.java.naming.security.principal=someUserId

samplecontext.java.naming.security.credentials=somePassword

samplecontext.java.naming.security.protocol=SSL

samplecontext.ldap.baseDn=ou=someOrganizationalUnit,o=someOrganization

samplecontext.ldap.rdnAttribute=cn

samplecontext.ldap.defaultSearchFilter=cn={0}
```

See the section on `LDAPServerContext` for an explanation of these values. To retrieve these values and instantiate an `LDAPServerContext` with the above values you would do the following:

```
LDAPServerContext ctx =
LDAPServerContextFactory.getServerContext("samplecontext");
```

When you are finished using the `LDAPServerContext` instance you should release it as follows:

```
LDAPServerContextFactory.releaseServerContext(ctx);
```

`LDAPServerContextFactory` caches `LDAPServerContexts`. The first time a request is made for a specific `LDAPServerContext`, the context is instantiated, and a reference to the instance is cached. If a second request is made for the same context, then the reference to the existing context is passed back, rather than creating another instance of the same context.

Configuring LDAP Caching

To specify whether the server context is cached or not, configure the following setting:

```
ldap.context.cache=
```

Set the value to `true` to enable caching.

Set the value to `false` to disable caching.

com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPEntityBean

While it is possible to access data in LDAP repositories directly using the only the methods in `LDAPServerContext`, it is recommended that a Bean Managed Entity Bean is developed to wrap any data that needs to be accessed in the LDAP repository. This has a number of benefits:

- Scalability, since the Data Access is being managed via an EJB, the application server can manage and share bean instances
- Reusability, The bean can be changed to Container managed or to some other Bean Managed implementation, without affecting the business logic that uses the bean.
- Consistency, The bean will be consistent with the MCA Architecture where data is represented as Entity Beans.

The `LDAPEntityBean` class simplifies the process of creating an LDAP based BMP Entity Bean. It takes care of writing and reading data to/from the LDAP repository. It provides standard implementations of all the methods required by the EJB specification including standard `ejbFindByPrimaryKey()` and `ejbFindAll()` implementations. `LDAPEntityBean` extends the `com.bankframe.ejb.EntityBean` class, therefore `LDAPEntityBean` subclasses can be treated the same as any other MCA Entity Bean.

See the section below for an example of how to create an `LDAPEntityBean` based EJB

com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPPrimaryKey

The `LDAPPrimaryKey` interface defines the methods that `LDAPEntityBean` expects Primary key classes to implement:

```
// Get the value of the relative distinguished name attribute

public String getRdnAttributeValue() ;

// set the value of the relative distinguished name attribute

public void setRdnAttributeValue(String value) ;

// required by the EJB 1.1 specification

public boolean equals(java.lang.Object o) ;

// required by the EJB 1.1 specification

public int hashCode() ;
```

In LDAP terminology the relative distinguished name is the name that uniquely identifies an object. It is always of the form: `attribute-name=attribute-value,` where `attribute-name` is the name of one of the attributes in the object. The `rdn` is equivalent to a primary key.

com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPEntityBeanPK

`LDAPEntityBeanPK` is a standard implementation of the `LDAPPrimaryKey` class. It can be used as the primary key class for most LDAP based entity beans. See the section below for an example of how `LDAPEntityBeanPK` is used

Sample Bean Managed LDAP based Entity Bean

The best way to illustrate how to use MCA's LDAP functionality is through an example. This example below defines an Entity Bean that wraps the standard LDAP Person objectclass: The Person objectclass has the following attributes:

Attributes	`cn` `sn`

Optional Attributes	`userPassword`
	`telephoneNumber`
	`seeAlso`
	`description`

Bean Implementation

Here's a bean implementation to wrap the above attributes:

```
import java.rmi.RemoteException;

import javax.ejb.CreateException;

import com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPEntityBean;


public class LDAPPersonBean extends LDAPEntityBean {

 private final String ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME="cn";

 private final String ATTRIBUTE_SURNAME="sn";

 private final String ATTRIBUTE_PASSWORD="userPassword";

 private final String ATTRIBUTE_PHONE_NUMBER="telephoneNumber";

 private final String ATTRIBUTE_SEE_ALSO="seeAlso";

 private final String ATTRIBUTE_DESCRIPTION="description";

 private final String OBJECT_CLASS="person";


 // ejb creation method

 public LDAPEntityBeanPK ejbCreate(String commonName,String surName,String
password,String phoneNumber,String seeAlso,String description) throws
CreateException {

   this.putObjectClass(this.OBJECT_CLASS); // set the object class of this object

   // set the attributes of this object

   this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME,commonName);

   this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_SURNAME,surName);
```

```
    this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_PASSWORD,password);

    this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_PHONE_NUMBER,phoneNumber);

    this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_SEE_ALSO,seeAlso);

    this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_DESCRIPTION,description);

    // initialize

    return super.ejbCreate();

  }

  // required method

  public void ejbPostCreate(String commonName,String surName,String
 password,String phoneNumber,String seeAlso,String description) {

  }

  // return the name of the attribute that is used as to form the rdn

  public String getRdnAttributeName() {

    return this.ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME;

  }

  // EntityBean attribute getter

  public String getCommonName() {

    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME);

  }

  public String getSurName() {

    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_SURNAME);

  }

  public String getPassword() {

    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_PASSWORD);

  }

  public String getPhoneNumber() {

    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_PHONE_NUMBER);

  }

  public String getSeeAlso() {
```

```
    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_SEE_ALSO);
  }
  public String getDescription() {
    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_DESCRIPTION);
  }
  public void setDescription(String description) {
    this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_DESCRIPTION,description);
  }
}
```

Bean Implementation Explained

As can be seen from the example above the bean implementation only needs to do a few things to be able to access the data stored in the LDAP repository:

Specify the ldap objectclass

This is done in the `ejbCreate()` method using the following method call:

```
this.putObjectClass(this.OBJECT_CLASS);
```

This tells `LDAPEntityBean` what the LDAP objectclass is, so that `LDAPEntityBean` can create the correct type of object in the LDAP repository.

Specify the ldap attributes

This is also done in the `ejbCreate()` method by calling the `LDAPEntityBean.put()` method. The put method takes two parameters, the name of the attribute and the value of the attribute. The value can be any simple Java type such as String, Long, Double etc. For example the 'common name' attribute is set using the following method call:

```
this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME,commonName);
```

Create the Primary Key instance

The EJB Specification requires that all Bean Managed Entity Beans' `ejbCreate()` methods return an instance of the Primary Key class. `LDAPEntityBean` provides a standard `ldapCreate()` method that creates an initialized instance of `LDAPEntityBeanPK`.

Specify the Rdn Attribute Name

In order for `LDAPEntityBean` to be able to manage primary keys, it must know which attribute in the object is used to form the relative distinguished name. In the case of the Person object, this is the 'cn' attribute. This is done using the following code:

```
public String getRdnAttributeName() {
```

```
    return this.ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME;
  }
```

Implementing getter methods

To provide read access to the Entity Bean's attributes, 'getter' methods must be implemented, for example:

```
public String getDescription() {
    return this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_DESCRIPTION);
  }
```

This method uses the `LDAPEntityBean.get()` method to retrieve the current value of the description attribute.

Implementing setter methods

To enable the value of entity bean attributes to be changed, we must provide 'setter' methods, for example:

```
public void setDescription(String description) {
    this.put(this.ATTRIBUTE_DESCRIPTION,description);
  }
```

Implementing ejbFindByPrimaryKey() and ejbFindAll()

All entity beans must provide an `ejbFindByPrimaryKey()` method. The `ejbFindByPrimaryKey()` method in the above example wraps the `LDAPEntityBean.ldapFindByPrimaryKey()` method casting the returned primary key instance to the correct type. Entity beans can optionally provide custom finder methods, one such common method is an `ejbFindAll()` method. `LDAPEntityBean` provides a method: `ldapFindAll()` that retrieves all entries in the current ldap context. The `ejbFindAll()` method in the above example uses `ldapFindAll()` passing it the primary key class to use to uniquely identify each entry.

Conclusion

Writing an LDAP based Entity Bean is straightforward if you use the `LDAPEntityBean` class. `LDAPEntityBean` takes care of all the EJB implementation code. It provides fully functional implementations of the `ejbLoad(), ejbStore(), ejbActivate(), ejbPassivate(), ejbRemove(), ejbFindByPrimaryKey(),ejbFindAll()`, and `toDataPacket()` methods. Classes that extend `LDAPEntityBean` only need to provide `ejbCreate(), ejbPostCreate()`, and attribute access methods and `finder()` methods.

The Remote Interface

The Remote Interface for an LDAP based Entity bean is defined in exactly the same manner as any other Siebel Entity Bean. The interface should extend the `com.bankframe.EEntityRemote` interface and define the methods used to access the entity bean's attributes. The Remote Interface for the example above would be:

```
import java.rmi.RemoteException;

import com.bankframe.ejb.EEntityRemote;


public interface LDAPPerson extends EEntityRemote {

 public String getCommonName() throws RemoteException;

 public String getSurName() throws RemoteException;

 public String getPassword() throws RemoteException;

 public String getPhoneNumber() throws RemoteException;

 public String getSeeAlso() throws RemoteException;

 public String getDescription() throws RemoteException;

}
```

The Home Interface

The home interface is also defined in the same manner as other Siebel Entity Beans:

```
import java.rmi.RemoteException;

import javax.ejb.CreateException;

import javax.ejb.FinderException;

import javax.ejb.EJBHome;


import com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPEntityBeanPK;


public interface LDAPPersonHome extends EJBHome {

 public LDAPEntityBeanPK create(String commonName,String surName,String
password,String phoneNumber,String seeAlso,String description) throws
CreateException, RemoteException ;

 public LDAPEntityBeanPK findByPrimaryKey() throws
FinderException,RemoteException;

 public Enumeration findAll() throws FinderException,RemoteException;

}
```

The Deployment Descriptor

The deployment descriptor format differs from one application server to another. Consult your application server documentation for details on how to create a deployment descriptor.

Advanced Topics

Using Custom Primary Keys

In some cases it may not be possible or desirable to use the `com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPEntityBeanPK` class as the primary key class for an LDAP Entity Bean. In these cases a custom Primary Key class needs to be developed that implements the `LDAPPrimaryKey` interface. To illustrate how to do this we will modify the example in the previous section to use a custom primary key class called `CustomPK`.

Class Definition

```
import com.bankframe.ei.ldap.LDAPPrimaryKey;

public class CustomPK implements LDAPPrimaryKey {

 public String commonName;

 public CustomPK() {}

 public CustomPK(String commonName) { this.commonName = commonName ;}

 public String getRdnAttributeValue() { return this.commonName; }

 public void setRdnAttributeValue(String value) { this.commonName = value;}

 public boolean equals(java.lang.Object o) {

  if (o instanceof CustomPK) {

   CustomPK otherKey = (CustomPK) o;

   return ((this.commonName.equalsIgnoreCase(otherKey.commonName)));

  } else {

   return false;

  }

 }

 public int hashCode() { return commonName.hashCode();}

}
```

Modifying the LDAPPerson example to use CustomPK

Change the ejbCreate() method

The `ejbCreate()` method must return an instance of the primary key class, i.e. `CustomPK`. We need to change the `LDAPPerson.ejbCreate()` method as follows:

```
Public CustomPK ejbCreate(…parameters as before…) {

… configure objectclass and attributes as before…

super.ejbCreate();

return new CustomPK((String)this.get(this.ATTRIBUTE_COMMON_NAME));

}
```

The changes are as follows:

1. Change the return type of the `ejbCreate()` method to `CustomPK`
2. Call `super.ejbCreate()`(to initialize the bean) but do not return the primary key it creates
3. Create a `CustomPK()` instance, initializing it with the current value of the `commonName` attribute

Define type correct ejbFindByPrimaryKey()method

We need an `ejbFindByPrimaryKey()` method that has a return type of `CustomPK`. `LDAPEntityBean` has a protected method `LDAPPrimaryKey (LDAPPrimarykey primaryKey)`. This method can be overridden to implement a type correct `ejbFindByPrimaryKey()` as follows:

```
CustomPK ejbFindByPrimaryKey(CustomPK primaryKey) throws FinderException {

  return (CustomPK)super.ldapFindByPrimaryKey(primaryKey);

}
```

Define type correct ejbFindAll() method

We need an `ejbFindAll()` method that creates instances of the `CustomPK. LDAPEntityBean` has a protected method: `Enumeration ejbFindAll(Class primaryKeyClass)`. This method can be used to create an enumeration of instances of the specified primary key class as follows:

```
Enumeration ejbFindAll() throws FinderException {

 return super.ejbFindAll(CustomPK.class);

}
```

Modify the LDAPPersonHome.findByPrimaryKey() method

The primary key type for the `LDAPPersonHome.findByPrimaryKey()` method needs to be changed to `CustomPK`:

```
CustomPK findByPrimaryKey(CustomPK primaryKey) throws
FinderException,RemoteException;
```

Modify the Deployment Descriptor

The `primaryKeyClassName` field in the deployment descriptor should be changed to: `CustomPK`

Handling multiple values

Some LDAP attributes can have multiple values. `LDAPEntityBean` provides two methods for accessing these kinds of attributes: `LDAPEntityBean.getMultiple()` and `LDAPEntityBean.putMultiple()`. `getMultiple()` retrieves the values of the specified attribute and returns them as an `Enumeration`. `putMultiple()` takes the name of the attribute, and an `Enumeration` of values to store.

Implementing custom finder methods

In some cases the `findByPrimaryKey()` and `findAll()` methods will not be sufficient. Custom EJB finder methods can be implemented as follows:

Define the method in the implementation bean

We will build on the example above and define a custom finder called `ejbFindBySurName()`:

```
Enumeration ejbFindBySurname(String surname) throws FinderException {

 try {

  LDAPServerContext ctx = this.getServerContext();

  String[] filterArgs = new String[1];

  FilterArgs[0] = surname;

  NamingEnumeration enum = ctx.search("sn={0}",filterArgs);

  Vector v = new Vector();

  While ( enum.hasMore() ) {

    SearchResult res = (SearchResult)enum.next();

    String surname =
(String)res.getAttributes().get(this.ATTRIBUTE_SURNAME).get();

    v.addElement( new CustomPK(surname));

  }

  this.releaseServerContext(ctx);

  return v.elements();

 } catch ( Exception ex ) {

 throw new FinderException(ex.toString());

 }

}
```

`LDAPEntityBean` contains a protected method `getServerContext()`, which returns a reference to the current LDAP connection. The `LDAPServerContext.search()` method is then used to find all entries with the specified surname. The `search()` method returns an `Enumeration`, which is iterated through, creating Primary key instances for each result. Finally an `Enumeration` of these primary key instances is returned.

Add the corresponding method to the LDAPPersonHome interface

The second and final step is to add the corresponding finder method in the home interface:

```
Enumeration findBySurname(String surname) throws FinderException,RemoteException;
```

Data Validation

During the execution of Financial Components, certain data types will need to be formatted, validated, or converted to another data type. The functionality to do this is provided within a number of classes in MCA Services.

Classes and Package Structure

The validation and data conversion classes are implemented in the package `com.bankframe.validation` - this package contains the following classes:

```
com.bankframe.validation.ValidationException

com.bankframe.validation.DataTypeValidator

com.bankframe.validation.DataTypeConvertor

com.bankframe.validation.DateValidator

com.bankframe.validation.DateConvertor
```

com.bankframe.validation.ValidationException

This exception is thrown whenever a validation error occurs. This class replaces the `com.bankframe.ejb.ValidationException` class. This class extends the `com.bankframe.EonException` class. This class has the following `public` methods:

`ValidationException(int errorNumber)`	Create a validation exception identified by the specified `errorNumber`
`ValidationException(int errorNumber,String[] params`	Create a validation exception identified by the specified `errorNumber` and with the arguments specified by the `params[]` array
`ValidationException(int errorNumber,Locale locale)`	Create a validation exception identified by the specified `errorNumber`, using the specified `Locale` to localise the error message

`ValidationException(int errorNumber,String[] params,Locale locale)`	Create a validation exception identified by the specified `errorNumber` and with the arguments specified by the `params[]` array, using the specified `Locale` to localize the error message
`DataPacket toDataPacket()`	Convert the exception to a `DataPacket`

com.bankframe.DataTypeValidator

This class contains useful methods that can be used to validate various data-types. This class contains the following `public static` methods:

`boolean isDigitsOnly(String value)`	This method returns `true` if the specified `String` contains only digits.
`isExactLength(String value,int length)`	This method returns `true` if the specified `String` is exactly the specified length.
`isLengthLessThanOrEqual(String value, int maxLength)`	This method returns `true` if the specified `String` is less than or equal to the specified length.
`boolean isLetterOrDigitsOnly(String value)`	This method returns `true` if the specified `String` contains only letters or digits
`boolean isLettersOnly(String value)`	This method returns `true` if the specified `String` contains only letters.
`boolean isNullOrEmpty(Object value)`	This method returns true if the specified value is null, or empty, or contains the value: '`null`'

com.bankframe.DataTypeConvertor

This class contains useful methods that can be used for converting data from one type to another. This class contains the following `public static` methods:

`Boolean getBoolean(String value) throws ValidationException`	This method converts a `String` value to a `Boolean` value. It throws a `ValidationException` if the `String` cannot be converted to a `Boolean` value
`Double getDouble(String value) throws ValidationException`	This method converts a `String` value to a `Double` value. It throws a `ValidationException` if the `String` cannot be converted to a `Double` value
`Float getFloat(String value) throws ValidationException`	This method converts a `String` value to a `Float` value. It throws a `ValidationException` if the `String` cannot be converted to a `Float` value

`Integer getInteger(String value) throws ValidationException`	This method converts a `String` value to an `Integer` value. It throws a `ValidationException` if the `String` cannot be converted to an `Integer` value
`String getString(Object value) throws ValidationException`	This method converts an `Object` value to a `String` value. It throws a `ValidationException` if the `Object` cannot be converted to a `String` value
`String padString(String value,char padChar,int length,boolean padRight) throws ValidationException`	This method returns a `String` padded with the specified amount of padding characters. The `String` can be padded to the left or to the right. This method throws a `ValidationException` if the value is null or too long to be padded
`Double round(Double value,int decimalPlaces)`	This method rounds up the specified value to the specified number of decimal places
`Double round(Double value,int decimalPlaces,int roundMethod)`	This method rounds the specified value to the specified number of decimal place using the specified rounding method. See the Java API documentation of `java.lang.BigDecimal` for information on rounding methods.

com.bankframe.validation.DateValidator

This class contains useful methods for validating dates, times and timestamps. This class contains the following `public static` methods:

`int compare(Date dateOrTime1, Date dateOrTime2) throws ValidationException`	This method compares two `Date` objects it returns an `int` value, `DateValidator.EQUALS` if the argument is a `Date` equal to this `Date`; `DateValidator.AFTER` if the argument is a `Date` after this `Date`; `DateValidator.BEFORE` if the argument is a `Date` before this `Date`. It throws a `ValidationException` if the date/time inputs are null or empty.
`int compare(Date date1, Date date2) throws ValidationException`	This method compares two `Date` objects ignoring the hours minutes and seconds portion of the `Date` object. It returns an `int` value, `DateValidator.EQUALS` if the argument is a `Date` equal to this `Date`; `DateValidator.AFTER` if the argument is a `Date` after this `Date`; `DateValidator.BEFORE` if the argument is a `Date` before this `Date`. It throws a `ValidationException` if the date/time inputs are null or empty.
`int compare(Time time1, Time`	This method compares two `Time` objects

time2) throws ValidationException	ignoring the day month and year portion of the Time object. It returns an int value, DateValidator.EQUALS if the argument is a Time equal to this Time; DateValidator.AFTER if the argument is a Time after this Time; DateValidator.BEFORE if the argument is a Time before this Time. It throws a ValidationException if the date/time inputs are null or empty.
boolean isValid(String pattern, String dateOrTime) throws ValidationException	This method compares a date/time string with a SimpleDateFormat pattern to ensure that it is valid. It throws a ValidationException if the pattern or the date/time inputs are null or empty.

com.bankframe.validation.DateConvertor

This class contains methods that can be used to convert Strings to Date, Time or Timestamp objects and vice versa. This class contains the following public static methods:

Date getDate(String pattern, String date) throws ValidationException	This method uses the SimpleDateFormat class to convert a String to a Date Object. It throws a ValidationException if the pattern or the date inputs are null or empty and if the date is invalid.
Time getTime(String pattern, String time) throws ValidationException	This method uses the SimpleDateFormat class to convert a String to a Date Object and then gets a Time object from the Date. It throws a ValidationException if the pattern or the time inputs are null/empty or if the time is invalid.
Timestamp getTimestamp (String pattern, String timestamp) throws ValidationException	This method uses the SimpleDateFormat class to convert a String to a Date Object and then gets a Timestamp object from the Date. It throws a ValidationException if the pattern or the timestamp inputs are null/empty or if the time is invalid.
String getString(String pattern, Date dateOrTime) throws ValidationException	This method uses a SimpleDateFormat pattern to convert a Date object into a String. It throws a ValidationException if the pattern or the date/time inputs are null or empty.

Examples

DataTypeValidator Example

Below is some sample code that illustrates how to use the `DataTypeValidator` class:

