Web Services

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Five Questions

- What is a Web Service?
- Why are Web Services interesting?
 - Why should I care about them?
- What e-commerce business models do Web Services enable?
- What security and privacy issues need to be addressed for Web Services to be successful?
- What the heck is Microsoft's .NET Platform all about, and how does .NET relate to Web Services?

What is a Web Service?

Software Design Principles

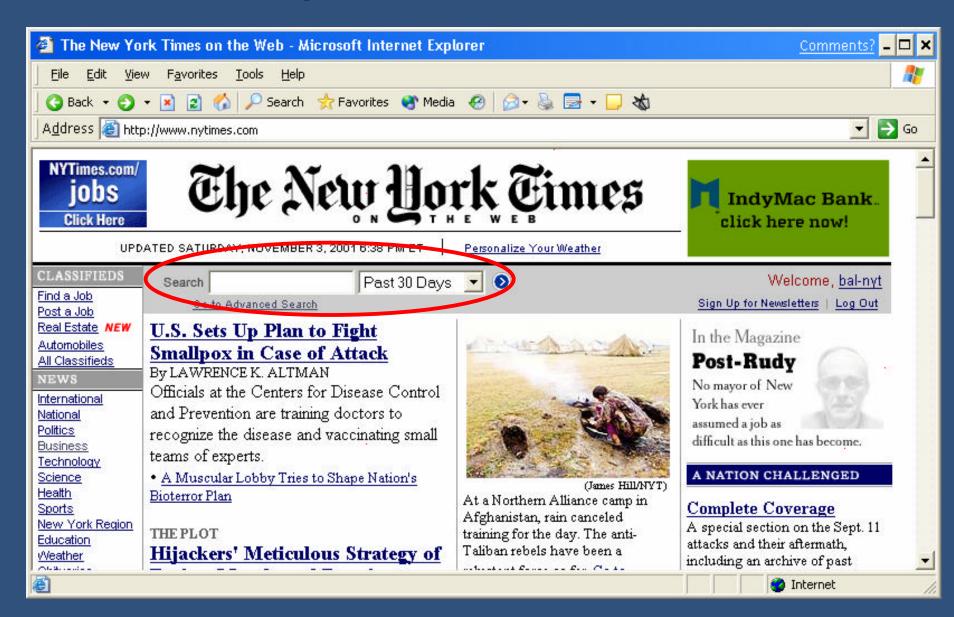
Abstraction

- We abstract & reuse useful functions all the time in programs
- Abstraction hides implementation details
- Componentization
 - We share code among programs by creating reusable software components
 - Save time coding, debugging & testing
- Reusable components have value
 - You can sell components
 - You can given them away to sell something else
 - Ex: Device drivers

Components are "local"

- Executable components must "live" on your local machine
- Not so great if the data is remote
 - Ex: Stock analysis component
 - Wants as much historical data as possible
 - Is everyone going to cache the last 100 years of the NYSE on their hard disks?
 - Ex: complex searches against the NYT archives
 - Want code to run on the server

Saved by the Web!



Web Usage Today

- Web usage today is browser-oriented
 - Users browse for information
 - Vast databases are accessed through HTML gateways & user-friendly displays
 - Example: Yahoo's stock ticker
 - Yahoo has tons of stock price history sitting behind http://quote.yahoo.com/
 - That info is easily available to anyone who browses to the right page
 - But look at how the info is presented...

Yahoo's Stock Ticker

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"Screen-scraping"

- Data is formatted for easy use by people, not programs
- Programs need to mimic users to...
 - Parse/make use of the data
 - Call server-side functions (plot a chart, compute something, perform a search, etc.)
 - "Scrape the screen"
 - Download the HTML and then pattern-match against it
 - Inefficient and fragile
 - Data type semantics are lost

We need a better mechanism for making Web-published data and component software functions available to programs

What is a Web Service?

- Software components (application logic) accessible via standard Web protocols
 - "Programming the Web"
 - Better: "remote procedure calls over the Web"
 - Web sites with no user interface
- Available to any client that speaks the necessary Web protocols (XML, SOAP)
 Platform independent components
 - Enable highly distributed systems

