

# [MS-NMFTB]: .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol

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## Revision Summary

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# 1 Introduction

The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol specifies how the .NET Message Framing Protocol [\[MC-NMF\]](#) is used for framing **SOAP messages** over **TCP** [\[RFC793\]](#).

**Note** This specification does not define any SOAP messages. Rather, it specifies how SOAP messages defined by a higher-layer protocol are framed for transport over TCP.

Sections 1.8, 2, and 3 of this specification are normative and can contain the terms MAY, SHOULD, MUST, MUST NOT, and SHOULD NOT as defined in RFC 2119. Sections 1.5 and 1.9 are also normative but cannot contain those terms. All other sections and examples in this specification are informative.

## 1.1 Glossary

The following terms are defined in [\[MS-GLOS\]](#):

**endpoint**  
**.NET Framework**  
**SOAP**  
**SOAP message**  
**Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)**  
**URI**  
**Web Services Description Language (WSDL)**  
**XML**  
**XML namespace**  
**XML schema (XSD)**

The following terms are defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#):

**initiator**  
**receiver**

The following terms are specific to this document:

**authority:** A hierarchical element in a **URI scheme** used for delegating governance of the name space defined by the remainder of the **URI**, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.2.

**connection:** A logical communication path identified by a pair of sockets, as defined in [\[RFC793\]](#).

**end record:** A record containing no data that indicates that communication over a **connection**, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.9.

**fragment:** A component of a **URI** that allows for indirect identification of a secondary resource by reference to a primary resource, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.5.

**framing session:** The communication session established for framing of the .NET message, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 1.3.

**hierarchical URI:** A **URI** expressed using hierarchical syntax, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#).

**host:** A subcomponent of the naming **authority** in a **URI scheme**, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.2.2.

**port:** A subcomponent of the naming **authority** in a **URI scheme**, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.2.3.

**query:** Contains non-hierarchical data used to identify a resource within the scope of a **URI scheme** and naming **authority**, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.4.

**scheme:** The name of a specification to refer to when assigning identifiers within a particular **URI scheme**, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.1.

**TCP connection:** A **connection** established as specified in [\[RFC793\]](#) section 3.4.

**transport session:** A group of messages correlated into conversation by the transport.

**user information:** User information for the **authority** in a **URI scheme**, as defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.2.1.

**MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT:** These terms (in all caps) are used as described in [\[RFC2119\]](#). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

## 1.2 References

References to Microsoft Open Specifications documentation do not include a publishing year because links are to the latest version of the documents, which are updated frequently. References to other documents include a publishing year when one is available.

### 1.2.1 Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact [dochelp@microsoft.com](mailto:dochelp@microsoft.com). We will assist you in finding the relevant information.

[MC-NBFS] Microsoft Corporation, "[.NET Binary Format: SOAP Data Structure](#)".

[MC-NBFSE] Microsoft Corporation, "[.NET Binary Format: SOAP Extension](#)".

[MC-NMF] Microsoft Corporation, "[.NET Message Framing Protocol](#)".

[RFC793] Postel, J., "Transmission Control Protocol", STD 7, RFC 793, September 1981, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0793.txt>

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>

[RFC3986] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., and Masinter, L., "Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax", STD 66, RFC 3986, January 2005, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3986.txt>

[SOAP1.1] Box, D., Ehnebuske, D., Kakivaya, G., et al., "Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) 1.1", May 2000, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/NOTE-SOAP-20000508/>

[SOAP1.2-1/2003] Gudgin, M., Hadley, M., Mendelsohn, N., et al., "SOAP Version 1.2 Part 1: Messaging Framework", W3C Recommendation, June 2003, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2003/REC-soap12-part1-20030624>

[WSDL] Christensen, E., Curbera, F., Meredith, G., and Weerawarana, S., "Web Services Description Language (WSDL) 1.1", W3C Note, March 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/NOTE-wsdl-20010315>

[WSDL SOAP] Angelov, D., Ballinger, K., Butek, R., et al., "WSDL 1.1 Binding Extension for SOAP 1.2", W3c Member Submission, April 2006, <http://www.w3.org/Submission/wsd11soap12/>

[XMLNS-2ED] World Wide Web Consortium, "Namespaces in XML 1.0 (Second Edition)", August 2006, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2006/REC-xml-names-20060816/>

[XMLSCHEMA1] Thompson, H.S., Beech, D., Maloney, M., and Mendelsohn, N., Eds., "XML Schema Part 1: Structures", W3C Recommendation, May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-1-20010502/>

[XMLSCHEMA2] Biron, P.V., and Malhotra, A., Eds., "XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes", W3C Recommendation, May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-2-20010502/>

## 1.2.2 Informative References

[MS-GLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Protocols Master Glossary](#)".

