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Adding/Editing Services

The following section describes how to work with the editor of services when adding a new service or editing the existing one. Services are described in the Communication with Other Systems section.

The editor of services can be started as described in the Working with Configuration Elements section.

You can define the following settings of the service in the working area of the editor:

Process

Select a process that will implement the service from a list of all processes defined in the business space version. When the service is requested the specified process will be executed. If the specified process requires input, this input must be provided by a service requestor.

SOAP/Web Services support

Choose this option if you want Aware IM to expose the service as "web service" implementing the SOAP protocol. When the business space containing such service is published Aware IM will automatically create a WSDL file for the service.

<note warning>After a business space version has been published the system administrator has to login into the Operation Mode to cause the deployment of a new or changed service and the creation of the WSDL file.</note>

REST support

Tick this checkbox if the service is to be exposed as REST-ful service (REST-ful service does not need any special deployment and should be available as soon as the business space is published). If you tick this checkbox you will also need to provide REST settings (see below)

Service Reply

Service reply defines a business object or an array of business objects sent by a service provider as a reply to the service request. If you select the "Service will return object" radio button you will need to select the object that will be returned from the list of all objects. Your implementing process must populate the context with the instance(s) of the business object being returned. Tick the "Return multiple instances" checkbox to return an array of instances. Again your implementing process must populate the context with instances of the object to be returned.

The following properties can be specified in the Element Properties window:

Name

Specify the name of the service uniquely identifying it within the business space version. The following restrictions apply:

1. The name of the service must be unique among the names of other services defined in the business space version.
2. The name must start with a character or underscore symbol; all other symbols must be characters (including underscore symbol) or digits. Space symbols are not allowed.

Description

Specify any text that describes what the services does etc. Providing a description is not mandatory but is highly recommended. Any description if defined is included into the generated documentation for the business space version – see Generating Documentation.

REST settings

If you ticked "Rest support" checkbox in the editor you will need to provide the following details:

Default URL mapping

Services exposed as REST will be called by other parties using a particular URL. If you choose the default option the default URL the other parties will have to use the default URL. It has the following format:

http://ServerName:port/AwareIM/REST/BusinessSpace/ServiceName?parameters

for example:

http://myserver.com:8080/AwareIM/REST/CRM/Service1?param1=value1&param2=value2

URL must contain string

If default URL cannot be used you can construct your own URL by choosing this option and providing your own custom string. For example, if you provide the following string:

someName1/someName2

the following URL can be used:

http://ServerName:port/AwareIM/someName1/someName2?parameters

<note>If you choose this option you must also provide a file called rest.props and put it in the AwareIM/CP/eclipse directory of your Aware IM installation. The file must have a string that specifies

the name of the business space containing REST-ful services, for example DOMAIN=CRM</note>

Name mapping

If your REST-ful service is implemented by a process that takes some object as input (should only be one object) then values of attributes of this object have to be provided as parameters in the URL (see example above). The name of the parameters must match the names of the attributes of the object. If this, however, is impossible for whatever reason, then you need to provide a mapping between the names of the parameters ("External Name") and the name of the corresponding attribute. You should only do it for those parameters that have different names to the names of the attributes.

Reply Format

If a service returns a reply it can be either in the XML format (also Default) or in JSON format. The format can also vary depending on the URL used – the extension of the expected format can be specified in the URL itself. Choose the appropriate option here.

REST Handing of Undefined Values

This only applies to services exposed as REST-ful services. If values of the attributes of the returned object are undefined, you can choose how **Aware IM** will encode such values. By default **Aware IM** will skip undefined values ("Do not encode" option), but you can also encode an empty value or a particular string. You can also specify different encoding options depending on the name of the attribute.