



# Web Services Addressing 1.0 - SOAP Binding

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### Abstract

Web Services Addressing provides transport-neutral mechanisms to address Web services and messages. Web Services Addressing 1.0 - SOAP Binding (this document) defines the binding of the abstract properties defined in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core to SOAP Messages.

### Status of this document

*This section describes the status of this document at the time of its publication. Other documents may supersede this document. A list of current W3C publications and the latest revision of this technical report can be found in the [W3C technical reports index](#) at <http://www.w3.org/TR/>.*

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This is the [Recommendation](#) of the Web Services Addressing 1.0 - SOAP Binding specification. It has been produced by the [Web Services Addressing Working Group](#) (WG), which is part of the [W3C Web Services Activity](#).

This document has been reviewed by W3C Members, by software developers, and by other W3C groups and interested parties, and is endorsed by the Director as a W3C Recommendation. It is a stable document and may be used as reference material or cited from another document. W3C's role in making the Recommendation is to draw attention to the specification and to promote its widespread deployment. This enhances the functionality and interoperability of the Web.

The Working Group made the following editorial changes to the Proposed Recommendation in response to comments: normative and informative references are now more clearly distinguished, and some typographical errors were fixed. An [implementation report](#) showing that the Candidate Recommendation exit criteria have been met and exceeded is available, along with a [test suite](#). A [diff-marked version against the previous version of this document](#) is available.

Please report errors in this document to the public [public-ws-addressing-comments@w3.org](mailto:public-ws-addressing-comments@w3.org) mailing list ([public archive](#)).

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# 1. Introduction

Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[[WS-Addressing Core](#)]] defines a set of abstract properties and an XML Infoset [[[XML Information Set](#)]] representation thereof to reference Web service endpoints and to facilitate end-to-end addressing of endpoints in messages. Web Services Addressing 1.0 - SOAP Binding (this document) defines the binding of the abstract properties defined in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core to SOAP Messages.

The following example illustrates the use of these mechanisms in a SOAP 1.2 message being sent from `http://example.com/business/client1` to `http://example.com/fabrikam/Purchasing`:

Use of message addressing properties in a SOAP 1.2 message.

```
(01) <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope"
      xmlns:wsa="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing">
(02)   <S:Header>
(03)
<wsa:MessageID>http://example.com/6B29FC40-CA47-1067-B31D-00DD010662DA</wsa:MessageID>
(04)   <wsa:ReplyTo>
(05)     <wsa:Address>http://example.com/business/client1</wsa:Address>
(06)   </wsa:ReplyTo>
(07)   <wsa:To>http://example.com/fabrikam/Purchasing</wsa:To>
(08)   <wsa:Action>http://example.com/fabrikam/SubmitPO</wsa:Action>
(09) </S:Header>
(10) <S:Body>
(11)   ...
(12) </S:Body>
(13) </S:Envelope>
```

Lines (02) to (09) represent the header of the SOAP message where the mechanisms defined in the specification are used. The body is represented by lines (10) to (12).

Lines (03) to (08) contain the message addressing properties serialized as SOAP header blocks. Specifically, line (03) specifies the identifier for this message and lines (04) to (06) specify the endpoint to which replies to this message should be sent as an Endpoint Reference. Line (07) specifies the address URI of the ultimate receiver of this message. Line (08) specifies an action URI identifying expected semantics.

## 1.1. Notational Conventions

The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119 [[[IETF RFC 2119](#)]].

When describing abstract data models, this specification uses the notational convention used by XML Infoset [[[XML Information Set](#)]]. Specifically, abstract property names always appear in square brackets (e.g., [some property]).

When describing concrete XML schemas [[[XML Schema Structures](#)], [[XML Schema Datatypes](#)]], this specification uses the notational convention of WS-Security [[[WS-Security](#)]]. Specifically, each member of an element's [children] or [attributes] property is described using an XPath-like notation (e.g.,

/x:MyHeader/x:SomeProperty/@value1). The use of {any} indicates the presence of an element wildcard (<xs:any/>). The use of @{any} indicates the presence of an attribute wildcard (<xs:anyAttribute/>).

