Windows Communication Foundation

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What's WinFX?



- Managed API for the Windows platform
 - Extends the .NET Framework V2.0
- First ships at the time of Windows Vista (2006)
 - Included in Windows Vista
 - Available on Windows XP Sp 2 and Server 2003
 - Following a Community Technology Preview Cycle
 - Latest is January 2006 CTP

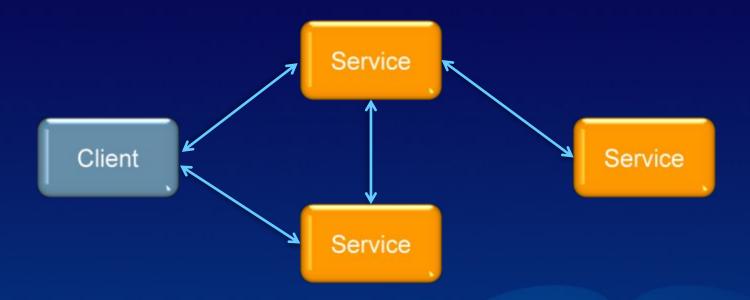


What's WinFX?





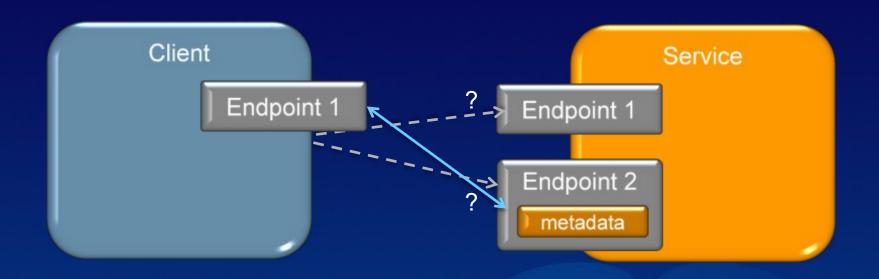
Windows Communication Foundation



- Unifying capabilities of previous technologies
 - Web Services, Remoting, DCOM, MSMQ, etc.
- Simplifying and reducing code
- Using declarative means when possible



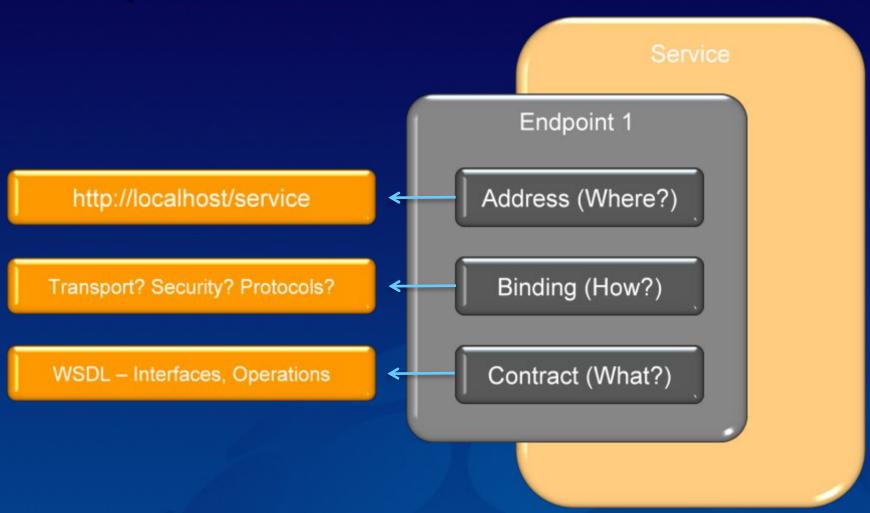
Communication via Endpoints



- Service offers one or more endpoints
 - Endpoints may advertise metadata
- Client consumes one or more endpoints
 - Either a design time or runtime decision



