Configuring Async/Sync Bridge on SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration



Applies to:

SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration, release 7.31 SP4 and above.

Summary

This paper shows how to connect an asynchronous system to a synchronous system by means of an async/sync bridge. Two approaches are described: purely running within the messaging system via adapter module processor as well as via a Business Process Management (BPM) process. The underlying scenario connects a JMS broker to a Web Service. For correlating the asynchronous request and response messages we can either use payload data or leveraging the JMS adapter's correlation settings.

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Created on: 18th of December 2012

Author Bio



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Introduction

This paper describes how to connect an asynchronous system to a synchronous system by means of an async/sync bridge. This is required if you have a sender system that only supports asynchronous message processing to communicate with a purely synchronous receiver application. The async/sync bridge handles the conversion from an asynchronous message sent from the sender to the receiver into a synchronous message, and the other way round for the synchronous reply. A scenario commonly used is for instance GRC NFE (Nota Fiscal Eletronica) communicating to the Brazilian authorities. See also SAP note 1743455.

The scenario this paper refers to connects a JMS broker to a Web Service. JMS supports asynchronous communication only. A request/response model similar to synchronous communication can be implemented using a reply queue mechanism. For correlating the asynchronous request and response messages we can either use payload data or leverage the JMS adapter's correlation settings. For latter, refer to Configuring the JMS Adapter in the SAP Help Portal.

This paper refers to the how-to guide How to Correlate JMS Messages (NW7.0) where various options to implement async/sync and sync/async scenarios were discussed. Whereas the how-to guide applies to an SAP NetWeaver PI dual-stack installation option, the current paper describes the implementation on an SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration installation option. SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration runs on Java-only, and is a co-installation of the products Advanced Adapter Engine Extended (AEX), Business Process Management (BPM), and Business Rules Management (BRM). For more details, refer to the blog about Installation Options for Process Integration and Orchestration Use Cases on SCN. Other than in the how-to guide, we focus here on the async/sync case only. A similar paper describing the sync/async pattern on an SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration installation option is currently in progress and to be published soon.

We will implement two different ways to bridge the different communication modes:

- via adapter module processor
- via a BPM process

Note: Former approach is also supported on an AEX installation option, whereas latter requires BPM, and hence only runs on SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration.

Note: SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration and its tools in Eclipse are quite new for most developers. Particularly, integration developers with PI dual-stack background may not be familiar with the BPMN model environment yet. So, I decided to describe the implementation of the async/sync scenarios as detailed as possible, so that you are able to re-implement the scenarios on your own.

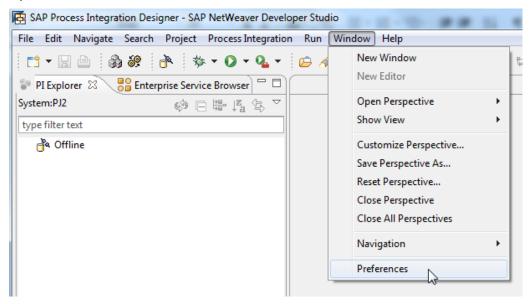
Prerequisites

System Setup

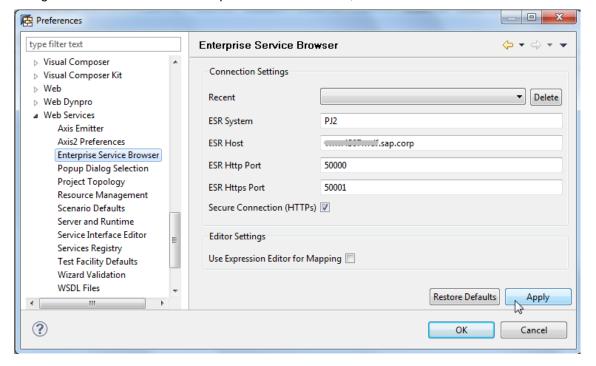
If not otherwise stated, the scenarios can be implemented on an SAP NetWeaver Process Orchestration 7.31 SP4 system. The only exception is if you like to use integrated monitoring between PI's message monitor and BPM's process monitor, i.e., navigating from message monitor to process monitor and vice versa. This will be only supported as of release 7.31 SP6.

Modeling, creation of design time artifacts, and configuration is done using the SAP NetWeaver Developer Studio (NWDS). In order to connect to the ESR and the Integration Directory, you need to setup the respective connections.

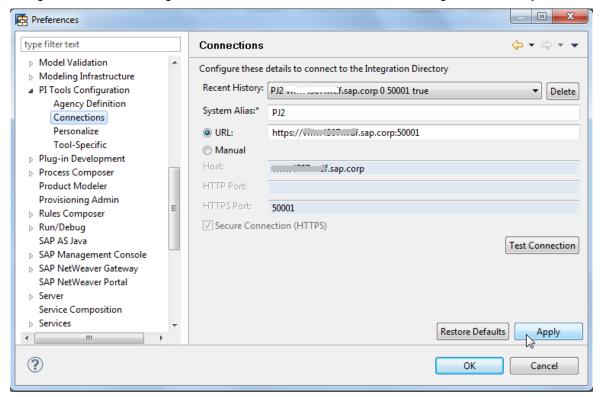
Open the NWDS, and select Window → Preferences from the main menu.



Navigate to Web Services → Enterprise Service Browser, and maintain the ESR connection.



Navigate to PI Tools Configuration → Connections, and maintain the Integration Directory connection.

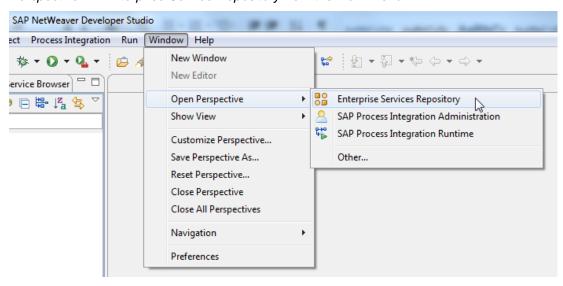


JMS Provider

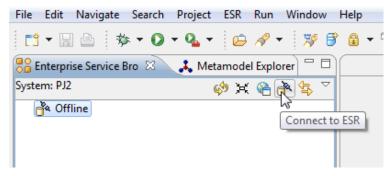
For the asynchronous communication I used SonicMQ JMS provider. You can use any other JMS provider which is supported by SAP NetWeaver PI. For more details about PI's JMS adapter, refer to Configuring the JMS Adapter in the SAP Help Portal.

ESR Objects

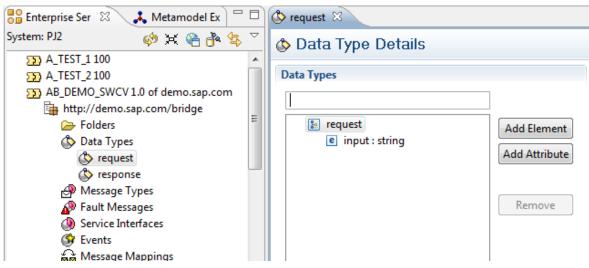
Both Implementation options discussed in this paper share the same ESR objects. To define the ESR artifacts such as data types and service interfaces, open the NWDS, and select *Window → Open Perspective -→ Enterprise Service Repository* from the main menu.



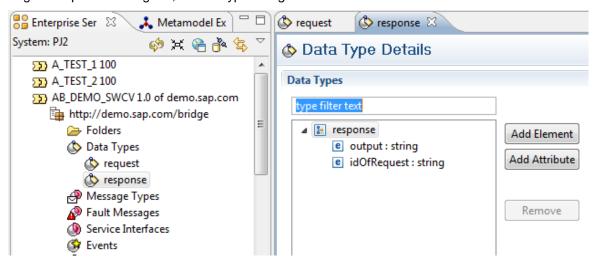
In the Enterprise Service Repository perspective, connect to the ESR via respective connection button.



For simplicity reasons, I defined minimal data type schemas. The request data type only contains an input field of type string.



The response data type contains an output field, and another field where we will map the reference to the original request message to, both of type string.

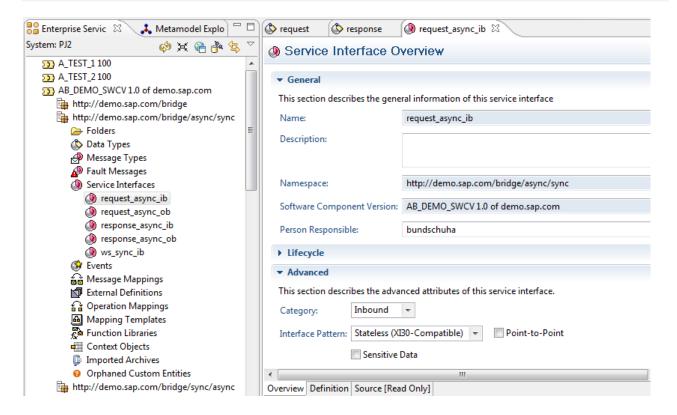


I defined five service interfaces in total.

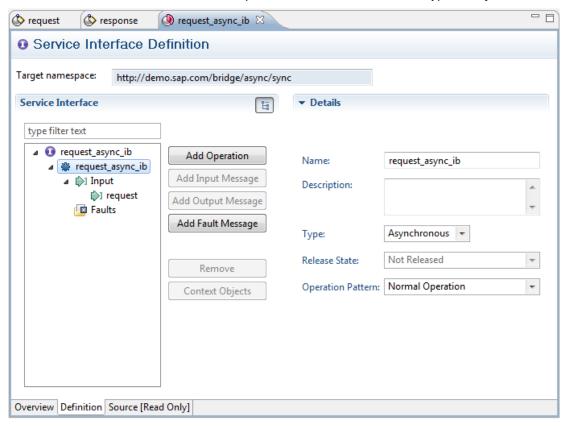
- An asynchronous inbound interface referring to data type request, here request async ib
- An asynchronous outbound interface referring to data type request, here request_async_ob
- An asynchronous inbound interface referring to data type response, here response_async_ib
- An asynchronous outbound interface referring to data type response, here response_async_ob
- A synchronous inbound interface referring to data type request as input, and data type response as output, here ws_sync_ib

Let's stick to the asynchronous request inbound interface, here *request_async_ib*, the rest of the service interfaces are defined similarly. As you can see from the figure below, the category is *Inbound*, and the interface pattern is *Stateless XI3.0 Compatible*.

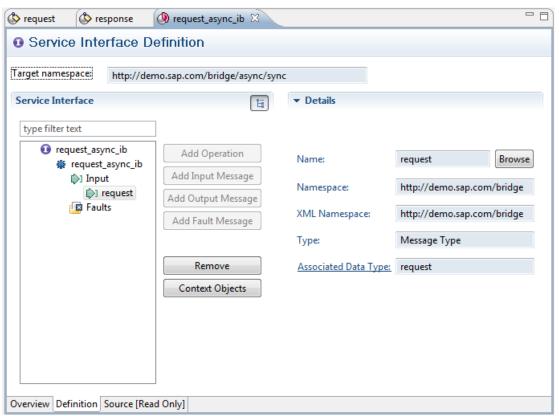
Note: For the second option, i.e., the async/sync bridge via BPM process, the inbound interface pattern needs to be Stateless XI 3.0 Compatible in order to guarantee reliable communication between BPM and AEX using the XI 3.0 protocol. Only in this case, an XI end point will be created. Since we do not use multiple operations in those scenarios anyway, we can choose Stateless XI 3.0 Compatible pattern for all interfaces used here.



Switch to tab Definition, and select the operation. You can see that the type is Asynchronous.



Expand the operation node. This shows you the message type and the associated data type.



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Async/Sync Bridge by means of the adapter module processor

The asynchronous JMS request and response messages are mapped to a synchronous call by means of the module processor. The overall communication sequence looks like this (compare Figure 1): an asynchronous request message is converted to a synchronous request in the module processor. The synchronous system sends a response which is converted to an asynchronous response message in the module processor which is then passed back to the original sender.

Other than described in the how-to guide, we add the required modules in the SOAP receiver adapter rather than the JMS sender adapter. The advantage is that within the messaging system of the AEX the communication is asynchronously and hence reliable. If the synchronous call fails, the asynchronous request message will go into an error. The message is persisted, and normal retry mechanisms apply, hence the synchronous call will be carried out again until it succeeds. Since the response message is purely asynchronous, it is reliable as well.

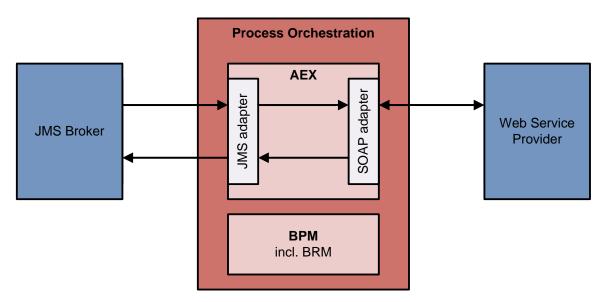


Figure 1: Message flow for async/sync scenario by means of the adapter module processor

To implement the scenario, we need to define two Integration Flows. One for routing the request message from the JMS broker to the Web Service provider, and one for routing back the response message.

In order to correlate the response message to the request message, the correlation settings of the JMS adapter are applied, i.e., the JMS Message ID of the request message is put into the JMS Correlation ID of the response message using the PI Conversation ID. See also Configuring Async/Sync and Sync/Async Bridge in the JMS Adapter on the SAP Help Portal.

Note: The async/sync bridge as such can be implemented even without setting up the JMS correlation. The JMS correlation setting is only used to link the response message to the original request message. A use case might be that the original sender would like to check if a response to a specific request has already been received. So, we add the JMS Message ID of the original request message to the JMS header, i.e., the JMS Correlation ID, of the response. You may like to set up the scenario using a protocol other than JMS which also supports asynchronous communication, for instance via file adapter. In this case, you can just ignore the JMS correlation specific settings.