```
public class TestDataTypeValidator {

  public static void main(String[] args) {

    String value1 = "345123";

    String value2 = "Hello World";

    boolean result = DataTypeValidator.isDigitsOnly(value1);

    // result will be true

    result = DataTypeValidator.isDigitsOnly(value2);

    // result will be false

    result = DataTypeValidator.isExactLength(value1,6);

    // result will be true

    result = DataTypeValidator.isExactLength(value1,7);

    // result will be false

    result = DataTypeValidator.isLengthLessThanOrEqual(value1,7);

    // result will be true

    result = DataTypeValidator.isLengthLessThanOrEqual(value1,5);

    // result will be false

    String nullReference = null;

    String emptyString = "";

    String nullString = "null";

    result = DataTypeValidator.isNullOrEmpty(value1);

    // result will be false

    result = DataTypeValidator.isNullOrEmpty(nullReference);

    // result will be true

    result = DataTypeValidator.isNullOrEmpty(emptyString);

    // result will be true

    result = DataTypeValidator.isNullOrEmpty(nullString);
```

```
      // result will be true
    }
  }
```

DataTypeConvertor Example

Below is some sample code that illustrates how to use the `DataTypeConvertor` class:

```
public class TestDataTypeConvertor {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    try {
      Boolean booleanValue = DataTypeConvertor.getBoolean("True");
      // booleanValue will be true
      booleanValue = DataTypeConvertor.getBoolean("FALSE");
      // booleanValue will be false (Note case of String is unimportant)
      booleanValue = DataTypeConvertor.getBoolean("yes");
      // booleanValue will be true, (getBoolean() treats 'yes' as true and 'no'
as false)
      booleanValue = DataTypeConvertor.getBoolean("No");
      // booleanValue will be false, (getBoolean() treats 'yes' as true and 'no'
as false)
      Double doubleValue = DataTypeConvertor.getDouble("2.3123");
      // double value will be 2.3123
      Integer integerValue = DataTypeConvertor.getInteger("1000");
      // integerValue will be 1000
      String stringValue = DataTypeConvertor.getString(integerValue);
      // stringValue will be '1000'
      String paddedString = DataTypeConvertor.padString(stringValue,'0',8,false);
      // paddedString will be '00001000'
      Double roundedValue = DataTypeConvertor.round(new Double(2.0/3.3),3);
      // roundedValue will be 0.607
      roundedValue = DataTypeConvertor.round(new
Double(2.0/3.3),3,DataTypeConvertor.ROUND_DOWN);
```

```
      // roundedValue will be 0.606
    } catch ( ValidationException vex) {
      vex.printStackTrace();
    }
  }
}
```

DateValidator Example

```
public class TestDateValidator {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    try {
      Date date1 = DateConvertor.getDate("dd/MM/yyyy HH:mm:ss", "26/03/2001
14:00:51");
      //this creates the following date object: Mon Mar 26 14:00:51 GMT 2001
      Date date2 = DateConvertor.getDate("dd/MM/yyyy", "26/02/2001");
      //this creates the following date object: Mon Feb 26 00:00:00 GMT 2001;
      Date date3 = DateConvertor.getDate("dd/MM/yyyy hh:mm:ss", "26/03/2001
12:05:00");
      //this creates the following date object: Mon Mar 26 00:05:00 GMT 2001;
      Date date4 = DateConvertor.getDate("dd/MM/yyyy HH:mm:ss", "26/04/2001
16:30:05");
      //this creates the following date object: Thu Apr 26 16:30:05 GMT 2001;
      Time time1 = DateConvertor.getTime("HH:mm:ss", "13:56:01");
      //this creates the following date object: 13:56:01;
      Time time2 = DateConvertor.getTime("HH:mm:ss", "11:20:01");
      //this creates the following date object: 11:20:01;
      Time time3 = DateConvertor.getTime("HH:mm:ss", "13:56:01");
      //this creates the following date object: 13:56:01;
      Time time4 = DateConvertor.getTime("HH:mm:ss", "22:30:05");
      //this creates the following date object: 22:30:05;
```

```
    int result = DateValidator.compare(date1, date2);
    // result will be DateValidator.AFTER
    result = DateValidator.compare(date1, date3);
    // result will be DateValidator.AFTER dates not equal because of time
    result = DateValidator.compare(date1, date4);
    // result will be DateValidator.BEFORE
    result = DateValidator.compareDateOnly(date1, date2);
    // result will be DateValidator.AFTER
    result = DateValidator.compareDateOnly(date1, date3);
    // result will be DateValidator.EQUALS as without time element dates are
equal
    result = DateValidator.compareDateOnly(date1, date4);
    // result will be DateValidator.BEFORE
    result = DateValidator.compareTimeOnly(time1, time2);
    // result will be DateValidator.AFTER
    result = DateValidator.compareTimeOnly(time1, time3);
    // result will be DateValidator.EQUALS
    result = DateValidator.compareTimeOnly(time1, time4);
    // result will be DateValidator.BEFORE
  }
  catch (ValidationException vex) {
    System.out.println(vex);
  }
  String date = "26/03/2001";
  String time = "22:25:23";
  String timestamp = "20/06/2001 22:25:23";
  String pattern1 = "dd/MM/yyyy";
  String pattern2 = "dd/MMM/yyyy";
  String pattern3 = "hh/mm/ss";
```

```
        String pattern4 = "HH/mm/ss";
        String pattern5 = "dd/MM/yyyy hh/mm/ss ";
        try {
          boolean reponse = DateValidator.isValid(pattern1, date);
          // result will be true
          reponse = DateValidator.isValid(pattern2, date);
          // result will be false
          reponse = DateValidator.isValid(pattern3, time);
          // result will be false
          reponse = DateValidator.isValid(pattern4, time);
          // result will be true
          reponse = DateValidator.isValid(pattern5, timestamp);
          // result will be true
          reponse = DateValidator.isValid(pattern1, timestamp);
          // result will be false
        }
        catch (ValidationException vex) {
          System.out.println(vex);
        }
      }
    }
```

DateConvertor Example

```
public class TestDateConvertor {
  public static void main(String[] args) {
    String date1 = "23/03/2001";
    String time1 = "22:25:23";
    String timestamp1 = "20/06/2001 22:25:23";
    String pattern1 = "dd/MM/yyyy";
    String pattern2 = "HH:mm:ss";
```

```
    String pattern3 = "dd/MM/yyyy HH:mm:ss";

    try {

      Date result = DateConvertor.getDate(pattern1, date1);

      // result will be Fri Mar 23 00:00:00 GMT 2001

      result = DateConvertor.getTime(pattern2, time1);

      // result will be 22:25:23

      result = DateConvertor.getTimestamp(pattern3, timestamp1);

      // result will be 20-06-2001 22:25:23.0

    }

    catch (ValidationException vex) {

      System.out.println(vex);

    }

    String pattern4 = "dd/MM/yyyy";

    String pattern5 = "hh:mm:ss";

    String pattern6 = "dd/MM/yyyy hh:mm:ss ";

    try {

      Date date2 = DateConvertor.getDate("dd/MM/yyyy", "23/03/2001");

      //creates the following date object Fri Mar 23 00:00:00 GMT 2001

      Time time2 = DateConvertor.getTime("HH:mm:ss", "22:25:23");

      //creates the following time object 22:25:23

      Timestamp timestamp2 = DateConvertor.getTimestamp("dd/MM/yyyy HH:mm:ss",
"26/04/2001 16:30:05");

      //creates the following timestamp object 20-06-2001 22:25:23.0";

      String response = DateConvertor.getString(pattern4, date2);

      // result will be 23/03/2001

      response = DateConvertor.getString(pattern5, time2);

      // result will be 10:25:23

      response = DateConvertor.getString (pattern6, timestamp2);

      // result will be 20/06/2001 22:25:23
```

```
    }
    catch (ValidationException vex2) {
      System.out.println(vex2);
    }
  }
}
```

Peripherals Support

This document describes the framework of the peripheral device support built into MCA Services. This support allows the user to use peripheral devices connected to the system. The architecture of the MCA device support allows the addition of support for new types of peripherals if required.

Scope

This document is a development guide for using the MCA peripheral support. This includes using the currently supported peripherals and writing support for new types of peripherals into MCA.

MCA currently has implementations for three types of peripheral devices;

- The MagTek MiniMicr cheque reader.
- The MagTek IntelliPIN swipe-card reader.
- The Epson TMU375 slip printer.

These implementations allow the user to control these devices at a basic level. They do not contain any business logic such as calculating cheque amount totals or swipe card amounts. The device implementations allow the user access to the raw information processed by the devices.

MagTek MiniMicr cheque reader

The MCA implementation for this peripheral allows the developer to:

- setup the connection to the peripheral
- prompt the user to swipe a cheque
- read the raw cheque details. The details are read from the foot of the cheque by the MiniMicr peripheral and MCA returns the raw data to the user for further processing.

MagTek IntelliPIN swipe-card reader

The MCA implementation for this peripheral implements a basic subset of the MagTek IntelliPIN Pad functionality. This subset allows the developer to:

- setup the device in interactive mode (PC controlled) with a Master encryption key (used to encrypt and decrypt pin data passed to the PC from the physical device.)
- prompt for a card swipe and read the card track details from the physical device.
- decrypt the pin data returned by the physical device when a user enters a pin number.
- Display string messages and modify the default messages displayed on the physical MagTek IntelliPIN device LCD display.

It is up to the developer to process the card track details and pin number information and validate the details.

Epson TM-U375 slip printer

The MCA implementation for this peripheral allows the user to

- Print text to the printer
- Perform basic printing operations such as line-feed and carriage-return. MCA does not have business logic for creating receipt information for printing. It is up to the developer to write the business logic to create specific types of receipts which are then passed to MCA for printing on the peripheral.

Adding new types of peripherals to MCA Services

New types of peripherals can be supported by MCA by extending the classes in MCA. This involves coding and subclassing of the appropriate classes and is not a plug-in mechanism.

Currently MCA has a general Serial-Port implementation which can be subclassed for any peripheral connected to the serial port (other types of connections will be supported in the future.)

The serial-port support in MCA encapsulates the Java Communications Extension API.

MCA Device Base Classes

MCA has a set of base classes for supporting peripherals. These classes can be subclassed to support new types of peripherals. Currently MCA has base classes for supporting peripherals connected to the serial-port. Support for any peripheral device connected to the serial-port can be added to MCA by subclassing these classes. General base classes for peripherals connected to the system by other means will be added in the future.

All the base classes for device support in MCA are contained in the package `com.bankframe.services.devices`. All implemented classes for specific device types are contained as sub-packages of this package.

MCADevice base interface

Every type of device object in the MCA framework must implement the `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADevice` interface. This defines the basic set of commands that an MCA device must implement.

MCASerialPort base class

The basic class for serial port communication is the abstract class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort`. This class implements the `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADevice` interface and manages the connection to, communication with and initialization of a serial port. This class encapsulates the Java Communications Extension API.

Classes subclassing this base class can transmit and receive information on the serial port.

MCASerialPort.InputReaderThread class

The `MCASerialPort` class implements a thread

`com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort.InputReaderThread`

to asynchronously detect serial port events. `MCASerialPort.InputReaderThread` implements the interface `javax.comm.SerialPortEventListener` in the Java Communications Extension API. Therefore when an event occurs on the serial port the method `InputReaderThread.serialEvent(javax.comm.SerialPortEvent event)` is called by the Java Comm API.

MCASerialPort.handleEvent(…)

The `MCASerialPort.InputReaderThread` class always calls the method

`protected void handleEvent(java.util.EventObject theEvent)` which is defined in `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort`. This method is over-ridden to customize the handling of serial-port device events. This method processes data from the physical device asynchronously because it is called by `MCASerialPort.InputReaderThread`. The method `handleEvent(java.util.EventObject theEvent)` calls the method `dataAvailable(Object data`) to store the received data for retrieval by the user. The method `waitforDataAvailable()` retrieves this data when called by the user.

If a class subclasses `MCASerialPort` then its implementation of `handleEvent(java.util.EventObject theEvent)` parses and validates the data received and stores the result using `dataAvailable(Object data)`, thereby making more specific information available for the user.

Any exceptions that occur in `handleEvent(java.util.EventObject theEvent)` should be stored as `com.bankframe.services.devices.DeviceException` using `dataAvailable(Object data)`. This allows the user to retrieve any exceptions that might have occurred during parsing of the data from the physical device.

MCASerialPort.waitforDataAvailable( )

After a user has instantiated an MCA serial device object the user can query the serial device object for available data. The method:

`public Object waitforDataAvailable(int timeOut)` waits the specified timeout period for data to be received by the serial device object from the peripheral device connected to the serial port.

MCASerialPort read( ) and write( ) and available( )

`com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort` wraps the standard serial-port `read( )`, `write( )` and `available( )` methods for interacting directly with the serial port.

- read(byte[] bytes, int off, int len) and read() reads data from the serial port.
- write(byte[] bytes, int off, int len) and write(int theByte) write data from the serial port.
- `available()` determines the number of bytes that can be read from the serial port without blocking the program.

MCASerialPort.open( ) and MCASerialPort.setup( )

After a user has instantiated an MCA serial device object the `open( )` method is called to setup the device for use by the user. In the case of MCA serial port devices this method always calls the method:

```
abstract protected void setup()
```

If `MCASerialPort` is subclassed the method `setup()` is over-ridden to initialize the device as required by the peripheral.

MCADeviceProperties class

The class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProperties` is a class that wraps a static hashtable of all the properties for the MCA device classes being instantiated by the user. The properties for the MCA device classes are contained in a single properties file `BankframeDevices.properties` which must be on the classpath of the system. The `MCADeviceProperties` object when created allows a device to access its properties during initialization. The `MCADeviceProperties` class contains a hashtable (called `serialPortValueData`) of values which translate string values in the `BankframeDevices.properties` file into `javax.comm.SerialPort` defined values for initializing the serial port.

NOTE: If the properties file is modified while the program is running the changes will not be detected until the program is restarted.

Basic serial port entries in the file `BankframeDevices.properties` are of the form:

```
COM1.MiniMicr.serialport.portname=COM1

COM1.MiniMicr.serialport.baud=9600

COM1.MiniMicr.serialport.databits=DATABITS_8

COM1.MiniMicr.serialport.stopbits=STOPBITS_1

COM1.MiniMicr.serialport.parity=PARITY_NONE

COM1.MiniMicr.serialport.flowcontrol=FLOWCONTROL_RTSCTS_OUT,FLOWCONTROL_RTSCTS_IN
```

where "`COM1.MiniMicr`" is the name of the device specified in the constructor when the MCA device object is created. The `serialport` entries are settings required for an `MCASerialPort` derived object. These entries are used to initialize the serial port. `serialport.portname` is the name of the port that the device is attached to on the PC/Unix machine.

On an Windows machine this is of the form:

```
serialport.portname=COM1
```

On a Unix machine this would be of the form:

```
serialport.portname=/dev/term/a
```

Each property value in the `BankframeDevice.properties` file is parsed as a comma-separated line. Using the logical bitwise operator `OR` (`|`) the comma separated values are combined to produce the serial port value required. I.e., the property `serialport.flowcontrol` shown above will result in the two serial port defined values `FLOWCONTROL_RTSCTS_OUT` and `FLOWCONTROL_RTSCTS_IN` being combined using the logical bitwise operator `OR` to produce the serial port flowcontrol type for the device `COM1.MiniMicr`.

The `BankframeDevice.properties` can contain specific settings for each instantiated device object e.g. a MagTek MiniMicr object has the following specific settings:

```
COM1.MiniMicr.commtype=BAUD_9600,DATAPARITY_8N,CTS_DSR_IGNORE,STOPBITS_1,INTERCHA
R_DELAY_NO
```

DeviceException class

All exceptions thrown back to a calling class by an MCA device object are of the type `com.bankframe.services.devices.DeviceException`. This class inherits from the class `com.bankframe.EonException`. This class allows localizable messages to be defined in the `BankframeMessages.properties` file.

MCADeviceProtocol class

The class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProtocol` wraps the message protocol creation for the device. All subclassed device objects should subclass `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProtocol` for generation of device-specific protocol messages. Messages or commands which are transmitted to the physical device are created in the subclassed `MCADeviceProtocol` class. `MCADeviceProtocol` contains a byte stream which can be passed to the peripheral.

MCA device implementations

MCA currently has implementations for three types of peripheral devices:

- The MagTek Mini Micr cheque reader.
- The MagTek IntelliPIN swipe-card reader.
- The Epson TMU375 slip printer.

MagTek MiniMicr cheque reader device

The classes for this device implementation are in the package:

`com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.`

`MTMiniMicr` is a subclass of the base class com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort.

The physical MagTek Mini Micr device is connected to the serial port. The class MTMiniMicr over-rides the method handleEvent(…) and therefore asynchronously handles serial port events. All the MagTek Mini Micr specific communication codes are defined in the com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.MagTekMiniMicrDeviceCodes interface.

The class com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.MagTekMiniMicrDeviceProtocol defines methods for creating MagTek Mini Micr specific serial commands to send to the physical device. The class is a subclass of com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProtocol.

MTMiniMicr(String deviceName) Constructor

The MTMiniMicr(String deviceName) is used to instantiate a Mini Micr device object. The String parameter is the unique device name for the device object. This string is used in the BankframeDevices.properties file to define the serial communications settings for the device object. The setup() method reads the settings for the device object from BankframeDevices.properties to setup the device correctly.

MTMiniMicr.setup( )

This method is called by the base class method MCASerialPort.open(…). This method does the following:

- Sets up the serial communications to the physical device.
- Configures the format of the cheque data that the physical Mini Micr device will send to the PC when a cheque is swiped.

MTMiniMicr.setCommand(…) and requestCommand(…)

The two forms of the method MTMiniMicr.setCommand(…) creates a MagTek MiniMicr command-message which is sent to the physical device by the MTMiniMicr object. This is used to set up various settings in the physical Mini Micr device. The method MTMiniMicr.requestCommand(…) formats a MagTek MiniMicr request-command which is sent to the physical device by the MTMiniMicr object. The method requestCommand(…) is used to request information from the physical MiniMicr device. See "Installation and Configuration of Hardware" section for a description of the commands.

Using the MiniMicr Device in a client application

See the class com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest.MiniMicrTest for a basic example of a java client using the Mini Micr device classes. The MCA Example com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui demonstrates a full Swing front-end example using the device classes.

The following code is a sample client class using a Mini Micr device object:

```
import com.bankframe.services.devices.*;

import com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.*;


public class myClientClass {
```

```
...
MagTekMiniMicr miniMicr;

public void run() {
  try {
    //The name passed to the device corresponds to the entries
    //used in the BankframeDevices.properties file
    //These names have to match for the device to be setup
    //with the correct serial port setting and specific settings.
    miniMicr = new MagTekMiniMicr("COM1.MiniMicr");

    //Opens the port device specified in the
    //BankframeDevices.properties file:-
    miniMicr.open();

  } catch (DeviceException ex) {
    //exceptions thrown back from device are of type DeviceException
    ex.printStackTrace();
  }

  System.out.println("Swipe check now...");
  //Make the MiniMicr object wait for
  //data received from the connected device
  //(This call times-out after 10 seconds):-
  String data = (String)miniMicr.waitforDataAvailable(10000);
  if(data!= null && data.length() != 0) {
     //
     //Check it is data of the correct format, i.e., <ESC>CHEQUE_DATA<CR>
     //
```

```
        if(data.length() > 0 &&
           data.charAt(0) == MagTekMiniMicrDeviceCodes.ESC) {
          System.out.println("\nGot Check code:" + data.substring(1) + "\n");
        }
      }
      miniMicr.close( );
      miniMicr = null;
    }//end of run()
  }//end of myClientClass
```

Notes:

1. The `MagTekMiniMicr` class handles serial events itself including device replies containing the cheque data. The java sample code shown waits for available cheque data by calling the method `waitforDataAvailable(...)`.
2. The method `open()` contains the standard setup procedure for the MiniMicr device. The setup can be modified by editing the `BankframeDevices.properties` file before running the test example.
3. The method `waitforDataAvailable(int timeoutMillseconds)` waits the specified time for a message from the Mini Micr physical device. If the data received from the physical Mini Micr is cheque data then the device classes will return this data when `waitforDataAvailable(int timeoutMillseconds)` is called. The cheque data returned is the raw cheque data as displayed at the foot of the cheque, it is not parsed into separate fields. The device classes do not do any calculations on the cheque data, such as the cheque amount or account number details. It is left to the client class using the Mini Micr device classes to parse the cheque data and calculate the cheque amount or any other details.
4. When the Mini Micr is no longer required the connection is shut-down using `close( )`
5. The classpath must include `mca.jar`. The Java Communications Extension API jar (`comm.jar`) must also be included in the classpath. `mca.jar` is located in `eontec/Common/lib/eontec/`.
6. The standard serial port settings for the Mini Micr are: `Baud=9600, data Bits = 8, stop Bits=1, parity = none, flow control = none.`

Epson TM-U375 Slip-printer device

The classes for this device implementation are in the package:

`com.bankframe.services.devices.SlipPrinter`.

The Epson slip-printer device is a subclass of the base class

`com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort`.

The physical slip-printer device is connected to the serial port.

The class `SlipPrinter` over-rides the method `handleEvent(…)` and therefore asynchronously handles serial port events.

All the Epson slip-printer specific communication codes are defined in the `com.bankframe.services.devices.SlipPrinter.SlipPrinterDeviceCodes` interface.

The class `com.bankframe.services.devices.SlipPrinter.SlipPrinterDeviceProtocol` defines methods for creating the slip-printer specific serial commands to send to the physical device. The class contains methods for implementing all the standard printing facilities on an Epson slip-printer.

SlipPrinter(String deviceName) Constructor

The `SlipPrinter(String deviceName)` is used to instantiate a Slip Printer device object. The String parameter is the unique device name for the device object. This string is used in the `BankframeDevices.properties` file to define the serial communications settings for the device object. The `setup()` method reads the settings for the device object from `BankframeDevices.properties` to setup the device correctly.

SlipPrinter.setup( )

This method is called by the base class method `MCASerialPort.open(…)`. This method does the following sets up the serial communications to the physical device.

Using the SlipPrinter Device in a Client Application

See the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest.SlipPrinterTest` for a basic example of a java client using the slip-printer device object. The MCA Example `com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui` demonstrates a full Swing front-end example using the device classes.

The following code is a sample client using the slip-printer device object:

```
import com.bankframe.services.devices.*;

import com.bankframe.services.devices.SlipPrinter.*;

import javax.comm.SerialPortEvent;


public class myClient Class {


  String deviceName = "COM2.SlipPrinter";

  SlipPrinter slipPrinter;


  Public void run() {

    try {

      //The name passed to the device

      //corresponds to the entries used in the
```

```
        // BankframeDevices.properties file.
         //These names have to match for the device
         //to be setup with the correct serial port setting and specific settings.
         slipPrinter = new SlipPrinter( deviceName );
         //Opens the port device specified
         //in the BankframeDevices.properties file:-
         slipPrinter.open();


         System.out.println("Testing now...");
         slipPrinter.print("hello Ruairi");//prints to printer
         slipPrinter.lineFeed();
         slipPrinter.clearPrinter();
         slipPrinter.test();//prints a few things to printer.


       } catch (DeviceException ex) {
         ex.printStackTrace();
       }


       slipPrinter.close( );
       slipPrinter = null;
     }
   }
```

Notes:

1. The slip-printer device is created passing the device name to the constructor. The device name identifies the device's settings in the `bankframeDevices.properties` file.
2. After the slip-printer device is opened methods on the slip-printer are called to do some sample printing. No replies are obtained from the printer for these method calls.
3. When the slip-printer device is no longer required the connection is shut-down using `close( )`
4. The classpath must include `mca.jar`. The Java Communications Extension API jar (`comm.jar`) must also be included in the classpath. `mca.jar` is located in `eontec/Common/lib/eontec/`.
5. The standard serial port settings for the Epson TM-U375 slip-printer are: `Baud=9600, data Bits = 8, stop Bits=1, parity = none, flow control = none`.

MagTek IntelliPin Plus swipe-card device

The classes for this device implementation are in the package: `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad`.

The `MTPinPad` class subclasses the base class

`com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort`.

The physical MagTek IntelliPIN device is connected to the serial port.

The class implements the method `handleEvent(..)` and therefore asynchronously handles serial port events

All the MagTek MiniMicr specific communication codes are defined in the `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.MagTekIntelliPINDeviceCodes` interface.

The class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.MagTekIntelliPINDeviceProtocol` defines methods for creating MagTek IntelliPIN specific serial commands to send to the physical device.

See "Installation and Configuration of Hardware" section for a description of the hardware.

See "Installation and Configuration of Software" section for a description of the software configuration process.

As stated earlier the MCA `MagTekIntelliPIN` object only implements a basic subset of the MagTek IntelliPIN Pad functionality.

MagTekIntelliPIN(String deviceName) Constructor

The `MagTekIntelliPIN(String deviceName, boolean decryptPinData)` is used to instantiate an IntelliPIN device object. The `String` parameter `deviceName` is the unique device name for the device object. This string is specified in the `BankframeDevices.properties` file to define the serial communications settings for the device object. The `setup()` method reads the settings for the device object from `BankframeDevices.properties` to setup the device correctly. The `boolean` parameter `decryptPinData` specifies if pin number data received from the physical device is decrypted by the `MagTekIntelliPIN` device object or remains encrypted. It may be desirable not to decrypt the pin number in the client but to transmit the pin number while still encrypted to a Server where the pin number will be decrypted and validated.

MagTekIntelliPIN.open(…)

Once the `MagTekIntelliPIN` object has been instantiated one of the two `open( )` methods is called to set up and connect to the physical IntelliPIN device. The `open( )` method has the following two forms:

1. `open(long masterKeyResponseTimeout)`. This form generates a unique master encryption key for encrypting pin data during communication with the physical IntelliPIN device. The Java Cryptography API generates the unique encryption key. This `open( )` method is slower than the second form.
2. `open(byte[] theMasterKey, long masterKeyResponseTimeout)`. This form allows the user to specify a master encryption key for encrypting pin data during communication with the physical IntelliPIN device. The `byte[]` array is an 8 byte DES encryption key.

In both cases the `MagTekIntelliPIN` object must download the master encryption key to the physical device. The `long` argument `masterKeyResponseTimeout` is the time-out period for a positive response from the physical device verifying that the encryption key was successfully downloaded. If the device does not respond in this time then a `DeviceException` is thrown.

The sequence of method calls within the `open( )` method are as follows:

1. an encryption key is generated using the `com.bankframe.util.Cryptography` class. This class wraps the standard Java Cryptography API.
2. the base class `MCASerialPort.open( )` method is called.
3. the base class `MCASerialPort.open( )` method calls the over-ridden `MagTekIntelliPIN.setup( )` method which sets up the serial communications parameters for the physical device. The master encryption key is downloaded to the physical IntelliPIN device. This throws a `DeviceException` if the physical device does not respond confirming the key within the period `masterKeyResponseTimeout`.

MagTekIntelliPIN.setup( )

This method is called by the base class method `MCASerialPort.open(…)`. This method does the following:

- Sets up the serial communications to the physical device.
- The master encryption key is downloaded to the physical IntelliPIN device. This throws a `DeviceException` if the physical device does not respond confirming the key within the period `masterKeyResponseTimeout`.

MagTekIntelliPIN.replaceDefaultDisplay(…)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.replaceDefaultDisplay(String displayNumber, String lineOne, String lineTwo)`

replaces one of the default displays on the physical MagTek IntelliPIN pad's LCD display. This command can be used to customize the IntelliPIN display for a particular language/bank. This customized display is stored in the physical device so it appears again when it is next turned on. See java docs for usage.

MagTekIntelliPIN.enableDefaultDisplay(…)

The method `MagTekIntelliPIN.enableDefaultDisplay()` disables any previously customized default displays. The factory installed displays are all enabled on the physical device.

MagTekIntelliPIN.cardDataEntryRequest (…)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.cardDataEntryRequest(String firstMessage, String secondMessage, long timeOut)`

instructs the physical IntelliPIN device to prompt the user for a card swipe. The two messages are displayed on the IntelliPIN's LCD display. The user has the period `timeOut` to swipe a card before the method returns.

MagTekIntelliPIN.pinEntryRequest (...)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.pinEntryRequest(String accountNumber, char keyNumber, String transactionAmount, long timeout)`

instructs the physical IntelliPIN device to prompt the user for a pin number entry. The `accountNumber` is used for encrypting the returned pin number. `KeyNumber` specifies whether to use the Master Key or a session key. Currently only the master key is supported by the MCA object . The `keyNumber` to specify use of a Master Key is '4'. `TransactionAmount` is a decimal string to two decimal places which is displayed on the IntelliPIN LCD display. The user has the period `timeOut` to enter a pin number.

MagTekIntelliPIN.cancelSessionRequest (...)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.cancelSessionRequest()`

instructs the physical IntelliPIN device to cancel the current request in progress.

MagTekIntelliPIN.displaySingleString (...)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.displaySingleString(String firstMessage, String secondMessage)`

instructs the physical IntelliPIN device to display the two strings on its LCD display.

MagTekIntelliPIN.requestSoftSwitch (...)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.requestSoftSwitch(char switchNumber, long timeout)`

requests the current configuration settings of the physical IntelliPIN device.

MagTekIntelliPIN.setSoftSwitch (...)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.setSoftSwitch(char switchNumber, byte theSettingData, long timeOut)`

sets the specified configuration settings in the physical IntelliPIN device.

MagTekIntelliPIN.waitCondition...(...)

The methods

`MagTekIntelliPIN.waitConditionCardData(long timeout)`

`MagTekIntelliPIN.waitConditionKeyLoaded(long timeout)`

`MagTekIntelliPIN.waitConditionPinData(long timeout)`

`MagTekIntelliPIN.waitConditionRequestSettings(long timeout)`

start a wait cycle in the IntelliPIN device object until the specified condition has occurred.

- `waitConditionCardData(…)` waits until a card has been swiped and the device object has received card track details from the physical device.
- `waitConditionKeyLoaded(…)` waits until the physical device responds indicating that it has accepted the downloaded Master Encryption key.
- `waitConditionPinData(…)` waits until a pin number has been entered by the user and the device object has received the pin number.
- `waitConditionRequestSettings(…)` waits until the physical device has responded to a request to change its settings.

PinPadListener interface

The class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.PinPadListener` interface has one method `handlePinPad(PinPadEvent event)`. A client implements this listener interface and calls the method `MagTekIntelliPIN.addPinPadListener( PinPadListener ppl)` to register its listener. The method `handlePinPad(PinPadEvent event)` is called by the MagTekIntelliPIN device object when an event occurs. See the next section.

MagTekIntelliPIN.addPinPadListener (…)

The method

`MagTekIntelliPIN.addPinPadListener( PinPadListener ppl)`

allows a client object to register a listener class to receive notification of asynchronous `MagTekIntelliPIN` events. The listener class will receive `PinPadEvent` objects when one of the following events occur:

- When a card is swiped
- A pin number is entered
- An Exception occurs parsing data received from the physical IntelliPIN device.

An alternative to this asynchronous method of receiving IntelliPIN events is to use the base class method `waitforDataAvailable(long timeout)` specifying the period to wait for the data to be available. This method will return any of the above events that occur to the java client object.

PinPadEvent class

The `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.PinPadEvent` class stores event details to be passed to the client object. Card track details, Pin number and exception details can be obtained from this object when passed to the client object.

PinDataBlock class

The `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.PinDataBlock` class has two purposes:

- It stores the encrypted pin number received from the physical device.
- It provides a `method decrypt(SecretKey masterKey, String algorithm, String provider)` for decrypting and un-mangling the received pin data from the physical IntelliPIN. This method uses the `com.bankframe.util.Cryptography` class. This class wraps the standard Java Cryptography API. The `masterKey` must be the same master encryption key originally downloaded

to the physical device during the device setup. The algorithm and provider must be of the same form used to generate the original encryption key. If the encryption key was generated using `algorithm="DES"` and `provider="SunJCE"` then the `decrypt( )` method has to be called using a form of the `DES` algorithm, e.g. `"DES/ECB/NoPadding"`

CardData class

The `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.CardData` class stores the card track details obtained from the physical IntelliPIN device. The object parses the raw card data into the three track details.

Using the IntelliPIN Pad Card-Swipe Device in a Client Application

See the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest.PinPadTest` for a basic example of a java client using the slip-printer device. The MCA Example `com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui` demonstrates a full Swing front-end example using the device classes.

The following are the basic steps that a client java class generally takes to use the IntelliPIN device classes:

1. Instantiate the IntelliPIN device object.
2. Open the IntelliPIN device passing it a Master encryption key. The pin data returned by the physical IntelliPIN device to the PC will be encrypted using this key.
3. Request the user to swipe their card through the physical IntelliPIN device.
4. Wait for a card to be swiped by the user.
5. Request the user to enter their pin number on the physical IntelliPIN device.
6. Wait for the pin to be entered by the user.
7. Close the IntelliPIN device.

For steps 3 and 5 the returned data can be parsed and validated by the client java class as required.

The following code is a sample client using the MagTekIntelliPIN device object:

```
import com.bankframe.services.devices.*;

import com.bankframe.services.devices.SlipPrinter.*;



public class PinPadTest extends Object implements PinPadListener{



  MagTekIntelliPIN pinPad;

  void run() {

    try {

      //The name passed to the device corresponds to the entries used in the

      //BankframeDevices.properties file
```

```
//These names have to match for the device to be setup with the correct
 //serial port setting and specific settings.
pinPad = new MagTekIntelliPIN("COM1.IntelliPinPad",true);

//PinPad object notifys this test object when a check is swiped,
 //a pin is entered, or when an exception occurs.
pinPad.addPinPadListener(this);

//Open the port device specified in the BankframeDevices.properties file:-
//
//There are two forms of this method,
//First Form of open(...):-
//Takes a parameter which is the Master Encryption key
 //sent to the IntelliPIN to encrypt all messages.
//Second parameter is the time-out to wait for response
//from device after loading master key.
//DeviceException is thrown if pinPad times-out.
//Encryption key specified in MagTek Programing reference
 // manual:"23AB4589EF6701CD", passed in as a byte array:-

byte[] theMasterKey = {(byte)0x23,(byte)0xAB,(byte)0x45
                  ,(byte)0x89,(byte)0xEF,(byte)0x67
                  ,(byte)0x01,(byte)0xCD};
pinPad.open(theMasterKey, 30000);

//Second form of open(...):-
//Parameter is the time-out to wait for
 //response from device after loading master key.
//This method generates an Encryption Master key
```

```
         //and is therefore slower than the above method.
        //DeviceException is thrown if pinPad times-out.

        //pinPad.open(30000);

        ...