Endpoints

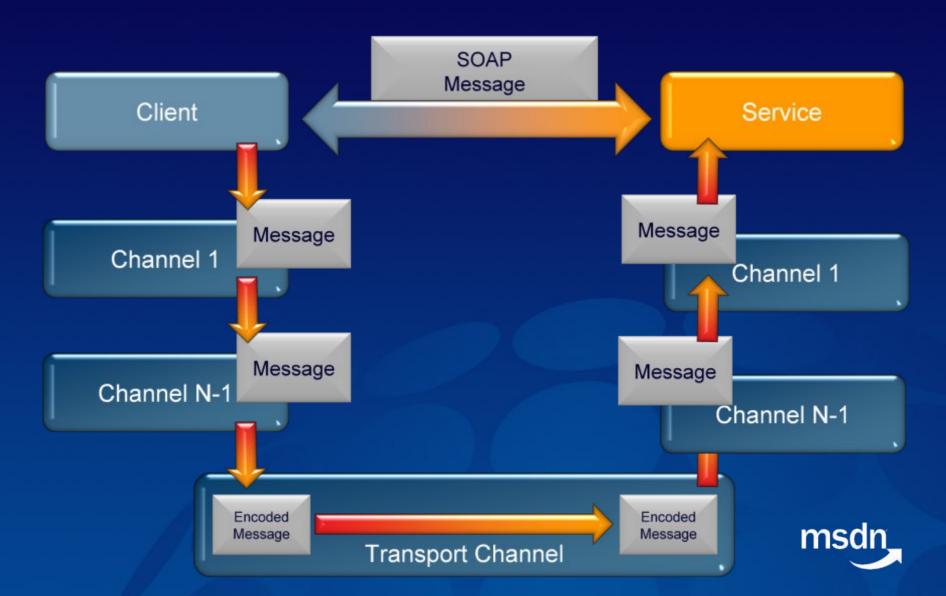




"Hello World"



