



Discover the Future of CORBA

Micro Focus[®] | CORBA[®] Add-on for REST 1.0.0

Installation and User Guide

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Preface

This Guide describes the Micro Focus® | CORBA® Add-on for REST. It describes how to install and set up the product.

In This Guide

This manual contains the following chapters:

- “[Introduction](#)” describes some of the concepts of the CORBA Add-on for REST.
- “[Installing the CORBA Add-on for REST](#)” gives installation instructions.
- “[Getting Started](#)” tells you how to build and run the Typetest demonstration program.
- “[IDL-RS Annotations](#)” describes an extension of the IDL annotations concept for a REST API.
- “[IDL Type Serialization](#)” tells you how to serialize IDL types into JSON and XML data formats:
- “[IDL Request and Response Wrapping](#)” describes using wrappers to create single request and response objects.
- “[System Exceptions](#)” describes system exception mapping.
- “[Configuration](#)” describes configuration properties and how they can be used and overridden.
- “[idl2rest Options](#)” describes command line flags that the **idl2rest** tool will accept.
- “[Connector Options](#)” describes the command line flags used by the REST Connector.

Contacting Micro Focus

Our Web site gives up-to-date details of contact numbers and addresses.

Further Information and Product Support

Additional technical information or advice is available from several sources.

The product support pages contain a considerable amount of additional information, such as:

- The WebSync service, where you can download fixes and documentation updates.
- The Knowledge Base, a large collection of product tips and workarounds.
- Examples and Utilities, including demos and additional product documentation.

To connect, enter <http://www.microfocus.com> in your browser to go to the Micro Focus home page.

Note:

Some information may be available only to customers who have maintenance agreements.

If you obtained this product directly from Micro Focus, contact us as described on the Micro Focus Web site, <http://www.microfocus.com>. If you obtained the product from another source, such as an authorized distributor, contact them for help first. If they are unable to help, contact us.

Information We Need

However you contact us, please try to include the information below, if you have it. The more information you can give, the better Micro Focus SupportLine can help you. But if you don't know all the answers, or you think some are irrelevant to your problem, please give whatever information you have.

- The name and version number of all products that you think might be causing a problem.
- Your computer make and model.
- Your operating system version number and details of any networking software you are using.
- The amount of memory in your computer.
- The relevant page reference or section in the documentation.
- Your serial number. To find out these numbers, look in the subject line and body of your Electronic Product Delivery Notice email that you received from Micro Focus.

Contact Information

Additional technical information or advice is available from several sources.

The product support pages contain considerable additional information, including the WebSync service, where you can download fixes and documentation updates. To connect, enter <http://www.microfocus.com> in your browser to go to the Micro Focus home page.

If you are a Micro Focus SupportLine customer, please see your SupportLine Handbook for contact information. You can download it from our Web site or order it in printed form from your sales representative. Support from Micro Focus may be available only to customers who have maintenance agreements.

Introduction

This chapter introduces the Micro Focus® | CORBA® Add-on for REST (CORBA Add-on for REST).

What is the CORBA Add-on for REST?

The CORBA Add-on for REST provides a standard and interoperable mechanism to enable CORBA objects to be exposed as REST services.

With the CORBA Add-on for REST, pure REST client applications can use these exposed CORBA services transparently, without having any knowledge or awareness that these services are ultimately implemented by CORBA objects.

The advantages offered by the CORBA Add-on for REST include the ability to:

- Selectively annotate the IDL definitions corresponding to the CORBA objects to be exposed to REST client applications, in order to incrementally extend the reach and use of existing CORBA assets.
- Provide a standard mechanism to decorate IDL constructs with IDL-RS annotations to clearly and unambiguously define REST representations of CORBA services, which strive to comply with the Representational State Transfer (REST) architectural style.
- Enable REST client applications to utilize readily available REST software stack (such as an HTTP library and JSON or XML library) to access the CORBA services exposed to REST, without requiring CORBA run-time technology or tooling on the client side.
- Enable REST developers to build new REST client applications that interact with a REST API façade, defined by IDL-RS annotations, to CORBA objects, defined by IDL. This approach allows to leverage existing CORBA assets without requiring CORBA expertise for the client-side developers, who only need to use tools and technology that REST client developers are already familiar with.
- Leverage the established approaches that REST over HTTP client applications already employ to achieve load-balancing, NAT traversal, and firewall traversal.

Components

The CORBA Add-on for REST contains the following components:

- An IDL compiler tool (**idl2rest**) that can translate existing CORBA IDL along with [IDL-RS Annotations](#), in order to generate a custom REST-to-CORBA mapping.
- REST run-time and support libraries that can be used together with the **idl2rest** generated code for the REST Connector.
- Support for the following Micro Focus CORBA ORBs:
 - Orbix 6.3.11
 - VisiBroker 8.5.6
- Product HotFixes for the ORBs mentioned above, that enable their respective IDL compilers to correctly parse IDL-RS annotations. This simplifies the development workflow for the CORBA products listed above, by allowing existing IDL files to be annotated in place. This means that only a single copy of the IDL files needs to be maintained.

Prerequisites

Each component has its own requirements.

- **Installer:** The installer requires JDK 1.7 (or later) to be installed. The installer is available for both Windows and Linux operating systems.
- **ORB Installation:** The installer requires an existing CORBA installation to upgrade.

Using curl

Some of the examples included in this document use curl commands to send messages to URLs. Only one example of a curl command, for UNIX installations, is shown in each case.

The curl command is not a standard part of Windows installations. Support for curl on Windows is available through third-party products, and the exact command options used may vary between implementations. The commands given in this manual should be regarded as examples, and may not be the exact commands that your installation will require.

For more information about curl, see for example <https://curl.haxx.se/>.

Installing the CORBA Add-on for REST

This chapter gives installation information for the Micro Focus® | CORBA® Add-on for REST.

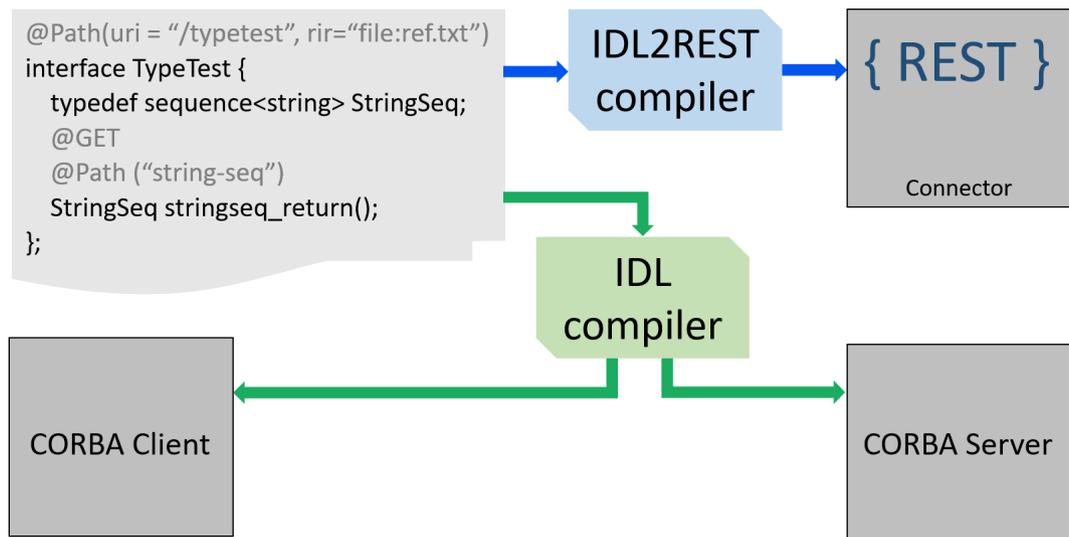
The CORBA Add-on for REST supports the following CORBA products:

- Orbix 6.3.11
- VisiBroker 8.5.6

The CORBA Add-on for REST product includes an **idl2rest** compiler which takes as its input an IDL file marked with IDL-RS annotations. The compiler uses this input to generate a custom REST connector component.

In addition, installing the CORBA Add-on for REST product updates the existing IDL compilers, enabling them to generate CORBA code in the same way as before, identifying and ignoring the IDL-RS annotations.

The diagram below demonstrates how the product can be used to annotate (using the new IDL-RS annotations) an existing CORBA IDL file, and how by using the **idl2rest** tool you can generate a custom component called the **Rest connector** that can be used to allow REST clients to communicate with CORBA servers.



The diagram below demonstrates how a typical deployment of the CORBA Add-on for REST may appear. At the left of the diagram a REST client is communicating via HTTP with a **Rest Connector** component or server; it is this component that will then act as a CORBA client to the backend CORBA server.



Installation of the CORBA Add-on for REST

In order to deploy the CORBA Add-on for REST product solution for your ORB installation, run the installer and during the installation choose the location of your existing ORB installation (VisiBroker 8.5.6 or Orbix 6.3.11).

CORBA Add-on for REST installation footprint

The content of the installer will be installed into a sub folder called `REST` within the ORB installation location:

<code><ORB_install>/REST/bin/</code>	Directory containing the idl2rest tool, and some other scripts.
<code><ORB_install>/REST/lib/</code>	Directory containing the run-time components of the product.
<code><ORB_install>/REST/demos/</code>	
<code><ORB_install>/REST/doc/license_agreement.txt</code>	
<code><ORB_install>/REST/doc/notices.txt</code>	
<code><ORB_install>/REST/uninstall/</code>	
<code><ORB_install>/REST/etc/</code>	
<code><ORB_install>/REST/license/</code>	
<code><ORB_install>/REST/var/</code>	

Prerequisites

What you need for this installation:

- The CORBA Add-on for REST installer
- A license for the **idl2rest** compiler
- An existing ORB installation, which will need to be upgraded to work with REST. The currently supported ORB installations are:
 - Orbix 6.3.11 or higher
 - VisiBroker 8.5.6 or higher
- The CORBA Add-on for REST HotFixes for your existing ORB client and server installation machines (to be downloaded from [Micro Focus Support](#)).

ORB HotFixes must match the platforms (operating system, compiler, bitness) that your ORB installations are deployed on.

Installation Instructions

In order to install the CORBA Add-on for REST, download the installer into a temporary directory (for example, `\temp` on Windows, or `/tmp` on Linux). You can then either install using the GUI, or choose silent installation (see “[Silent Installation](#)”).

Installing with the GUI

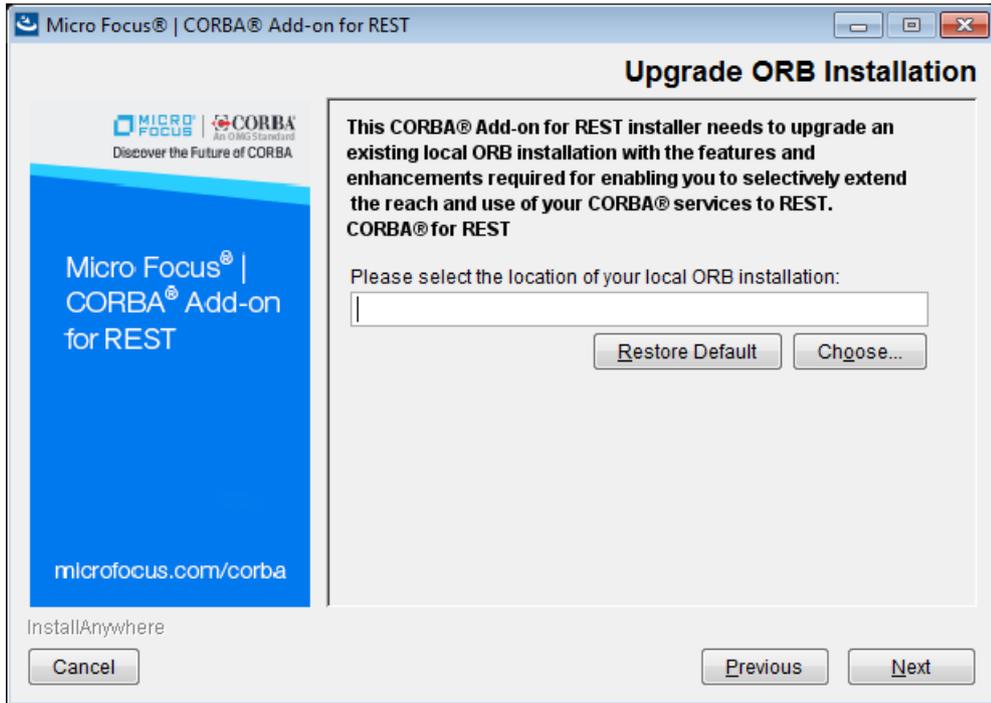
To install via the GUI, download the installer as described above. Then:

- 1 Run the installer to launch InstallAnywhere.
On Windows, `mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_win.exe`
On Linux, `mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_unix.bin`
- 2 The installer will run through a series of screens. The **License Agreement** screen is the first to display.