## 1.2. Namespaces

This specification uses a number of namespace prefixes throughout; they are listed in Prefixes and Namespaces used in this specification Prefix Namespace S <http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope> S11 <http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope> wsa <http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing> wsaw <http://www.w3.org/2006/02/addressing/wsdl> xs <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema> . Note that the choice of any namespace prefix is arbitrary and not semantically significant (see [\[\[XML Namespaces\]\]](#)).

### Prefixes and Namespaces used in this specification

Prefix	Namespace
S	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope">http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope</a>
S11	<a href="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope">http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope</a>
wsa	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing">http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing</a>
wsaw	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2006/02/addressing/wsdl">http://www.w3.org/2006/02/addressing/wsdl</a>
xs	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema</a>

WS-Addressing is defined in terms of the XML Information Set [\[\[XML Information Set\]\]](#). WS-Addressing is conformant to the SOAP 1.2 [\[\[SOAP 1.2 Messaging Framework\]\]](#) processing model and is also compatible with SOAP 1.1 [\[\[SOAP 1.1\]\]](#) for backwards compatibility. WS-Addressing may be used with WSDL [\[\[WSDL 2.0 Core Language\]\]](#) described services as described in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - WSDL Binding [\[\[WS-Addressing WSDL Binding\]\]](#). The examples in this specification use an XML 1.0 [\[\[XML 1.0\]\]](#) representation but this is not a requirement.

All information items defined by this specification are identified by the XML namespace URI [\[\[XML Namespaces\]\]](#) <http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing>. A normative XML Schema [\[\[XML Schema Structures\]\]](#), [\[XML Schema Datatypes\]](#) document can be obtained by dereferencing the XML namespace URI.

## 2. SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature

This section defines the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature.

### 2.1. Feature Name

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature is named using the following URI:

- <http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature>

### 2.2. Description

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature provides a SOAP-specific expression of the abstract message addressing properties defined by Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core [\[\[WS-Addressing Core\]\]](#).

This feature may be used with any SOAP MEP. A binding that supports this feature **MUST** provide a means to transmit the properties listed below with a message and to reconstitute their values on receipt of a message.

## 2.3. Properties

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature defines the following properties:

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/Destination***

Corresponds to the abstract [destination] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/SourceEndpoint***

Corresponds to the abstract [source endpoint] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/ReplyEndpoint***

Corresponds to the abstract [reply endpoint] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/FaultEndpoint***

Corresponds to the abstract [fault endpoint] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/Action***

Corresponds to the abstract [action] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/MessageID***

Corresponds to the abstract [message id] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/Relationship***

Corresponds to the abstract [relationship] property.

***http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/ReferenceParameters***

Corresponds to the abstract [reference parameters] property.

## 2.4. Interactions with Other SOAP Features

If the <http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap/features/action/Action> property of the SOAP Action feature[[[SOAP 1.2 Adjuncts](#)]] has a value, then the value of the <http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/feature/Action> property of the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 feature **MUST** be identical to it. Failure to have an identical value results in an Invalid Addressing Header fault (see § 6.4.1 – [Invalid Addressing Header](#) on page 12).

# 3. SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module defines a set of SOAP header blocks to support the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature described in § 2 – [SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature](#) on page 2.

## 3.1. Module Name

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module is identified using the following URI:

- <http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/module>

## 3.2. Description

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature (see § 2 – [SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature](#) on page 2) defines a set of SOAP properties and their correspondence to the abstract message addressing properties defined by Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core [[WS-Addressing Core](#)]. The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module defines SOAP headers corresponding to the XML Infoset representation of the abstract message addressing properties defined in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core.

### 3.2.1. Sending Messages

When sending a message each property is represented using the appropriate element information item as a SOAP header block. By default, the resulting header blocks are targeted at the ultimate recipient in the SOAP message path (note that extensions to WS-Addressing could be written to specify different targeting). § 3.4 – [Binding Message Addressing Properties](#) on page 4 describes additional processing required when binding message addressing properties to SOAP header blocks.