At a glance, the following settings have to be made:

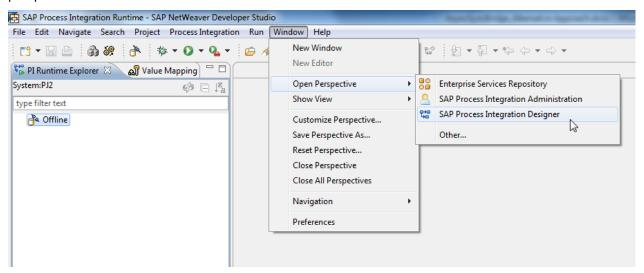
- Create an Integration Flow from JMS broker to Web Service provider
 - Correlation settings in the JMS sender communication channel: Set the PI Conversation ID to the JMS Message ID
 - Add module AF_Modules/RequestResponseBean at the beginning of the module chain of the SOAP receiver channel to convert the asynchronous request message to a synchronous request message

- Add module AF_Modules/ResponseOnewayBean at the end of the module chain of the SOAP receiver channel to convert the synchronous response message to an asynchronous response message, and to pass the response message to the second Integration Flow
- Create an Integration Flow from Web Service provider to JMS broker
 - Correlation settings in the JMS receiver communication channel: Set the JMS Correlation ID to the PI Conversation ID

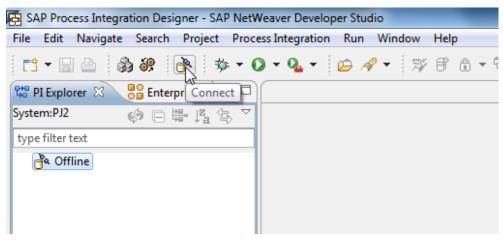
Note: In this paper, the configuration is mainly done in the SAP NetWeaver Developer Studio (NWDS) using the new User Interfaces in Eclipse such as the SAP Process Integration Designer perspective to model the Integration Flows. Once you deploy an Integration Flow, a corresponding Integrated Configuration Object (ICO) is created in the Integration Directory. Furthermore, the approach via the module processors is also supported on a PI dual-stack system from release 7.11 on. You may like to implement the approach on the Advanced Adapter Engine of a dual-stack PI system however Integration Flows are not supported on a PI dual-stack system. For this reason, I have added at the end of this chapter screenshots of the corresponding ICOs.

Integration Flow from JMS broker to Web Service Provider

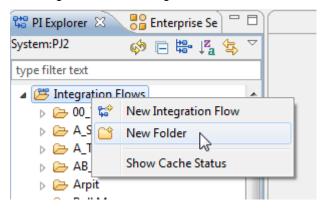
Start the NetWeaver Developer Studio (NWDS), and open the SAP Process Integration Designer perspective.



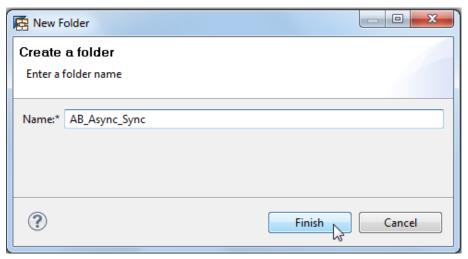
Connect to the Integration Directory (prerequisite is that you have maintained the connection details, see above).



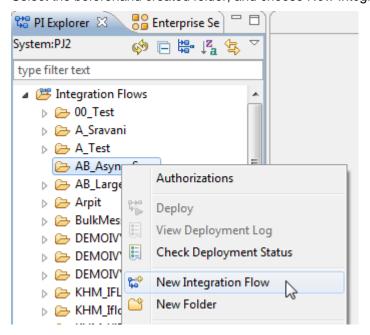
Once you are connected, you see a list of all Integration Flows configured on your system. We like to group our Integration Flows using folders. From the context menu, select entry *New Folder*.



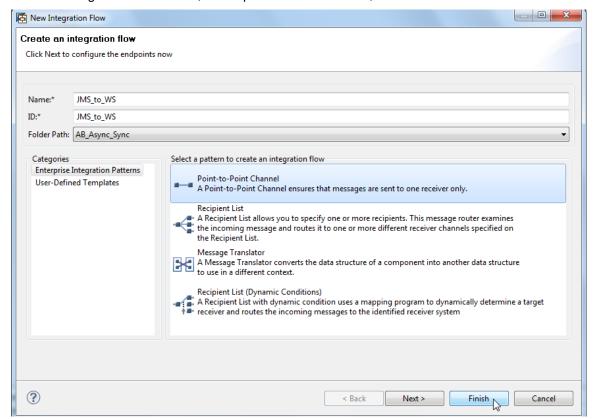
Enter a folder name, here AB_Async_Sync, and click on Finish.



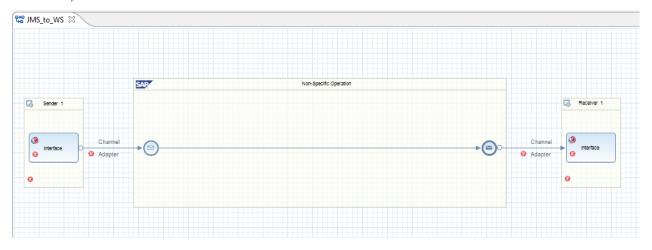
Select the beforehand created folder, and choose New Integration Flow entry from the context menu.



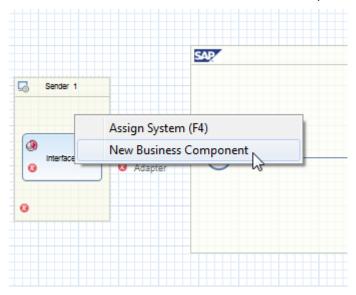
Enter an Integration Flow name, select pattern Point-to-Point, and click on Finish.



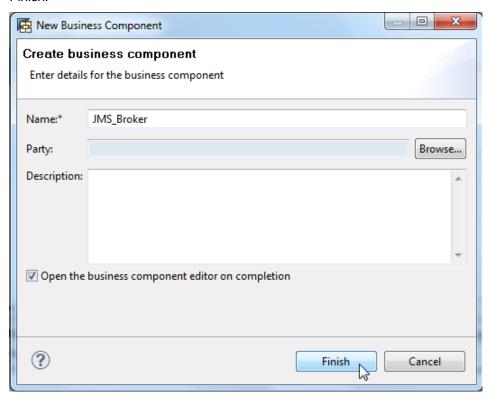
A new Integration Flow will be created. When you run a consistency check (key F7), you get displayed which configuration is missing, i.e., you need to assign sender and receiver systems, assign sender and receiver interfaces, and maintain sender and receiver channels.



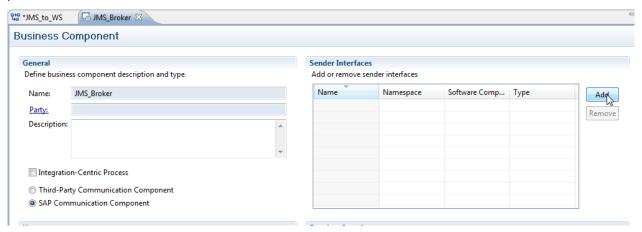
Let's start with the sender system. We can either assign an existing system or create a new one. Right-click on the *Sender 1* box, and select *New Business Component* from the context menu.



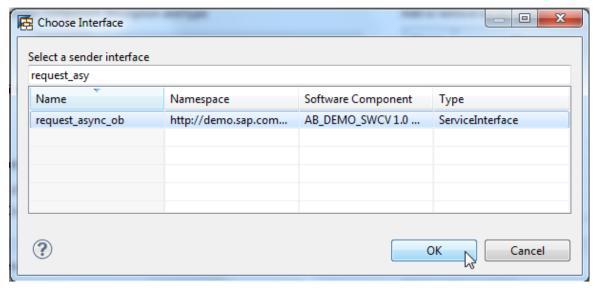
Enter a business component name, here **JMS_Broker**. Select the *Open the business component editor on completion* flag. This ensures that the business component editor comes up automatically. Then click on *Finish*.



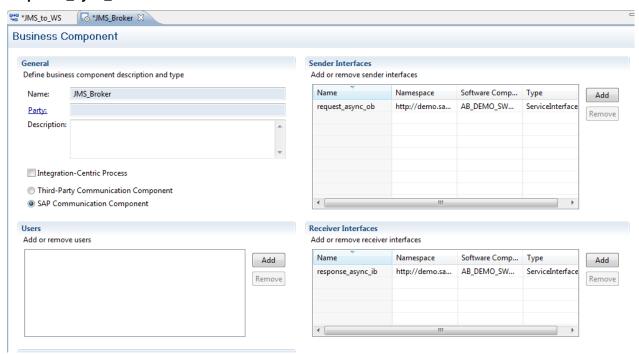
In the business component editor you need to add sender and receiver interfaces. In the *Sender Interfaces* pane, click on button *Add*.



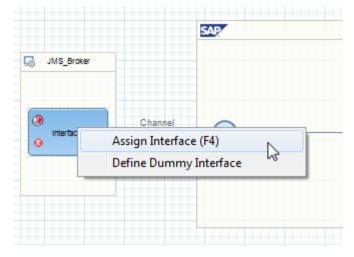
Search for and select the asynchronous outbound interface of the request message which has been created beforehand in the ESR, here **request_async_ob**, and click on *OK*.



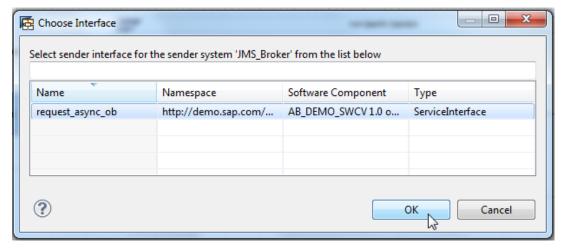
Afterwards, add the asynchronous inbound interface of the response message as receiver interface, here **response_aync_ib**.



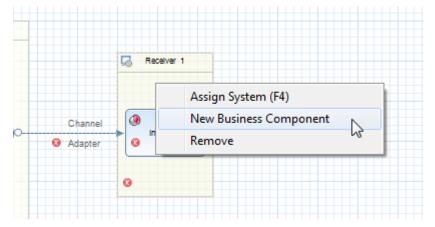
Next, assign the sender interface to the Integration Flow. Right-click on the *Interface* box, and select entry *Assign Interface* from the context menu.



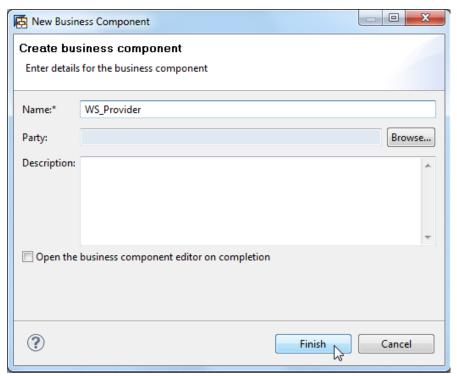
Select the beforehand added sender interface, and click on OK.



Similar to the previous steps, create a new receiver business component.

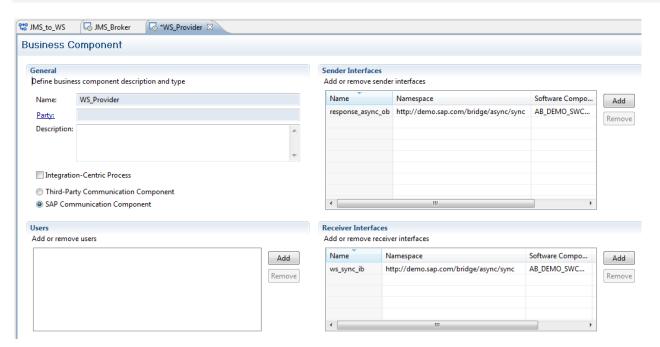


Maintain a name, here WS_Provider, and click on Finish.

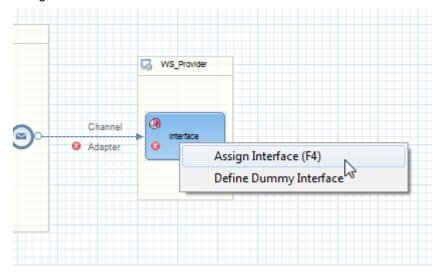


In the business component editor, add sender interface and receiver interface. As sender interface, add the asynchronous response outbound interface, here **response_async_ob**. As receiver interface, add the synchronous web service inbound interface, here **ws_sync_ib**.

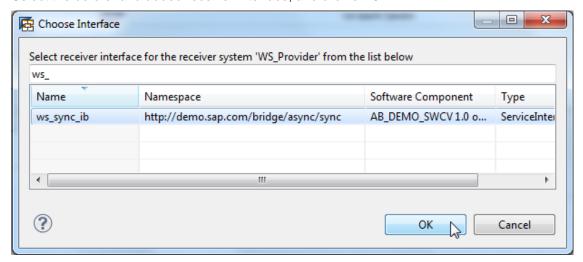
Note: The receiver interface chosen is of mode synchronous since a synchronous Web Service should be called. The sender interface however is of mode asynchronous since once the synchronous response has been received, it is converted into an asynchronous response which is then passed to the original sender of the request message.



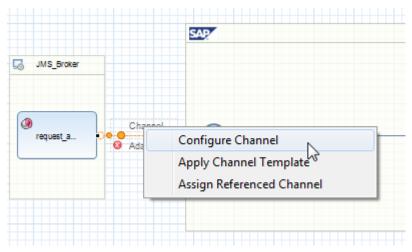
Assign the receiver interface.



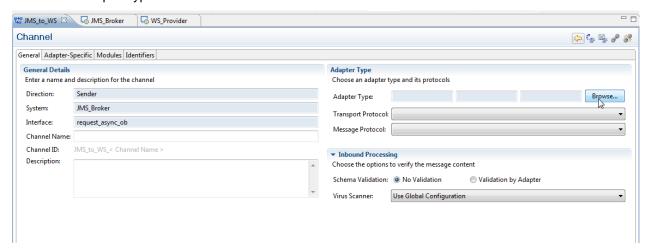
Select the beforehand added receiver interface, and click on OK.



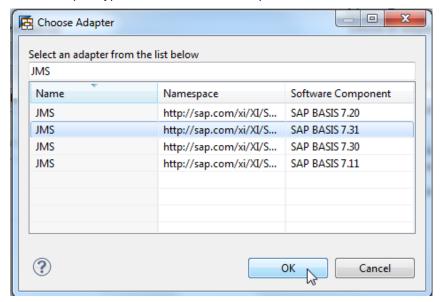
Next, we need to maintain the channels. Select the connection between the sender component and the Integration Flow pool, and select *Configure Channel* from the context menu.



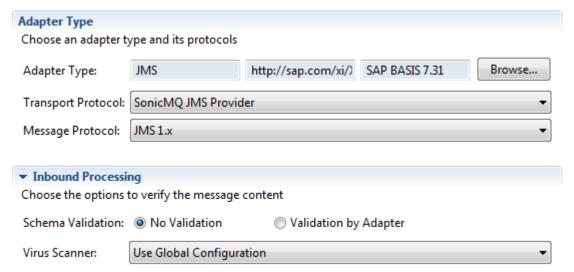
Choose an adapter type. Click on button Browse.



Select adapter type JMS of Software Component Version SAP BASIS 7.31, and click on OK.