        BankframeLog.log(Bankframe.DEBUG,BankframeLogConstants.
BANKFRAME_SUBSYSTEM,"Swipe card now...");

        if (pinPad.cardDataEntryRequest("swipe your", "card now",10000)) {
          //First param = an Account Number which is used in the
          //encryption of the returned PIN number, can be blank "":-
          //Second param = use the Master key:-
          //Third param = the transaction amount to two decimal places,
          //can be blank "":-
          if (!pinPad.pinEntryRequest("4761234567812348"
                                ,MagTekIntelliPINDeviceCodes.UseMasterKey
                                ,"12300", 20000);
             //wait 30 seconds for pin entry then cancel
             pinPad.cancelSessionRequest();
          }
         }

      } catch (DeviceException ex) {
             BankframeLog.log(Bankframe.ERROR,BankframeLogConstants.
BANKFRAME_SUBSYSTEM,ex);
      }
```

```
            BankframeLog.log(Bankframe.DEBUG,BankframeLogConstants.
BANKFRAME_SUBSYSTEM,"Closing down pinPad...");
            pinPad.close( );
    pinPad = null;
}


public void handlePinPad(PinPadEvent event) {
   if (event.getType() == event.EXCEPTION_OCURRED) {
        BankframeLog.log(Bankframe.DEBUG,BankframeLogConstants.
    BANKFRAME_SUBSYSTEM,event.toString());
                    BankframeLog.log(Bankframe.DEBUG,BankframeLogConstants.
        BANKFRAME_SUBSYSTEM,"Closing down pinPad...");
       pinPad.close();
       System.exit(1);
   }
   BankframeLog.log(Bankframe.DEBUG,BankframeLogConstants.
BANKFRAME_SUBSYSTEM,event.toString());


   // TODO:
   // Do something with the result here, ie., display it or validate it.
   //
}
}
```

Notes:

1 The IntelliPIN Pad device is created passing the device name to the constructor. The device name identifies the devices settings in the `bankframeDevices.properties` file.

2 The test class implements the `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTPinPad.PinPadListener` interface and therefore is directly notified when a card has been swiped or a pin entered by a user. The test class registers itself as a Pin Pad listener by calling the method `addPinPadListener( )`. When an IntelliPIN pad event occurs the method `handlePINPad( )` is called on the test class. This event handler is also used to capture exceptions which may occur on the input thread of the IntelliPIN device allowing the test class to handle all exceptions/errors.

NOTE: IntelliPIN events/exceptions could also be detected directly by using the following code:

```
// E.g., to wait for pin entry do the following in the code:-

 Object data = null;

  if (pinPad.waitConditionPinData(30000)) {

    data = pinPad.getReceivedData();

    //do something with the pin data.

  }
```

3. There are two forms of the IntelliPIN Pad device `open( )` method. The first form of the `open( )` method takes an array of 8 bytes representing a standard `DES` encryption key. This key is sent to the physical IntelliPIN device as a Master Key for encrypting all pin data sent back to the PC. The second form of the `open( )` method generates a `DES` encryption key itself, this method is slower but generates a unique Master Key. The second parameter is the time-out value, the physical IntelliPIN device must accept the Master Key within this time.
4. The test class tells the IntelliPIN device to request a card swipe by calling the method `cardDataEntryRequest( )`. The two strings are the text that are shown on the IntelliPIN device during the request. The third parameter is the time-out period in milliseconds, this specifies the length of time that the user has to swipe a card
5. The test class tells the IntelliPIN device to request a pin entry from the user by calling the method `pinPad.pinEntryRequest("4761234567812348",MagTekIntelliPINDeviceCodes.UseMasterKey, "12300", 20000)`. The first parameter is an account number which is used in the encryption of the pin number entered by the user on the physical IntelliPIN device. The second parameter tells the device to use the Master key created previously. The third parameter is the amount of the transaction to two decimal places. The two strings can be empty. The fourth parameter is the time-out period in milliseconds, if the user does not enter a pin in this time then the session is cancelled by calling the method `pinPad.cancelSessionRequest()`.
6. When the IntelliPIN device is no longer required the connection is shut-down using `pinPad.close( )`
7. The classpath must include `mca.jar`. The Java Communications Extension API jar (`comm.jar`) must also be included in the classpath. `mca.jar` is located in `eontec/Common/lib/eontec/`.
8. The Java Cryptography API jar files must also be on the classpath or in the `jre\lib\ext` folder if the `jre` is being used to compile and run the test class.
9. The standard serial port settings for the MagTek IntelliPIN card-swipe are: `Baud=9600, data Bits = 7, stop Bits=1, parity = even, flow control = none`.

Implementing a new type of MCA Device

The basic requirements for implementing a new type of MCA device object are:

1. The device classes must be in a subpackage of the package `com.bankframe.services.devices`
2. The device object must implement the interface `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADevice`. This interface declares all the standard device methods.
3. The device object must instantiate the `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProperties` object to obtain the settings for the device.

4 To create messages and commands to transmit to the physical device the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProtocol` is subclassed. The subclass implements message-generating code specific to the physical device's communication protocol.

5 The `BankframeDevices.properties` file must be present on the classpath and must contain the necessary entries for each device object being instantiated in the client application. If the file or necessary entries are missing then the device initialization will fail.

6 All exceptions must be returned to the calling class/client as a `com.bankframe.services.devices.DeviceException`. This is generally achieved by converting an exception to a `com.bankframe.services.devices.DeviceException` as follows:

```
throw (DeviceException) new DeviceException(0).fromException(theGeneralException);
```

Implementing a new type of Serial-Port device

To design and implement a new type of MCA serial-port device you must, as well as the requirements in the previous section, implement the following:

4 A serial port device must subclass the basic `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCASerialPort` abstract class. `MCASerialPort` implements the `MCADevice` interface, and contains a `com.bankframe.services.devices.MCADeviceProperties` object.

5 The derived device class must implement the `MCASerialPort` abstract method `protected void setup()`

6 The `String deviceName` member of the `MCASerialPort` must be initialized during creation of the derived device class, e.g. `“Com1.SlipPrinter”`. This is normally performed in the constructor. During initialization `deviceName` is passed to the `MCADeviceProperties` object to obtain the correct settings for the device object.

7 The device class subclassing `MCASerialPort` implements `void handleEvent(java.util.EventObject event)` if it has to use data sent by the physical device to the PC. When a serial event occurs this method will always be called by `MCASerialPort`.

8 Any data captured, parsed and validated by the method `handleEvent(…)` must be stored in the `MCASerialPort` variable `Object receivedData`. This is accomplished by calling the `MCASerialPort` method `dataAvailable(Object data)`. Therefore the client object can then query the device object for available data by calling the method `public Object waitforDataAvailable(int timeOut)`.

Hardware Requirements

MCA has implementations for the following devices:

- A MagTek MiniMicr cheque reader with RS-232 connection, part number 22522003. This requires a 12v, 800mA power supply Adapter.
- A MagTek non-portable IntelliPIN Plus swipe card reader with RS-232 connection. This requires a 12V 300mA power supply which is plugged into the RS-232 cable supplied with the device, partnumber 30019304.
- An Epson TM-U375 Slip Printer. This requires a 24V 2A power supply available from PC Cubed (see References).

The devices are connected to the PC/Unix machine via the Serial port using an RS-232 serial lead. The IntelliPIN Plus has a serial cable with integrated power supply jack, part number 300115119.

Software Requirements

The Java Communications Extension API is required, see download section.

- The Java Cryptography Extension API is required for the MagTek IntelliPIN device classes, see the download section.
- The MagTek device drivers for Windows are not used for controlling the MagTek devices. Control of the MagTek devices is performed directly from the java code using low-level serial port communication.

Installation and configuration of required hardware

See Hardware Requirements section for necessary power supplies for each device. The correct power supply must be used with each device. The devices are connected to the serial port of the PC/Unix machine. The serial port is a nine pin RS232 connection.

Epson Slip-Printer

The Epson Slip Printer requires no hardware setup other than plugging in the power supply and connecting the serial lead to the serial port of the PC.

MagTek MiniMicr cheque reader

The MagTek MiniMicr cheque reader device configuration is controlled from the PC using text commands sent via the serial connection. The commands are described in the "MiniMicr RS232 technical reference manual", part-number 99875057.

The following sub-sections show a subset of these commands necessary for basic operations on the Mini Micr.

The commands are sent to the physical MiniMicr device by using the following methods in the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.MagTekMiniMicr`:

- public void setCommand(String command)
- public void setCommand(String command, byte commandByte)

The current command settings are requested from the physical MiniMicr device by using the following method in the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.MagTekMiniMicr`:

- public String requestCommand(String command, boolean bWait, int waitTimeout)

MiniMicr Command Syntax

The commands are of the following format:

```
[COMMAND][DATA]<CR>
```

where:

[COMMAND] is 2 or 3 alphabetical characters.

[DATA] is optional depending on the command.

<CR> carriage return, 0x0D byte, is always required.

All characters are ASCII.

No spaces, brackets, or angle brackets required.

All the values shown in the following sections are defined in the interface com.bankframe.services.devices.MTMiniMicr.MagTekMiniMicrDeviceCodes.

SWA - SWITCH A command

The SWA command controls the communications parameters, shown in Table 41. Communications Parameters:

Table 41. Communications Parameters

Bits								
7	**6**	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**Parameters**
					0	0	0	Reserved
					0	0	1	Baud Rate: 300
					0	1	0	Baud Rate: 600
					0	1	1	Baud Rate: 1200
					1	0	0	Baud Rate: 2400
					1	0	1	Baud Rate: 4800
					1	1	0	Baud Rate: 9600
					1	1	1	Baud Rate: 19200
			0	0				Data and Parity: 8, None.
			0	1				Data and Parity: 7, Mark (1).
			1	0				Data and Parity: 7, Even.
			1	1				Data and Parity: 7, Odd.
		0						CTS/DSR: Use
		1						CTS/DSR:Ignore
	0							Number of Stop Bits:1
	1							Number of Stop Bits:2
0								Intercharacter Delay: No

Bits								
7	**6**	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**Parameters**
1								Intercharacter Delay: Yes

The data for this command consists of 8 ASCII characters representing each bit of the above table. To execute the `SWA` command the following ASCII text is sent to the serial port output stream:

```
SWA00100110<CR>
```

This tells the MiniMicr device to use:

baud rate: 9600,

data and parity: 8 and None,

CTS/DSR: ignore,

Number of stop bits: 1,

intercharacter delay: No.

Each bit of the command shown in the table above is sent as a separate ASCII character. There are no spaces and the carriage-return, 0x0D, is sent to finish the command. The MiniMicr will not reply after executing the command. To make the command permanent after the MiniMicr is switched off, use the `SA` (Save) command.

NOTE: The new settings for the serial port will not become effective until the `RS` (Reset) command is executed.

To request the MiniMicr for its current settings the command is sent to the device as follows:

If the following command is sent:

```
SWA<CR>
```

The device replies with its current settings in the following form:

```
SWA=00100110<CR>
```

SWB - SWITCH B command

The SWB command controls the message format. When a cheque is swiped the MiniMicr will send the cheque data to the PC serial port wrapped in the chosen message format. The message formats are shown in Table 42. Message Formats:

Table 42. Message Formats

Bits								
7	**6**	**5**	**4**	**3**	**2**	**1**	**0**	**Parameters**
							0	<LF>: No
							1	<LF>: Yes
						0		<CR>: No
						1		<CR>: Yes
					0			<ETX>: No
					1			<ETX>: Yes
				0				<ESC>: No
				1				<ESC>: Yes
			0					<STX>: No
			1					<STX>: Yes
		0						Send Data after Error?: No
		1						Send Data after Error?: Yes
	0							Send Status after Error?: No
	1							Send Status after Error?: Yes
0			0	0	0	0	0	Comm Mode: 0 - Data Only
1			0	0	0	0	0	Comm Mode: 1 - Data<CR>
0			0	0	0	0	1	Comm Mode: 2 - Data<LF>
0			0	0	0	1	1	Comm Mode: 3 - Data<CR><LF>
0			0	1	0	0	0	Comm Mode: 4 - <ESC>Data
0			0	1	0	1	0	Comm Mode: 5 - <ESC>Data<CR>
0			1	0	1	0	0	Comm Mode: 6 - <STX>Data<ETX>
1			0	0	0	0	1	Comm Mode: 7 - <STX>Data<ETX><LRC>

The data for this command consists of 8 ASCII characters representing each bit of the above table. To execute, send the `SWB` command as follows to the serial port output stream:

```
SWB00001010<CR>
```

Each bit of the command shown in the table above is sent as a separate ASCII character. There are no spaces and the carriage-return, 0x0D, is sent to finish the command. The MiniMicr will not reply after executing the command. The new settings become effective immediately. To make the command permanent after the MiniMicr is switched off, use the `SA` (Save) command.

The above sample tells the MiniMicr device to use Comm Mode 5 for sending cheque data to the PC serial port, which has the following form:

```
<ESC>DATA<CR>
```

This message format facilitates easy parsing of the returned cheque data as the start (ESC, 0x1B) and the end (CR, 0x0D) of the cheque data can be detected in a long stream of data.

The selection of Comm Modes, shown in the above table, is a quick way of selecting multiple control characters.

If the following command is sent:

```
SWB<CR>
```

The device replies with its current settings in the following form:

```
SWB=00000010<CR>
```

When used in combination the message format always has the following order of elements:

```
<STX><ESC>DATA<ETX><CR><LF>
```

Send Data After Error. The request 'Send Data After' Error specifies whether the MiniMicr reader will return data to the HOST after a read error. If YES is selected and the MiniMicr detects a read error, the MiniMicr will still send the data back to the Host. If NO is selected and the MiniMicr finds an error, it will discard the data and nothing will be sent. The error conditions are listed in the table following.

Send Status After Data. The Send Status After Data option makes the MICR append a two-digit error/status code to the end of the MICR data. For most formats, the error/status code will always be preceded by a forward slash (`/`). The error/status codes are listed in the table following. For example, if a Canadian cheque (code 08) is read and has no errors, and the cheque data is "1234567890", and the message format is `<STX>DATA<ETX>` then the message from the MICR will look: `<STX>123456780/08<ETX>`

The status code is always at the end of the data, not the end of the message.

Priority	Code	Type	Description
9	01	Error	No MICR data: no transit and no account found
8	09	Status	Mexican cheque
7	08	Status	Canadian cheque
6	05	Error	Transit error: No transit, bad character, bad length, bad cheque

Priority	Code	Type	Description
			digit
5	07	Error	Account Error: No account, bad character
4	04	Error	Cheque # error: Bad character in cheque number
4	04	Status	No cheque number
3	03	Status	Low MICR signal, good read
2	10	Status	Business Cheque
1	11	Status	Amount field present
0	00	Status	Good read

Notes:

1 The LED indicator on the MICR will turn red on all error conditions.

9 The absence of a cheque number is not considered an error.

10 If a multiple error condition occurs, the error or status code with the highest priority is reported.

11 All unreadable MICR characters are transmitted as an "?" ASCII character (hex 3F).

FC - Format change command

Different formats are used by the MICR to process and transmit the cheque data read by the MICR back to the host (not the same as the message format). This command allows for the selection of a format for transmitting the cheque data.

The MICR has a built-in list of formats from which the user may select one to become the active format every time a cheque is read. Each format has a 4-digit number. The first two digits indicate the format number, and the last two digits are specific parameters used for various functions by each format. For example, in format *"0415"* , the "04" refers to the format number 4 and the 15 refers to the maximum number of characters allowed for the account field as specified in that format.

For a full list of supported formats refer to the MiniMicr RS232 technical reference manual.

The format used in the MCA device is the *raw data format*, `FC0000`. This format sends the entire cheque data to the Host when a cheque is read and does not process the individual fields of the cheque data. This format can be changed using the `FC` command at any stage.

To execute, the command is sent in the following form:

```
FC6600<CR>
```

To obtain the current format send:

```
FC<CR>
```

and the MICR will reply with the format such as follows:

```
FC=0000<CR>
```

Data Format 00xx: Raw Data Format. This format sends the entire MICR cheque data back to the Host. The Host then parses it as necessary.

xx -specify what symbol set to use. Choose from the table below.

Add xx + 16 - change multiple spaces to one space.

Add xx + 32 - Remove all spaces.

Examples of received data from the MiniMicr:

FC0000: T122000218T 1234 5678 9U 1321

FC0001: t122000218t 1234 5678 9o 1321

FC0017: t122000218t 1234 5678 9o 1321

FC0033: t122000218t123456789o1321

XX	Transit symbol	On-Us symbol	Amount symbol	Dash symbol	Read Error
00	T	U	$	-	?
01	t	O	a	d	?
02	T	O	A	D	?
03	T	U	$	-	*
04	T	U	$	0	?
05	T	U	$	0	*
06	t	O	a	0	?
07	T	U	$	none	?

VR - Version command

The Version command gives the current software revision in the MICR Reader device. To execute, send the `VR` command followed by a carriage return as follows:

```
VR<CR>
```

The MiniMicr response is of the following format:

```
Version AR3.00.13A
```

SA - Save command

All changes are considered temporary until the Save command is executed. The Save command saves all changes to the MICR Reader memory and makes them permanent. The MICR Reader will execute the command but it will not reply. This command is not necessary as the device can be reinitialized each time it is started in the desired format without changing the memory settings of the MICR device. To execute, send the `SA` command followed by a carriage return as follows:

`SA<CR>`

RS - Reset command

The Reset command resets the MICR firmware to the normal operating state of waiting for a cheque to read. The command also resets the serial port to the most recent settings provided by the `SWA` command. To execute, send the `RS` command followed by a carriage return as follows:

`RS<CR>`

NOTE: It was found that this command updated the serial communications settings and stopped the MiniMicr working. So the default serial communications on the device have to be used.

MagTek IntelliPIN Plus card-swipe reader

When plugged in the device's console displays the message "Calculating CRC" and "Boot Loader xxx" where xxx is the boot loader identifier. If the physical IntelliPIN device is configured already for Interactive mode then the greeting message "Welcome" is displayed on the LCD display. If the physical IntelliPIN device is configured already for another mode then the message "Ready for program data" is displayed on the LCD display.

The physical IntelliPIN device can be configured in two ways:

- It can be configured from its console using the LCD display.
- It can also be configured programmatically from the PC.

Configuring the IntelliPIN device from its console

The three soft round keys at the top of the console under the LCD display are used for menu operation during device configuration and for activating menus during normal operation. The soft keys allow the use of display-based prompts.

The mode of operation that is required for the MCA to control the IntelliPIN is the Interactive(PC) mode. In this mode the device requires the PC, or Host, to interactively control the functions of the IntelliPIN Plus. In this mode the IntelliPIN Plus cannot initiate any operation without a command from the PC. The steps to set up the physical IntelliPIN device from its console are described in the following sections. The complete list of console operations is contained in the "IntelliPIN Installation and Operation Manual", manual part number: 99875066.

Configuring the IntelliPIN operating mode. To change the mode of operation of the IntelliPIN device to Interactive the following steps are performed on the device's console:

1. Press the F1 function key (first button on the left below the LCD), and immediately press the 5 numeric key. (This may take a few practice tries as immediately means less than a second.) The display will be:

   ```
   Enter Password

   _ _ _ _
   ```

   If the password is not entered within 30 seconds, or if `CLEAR` is pressed, the display will revert back to the idle state.

2. Enter the password and press the `Enter` key. The default password is `7638` or `SOFT`.

If the password is entered correctly, the next display to appear will be:

```
Set  Operate  Mode

Next   Edit   Exit
```

3 The function buttons shown above (second line) are from left to right; F1, F2 and F3. If `Next` is selected (F1), each setup option will be displayed sequentially. If `Edit` is selected (F2), the parameters within each setup option will be selected. If `Exit` is selected (F3), the display will revert to the idle state.

If `Set Operate Mode` is not displayed, press `Next` until it is displayed.

4 With `Set Operate Mode` displayed, press `Edit`, then `Sel` until the following appears:

```
Mode:Interactive

Sel   Acpt   Skip
```

5 Press `Acpt` and the display will return to `Set Operate Mode`, and the Interactive mode is selected.

6 The next display will be:

```
Insert Hdr:No

Sel   Acpt   Skip
```

The default is `No`. A header is inserted when the Mag-Tek Micr Plus is used with the IntelliPin Plus. Press `Acpt` after `Yes` or `No` is selected.

7 Press `Next` continually to cycle through the menu. The Setup menu for the Interactive Mode is as follows:

```
Set Operate Mode

Communications

Card Reader Trks

PIN Options

Power Time Out

Key Parity Check
```

Configuring the IntelliPIN RS-232 serial communications. To change the communications mode of the physical IntelliPIN device from the console then the following steps are performed:

1 From the main menu press the F1 function button, `Next`, until the following appears:

```
Communications

Next    Edit    Exit
```

2 Press `Edit` (F2) and the following will appear:

```
Baud: 9600

Sel   Acpt   Skip
```

3 The default value is 9600 baud. To change this value, press `Sel` until the required value appears. The baud rates that will appear sequentially as `Sel` is pressed are `300`, `600`, `1200`, `2400`, `4800` and `9600`.

4 When the required baud rate appears, press `Acpt`. The program will accept the value and display the next option:

```
Parity: EVEN

Sel    Acpt    Skip
```

5 The default is `Even`. To change parity, press `Sel` until the required parity appears. The options shown will be `ODD`, `SPACE`, `MARK` and `EVEN`.

6 When the required parity appears, press `Acpt`. The program will accept the parity and display the next option:

```
CTS/DSR: Ignore

Sel    Acpt    Skip
```

7 The CTS/DSR default is `Ignore`. The alternative is `Use`. To change this option, press `Sel` until `Use` appears. This option might be enabled in cases where the PC uses control signal hand-shaking to synchronize communication with the device.

8 When the selection is made, press `Acpt`. The program will return to `Communications`.

Installation and configuration of required software

Java Communications Extension API on Windows

To distribute the Java Comms API with a release product the following files must be present on the client Windows machine:

The `comm.jar` must be in the JDK or JRE `/lib/ext` folder.

The `javax.comm.properties` must be in the JDK or JRE `/lib` folder or if that is not possible then in the same folder as the `comm.jar`. This file must not be edited.

The `win32com.dll` must be in the JRE or JDK `/bin` folder, which must be on the system path. If there are several JREs or JDKs on the system only the one being used must be on the system path, the Comms Driver will fail otherwise. If the Java Comms API is being used by an applet in a web page then the applet must have access permissions to `win32com.dll`.

Java Communications Extension API on Solaris

The Solaris implementation of the Java communications API requires the "Solaris Native Threads Pack" for older, un-patched versions of Solaris and JDK 1.1.6 only.

To install the Java Communications Extension API on Solaris:

Ensure that the library `libSolarisSerialParallel.so` can be loaded. You can do this either by adding `libSolarisSerialParallel.so` to the environment `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` or by copying `libSolarisSerialParallel.so` to `/usr/lib`.

Example: Assuming your current working directory is where you extracted the distribution,

```
% setenv LD_LIBRARY_PATH `pwd`:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
```

or

```
$ export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PWD:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
```

or, if you have administrative privileges on your machine,

```
% cp libSolarisSerialParallel.so /usr/lib
```

If you are using the JDK (not the JRE) add `comm.jar` to your classpath.

Example: If you don't have a `CLASSPATH` set currently,

```
% setenv CLASSPATH `pwd`/comm.jar
```

or, if you have something in your `CLASSPATH` already,

```
% setenv CLASSPATH `pwd`/comm.jar:$CLASSPATH
```

Copy the file `javax.comm.properties` to your `<JDK>/lib` or your `<JRE>/lib` directory.

If you don't have write permission to `<JDK>/lib` or `<JRE>/lib`, you can keep

`javax.comm.properties` in the same directory as `comm.jar`. The search order for `javax.comm.properties` is:

1. <JDK>/lib
2. The directory that contains the first valid `comm.jar` that is included in the classpath.

The `javax.comm.properties` file must be installed. If it is not, no ports will be found by the system.

Make sure you have the JDK native thread package installed. This implementation only works with native thread. Look at `http://java.sun.com/products/jdk/` for details.

See the Sun documentation for known limitations of the Solaris Java Comm API.

Java Communications API Trouble Shooting

If an applet using the devices fails to start up use the web browser's java console to view the complete error messages.

To start the java console in Internet Explorer go to the following menu:

`Tools\Internet Options…`

Choose the `Advanced` tab.

In the `Microsoft VM` section click on the `"Java console enabled"`. Restart the web browser. The Java console will be shown the next time an applet is started in the web browser.

The following message is displayed during device initialization if the system has been set up correctly, this message can be ignored:

```
Caught java.lang.NullPointerException: name can't be null while loading driver
<driver name>
```

If an error of the following form is displayed:

```
java.lang.ExceptionInInitializerError: java.security.AccessControlException
```

check the security permissions in the JRE or JDK policy file:

```
/lib/security/java.policy
```

or check the security permissions in the policy file in the Windows profile folder:

```
.java.policy
```

A sample policy file, `javaDev.policy`, is in the MCA package: `com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui`

The following message is displayed during device initialization if the system has not been set up correctly as described above:

```
java.lang.NullPointerException: name can't be null
```

Check the location of the above files. Ensure there is only one `win32com.dll` on the system and that it is in the JRE or JDK `/bin` folder and that this is the only JRE or JDK `/bin` folder on the classpath.

The following message is displayed during device initialization if the `win32com.dll` is not on the system path:

```
Error loading win32com: java.lang.UnsatisfiedLinkError: no win32com in
java.library.path
```

If the applet still fails still then reinstall the Java Plugin, which is required for the Swing front-end examples.

Java Cryptography Extension API

To distribute the Java Cryptography API with a release product the following files must be present on the client machine:

The `jce1_2_1.jar`, `local_policy.jar`, `sunjce_provider.jar` and `US_export_policy.jar` files must either be in the `jre\lib\ext` folder if the JRE is being used to run or compile the classes or the jars must be in the classpath if the JDK is being used to run or compile the code.

A sample policy file, `javaDev.policy`, is in the MCA package: `com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui`

MagTek Device Drivers for Windows

As stated previously the MagTek device drivers for Windows are NOT used for controlling the MagTek devices in the MCA and therefore are not required to be installed at all. Control of the MagTek devices is performed directly from the java code using low-level serial port communication.

Topology

Currently the MCA devices support is for client software. It is not in the form of Enterprise Java Beans, this will be built into the architecture in the future. Currently a java client can use the MCA classes as are contained in the jar file `mca.jar`.

Client-side Application

For a client-side application to use MCA devices support the classpath must include `mca.jar` and the Java Communications API `comm.jar`.

To use the MagTek IntelliPIN peripheral the Java Cryptography API jar files must also be on the classpath or in the `jre\lib\ext` folder if the jre is being used to compile and run the client.

Also found that there are issues with Unix implementations of the Comm extension API (see the Sun developers' forum pages referenced in the links section of this document). There is a Solaris package, but this implementation is more restricted than the Windows version, see download instructions for more details. Support for other flavours of Unix require third party packages.

Server-side

Enterprise Java Beans will be developed for the MCA devices in the future. A server-side Servlet can use the MCA devices support as it is included in `mca.jar`.

Client-side Applet

There are problems using the Comm extension API from an Applet. There is a bug registered by Sun: BUG 4251547 categorized as javax_commapi.

To use the MCA devices support in an Applet a policy file is required with entries of the following form:

```
grant codebase "http://theAppletSite" signedBy "THE_ALIAS_HERE" {
permission java.lang.RuntimePermission "loadLibrary.win32com";
permission java.io.FilePermission "${java.home}\\lib\\win32com.dll", "read";
permission java.io.FilePermission "${java.home}\\lib\\javax.comm.properties",
"read";
permission java.io.FilePermission "${java.home}\\lib\\javax.comm.properties",
"delete";
permission java.util.PropertyPermission "java.home", "read";
permission java.util.PropertyPermission "javax.comm.properties", "read";

permission java.io.FilePermission "BankframeFrontendApplication.properties",
"read";

permission java.util.PropertyPermission "BankframeFrontendApplication.properties",
"read";

permission java.io.FilePermission "BankframeDatePatterns.properties", "read";

permission java.util.PropertyPermission "BankframeDatePatterns.properties", "read";
```

```
permission java.io.FilePermission "BankframeDevices.properties", "read";

permission java.util.PropertyPermission "BankframeDevices.properties", "read";

permission java.io.FilePermission "BankframeFrontend.properties", "read";

permission java.util.PropertyPermission "BankframeFrontend.properties", "read";

permission java.io.FilePermission "BankframeMessages.properties", "read";

permission java.util.PropertyPermission "BankframeMessages.properties", "read";

permission java.io.FilePermission "BankframeResource.properties", "read";

permission java.util.PropertyPermission "BankframeResource.properties", "read";

};
```

The MCA example `com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui` demonstrates a full Swing front-end example using the device classes. To use this example as an Applet the Sun Java Plug-in is required:

http://java.sun.com/products/plugin/

Unit Test classes

The MCA device support classes can be tested by using the unit-test classes in `mca.jar`. The device unit tests are in the package `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest`. These can be used as standalone console applications or as an applet. They initialise and start an MCA device. To use a unit test class the following command is used:

```
java -classpath ./myClasses/mca.jar $JAVA_HOME/lib/ext/comm.jar
```

where `$JAVA_HOME` is the location of the `JDK/JRE` being used

The Java Communications API must be installed on the machine and the `BankframeDevices.properties` file must contain the correct settings to initialize the required device.

The unit-tests can be used:

- As a simple console application with no graphical user interface or
- As an applet in a html page

The MagTek MiniMicr is tested by the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest.MiniMicrTest`. If the device is working then the user will be prompted to swipe a cheque or to exit.

The MagTek IntelliPIN is tested by the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest.PinPadTest`. If the device is working then the user will be prompted to swipe a card or to exit. The Java Cryptography API must be installed on the machine.

The MagTek MiniMicr is tested by the class `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest.SlipPrinterTest`. If the device is working then the slip-printer will print out test information.

Future development

Server-side Java Beans implementation of the MCA devices support will be developed. Further device implementations will be added to the MCA. Support for further basic forms of communication to peripherals will be added, such as communication to parallel port devices, etc.

References

Links:

http://www.magtek.com/

http://developer.java.sun.com/

Downloads

Java Comm Extension API for Serial communications is located at:

http://java.sun.com/products/javacomm/

In Unix the `.tar.Z` file must first be unpacked using `GZip -d *.tar.Z` and then the `.tar` file is decompressed using `tar xvf *.tar`

Once decompressed, follow the readme instructions to integrate it into the jdk /jre already installed on the machine, see "Installation and Configuration of Software" section above.

Sun currently support only the Solaris/SPARC and Windows platforms, support for other flavours of unix has been developed by other third-party developers, see the download readmes for more information.

Java Cryptography Extension API is located at:

http://java.sun.com/products/jce/index.html/

See the download readme for more information.

Sample source code

Sample Serial Port Communication classes are contained in the javacomm extension pack.

See the package `com.bankframe.services.devices.unittest` for a basic examples of using the MCA implemented device types. The MCA example `com.bankframe.examples.devices.fe.ui` demonstrates a full Swing front-end example using the device classes.

Printed Matter

Technical documents on the MagTek devices are downloadable from the MagTek site if you have a password. E-mail MagTek support for a username and password.

Printing Framework

The MCA Services printing framework supports high quality form printing via the third party Accelio product. The framework includes a Session EJB which accepts a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s and generates an XML file through XSLT. The XML file is then processed by Accelio to produce an output to the specified printing device.

The MCA Services printing framework is implemented as a standard two layer Session Bean EJB as follows:

- The solution set is provided in the `com.bankframe.services.print` package.
- The implementation is provided in the `com.bankframe.services.impl.print` package.

com.bankframe.services.print

This package defines the MCA printing framework to produce the XML file necessary for use with Accelio. It contains the following classes:

PrintBean

This class provides all the methods for accepting a vector of `DataPackets` and exporting an XML file for use with Accelio.

imPrint()

This method has the following signature:

```
public Vector imPrint(Vector data)

    throws ProcessingErrorException, RemoteException;
```

This method accepts a `Vector` of `DataPackets` containing the data to be printed. This method transforms the data in the vector into an XML file, acceptable for processing with Accelio.

XML files do not accept tags with white space however the keys in the `DataPacket` contain white space. This method replaces space characters within the keys in the `DataPacket` with underscores `_` , before parsing the `Vector` of data, transforming the data from the `Vector` to Siebel XML format then using a stylesheet, again transforming it to the resulting Accelio XML format.

The first DataPacket in the `Vector` must contain a Key named `JF_JOB_CARD`. This key is a requirement for the Printing process for Accelio. The key specifies values, which define printing information, a minimum requirement is a jobname to be carried out in Accelio and/or also contains further values for example printer information. For further reading on `JF_JOB_CARD` values visit www.accelio.com

Generating the Service

The `REQUEST_ID` of the first `DataPacke`t in the `Vector` must have a `REQUEST_ID` of `MC065`.

It must also carry forward the `JF_JOB_CARD` required by Accelio.

NOTE: For `JF_JOB_CARD` details refer to the Accelio Architecture section.

For example, from a JSP front end, the following would be specified within the JSP:

```
<FORM NAME="printPage" ACTION="" METHOD="post">

<p>Title

  <input type="text" name="Title">

</p>

<p>First Name

  <input type="text" name="FirstName">

</p>

<p>Surname

  <input type="text" name="Surname">

</p>

<input type="hidden" name="REQUEST_ID" value="MC065">

<input type="hidden" name="JF_JOB_CARD" value="jobname printername">

<input type="submit" name="Submit" value="Submit">
```

Consult JSP front-end Architecture documentation for further details.

Calling the Service from another Session

When calling the Print service from another session, a `Vector` of `DataPacket`s must be passed to the `PrintBean` and the `imPrint` method, for example:

```
import com.bankframe.services.impl.PrintHome;

import com.bankframe.services.Print;


Class SampleBankingProcessBean {

   Public testPrint() {

       PrintHome home = (PrintHome)Server.lookup("eontec.bankframe.print");

       Print print = home.create();

       ---- create DataPackets

       dp.put("JF_JOB_CARD", "jobname printername");

       print.imPrint(dataPackets);

}
```

```
}
```

NOTE: The `JF_JOB_CARD` must be specified within the `Vector`, and should be placed as the first `DataPacket` in the `Vector`. For details on `JF_JOB_CARD` see the following section

Accelio Architecture

`BankframeResource.properties` holds three properties relating to the XML file produced by the print service. These three properties are:

Collector Directory location: e.g. `print.datFilePath=D:\\JetForm\\Central\\Server\\data\\`

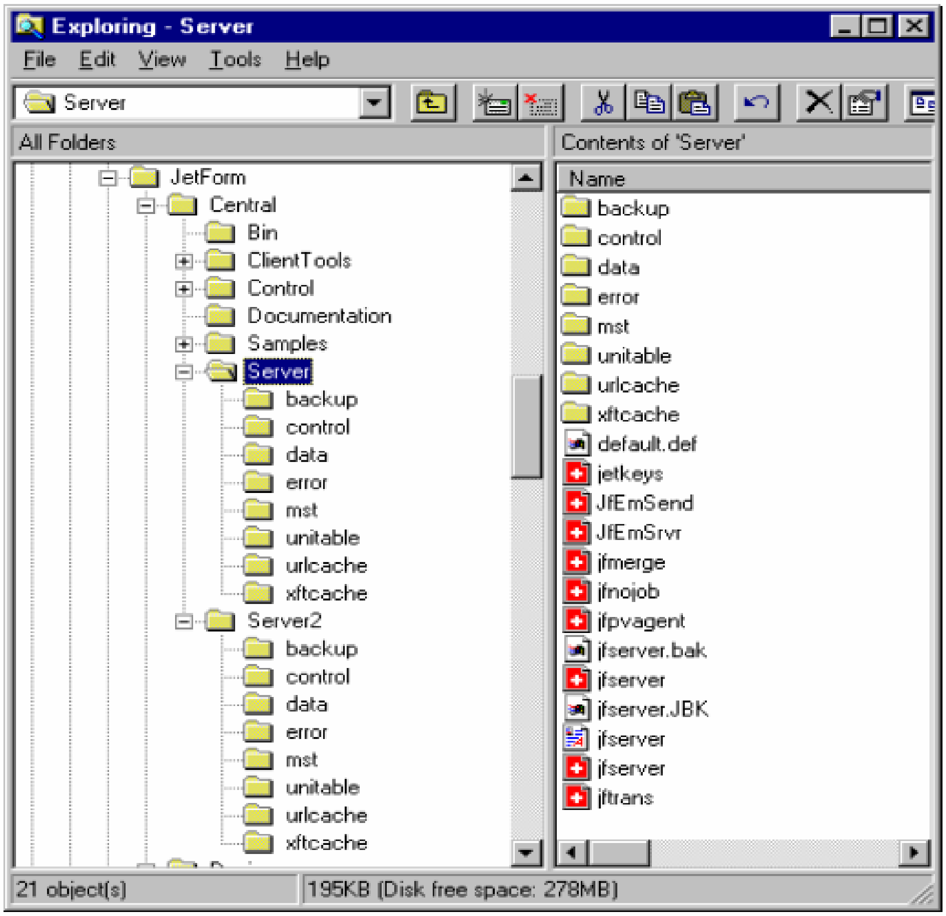
The stylesheet location used by the print service e.g.
`print.styleSheetLocation=D:\\Mca\\Printing\\stylesheets\\`

The stylesheet name used by the print service e.g.

`print.styleSheetName=JetFormXSL.XSL`

Control Process

The MCA Services printing framework requires two instances of Accelio, this involves two installs which sets up the following directory structure:



- The XML file produced by the printing service is stored temporarily in the Accelio collector directory and has the extension `.DAT`
- This `.DAT` file is then picked up by the Accelio control, and converted to a Field-Nominated Format file and dropped into another collector directory in the second instance of Accelio. E.g. `D:\JetForm\Central\Server2\data` Field-Nominated Format is structured keys and values from the `Vector` of `DataPackets` e.g.