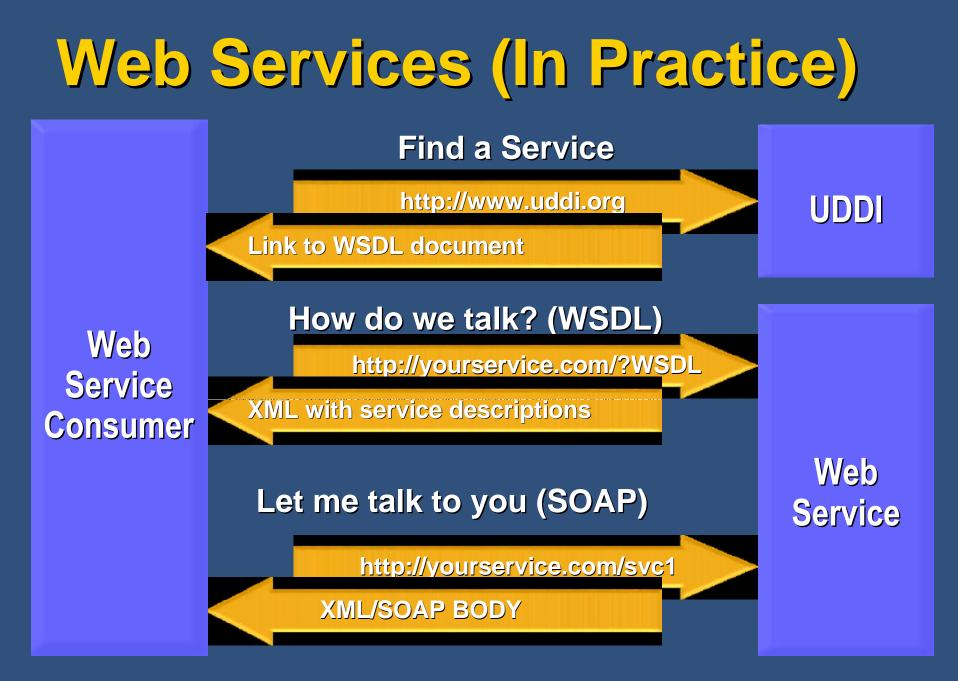
Finding & talking to Web Services

- Clients need answers to three separate questions:
 - What services are available?
 - How do I communicate with <u>this</u> particular service?
 - Let's talk! (Give me some data...)

Three Standards

- UDDI (Universal Description Discovery and Integration)
 - Yellow pages directory for services
- WSDL (Web Service Description Language)
 - Document describing the message exchange contract
- SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)

XML-based protocol for messaging
 All based on XML (the foundation)



Design-Time or Dynamic

□ Runtime

Why are Web Services interesting?

For Developers...

- Access to a "Web-wide library of software components"
- Smart development tools can...
 - Help you locate useful Web Services
 - Download Web Service descriptions (WSDL)
 - Automatically generate code to talk to the Web Service
 - On the server side, automatically generate service description for a service you write

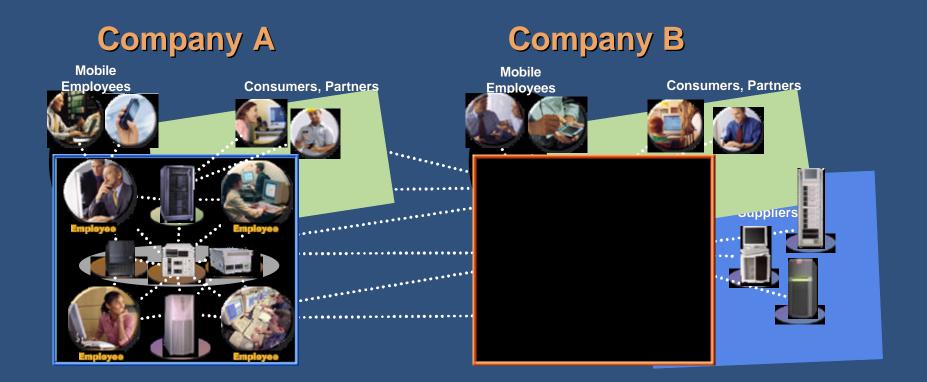
For Businesses...

Three keys to next generation applications:

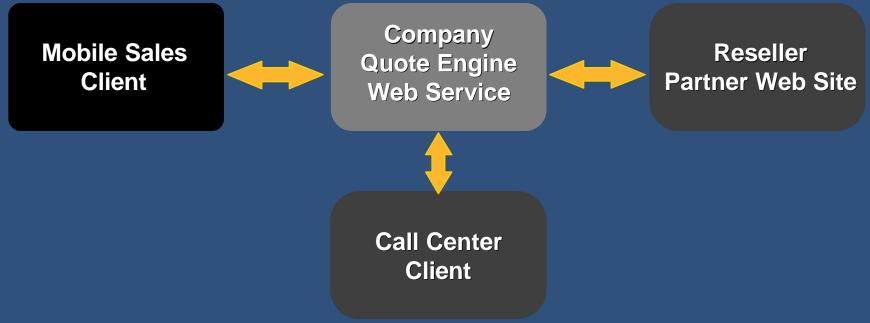
- "Any-to-Any" integration
 - Integral assumption of development
 - Must tie together "islands of data, devices, OS, businesses, people"
- Intelligent devices
 - Many types, with varying capabilities, but all speak common protocols
 - Anytime, anywhere access
 - Access and action
- Open and accessible to all
 - Open, internet based standards
 - Broad accessibility