### 3.2.2. Receiving Messages

When receiving a message, the abstract properties are populated from their corresponding element information items in the message. A message **MUST NOT** contain more than one `wsa:To`, `wsa:ReplyTo`, `wsa:FaultTo`, `wsa:Action`, or `wsa:MessageID` header targeted at a recipient; headers with an incorrect cardinality **MUST NOT** be used to populate the corresponding abstract properties. A recipient **MUST** generate a `wsa:InvalidAddressingHeader` (see § 6.4.1 – [Invalid Addressing Header](#) on page 12) fault if such a message is received.



The SOAP processing model dictates that message addressing properties targeted at an intermediary do not normally get relayed as message addressing properties when the message is forwarded along the message path. The specification for a SOAP header used as a reference parameter or use of the `soap:relay` attribute can override this default behavior.

## 3.3. Additional Infoset Items

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module defines the following additional XML Infoset items:

*[reference parameters]*@`wsa:IsReferenceParameter`

This **REQUIRED** attribute (of type `xs:boolean`) signifies whether the message addressing header is a reference parameter, see section § 3.4 – [Binding Message Addressing Properties](#) on page 4 for more details on its use.

## 3.4. Binding Message Addressing Properties

When a message is to be addressed to an endpoint, the XML Infoset representation of each message addressing property that has been assigned a value is inserted into the message as a SOAP header block subject to the following additional constraints:

- The value, if any, of the `[reference parameters]` property is added to the SOAP message header: the element information item of each of the `[reference parameters]` (including all of its `[children]`, `[attributes]` and `[in-scope namespaces]`) is added as a SOAP header block in the new message.



The insertion of SOAP headers into a message implies particular semantics. Since the reference parameter mechanism does not restrict the content of the generated headers, EPR suppliers should exercise appropriate

caution to ensure their reference parameters do not cause unintended or erroneous semantics in the resultant SOAP message. For example, using a reference parameter to send a WS-Security[[WS-Security]] header would be ill-advised (since other parts of the SOAP infrastructure will often control this header, and there must be at most one of them per message).

- Each header block added as a result of the above rule is annotated with a `wsa:IsReferenceParameter` attribute (see § 3.3 – Additional Infoset Items on page 4) whose value is a valid `xs:boolean` representation of true. Any existing `wsa:IsReferenceParameter` attribute on the header block is replaced.



Integrity validation of [reference parameters] needs to take into account the addition of `wsa:IsReferenceParameter` attributes and the corresponding introduction of the WS-Addressing namespace to the [in-scope namespaces]

- The value of each message addressing property that is of type IRI MUST be serialized as an absolute IRI in the corresponding SOAP header block. No additional %-escaping is performed.
- Each optional element or attribute that has a value equal to the defined default value for that element or attribute MAY be omitted.

The following example shows how the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module is used to construct a message addressed to the endpoint:

Example endpoint reference.

```
<wsa:EndpointReference
  xmlns:wsa="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing"
  xmlns:wsaw="http://www.w3.org/2006/02/addressing/wsdl"
  xmlns:fabrikam="http://example.com/fabrikam"
  xmlns:wsdli="http://www.w3.org/2006/01/wsdl-instance"
  wsdl:wsdlLocation="http://example.com/fabrikam
    http://example.com/fabrikam/fabrikam.wsdl">
  <wsa:Address>http://example.com/fabrikam/acct</wsa:Address>
  <wsa:Metadata>
    <wsaw:InterfaceName>fabrikam:Inventory</wsaw:InterfaceName>
  </wsa:Metadata>
  <wsa:ReferenceParameters>
    <fabrikam:CustomerKey>123456789</fabrikam:CustomerKey>
    <fabrikam:ShoppingCart>ABCDEFG</fabrikam:ShoppingCart>
  </wsa:ReferenceParameters>
</wsa:EndpointReference>
```