```
^job jobname printername

^field LoanType

car

^field Occupation

Architect

^field DOB

23/12/74

^field Basic_Income
```

```
40000
^field Home_Telephone
5556767
```

- Dropping the field-nominated format file in the second instance of Accelio is a result of the task table entry in the first instance of Accelio e.g.

```
!x JFNOJOB * xmlimport "-config @IniFilename. data.uri=@InFile.
output.uri=D:\jetform\central\server2\data\@InFileBase..dat" "Outputs DAT to
other Central instance"
```

- The task above is called `JFNOJOB` as the original XML file contains a `JF_JOB_CARD` entry and no specific header information.
- As there is a `JF_JOB_CARD` entry in the first file, this now gets converted to the `jobname` header information in the field-nominated format file and contains the `jobname` to be carried out on the second instance of Accelio.

Example conversion

- The field nominated format file will contain `jobname` information derived from the original `JF_JOB_CARD`: The first instance XML file contains:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<v>
    <d>
        <JF_JOB_CARD>jobname printername</JF_JOB_CARD>
        <OWNER>eontec Ltd</OWNER>
        <DATA_PACKET_NAME>Test1 DP</DATA_PACKET_NAME>
    </d>
```

- This information will be converted to the header of the field-nominated format file in the second instance:

```
^job jobname printername
```

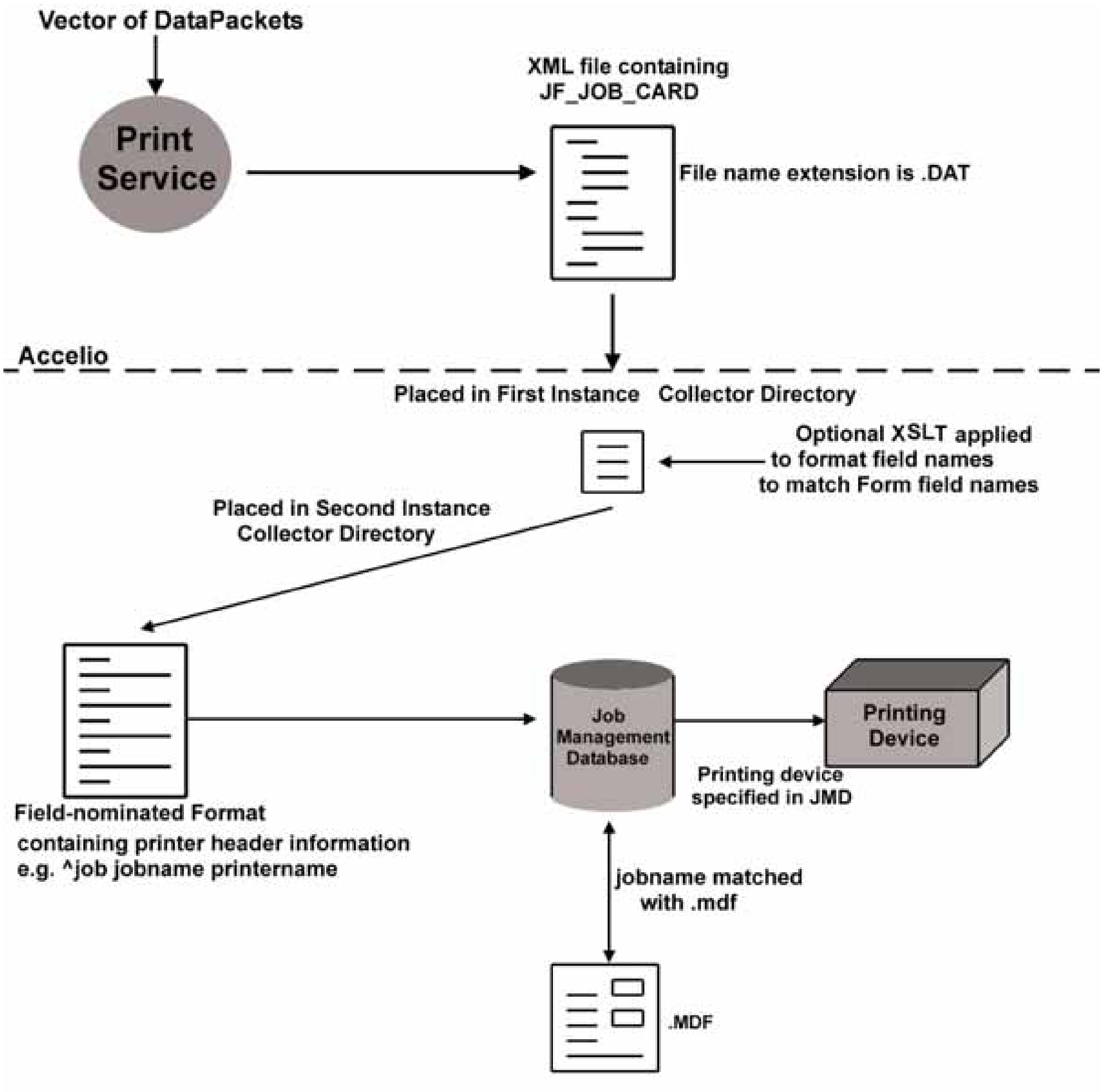
- The `jobname` then identifies the task to be carried out on the Printer task table of the second instance of Accelio, e.g.

```
!f jobname HPLJETU d:\mca\printing\forms\xmltest4.mdf * 1 T JFMERGE * * C "test
print"
```

- This identifies the task to be carried out `jobname`, the printer name `printername`, the path of the form name used e.g. `d:\mca\printing\forms\xmltest4.mdf` and other printing task information, and the standard layout is as follows:

```
# !f <Job name> <Printer name> <Form file> <Preamble file> <Macro number> <Load
flag> <Task id> <Input file> <Output file> <On error> <Comments>
```

Architecture Overview



Caching Framework

This section describes the generic caching framework provided by MCA Services.

Uses of caching

Caching of data can be used anytime it is expensive (in terms of time) to access some data. By caching data in local memory unnecessary expensive data accesses can be avoided. Below are some examples of where caching is used in MCA:

Creating JNDI initial contexts	Creating JNDI initial contexts is very expensive. By caching initial contexts they can be re-used, meaning that each initial context only needs to be created once
EJB Home references	Looking up EJB home references is also expensive, so again caching EJB Home references reduces the number of lookups that have to be done, thus increasing performance
Financial Process Integrator	Typically communicating with legacy systems is an expensive process, therefore it makes sense to try and cache data received from hosts, in order to minimise the communication required with the legacy system
Configuration information	Configuration information is stored in a file called `BankframeResource.properties`. Reading from a file is an expensive process so the contents of the file are cached in memory to improve performance.

In Memory and Persistent Caches

Caches can be divided into two broad categories:

In Memory Cache

Local cache. This kind of cache only uses data stored in local memory, i.e. the data in the cache is never stored in a persistent store. The initial context and EJB home caches are examples of this kind of cache. This kind of cache is typically used to cache objects that are expensive to instantiate.

Persistent Cache

This kind of cache is used to cache data that is stored in some persistent store. The Financial Process Integrator and configuration information are examples of this kind of cache. This kind of cache is used to cache objects that are expensive to read from the persistent store. This category of cache can be sub-divided into two more categories:

Read-only caches. Read-only caches contain data that is only ever read and can never be updated.

Read-write caches. Read-write caches contain data that can be read, and also re-written to the persistent store

Functionality of a Cache

Any cache must provide the following functions:

- Associate an object with a key that can be used to retrieve the object at a later time
- Provide a means to iterate over the contents of the cache
- Provide a means to manage the size of the cache, by removing expired data from the cache

In addition persistent caches must provide the following functions:

- Maintain consistency between the in memory cache and the data stored in the persistent store, i.e. if the data in the persistent store changes, the cache must be updated.

- Read-write caches must provide a means to flush changes made to cached objects to the persistent store

What Does the Generic Framework Provide?

The generic cache framework provides:

- A generic implementation of an in memory cache.
- A plugable `CachePolicy` interface that allows the policy used for removing expired objects to be customized.
- A clean up interval to define how often the CachePolicy will be asked to check for expired objects
- A framework for implementing persistent caches that supports maintaining the cache consistency and flushing updates to the persistent store.
- An easy to use API; the `Cache` class implements the `java.util.Map` interface so that its API will be familiar to all Java programmers, and so that it can be easily integrated into code that previously used `Hashtable`s or `HashMap`s for caching data.
- Non key indexing of caches to facilitate retrieval of data in the cache if the primary key value is not known.

com.bankframe.services.cache

The generic caching framework is implemented in the `com.bankframe.services.cache` package. This package contains the following interfaces:

- `Cache`: this interface defines the basic methods that all cache implementations must provide.
- `PersistentCache`: this interface extends the `Cache` interface and must be implemented by all persistent caches that are configured via `BankframeResource.properties`.
- `CachePolicy`; this interface defines a mechanism for customizing the policy used for removing expired objects from the cache.
- `ConfigurableCachePolicy`: This interface extends `CachePolicy` and provides a means for policy objects to be configured via the `BankframeResource.properties` file. This interface must be implemented by all policy objects that can be configured via `BankframeResource.properties`
- `NamedCache`; this interface ensures implementing cache classes can be identified by `String` names.
- `CacheIndexer`; this interface defines the basic methods that all cache index implementations must provide.
- `CacheListener`; this interface ensures implementing classes can be notified of events in a cache that affect a particular key.

com.bankframe.services.cache.Cache

This interface defines all the methods that all caches must implement. It extends the `java.util.Map` interface which means that all caches implementing this interface must also implement the map interface.

com.bankframe.services.cache.GenericCache

This class provides a generic implementation of a local in memory cache. It also provides the means for this class to be extended to provide a persistent cache. To establish the clean up interval, this class refers to cache.cleaninterval property. If not defined, the value defaults to 10000 milliseconds. This class implements the `com.bankframe.services.cache.PersistentCache` interface. We list below the constructors and most commonly used methods unique to the `GenericCache` class.

Constructors

The `GenericCache` class has a number of constructors, each of which allows the `GenericCache` class to be used in a different fashion. If a constructor does not specify a `CachePolicy` object then the default behaviour will be to keep an entry in the `GenericCache` until it is removed by calling one of: `remove()`, `removeAll()` or `clear()`.

GenericCache(). This constructor can be used to create an in memory cache that has no caching policy. When a `GenericCache` is created with this constructor its behaviour will be the same as the `java.util.HashMap` class.

GenericCache(CachePolicy policy). This constructor can be used to create an in memory cache that uses the specified caching policy.

GenericCache(Map persistentMap). This constructor can be used to create a persistent cache. The `persistentMap` parameter specifies a `java.util.Map` implementation that accesses the persistent store directly. A cache created with this constructor will have no caching policy.

GenericCache(Map persistentMap, CachePolicy policy). This constructor can be used to create a persistent cache that uses the specified caching policy.

put() method

The `put()` method is used to store an object in the `Cache`. This method is declared by the `java.util.Map` interface and has the following signature:

```
public Object put(Object key, Object value);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the key for the object to store in the cache
- The `value` parameter is the object to store in the cache
- This method returns the previous value associated with the key, or `null` if there was no previous value

get() method

The get() method is used to retrieve values from the cache. This method is declared by the `java.util.Map` interface and has the following signature:

```
public Object get(Object key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the object to retrieve from the cache
- This method returns the cached object or `null` if the object was not found in the cache

enableCaching() method

The `enableCaching()` method is used with persistent caches, it can be used to enable or disable caching. This method is declared in the `com.bankframe.services.cache.Cache` interface, it has the following signature:

```
public void enableCaching(boolean enableCache);
```

- The `enableCache` parameter specifies whether to enable or disable caching.
- When caching is disabled the cache operates in pass-thru mode; it passes `get()` or `put()` calls straight through to the persistent store. This method can be used when it is critical to read or write values directly from or to the persistent store.

remove() method

The `remove()` method is used to remove an object from the cache. With persistent caches the object is removed from the persistent store as well. The remove method notifies `CacheListeners` of the removed key(s) by calling `cacheChanged(CacheEvent)`.

The `remove()` method has two forms as follows:

Method Form	Description
`public Object remove(Object key);`	The `key` parameter specifies the key of the object to remove from the cache. This method removes a single object from the cache and from the persistent store. This method is declared in the `java.util.Map` interface.
`public void remove(Set keySet);`	The `keySet` parameter specifies a `Set` of keys that identify the objects to remove from the cache. This method removes the objects from the cache and the persistent store. This method is declared in the `Cache` interface.

removeAll() method

The `removeAll()` method is used to remove all objects from the cache. With persistent caches all objects are removed from the persistent store as well. To remove objects from the cache only use the `clear()` method. The `removeAll()` method is specific to the `Cache` interface and has the following signature:

```
public void removeAll();
```

cleanup() method

This protected method is used to remove expired objects from the cache. This method uses the `CachePolicy` object to determine what objects should be removed. This method is specific to the `Cache` interface and has the following signature:

```
protected void cleanup();
```

- This method is called whenever the following `Cache` methods are called:

  `put()`

`putAll()`

`remove()`

The cleanup method determines if the number of milliseconds specified by the `cache.cleaninterval` property have passed before investigating the cache to remove expired items. This is for performance reasons, allowing users determine appropriate cleanup times according to the requirements of the specific application data.

The `cache.cleaninterval` setting is configured in the `BankframeResource.properties` file.

createCacheMapInstance() method

This method is used to create the `java.util.Map` instance that is used to store cached values. In the `GenericCache` class, the implementation of this method creates an instance of the `java.util.HashMap` class, however this method can be overridden if it is necessary to use another class.

This method is specific to the `GenericCache` class and has the following signature:

```
protected Map createCacheMapInstance();
```

GetCacheName() method

This method returns the name of the group that this cache is a member of.

com.bankframe.services.cache.NullCache

This is a `Cache` class that is used at runtime when caching is not required. It may be preferred to turn off a particular cache in some circumstances. This can be achieved by setting the corresponding cache class property value to `com.bankframe.services.cache.NullCache`. Policy and persistentMap settings will be ignored. This `Cache` class has a substantially less memory overhead than using another `Cache` with short timeout values.

com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSCache

This class extends the `com.bankframe.services.cache.GenericCache` class to provide a JMS (Java Messaging Service) supported distributed caching implementation. This service extends the current caching framework and can be configured with the different caching policies.

In situations where an environment has caches across multiple JVMs (Java Virtual Machines) it can be necessary to have data consistency across all instances. The MCA Services JMS Caching does this when a `remove()` method is called to remove a key from the local cache. This `remove()` method publishes a message onto a JMS Topic to remove all occurrences of this key in caches across the cluster. A JMS Topic is analogous to a list of messages that is shared among multiple JVMs. Each JVM can have a JMS Client that publishes messages to the topic and JMS Listeners in other JVMs who are subscribed to this JMS Topic can read these messages from the topic.

The message driven bean `com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSListener` subscribes to this JMS Topic and its `onMessage()` method is called once a message is placed onto the JMS Topic. This `onMessage()` method removes the passed key from its local cache. The `JMSCache` class overrides the following methods in `GenericCache`:

put() method

The `put()` method is used to store an object in the local `Cache` and invalidate objects stored against `key` in all other remote caches. This method is declared by the `java.util.Map` interface and has the following signature:

```
public Object put(Object key, Object value);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the key for the object to store in the cache
- The `value` parameter is the object to store in the cache
- This method returns the previous value associated with the key, or `null` if there was no previous value

putAll() method

The `putAll()` method is used to store in the local cache all objects represented by the `Map keys` passed as parameters. The method also invalidates objects stored against `keys` in all other remote caches. This method has the following signature:

```
public Object put(Map keys);
```

- The `keys` parameter specifies the `Map` of all object keys to be removed.

remove() method

The `remove()` method is used to remove an object from the cache and invalidate objects stored against `key` in all other remote caches. The `remove()` method has two forms, the first is declared by the `java.util.Map` interface, the second declared in the Cache interface:

```
public Object remove(Object key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the key of the object to remove from the cache

```
public void remove(Set keySet);
```

- The `keySet` parameter specifies a `Set` of keys that identify the objects to remove from the cache
- This method also removes the set of object keys represented by `keySet` in all remote caches.

removeAll() method

The `removeAll()` method is used to remove all objects from the cache. The method also invalidates all objects in other remote caches. The `removeAll()` method is specific to the `Cache` interface and has the following signature:

```
public void removeAll();
```

The following methods are specific to the `com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSCache` class:

initialiseTopic method

The `initialiseTopic()` method does a JNDI lookup on the Connection Factory which is an object that enables JMS clients (the `JMSCache` class) to create JMS connections. A JNDI lookup on the JMS

Topic is also executed and a connection is made from the JMS Client to the JMS Topic so the JMS Client can publish messages to the topic. The `initialiseTopic()` method has the following signature:

```
public void initialiseTopic();
```

removeDontSend() method

The `removeDontSend()` method is used to remove an object from the local cache. However, this method does not invalidate objects stored in other remote caches. The `removeDontSend()` method has the following signature:

```
public Object remove(Object key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the key of the object to remove from the cache

```
public void remove(Set keySet);
```

- The `keySet` parameter specifies a `Set` of keys that identify the objects to remove from the cache
- This method does not remove any objects in remote caches.

removeAllDontSend() method

The `removeAllDontSend()` method is used to remove all objects from the cache. The method does not invalidate any objects in remote caches. The `removeAllDontSend()` method has the following signature:

```
public void removeAll();
```

addValueToCache method

The `addValueToCache()` method allows one to add an object value under an object key to a specific JMS Topic. The method has the following signature:

```
public Object addValueToCache (String topicName, Object key, Object value);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the key for the object to store in the cache
- The `value` parameter is the object to store in the cache
- The `topicName` parameter is the JMS Topic to publish the message to.
- This method returns the previous value associated with the key, or `null` if there was no previous value

com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSCache.JMSCacheEvent

The `JMSCacheEvent` class is a holder for all the information necessary to notify JMS Listeners to perform some action. A JMS Listener is any MDB (Message Driven Bean) that has subscribed to a JMS Topic and listens for messages placed onto the topic. The class implements the `java.io.Serializable` interface so it can be serialized when being set on the `javax.jms.ObjectMessage` that is sent to the JMS Topic.

com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSListener

The `JMSListener` class is written as an MDB (Message Driven Bean). An MDB subscribes to a JMS Topic and listens for messages placed onto the topic. The MDBs subscription to a particular JMS Topic is declared in its deployment descriptor. The `JMSListener` listens for messages placed onto its subscribed JMS Topic, and removes the appropriate entries from its local cache according to the message received. The `onMessage()` method of the `JMSListener` class provides the behaviour for handling a message from the JMS Topic and determines which entries to remove from the local cache.

Configuring JMS Caching

For instructions on how to configure JMS Topic and JMS Connection Factory names in `BankframeResource.properties` refer to the Configuring MCA Services documentation for the values that should be used for these settings.

