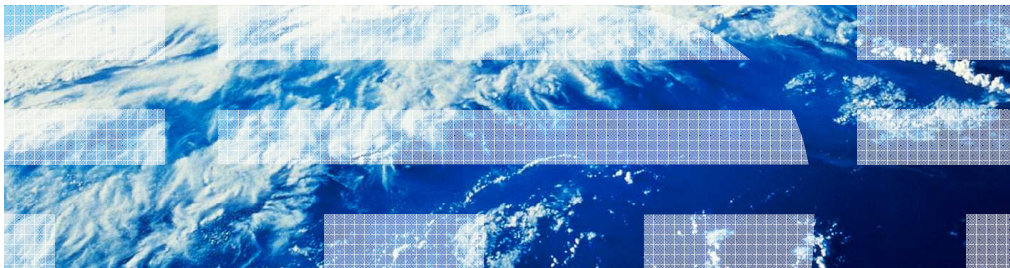


# IBM WebSphere Application Server V8

## Support for JASPI



This presentation describes support in WebSphere Application Server version 8 for JSR 196 Java Authentication Service Provider Interface for Containers, abbreviated JASPI.

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This presentation covers what JASPI is and why you might want to use it, and common usage scenarios, such as administration of JASPI providers and application management with respect to JASPI.

A collection of resources is also provided at the end of the material.

## What is JASPI (JSR-196)?

- New standard interfaces for web-container use
  - Enable integration of external, custom providers for handling the authentication of HTTP requests and responses.
  - The security run-time invokes the custom provider before and after each web request is processed.
  - Optionally, the providers can be specified when the application is deployed.
- JSR-196 defines two compliance profiles:
  - Servlet container
  - SOAP
- WebSphere Application Server V8 supports the servlet container profile
- WebSphere Application Server provides runtime support for configuring external JASPI providers:
  - You can implement your own JASPI provider or use a third party JASPI provider.
  - WebSphere Application Server does not include a JASPI provider

WebSphere Application Server version 8 supports the JSR 196: Java Authentication SPI for Containers specification, which enables third-party security providers to handle the Java Platform, Enterprise Edition (Java EE) authentication of HTTP request and response messages destined for web applications. The JASPI specification extends the pluggable authentication concepts of the Java Authentication and Authorization Service (JAAS) to the authentication of HTTP request and response messages. When application security is enabled, and a protected web resource is accessed, the web container and the security runtime collaborate to make an authentication decision for the caller.

The JASPI specification defines standard system programming interfaces that enable developers to write a pluggable custom authentication provider that can handle Java EE web authentication mechanisms. The WebSphere Application Server runtime uses these standard system programming interfaces to invoke the JASPI authentication provider. The WebSphere Application Server runtime only supports the Servlet Container Profile section in the JSR 196: Java Authentication Service Provider Interface for Containers specification. The SOAP profile is not supported.

If application security is enabled with JASPI authentication, when the web resource (such as a servlet or a JavaServer Pages (JSP) file) is accessed, the security runtime checks if the web resource is mapped to a JASPI provider defined in the security configuration. If so, the runtime invokes the JASPI authentication provider to perform authentication for the HTTP request and response messages.

Note that WebSphere Application Server does not ship a default JASPI provider. One has to implement the provider as per the JSR196 specification and configure it in the WebSphere Application Server environment for the security runtime to use it.

## Why JASPI?

- For IT managers who want to use a JSR-196 enabled runtime to integrate their preferred web-authentication software with WebSphere Application Server.
- For application-framework developers, who want to use a standards-based authentication API set, so that their application-framework software can be deployed on any JSR-196 compliant run-time.

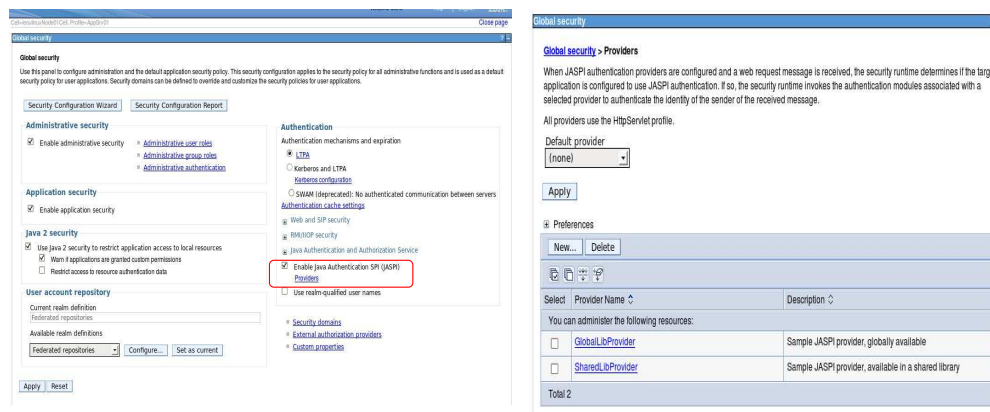
Since JASPI enables third-party security providers to handle web authentication, JASPI is useful for IT managers who want to use a JSR-196 enabled WebSphere Application Server runtime to integrate their preferred JSR-196 compliant web-authentication software with WebSphere Application Server. It is also useful for application-framework developers who want to use a standards-based authentication API set, so that their application-framework software can be deployed on any JSR-196 compliant run-time.

## ***JASPI usage scenarios***

This section covers JASPI configuration scenarios.

## A) Scenario: Administering JASPI authentication providers (1 of 3)

- As an administrator, I want to manage the registry of JASPI authentication providers using the administrative console or using wsadmin commands. Additionally, I would like to be able to specify whether JASPI providers are enabled for selected security domains or for the cell.