The address value is copied in the "To" header block and the "CustomerKey" and "ShoppingCart" elements are copied literally as a header blocks in a SOAP message addressed to this endpoint. The resulting SOAP message would look as follows:

Example endpoint reference mapped to SOAP message header blocks.

```
<S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap-envelope"
  xmlns:wsa="http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing"
  xmlns:fabrikam="http://example.com/fabrikam">
  <S:Header>
```

```
    ...
    <wsa:To>http://example.com/fabrikam/acct</wsa:To>
    <wsa:Action>...</wsa:Action>
    <fabrikam:CustomerKey
wsa:IsReferenceParameter='true'>123456789</fabrikam:CustomerKey>
    <fabrikam:ShoppingCart
wsa:IsReferenceParameter='true'>ABCDEFG</fabrikam:ShoppingCart>
    ...
</S:Header>
<S:Body>
    ...
</S:Body>
</S:Envelope>
```

### 3.5. Relationship between SOAP Headers and transport-level properties

Some underlying protocols may support native properties similar to the Message Addressing Properties. For example, the reply-to: email header is similar to the [reply endpoint] Message Addressing Property. Authors and implementors of bindings should not assume any particular correspondence between native properties and Message Addressing Properties. For example, if an email message represents only one hop in a multi-hop path, then the reply-to: header is likely to differ from the [reply endpoint] address.

## 4. SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension

The SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension defines a set of SOAP header blocks to support the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature described in § 2 – SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature on page 2. This SOAP 1.1 extension is provided for backwards compatibility only.

### 4.1. Extension Name

The SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension is identified using the following URI:

- <http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/module>

### 4.2. Description

The SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature (see § 2 – SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Feature on page 2) defines a set of SOAP properties and their correspondence to the abstract message addressing properties defined by Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[WS-Addressing Core]]. The SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension uses the XML Infoset representation of the abstract message addressing properties defined in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core and binds each element information item to a SOAP header block. The SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension operates as described in § 3 – SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module on page 3 with the following exceptions:

#### *SOAP Action*

Use of the SOAPAction HTTP request header field is required when using the SOAP 1.1 HTTP binding. The field-value of the SOAPAction HTTP request header MUST either be the value of

the [action] property enclosed in quotation marks, or the empty value "". The latter case supports the ability to obscure the [action] property through SOAP-level security mechanisms, without requiring otherwise unnecessary transport-level security. Any other value for SOAPAction results in an Invalid Message Addressing Property fault (see § 6.4.1 – [Invalid Addressing Header](#) on page 12).

## 5. Addresses in SOAP

In the following text, the term 'response endpoint' refers to the [reply endpoint] and [fault endpoint] message addressing properties collectively.

### 5.1. Use of Anonymous Address in SOAP Response Endpoints

A value of "http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/anonymous" for the [destination] property implies no additional semantics beyond those resulting from the rules defined below and as described in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[[WS-Addressing Core](#)]]. In particular, note that Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[[WS-Addressing Core](#)]], section 3.4 requires such a value in messages sent to a response endpoint whose [address] is "http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/anonymous".

#### 5.1.1. SOAP 1.1/HTTP

When "http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/anonymous" is specified for the response endpoint then there is no change to the SOAP 1.1/ HTTP binding.

#### 5.1.2. SOAP 1.2

When "http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/anonymous" is specified for the response endpoint and the message is the http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap/mep/InboundMessage property of a SOAP request-response MEP [[[SOAP 1.2 Adjuncts](#)]], then any response MUST be the http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap/mep/OutboundMessage property of the same instance of the SOAP request-response MEP [[[SOAP 1.2 Adjuncts](#)]].

### 5.2. Use of Non-Anonymous Addresses in SOAP Response Endpoints

#### 5.2.1. SOAP 1.1/HTTP

When "http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/anonymous" is not specified for the response endpoint, then the message SHOULD be part of a binding that supports not returning a SOAP envelope in the HTTP response (e.g. see [[[SOAP 1.1 Request Optional Response HTTP Binding](#)]]). Any response message SHOULD be sent using a separate connection and using the address value specified by response endpoint. Note that other specifications MAY define special URIs that have other behaviors (similar to the anonymous URI).