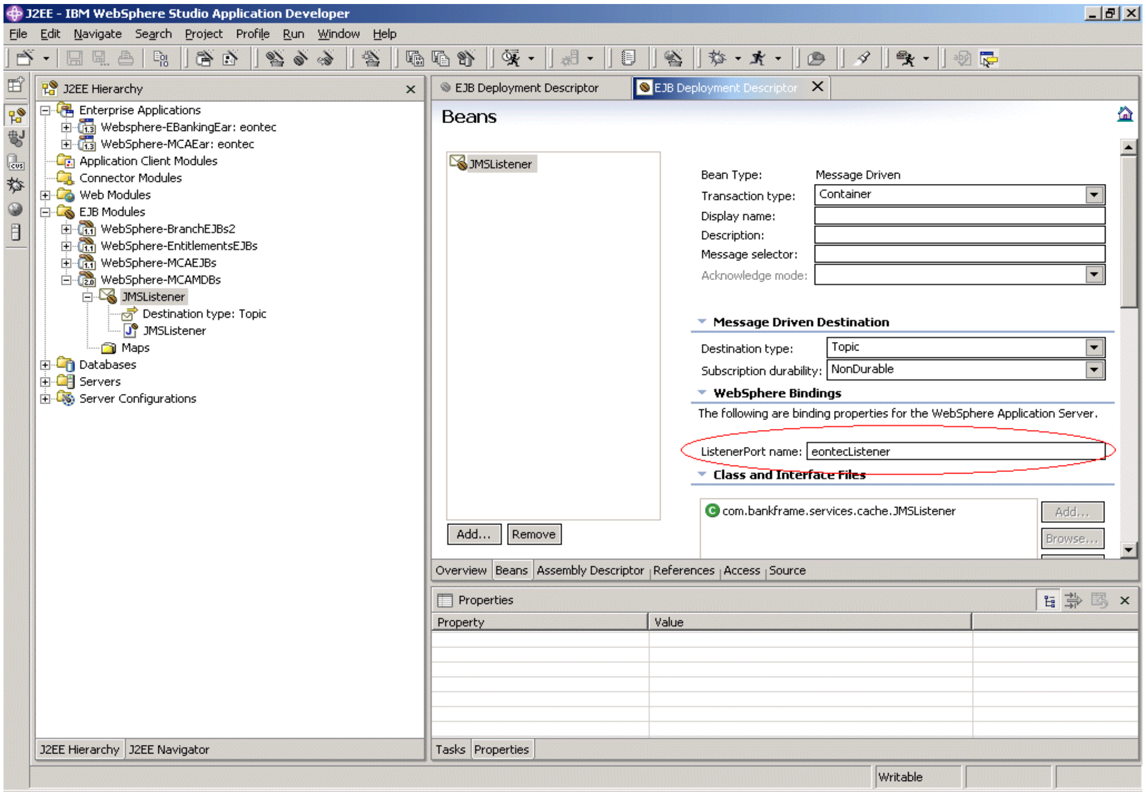
There are application server specific issues that arise when changing the JMS Topic and JMS Connection Factory names:

In WebLogic:

When changing the JMS Topic name, it is necessary to change the `weblogic-ejb-jar.xml` of the message driven bean `com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSListener` as the JNDI of the topic is also specified here.

In WebSphere:

When changing the 'Listener Port' name for a 'Message Listener Service' in WebSphere Application Server, the EJB Module WebSphere-MCAMDBs.jar must be imported into WebSphere Studio Application Developer. The 'Listener Port Name' that the MDB (Message Driven Bean) `com.bankframe.services.cache.JMSListener` subscribes to must be modified in the 'EJB Deployment Descriptor' for the MDB as depicted below in the red circle:



com.bankframe.services.cache.CachePolicy

The `CachePolicy` interface defines a means for custom caching policies to be defined and plugged into the `Cache`. First of all we will describe the methods defined by the `CachePolicy` interface and then describe how the `Cache` class interacts with `CachePolicy` objects.

isCacheEntryValid () method

This method is called to determine if an entry is still valid. An entry is not valid if the caching policy determines that the entry should be removed from the cache.

```
public boolean isCacheEntryValid(Object key,Object value);
```

updateCacheEntry() method

This method is called every time an entry in the cache is accessed. This enables the `CachePolicy` object to determine which objects in the cache are being used.

```
public void updateCacheEntry(Object key,Object value);
```

updateCacheEntries() method

This method is called when multiple entries in the cache are accessed. This enables the `CachePolicy` object to determine which objects in the cache are being used.

```
public void updateCacheEntries(Map values);
```

remove() method

This method is called when entries are removed from the cache. This enables the `CachePolicy` object to stop tracking objects that are no longer in the cache. This method has two forms; the first is used when a single object is removed, the second is used when a `Set` of objects is removed:

```
public void remove(Object key);

public void remove(Set keySet);
```

removeAll() method

This method is called when all entries are removed from the cache. This enables the `CachePolicy` object to reset itself.

cleanup() method

This method is called to determine what entries should be removed from the cache. This method has the following signature:

```
public Set cleanup();
```

- This method returns a `java.util.Set` containing the keys of the objects that should be removed.
- If no entries should be removed an empty `Set` is returned.
- If all entries should be removed `null` is returned.

Cache and Cache Index Interaction

A cache index instance is assigned to a single cache. A cache can have multiple cache indices but is not directly aware of them. The cache indices register their interest in certain keys held in the cache by adding themselves as Cache Listeners to the cache.

The default cache indexer implementation `CacheIndex` expects keys and entries in the data cache to be instances of `com.bankframe.bo.DataPacket`. The cache indexer has the following two main methods for populating the index and retrieving data via the index:

Method	Description
public Object put(Object key)	Adds a record to the index. Using the `key` value, this method gets the corresponding data from dataCache. The data is then used to build an index key from indexStructure; this method stores the given key for the data in a collection. If the key has not been added before, the index registers as a cache listener for that key. This method takes the key only, to make sure that the data has been put into the dataCache first. This method expects the data in the dataCache to be an instance of DataPacket. If it is not, an index key cannot be created and therefore the given key will not be added

Method	Description
	to the index.
public Collection get(Object data)	This method returns a collection of keys to the dataCache that match the indexKey produced from the given data object. The data given must be a DataPacket and may be a superset of the indexKey. If nothing is found, or the indexKey cannot be created from the data object, an empty set is returned. If a collection of keys is found for the indexKey the cache is asked to confirm that it contains each key. Only confirmed keys are returned in the collection. The added benefit of this approach is that by using containsKey, the cache makes sure that the key does not timeout before eventual retrieval.

Similar to CacheFactory, the CacheIndexFactory is the factory class for instantiating cache indexer classes. The CacheIndexFactory uses settings in the BankframeResource.properties file to determine which class to use. The key is cache.index.<index name>. If no cache index is specified or there is an exception when instantiating the given class, CacheIndex is used. CacheIndex determines the index structure and name of the cache to index from IndexMetaData.

Cache and CachePolicy Interaction

Whenever the state of the `Cache` changes the `Cache` informs the `CachePolicy` object.

- When the `Cache.get()` method is called the `CachePolicy.updateEntry()` method is called
- When the `Cache.put()` method is called the `CachePolicy.updateEntry()` method is called
- When the `Cache.putAll()` method is called the `CachePolicy.updateEntries()` method is called
- When the `Cache.remove()` method is called the `CachePolicy.remove()` method is called
- When the `Cache.removeAll()` method is called the `CachePolicy.removeAll()` method is called
- When the `Cache.clear()` method is called the `CachePolicy.removeAll()` method is called

After the following methods are called the `CachePolicy.cleanup()` method is called:

- Cache.put()
- Cache.putAll()
- Cache.remove()

The `Cache` takes the following actions depending on the return value from the `CachPolicy.cleanup()` method:

- If the returned value is `null` all entries in the `Cache` are removed
- If the returned value is an empty `Set` no entries are removed from the `Cache`
- Otherwise the specified objects identified by the returned `Set` are removed from the `Cache`.

Creating persistent caches

Creating a persistent cache requires creating a class that implements the `java.util.Map` interface and implements all its methods. This class must interact with the persistent store, for example a call to the class' `get()` method should read the requested object from the persistent store. For an example of a persistent cache implementation see the `com.bankframe.resource.cache` package, and the `com.bankframe.resource.cache.BankFrameResourcePersister` class.

Configuring the Caching Framework

The `com.bankframe.services.cache.CacheFactory` class enables the configuration of all MCA caches to be controlled via the `BankframeResource.properties` file.

Configuring BankframeResource.properties

Below is a section of the `BankframeResource.properties` file showing the configuration for the cache for the `DESTINATION` table:

```
cache.destinationCache.class=com.bankframe.services.cache.GenericCache

cache.destinationCache.persister=com.bankframe.ei.com.bankframe.ei.txnhandler.imp
l.destination.DestinationCachePersister

cache.destinationCache.policy=com.bankframe.services.cache.LruCachePolicy

cache.destinationCache.policy.maxSize=100

cache.destinationCache.policy.thrashAmount=10
```

Note how the settings are named, they start with a prefix: `cache.`, followed by the name of the cache (in this case `destinationCache`) and then a suffix indicating the name of a specific configuration parameter (for example `.class`).

Below is an explanation of each setting:

Cache settings

- `class`: This is the fully qualified name of the cache class to use for this cache. This class must implement the `com.bankframe.services.cache.Cache` interface. If the cache requires a persister it must implement the `com.bankframe.services.cache.PersistentCache` interface.
- `persister`: This is the fully qualified name of the persister class that should be used with this cache to retrieve data from the data store. This class must implement the `java.util.Map` interface. Some caches do not have a persistent store associated with them, so they will not need to specify a `persister` setting, in this case the `persister` setting should be omitted from the cache configuration settings. Note that this class is not related to the Financial Process Integrator concept of a persister.
- `policy`: This is the fully qualified name of the cache policy class to use for this cache. This class must implement the `com.bankframe.services.cache.ConfigurableCachePolicy` interface.

Policy Specific Settings

Each policy object can have its own settings that configure how it behaves. The settings for each of the policy objects provided with MCA are detailed below:

LruCachePolicy. This policy uses a least recently used algorithm to limit the cache to a specified maximum size. This policy has the following configurable settings:

- `maxSize`: This specifies the maximum number of entries permitted in the cache. When this is exceeded the least recently used entries are removed from the cache until the cache size is reduced to the maximum size.
- `thrashAmount`: When the maximum size of the cache is exceeded this policy tries to remove just enough entries to reduce the cache to the maximum size. This setting can be used to force the policy to reduce the number of cache entries to `maxSize` less `thrashAmount`. This means that when the cache size is exceeded and the least recently used entries are removed space will be left for new entries to be added.

TimeoutCachePolicy. This policy removes entries that have not been used for more than a specified period of time. This policy has the following configurable setting:

- `timeout`: This value indicates the maximum time in seconds that an entry can remain in the cache without being used.

PerEntryTimeoutCachePolicy. This policy is similar to the `TimeoutCachePolicy` except that each individual entry in the cache can have its own timeout setting. This timeout value needs to be specified programmatically for each entry in the cache by calling the `setTimeout(Object key, long timeout)` or `setTimeout(Set keys, long timeout)` methods of this class. Therefore this policy has no configurable settings

Extending the Caching Framework

As can be seen from the settings above it is possible to configure all aspects of the caching framework via the `BankframeResource.propertie` file. This provides the means for the caching framework to be extended and optimised to meet customer specific requirements by on-site teams. Customers can extend or replace the standard caching implementation and policy objects with ones that meet their specific requirements. For example a customer could extend one of the policy objects to generate report information about the contents and performance of the cache. Please consult the MCA Services API documentation for more information on how to extend the caching framework

Dynamic Configuration

This section describes the dynamic configuration framework in MCA Services. MCA Services provides its own framework for reading `.properties` files. The MCA framework periodically refreshes the in memory cache from the disk file. The end result is that it is possible to make changes to MCA's configuration without requiring the application server to be restarted. However, dynamic configuration does have some performance overheads, primarily because methods have to be synchronized for reloading.

Configuring com.eontec.mca.bankframeresourcebundle

By default, the dynamic configuration is not used. To enable dynamic configuration, set the Java system property `com.eontec.mca.bankframeresourcebundle` to com.bankframe.services.resource.BankFrameResourceBundle. The default is com.bankframe.services.resource.NoReloadBankFrameResourceBundle. The default implementation does not reload property values and the methods for getting property values are not synchronized.

Grouping properties

The standard Java APIs provide no means for grouping related configuration information, the MCA framework adds support for this facility, allowing only the configuration information relating to a particular functional area to be retrieved. How this facility works is explained below.

com.bankframe.services.resource

This package defines the MCA dynamic configuration framework; it contains the following classes and interface:

BankFrameResource	Defines the methods that all BankFrameResource implementations must provide
BankFrameResourceSubset	This class provides the functionality for grouping related properties
BankFrameMCAResource	This class provides methods for accessing the standard BankframeResource.properties file
BankFrameResourceBundle	This class implements the BankFrameResource interface and provides functionality for reading data from .properties files.
BankFrameResourceFactory	This class creates instances of BankFrameResource for the specified URL. It will use the Java system property com.eontec.mca.bankframeresourcebundle to determine which resource bundle to use. NoReloadBankFrameResourceBundle is the default value.
NoReloadBankFrameResourceBundle	Performance optimized resource bundle class. Default bundle in framework.
NoReloadBankFrameResource	Performance optimized resource class. Default resource in framework.
ResourceLocator	This class provides methods for manipulating files in the Java class path

BankFrameResource

This interface defines the following methods:

get()

This method gets a value from the resource. This method has the following signature:

```
public Object get(String key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the name of the value to retrieve
- The value is returned if found, or `null` if the value is not found

getString()

This method gets a value and converts it to a String. This method has the following signature:

```
public String getString(String key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the name of the value to retrieve
- The value is returned if found, or `null` if the value is not found

getSubset()

This method gets a subset of values whose keys all begin with the specified prefix. This method has the following signature:

```
public BankFrameResource getSubset(String prefix);
```

- The `prefix` parameter specifies the prefix that the subset starts with
- A `BankFrameResource` instance is returned containing the requested subset. An empty subset is returned if no values with the specified prefix could be found.

put()

This method adds or updates a value in the resource. This method is used for changing or adding configuration values. Note that not all implementations support this method. This method has the following signature:

```
public Object put(String key, Object value);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the name of the value
- The `value` parameter contains the value to be stored
- The previous value associated with the specified key is returned, or `null` if the key had no previous association.

remove()

This method removes a value from the resource. Note that not all implementations support this method. This method has two forms:

```
public Object remove(String key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the name of the value to remove
- The removed value is returned, or `null` if the key did not exist.

```
public void remove(Enumeration keys);
```

- The `keys` parameter specifies an `Enumeration` of one or more keys to remove.

removeAll()

This method removes all values from the resource. Note that not all implementations support this method. This method has the following signature:

```
public void removeAll();
```

removeSubset()

This method removes a subset of values from the resource. Note that not all implementations support this method. This method has the following signature:

```
public void removeSubset(String prefix);
```

The `prefix` parameter specifies the prefix that the subset starts with.

keys()

This method returns an `Enumeration` of key values. This method has the following signature:

```
public Enumeration keys();
```

BankFrameResourceSubset

This class implements the `BankFrameResource` interface and provides a standard mechanism for `BankFrameResource` implementations to implement support for subsets. A subset of properties is defined as one or more properties that start with the same prefix, for example:

```
ldap.default.java.naming.provider.url=ldap://localhost:389

ldap.default.java.naming.factory.initial=com.sun.jndi.ldap.LdapCtxFactory
```

This class provides the same methods as `BankFrameResource`, in addition is has a single constructor:

BankFrameResourceSubSet()

This constructor creates a subset for the specified prefix. This method has the following signature:

```
public BankFrameResourceSubset(String prefix, BankFrameResource parent);
```

- The `prefix` value specifies the prefix that all members of the subset begin with
- The `parent` value specifies the resource which contains this subset

BankFrameMCAResource

This class provides methods for easily retrieving values from the standard `BankFrameResource.properties` file. This class replaces the deprecated `com.bankframe.BankframeResource` class. This class has the following methods:

getString()

This method gets the value of the specified property. This method has the following signature:

```
public static String getString(String key);
```

- The `key` parameter specifies the name of the property to retrieve
- The specified property is returned or `null` if the value could not be found

getKeys()

This method returns an `Enumeration` containing all the keys in the `BankframeResource.properties` file. This method has the following signature:

```
public static Enumeration getKeys();
```

getSubset()

This method returns a subset of keys in the `BankframeResource.properties` file. This method has the following signature:

```
public static BankFrameResource getSubset(String prefix);
```

- The `prefix` parameter specifies the prefix that the subset starts with
- A `BankFrameResource` instance is returned containing the requested subset. An empty subset is returned if no values with the specified prefix could be found.

BankFrameResourceBundle

This class provides an implementation of the `BankFrameResource` interface that reads data from `.properties` files. The public methods of this class are the same as those of the `BankFrameResource` interface. This class has the following constructor:

```
public BankFrameResource BankFrameResourceBundle(URL resourceUrl);
```

- The `resourceUrl` parameter specifies the URL of the `.properties` file to read
- This class reads the contents of the `.properties` file the first time a property is requested.
- It caches the entire contents of the `.properties` file for a specified time period. When that time period has passed it re-reads the `.properties` file. This enables changes to the `.properties` file to be detected.
- The time period can be configured as follows:

  The time period is specified by adding a property named: `resource.cache.refreshInterval` to the `.properties` file. This property must be an integer indicating the number of seconds in the time period, for example: `resource.cache.refreshInterval=120`

  If the `resource.cache.refreshInterval` property is not present in the resource file then the file will be refreshed every 15 minutes.

If the `resource.cache.refreshInterval` property has a value of -1 then the resource file will never be refreshed (This means changes made to the resource file will not be detected).

- This class provides read only access to `.properties` files therefore it does not support the `remove()`, `put()` or `clear()` methods of `BankFrameResource`.