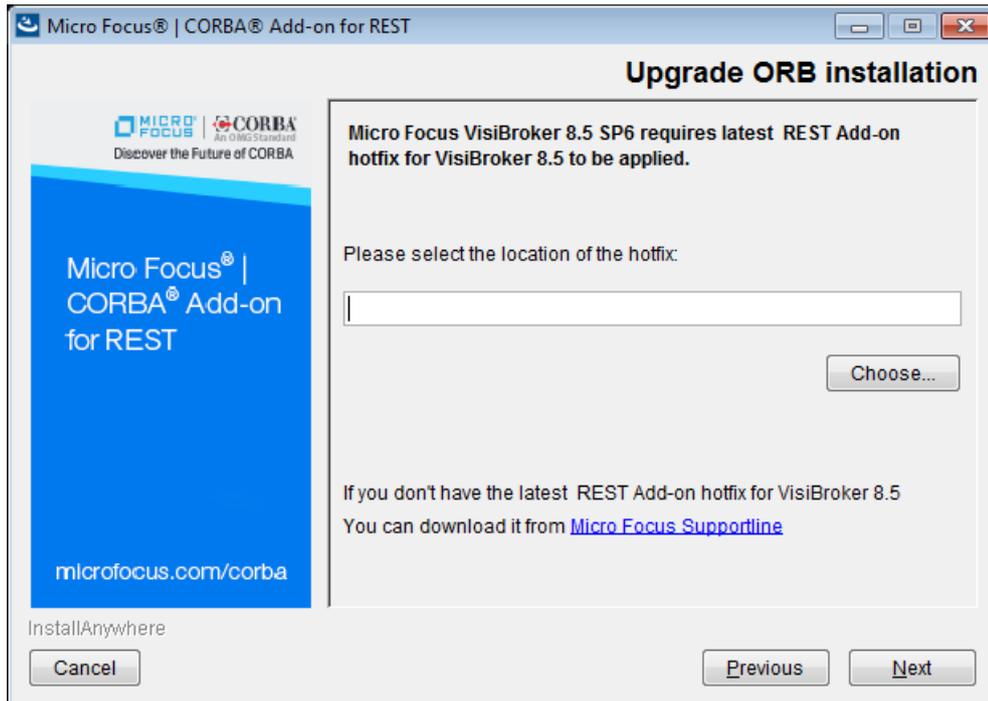


Read and agree the terms of the license agreement. Check **I accept the terms of the License Agreement** and click **Next**. If you do not accept the license, you cannot proceed further.

- 3 Choose the location of the ORB installation that will be upgraded. Either accept the default offered or click **Choose** to browse to the correct location.



- 4 The installer then asks for the location of the CORBA Add-on for REST HotFix. The text shown on the screen depends on the ORB that is being upgraded. The example illustrated below shows a VisiBroker installation; if you are upgrading an Orbix 6 ORB, the text would change accordingly.



If you have not yet downloaded the necessary HotFix, click on the Micro Focus Supportline link provided on the screen, and download from there to your local machine. You can now select the HotFix and proceed with the installation.

- 5 The remaining installer screens will be:
 - a **Pre-installation summary**
 - b **Installation** (this will show a progress of the installation as it occurs)
 - c **Final post-installation screen** mentioning the ORB installation that was upgraded, and how to install the CORBA Add-on for REST license (which is required before use).

Silent Installation

As an alternative to the GUI installation described above, you can install silently.

A silent installation runs without user interaction, and is typically used to automate installation across multiple machines. Download the installer as described in “[Installation Instructions](#)”. Instead of specifying the installation parameters via the screens of the GUI, the parameters are stored in an installer properties file.

Sample silent installer properties file

A sample properties file for the CORBA Add-on for REST silent installer would look as follows:

```
#
ORB_INSTALLATION=<path to orb installation>
REST_ADDON_HOTFIX=<path to rest add-on hotfix>
INSTALLER_UI=silent
```

Performing silent installation

To perform a silent installation, specify silent mode by using the `-i` switch on the command line.

- **Windows:** `mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_win.exe -i silent`
- **Linux:** `mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_unix.bin -i silent`

If the installer properties file is named `installer.properties` and is in the current directory, it will be automatically picked up. To specify a file with a different filename or in a different location, use the `-f` command line switch.

- **Windows:** `mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_win.exe -i silent -f c:\temp\installer_win.properties`
- **Linux:** `mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_unix.bin -i silent -f /tmp/installer_linux.properties`

Licensing the Product

Before using the CORBA Add-on for REST product, you need to register and activate the license you received for your product. The license may be in the form of an email from Micro Focus listing one or more serial numbers and license keys, or it may be a license key file sent to you in an email from Micro Focus.

To license the product we need to run the licensing script:

- **Windows:** `<ORB-installation>\REST\bin\rest_lmadm.bat`
- **Linux:** `<ORB-installation>/REST/bin/rest_lmadm.sh`

The script will open up a GUI wizard. Follow the on-screen instructions to register your license. You can register the product in one of the following ways:

- 1 **Serial Number:** Where a serial number and activation key are available, please follow these steps to register the product:
 - a **Product Registration Wizard:** Select **Have Serial Number**.
 - b **Serial Number:** Enter the 20-character serial number and the 6-character license key supplied with your installation into the respective fields.
 - c **Select Registration Method:** Choose **Direct**.

This is the recommended registration method, but note that for direct registration you need internet access from the system on which your product is installed; if you do not have access, choose one of the other methods.
 - d **Account Information:** This is specified as a prerequisite for installing CORBA Add-on for REST. Choose **I have an account**. If you have not yet set up a developer network account, select **I do not have an account**. The wizard prompts you for the information to create an account.
 - e **Account Information:** Enter your developer network account information: login name, email and password.
 - f **Proxy settings:** If you have any proxies configured, check **I use a proxy** and enter your proxy information. If you do not use proxies, just click **Next**.
 - g **Information Summary:** Check the information you have entered and if it is correct click **Next**. Click **Back** if you want to change anything.
 - h **Direct Registration:** Assuming you did select **Direct** earlier, this dialog shows how your registration is progressing. When registration is complete, the **Done** button is enabled. Click **Done**.
- 2 **Activation File:** If a product activation file or slip file are available, then select **Have Activation File** and follow the on-screen prompts to have the activation file installed and registered.

For help obtaining one of the above, or if you encounter any issues with licensing the product, please contact your local representative via [Micro Focus Support](#).

Troubleshooting

To view debug information from the installer, do the following:

- **Windows:** Hold down the `Ctrl` key immediately after launching the installer until a console window appears.
- **Linux:** To send the debug output to the console, run the installer as follows:

```
LAX_DEBUG=true ./mf_rest_corba_addon_1.0_unix.bin
```


Getting Started

This chapter describes using the CORBA Add-on for REST.

Setting the Environment

The first thing is to ensure that your ORB's environment is correctly set up.

Run the Deployment Environment Script

- **Orbix 6:** Before using the CORBA Add-on for REST with Orbix 6, you must have deployed an Orbix domain, and need to have run the deployment environment script that was generated during the deployment process.

The deployment environment scripts are typically found in the `etc/bin` sub-folder of an Orbix 6 installation. See the **Orbix 6 Deployment Guide** for further information.

- **VisiBroker:** Run the `vbroker` script in the `bin` folder of the VisiBroker installation. See the **VisiBroker Installation Guide** for information on this script.

The installation process described in the previous chapter ([“Installing the CORBA Add-on for REST”](#)) created a sub-folder called `REST` inside the ORB installation folder. This sub-folder contains the CORBA Add-on for REST installation.

