

Send port proliferation

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Hi,

I am confused regarding the term "Send port proliferation". I've been told I will have this problem with the design I am attempting to implement in 06 but I am unclear as to how it is a "problem".

In my current 2002 solution, we have >500 partners with up to 11 document types per partner, trading with up to (n) other partners, with any of the three common document formats (EDI, FF, XML). To cut down on the amount of channels/ports required for a many to many scenario, we have set ourselves up as a middleman between inbound and outbound processing. In a nutshell, all inbound documents, of any format, get mapped to one of our 11 canonical doctype xml (and processed generically based on the inbound doctype) basically we have a custom AIC process specific for each of these inbound types. We act as the recipient for all inbound documents. Once the document has had rules applied to it in it's process, the code determines the original intended recipient, sets us as the source and the message is submitted back to Biztalk where the appropriate destination specific, document type specific channel is located for maps to be applied and the correct transport for transmission.

As you can imagine, we have a ton of outbound channels to facilitate the configurations of the different partners for their transports. So partnerA may have channels for PO going to FTP, a channel for POAck going to a file etc etc. I don't really see a way around this since configurations will differ amongst different destination partners even though they use the same transport mechanism.

In my 06 design, each current AIC process will be an orchestration with direct binding for send ports. I will undoubtedly have allot of send ports to support what we do today as I'll need to set a send port for subscription for each trading partner/document type combination and possibly other filters. I've looked at dynamic ports which would cut down the number of send ports but it falls short in other areas, namely ease of runtime configuration.

Is this a concrete problem in that I'll run into some sort of physical limitation on send ports or that Biztalk will run dog slow at some

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point? Is this just terminology used to describe a solution that has many sendports? Again, we do not have any problems in our O2 solution with well over 3,000 channels, each channel has transport configuration information for that destination partner.