New Applications

- Shift to decentralized/distributed
- Span multiple clients, servers, services
- Federate across organizations
- Build systems that play in larger solutions



Web Services Simple Customer Scenario



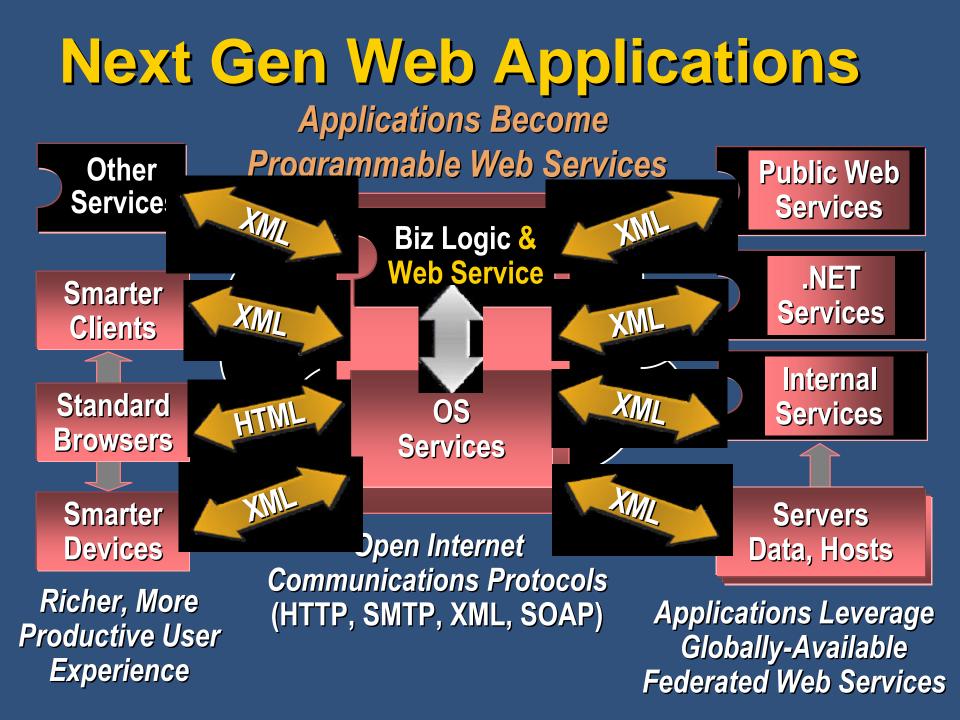
The same Web Service ...

- "Enabled" an intranet application
- "Embedded" in a mobile/offline solution
- "Published" over the Internet to a partner

What e-commerce business models do Web Services enable?

"How do I make money from Web Services?"

- Every data exchange is potentially a revenue opportunity
 - Both the raw data and the exchange/translation can have value
 - Ex: stock quotes are essentially free, but stock alerts sent to my phone have value
 - Still need someone willing to buy it
- Web Services help in two ways:
 - Increase availability of data
 - "It's on the web!"
 - Enabled clients = potential customer pool for your data



Revenue models

- Short term will likely look similar to current DRM content models
 - Subscriptions
 - Per-copy/per-transaction (depending on overall value of the copy/transaction)
 - Perhaps some metered usage
- Long term might change depending on micro-payments
- New twist: aggregating clients & services
 - There's money in creating clients that are smart about how they combine data from various services (ex: comparison shoppers)
- Prob. no advertising revenue (no eyeballs!)

What security and privacy issues need to be addressed for Web Services to be successful?

Security & Privacy

- Protocol-level
 - Integrity & secrecy of message traffic
 - Authentication
- Data-level
 - Integrity & secrecy of collected data
 - Data privacy
 - Collection/sharing of information

Integrity & secrecy of message traffic

- Need robust security protocols for SOAP messages
 - XML Digital Signature standard
 - XML Encryption standard (in process)
 - Need protocol pieces
 - Replay attack defenses, etc.
- This is all do-able, just requires effort leading to an interoperable standard
 WS-Security (MS, IBM, VeriSign)

Authentication

- We need to reliably identify the entity that is making a service request
- What's the requesting entity?
 - Could be "user," "machine" or "application" depending on context
 - What does authentication mean in each of these contexts?
- Once the entity is identified, need to determine what it's allowed to do
 → Policy engine

Protecting stored data

- Today, almost all Web sites use the "Trust us, your data is safe" method of data protection.
 - Servers holding aggregated data are prime targets for attack
 - No real incentive for services to deploy real security measures (e.g. PK crypto)
- We must design centralized data stores for per-user encrypted data
- Key management tools/UI still a problem

Data Privacy

- Control over collection & distribution of personal information
 - See Cranor's Lecture
- Essentially this is a DRM-type problem and likely require DRM-like solutions
 - Digital rights management is primarily concerned with distribution of valuable content to "untrusted" users
 - Data privacy is primarily concerned with the distribution of valuable personal data to "untrusted" centralized services.

