

WEB SERVICES EXPLORER

POWERTOOLS



Watchfire Web Services Explorer PowerTool
User Guide

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Web Services Explorer

Watchfire's Web Services Explorer lets you interact with Web services through a simple user interface. Web Services Explorer reads the service's WSDL file (an auto-generated XML file that describe the service), and then displays the individual services available in a simple tree format and creates a user-friendly GUI that lets you input parameters and view the results.

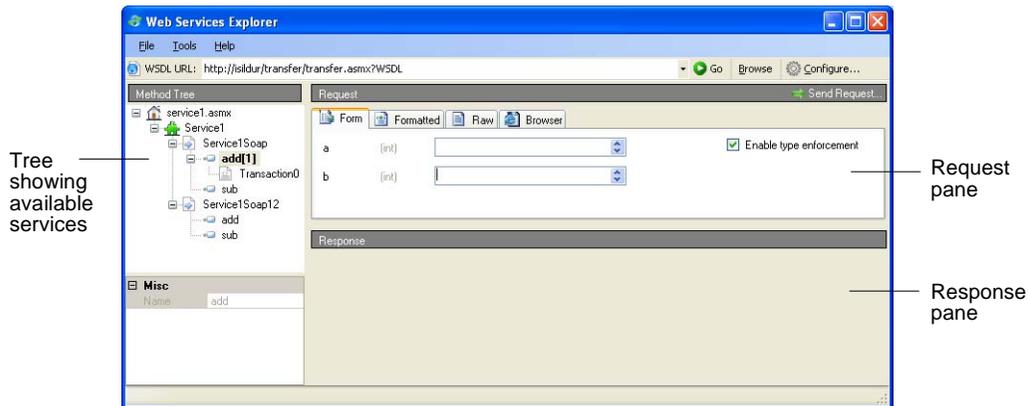


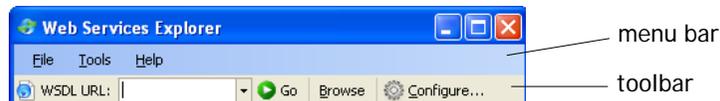
Figure 1 Web Services Explorer main screen

Web Services Explorer can be used in conjunction with AppScan[®] or as a stand-alone program. When used with AppScan requests are sent using AppScan as the proxy, so that the requests can be learnt by AppScan for testing the service. (For more details refer to the AppScan User Guide.)

Getting Started

- 1 Open the Watchfire Web Services Explorer.

The main window appears. There is a menu bar and a toolbar at the top of the window.



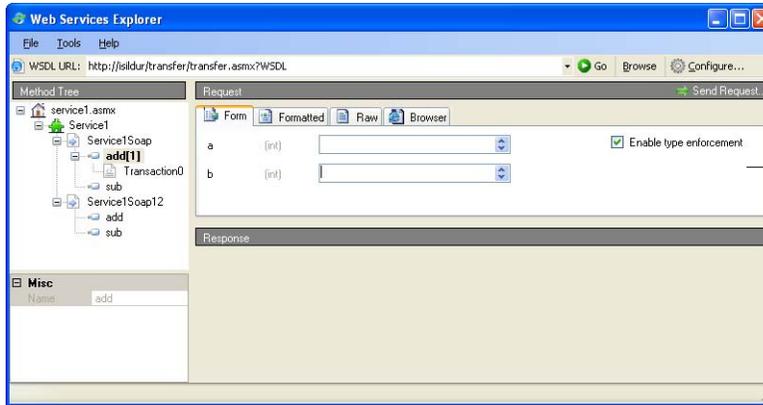
- 2 Open the WSDL file you want to explore:

- If the file is located on the Internet or Intranet, type its URL into the **WSDL URL** field, then click **Go**
- If the file is located on your computer or network, click **Browse**, locate the file, then click **Open**.



If the file has been saved with an extension other than **.wsdl** you will need to change the **Files of Type** field in the **Open** dialog to see **All files (*.*)** in order to locate the file.

Web Services Explorer displays the available methods (operations) graphically, in the Method Tree, and creates a simple GUI in the Request pane, for sending requests to the service.



Simple GUI for sending Requests to the web service

Figure 2 GUI in Request pane

The Method Tree

The Method Tree shows the logical structure of the service. The root node of the tree is the WSDL filename, and below it are service nodes, port nodes and methods, as defined in the WSDL file.