#### 5.2.2. SOAP 1.2

When "http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/anonymous" is not specified for the response endpoint, then any response SHOULD NOT be the http://www.w3.org/2003/05/soap/mep/OutboundMessage property of the same instance of the SOAP request-response MEP [[[SOAP 1.2 Adjuncts](#)]]. For instance, a SOAP 1.2 HTTP binding that supports a one-way MEP could put the reply message in a separate one-way MEP

and a separate HTTP request. As in SOAP 1.1/HTTP, note that other specifications MAY define special URIs that have other behaviors (similar to the anonymous URI).

## 6. Faults

The faults defined in this section are generated if the condition stated in the preamble in each subsection is met.

Endpoints compliant with this specification MUST include the required message addressing properties serialized as SOAP headers in generated fault messages. Fault messages are correlated as replies using the [relationship] property as defined in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[[WS-Addressing Core](#)]]. Note that omission of the [message id] property in an input message may impact the ability of a fault message receiver to correlate the fault message to the message that caused the fault message to be generated. Omission of the [fault endpoint] or [reply endpoint] properties in input messages may impact the delivery of a generated fault message

The [action] property below designates WS-Addressing fault messages:

```
http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/fault
```

This action SHOULD NOT be used as an action value in messages other than those carrying WS-Addressing faults.

SOAP modules, extensions and applications SHOULD define custom [action] values for the faults they describe but MAY designate use of the following [action] value instead:

```
http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/soap/fault
```

The above [action] value SHOULD be used for SOAP defined faults including version mismatch, must understand, and data encoding unknown.

Each of the predefined faults listed below is defined by specifying values for the following abstract properties:

[Code] The fault code, use of the specified fault code is REQUIRED.

[Subcode] The fault subcode, use of the specified fault subcode is REQUIRED.

[Subsubcode] A more specific fault subcode that may be used to further qualify the value of the [Subcode] property, use of a specified fault subcode is OPTIONAL.

[Reason] The English language reason element, use of the specified fault code is RECOMMENDED but alternate text MAY be used.

[Details] The detail elements, use of the specified detail elements is REQUIRED. If absent, no detail elements are defined for the fault.

### 6.1. SOAP 1.2 Fault Binding

The fault properties bind to a SOAP 1.2 fault as follows:

**[Code]**

The value of the [Code] property is bound as the value of the SOAP faults S:Fault/S:Code/S:Value element information item.

**[Subcode]**

The value of the [Subcode] property is bound as the value of the SOAP faults S:Fault/S:Code/S:Subcode/S:Value element information item.

**[Subsubcode]**

The value of the [Subsubcode] property is bound as the value of the SOAP faults S:Fault/S:Code/S:Subcode/S:/Subcode/S:Value element information item.

**[Reason]**

The value of the [Reason] property is bound as the value of the SOAP faults S:Fault/S:Reason/S:Text element information item.

**[Details]**

The value of the [Details] property is bound as child elements of the SOAP faults S:Fault/S:Detail element information item.

Binding of fault properties to SOAP 1.2 messages.

```
<S:Envelope>
  <S:Header>
    <wsa:Action>http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/fault</wsa:Action>
    <!-- Headers elided for brevity. -->
  </S:Header>
  <S:Body>
    <S:Fault>
      <S:Code>
        <S:Value>[Code]</S:Value>
        <S:Subcode>
          <S:Value>[Subcode]</S:Value>
          <S:Subcode>
            <S:Value>[Subsubcode]</S:Value>
          </S:Subcode>
        </S:Subcode>
      </S:Code>
      <S:Reason>
        <S:Text xml:lang="en">[Reason]</S:Text>
      </S:Reason>
      <S:Detail>
        [Detail]
      </S:Detail>
    </S:Fault>
  </S:Body>
</S:Envelope>
```

## 6.2. SOAP 1.1 Fault Binding

The SOAP 1.1 fault is slightly less expressive than the SOAP 1.2 fault and maps only [Subcode], [Reason] and [Detail]. These the properties bind to a SOAP 1.1 fault as follows:

### *[Subcode] or [Subsubcode]*

The value of the [Subsubcode] or, if that is not specified, the value of the [Subcode] property is bound as the value of the SOAP faults S11:Fault/faultcode element.