What the heck is Microsoft's .NET Platform all about, and how does .NET relate to Web Services?

Three Pillars of .NET

1. XML Web Services

2. New Applications = Clients + Servers + Services

Microsoft"

3. Great User Experiences

Microsoft .NET A platform for distributed Web Services

Best of breed development tools for building Web Services

.NET Framework

Visual Studio .NET

Software for new "

Native support for

.NET Foundation S

Provide basic build to kick-start the ind Microsoft

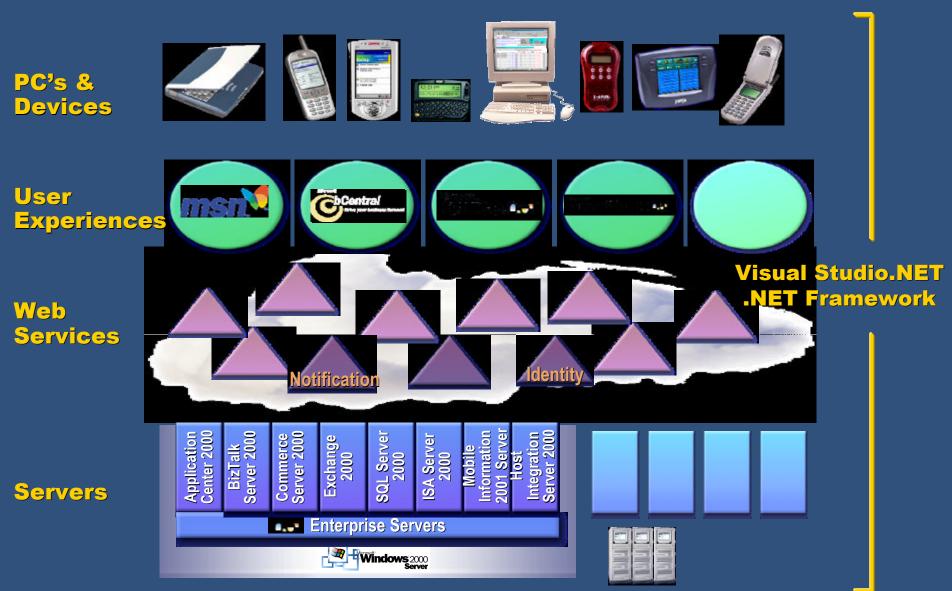
A Platform For Web Services?





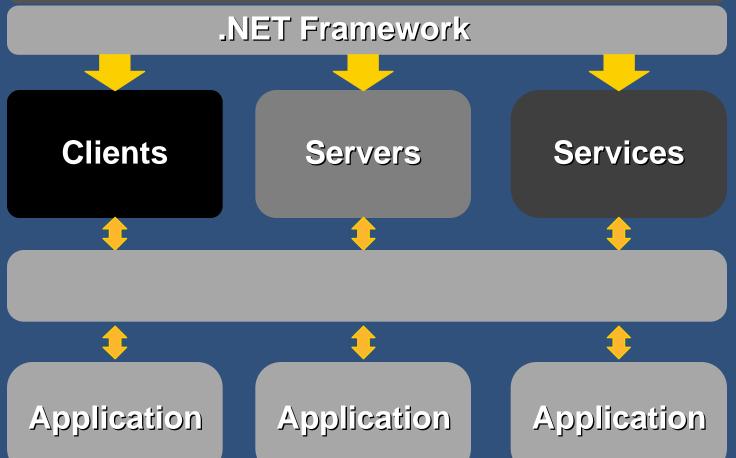


Microsoft.NET



Changing Application Architectural Model





.NET Clients New Breed of Smart Clients



Windows-powered
XML, service-aware
Work well alone or with others

.NET Foundation Services



Your Sales Data Service Your Internal Billing Service Internal Corporate Services

Passport – Identity Service
 Directory and Search Service
 Personalization Service
 Software Delivery Service
 Calendaring Service
 Schematized Storage Service
 Notification & Msg Service

Microsoft Foundation Services

Geographic Mapping Service Greenwich Mean Time Service

Credit Card Statement Service

...

Web Services Built by 3rd Parties

Summary

Web Services architecture **Componentizing web-accessible data Built on XML-based protocols** Reasons to move to Web Services Quickly tie together data islands "Any-to-Any" integration Microsoft .NET Platform Comprehensive attempt to provide all the parts needed to enable Web Services **Development tools, hosting servers,** building block services, etc.