Run the `rest_env` Script

To source the environment for the CORBA Add-on for REST, run the script called `rest_env`, which is located in the `bin` folder.

Now your environment is correctly set up and you can start using the product.

The Typetest Example

This chapter describes how to create, build and run the `typetest` example that is included in the CORBA Add-on for REST product. The demonstration program can be found under the `demos` folder in the product installation.

The accompanying `README.txt` file contains detailed information on how to run the demonstration program. The demonstration program contains a CORBA server, a custom-generated REST Connector component, and some sample REST clients demonstrating how clients written using a simple REST framework can be used to talk to a CORBA server, via the REST connector component.

Before you run the example program, it is important to understand how the program uses the new IDL-RS annotations along with the **idl2rest** tool to generate a custom REST connector. See the chapter [“IDL-RS Annotations”](#) for details.

The following diagram shows the different parts of the demo and how they work together.



There are three main components:

- **REST Client:** This is a client which can be written in any number of languages and frameworks. The typical requirement is a HTTP library, and the data serialization library (such as XML or JSON).
- **REST Connector:** This is the custom-generated component which has been generated with the **idl2rest** tool, and translates or maps your HTTP messages into CORBA messages that the CORBA server can understand.
- **CORBA Server:** This is your CORBA server, which may be one of the Micro Focus ORBs listed in “[Components](#)”.

The `typetest` demonstration program uses the IDL-RS annotations to create a REST API from the CORBA IDL.

The excerpt below shows the `TypeTest` interface, and some annotated IDL operations. This shows how, by using a few IDL-RS annotations, it is possible to add a REST API that can in turn be mapped into the desired CORBA calls to invoke on the CORBA server.

```

@Path(uri = "/typetest", rir = "file:../typetest_objref.txt")
interface TypeTest
{
    enum Beer { Wheat, Lambic, Bitter, Stout, Porter };

    @Path(enum_inout)
    @POST
    void enum_inout (inout Beer beerEnum);

    @Path("sysexc_op")
    @POST
    void sysexc_op();

    @HTTPStatus(responseCode = 414,
                description = "A new user exception")
    exception UserExc
    {
        long    m1;
        boolean m2;
        string  m3;
    };

    @Path("userexc_op")
    @POST
    void userexc_op() raises(UserExc);
    ...
    ...
    ...
};
  
```

If you look at the interface definition, you can see that the `MF_TypeTest::TypeTest` interface is annotated with the `@Path` annotation. This will bind the interface to the URI `/typetest` and refer to the backend CORBA Object contained in the file `typetest_objref.txt`.

For example, to call to the `TypeTest::sysexec_op()` operation, you could issue the following HTTP Request to the URI:

```
<base_uri>/typetest/sysexec_op
```

with the HTTP `POST` method.

The structure of the demonstration

The directory and file structure of the `typetest` example, as it is installed, is shown below. Inside the demonstration folder are the following important folders:

- `idl` contains the IDL that has been annotated with IDL-RS annotations.
- `rest_clients` contains a number of different clients that have been written with the following REST frameworks:
 - JAX-RS/REST
 - Python
- `rest_connector` contains the build scripts and README files required to build and run the connector.
- `corba_server` contains the build scripts, source and README files to run the CORBA server.

The typical folder layout for the `typetest` demonstration is as follows:

```
<REST_HOME>/demos/classes  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/idl  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_clients/jax_rs  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_clients/jax_rs/classes  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_clients/jax_rs/src  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_clients/python  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_connector/idl2rest_output  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_connector/<build-scripts>  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/rest_connector/<readme files>  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/corba_server/src/  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/corba_server/java_output  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/corba_server/<build-scripts>  
<REST_HOME>/demos/typetest/corba_server/<readme files>
```

Building the Demonstration

This section gives instructions for building this demonstration for Orbix 6 and VisiBroker. These instructions build the CORBA Server, and the generated REST connector.

Orbix 6

The Orbix 6 demo is run with the `itant` tool that is distributed with Orbix 6.

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\corba_server  
itant
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/corba_server  
itant
```

VisiBroker

The VisiBroker demonstration follows the demonstration build system that VisiBroker demos use, which is a Makefile for UNIX platforms, and a batch file script on Windows systems.

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\corba_server
vbmake.bat
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/corba_server
make all
```

Running the Demonstration

This consists of:

- [Running the CORBA Server](#)
- [Scenarios for Deploying the REST Connector](#)

Running the CORBA Server

Orbix 6

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\corba_server
java -classpath .\classes;"%CLASSPATH%" typetest.MF_TypeTest.Server
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/corba_server
java -classpath classes:$CLASSPATH typetest.MF_TypeTest.Server
```

VisiBroker

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\corba_server
vbj -classpath .\classes;%CLASSPATH% typetest.MF_TypeTest.Server
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/corba_server
vbj -classpath ./classes:$CLASSPATH typetest.MF_TypeTest.Server
```

Scenarios for Deploying the REST Connector

The section discusses how to take your existing CORBA server deployment and deploy the REST Connector in three different ways. Each of the sections describes deploying a new REST Connector instance. These demonstrate how REST Connectors can be deployed in different circumstances, such as:

- [Deploying the REST Connector insecurely](#)
- [Deploying the REST Connector securely](#)
- [Deploying the REST Connector to serve a versioned REST API](#)

Deploying the REST Connector insecurely

At this point your CORBA server is compiled and running, and the remaining component to run is the REST Connector.

In the `bin` folder of the installation is a shell script called:

- **Windows:** `rest_connector.bat`
- **UNIX:** `rest_connector.sh`

For details on the options that can be passed into the `rest_connector` script, see [“Connector Options”](#).

Orbix 6

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\rest_connector
itant connector.compile
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/rest_connector
itant connector.compile
```

VisiBroker

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\rest_connector
vbmake.bat
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/rest_connector
make -e all
```

At this point the build system has taken the annotated IDL file, and compiled it with the **idl2rest** tool. The resulting generated code has been compiled.

You are now ready to run the REST Connector. The `rest_connector` script takes an argument that is the package name for the connector to scan for generated code packages at runtime.

Windows:

```
%REST_HOME%\bin\rest_connector.bat --hostname REST-HOST
--config-file generated_config\connector.properties
```

UNIX:

```
$REST_HOME/bin/rest_connector.sh --hostname REST-HOST
--config-file generated_config/connector.properties
```

The excerpt below shows a sample output of what the Connector outputs when it runs:

```
Nov 11, 2019 9:43:15 AM
com.microfocus.rest4corba.config.FlatPropertiesFileConfigurationH
andler loadProperties
INFO: Loaded properties from generated_config\
connector.properties: property count = 1
uriBasename: http://REST-HOST
Nov 11, 2019 9:43:18 AM
org.glassfish.grizzly.http.server.NetworkListener start
INFO: Started listener bound to [REST-HOST:8080]
Nov 11, 2019 9:43:18 AM
org.glassfish.grizzly.http.server.HttpServer start
INFO: [HttpServer] Started.
```

Once the connector is running you can run the REST clients against it. The sources to the REST clients are located in the `rest_clients` sub-folder in the demonstration (see [“The structure of the demonstration”](#)). See the `README`

files located in these folders for more information on running the provided REST clients.