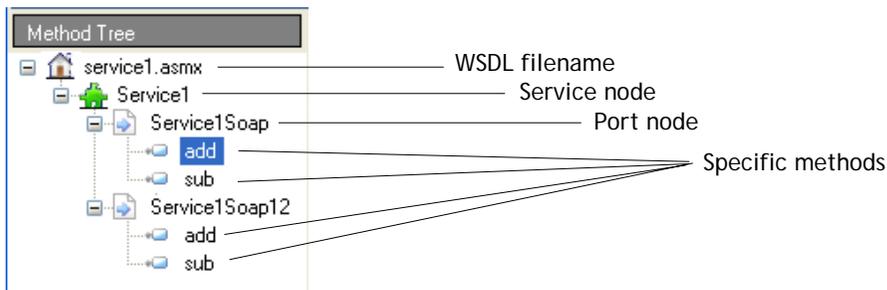


Figure 3 The Method Tree

Sending Requests

To send a request:

- 1 In the Method Tree, click on a method to select it.

The Request pane updates to display fields for inputting valid request data for the selected method.



The Request pane has four tabs that let you view this information in four formats: as a form, formatted, as raw data and in browser (HTML) format. (See “**Request Pane Tabs**”)

- 2 Type data into the Request fields, as required. (If there are non-mandatory fields you do not want to fill, deselect the checkbox next to them.)



By default, the Form pane provides fields and combo boxes that allow only *valid* data. For example, if only a single positive integer is allowed, the GUI provides a box that lets you select one integer only. If you need to send an *illegal* request, deselect the **Enable Type Enforcement** checkbox in the upper right of the pane (selected by default). This changes the GUI to allow free text input for all fields.



If authentication is required to access the service you are accessing, click the **Configure** icon. (See **“Configuration”**).

- 3 Click the **Send Request** icon at the top right of the Request pane.

The request is sent, and the response is displayed in the Response pane in the lower half of the screen.

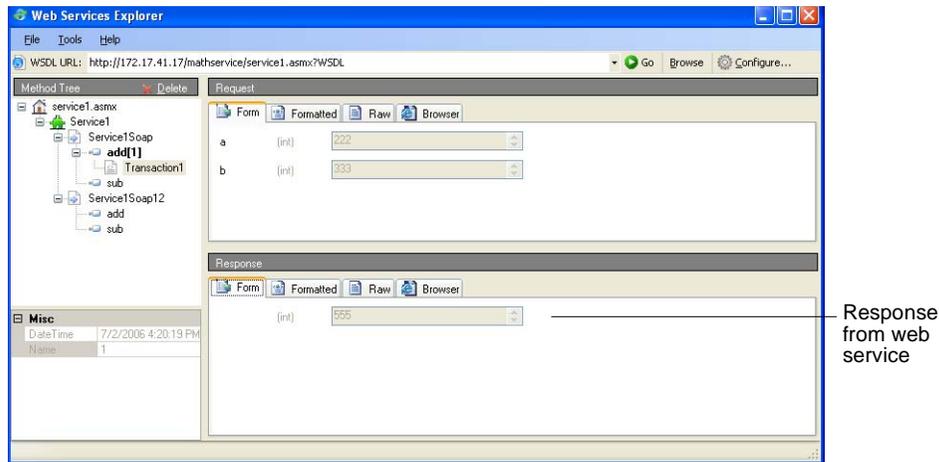


Figure 4 Response shown in Response pane

Request Pane Tabs

The Request pane has four tabs that let you view this information in any of four formats.

Tab	Description
Form	Shows the selected method as a simple form, with fields for data input. This is the simplest method to input data for testing. Deselect the checkbox next to any non-mandatory field that is not used. Deselect the Enable Type Enforcement checkbox if you want to input data in a non-valid format.
Formatted	Shows the formatted XML with indentation and syntax highlighting (if the XML format is valid). Allows editing of the XML.
Raw	Shows the unformatted XML (Show/hide the headers by clicking HTTP Headers .) Allows editing of the XML. This may be used to change the XML for testing the SOAP parser.
Browser	Shows the method as XML in a browser. This format cannot be edited.

Table 1 Request/response pane tabs

Responses

Each time a request is sent, the transactions are added to the Method Tree under the specific method used. The transactions are numbered in the order they are sent, and the results can be viewed in the Response pane.

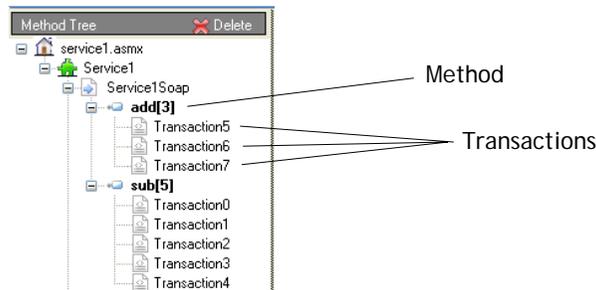


Figure 5 The Method Tree

To view a result:

⇒ Select a transaction in the Method Tree.

