



BizTalk Custom Pipeline Components

Business Case:

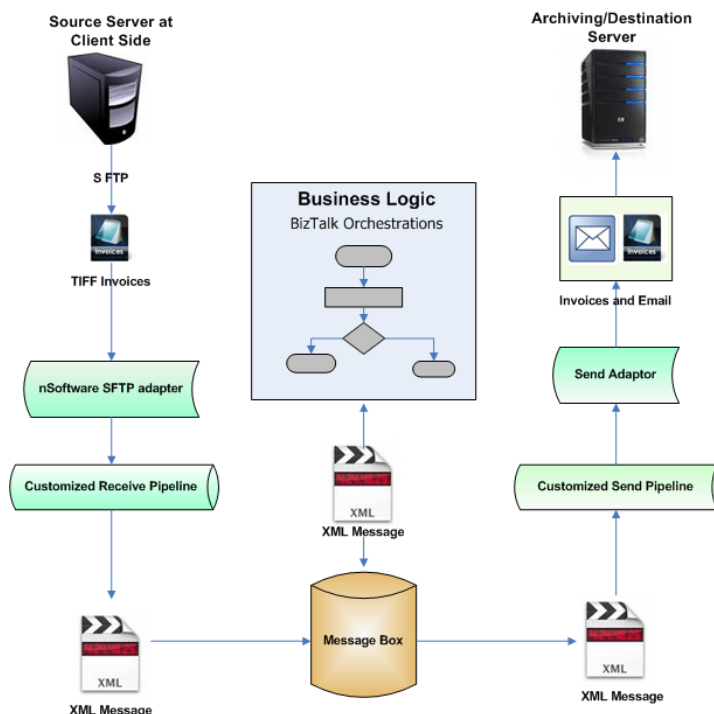
A Sweden based ICT Company were facing a problem in archiving of invoice message (TIFF files). They had to do many manual processes for the archiving which required automation.

Requirement:

The requirement of the client was to create a custom pipeline component in BizTalk to support archiving of invoice message (TIFF files). The proposed solution has to interact over secure FTP (SFTP). The invoices have to be transferred to the second party and acknowledgement of the receipt is to be recorded. If there is any error in the process then it has to be notified by email. A strict requirement was that the invoice and accompanying files should be transferred as a single set. If there is any error then the sending of invoice should be cancelled and notified by email.

Decos Solution:

BizTalk Pipelines allow you to customize the processing of XML documents received or sent via the various BizTalk adapters. Custom Pipeline components extend the behavior of Pipelines to include processing data of virtually any format. They can be a powerful solution if you support legacy systems that require integration with other products, but your legacy data format does not follow standards. It may contain carriage returns in odd places or records spanning any number of lines of text, for example. The only stipulation is that the data emerging from the Custom Pipeline must be some form of XML document.





The client's requirement was to build custom pipeline component in BizTalk to support archiving of invoice message. The invoices which were TIFF files were generated at the client's side.

First step taken by Decos Team was creation of windows services to interact with SFTP server at source and destination sides. And then the Enhancements to third-party nSoftware component were done to search/create directories recursively.

To complete a Pipeline, one or more Pipeline components from within Visual Studio .NET were needed to be selected and then they can be added to the Pipeline. None of the existing BizTalk Pipeline components satisfied the client requirements, so Decos had to build a custom pipeline component.

A custom pipeline component for archiving the invoices was created.

After creating the custom Pipeline component, the pipeline was deployed to the C:\Program Files\Microsoft BizTalk Server 2006\Pipeline Components directory so the custom Pipeline component can be added to the Pipeline in the BizTalk 2006 project. After deploying the custom Pipeline component, the component was added to the Pipeline component toolbar.

The logic in BizTalk Orchestrations was implemented to ensure that files are received as a single set and error conditions are detected and notified.

Technologies being used for this solution:

BizTalk Server 2006 R2, nSoftware SFTP adapter, SSH library

The Result:

Decos team delivered this solution in 20 days and is currently working on the development of additional features. Client was delighted to have an advanced solution based on Biztalk Server 2006 to get relief from their pain area of archiving the invoice messages.