## 1.3 Overview

The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol specifies how the mechanism for framing messages over any transport protocol, as defined in the .NET Message Framing Protocol [\[MC-NMF\]](#), can be applied over the TCP [\[RFC793\]](#) transport protocol.

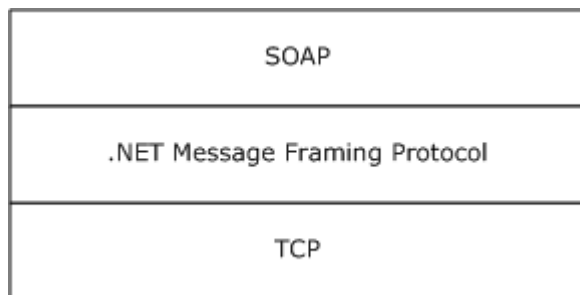
The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol also defines the net.tcp **URI scheme** and a URI for identifying this protocol as the transport for sending **SOAP** 1.1 messages [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) or SOAP 1.2 messages [\[SOAP1.2-1/2003\]](#).

## 1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol uses TCP as the transport [\[RFC793\]](#).

This protocol uses .NET Message Framing [\[MC-NMF\]](#) to send SOAP 1.1 messages [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) or SOAP 1.2 messages [\[SOAP1.2-1/2003\]](#).

The following figure shows the protocol stack:



**Figure 1: .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol transport stack**

## 1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol requires that an **initiator** can connect to a **receiver** over TCP [\[RFC793\]](#).



## 1.6 Applicability Statement

The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol is applicable in scenarios where an initiator and a receiver require a communication mechanism to send and receive SOAP messages over TCP [\[RFC793\]](#).

## 1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation

This document covers versioning issues in the following areas:

- **Supported Transports:** This protocol requires TCP [\[RFC793\]](#) as specified in section [2.1](#).
- **Protocol Versions:** This protocol requires .NET Message Framing Protocol version 1.0 [\[MC-NMF\]](#). When this protocol is implemented using SOAP, the use of SOAP version 1.1 [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) or SOAP version 1.2 [\[SOAP1.2-1/2003\]](#) is required.
- **Capability Negotiation:** This protocol does not support negotiation of the version or capabilities to use.

## 1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields

This protocol has no vendor-extensible fields.

## 1.9 Standards Assignments

There are no standards assignments for this protocol.

## 2 Messages

### 2.1 Transport

The .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol requires TCP [\[RFC793\]](#).

An **endpoint** that uses the .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol with [\[SOAP1.2-1/2003\]](#) MUST set the value of the transport attribute of the wsoap12:binding element [\[WSDLSOAP\]](#) to <http://schemas.microsoft.com/soap/tcp>.

An endpoint that uses the .NET Message Framing TCP Binding Protocol with [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) MUST set the value of the transport attribute of the soap:binding element [\[WSDL\]](#) to <http://schemas.microsoft.com/soap/tcp>.

### 2.2 Common Message Syntax

This section contains common definitions used by this protocol. The syntax of the definitions uses **XML Schema** as defined in [\[XMLSCHEMA1\]](#) and [\[XMLSCHEMA2\]](#), and **Web Services Description Language** as defined in [\[WSDL\]](#).

#### 2.2.1 Namespaces

This specification defines and references various **XML namespaces** using the mechanisms specified in [\[XMLNS-2ED\]](#). Although this specification associates a specific XML namespace prefix for each XML namespace that is used, the choice of any particular XML namespace prefix is implementation-specific and not significant for interoperability.

