

Forte Fusion Glossary

This glossary provides information about terms and concepts you might encounter while using the Fusion product and documentation.

Terms in *italics* within definitions are related terms that also are defined in the glossary.

adapter An optional Fusion component that provides an XML/HTTP interface for a participating *application* that is not *XML-enabled*. The adapter converts arriving XML documents into the application's native API; it also converts the application's API calls into XML documents understood by the *proxy*.

application A participant in a *Fusion enterprise application*. Two kinds of applications can participate in the business process: a *process client* application, which establishes a direct session with a *Fusion process engine*, while an *XML-enabled application* communicates with the engine through a *proxy*.

application document The XML *proxy document* sent by an *application* to its *proxy* or from the proxy to the application.

An application document can contain any XML that the application understands. You use XSL *stylesheets* to transform this XML into a version that the proxy understands.

application proxy See *proxy*.

authentication document A *proxy document* used for *session authentication*. Either a *proxy* or an *application* can transmit an authentication document in response to a request for user authentication.

backbone A set of related *proxies* associated with a Fusion *backbone manager*, XSL *stylesheet base*, and optional *adapters*. The backbone enables an associated *Fusion process engine* to command and respond to *applications* in fulfillment of a business process, or can be used solely for message brokering and data transformation.

backbone manager The component of the Fusion backbone responsible for starting and stopping *proxies* and controlling dynamic changes to proxy configurations.

command document A *proxy document* that a proxy generates to send commands to the *Fusion process engine* (for example, to start an activity) or to send a message to an application (for example, to inform the application that an activity has been completed).

command processor The component of the *proxy* that interprets *command documents* and generates messages regarding the commands to be performed by the *Fusion process engine* and the application.

document element The topmost visible element in the hierarchy of an XML document. The document is the only child of the *root element*. An XML document can have only one document element.

FNscript The script utility for configuring, monitoring and managing Fusion *backbone* components. Also referred to as Fusion Script.

Fusion A business process integration suite that encompasses the *Fusion process management system* and the *Fusion Backbone*.

Fusion enterprise application A complete Forte Fusion solution that provides process-driven application integration across the enterprise.

Fusion process engine The Fusion component that drives and manages business processes.

Fusion process management system The business process management component of Fusion, including the *Fusion process engine*, the process definition workshops, and the *Fusion process client interfaces*.

HTTP Hypertext Transport Protocol, one of the communications protocols that Fusion uses to transfer messages among *applications*, *proxies*, and the *Fusion process engine*.

inbound Refers to any communication that flows from an *application* to a *proxy*, for example an inbound session.

An inbound *stylesheet* transforms the application's XML into XML that the proxy understands.

independent proxy An *independent proxy* is used only for message brokering and data transformation between integrated applications; it does not interact with a *Fusion process engine*. See also *proxy*, *process-based proxy*.

interactive application An *application* that requires input or instructions from a human.

interface An interface defines a set of class elements, without providing the code that implements them. The code for the methods and event handlers in the interface is provided by the classes that implement the interface.

JMS Java Message Service, one of the protocols that Fusion uses to transfer messages among *applications*, *proxies*, and the *Fusion process engine*.

message broker The component of the proxy that is responsible for routing messages.

outbound Refers to any communication that flows from a *proxy* to an *application*, for example an outbound session.

An outbound *stylesheet* transforms the proxy's XML into XML that the application understands.

process client An *application* coded with a process client API or *process client interface* that makes calls directly to the *Fusion process engine*.

process client interface An interface or programming language API for constructing a *process client* application. The supplied interfaces are Forte 4GL (TOOL), JavaBeans, ActiveX, C++ and IIOP.

process-based proxy A *process-based proxy* interoperates with a *Fusion process engine* on behalf of an integrated application that participates in a business process managed by the engine. See also *proxy*, *independent proxy*.

proxy A component of a Fusion *backbone* that routes and transforms XML documents. A proxy can be *process-based* or *independent* and can use HTTP or JMS for messaging.

proxy document An XML document that is processed by a *proxy*. Proxy documents specify the operation of a *Fusion backbone* by controlling message flow between the proxy and participating *applications*, as well as between the proxy and the *Fusion process engine*.

There are four types of proxy documents: *application documents*, *authentication documents*, *command documents*, and *state documents*.

robotic application An *application* that requires no human interaction to participate in the business process.

root element The abstract element implied as the topmost element of the hierarchy of an XML document. The root element is denoted by *"/*.

The root element can have only one child element, which is called the *document element*.

service provider A *robotic application* or *interactive application* that performs an activity in the fulfillment of a business process. Service providers generally are associated with offered activities. A service provider acts as a server to its *proxy*.

service requestor A *robotic application* or *interactive application* that requests the creation of a business process. Service requestors generally are associated with the creation of Fusion process instances. A service requestor acts as a client to its *proxy*.

session authentication The means by which an HTTP *proxy* or *application* ensures that a user requesting access is authorized to obtain such access.

HTTP session authentication can be implemented by simply sending the username and password to the proxy or application or by sending an *authentication document* containing additional user information.

state document A *proxy document* generated by the *Fusion process engine* to communicate changes of activity state to the proxy (for example, information that a specific activity has started).

stylesheet An *XML* document that provides rules for transforming a source *proxy document* (for example an *application document*) into a results proxy document (for example, a *command document*).

stylesheet base A set of *XSL stylesheets* registered with a specific Fusion *backbone*. You associate stylesheets from the stylesheet base with specific *proxies* on that backbone.

template Instructions within an *XSL stylesheet* that define how an item in an *XML* source document should be rendered in the *XML* results document.

transformation The process of applying a *stylesheet* to an *XML* source document to render it, generally in a different form, in an *XML* results document.

XML The Extensible Markup Language used in *proxy documents* that provides a standard communication medium between *proxies* and *applications*, and between proxies and the *Fusion process engine*.

XML/XSL plan A collection of *XML* documents and *XSL stylesheets* that you create in the *XML/XSL Plan Workshop* for testing and debugging.

XML/XSL Plan Workshop A graphical tool that Fusion provides for creating and managing *XML* documents and *XSL stylesheets*.

XML/XSL Workshop A graphical tool that Fusion provides for testing and debugging *XSL stylesheets*.

XML-enabled application An *application* that can generate and understand *XML proxy documents* when communicating with its *proxy*.

If an application is not XML-enabled, it must use an *adapter* to translate between its native API and *XML*.

XPath The language you use within an *XSL stylesheet* to locate an item in the *XML* source document that you want to transform in the *XML* results document.

XSL The Extensible Stylesheet Language used to transform *XML proxy documents* into other *XML* proxy documents. *XSLT* is a subset of *XSL*.

XSL processor The component of a *proxy* that applies an *XSL stylesheet* to a source *proxy document* to transform it into a different type of proxy document.

XSLT Extensible Stylesheet Language Transformations, the subset of *XSL* that provides a means for transforming items from an *XML* source document to an *XML* results document, for example, to change an element into a different element.

