

## Re: WSDL Generated Proxy Classes?

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<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/DotNet/microsoft.public.dotnet.framework.aspnet/2006-09/msg00751.html>

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- *From:* Laurent Bugnion <[galasoft-lb@xxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:galasoft-lb@xxxxxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Thu, 07 Sep 2006 09:19:30 +0200
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Hi,

Arpan wrote:

Web Services make use of proxy classes whose methods & properties are accessed in exactly the same way as how a normal class' methods & properties are accessed. So what for does ASP.NET generate proxy classes (using WSDL) which consume more hard disk space & resources?

<code snipped>

The above code spans just 11 lines but if the above code (excluding the 2 Namespace lines) is encapsulated in an ASMX file after which WSDL is used to generate a corresponding class file, the class file spans almost 100 lines (excluding the commented lines). Moreover, most part of the code in the generated class is not comprehensible to newbies like me. So why use WSDL to generate a class file? Also there definitely must be some additional overheads involved in this approach, isn't it?

Thanks,

Arpan

WSDL is Web Service Description Language. It is a standard which is used to describe what the Web Service can do. The advantage of generating a WSDL file is that each client can download the WSDL file and generate proxy "on the fly". This is what Visual Studio does when you create a WebReference to a web service, and it generates proxies. However, there are also other consumers of web services (ATLAS in JavaScript), and they also create proxies in JavaScript dynamically using the WSDL file. Since JavaScript is a very different language than C# and VB.NET, and since web services may actually be written in yet other languages, WSDL abstracts the language differences and allows different languages to communicate through this medium.

It's very possible to do AJAX without SOAP and without WSDL. The code is much thinner then. But SOAP and WSDL offer an additional level of comfort for the consumer of web services.

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..NET creates WSDL files automatically (just use the URL myService.asmx?WSDL), but other providers of web services (Google comes in mind) also deliver WSDL files with their web services.

HTH,  
Laurent

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