The request data appears in the Request pane, and the result in the Response pane..



The Response pane has four tabs equivalent to the “**Request Pane Tabs**”)

Resending a Request

To resend a particular request:

- 1 Select the transaction in the Method Tree

The form appears in the Request pane, with all data filled as it was sent.

- 2 Right-click on the transaction, and select **Send** from the pop-up menu.

The request is sent, and a new transaction added to the Method Tree.

Configuration

Clicking the Configure icon on the main toolbar opens the Options dialog which has two tabs and lets you configure:

- “**Authentication Information**” (login and domain)
- “**Communication Settings**” (timeout and proxy server)

Authentication Information

If authentication is required to access the service, you need to supply an authorized username and password so that Web Services Explorer can login and send requests.

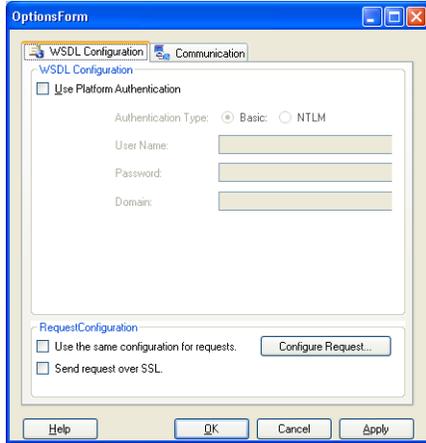


Figure 6 WSDL Configuration tab

Option	Description
Use Platform Authentication	Select this checkbox to enter an authorized username, password and domain (and select Basic or NTLM input) for WSDL file retrieval.
Request Configuration	To use the same authentication information as entered above when sending requests, select the Use the same configuration checkbox. To enter different authentication for requests, click Configure Request, and enter the required username, password and domain (and select Basic or NTLM input)
Send Request over SSL	Select to send request over SSL.

Table 2 WSDL Configuration tab

Communication Settings

The Communication tab lets you alter timeout and proxy server settings.

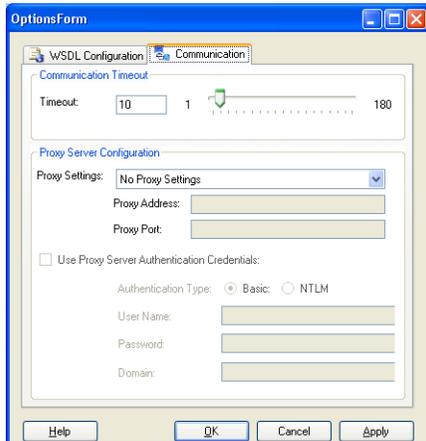


Figure 7 Communication tab

Option	Description
Timeout	Use the slider to select the maximum number of seconds (1-180) for Web Services Explorer to wait for a response from the service.
Proxy Settings	If you select No proxy settings or Use Internet Explorer settings , the remaining options are disabled. If you select Custom Proxy Settings you can enter proxy address and port.
Use Proxy Server Authentication Credentials.	If Custom Proxy Settings is selected, you can select this checkbox to enter an authorized username, password and domain. You can also select Basic or NTLM input.

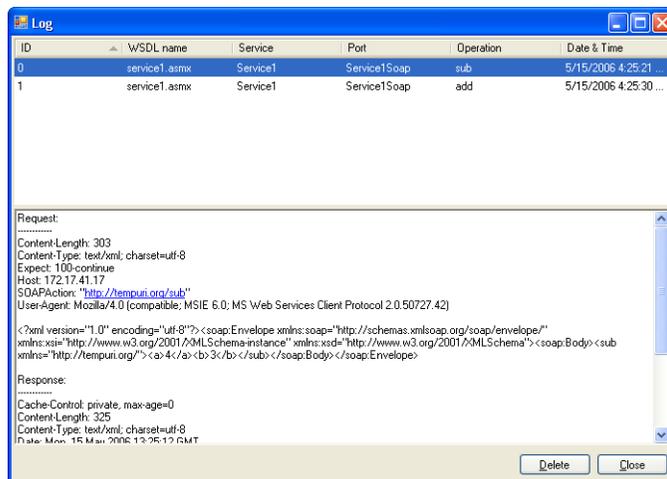
Table 3 Communication tab options

Log

The Log lists data for all requests sent.

To view the log:

⇒ On the **Help** menu, click **View Log**.



You can edit the log by selecting an item and clicking **Delete**.