Channels Move Messages

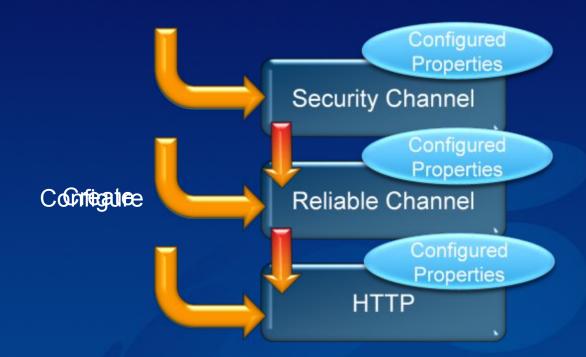


Encoding for transport



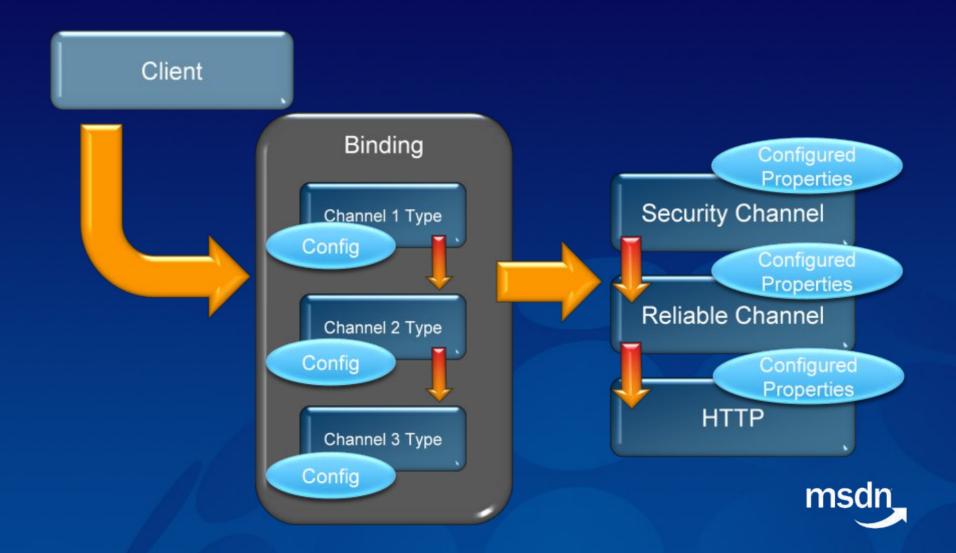
Bindings Create A "Stack" of Channels

Client

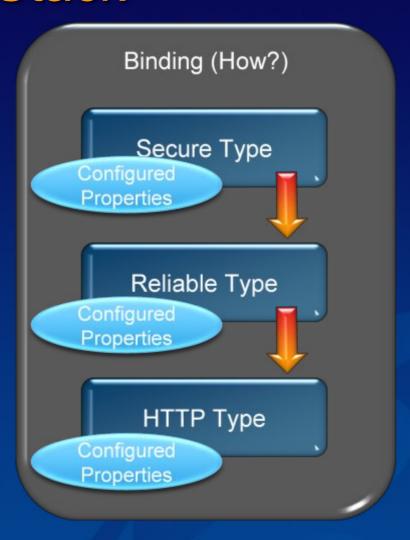




Bindings Create A "Stack" of Channels



Bindings – Factory for a Channel Stack

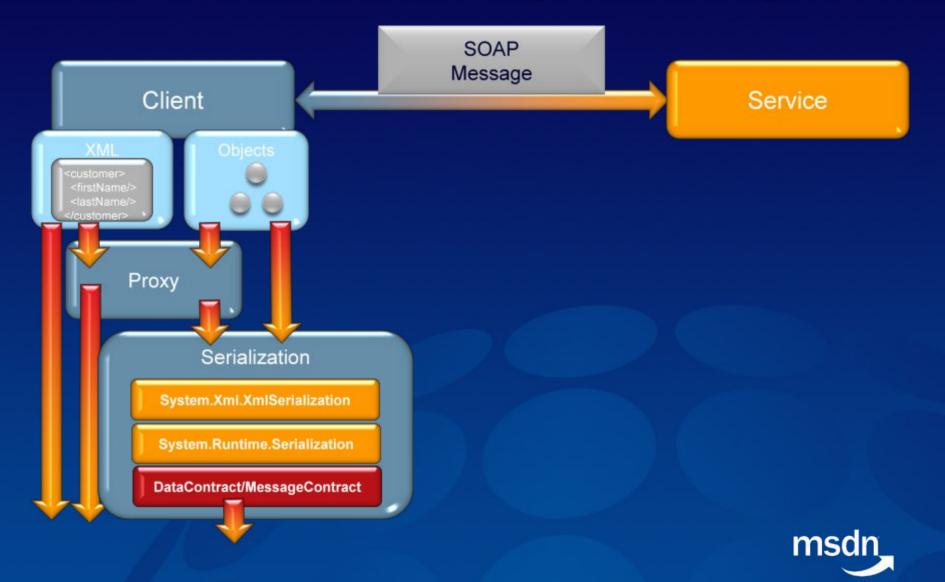


- Means to instantiate a channel collection
 - Named
 - Ordered
 - Configured
- Pre-built set "in the box"
 - WS-I Basic Profile
 - WS-* on HTTP
 - TCP
 - Named Pipes
 - MSMQ
- Configure/code your own as a "custom" binding msdn