BankFrameResourceFactory

This class is used to create instances of `BankFrameResource` for a specific URL.

getInstance()

This method has the following signature:

```
public static BankFrameResource getInstance(String resourceName);
```

- This method creates a `BankFrameResource` instance for the specified `.properties` file
- The `.properties` file must be in the class path
- The implementation of this method creates an instance of the `BankFrameResourceBundle` class to read from the specified `.properties` file

ResourceLocator

This class provides utility methods for locating resources in the class path, and for accessing resource files. This class contains the following methods:

getClassInClassPath()

This method gets the `URL` for the specified class. This method has three forms:

```
public static URL getClassInClassPath(String className);
```

- The `className` parameter specifies the name of the class
- The `URL` of the class will be returned or `null` if it is not found in the class path
- public static URL getClassInClassPath(String className, Locale locale);
- The `className` parameter specifies the name of the class
- The `locale` parameter specifies the locale specific version of this class to locate
- The `URL` of the class will be returned or `null` if it is not found in the class path
- public static URL getClassInClassPath(Class clazz,String className,Locale locale);
- The `clazz` parameter specifies the `Class` instance to use to search the class path
- The `className` parameter specifies the name of the class
- The `locale` parameter specifies the locale specific version of this class to locate
- The `URL` of the class will be returned or `null` if it is not found in the class path

getResourceInClassPath()

This method gets the `URL` for the specified resource file. This method has three forms:

```
public static URL getResourceInClassPath(String resourceName);
```

- The `resourceName` parameter specifies the name of the resource
- The `URL` of the resource will be returned or `null` if it is not found in the class path

```
public static URL getResourceInClassPath(String resourceName, locale locale);
```

- The `resourceName` parameter specifies the name of the resource
- The `locale` parameter specifies the locale specific version of this resource to locate
- The `URL` of the resource will be returned or `null` if it is not found in the class path

```
public static URL getResourceInClassPath(Class clazz,String resourceName,Locale
locale);
```

- The `clazz` parameter specifies the `Class` instance to use to search the class path
- The `resourceName` parameter specifies the name of the resource
- The `locale` parameter specifies the locale specific version of this resource to locate
- The `URL` of the resource will be returned or `null` if it is not found in the class path

getInputStream()

This method gets an `InputStream` for the specified `URL`. This method has the following signature:

```
public static InputStream getInputStream(URL url) throws IOException;
```

- The `url` parameter specifies the `URL` of the resource
- The `InputStream` for the `URL` is returned or an `IOException` is thrown if the resource cannot be accessed

getOutputStream()

This method gets an `OutputStream` for the specified `URL`. Note that the resource may be read only, in which case calling this method will result in an `IOException` being thrown. This method has the following signature:

```
public static OutputStream getOutputStream(URL url) throws IOException;
```

- The `url` parameter specifies the `URL` of the resource
- The `OutputStream` for the `URL` is returned or an `IOException` is thrown if the resource cannot be accessed

getLastModified()

This method returns the time (in milliseconds) that the resource was last modified. This method has the following signature:

```
public static long getLastModified(URL url);
```

- The `url` parameter specifies the `URL` of the resource
- The time of last modification is returned or zero if an error occurs

isReadOnly()

This method checks if the specified resource is read only. This method has the following signature:

```
public static boolean isReadOnly(URL url);
```

- The `url` parameter specifies the `URL` of the resource
- This method returns `true` if the resource is read only, `false` otherwise

Using the dynamic configuration framework

Accessing BankframeResource.properties

Reading values from `BankframeResource.properties` is straightforward. It's a matter of using the static methods of `com.bankframe.services.resource.BankFrameMCAResource`.

Reading a single value

Below is a code snippet that illustrates how to read a single value:

```
String ldapServer =
BankFrameMCAResource.getString("ldap.default.java.naming.provider.url");
```

Reading a subset

Below is a code snippet that illustrates how to read a subset:

```
BankFrameResource ldapSubset = BankFrameMCAResource.getSubset("ldap.default");
```

Working with subsets

A subset is a set of values that all start with the same prefix. Prefixes are delimited using the '`.`' character. Below is an example of a subset:

```
ldap.default.java.naming.provider.url=ldap://localhost:389

ldap.default.java.naming.factory.initial=com.sun.jndi.ldap.LdapCtxFactory

ldap.default.java.naming.security.authentication=simple

ldap.default.java.naming.security.principal=cn=bankframe,dc=eontec,dc=com

ldap.default.java.naming.security.credentials=bankframe
```

This subset can be retrieved by calling `BankFrameMCAResource.getSubset("ldap.default")`. The returned subset will contain all the values starting with '`ldap.default`', however the prefix: '`ldap.default`' will be removed from the names of the values, so the subset above will contain:

```
java.naming.provider.url=ldap://localhost:389

java.naming.factory.initial=com.sun.jndi.ldap.LdapCtxFactory

java.naming.security.authentication=simple

java.naming.security.principal=cn=bankframe,dc=eontec,dc=com

java.naming.security.credentials=bankframe
```

Getting a single value from a subset

Assume we have some code similar to that below that creates a subset:

```
BankFrameResource ldapSubset = BankFrameMCAResource.getSubset("ldap.default");
```

To retrieve a key from this subset we need to supply its name less the '`ldap.default`' prefix, for example to retrieve the key whose full name is '`ldap.default.java.naming.provider.url`' we need to use the following code:

```
String providerUrl = ldapSubset.getString("java.naming.provider.url");
```

Retrieving a subset of a subset

Subsets can be nested within each other, for example if we wanted to get the security settings in the example above we would use the following code:

```
BankFrameResource securitySubset = ldapSubset.getSubset("java.naming.security");
```

Accessing arbitrary resource files

The `com.bankframe.services.resource.BankFrameMCAResource` class provides a means to read settings from the `BankframeResource.properties` file. To access properties in other files use the `com.bankframe.services.resource.BankFrameResourceFactory` class.

Accessing a .properties file in the Java class path

To access a file called '`FrontEnd.properties`' which is somewhere in the Java class path use the following code:

```
BankFrameResource resource = BankFrameResourceFactory.getInstance("FrontEnd");

String someProperty = resource.getString("someProperty");
```

Note that you do not supply the filename extension of the `.properties` file.

Accessing a .properties file not located in the Java class path

To access a file not located in the class path you must provide a complete `URL` to the resource file.

To access a file on a http server. Below is an example of accessing a file stored on an http server

```
BankFrameResource resource = BankFrameResourceFactory.getInstance(new
URL("http://webserver/SomePropertyFile.properties"));
```

```
String someProperty = resource.getString("someProperty");
```

To access a file on a local file system

```
BankFrameResource resource = BankFrameResourceFactory.getInstance(new
URL("file:///some/path/to/SomePropertyFile.properties"));

String someProperty = resource.getString("someProperty");
```

To access a file in a .JAR on a local file system

```
BankFrameResource resource = BankFrameResource.getInstance(new
URL("jar:///some/path/to/Some.jar/SomePropertyFile.properties"));

String someProperty = resource.getString("someProperty");
```

Configuring the refresh interval

To configure how often a resource file should be re-read add the following key to the resource file:

```
resource.cache.refreshInterval
```

This setting is specified in seconds, for example:

```
resource.cache.refreshInterval=300
```

will cause the resource file to re-loaded every five minutes.

If this setting is not specified in the resource file then the default refresh interval of 15 minutes will be used.

Backwards Compatibility

In previous versions of MCA configuration values were accessed using the `com.bankframe.BankframeResource` class. This class has been deprecated and the `com.bankframe.services.resource.BankFrameMCAResource` class should be used instead.

However to provide backwards compatibility with existing code `com.bankframe.BankframeResource` has been retrofitted to call the methods of `com.bankframe.services.resource.BankFrameMCAResource`.

6 Appendix: Glossary

Baud Rate

The number of times per second that a system changes state.

BMP

Bean Managed Persistence. Applies to Entity EJBs. The Entity is responsible for managing its own persistence.

Clustering

Connecting two or more machines together in such a way that they behave like a single machine. Clustering is used for parallel processing, for load balancing and for fault tolerance.

CMP

Container Managed Persistence. Applies to Entity EJBs. The EJB container is responsible for managing the persistence of the Entity.

Cobol Copybook

A file that describes the layout of transactions implemented in the COBOL programming language. Cobol copybooks are used to determine the format of requests and responses to be sent from MCA Services to host systems.

Container

Enterprise beans are software components that run in a special environment called an EJB container. The container hosts and manages an enterprise bean in the same manner that a Java Web Server hosts a Servlet or an HTML browser hosts a Java applet. An enterprise bean cannot function outside of an EJB container. The EJB container manages every aspect of an enterprise bean at run time including remote access to the bean, security, persistence, transactions, concurrency, and access to and pooling of resources.

DataPacket

A `DataPacket` is a Siebel class through which MCA Services organizes data that is passed between Clients and Siebel Financial Components. It provides a standard format for all data used within Siebel Retail Finance applications, which greatly simplifies the task of passing data from Clients to Financial Components and from Financial Components to other Financial Components. Information stored in `DataPacket`s can be transformed into a string representation or a serialized Java Object. This enables `DataPacket`s to be easily transmitted over various protocols. There are three required keys in every `DataPacket`: `DATA_PACKET_NAME`, `OWNER` and `REQUEST_ID`. All keys in a `DataPacket` are unique within that `DataPacket` & identify corresponding data, as in a hashtable.

DPTP

`DataPacket` Transmission Protocol.

Dynamic Configuration

Standard Java APIs for reading configuration information from `.properties` files require the application server to be re-started to pick up any configuration changes made. The MCA Services Dynamic Configuration framework enables changing MCA's configuration & enabling these changes to take effect without having to re-start the application server. The Dynamic Configuration framework re-reads the `.properties` file at set intervals (the interval period is configurable).

EAR

A JAR archive that contains a J2EE application – i.e. will contain all the EJB JARs & WARs for that enterprise application.

EJB

Enterprise **J**ava**B**eans is a Java API developed by Sun Microsystems. It's a component architecture for the development and deployment of object-oriented, multi-tier client/server systems.

EJBContext

Every EJB obtains an `EJBContext` object, which is a reference directly to the EJB container. The `EJBContext` interface provides methods for interacting with the container so that that bean can request information about its environment like the identity of its client, the status of a transaction, or to obtain remote references to itself.

Financial Component

A stateless session EJB. All Siebel Financial Components implement the `com.bankframe.ejb.ESession` interface.

Financial Process Integrator

The Financial Process Integrator provides the facility in MCA Services to map data from Siebel Retail Finance Entity Beans and Financial Components to host transactions.

Free Service

A Financial Component that does not involve a user logged into Siebel Retail Finance- i.e. an EJB session bean that is not session managed e.g. the `GenerateRandomNumbers` service/bean which determines which digits of the end-user's password to request (e.g. first, third & last) when the user is logging onto Siebel Retail Finance applications.

Home Interface

A Factory Object, it is responsible for locating or creating instances of the desired EJB, and returning remote references. It must extend the interface `EJBHome` and provide method signatures for all the desired `create()` and `find()` methods. An object that implements the Home Interface is automatically generated by the EJB Container tools.

IIOP

Internet **I**nter-**O**RB **P**rotocol. A protocol used for communication between CORBA object request brokers.

Internationalization Framework

The MCA Internationalization Framework enables messages to be localized on the client-side, supporting localization on a per-client/per-locale basis. The data that needs to be localized is passed to the client in addition to the data required for the localization – which is held in resource bundles. See also: Localization, Resource Bundle.

J2EE

Java **2 P**latform**, E**nterprise **E**dition. A J2EE platform is an enterprise level java platform which complies with the J2EE open standard. A J2EE platform encompasses one or more of: EJB container, Web container (for servlets and JSPs), Application client container, Applet container.

JAR

Java **Ar**chive file. The standard, platform-independent, packaging file format for Java technology-based application components that permits many files to be aggregated into one file.

JavaMail

A Java API for sending and receiving email. Part of the J2EE spec.

JAXP

Java **A**PI for **X**ML **P**rocessing. Part of the J2EE spec.

JCA

Java **C**onnector **A**rchitecture. Part of the J2EE spec.

JDBC

Java API that allows components to access data, typically from an SQL database. Part of the J2EE spec.

JNDI

The **J**ava **N**aming and **D**irectory **I**nterface is an API that provides naming and directory functionality for applications written using Java. It is defined to be independent of any specific directory service implementation. Thus a variety of directories- new, emerging, and already deployed- can be accessed in a common way. MCA Services maintains a mapping of `REQUEST_ID`s to JNDI names (each Retail Finance EJB has a unique JNDI name). JNDI is part of the J2EE spec.

JSP

Java**S**erver **P**ages. An extensible web technology that uses template data, custom elements, scripting languages, and server-side Java objects to return dynamic content to a client. Typically the template data is HTML or XML elements, and in many cases the client is a web browser.

JTA

Java **T**ransaction **A**PI. An API that allows applications and J2EE servers to participate in distributed transactions. JTA is part of the J2EE spec.

LDAP

Lightweight **D**irectory **A**ccess **P**rotocol*,* a set of protocols for accessing information directories. LDAP is based on the standards contained within the X.500 standard, but is significantly simpler. And unlike X.500, LDAP supports TCP/IP, which is necessary for any type of Internet access. Because it's a simpler version of X.500, LDAP is sometimes called *X.500-lite.* Although not yet widely implemented, LDAP should eventually make it possible for almost any application running on virtually any computer platform to obtain directory information, such as email addresses and public keys. Because LDAP is an open protocol, applications need not worry about the type of server hosting the directory.

Localization

Using the MCA Internationalization framework messages can be localized on a system-wide basis or on a per-client basis. The information required to convert messages to the client's local is stored in a `ResourceBundle`.

MCA Services

Multi **C**hannel **A**rchitecture Services: an infrastructure that can support the delivery of uniform services to all channels, and be able to incorporate new channels as they emerge. It is implemented using open industry standards to facilitate integration with diverse channel technologies.

Meta Data

Meta Data means literally data about data. The term meta data in the context of MCA Services is used to refer to the set of data that maps Siebel Retail Finance Entity Beans to host transactions.

Module

A Siebel Retail Finance Module is a pre-assembled solution set of Siebel Financial Components – e.g. Siebel Branch Teller and Siebel Internet Banking.

Persistence

Pertaining to EJBs, the ability of an entity bean to record values in instance variables and then save these values to a data store (e.g. database) i.e. the data continues to exist after the process accessing it has finished.

Ping

Packet **I**nternet **G**roper, a utility to determine whether a specific IP address is accessible. It works by sending a packet to the specified address and waiting for a reply. Ping is used primarily to troubleshoot Internet connections.

Pool Manager

The Container which manages EJBs acts as a pool manager- when an EJB has executed it is passivated and cached in a pool for quick access should it need to be reused.

Process Templates and Sample Screen Code

Process Templates and Sample Screen Code are referred to in this documentation as “MCA Extension Point”, “Domain Layer Code”, “Swing Front End Code” and “JSP Front End Code”.

Protocol

An agreed-upon format for transmitting data between two devices. The protocol determines the following: the type of error checking to be used, the data compression method, if any, how the sending device will indicate that it has finished sending a message and how the receiving device will indicate that it has received a message.

RDN

Relative **D**istinguished **N**ame- in LDAP it is the name that uniquely identifies an object- i.e. equivalent to a primary key.

Remote Interface

It extends interface `EJBObject`, and provides method signatures for all the business methods. The EJB Container automatically generates a Java class that implements the Remote Interface; it is this object that is registered with RMI, and a reference to it is returned by the Home Interface.

Resource Bundle

The MCA Services Internationalization Framework uses resource bundles to define message strings. For each locale there exists a resource bundle/class. Each resource bundle defines the message strings for a specific locale & extends the class `ResourceBundle`. The `getBundle` method is used at run-time to retrieve the class that matches the current locale’s language, country and, where applicable, variant. The naming convention for a resource bundle is: `BundleName_Language_Country_Variant`, e.g. the general resource bundle for the German language would be: `BundleName_de`, the resource bundle for messages specific to Germany would be: `BundleName_de_DE` & the resource bundle for the Swiss-German locale would be: `BundleName_de_CH`. The naming convention uses ISO-639 for language codes & ISO-3166 for country codes.

RMI

Remote **M**ethod **I**nvocation, a set of protocols that enables java objects to inter-communicate remotely - a Java object running in one Java virtual machine can invoke methods on a Java object running in a different Java virtual machine.

RMI-IIOP

Remote **M**ethod **I**nvocation - **I**nternet **I**nter-**O**RB **P**rotocol. A version of RMI implemented to use the CORBA IIOP protocol. RMI over IIOP provides interoperability with CORBA objects implemented in any language if all the remote interfaces are originally defined as RMI interfaces. RMI-IIOP is part of the J2EE spec.

Sample Screen Code and Process Templates

Sample Screen Code and Process Templates are referred to in this documentation as "MCA Extension Point", "Implementation Layer Code", "Swing Front End Code" and "JSP Front End Code".

Servlet

An applet that runs on a server. The term usually refers to a Java applet that runs within a Web server environment. This is analogous to a Java applet that runs within a Web browser environment. Java servlets are becoming increasingly popular as an alternative to CGI programs. The biggest difference between the two is that a Java applet is persistent. This means that once it is started, it stays in memory and can fulfill multiple requests. In contrast, a CGI program disappears once it has fulfilled a request. The persistence of Java applets makes them faster because there's no wasted time in setting up and tearing down the process.

Session Affinity

A mechanism whereby a unique string token is placed into all requests under a configurable key for the duration of a client's HTTP session.

Store and Forward

When the Financial Process Integrator fails to send a transaction to the host, the host is marked as offline and the transaction is stored for later forwarding. When a host is marked as offline it will remain marked as such for a specified period (this period is configurable). During this period no further attempts will be made to send transactions to that host, all transactions will instead be stored (except for transactions that are not permitted to be stored, these will instead result in an exception being thrown). When the time period has expired the forwarding mechanism will try to send the first entry on the queue to the host. Only data for update to the host is stored, it will not store data retrieved from the host.

Swing

An API for building GUIs. The biggest difference between the AWT components and Swing components is that the Swing components are implemented with absolutely no native code. Since Swing components aren't restricted to the features that are present on every platform -- they can have more functionality than AWT components.

Tar

tape **ar**chive*,* a UNIX utility that combines a group of files into a single file. The resulting file has a `.tar` extension. The `tar` command does not compress files. Frequently, therefore, a tar file is compressed with the `compress` or `gzip` commands to create a file with a `.tar.gz` or `.tar.Z` extension. These are comparable to files that have been compressed with PKZIP on a PC platform. Most PC compression utilities, including PKZIP, can open (untar) a tar file.

Thin client

In client/server applications, a client designed to be especially small so that the bulk of the data processing occurs on the server. Although the term thin client usually refers to software, it is increasingly used for computers, such as network computers and Net PCs, that are designed to serve as the clients for client/server architectures. A thin client is a network computer without a hard disk drive, whereas a fat client includes a disk drive.

Two-phase commit

A feature of transaction processing systems that enables databases to be returned to the pre-transaction state if some error condition occurs. A single transaction can update many different databases. The two-phase commit strategy is designed to ensure that either all the databases are updated or none of them, so that the databases remain synchronized.

Database changes required by a transaction are initially stored temporarily by each database. The transaction monitor then issues a "pre-commit" command to each database that requires an acknowledgment. If the monitor receives the appropriate response from each database, the monitor issues the "commit" command, which causes all databases to simultaneously make the transaction changes permanent.

WAR

A JAR archive that contains a web module.

WML

Wireless **M**arkup **L**anguage is an XML language used to specify content and user interface for WAP devices; the WAP forum provides a DTD (Document Type Definition) for WML. WML is supported by almost every mobile phone browser around the world. WML pages are requested and served in the same way as HTML pages.