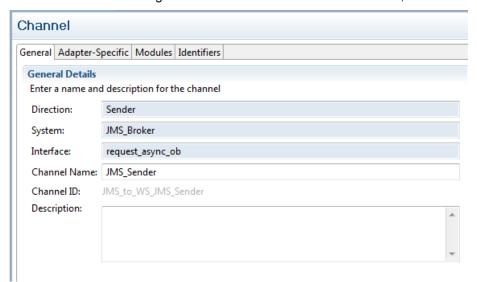


Depending on the JMS provider you use, select a transport protocol. In our case, we used SonicMQ.

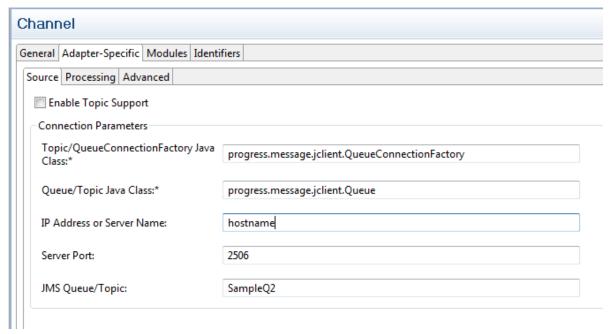


SAP COMMUNITY NETWORK

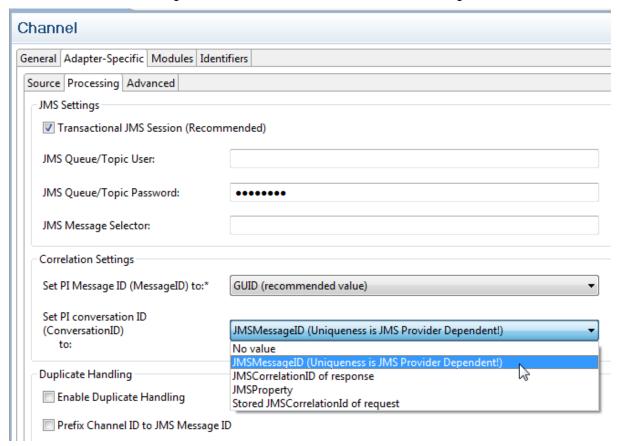
Maintain a channel name. The name has to be unique within the Integration Flow. The channel ID is a concatenation of the Integration Flow name and the channel name, and hence unique within your system.



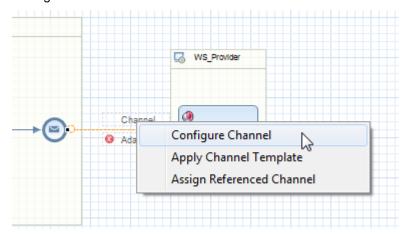
Switch to tab *Adapter-Specific*, and maintain server name, server port, and JMS queue name. For latter we used **SampleQ2**.



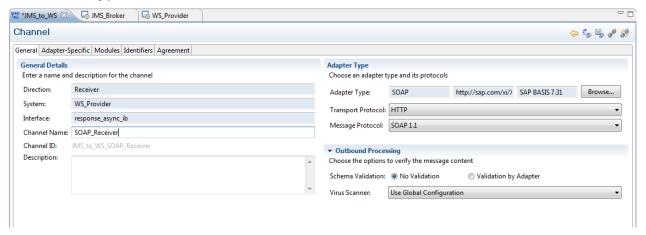
Switch to sub tab Processing. Set the PI Conversation ID to the JMS Message ID.



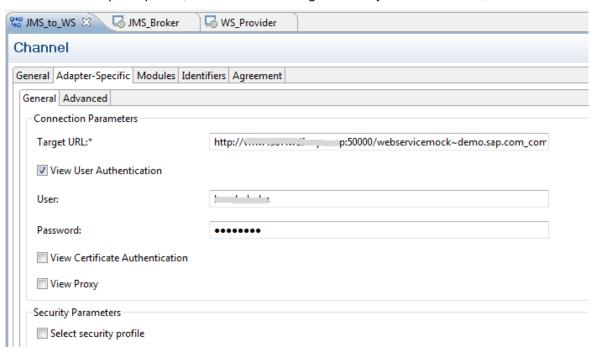
Configure the receiver channel.



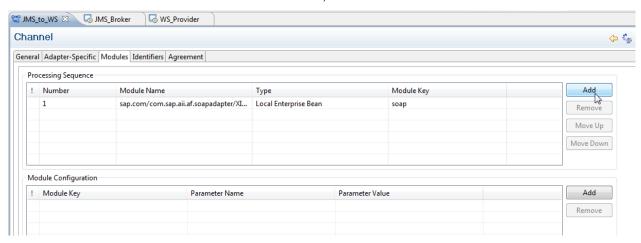
On the receiver side, we will call a web service, so choose adapter type *SOAP*, and maintain a channel name accordingly.



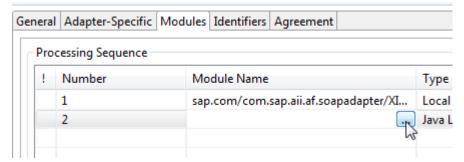
Switch to tab Adapter-Specific, and maintain the target URL of your Web Service, and user credentials.



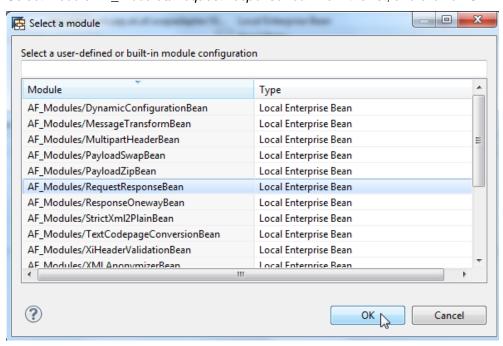
The conversion from asynchronous to synchronous communication will happen in the SOAP adapter, so we have to add the modules here. Switch to tab *Modules*, and add a new module.



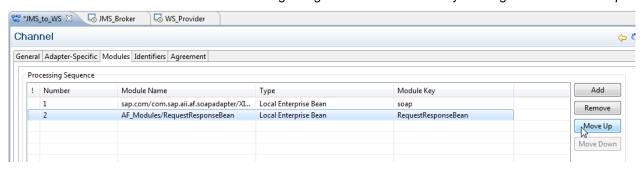
A new row is added. Click on the F4 help.



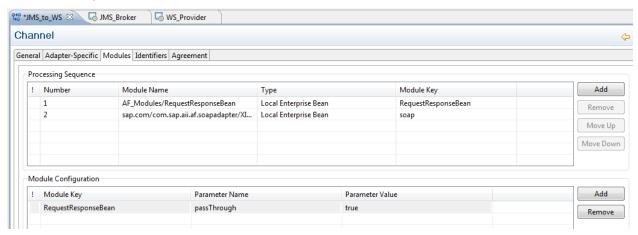
Select module AF_Modules/RequestResponseBean from the list, and click on OK.



Move the beforehand added module to the beginning of the module chain by clicking on button Move Up.



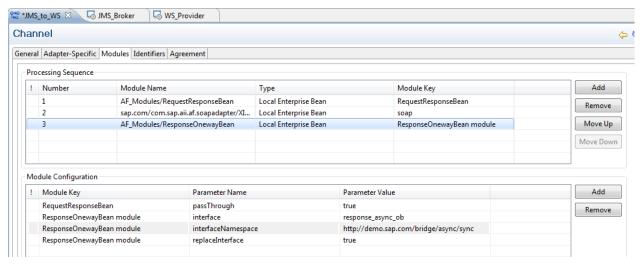
Maintain parameter passThrough with value true. The asynchronous request message is converted to a synchronous request message, and passed to the next module in sequence, i.e., the standard module calling the SOAP adapter.



Similar to the previous steps, add module AF Modules/ResponseOnewayBean. Leave the module at the end of the module chain. Maintain following parameters as follows:

Interface = name of the asynchronous response interface, here response_async_ob interfaceNamespace = corresponding namespace, here http://demo.sap.com/bridge/async/sync replaceInterface = true

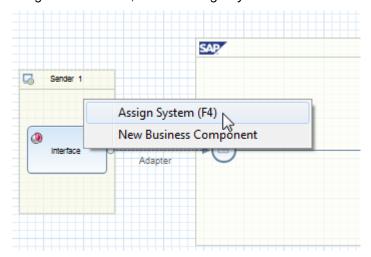
The synchronous response message is converted to an asynchronous message, and passed to the Integration Flow indicated by the parameters specified above. It is implicitly assumed that the sender component of the response message is the receiver component of the request message, i.e., the Web Service provider. The replaceInterface parameter being set to true ensures that the synchronous inbound interface is replaced by the asynchronous outbound interface.



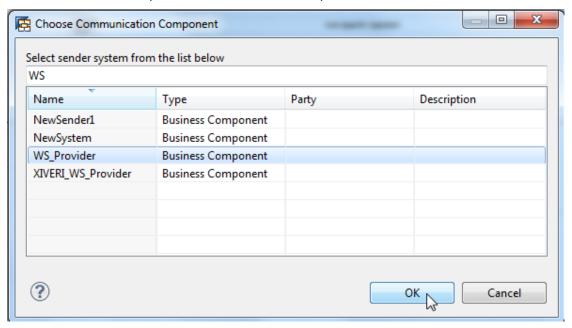
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Integration Flow from Web Service Provider to JMS broker

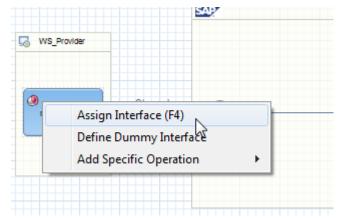
Create a second Integration Flow for routing the response message from the Web Service Provider to the JMS broker. We already have created the required business components when configuring the first Integration Flow. So, choose *Assign System* from the context menu.



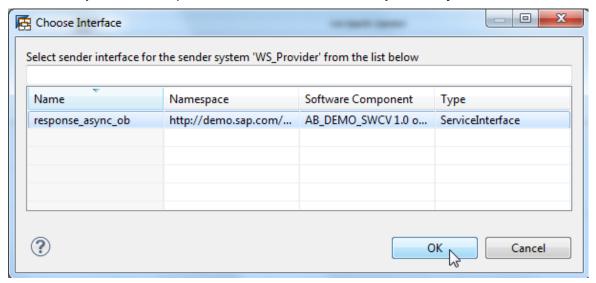
Select the Web Service provider communication component, and click on OK.



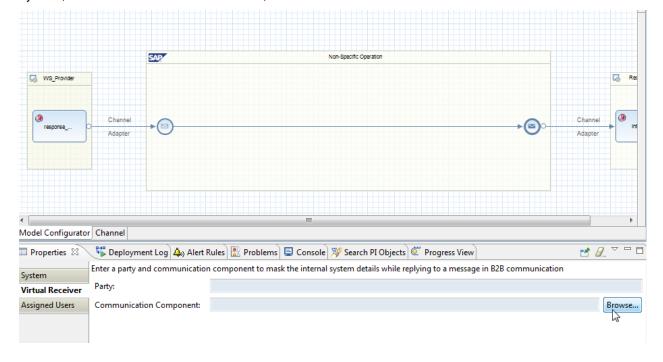
Assign a sender interface.



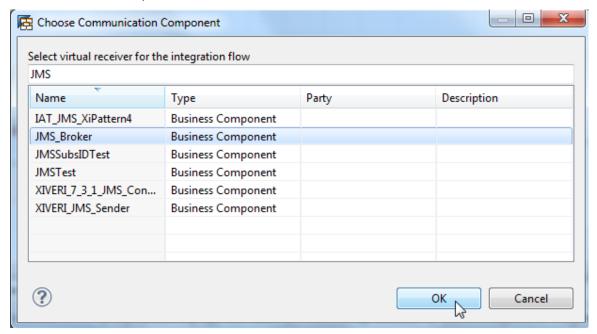
Select the asynchronous response outbound interface, here response_async_ob, and click on OK.



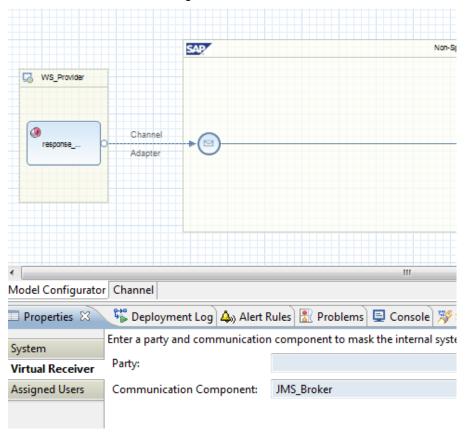
The AF_Modules/ResponseOnewayBean module that we added in the previous Integration Flow assumes that the sender of the request message is the receiver of the response message, and hence we have to define the JMS broker as virtual receiver. Pick the sender system. In the *Properties* pane of the sender system, switch to the *Virtual Receiver* tab, and click on *Browse*.



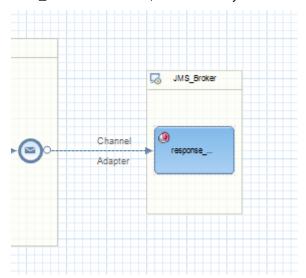
Select the JMS broker, and click on OK.



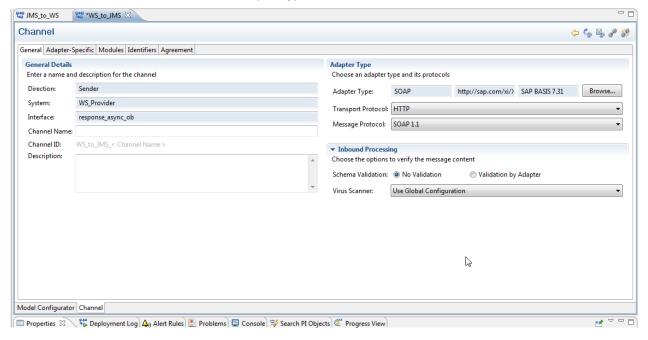
The result can be seen from figure below.



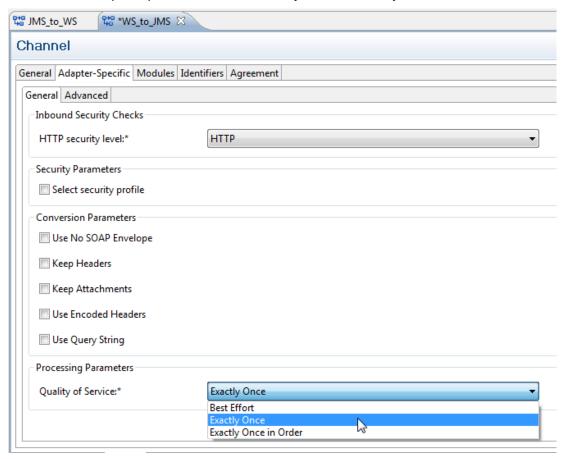
Maintain receiver business component and receiver interface. For former, select the JMS broker, here **JMS_Broker**. For latter, select the asynchronous response inbound interface, here **response_async_ib**.