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The JASPI feature can be enabled or disabled for both the cell and for security domains by the WebSphere Application Server Administrator.

In order to use JASPI, JASPI must be enabled and at least one JASPI provider must be defined.

These actions can be done in the administrative console or with scripting.

An optional default provider can be selected from the list of defined providers. The default configuration for the default provider is none.

The default provider which will handle http servlet request and response message authentication if JASPI is enabled and no JASPI provider is mapped to the web module handling the requests.

## A) Scenario: Administering JASPI authentication providers (2 of 3)

Global security

Global security > Providers > New...

Use this page to provide the configuration details for your custom JASPI authentication service provider.

**General Properties**

\* Provider name  
SharedLibProvider

Description  
Sample JASPI provider defined in a shared library

\* Class name  
com.ibm.ws.security.jaspi.SharedLibAuthProvider

Message layer  
HttpServlet

Custom Properties  
New Delete

Select	Name	Value
<input type="checkbox"/>	property.name	property value

Apply OK Reset Cancel

JASPI providers can be defined through the administrative console or scripting.

Each JASPI provider must define a name and implementation class, and might optionally define a description.

Optional custom properties are also supported, and are passed into the JASPI provider implementation at run-time.

Details on JASPI provider implementations are available through the Information Center.

## A) Scenario: Administering JASPI authentication providers (3 of 3)

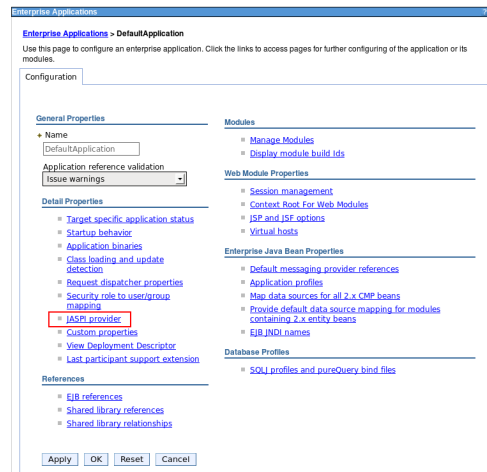
- wsadmin commands:
  - configureJaspi - Configure JASPI for the cell or specified security domain
  - defineJaspiProvider - Define a new authentication provider
  - displayJaspiProvider - Display configuration data for the given authentication providers
  - displayJaspiProviderNames - Display the names of all authentication providers
  - getJaspiInfo - Display information about the JASPI configuration
  - modifyJaspiProvider - Modify configuration data for a given authentication provider
  - removeJaspiProvider - Remove the given authentication providers from the configuration
  - unconfigureJaspi - Removes the JASPI configuration from a security domain

This page lists the available wsadmin tasks for JASPI configuration. See the information center for complete details.



## B) Scenario: Application management and JASPI (1 of 2)

- An application deployer wants:
  - to configure and enable JASPI authentication when applications are installed or edited
  - to enable or disable JASPI for selected web modules in the application



JASPI providers can be mapped to applications and the web modules within an application.

This mapping can be established during web application deployment, or after the application has been installed.

You can also disable JASPI for specific applications or web modules within the application.

## B) Scenario: Application management and JASPI (2 of 2)

Enterprise Applications > DefaultApplication > JASPI provider

JASPI provider

JASPI providers offer an alternative to JAAS pluggable authentication for web modules. By default, an application inherits the JASPI settings defined in the WebSphere Application Server global or domain security configuration and web modules inherit the application setting. However, you can override these defaults by using wsadmin or the administrative console.

Select JASPI provider

Select	Application	URI	JASPI provider name
<input type="checkbox"/>	DefaultApplication	META-INF/application.xml	Inherit JASPI provider
Select Module			
Select	Module	URI	JASPI provider name
<input type="checkbox"/>	Default Web Application	DefaultWebApplication.war,WEB-INF/web.xml	Inherit JASPI provider

OK Cancel

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Enterprise Applications > DefaultApplication > JASPI provider

JASPI provider

JASPI providers offer an alternative to JAAS pluggable authentication for web modules. By default, an application inherits the JASPI settings defined in the WebSphere Application Server global or domain security configuration and web modules inherit the application setting. However, you can override these defaults by using wsadmin or the administrative console.

Select JASPI provider

- Do not use JASPI
- Inherit JASPI provider
- SharedLibProvider
- GlobalLibProvider

Select	Application	URI	JASPI provider name
<input type="checkbox"/>	DefaultApplication	META-INF/application.xml	Inherit JASPI provider
Select Module			
Select	Module	URI	JASPI provider name
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Default Web Application	DefaultWebApplication.war,WEB-INF/web.xml	Inherit JASPI provider

OK Cancel

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By default, installed applications will inherit their JASPI provider from the cell or security domain level configuration.

Applications inherit their JASPI provider from the default JASPI provider defined in the global or domain security configuration, and web modules inherit the application's JASPI provider.

The JASPI provider mapping configuration can be changed for either the application or web module by selecting either: Do not use JASPI, Inherit JASPI provider, or a JASPI provider defined in the security configuration.

## Summary

- JASPI (JSR196) is a new feature for WebSphere Application Server 8.0.
- WebSphere Application Server 8.0 provides the infrastructure and configuration tools to support JASPI
  - A default implementation is not provided

In summary, WebSphere Application Server version 8 supports the JSR 196: Java Authentication SPI for Containers specification, which enables third-party security providers to handle the Java Platform, Enterprise Edition (Java EE) authentication of HTTP request and response messages destined for web applications. This new feature provides the infrastructure and the configuration tools to use JASPI specification compliant providers. Note that WebSphere Application Server version 8 does not include a JASPI provider.

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## References

The following are a list of useful references related to the JASPI feature.



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