The excerpt below invokes an API using a curl command to send a HTTP request to a URI. This example invokes a POST method on the `enum_inout` URI. It also informs the Connector what format the request and response messages are to contain. This is controlled via HTTP headers. In this example, the request body is sending JSON, and XML is asked for in the response message.

Request:

```
curl -s http://REST-HOST:8080/typetest/enum_inout -H
'Content-Type: application/json' -H 'Accept: application/xml' -X
POST -d '{"val": {"kind": "Porter"}}'
```

Response:

```
<enum_inoutResponseWrapper xmlns=""><val><kind>Wheat</kind></
val></enum_inoutResponseWrapper>
```

Note:

This request example is for a UNIX installation. For considerations about using curl on Windows, see [“Using curl”](#).

Java (JAX-RS):

The following excerpt is taken from the `JAXRSClientJson` class that is provided in the `typetest` demonstration. It uses the JAX-RS APIs to build up and parse the request and response.

```
WebTarget target = client.target(baseUrl + "enum_inout");
String inputData = "{\"val\":{\"kind\":\"Porter\"}}";
Response response = target.request("application/
json").post(Entity.json(inputData));
if(response.getStatus() != 200) {
    System.out.println("Did not get expected http response for
POST enum_inout expected 200");
    throw new RuntimeException("HTTP Error: "+
response.getStatus());
}
System.out.println("Correct OK Response from the Server for POST
enum_inout ");
String result = response.readEntity(String.class);

if(result.contains("Wheat") == true)
    System.out.println("Correct value returned for enum_inout
request " + result);
else {
    System.out.println("Wrong value returned for enum_inout " +
result + " not contain Wheat");
    System.exit(1);
}
}
```

Python:

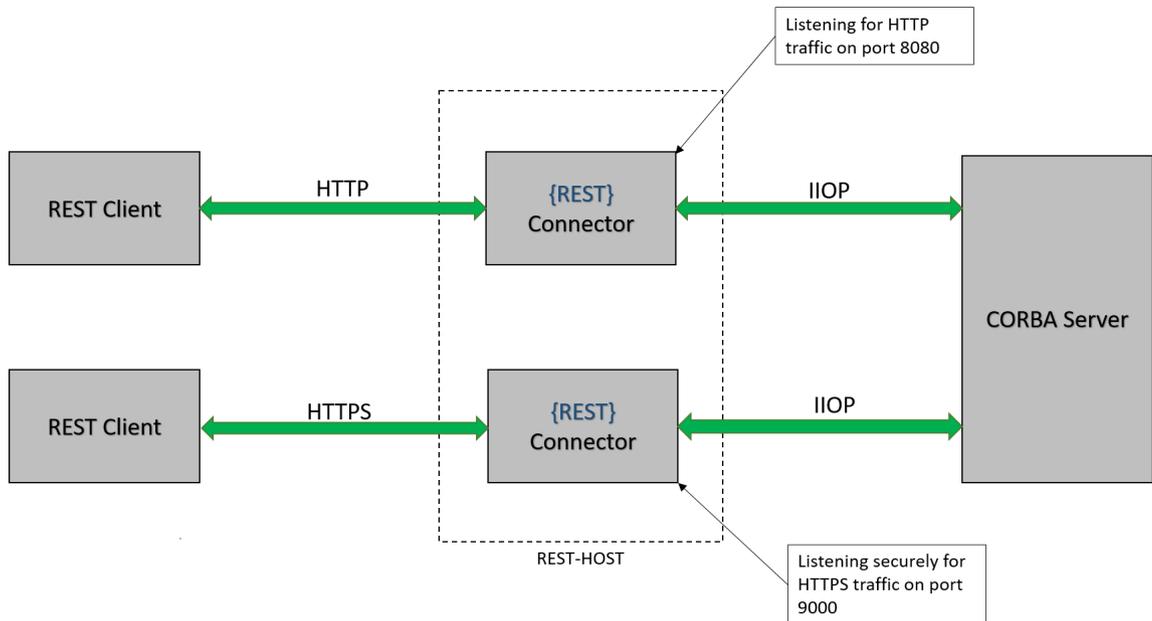
The following excerpt taken from the Python client for the same API uses an HTTP and a JSON library to build up and parse the request and response.

```
url_enum_inout = baseurl + "enum_inout"
r = session.post(url_enum_inout, json =
{'val':{'kind':'Porter'}})
if r.status_code == 200:
    print ("GOOD http response for enum_inout      200 OK")
else:
    exit("Exiting as bad return value for enum_inout  " +
r.text);
check_string = str(r.text)
if check_string.find("Wheat") == -1:
    exit("Exiting as bad return value for enum_inout\n");
else:
    print ("enum_inout successful " + r.text + "\n")
```

Deploying the REST Connector securely

Until this point, we have described running the REST Connector and the REST clients against a HTTP endpoint. This section describes how to turn on TLS security so that you can run the connector to serve secure HTTP traffic (https).

This section builds upon the previous deployment of an insecure REST Connector, which you deployed on the host REST-HOST on port 8080, serving the insecure HTTP traffic. You can now build upon this to run another instance of the REST Connector, this time only serving secure HTTPS traffic on port 9000. The diagram below visualizes this deployment. The REST client-side application and the CORBA server application can reside on the same host or on different hosts.



Generating TLS certificates

For ease of use with secure running, a script is provided in the `etc` subfolder of the installation for generating the TLS certificates used for the secure demonstration. These TLS certificates must be generated because the X509 extension `SubjectAlternateName` needs to be used to provide alternate hostnames and IP addresses that are host-specific.

See the `README.txt` file in the `etc` subfolder of the CORBA Add-on for REST installation for a detailed background and instructions for generating and installing these TLS certificates.

Note:

If you are running the `rest_connector` and the REST client(s) on separate machines, it is necessary to generate the certificates on the connector machine and then copy the required certificates to the appropriate location on the client machine(s).

Connector properties

Once the certificates are installed, ensure that you pass the `--secure` option to the `rest_connector` script. You must also pass the `--hostname` option to the script, and the hostname must match one of the hostnames

present in the TLS certificate's `SubjectAlternateName` (as described in [“Generating TLS certificates”](#)).

The `--hostname` and `--secure` flags are also required when running the REST clients provided with this demonstration. These flags ensure that the correct TLS certificates are configured. See the README files in the `rest_clients/jax_rs` and `rest_clients/python` sub-folders for detailed instructions on how to do this.

This section describes and demonstrates this approach, and assumes that you already have your TLS certificates generated at this point (see [“Generating TLS certificates”](#) for details).