### *[Reason]*

The value of the [Reason] property is bound as the value of the SOAP faults S11:Fault/faultstring element.

### *[Details]*

The SOAP 1.1 fault detail is only for use with faults related to the body of a message and is therefore not used for SOAP 1.1 faults related to processing of addressing headers. Instead the value of the [Details] property is bound as the value of a new wsa:FaultDetail SOAP header block. The following describes the wsa:FaultDetail element:

#### */wsa:FaultDetail*

Zero or more of the elements defined in § 6.3 – Fault Detail Elements on page 10.

#### */wsa:FaultDetail/@{any}*

Optional extensibility attributes including SOAP role and mustUnderstand.

Binding of fault properties to SOAP 1.1 messages.

```
<S11:Envelope>
  <S11:Header>
    <wsa:Action>http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/fault</wsa:Action>
    <wsa:FaultDetail>[Details]</wsa:FaultDetail>
    <!-- Other headers elided for brevity. -->
  </S11:Header>
  <S11:Body>
    <S11:Fault>
      <faultcode>[Subcode] or [Subsubcode]</faultcode>
      <faultstring xml:lang="en">[Reason]</faultstring>
    </S11:Fault>
  </S11:Body>
</S11:Envelope>
```

## 6.3. Fault Detail Elements

The following subsections define a set of elements used to convey additional information in the faults described in § 6.4 – Predefined Faults on page 12.

### 6.3.1. Problem Header QName

The following describes the <wsa:ProblemHeaderQName> element:

*/wsa:ProblemHeaderQName*

A QName representing the name of the root element of the problem header block.

*/wsa:ProblemHeaderQName/@{any}*

Optional extensibility attributes that do not affect processing.

### 6.3.2. Problem IRI

The following describes the <wsa:ProblemIRI> element:

*/wsa:ProblemIRI*

The IRI that caused the problem.

*/wsa:ProblemIRI/@{any}*

Optional extensibility attributes that do not affect processing.

### 6.3.3. Problem Action

The following describes the <wsa:ProblemAction> element:

*/wsa:ProblemAction/wsa:Action*

An optional element that provides the [action] that caused the problem.

*/wsa:ProblemAction/wsa:SoapAction*

An optional element that provides the SOAPAction IRI that caused the problem.

*/wsa:ProblemAction/{any}*

Optional extensibility elements that do not affect processing.

*/wsa:ProblemAction/@{any}*

Optional extensibility attributes that do not affect processing.

### 6.3.4. Retry After

The following describes the <wsa:RetryAfter> element:

*/wsa:RetryAfter*

This element (whose content is of type xs:unsignedLong) is a suggested minimum duration in milliseconds to wait before retransmitting the message. Omission of this element indicates that a retry is never likely to succeed.

*/wsa:RetryAfter/@{any}*

Optional extensibility attributes that do not affect processing.

## 6.4. Predefined Faults

### 6.4.1. Invalid Addressing Header

A header representing a WS-Addressing 1.0 Message Addressing Property is invalid and cannot be processed. The validity failure can be either structural or semantic, e.g. a [destination] that is not an IRI or a [relationship] to a [message id] that was never issued.

[Code] a QName representing the value S:Sender

[Subcode] a QName representing the value wsa:InvalidAddressingHeader

[Reason] the string: "A header representing a Message Addressing Property is not valid and the message cannot be processed"

[Details] either a <wsa:ProblemHeader> element that conveys a copy of the offending header or a <wsa:ProblemHeaderQName> element that conveys the QName of the root element of the offending header.

The invalid addressing header fault can be further narrowed in scope by use of the additional [Subsubcode]s specified in the following subsections. Use of these [Subsubcode] values is OPTIONAL.

