



Work Paper for Request C03001

In Request C03001, it states:

The question is whether individual implementations are free to use the http HEAD command, prior to using the POST command to deliver the NAESB payload.

When implementing a NAESB EDM solution, the standard clearly relies on the http protocol spec for details of how to implement the protocol. It is also clear that the http POST command should be used, and not the GET command.

Discussion

Caminus conducted a series of tests on Caminus WebExchange (CWX) product for this request.

CWX handles in-bound and/or outbound requests that use HTTP/1.0 POST method. When sending out a transaction request, only the HTTP POST method is used.

When there is a valid inbound HEAD request, CWX will generate a response with the status code of 200: OK indicating the request has succeeded. CWX does not reject the request. Therefore, when a HEAD request is followed by a POST request, CWX will be able to process the POST request.

Since the HTTP POST method is the only method required by NAESB (former GISB) version 1.4 EDM standards, users may have a need to limit the web server accepting POST and not accepting HEAD method. In this case, as Caminus tested, MS IIS will refuse to fulfill the HEAD request. Therefore, the next command such as POST will not be able to be processed, even Post is an accepted method by the server.

Conclusion

Caminus interpretation is that all GISB standard transaction requests be sent via HTTP POST method only. The reason is that, as stated in the Electronic Delivery Mechanism Related Standards (Version 1.4),

The POST method, on the other hand, allows the upload of complete datasets without special encoding. It is this method which will be used to send GISB standard format transactions and receive the response from the server.