IBM Sterling Gentran:Server for Microsoft Windows

Message Forwarder Gateway Configuration Guide

Version 5.3

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Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in Notices on page N-1.

Table of Contents

About This Guide

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Introduction

Overview	This manual contains the tasks you must follow to configure the HTTP Message Forwarder.
Intended audience	The intended audience for this manual is Sterling Gentran:Server system administrators.
Prerequisite knowledge	The audience using this software should be familiar with your operating system.

Description of Contents

Introduction

This guide is organized into the tasks that you complete when configuring communications for the HTTP Message Forwarder.

Organization of chapters

The guide is organized into chapters. A brief description of each chapter's contents follows.

- About This Guide explains the content, organization, and conventions in this guide.
- HTTP Message Forwarder Overview provides a high-level overview of the HTTP Message Forwarder.
- Configuring Communications explains the process for configuring the HTTP Message Forwarder.

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CHAPTER
1

HTTP Message Forwarder Overview

Contents

Overview

In this chapter

This chapter provides you with a high-level overview of the IBM® Sterling Gentran:Server® for Microsof Windows HTTP Message Forwarder.

HTTP Message Forwarder

Introduction

The HTTP Message Forwarder facilitates the flow of files through a dual firewall, in through one firewall and out through another.

Use with HTTP Gateway

By using the HTTP Gateway and the HTTP Message Forwarder in concert, you can receive and send messages of any format from outside your enterprise using the HTTP or HTTPS transport methods in environments with double firewalls.

Reference

See the *IBM® Sterling Gentran:Server® for Microsoft Windows HTTP Gateway Configuration Guide* for more information on the Sterling Gentran:Server HTTP Gateway.

HTTP Message Forwarder Flow

Introduction

The sender of a message packages and sends the data as an HTTP POST request, which sends the request to a URL configured on the HTTP server for the HTTP Message Forwarder. The HTTP server receives the request and forwards it to the HTTP Message Forwarder, which takes the incoming message and forwards it to the message destination via an HTTP POST request.

Then, the HTTP Message Forwarder keeps the incoming HTTP connection open until the message destination returns with the appropriate HTTP status code. This status code and any response data is then returned to the sender via the open HTTP connection with any data that the destination provides. If the HTTP Message Forwarder is unable to forward the incoming message to the message destination, the appropriate HTTP status code indicating this error is returned to the sender. Once the status code and the response data, if any, is returned to the sender, the HTTP connection for the incoming message will be closed.

Inbound message flow

This table describes the inbound flow of messages through the HTTP Message Forwarder.

Stage	Process
1	The incoming message is sent to the HTTP server via an HTTP or HTTPS POST request, using the SCHTTPMessageForwarder.dll. An example URL is: http://www.gensys1.com/MessageForwarder/SCHTTPMessagForwarder.dll.
2	Microsoft IIS routes the request to the HTTP Message Forwarder.
3	The HTTP Message Forwarder parses the URL and looks for a routing parameter. If one is found and configured, the POST is forwarded to the destination URL that is configured for that routing parameter. If the routing parameter is not found, the default destination URL is used. If the routing parameter is not configured, the incoming POST is discarded. All forwarding is performed via an HTTP POST or an HTTPS POST.
4	This HTTP status code is sent to the sender of the incoming message.

Message destination

The destination of the message is any valid URL.

Error notifications

If an E-mail address is configured to receive error notifications, the HTTP Message Forwarder uses this E-mail address to report any errors that occur when receiving or forwarding incoming messages. One E-mail message is used for each error occurrence.

The following information is included in the body of the E-mail message:

- Local date time stamp when the error occurred
- Free form text describing the error

CHAPTER
2

Configuring Communications

Contents

Overview

Introduction

In this chapter

This chapter describes the tasks that you must complete to configure the HTTP Message Forwarder.

Properties

HTTP Message Forwarder Properties

Introduction

The HTTP Message Forwarder user interface enables you to configure the HTTP Message Forwarder properties.

Parts and functions

This table describes the parts of the HTTP Message Forwarder UI and their functions.

Part	Function
Send E-mail Notifications	Specifies (if checked) that E-mail notifications are sent. **Note** Only Error messages are E-mailed.
To	Specifies the E-mail address where all notifications are sent.
From	Specifies the E-mail address of the sender of the notification. **Note** This entry is displayed in the “From” line of all E-mail notifications.
Subject	Specifies the subject for all E-mail notifications. **Note** This entry is displayed in the “Subject” line of all E-mail notifications.
SMTP Server	Specifies the host name for the SMTP server to use for sending E-mail notifications.
SMTP Port	Specifies the port number for the SMTP server.

(Contd) Part	Function
Logging Level	Specifies the level of logging to use when receiving and forwarding messages. Valid selections are: ◗ Errors only ◗ Detailed ◗ Errors and Warnings **Note** The log messages are located in the XML log file accessible by clicking **View Log File**.
View Log File	Accesses the HTTP Message Forwarder log file, which enables you to view error message information including: ◗ date and time of message, ◗ severity of message (i.e., informational, warning, error), and ◗ error message text.
Purge the Log File	Specifies (if checked) that the contents of the log file are purged and the number of entries is set to zero at the next attempt to add an entry to the log file.
Save Incoming POST Data	Specifies (if checked) that a byte for byte copy of the incoming POST request is saved.
Routing Parameter	The routing parameter for the associated destination URL (the URL listed to the right of this routing parameter. **Note** At a minimum, you must configure the default routing parameter/URL mapping.
URL	The message destination URL. **Note** At a minimum, you must configure the default routing parameter/URL mapping.
Test URL	Enables you to test the connection to the URL listed to the left of this button.
Delete	Deletes (if checked) the routing parameter to the left of the check box (after you click **Save Settings**).
Save Settings	Allows you to save the HTTP Message Forwarder Configuration settings.

