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**Addendum to NEHTA's E-Procurement Technical Architecture, Version 1.0 –
Mapping Web Services requirements to AS2**

Web Services provide the common interoperability connectivity layer across the NEHTA work
program. This consistent approach both identifies the service interface meeting business
service requirements as well as information required to support each service interchange.
Some areas within health have existing investments in alternative connectivity or information
specification approaches. Support for these legacy approaches are provided through mapping
and transformation to these alternative technical solutions.

AS2 is a prevalent supply chain messaging approach that has support across multiple sectors.
NEHTA will facilitate AS2's current use through mapping the defined web services requirements
to AS2 in an addendum to the NEHTA *E-Procurement Technical Architecture v1.0*. Where a
current AS2 capability exists in an organisation NEHTA will support this status through this
mapping. However, where no current AS2 capability exists, NEHTA encourages the
development of Web Services as defined in the *E-Procurement Technical Architecture*.

Section 4 of the NEHTA *E-Procurement Technical Architecture* contains the Service Definitions
of the Web Services that are defined in order to transfer XML representations of procurement
documents. Each subsection describes an interface and the operations that the interface
supports. Appendix C: XSD and WSDL, shows the full interface descriptions for the Web
Services specified. These will now be mapped to AS2 to enable the use of AS2 and the
compliance of AS2 protocols to the overall NEHTA E-Procurement solution.

This process is seen as necessary to address a current market need in supply chain processes.
NEHTA still endorses Web Services as the standard for use in the NEHTA's E-Procurement
solution and expects that data recipients and suppliers will move towards the use of web
services over time and as supply chain processes further integrate with clinical applications in
the health sector.

This profile of standards follows the NEHTA approach to secure messaging architecture. The
approach taken by NEHTA is to use Web Services for messaging, and a service oriented
architecture to relate these services to the business requirements. The high level architecture
for secure messaging is defined in NEHTA's *Technical Architecture for Implementing Services*,
and is complemented by NEHTA's *Guidelines for Implementing Interoperable Web Services*.

The profile of W3C standards to implement the Web Services stack includes HHTP for
transport, WSDL for service definitions, SOAP for transporting requests on service interfaces,
and WS-Security for security. WS-Addressing may be used to provide the addressing
information required by hubs to route messages between buyers and suppliers. The exact
profile of Web Services standards mandated for use by NEHTA is specified in the *Web Services
Standards Profile*. The guidelines for implementation of Web Services to achieve maximum
possible interoperability are given in NEHTA's *Guidelines for Implementing Interoperable Web
Services*.