

vCampus Live! 2012

RESTful Web Services Coming to the PI System with OData

Presented by Steve Pilon, Product Manager





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WHERE PI GEEKS MEET



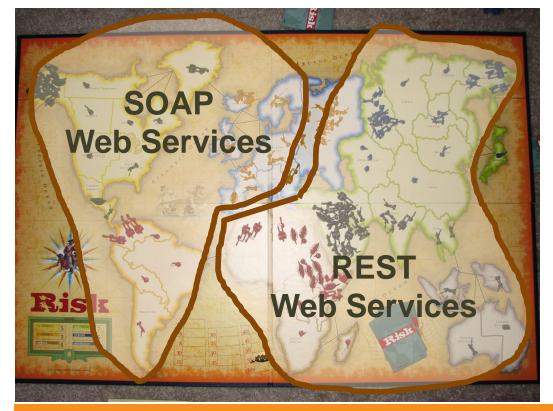
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RESTful??



Web Services Landscape



By definition...

SOAP

Simple Object Access Protocol (protocol specification)

REST

REpresentational State Transfer (architectural style)

In clear...

SOAP

- Exposes methods with inputs and outputs (operation-centric)
- Well-defined, discoverable calling sequences
- Thought of as "official, serious, for large enterprises"

REST

- Exposes resources, collections, relationships (data-centric)
- No predefined format, but using URIs (with verbs and nouns) and focus on readability
- Thought of as "easy, simple, free-form"

The Open Data (OData) Protocol



Open Data Protocol http://www.odata.org

OData

- Protocol specification for RESTful, data-centric service
- Exposing entities (with relationships) and operations
- Queryable via URIs (browser or code) or client libraries
- Full CRUD possibility
 - HTTP verbs (GET, POST, PUT, DELETE)
- Undergoing standardization at OASIS (Microsoft, SAP, IBM, Citrix, Red Hat and more)

Use Cases

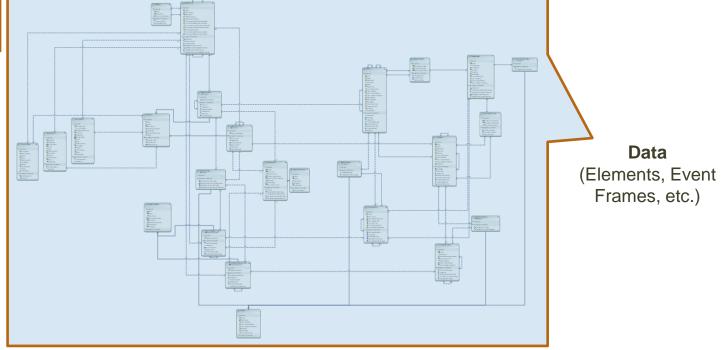
- Mobile Application Development (and development of distributed apps in general)
- Data Exchange and Cloud-Based Apps
- Line-of-Business Systems Integration (including Asset Synchronization)
- Business Intelligence and Reporting
- Windows vs. Non-Windows Platforms

Proposal: a 2-feed approach



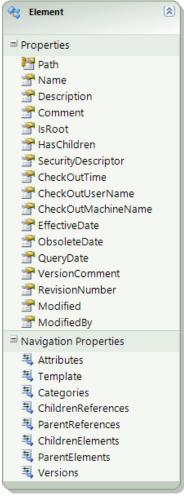
Catalog (Servers/Databases)

Each Database has an "endpoint" for the other feed



Entities

- Queryable and updatable, analogous to SQL tables
- Navigation properties to walk through entities
- Available entities:
 - Elements and Attributes
 - ElementTemplates and AttributeTemplates
 - Categories
 - UnitsOfMeasure and UOMClasses
 - EnumerationSets and EnumerationSetValues
 - EventFrames
 - ElementReferences, EventFrameReferences ReferenceTypes



Operations

- Analogous to methods
 - Mandatory and optional parameters
- Available operations:
 - RecordedValues
 - RecordedValue
 - InterpolatedValues
 - SummaryValue
 - Summary Values
 - PlotValues

RecordedValues

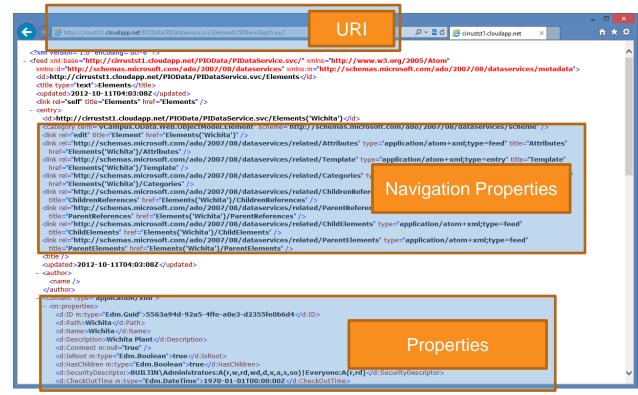
- Path: string (multiple paths can be separated by a semicolon ';'
- startTime: string (PI Time notation)
- endTime: string (PI Time notation)
- filterExpression: string
- desiredUoM: string (UoM name)
- includeFilteredValues: bool (True | False)
- maxCount: int

Query via URIs

 Rich query and filtering semantics

 Web browser or code

 AtomPub or JSON





Using OData



Application Development

Generic HTTP

 Manually issue HTTP requests and handle the returned AtomPub or JSON payload

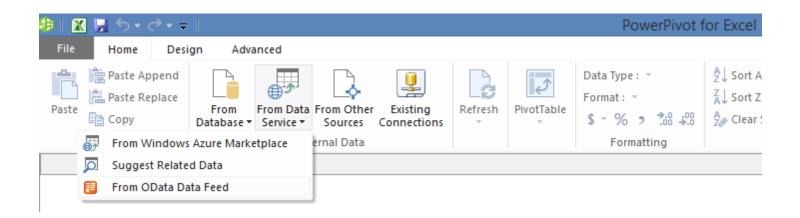
OData client libraries

 Generally object-oriented and strongly-typed (generated from service metadata)



Line-of-Business Systems

- Growing number of OData producers and consumers
 - Microsoft, SAP, IBM, Telerik, Tableau, and others



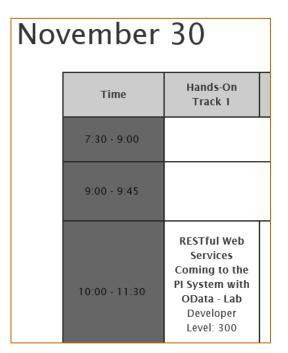
Data Markets and Other Feeds

- Open Government Data Initiative (ODGI)
 - Several government agencies and municipalities (USA, Canada, Columbia, Portugal, France, etc.)
- Microsoft Azure Data MarketPlace

- On the geeky side:
 - eBay, Netflix, Stack Overflow, twitpic, NerdDinner

In the Hands-On Lab

- Tomorrow at 10am
- PI OData Service [prototype]
- Need your feedback!



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THANK YOU