Procedures

Configuration process

HTTP Message Forwarder process

This table lists the stages in configuring communications for use with HTTP Message Forwarder.

Stage	Description
1	Install the Sterling Gentran:Server HTTP Message Forwarder. **Reference** Refer to the *IBM® Sterling Gentran:Server® Options Pack for Microsoft Windows Installation Card* for more information.
2	Note the directory in which you installed the HTTP Message Forwarder.
3	Manually set up one virtual directory pointing to the directory you noted in Stage 2. You must set the access permissions for this virtual directory to: **Read, Run scripts,** and **Execute**. For the HTTP Message Forwarder Gateway to work properly with IIS 6.0, the schttpmessageforwarder.dll file must be allowed in the ISAPI Web Service Extensions. **Reference** Refer to your Microsoft IIS documentation for more information on creating this virtual directory.
4	Modify the access permissions for the **messageforwarderconfig.asp** file (located in the same directory you noted in Stage 2) to turn off (deactivate) “Anonymous Access” and turn on (activate) Integrated Windows Authentication to access this file. **Reference** Refer to your Microsoft documentation for more information on modifying access permissions for this file.

	Description
5	From Microsoft Windows Explorer, access the properties of the directory in which you installed the HTTP Message Forwarder, and modify the NTFS access permissions for the local IWAM_pcName user to grant this user “Write” access. **Example** If the machine name is “GENSYS,” the IWAM_pcName user is “IWAM_GENSYS” (no quotes). **Reference** Refer to your Microsoft documentation for more information on modifying access permissions for this user.
6	Configure the HTTP Message Forwarder. **Reference** See *How to Configure the HTTP Message Forwarder* on page 2 - 8 for more information.

How to Configure the HTTP Message Forwarder

Introduction

You must configure the HTTP Message Forwarder. At a minimum you must configure a default routing parameter/URL mapping so the HTTP Message Forwarder can determine where to route the incoming messages if the message doesn't specify a destination URL.

Procedure

Use this procedure to configure HTTP Message Forwarder.

Step	Action
1	Access the **HTTP Message Forwarder** configuration. **Note** The URL to access the HTTP Message Forwarder configuration is in the form of the following: `http:\\server_name\virtual_directory_name\ messageforwarderconfig.asp`
2	Do you want to send E-mail notifications? ◗ If *yes*, select the **Send E-Mail Notifications** check box and continue with the next step. ◗ If *no*, continue with the next step.
3	In the **To** box, type the E-mail address where all notifications are sent.
4	In the **From** box, type the E-mail address of the sender of the notification.
5	In the **Subject** box, type the subject for all E-mail notifications.
6	In the **SMTP Server** box, type the host name for the SMTP server to use for sending E-mail notifications.
7	In the **SMTP Port** box, type the port number for the SMTP server.
8	From the **Log Settings** list, select the level of log settings you want to see.
9	Do you want to purge the log file? ◗ If *yes*, select the **Purge the log file** check box and continue with the next step. ◗ If *no*, continue with the next step. **Note** If you want to view the HTTP Message Forwarder log file, click **View Log File**.

(Contd) Step	Action
10	Do you want to save incoming POST data? ◗ If *yes*, select the **Save Incoming POST Data** check box and continue with the next step. ◗ If *no*, continue with the next step.
11	In the Message Forwarder URL Routing Table section, type the routing parameter/URL mappings. **Notes** ◗ At a minimum, you must configure a default routing parameter/URL mapping. ◗ Click Test URL to test the connection to the URL listed to the left of this button. ◗ If you want to delete a routing parameter/URL mapping (other than the default one), select the **Delete** check box to the right of that mapping.
12	Click **Save Settings** to save your HTTP Message Forwarder configuration. **System response** You are prompted with a message informing you that the save is complete.

How to Modify HTTP Message Forwarder Properties

Introduction

This section describes how to modify HTTP Message Forwarder properties.

Procedure

Use this procedure to modify HTTP Message Forwarder properties.

Step	Action
1	Access the **HTTP Message Forwarder** configuration. **Note** The URL to access the HTTP Message Forwarder configuration is in the form of the following: `http:\\server_name\virtual_directory_name\ messageforwarderconfig.asp`
2	Do you want to send E-mail notifications? ◗ If *yes*, select the **Send E-Mail Notifications** check box and continue with the next step. ◗ If *no*, continue with the next step.
3	In the **To** box, type the E-mail address where all notifications are sent.
4	In the **From** box, type the E-mail address of the sender of the notification.
5	In the **Subject** box, type the subject for all E-mail notifications.
6	In the **SMTP Server** box, type the host name for the SMTP server to use for sending E-mail notifications.
7	In the **SMTP Port** box, type the port number for the SMTP server.
8	From the **Log Settings** list, select the level of log settings you want to see.
9	Do you want to purge the log file? ◗ If *yes*, select the **Purge the log file** check box and continue with the next step. ◗ If *no*, continue with the next step. **Note** If you want to view the HTTP Message Forwarder log file, click **View Log File**.

(Contd) Step	Action
10	Do you want to save incoming POST data? ◗ If *yes*, select the **Save Incoming POST Data** check box and continue with the next step. ◗ If *no*, continue with the next step.
11	In the Message Forwarder URL Routing Table section, type the routing parameter/URL mappings. **Notes** ◗ At a minimum, you must have a default routing parameter/URL mapping configured. You cannot delete the default routing parameter/URL mapping, but you can change it. ◗ Click Test URL to test the connection to the URL listed to the left of this button. ◗ If you want to delete a routing parameter/URL mapping (other than the default one), select the **Delete** check box to the right of that mapping.
12	Click **Save Settings** to save your HTTP Message Forwarder configuration.

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