As no change is needed to the IDL, you do not need to re-run the **idl2rest** tool.

```
mkdir secure_rest_connector
cd secure_rest_connector
```

Copy the previous `connector.properties` file to the current folder, and rename it `secure_connector.properties`. You can edit the contents of this copy to enable security.

Now configure the certificates. Open the `secure_connector.properties` configuration file and uncomment these four TLS configuration items:

- `REST_KEYSTORE_SERVER_FILE`
- `REST_KEYSTORE_SERVER_PWD`
- `REST_TRUSTSTORE_SERVER_FILE`
- `REST_TRUSTSTORE_SERVER_PWD`
- `REST_CONNECTOR_SECURE` and set this to `true`

To set the port number that the connector will use, uncomment the configuration variable `REST_CONNECTOR_PORT` and change its value to **9000**.

The following example shows the main points that need configuring highlighted in bold:

```
# The port number the HTTP server will listen for HTTP traffic, by default the
# HTTP server will listen on port: 8080
#
REST_CONNECTOR_PORT = 9000
# eg: REST_CONNECTOR_PORT = 8080
#####
# Begin Security deployment settings for the HTTP Server
#
#
# HTTP server SSL configuration
# Use of SSL is controlled via the URI base.
#
#
# Turn on HTTPs security, by default this is set to false.
#
# REST_CONNECTOR_SECURE = <true|false>
REST_CONNECTOR_SECURE = true
#
# Authenticate the client?
#
# false: The client authenticates the server.
# true: The client authenticates the server,
# and the server authenticates the client.
#
REST_AUTHENTICATE_CLIENT = true
#
# Relative paths are based off the directory in which
# the rest_connector script was launched.
#
REST_KEYSTORE_SERVER_FILE = C://REST/etc/sslconfig/keystore_server.jks
REST_KEYSTORE_SERVER_PWD = keystoreserverpass
REST_TRUSTSTORE_SERVER_FILE= C://REST/etc/sslconfig/truststore_server.jks
REST_TRUSTSTORE_SERVER_PWD = truststoreserverpass
#
#
# End of security properties
#####
```

Now you can run the connector securely using the following command:

Windows:

```
%REST_HOME%\bin\rest_connector.bat --hostname REST-HOST
--config-file secure_connector.properties
```

UNIX:

```
$(REST_HOME)/bin/rest_connector.sh --hostname REST-HOST
--config-file secure_connector.properties
```

```
Nov 12, 2019 12:02:54 PM
com.microfocus.rest4corba.config.FlatPropertiesFileConfigu
rationHandler loadProperties
INFO: Loaded properties from secure_connector.properties:
property count = 7
uriBasename: https://REST-HOST
Nov 12, 2019 12:02:57 PM
org.glassfish.grizzly.http.server.NetworkListener start
INFO: Started listener bound to [REST-HOST:9000]
Nov 12, 2019 12:02:57 PM
org.glassfish.grizzly.http.server.HttpServer start
INFO: [HttpServer] Started.
Nov 12, 2019 12:02:57 PM
com.microfocus.rest4corba.CorbaRestStandaloneServer run
INFO: Started server on: https://REST-HOST:9000
```

You can run a curl command to simulate a client sending HTTPS requests to your secure Connector instance as follows:

Request:

```
curl -s --cacert <PATH_TO_CERTS>/caserver_export.pem
https://REST_HOST:9000/typetest/enum_inout -H
'Content-Type: application/json' -H 'Accept: application/
xml' -X POST -d '{"val": {"kind": "Porter"}}'
```

Response:

```
<enum_inoutResponseWrapper xmlns=""><val><kind>Wheat</
kind></val></enum_inoutResponseWrapper>
```

Note:

This request example is for a UNIX installation. For considerations about using curl on Windows, see [“Using curl”](#).

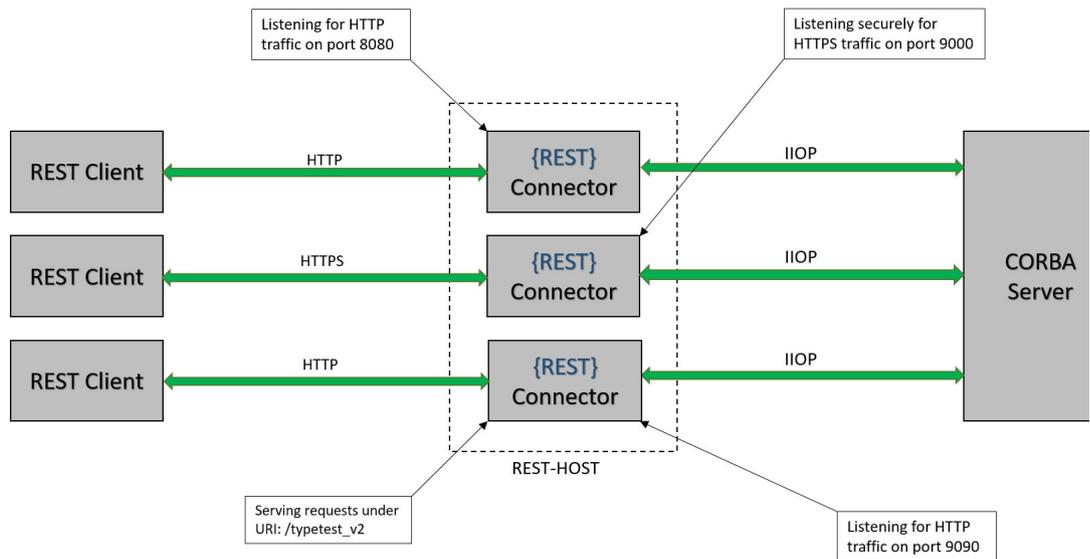
The JAX-RS and Python clients can also be run securely against the new securely-deployed Connector, serving requests from port 9000 on the host REST-HOST. Consult the README files in the respective rest client folders on the exact command line options that are required to configure the clients to run with the client-side TLS demo certificates.

Deploying the REST Connector to serve a versioned REST API

The previous section described how you could run a single Connector instance, and run some REST clients to talk to the Connector.

This section shows how to extend the existing CORBA IDL file that was previously annotated with IDL-RS annotations. It will demonstrate that by just changing some of the IDL-RS annotation values, you can construct a different REST API. In addition you will root the entry point of the modified API at a different URI. The example that follows changes the root URI from: `/typetest` to `/typetest_v2`.

The following illustration shows the structure of the revised deployment.



During this example the CORBA server does not need to be brought down, or reconfigured. The existing REST connectors that were used in the previous sections can also be left running.

