ebXML POC demo draft proposal

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Spec area: Registry
Theme: Flexible discovery through ad hoc queries, Registry Security
Authors: Sun, CISCO
Specifications: Registry Information Model v 0.55, Registry Services Specification v 0.84

Introduction

This proposes suggests that we demonstrate the 2 major new features (ad hoc query capability and registry security) that have been added to the ebXML Registry Specifications since the Tokyo version of the specifications. This ensures that the POC content keeps in sync with specification updates.

Discovery Based on Ad Hoc Queries

In the Tokyo POC we showed discovery of content in the registry based on 3 focused queries dubbed as "Browse and Drill Down" queries. The ad hoc query capability specified in the latest versions of the Registry specifications allows a client to submit complex queries using a declarative query language. The capability allows for more flexible discovery of content based on any metadata in the registry. It can also enable content discovery based on data contained within the submitted content itself. The ad hoc query mechanism also provides access to registry metadata that was previously inaccessible. For example the query interface allows access to Packages, Associations, ExternalLinks as well as the complete audit trail for specified registry content. Another use of ad hoc queries is to allow for bulk operations on objects that belong to the same package. All of these new capabilities are possible with a single simple to use query interface.

Registry Security

In the latest Registry specifications we provide a minimal security specification which support the philosophy that "Any *known* entity can publish content and *anyone* can view published content." More importantly the security features make sure that only content owners can perform destructive operations on their own content. Specifically it ensures that Submitter A cannot modify or delete Submitter B's content.

Demo Roles

Registry Service: Provides an implementation of an ebXML registry service
Content Submitter A: Submitter of content to registry
Content Submitter B: Attempts to delete content submitted by Content Submitter A.
Registry Guest: Uses a registry browser to discover registry content based on ad hoc query capability

Demo Scenario

1. Content Submitter A, submits a CPP along with various Associations, Classifications, ExternalLinks using a Registry Client GUI. All submitted content is part of a common Package. The content is submitted via a SubmitContentsRequest whose payload is digitally signed with the signature of Content Submitter A.
2. Content Submitter B attempts to delete the CPP submitted by Content Submitter A using a DeleteContentsRequest message to the registry. The delete request is denied because Content Submitter B is not authorized to delete the CPP based on the default AccessControlPolicy associated with that CPP.
3. The Registry Guest uses a registry browser tool to discover the CPP submitted by Content Submitter A using a single ad hoc query. The tool allows the user to select pre-configured ad hoc queries (e.g. Find me the CPP that has the role seller, that is in the automotive industry and located in Japan.

4. The Registry Guest uses a registry browser tool to discover other CPPs using several other ad hoc queries. For example they may search for all content belonging to a Package that has the word “bicycle” in it.
5. The Registry Guest then uses the registry browser tool to navigate the association links from the chosen CPP to discover the CPPs for all parties that are customers of the party represented by the first CPP (Content Submitter A).
6. The Registry Guest then forms a CPA with the party represented by CPP submitted by Content Submitter A using a similar scenario as the Tokyo POC.