Prefix	Namespace URI	Reference
soap	<a href="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap">http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap</a>	<a href="#">[WSDL]</a>
soap12	<a href="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap12/">http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap12/</a>	<a href="#">[WSDLSOAP]</a>
wsdl	<a href="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/">http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/</a>	<a href="#">[WSDL]</a>

#### 2.2.2 Messages

This specification does not define any common XML Schema message definitions.

#### 2.2.3 Elements

This specification does not define any common XML Schema element definitions.

#### 2.2.4 Complex Types

This specification does not define any common XML Schema complex type definitions.

#### 2.2.5 Simple Types

This specification does not define any common XML Schema simple type definitions.

#### 2.2.6 Attributes

This specification does not define any common XML Schema attribute definitions.

### **2.2.7 Groups**

This specification does not define any common XML Schema group definitions.

### **2.2.8 Attribute Groups**

This specification does not define any common XML Schema attribute group definitions.

## 3 Protocol Details

A participant in this protocol can behave in one of two roles:

- Initiator
- Receiver

An initiator initiates the process by establishing a **TCP connection** to a receiver. The resulting TCP connection is used as the transport for performing the .NET Message Framing Protocol [\[MC-NMF\]](#).

### 3.1 Common Details

#### 3.1.1 Abstract Data Model

A net.tcp URI identifies a resource that listens for TCP connections and assumes the receiver role of this protocol.

A net.tcp URI is a URI that satisfies the following constraints:

- The scheme component of the URI MUST be net.tcp.
- The URI MUST be a **hierarchical URI**.
- The **authority** component of the URI MUST be specified.
- The authority component of the URI MUST NOT include **user information**.
- The URI SHOULD NOT include the **query** URI component. [<1>](#)
- The URI SHOULD NOT include the **fragment** URI component. [<2>](#)

If the authority component of a net.tcp URI does not specify a **port**, then the default port MUST be considered to be 808.

The protocol MUST maintain the following data elements for each TCP connection:

**TCP Protocol Configuration Object (TPCO):** A configuration object as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 3.1.1 that satisfies the following constraints:

- The Via, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.3, specified by the **TPCO** MUST be a net.tcp URI as specified in this section.
- The Via, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.3, specified by the **TPCO** MUST be an absolute URI.
- The protocol version specified by the **TPCO** MUST be 1.0.
- The communication mode specified by the **TPCO** MUST NOT be Simplex, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.2. [<3>](#)
- The communication mode specified by the **TPCO** MUST NOT be Singleton-Sized, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.2. [<4>](#)
- If the communication mode is Duplex, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.2, then the encoding specified by the **TPCO** MUST NOT be Binary [\[MC-NBFS\]](#). The transport in this mode uses a **transport session**. [<5>](#)

- If the communication mode is Singleton-Unsigned, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.2, then the encoding specified by the **TPCO** MUST NOT be Binary with in-band dictionary [\[MC-NBFSE\]](#). The transport in this mode uses a transport session. [<6>](#)

### 3.1.2 Timers

None.

### 3.1.3 Initialization

A **TPCO** with an uninitialized transport is made available to the protocol as part of a higher-layer triggered event.

### 3.1.4 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

This specification does not define any common XML Schema operation definitions.

### 3.1.5 Timer Events

None.

### 3.1.6 Other Local Events

#### 3.1.6.1 TCP connection Aborted

If the TCP connection is aborted at any time, then the protocol MUST:

- Close the **framing session** (if one exists)
- Discard any state associated with the TCP connection
- Terminate

#### 3.1.6.2 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

##### 3.1.6.2.1 Abort the TCP connection

The protocol MUST abort the TCP connection.

The protocol MUST discard any state associated with the TCP connection and framing session and then terminate.

## 3.2 Initiator Details

### 3.2.1 Abstract Data Model

The initiator role MUST maintain the following data elements for each TCP connection (in addition to the **TPCO**):

**Connection State:** One of two possible values.

- CONNECTED, see section [3.2.1.1](#)
- BUSY, see section [3.2.1.2](#)

### 3.2.1.1 CONNECTED State

CONNECTED is the initial state. The following events are processed in the CONNECTED state:

- Connect, as specified in section [3.2.6.2.1](#)
- Abort the TCP connection, as specified in section [3.1.6.2.1](#)

### 3.2.1.2 BUSY State

The following events are processed in the BUSY state:

- End the framing session, as specified in section [3.2.6.1](#)
- Abort the TCP connection, as specified in section [3.1.6.2.1](#)

### 3.2.2 Timers

None.