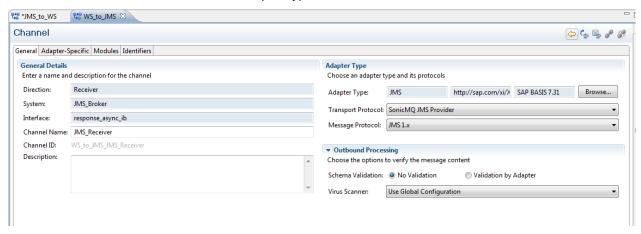
Maintain the sender channel. Choose adapter type SOAP.



Switch to tab Adapter-Specific, and select Exactly Once as Quality as Service.

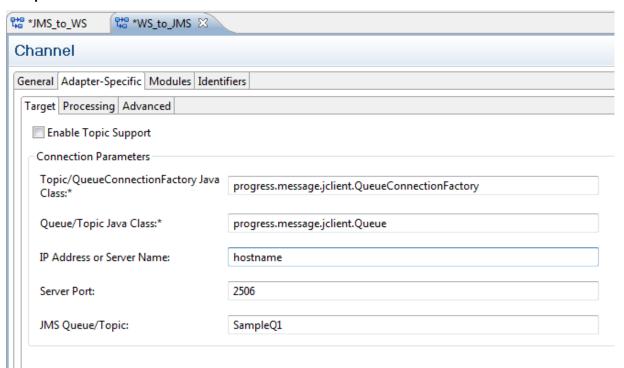


Maintain the receiver channel. Choose adapter type JMS.

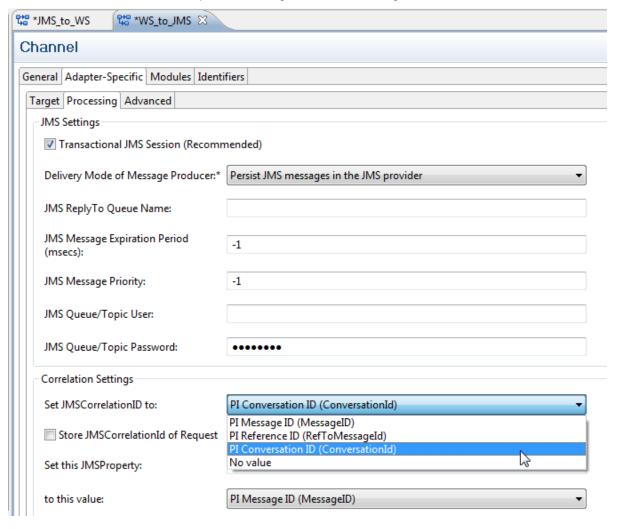


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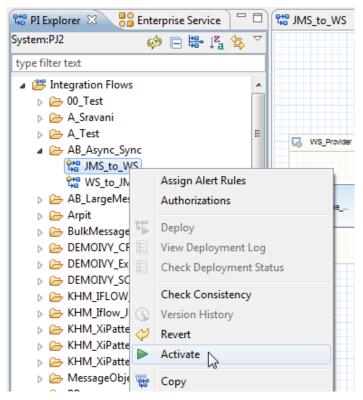
Switch to tab *Adapter-Specific*, and maintain server name, server port, and JMS queue name, here **SampleQ1**.



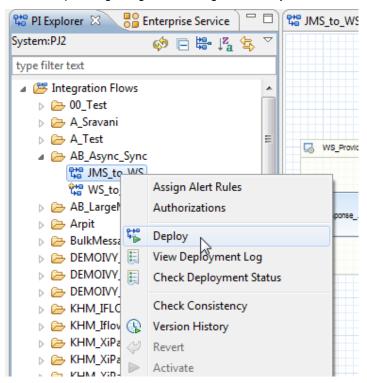
Switch to sub tab *Processing*. Set the *JMS Correlation ID* to the *PI Conversation ID*. Since we kept the JMS message ID of the original JMS request message in the PI conversation ID, we are able pass the same to the JMS correlation ID of the response message hence correlating both to each other.



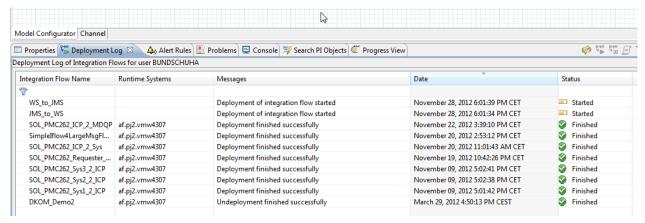
Finally, we need to activate and deploy both Integration Flows. For each Integration Flow created, select entry *Activate* from the context menu. This will store the Integration Flow objects in the Directory.



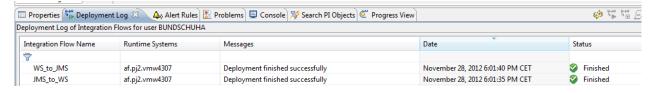
For each Integration Flow created, select entry *Deploy* from the context menu. This will create and activate the corresponding Integrated Configuration Object and channels in the Directory.



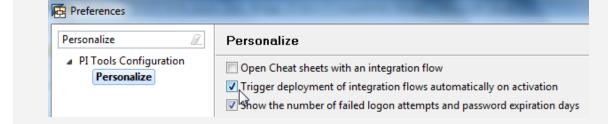
In the deployment log at the bottom, you get displayed the status of the deployment.



Once finished, the runtime objects have been created.



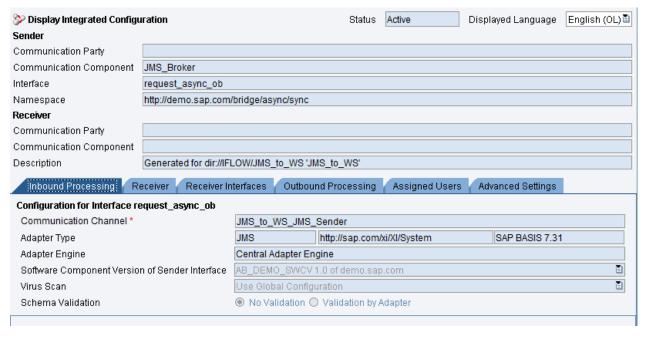
Note: You may prefer to activate and deploy the Integration Flow objects in one go. This can be customized in the Preferences. Open the Preferences, go to PI Tools Configuration → Personalize, and select the Trigger deployment of integration flows automatically on activation check box.



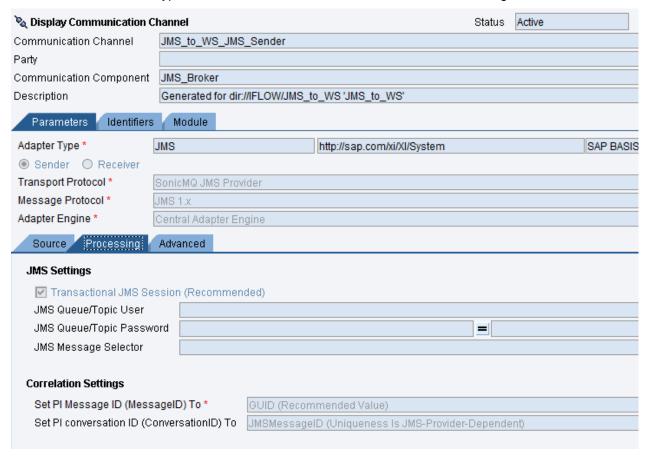
Integrated Configuration Objects in Integration Directory

Let's take a look at the objects which have been created in the Integration Directory. For each Integration Flow, an Integrated Configuration Object (ICO) and two channels have been created. From the description you can see that the ICO has been generated based on an Integration Flow.

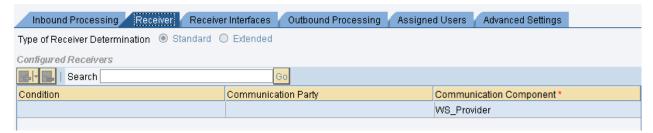
The first ICO defines the routing from the JMS broker to the Web Service provider. In the *Inbound Processing*, the JMS sender channel is specified.



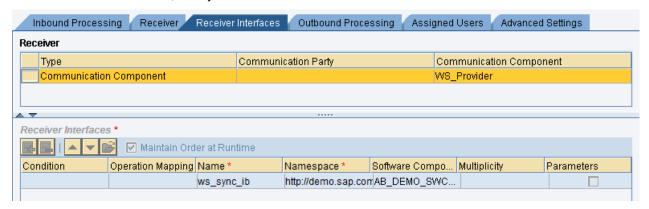
In the sender channel of type JMS, the PI Conversation ID is set to the JMS Message ID.



On tab Receiver of the ICO, the Web Service Provider is defined as receiver communication component.



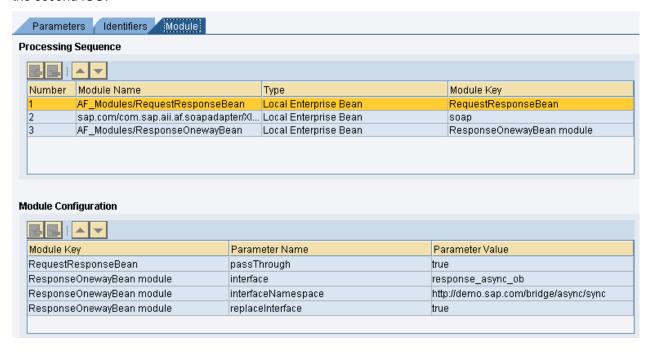
On tab Receiver Interfaces, the synchronous Web Service inbound interface is set.



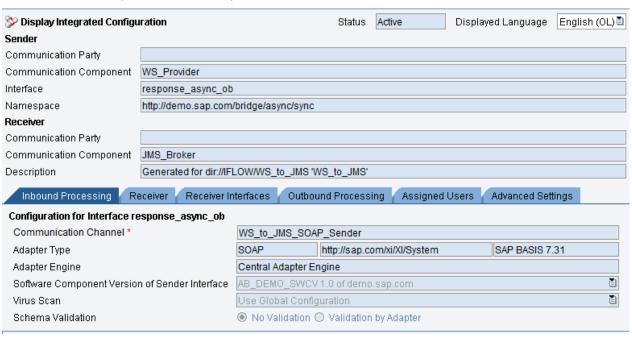
On tab Outbound Processing, the SOAP receiver channel is specified.



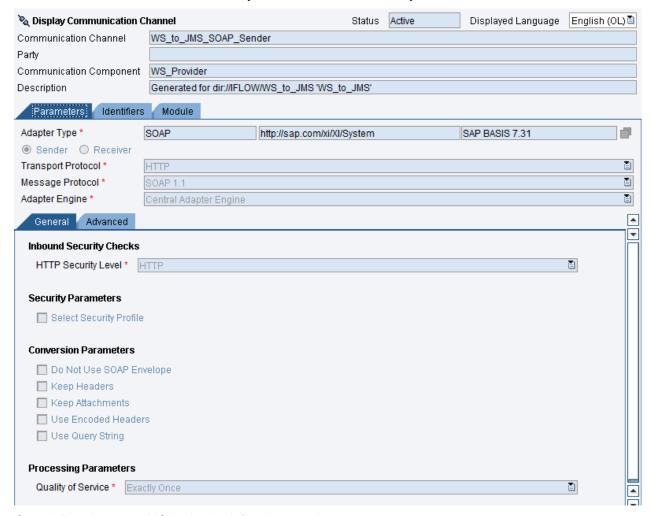
In the SOAP receiver channel, the modules $AF_Modules/RequestResponseBean$ and $AF_Modules/ResponseOnewayBean$ are defined in the right sequence. The specified parameters point to the second ICO.



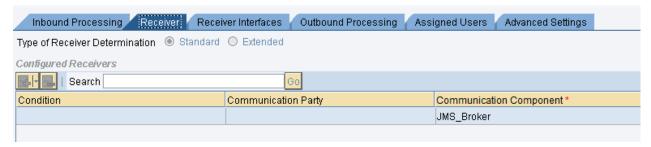
The second ICO defines the routing from the Web Service provider to the JMS broker. In the *Inbound Processing*, the SOAP sender channel is defined. Note, that in the header of the ICO the JMS broker communication component has to be specified as virtual receiver.



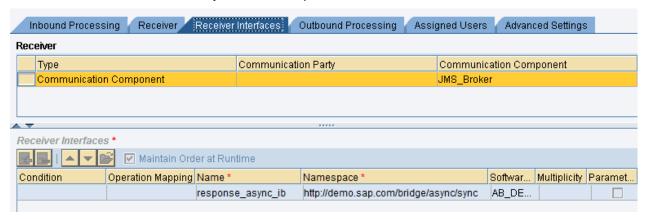
In the SOAP sender channel, the Quality of Service is set as Exactly Once.



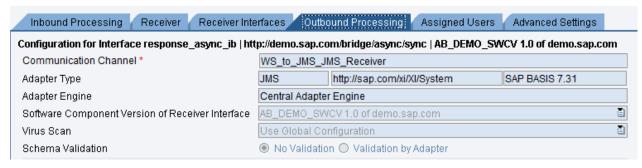
On tab Receiver, the JMS broker is defined as receiver.



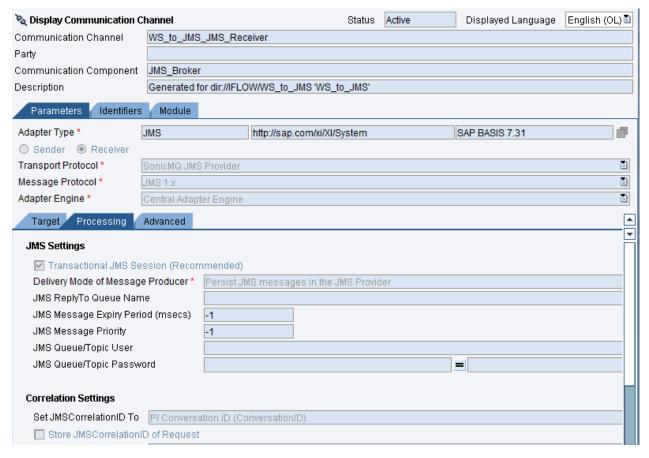
On tab Receiver Interfaces, the asynchronous response inbound interface is defined as receiver interface.



On tab Outbound Processing, the JMS receiver channel is set.