From code to standard bindings in configuration



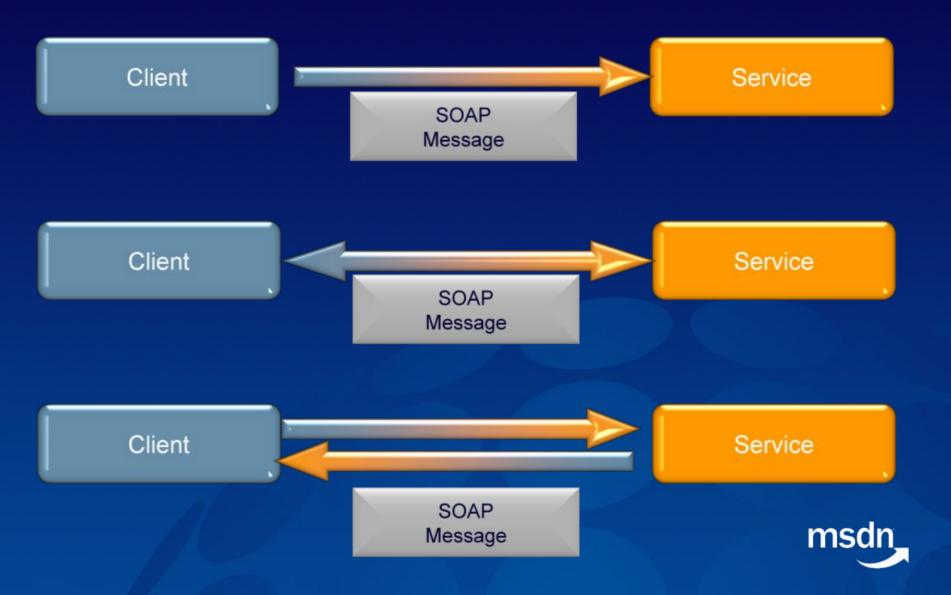
Applications Exchange Messages



Controlling serialization



Message Exchange Patterns



Message Exchange Patterns



Dealing With Errors



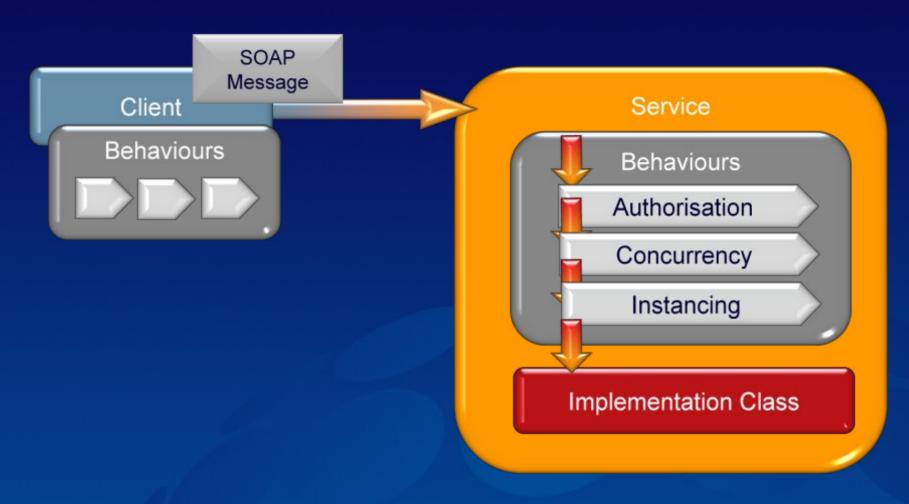
- SOAP models errors with Faults, described in WSDL
- Undescribed errors are not returned to client
 - ReturnUnknownExceptionsAsFaults property
- Use FaultContract to describe Faults
- Use FaultException<> to throw/catch Faults
- Use IErrorHandler for more control



Dealing with Errors



Behaviours Affect Implementation





Instancing, Concurrency, Sessions

- Service implementations can be instantiated;
 - Singleton, Per-Call, Per-Session, Shareable
- Service code can be either;
 - Single threaded, Re-entrant or Multi-threaded
- Service objects can support sessions



Instancing, Concurrency, Sessions



Securing Message Exchanges

- Transfer Security
 - Authentication
 - Privacy
 - Integrity
 - Secure the transport or secure the message
- Authorisation
 - PrincipalPermission attribute
 - More flexible OperationRequirement
 - Complete custom claims processing via XSI
- Auditing