### 3.2.3 Initialization

When a new TCP connection is created, the **Connection State** for the TCP connection MUST be set to [CONNECTED](#).

### 3.2.4 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

This specification does not define any XML Schema operation definitions for the initiator role.

### 3.2.5 Timer Events

None.

### 3.2.6 Other Local Events

#### 3.2.6.1 End Framing session

The End Framing session event occurs due to one of the following conditions:

- The initiator has both received an end message and has sent an end message. For details about the end message, see [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.9.
- The initiator sends a Fault Record. For details about the Fault Record, see [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.5.
- The initiator receives a Fault Record.

When the framing session has ended for a given TCP connection, the initiator MUST set the **Connection State** to CONNECTED (see section [3.2.1.1](#)).

## 3.2.6.2 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

### 3.2.6.2.1 Connect

The initiator MUST establish a TCP connection with the **host** that is specified by the authority component of the Via URI from the **TPCO**. The manner in which the TCP connection is established (for example, by creating a new **connection** or by reusing an existing one) is implementation-specific. The initiator MUST NOT reuse a TCP connection in the **BUSY Connection State** (see section [3.2.1.2](#)). Once the TCP connection is established, the initiator MUST set the **Connection State** for that TCP connection to **BUSY**.

If the initiator fails to establish a TCP connection, then the initiator MUST notify the higher layer of the error and then discard all state for the TCP connection.

An implementation SHOULD NOT leave a connection in the **CONNECTED** state indefinitely (see section [3.2.1.1](#)).<7>

Once a TCP connection has been established, the initiator MUST set the **TPCO** transport to the TCP connection. The initiator MUST store the **TPCO** for the TCP connection. The initiator MUST then assume the initiator role, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) in section [3.2](#).

The initiator MUST use the **TPCO** stored for the TCP connection to initialize new framing sessions.

## 3.3 Receiver Details

### 3.3.1 Abstract Data Model

None.

### 3.3.2 Timers

None.

### 3.3.3 Initialization

The following initialization requirements are in addition to the initialization requirements specified in section [3.1.3](#).

The receiver MUST listen for a TCP connection at the host and port specified by the authority component of the Via URI from the **TPCO**.

Once a TCP connection has been established, the receiver MUST set the **TPCO** transport to the TCP connection. The receiver MUST then assume the receiver role as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 3.3.

The receiver MUST use the **TPCO** to initialize new sessions.

If the receiver fails to start listening for TCP connections, then the receiver MUST notify the higher layer of the error and terminate.

### 3.3.4 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

This specification does not define any XML Schema operation definitions for the receiver role.

### 3.3.5 Timer Events

None.

## 3.3.6 Other Local Events

### 3.3.6.1 End Framing session

The End Framing session event occurs due to one of the following conditions:

- The receiver has both received an end message and has sent an end message. For more information about the end message, see [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.3.9.
- The receiver sends a Fault Record. For more information about the Fault Record, see [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.5.
- The receiver receives a Fault Record.

When the framing session has ended for a given TCP connection, the receiver **MUST** reassume the receiver role using the **TPCO** stored with the connection, as defined in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 3.3.



## 4 Protocol Examples

The protocol is initialized with the following **TPCO**:

- Transport: <no value>
- Protocol version: 1.0
- Mode: 0x02 (Duplex)
- Via: net.tcp://SampleServer/SampleApp/
- Encoding: Binary

The receiver listens for connections at the address 192.168.2.13 on port 802.

The initiator actively establishes a connection to the host at 192.168.2.13 on port 802 (a TCP connection for the specified Via does not already exist).

Both the initiator and the receiver store the **TPCO** with the established TCP connection as the transport and assume the initiator and receiver roles for the .NET Message Framing Protocol [\[MC-NMF\]](#) respectively.

The protocol exchange proceeds as described in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 4.1.

When the initiator receives the final **end record**, the higher layer protocol aborts the connection.

## **5 Security**

### **5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers**

None.

### **5.2 Index of Security Parameters**

None.