#### 6.4.1.1. wsa:InvalidAddress

Specifies that an [address] was invalid.

#### 6.4.1.2. wsa:InvalidEPR

Specifies that the invalid header was expected to be an EPR but was not valid.

#### 6.4.1.3. wsa:InvalidCardinality

Specifies that there was a greater than expected number of the specified header.

#### 6.4.1.4. wsa:MissingAddressInEPR

Specifies that the invalid header was expected to be an EPR but did not contain an [address].

#### 6.4.1.5. wsa:DuplicateMessageID

Specifies that the invalid header conveyed a [message id] that was a duplicate of one already received.

#### 6.4.1.6. wsa:ActionMismatch

Specifies that the [action] and SOAPAction for the message did not match, [Details] MAY contain a <wsa:ProblemAction> element in addition to the <wsa:ProblemHeader> element or <wsa:ProblemHeaderQName> element.

#### 6.4.1.7. wsa:OnlyAnonymousAddressSupported

Specifies that the only address supported is the anonymous address.

#### 6.4.1.8. wsa:OnlyNonAnonymousAddressSupported

Specifies that the anonymous address is not supported, and that only a non-anonymous address will be accepted.

### 6.4.2. Message Addressing Header Required

A required header representing a Message Addressing Property is absent.

[Code] a QName representing the value S:Sender

[Subcode] a QName representing the value wsa:MessageAddressingHeaderRequired

[Reason] the string: "A required header representing a Message Addressing Property is not present"

[Details] a <wsa:ProblemHeaderQName> element that conveys the QName of the message addressing header that was missing.

### 6.4.3. Destination Unreachable

The endpoint identified by the value of [destination] property cannot be reached.

[Code] a QName representing the value S:Sender

[Subcode] a QName representing the value wsa:DestinationUnreachable

[Reason] the string: "No route can be determined to reach [destination]"

[Details] an optional <wsa:ProblemIRI> element that conveys the [address] of the [destination].

Implementation of this fault is optional.

### 6.4.4. Action Not Supported

The [action] property in the message is not supported at this endpoint.

[Code] a QName representing the value S:Sender

[Subcode] a QName representing the value wsa:ActionNotSupported

[Reason] the string: "The [action] cannot be processed at the receiver"

[Details] a <wsa:ProblemAction> element with a REQUIRED <wsa:Action> child element

Implementation of this fault is optional.

### 6.4.5. Endpoint Unavailable

The endpoint is unable to process the message at this time either due to some transient issue or a permanent failure.

The endpoint may optionally include a RetryAfter parameter in the detail. The source SHOULD NOT retransmit the message until this duration has passed.

[Code] a QName representing the value S:Receiver

[Subcode] a QName representing the value wsa:EndpointUnavailable

[Reason] the string "The endpoint is unable to process the message at this time"

[Details] an optional <wsa:RetryAfter> element and an optional <wsa:ProblemIRI> element that conveys the [address] of the [destination].

Implementation of this fault is optional.

## 7. Security Considerations

 No assumptions are made herein of the application level security requirement, the organization of the application, implementation of senders or receivers, or of the ways that other protocols may make use of WS-Addressing, and what security mechanisms they may employ. A holistic approach to security which considers all components of the application, other protocols utilized, the way that these protocols compose with WS-Security, and the use of other methods or additional techniques is highly recommended.

As discussed in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[[WS-Addressing Core](#)]], WS-Addressing supports capabilities that allow a message sender to instruct a message receiver to send additional unsolicited messages to other receivers of their choice and to control the contents of those messages to an extent using reference parameters. The SOAP binding of WS-Addressing transforms EPR reference parameters into SOAP headers and this allows a message sender to request a message receiver to send additional unsolicited SOAP messages to other receivers of their choice and to specify a set of SOAP headers that must be included in such messages.

SOAP headers are a powerful extension mechanism and therefore great care should be taken before honoring a [reply endpoint] or [fault endpoint] to avoid inadvertent participation in the activities of malicious SOAP message senders.