Securing Message Exchanges



Authenticating with InfoCard

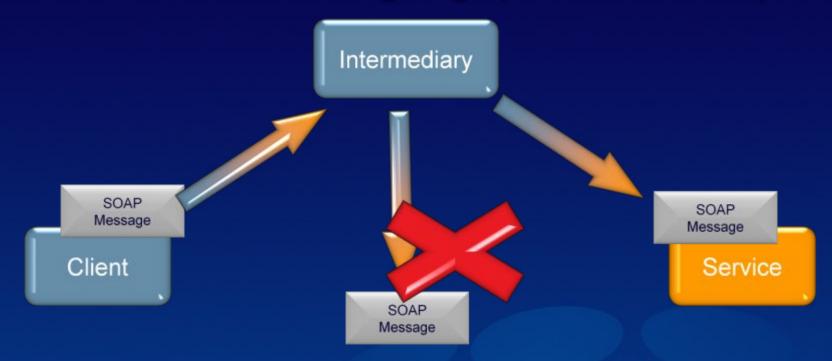
- InfoCard is a WinFX identity "metasystem"
- Built on open standards



Authentication with InfoCard



Reliable Messaging (!= Queues)



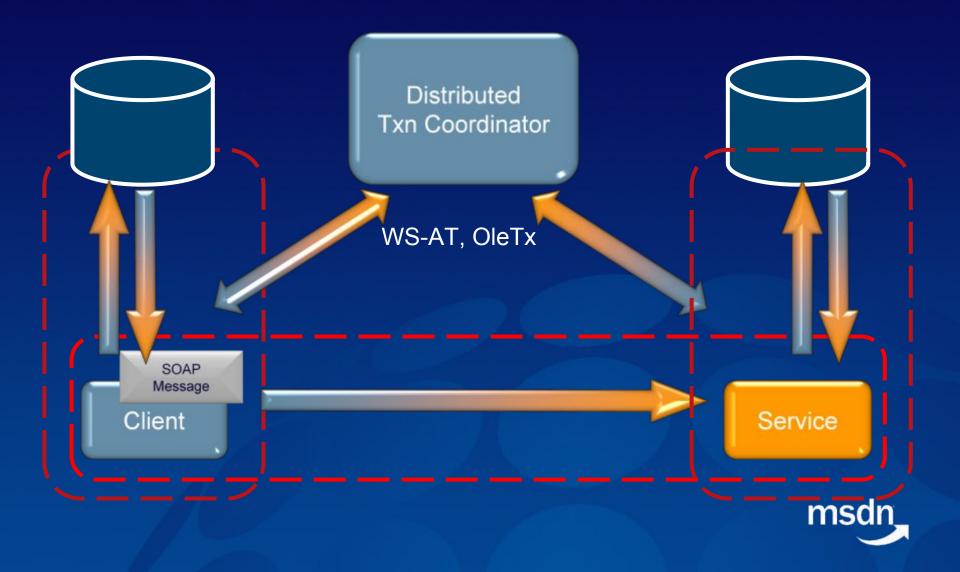
- Client and Service running at the same time
 - Can do exactly once
 - Can do in order
 - Can control the amount of "buffering"



Reliable Messaging



Transactional Messaging



Transactional Messaging



Queued Messaging (== Queues)



- Client and Service can have different lifetimes
- Relies on the MSMQ transport
 - Transactional, Secure, In-Order, etc.



Queued Messaging



Hosting

- ServiceHost allows for hosting anywhere
 - Console applications
 - Windows applications
 - Windows services
- IIS provides an enterprise class hosting environment
 - Edit a .svc file and point at your service
 - HTTP transport in IIS 6.0
 - All transports in IIS 7.0 (Windows Activation Service)



Migration/Compatibility

- "basicHttpBinding"
 - WS-I Basic Profile Compliant
 - ASMX V2.0 Web Services
- "wsHttpBinding"
 - WSE 3.0 message compatibility
 - *WSE 3.0 implements security but not reliable, transactional features



Diagnostics and Tracing

- Rich diagnostics framework within the WCF
- Two levels of information
 - Message Logging
 - Activity Logging
- Display with the svctraceviewer tool



Tracing, Logging and the TraceViewer



Where Next?

- WinFX
 - http://msdn.microsoft.com/winfx
 - http://www.roadtowinfx.com
- WCF
 - http://www.windowscommunication.net



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