



Your Business, Connected with Trading Partners

Business-to-business integration with BizTalk Server 2006 R2

An integrated supply chain requires you to connect systems from the factory floor to the storefront and across trading partners. Microsoft BizTalk® Server 2006 R2 facilitates business processes that span systems, and people, within and across organizational boundaries. Through process automation and broad support for industry EDI and AS2 standards, BizTalk Server 2006 R2 reduces the cost and complexity of supply chain management and other business-to-business solutions. BizTalk Server further streamlines these critical business-to-business processes by automating decisions and providing real-time visibility.

Unifying Business to Business platforms

BizTalk Server 2006 R2 provides you with a single platform for a wide range of business to business communication options. Support for legacy EDI and AS2 protocols as well as modern XML based Web Services standards is included out of the box. BizTalk Server 2006 R2 also caters for industry specific standards such as HL7, SWIFT and RosettaNet through solution accelerators. Through a comprehensive set of technology and application adapters, BizTalk Server provides a high level of integration with line of business applications across the enterprise. This allows you to automate business processes with your trading partners all the way from your systems to theirs.

Extensive EDI and AS2 Support

Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) is one of the most prevalent means by which business entities exchange data electronically. BizTalk Server 2006 R2 includes native support for Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) data exchange and AS2 data transport, supplying businesses with the means to connect and interact with partners more securely and reliably.

BizTalk Server 2006 R2 processes EDI messages using a combination of core BizTalk Server features and EDI-specific BizTalk Server features. This enables BizTalk Server to perform the processing that is unique to EDI messaging, while leveraging its core messaging functionality.

EDI Standards

EDI consists of specific data interchange methods agreed upon by standards bodies. EDI messaging protocols help ensure that data always arrives as expected, and that

corrupted or incorrect data is automatically detected and reported.

With more than 8000 out-of-the-box message schemas, BizTalk Server 2006 R2 supports the following EDI standards: X12, HIPAA, EDIFACT and EANCOM.

Partner Agreement Management

While the EDI standards establish the rules for the structure of the document, trading partners must agree on the specific information to be transmitted and how it should be used. BizTalk Server 2006 R2 provides a Partner Agreement Manager (PAM) user interface within the BizTalk Administration Console to set processing properties for parties engaging in EDI document exchange and AS2 document transport.

Receive Functionality

When receiving EDI and AS2 messages BizTalk Server 2006 R2 enables the following:

- Parsing an EDI interchange, processing batched transaction if configured
- Performing HIPAA document splitting
- Validating the message
- Generating acknowledgments
- Receiving EDIINT/AS2 encoded messages over an HTTP/HTTPS transport.
- Re-assembling the interchange if the batch is to be preserved
- Dynamically resolving trading party

Send Functionality

When sending EDI and AS2 messages BizTalk Server 2006 R2 enables the following:

- Serializing the EDI interchange, batching transaction sets if configured
- Validating the message to be sent
- Sending EDIINT/AS2 encoded messages over an HTTP/HTTPS transport.
- Processing received acknowledgments

EDI Reporting

BizTalk Server provides EDI-specific status reporting. These reports provide comprehensive information on the status of an EDI document exchange transaction, including acknowledgments correlated to the interchange.

BizTalk also provides EDI activity and KPI reporting through its Business Activity Monitoring infrastructure.

EDI Design Tools

BizTalk Server supplies EDI design time tools in Microsoft Visual Studio® for generating an instance, validating an instance, validating a schema, testing a map, and validating a map.

AS2 Support

EDI over the Internet (EDIINT) is an alternative to EDI over value-added networks (VANs). The use of the internet for data exchange via point-to-point connections, instead of using VANs via intermediate connections, reduces costs, increases flexibility and efficiency, and has advantages in terms of redundancy and scalability.

To facilitate EDIINT, BizTalk Server 2006 R2 supports AS2 (Applicability Statement 2). AS2 is a specification that enables transport of business data over the Internet in a confidential, safe, and reliable manner. BizTalk Server 2006 R2 uses AS2-defined methods to send, receive, encrypt, decrypt, sign, and verify messages between partners using HTTP over the Internet. BizTalk Server helps ensure the security of messages through the use of encryption keys, digital signatures, certificates, and non-repudiation.

AS2 uses the HTTP POST operation to send EDI, XML, or other business data. AS2 is payload agnostic and not restricted to sending only EDI data. The Request-URI identifies a process to be used to unpack and handle message data. A message disposition notification (MDN) is returned either in the HTTP response message body or by a new HTTP POST operation to a URL for the original sender.

EDI and AS2 Feature Map



For more information please visit www.microsoft.com/edi

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