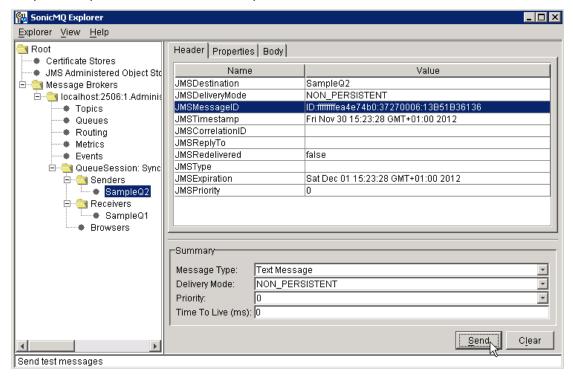
In the JMS receiver channel, the JMS Correlation ID is set to the PI Conversation ID.



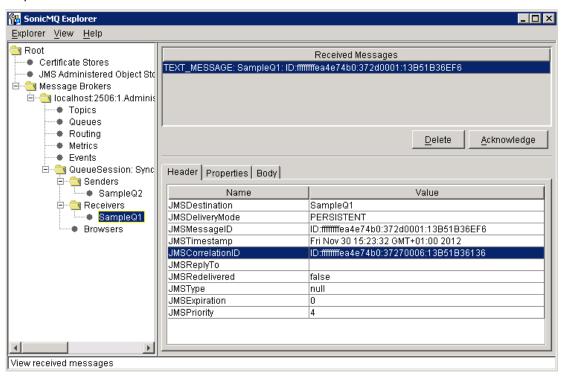
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Runtime

In the *SonicMQ Explorer*, we put a request message into the *SampleQ2* queue where it is read from the JMS adapter, and passed to the Web Service provider.



The synchronous response of the web service call is converted into an asynchronous response message, and put into the *SampleQ1* queue. The link between the original request message and the response message is done via the JMS message ID of the request which is stored in the JMS correlation ID of the response.



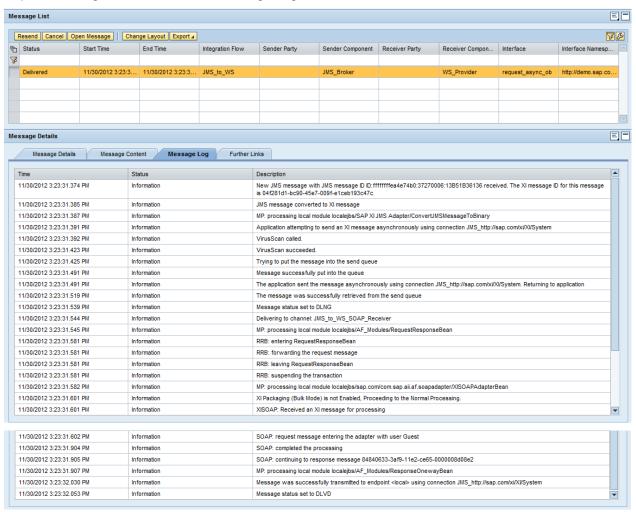
To monitor the test run, navigate to the Configuration and Monitoring Home page from the Process Orchestration landing page.



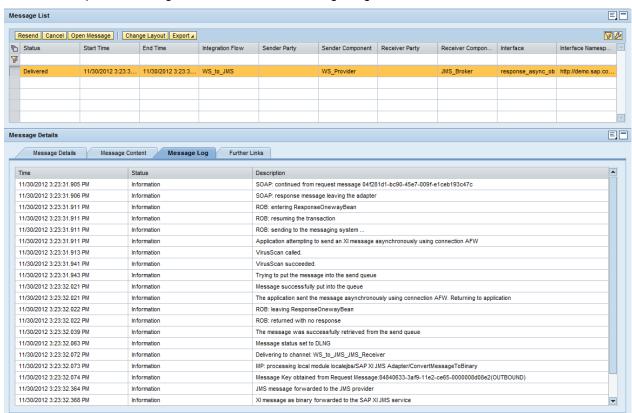
From here, you have access to all relevant monitors. Switch to tab Monitoring, sub tab Adapter Engine, and select link Message Monitor.



In the message monitor, you can display the message log of the request message and the response message. You can see from the message log in which sequence the modules were processed. Select the request message, and switch to tab *Message Log*.



Select the response message, and switch to tab Message Log.



Switch to tab *Message Content*, and select the *Main* part of the SOAP header.



The Conversation ID holds the JMS message ID of the request message.

```
_ D X
Web Browser
  <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8" ?>
- <sap:Main xmlns:SOAP="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
    xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" xmlns:SOAP-
    ENV="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/"
    xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
    xmlns:sap="http://sap.com/xi/XI/Message/30" versionMajor="3" versionMinor="1" SOAP-
    ENV:mustUnderstand="1">
    <sap:MessageClass>ApplicationMessage</sap:MessageClass>
    <sap:ProcessingMode>asynchronous
    <sap:MessageId>84840633-3af9-11e2-ce65-0000008d08e2</sap:MessageId>
    <sap:ConversationId>ID:fffffffea4e74b0:37270006:13B51B36136<p
    <sap:TimeSent>2012-11-30T14:23:31Z</sap:TimeSent>
  - <sap:Sender>
      <sap:Party agency="http://sap.com/xi/XI" scheme="XIParty" />
      <sap:Service>WS_Provider</sap:Service>
    </sap:Sender>
  - <sap:Receiver>
     <sap:Party agency="http://sap.com/xi/XI" scheme="XIParty" />
     <sap:Service>JMS_Broker</sap:Service>
    </sap:Receiver>
    <sap:Interface</pre>
     namespace="http://demo.sap.com/bridge/async/sync">response_async_ob</sap:Interface>
  </sap:Main>
```

Async/Sync Bridge by means of BPM process

The asynchronous JMS request and response messages are mapped to a synchronous call by means of a BPM Process. An asynchronous request message is sent to the Business Process Engine triggering a new process instance. Within the process, a synchronous call is carried out. The synchronous response is then mapped to the asynchronous response message and passed back to the original sender.

The asynchronous messages are reliably exchanged between AEX and BPM via Java Proxy runtime based on the XI 3.0 protocol. The synchronous Web Service call can be directly called from within the BPM process. Since synchronous calls are of Quality of Service Best Effort anyway, the communication does not necessarily need to go via the AEX.

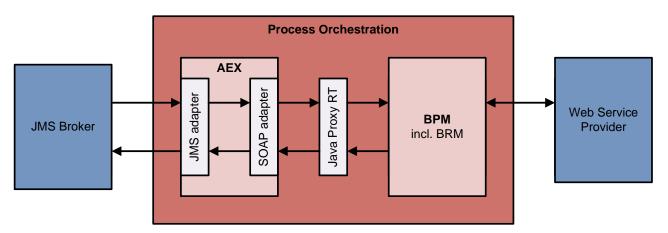


Figure 2: Message flow for async/sync scenario by means of a BPM process

To implement the scenario, beside the BPM process, we need to define two Integration Flows. One for routing the request message from the JMS broker to the BPM process, and one for routing back the response message.

The correlation between the response message and the request message is based on payload data. In the BPM process we map any unique ID of the request context to the response.

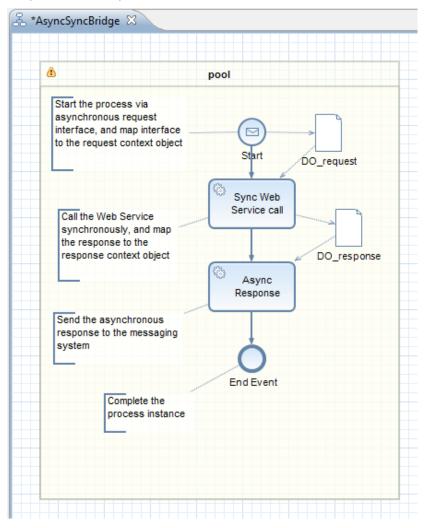
At a glance, the following settings have to be made:

- Create a BPM process acting as async/sync broker
- Create an Integration Flow from the JMS broker to the BPM process
- Create an Integration Flow from the BPM process to the JMS broker
- Configure the service group of the synchronous Web Service call

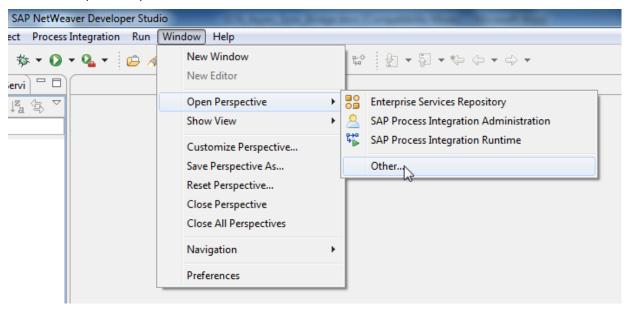
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BPM process definition

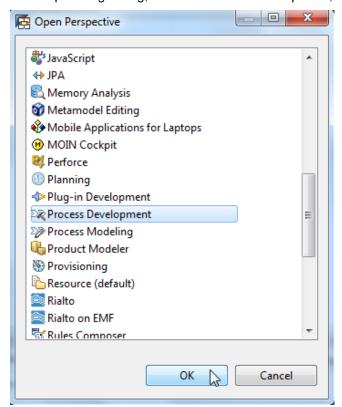
We start the implementation by modeling the BPM process as shown in figure below. The process begins with a message start event. The trigger of the message start event refers to the asynchronous request inbound interface which is then mapped to the *DO_request* process context object holding the payload data. The next step is an automated activity (service task) calling the synchronous Web Service. The response of the Web Service call is then mapped to the *DO_response* process context object. In the second automated activity, the asynchronous response interface is called to pass the response message to the AEX. Finally, the process is completed via an end event.



So, let's model the BPM process step by step. In the NWDS, we have to change the perspective. Select $Window \rightarrow Open\ Perspective \rightarrow Other...$ from the main menu.



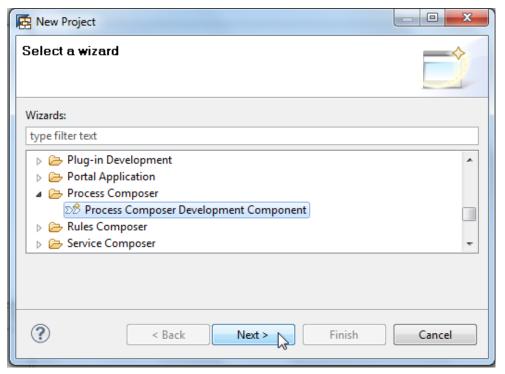
In the upcoming dialog, choose Process Development, and click on OK.



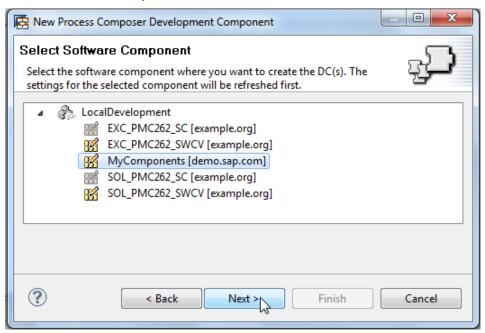
Create a new project. Select *File* → *New* → *Project...* from the main menu.



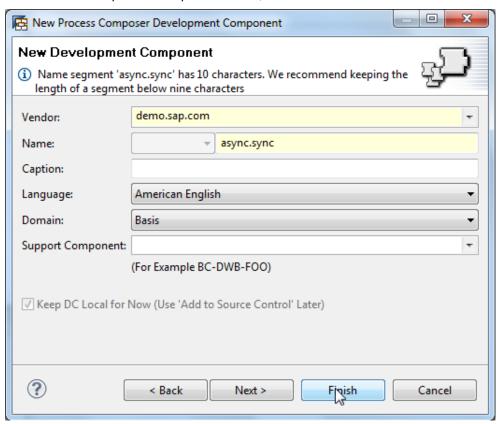
Select entry Process Composer Development Component, and click on Next.



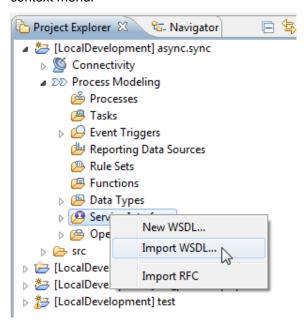
Select a Software Component, and click on Next.



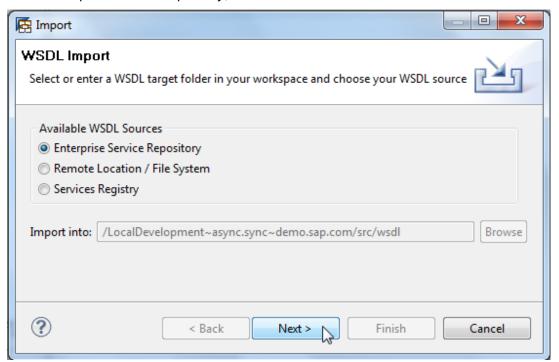
Maintain a Development Component name, and click on Finish.



First, we will import the required service interfaces from the ESR. Expand the project structure in the *Project Explorer* navigation pane, and navigate to the *Service Interfaces* node. Select *Import WSDL...* from the context menu.



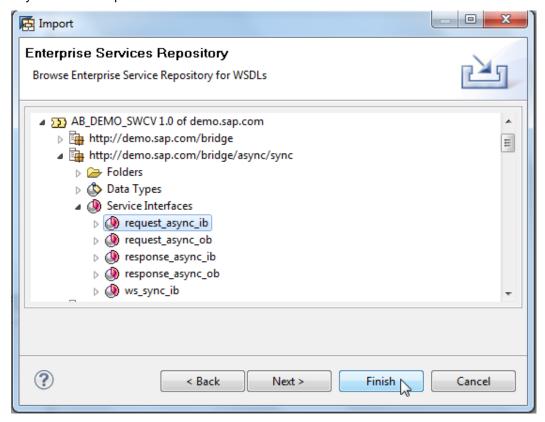
Select Enterprise Service Repository, and click on Next.



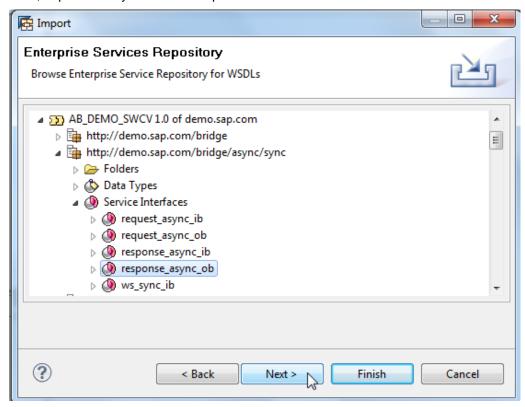
Logon to the ESR.