WS-Addressing message addressing properties serialized as SOAP headers (wsa:To, wsa:Action et al.) including those headers present as a result of the [reference parameters] property should be integrity protected as explained in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core[[[WS-Addressing Core](#)]].

Messages that use wsa:ReplyTo or wsa:FaultTo headers whose [address] is not the predefined anonymous URI should include claims that allow a receiver to confirm that the EPR was issued by a principle with authority to represent the [address] of the EPR.

When receiving a SOAP message, certain SOAP headers may have resulted from the serialization of an EPR's [reference parameters] property. A SOAP message receiver should perform additional security and sanity checks to prevent unintended actions.

### 7.1. Establishing EPR Trust

There are many mechanisms that could be used to supply proof that a message sender has authority to represent the [address] of EPRs supplied within the message. Typically such mechanisms require the inclusion of a WS-Security[[[WS-Security](#)]] header that contains XML digital signatures binding the wsa:ReplyTo and wsa:FaultTo elements to the SOAP message using a security token issued by an authority trusted by the receiver of the message for the domain of the [address] of the EPR. Possession of a security token issued by a trusted authority for the domain of the [address] of the EPR provides a level of confidence that the message sender has authority to represent the [address].

For example, a message could include a WS-Security[[[WS-Security](#)]] header that contains XML digital signatures binding the wsa:ReplyTo and wsa:FaultTo elements to the SOAP message using an X.509 certificate for the domain addressed by the [address] of the EPR. If the certificate is issued by a certificate authority trusted by the receiver of the message then the receiver can have some level of confidence that the message sender has authority to represent the [address] of the EPR.

## 7.2. Additional Security Considerations

The `wsa:isReferenceParameter` attribute is only meaningful on SOAP headers. Message processors should consider its appearance elsewhere in a SOAP message as a possible attack.

Message processors should consider elements from the `soap11`, `soap12` and `wsa` namespaces appearing as reference parameters in an EPR as a possible attack.

There are known XML ID and re-structuring attacks which should be considered by message processors, see [\[\[WS-Security\]\]](#) - Security Considerations: Removal and modification of XML elements.

## 7.3. Additional Considerations for SOAP Intermediaries

To avoid breaking signatures, intermediaries **MUST NOT** change the XML representation of WS-Addressing headers when relaying those headers. Specifically, intermediaries **MUST NOT** remove XML content that explicitly indicates otherwise-implied content, and intermediaries **MUST NOT** insert XML content to make implied values explicit. For instance, if a `RelationshipType` attribute is present with a value of `http://www.w3.org/2005/08/addressing/reply`, an intermediary **MUST NOT** remove it; similarly, if there is no `RelationshipType` attribute, an intermediary **MUST NOT** add one.

## 8. Conformance

A SOAP 1.2 message conforms to the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module when it contains headers from the `wsa` namespace, and follows all the constraints on message addressing properties defined by Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core [\[\[WS-Addressing Core\]\]](#) and by the SOAP 1.2 Addressing 1.0 Module.

A SOAP 1.1 message conforms to the SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension when it contains headers from the `wsa` namespace, and follows all the constraints on message addressing properties defined by Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core [\[\[WS-Addressing Core\]\]](#) and by the SOAP 1.1 Addressing 1.0 Extension.

An endpoint which conforms to this specification understands and accepts SOAP messages containing headers in the `wsa` namespace targeted to it, generates reply or fault messages it may send in response according to the rules outlined in this specification and in Web Services Addressing 1.0 - Core [\[\[WS-Addressing Core\]\]](#).

 Web Services Addressing 1.0 - WSDL Binding [\[\[WS-Addressing WSDL Binding\]\]](#) defines additional conformance requirements for the description of an endpoint.

 Endpoints **MAY** accept and respond to messages which contain no WSA headers.

If a receiver processes a message containing a `wsa:Action` header, this SOAP binding is engaged, and the rules of this specification are in force.

## 9. References

### 9.1. Normative References

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## 9.2. Other References

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## **Appendix A. Acknowledgements (Non-Normative)**

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