

Measuring the WebSphere Message Broker - Part 1

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Introduction

Almost every company uses applications that has been implemented over many years using different formats, languages and platforms. For these reasons these applications can't communicate with each other to share data and business processes; this lack of communication leads to inefficiencies, such that identical data are stored in multiple locations, or straightforward processes are almost impossible to automate.

To resolve this issue only two solutions are possible:

- integrating the existing applications;
- rewriting some or all of them.

It's easy to understand that integrating the existing applications is a more practical and cost effective solution than the alternative.

However application integration is not a simple task to perform so there is a growing interest in the market for products which can assist in making application integration much quicker and easier.

The IBM WebSphere Message Broker (WMB) is one of the products which can be used in the implementation of an application integration architecture. It allows both business data and information, in the form of messages, to flow between disparate applications and across multiple hardware and software platforms without any need to change the underlying applications.

WMB is built upon WebSphere MQ and therefore supports the same transports. However, it also extends the capabilities of WebSphere MQ by adding support for other protocols, including real-time Internet, intranet, and multicast endpoints.

WMB can run on any platform. While many of the concepts are the same in all platforms in this paper we will specifically refer to the WMB implementation in z/OS.

After a short introduction to WMB concepts and how its runtime architecture shows in a z/OS environment, we will discuss the metrics available to control and tune WMB performance.

A real life example will also be discussed.