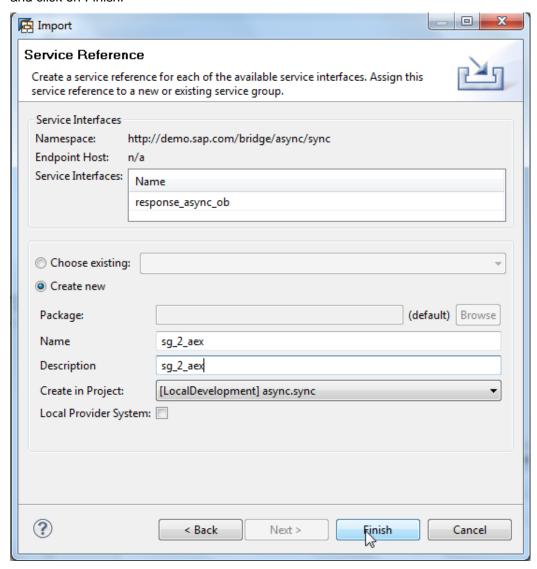
Expand the Service Interfaces node below the respective Software Component Version, and select the asynchronous request inbound interface. Click on Finish.



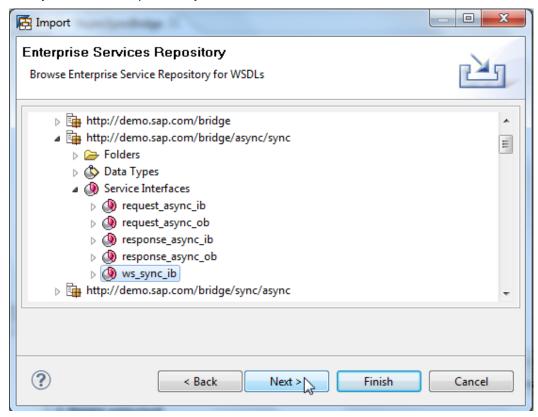
Next, import the asynchronous response outbound interface. Click on Next.



On the next screen, create a service reference, and a new service group for the communication to the messaging system of the Process Orchestration system. Maintain a service group name, here **sg_2_aex**, and click on *Finish*.



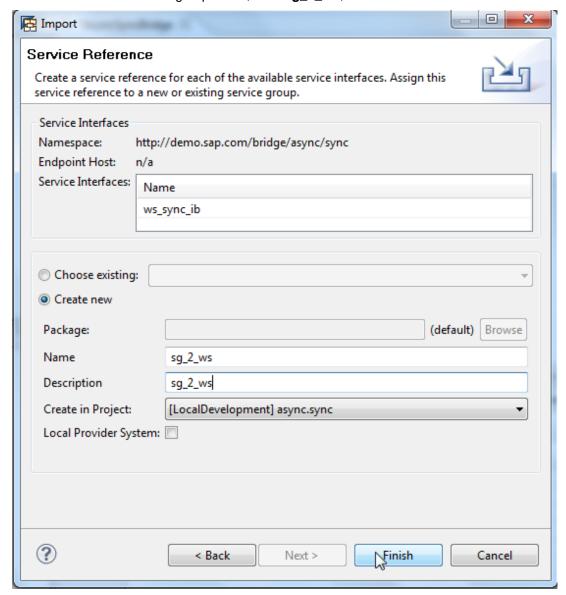
Finally, we need to import the synchronous Web Service interface. Click on Next.



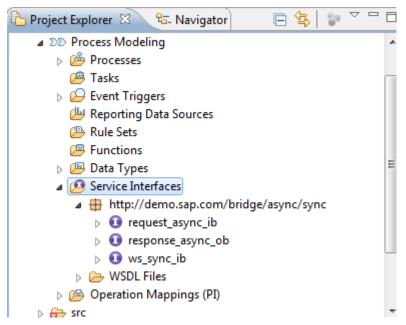
SAP COMMUNITY NETWORK

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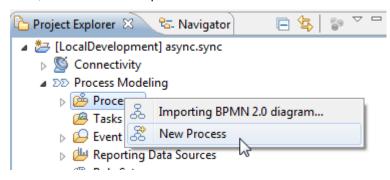
On the next screen, create a service reference, and a new service group for the communication to the Web Service. Maintain a service group name, here **sg_2_ws**, and click on *Finish*.



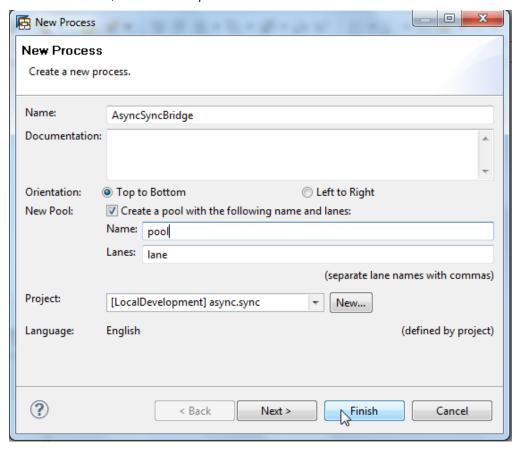
If you expand the Service Interfaces node and the namespace below, you get all imported interfaces displayed.



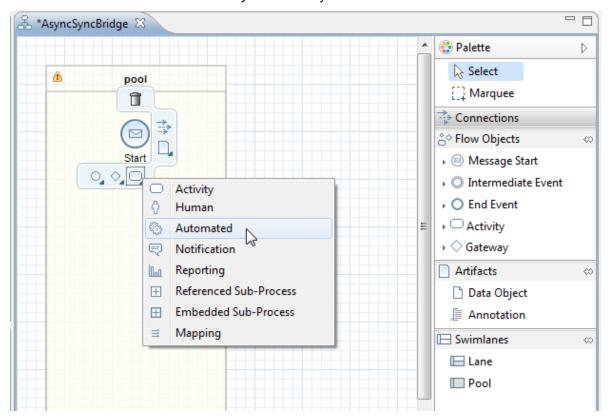
Next, we will create the process definition. Select New Process from the context menu.



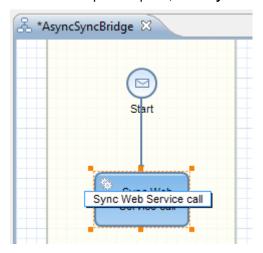
Maintain a new process name, here **AsyncSyncBridge**. Select checkbox *Create a pool with the following names and lanes*, and maintain pool and lane name. Then click on *Finish*.



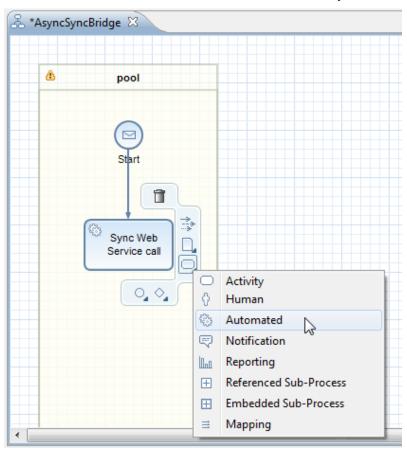
A new pool and a message start event have been created. Since we have defined only one lane name in the previous dialog, no lane has been added. Lanes represent roles, and are mainly used in human-centric process types. For the integration-centric process that we define here, we do not need lanes. We first start with defining the process flow. You can either drag & drop the steps from the palette on the right side of the editor or use the context buttons. Here, I use the context buttons. From the context buttons, select *Automated* to add an *Automated Activity* to call the synchronous Web Service.



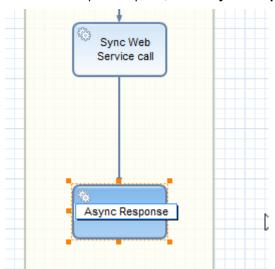
Maintain a step description, here Sync Web Service call.



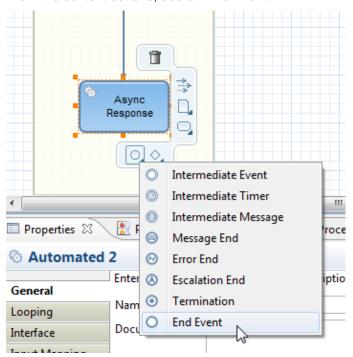
From the context buttons, add another *Automated Activity* to send the asynchronous response.



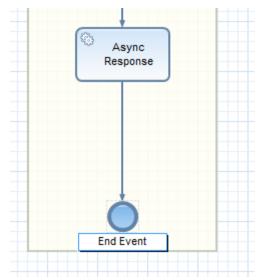
Maintain a step description, here Async Response.



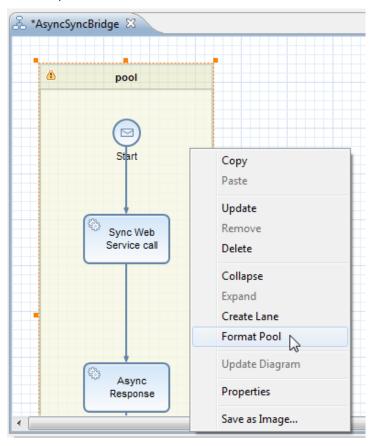
From the context buttons, add an *End Event*.



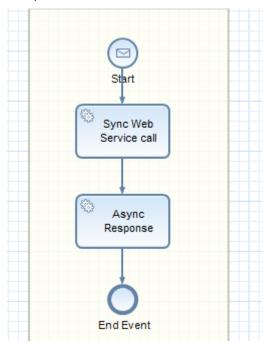
Maintain a step description, here **End Event**.



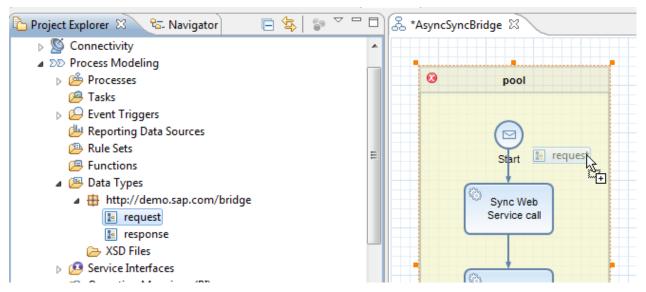
Pick the pool, and select Format Pool from the context menu to rearrange the steps.



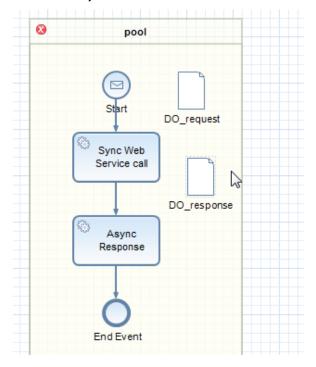
The process flow looks as follows.



Next, we need to define data objects that make up the process context. To create the data objects, expand the *Data Types* node and simply drag & drop the request and the response data types to the pool.

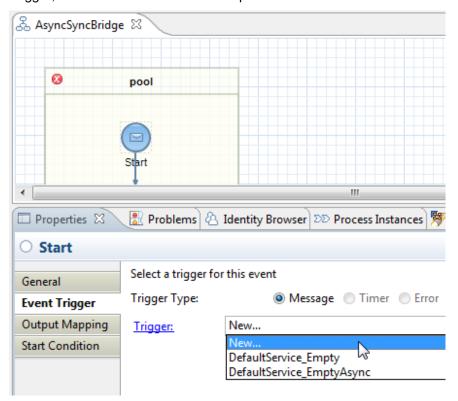


Both data objects have been created.

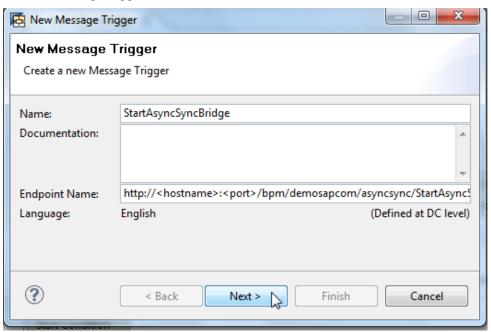


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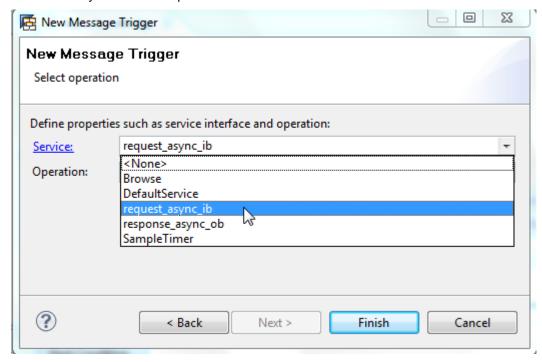
In the following, we will maintain the properties for each of the steps. For the message start event, we need to create a new trigger. Select the message start event *Start*, in the *Properties* pane switch to tab *Event Trigger*, and select *New...* from the drop down menu.



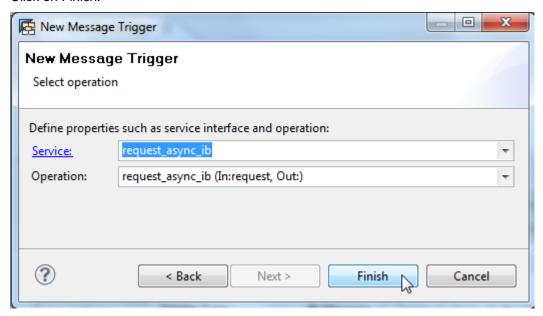
Enter a message trigger name, and click on Next.



Select the asynchronous request inbound interface.

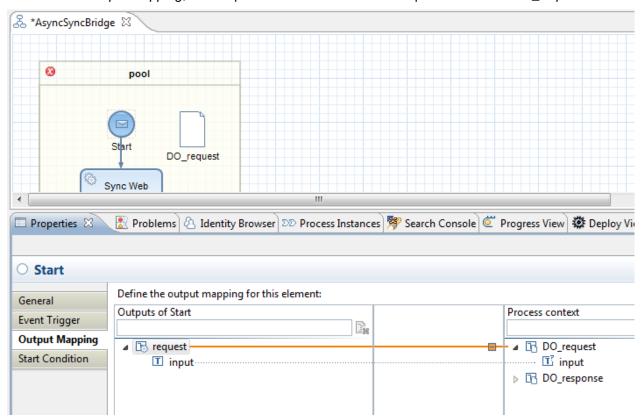


Click on Finish.