## 6 Appendix A: Full WSDL

The following WSDL specifies the WSDL 1.1 binding extension transport URI with the version of SOAP as indicated.

### WSDL 1.1 binding extension transport URI with SOAP 1.2 [\[SOAP1.2-1/2003\]](#)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<wsdl:definitions xmlns:wsdl="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/"
                  xmlns:soap12="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap12/">
  <!-- omitted elements -->
  <wsdl:binding name="MyBinding" type="MyPortType">
    <soap12:binding transport="http://schemas.microsoft.com/soap/tcp"/>
    <wsdl:operation name="MyOperation">
      <!-- omitted elements -->
    </wsdl:operation>
  </wsdl:binding>
  <wsdl:service name="MyService">
    <wsdl:port name="MyPort" binding="MyBinding">
      <soap12:address location="net.tcp://myhost/" />
    </wsdl:port>
  </wsdl:service>
</wsdl:definitions>
```

### WSDL 1.1 binding extension transport URI with SOAP 1.1 [\[SOAP1.1\]](#)

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<wsdl:definitions xmlns:wsdl="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/"
                  xmlns:soap="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/wsdl/soap/">
  <!-- omitted elements -->
  <wsdl:binding name="MyBinding" type="MyPortType">
    <soap:binding transport="http://schemas.microsoft.com/soap/tcp"/>
    <wsdl:operation name="MyOperation">
      <!-- omitted elements -->
    </wsdl:operation>
  </wsdl:binding>
  <wsdl:service name="MyService">
    <wsdl:port name="MyPort" binding="MyBinding">
      <soap:address location="net.tcp://myhost/" />
    </wsdl:port>
  </wsdl:service>
</wsdl:definitions>
```

## 7 Appendix B: Product Behavior

This document specifies version-specific details in the Microsoft .NET Framework. For information about which versions of .NET Framework are available in each released Windows product or as supplemental software, see [.NET Framework](#).

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include released service packs:

- Microsoft .NET Framework 3.0
- Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.0
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5

Exceptions, if any, are noted below. If a service pack or Quick Fix Engineering (QFE) number appears with the product version, behavior changed in that service pack or QFE. The new behavior also applies to subsequent service packs of the product unless otherwise specified. If a product edition appears with the product version, behavior is different in that product edition.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification that is prescribed using the terms SHOULD or SHOULD NOT implies product behavior in accordance with the SHOULD or SHOULD NOT prescription. Unless otherwise specified, the term MAY implies that the product does not follow the prescription.

[<1> Section 3.1.1:](#) The Windows implementation of this protocol ignores the query and fragment components of the Via URI specified by the **TPCO**.

[<2> Section 3.1.1:](#) The Windows implementation of this protocol ignores the query and fragment components of the Via URI specified by the **TPCO**.

[<3> Section 3.1.1:](#) While establishing the framing session as defined in section [3.2.6.2.1](#), if the communication mode specified by the initiator is Simplex, the Windows implementation of the receiver sends an UnsupportedMode Fault Record to the initiator, as specified in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.5.

[<4> Section 3.1.1:](#) While establishing the framing session as defined in section [3.2.6.2.1](#), if the communication mode specified by the initiator is Singleton-Sized, the Windows implementation of the receiver sends an UnsupportedMode Fault Record to the initiator, as specified in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.5.

[<5> Section 3.1.1:](#) While establishing the framing session as defined in section [3.2.6.2.1](#), if the communication mode specified by the initiator is Duplex and the encoding is Binary, the Windows implementation of the receiver sends a ContentTypeInvalid Fault Record to the initiator, as specified in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.5.

[<6> Section 3.1.1:](#) While establishing the framing session as defined in section [3.2.6.2.1](#), if the communication mode specified by the initiator is Singleton-Unsigned and the encoding is Binary with in-band dictionary, the Windows implementation of the receiver sends a ContentTypeInvalid Fault Record to the initiator, as specified in [\[MC-NMF\]](#) section 2.2.5.

[<7> Section 3.2.6.2.1:](#) The Windows implementation of this protocol aborts the TCP connection if the connection is in the CONNECTED state for longer than two minutes, or if a connection in the CONNECTED state has existed for longer than five minutes.

## 8 Change Tracking

No table of changes is available. The document is either new or has had no changes since its last release.

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