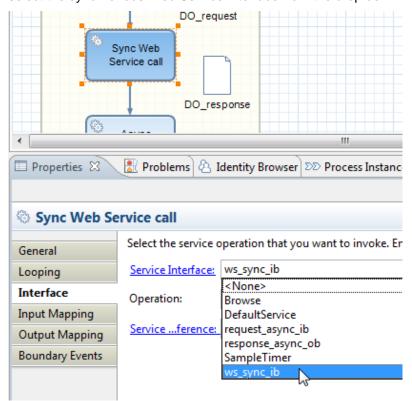


Note: As mentioned above, we have defined the pattern of the inbound interface used here as *Stateless XI 3.0 Compatible*. This ensures that BPM and AEX can communicate reliably via XI 3.0 protocol. Only in this case, an XI end point will be created upon deployment of the development component.

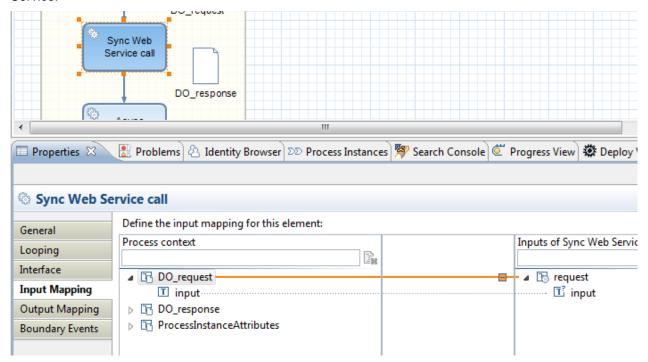
Switch to tab Output Mapping, and map the interface structure to the process context DO_request.



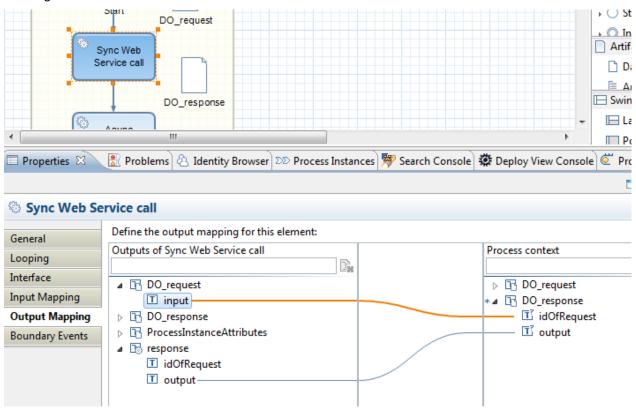
Select the automated activity *Sync Web Service call*. In the *Properties* pane switch to tab *Interface*, and select the synchronous Web Service interface from the drop down menu.



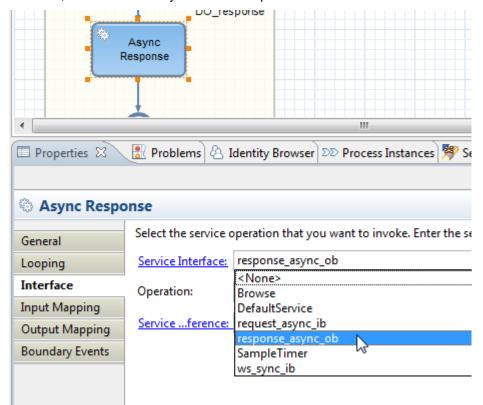
Switch to tab *Input Mapping*, and map the process context *DO_request* to the input interface of the Web Service.



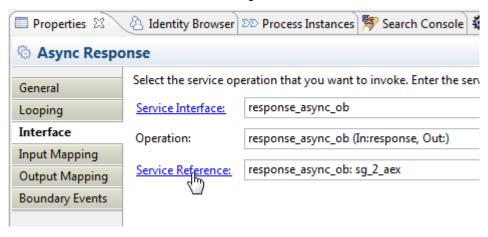
Switch to tab *Output Mapping*, and map the *output* tag of the Web Service interface to the *output* tag of the process context *DO_response*. Map the *input* tag of the process context *DO_response*. This is how we correlate the response message to the original request message.



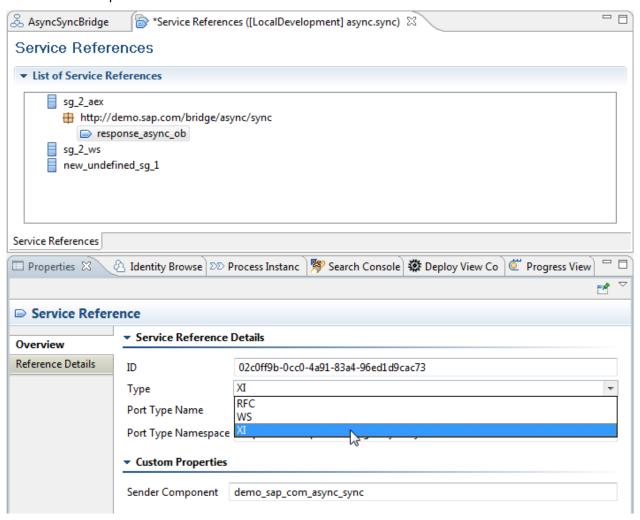
Select the automated activity *Async Response*. In the *Properties* pane of the automated activity, switch to tab *Interface*, and select the asynchronous response outbound interface from the drop down menu.



Reliable connectivity between BPM and AEX is done via the Java Proxy runtime using the XI 3.0 protocol. So, we have to maintain the Service Reference type for the asynchronous response outbound interface. Select the Service Reference link to navigate to the Service Reference.

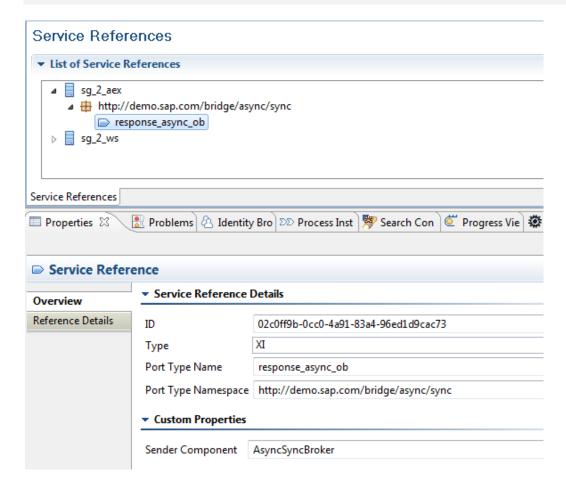


This brings up a new window with the list of Service References. The respective Service Reference below the Service Group sg_2 aex is already selected. In the *Properties* pane, change the Service Reference type to XI from the drop down menu.

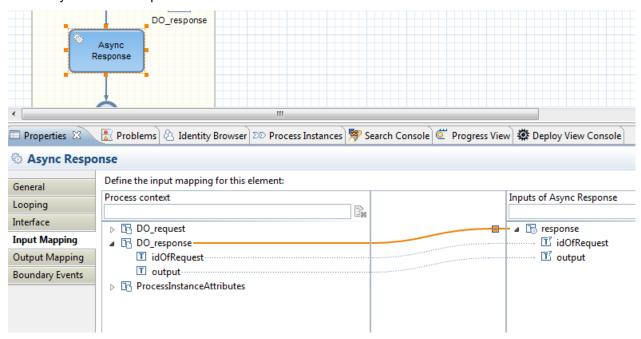


The *Sender Component* name is automatically preset based on the Development Component name. Enter a *Sender Component* name representing the BPM process within the configuration, here **AsyncSyncBroker**.

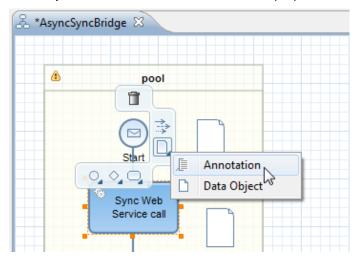
Note: The Sender Component name chosen here must be identical to the Sender Component name in the Integration Flow configuration in order to link the BPM process to the Integration Flow, see also below.



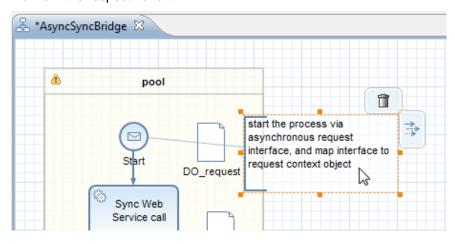
Save and close the Service References window, and go back to the process editor. In the Properties pane of the automated activity, switch to tab Input Mapping, and map the process context DO_response data object to the asynchronous response outbound interface.



You may add annotations for documentation purposes. From the context buttons, select entry Annotation.

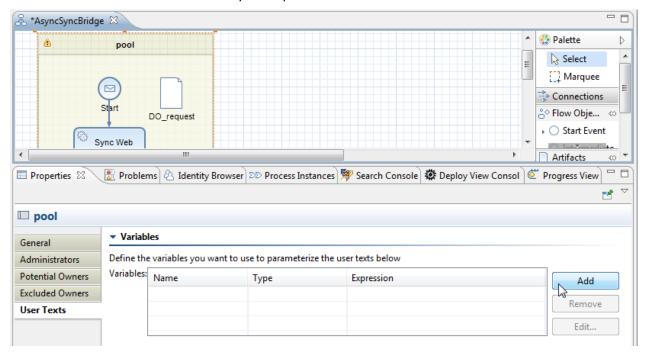


Maintain the respective text.

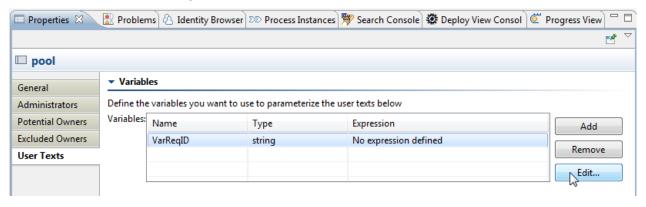


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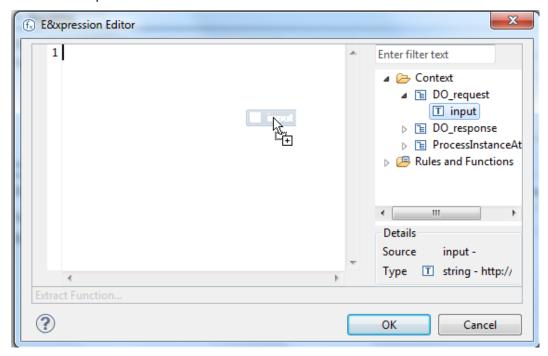
The following steps are optionally however improving the search capabilities during monitoring. We will maintain the process subject, i.e., adding payload relavant information to the process subject. Pick the pool, and switch to tab *User Texts* in the *Properties* pane. Add a new variable.



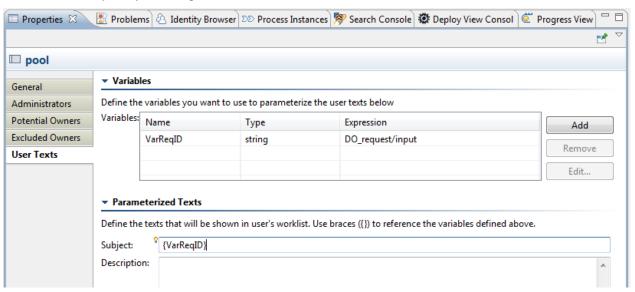
Maintain a name, here VarReqID, then click on button Edit....



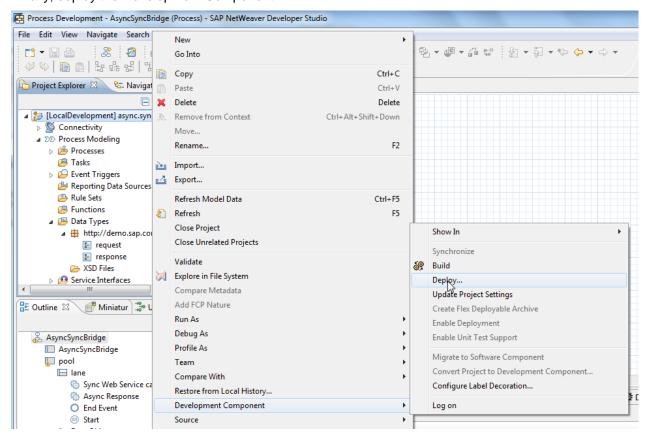
In the expression editor, expand the Context node, and drag & drop the input tag of the DO_request context into the editor pane. Then click on OK.



Maintain the Subject by referring to the beforehand created variable.

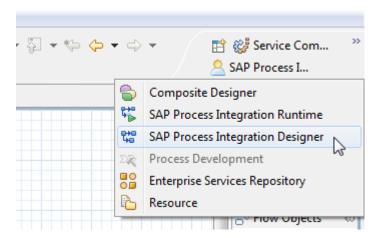


Finally, deploy the Development Component.

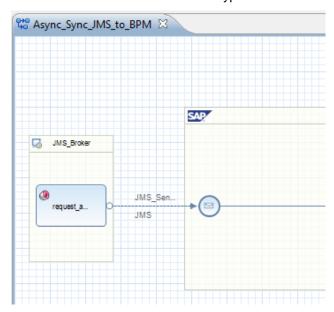


Integration Flow from JMS broker to BPM process

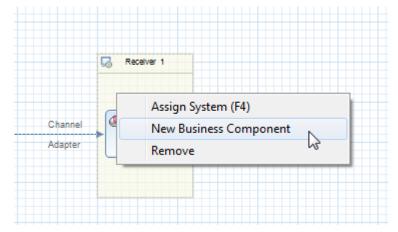
Switch to the SAP Process Integration Designer perspective to configure the message flow from and to the BPM process. Since I have shown the modeling of Integration Flows in detail above, I stick here to the very minimum.



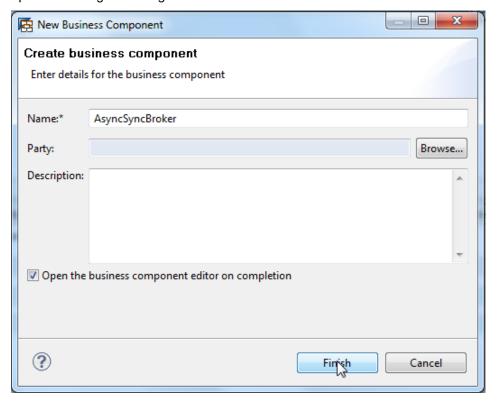
After having connected to the Directory, create a new Integration Flow. On the sender side, choose the existing JMS broker business component, and the asynchronous request outbound interface as sender interface. The sender channel is of type *JMS*.



On the receiver side, we need to create a new business component representing the BPM process that we have implemented beforehand.

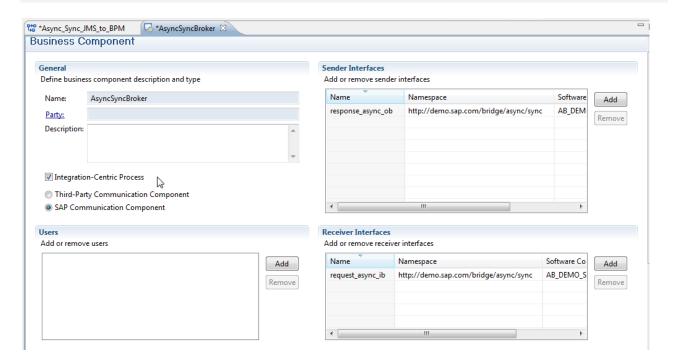


As business component name choose the name previously set in the service reference configuration, i.e., **AsyncSyncBroker**, and click on *Finish*. Select the check box so that the business component editor comes up once closing the dialog.

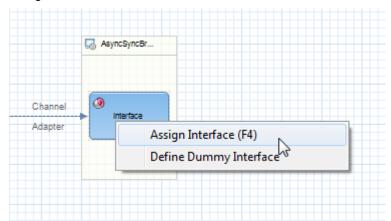


In the business component editor, maintain sender and receiver interfaces. Select the *Integration-Centric Process* flag. This indicates that the Business Component refers to a BPM process. This is required for monitoring purposes, see also below.

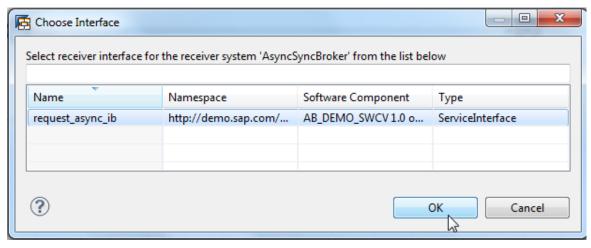
Note: The Integration-Centric Process flag is supported from release 7.31 SP6 on only.



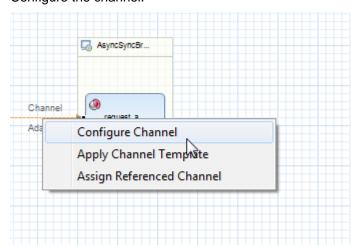
Assign the receiver interface.



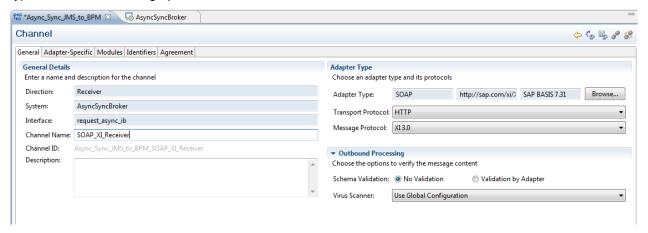
Select the asynchronous request inbound interface. This interface needs to correspond to the interface of the message start event trigger in the BPM model.



Configure the channel.

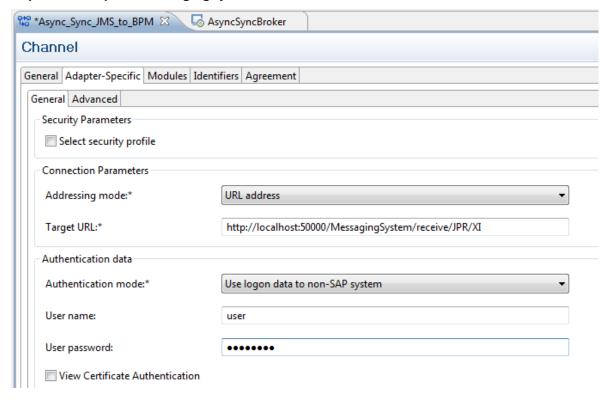


As mentioned above, the communication between BPM and AEX uses the XI 3.0 protocol. Choose adapter type *SOAP*, and message protocol *XI3.0*.



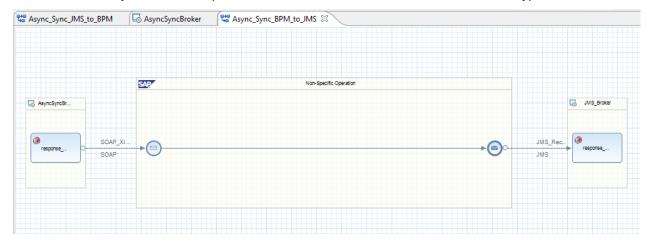
Switch to tab *Adapter-Specific*. The target URL needs to point to the Java Proxy runtime running on the very same system. Maintain *Target URL* as follows:

http://<host>:<port>/MessagingSystem/receive/JPR/XI



Integration Flow from BPM process to JMS broker

Create another Integration Flow describing the routing from the BPM process to the JMS broker. On the sender side, choose the business component representing the BPM process, and the asynchronous response outbound interface. The sender channel is of type *SOAP*. On the receiver side, choose the JMS broker, and the asynchronous response inbound interface. The receiver channel is of type *JMS*.



Finally, activate and deploy both Integration Flows.

Configuration of Web Service call

As mentioned above, the synchronous Web Service call does not need to go via the AEX since it is of Quality of Service *Best Effort* anyway, it can be directly called from the BPM process. So, we need to configure the respective service group in the NetWeaver Administrator (NWA). From the Process Orchestration landing page, select link *SAP NetWeaver Administrator*.

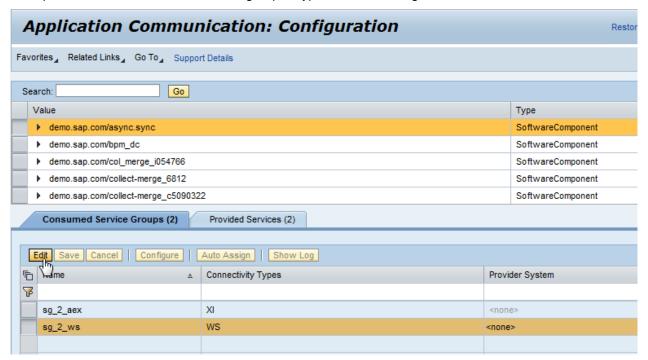




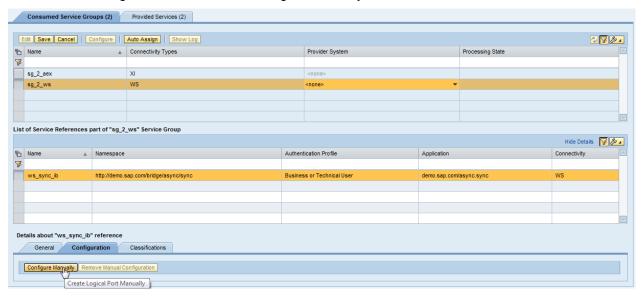
Switch to tab SOA, and sub tab Application and Scenario Communication, then select link Application Communication.



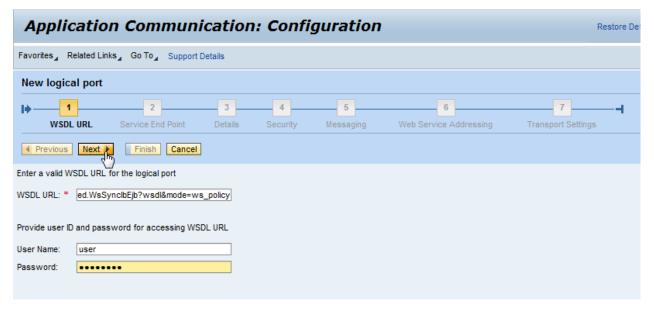
Select the respective Software Component. You will find the two service groups that we have defined in the BPM process model. Select the service group of type *WS*, and change to *Edit* mode.



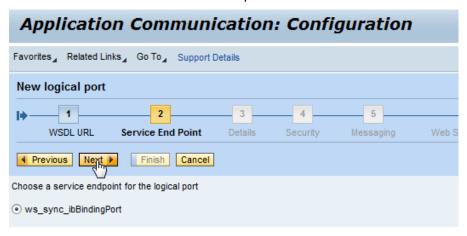
Switch to tab Configuration, and click on Configure Manually.



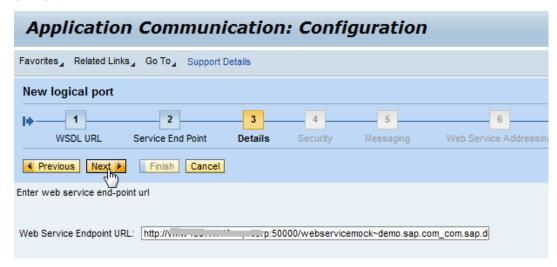
Enter the WSDL URL of the Web Service, maintain user credentials to be able access the WSDL, and click on *Next*.



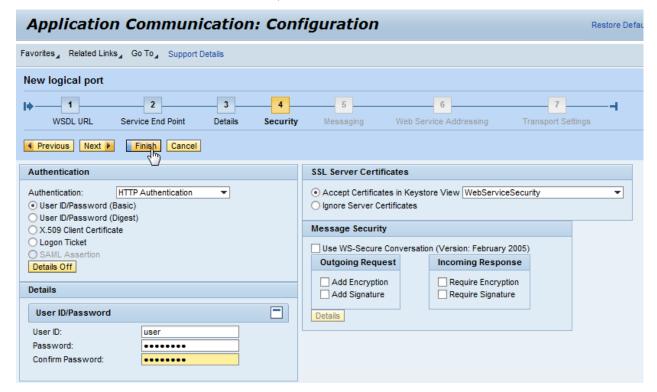
Click on Next to confirm the service endpoint.



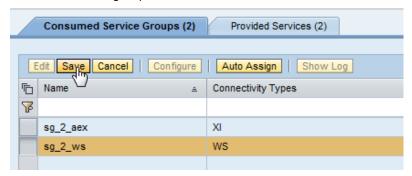
The Web Service endpoint URL is automatically set based on the binding information within the WSDL. Click on *Next*.



Maintain authentication and user credentials, and click on Finish.

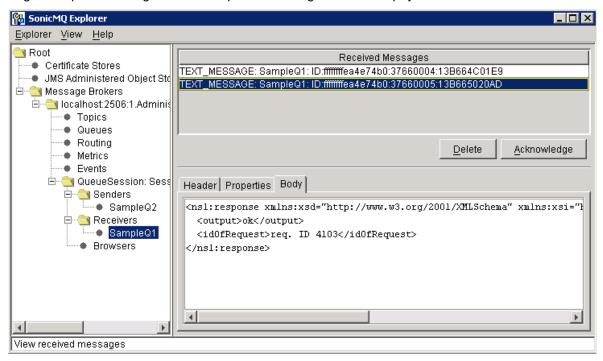


Save the service group.

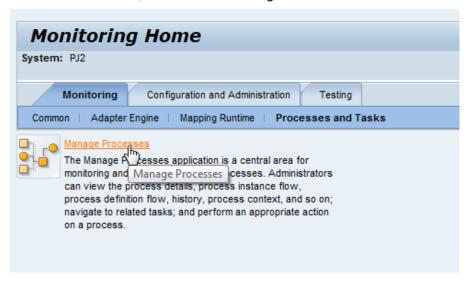


Runtime

To run the scenario, we put a request message into the *SampleQ2* queue where it is read from the JMS adapter, and passed to the Web Service provider. The synchronous response of the web service call is converted into an asynchronous response message, and put into the *SampleQ1* queue. The link between the original request message and the response message is done via payload data.

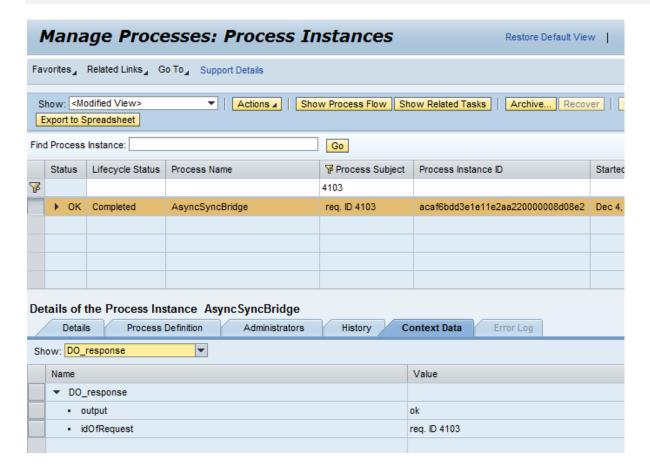


To monitor the test run, in the *Configuration and Monitoring Home* page navigate to tab *Monitoring*, sub tab *Processes and Tasks*, and select link *Manage Processes*.

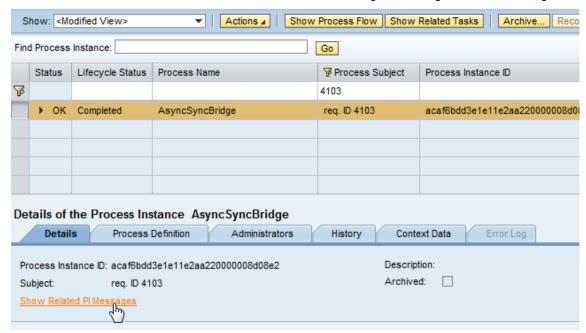


Since we have maintained the *Process Subject* in our BPM process model, we can search for the specific process instance within the result set by entering a filter on the *Process Subject*. Select the process instance, and switch to tab *Context Data* to show the actual context.

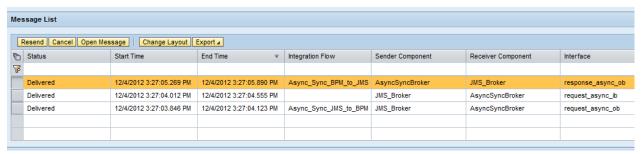
Note: Usually you only see either running or erroneous process instances in the standard view. If you like to see the completed process instances, you need to switch on the *Advanced* filter criteria and filter accordingly.



Switch to tab Details, and select link Show Related PI Messages to navigate to the message monitor.



The navigation is context sensitive, i.e., the message list is restricted to all messages which went through the AEX and which are related to the very process instance.



Note: The context sensitive navigation between the BPM process instance monitor and the PI message monitor is supported from release 7.31 SP6 on only.

Related Content

Blog on SCN: <u>Installation Options for Process Integration and Orchestration Use Cases</u>

SAP Help Portal: Configuring Async/Sync and Sync/Async Bridge in the JMS Adapter

SAP Help Portal: Configuring the JMS Adapter

How to guide on SCN: How to Correlate JMS Messages (NW7.0)

SAP note on SAP Service Marketplace: Note 1743455 - GRC NFE - SEFAZ Communication using PI 7.31

<u>AEX</u>

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