This section describes:

- [Extending the IDL](#) to include more IDL-RS annotations
- [Compiling the IDL](#) by running the **idl2rest** tool but compiling the generated code into a separate package, `typetest_v2`
- [Running the connector](#) and configuring it with the `typetest_v2`. The connector will be running on a separate port
- [Running the REST clients](#) against the new connector, showing how you can point the clients at the updated modified API

Extending the IDL

First, you can extend the previous IDL file. The changes are highlighted in bold text below.

```
@Path(uri = "/typetest_v2", rir = "file:../typetest_objref.txt")
interface TypeTest
{
    enum Beer { Wheat, Lambic, Bitter, Stout, Porter };

    @Path(enum_inout)
    @POST
    void enum_inout (inout Beer beerEnum);

    @Path("sysexc_op")
    @POST
    void sysexc_op();

    @HTTPStatus(responseCode = 408,
        description = "A new user exception")
    exception UserExc
    {
        long    m1;
        boolean m2;
        string  m3;
    };

    @Path("userexc_op_new")
    @POST
    void userexc_op() raises(UserExc);

    @Path("long_in/{arg1}")
    @POST
    void long_in(
        @PathParam("arg1")
        in long val
    );
};
```

In the first change, the `@Path` annotation changes the uri to `/typetest_v2`. This ensures that the connector serves requests from the resource at the `/typetest_v2` URI.

The next change is that the CORBA user exception is now annotated with the `@HTTPStatus` annotation, and the URI for the `userexc_op()` is now changed to `userexc_new_op`.

Compiling the IDL

The IDL can be compiled in the same way as before, with the following change to the demo build-system.

Orbix6

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\rest_connector
itant connector.compile -Drest.package=typetest_v2
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/rest_connector
itant connector.compile -Drest.package=typetest_v2
```

VisiBroker

Windows:

```
cd %REST_HOME%\demos\typetest\rest_connector  
vbmake.bat typetest_v2
```

UNIX:

```
cd $REST_HOME/demos/typetest/rest_connector  
make -e REST_PACKAGE_NAME=typetest_v2
```

The above commands show how you can generate and compile the modified IDL file (which only has IDL-RS changes) to create a new REST API rooted under `/typetest_v2`.

Running the connector

At this point you can run the connector in a number of different ways. In every case, you must configure two important pieces of information:

- 1 **The port number:** as you already have a connector running on port 8080, serving the `/typetest` URI, you need to choose a new port.
- 2 **The REST package** to use when the Connector starts.

The sections [“Overriding the Configuration Variables”](#) and [“Connector Options”](#) document the various ways that this configuration can be provided to the Connector.

In this section, we will configure the Connector by passing command-line options to the `rest_connector` script.

Windows:

```
%REST_HOME%\bin\rest_connector.bat --hostname REST-HOST  
--port 9090 --rest-package typetest_v2 --config-file  
generated_config/connector.properties
```

UNIX :

```
$REST_HOME/bin/rest_connector.sh --hostname REST-HOST  
--port 9090 --rest-package typetest_v2 --config  
generated_config/connector.properties
```

Running the REST clients

You can run your REST clients against the new connector as follows:

```
$ curl http://REST-HOST:8080/typetest/userexc_op -X POST -v
> POST /typetest/userexc_op HTTP/1.1
> User-Agent: curl/7.37.0
> Host: localhost:8080
> Accept: */*
>
< HTTP/1.1 414 Request-URI Too Long
< Cache-Control: no-cache
< Content-Type: application/json
< Date: Fri, 22 Nov 2019 11:06:21 GMT
< Connection: close
< Content-Length: 30
<
* Closing connection 0
A new user exception

$ curl http://REST-HOST:9090/typetest_v2/userexc_op_new -X POST
-v

[SNIP..]

> POST /typetest_v2/userexc_op_new HTTP/1.1
> User-Agent: curl/7.37.0
> Host: localhost:9090
> Accept: */*

[SNIP...]

< HTTP/1.1 408 Request Timeout
< Cache-Control: no-cache
< Content-Type: application/json
< Date: Fri, 22 Nov 2019 11:07:14 GMT
< Connection: close
< Content-Length: 30
<
* Closing connection 0
A new user exception
```

In the example above, the first `curl` command sends a request to the URI `/typetest/userexc_op` on port 8080. This returns an HTTP response code of 414 with the message "A new user exception". You can see this by looking at the IDL-RS annotation in the IDL excerpt in the section ["The Typetest Example"](#).

The second `curl` command above changes the URI and port, from `/typetest/user_exc_op` on port 8080 to `/typetest/user_exc_op_new` on port 9090. The connector on port 9090 has responded with an HTTP response code of 408, and the message "A new user exception".

IDL-RS Annotations

The IDL-RS annotations are a new concept; the notion of IDL annotations was recently added in the IDL 4 specification. The IDL-RS annotations follow on from this notion of IDL annotations, to define a set of IDL annotations that are applicable to decorate an IDL file to allow it to describe selective IDL components, and to aid in providing a mapping from certain IDL constructs to a REST API.

Annotations Used

The current list of implemented IDL-RS annotations used by the product are:

- **@Path:** This annotation is used to bind a HTTP URI (Uniform Resource Locator) to a particular IDL construct. The annotation takes two forms:
 - Where the annotation only needs to mention the URI, so examples would be: `@Path("/bank")`.
 - Where the annotation needs to be told about a persistent CORBA object, along with the URI. In this form the annotation would look like:
`@Path(uri = "/bank", rir = "corbaloc::localhost:3075/BankRef")`.
- **@GET:** Maps to the HTTP GET method.
- **@POST:** Maps to the HTTP POST method.
- **@PUT:** Maps to the HTTP PUT method.
- **@DELETE:** Maps to the HTTP DELETE method.
- **@Consumes:** Can be used to tell the runtime what media-type can be consumed in HTTP requests, the current supported types are `JSON` and `XML`.
- **@Produces:** Can be used to tell the runtime what media-type can be produced in HTTP responses, the current supported types are `JSON` and `XML`.
- **@HTTPStatus:** This annotation is used to provide a custom mapping for user exceptions. This mapping can map a user exception to a HTTP response status code, and have the response body contain a custom message.

An example of the annotation would be: `@HTTPStatus(responseCode = 404, description = "Invalid Operation")`.

Where possible the IDL-RS annotations have tried to stay close to the JAX-RS annotations that Java REST developers would be familiar with. With this in mind, any developers coming from that development background should be very comfortable with using the IDL-RS annotations to annotate an existing IDL.

IDL Type Serialization

This chapter describes using the CORBA Add-on for REST product to serialize IDL types into two different data formats:

- *JSON (JavaScript Object Notation).*
- *XML (Extensive Markup Language).*

These are self-describing data formats that are used extensively when building distributed systems using REST.

JSON Mapping for IDL Types

The mapping for JSON serialization is based on the [DDS-JSON OMG specification](#) as a starting point. The serialized content is the actual data payload, and defining a schema for the JSON representation of the original IDL type is less significant.

For more information about JSON see json.org.

JSON Mapping for Primitive IDL Types

Where possible the CORBA Add-on for REST tries to map IDL primitive types to their nearest counterpart in the JSON data format.

All the IDL numeric primitives map to their counterpart in JSON. For example an octet is easily represented as a number, and the same follows through for the other numeric types. The exception is that JSON only supports numbers in decimal notation, so any hexadecimal or octal values will be encoded in their decimal representation.

The non-numeric primitives, such as boolean, string, and char types, can be mapped directly to their counterparts in JSON.

JSON Mapping for Arrays and Sequences

JSON has native support for defining lists or array structures within its syntax.

The following sequence in IDL:

```
typedef sequence<long> LongSeq;
```

would be serialized in JSON as:

```
[10, 2, 4, 5]
```

The same mapping would exist for an IDL Array as for an IDL Sequence.

Where the elements of the IDL Array or Sequence are of IDL primitives, they are serialized to their nearest JSON counterpart. See [“JSON Mapping for Primitive IDL Types”](#).

JSON Mapping for Complex IDL Types

This section looks at how some of the more complex IDL types are serialized to the JSON data format. Where possible a trade-off has been made between payload size and readability.

Enum types

The following IDL enum type:

```
enum Colors {RED, BLUE, GREEN};
```

will be serialized into the following JSON payload:

```
{"kind": "BLUE"}
```

In the above example the `Colors` enum currently has the value of `BLUE`. The value associated with the "kind" key is the stringified representation of the current enum value.

Struct type

The following IDL struct type:

```
struct DateOfBirth {
    octet day;
    octet month;
    unsigned short year
};

struct CustomerType {
    String name;
    DateOfBirth dob;
}
```

will get serialized to the following JSON payload:

```
{
  "name": "Peter",
  "dob": {
    "day": 4,
    "month": 3
    "year": 1970
  },
}
```

Union type

The following IDL union type:

```
enum IPVerEnum {E_IPV4, E_IPV6, E_IP_UNKNOWN};

union IPVersion switch(IPVerEnum) {
  case E_IPV4:
    octet ipv4[4];
  case E_IPV6:
    octet ipv6[16];
  default:
};
```

will be serialized to the following JSON payload:

```
{
  "discriminator": {
    "kind": "E_IPV6"
  },
  "value": [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
}
```

XML Mapping for IDL Types

This section defines how types defined in IDL are serialized in XML.

XML Mapping for Primitive IDL Types

All the IDL primitives are easily represented in XML.

XML Mapping for Complex IDL Types

This section looks at how some of the more complex IDL types are serialized to the XML data format. Where possible a trade-off has been made between payload size and readability.

Enum type

The following IDL enum type:

```
enum Colors {RED, BLUE, GREEN};
```

will be serialized as the following JSON payload:

```
<kind>BLUE</kind>
```

In the above example the `Colors` enum currently has the value of `BLUE`. The value associated with the "kind" XML node is the stringified representation of the current enum value.

Struct type

The following IDL struct type:

```
struct DateOfBirth {
    octet day;
    octet month;
    unsigned short year
};

struct CustomerType {
    String name;
    DateOfBirth dob;
}
```

will get serialized as the following XML payload:

```
<CustomerType>
  <name>Peter</name>
  <DateOfBirth>
    <day>4</day>
    <month>3</month>
    <year>1970</year>
  </DateOfBirth>
</CustomerType>
```

Union type

The following IDL union type:

```
enum IPVerEnum {E_IPV4, E_IPV6, E_IP_UNKNOWN};

union IPVersion switch(IPVerEnum) {
  case E_IPV4:
    octet ipv4[4];
  case E_IPV6:
    octet ipv6[16];
  default:
};
```

will be serialized as the following XML payload:

```
<IPVersion>
  <discriminator>
    <kind>E_IPV6</kind>
  </discriminator>
  <value>
    <item>0</item>
    <item>0</item>
  </value>
</IPVersion>
```

IDL Request and Response Wrapping

This chapter describes how the CORBA Add-on for REST uses request and response wrapping to meet HTTP's requirement to deal with a single object.

Wrapped Objects

One of the advantages of using CORBA is its very rich way of sending multiple data items from servers to clients using a combination of response values that can use not only the return type of an IDL operation, but also the `inout` or `out` parameter modes.

While this makes CORBA very powerful and flexible, it does pose an issue with mapping request parameters, and responses. HTTP defines its request and response bodies to contain a **single** entity or object only. A solution to this is to wrap the REST parameters or responses into a wrapped object. This wrapped object can then be serialized into one of the supported data formats (JSON or XML), using the serialization rules defined in [“IDL Type Serialization”](#).

The code generation tool **idl2rest** will automatically generate code to wrap request and response data. Classes are named in the form:

```
<idl_operation_name>[Request|Response]Wrapper
```

For JSON payloads this is mostly hidden, while XML payloads will serialize the name of the wrapper as the parent node in the XML payload.

Request Wrappers

In order to support sending multiple IDL parameters in an IDL request, CORBA Add-on for REST needs a means to wrap these parameters together so that it can encode them in the body of a HTTP request.

First, the following code snippet shows an IDL operation annotated with [IDL-RS Annotations](#):

```
@POST
@Path("/op")
boolean op_with_multi_args(
    in string message1,
    in string message2,
    in long long_val,
    inout short short_val
);
```

The data sent in the HTTP request body would look like this, assuming that it is in JSON data format:

```
POST /op HTTP/1.1
[SNIP...]
{
  "message1" : "contents...",
  "message2" : "more data for our CORBA server",
  "long_val" : 300000,
  "short_val": 2000
}
```

Or if the same example is in XML format, the HTTP request may look like this:

```
POST /op HTTP/1.1
```

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<op_with_multi_argsRequestWrapper xmlns="">
  <message1>contents...</message1>
  <message2>more data for our CORBA server </message2>
  <long_val>300000</long_val>
</op_with_multi_argsRequestWrapper>
```

IDL Parameter Annotations

In this more complex example, the first parameter to the existing IDL operation has been annotated with an IDL-RS annotation.

```
@POST
@Path("/op/{id}")
boolean op_with_multi_args(
  @PathParam("id")
  in string message1,
  in string message2,
  in long long_val,
  inout short short_val
);
```

In this instance the request body would no longer have the key `message1` in its JSON payload. Instead, the content of the `message1` parameter would form part of the URI, as it is annotated with the IDL-RS annotation `@PathParam`:

```
PUT /op/message1 HTTP/1.1
[SNIP... ]
{
  "message2" : "more data for our CORBA server",
  "long_val" : 300000,
  "short_val": 2000
}
```

Or, in XML:

```
PUT /op/message1 HTTP/1.1
[SNIP... ]
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<op_with_multi_argsRequestWrapper xmlns="">
  <message2>more data for our CORBA server </message2>
  <long_val>300000</long_val>
  <short_val>2000</short_val>
</op_with_multi_argsRequestWrapper>
```

Response Wrappers

If you include the same IDL example as in the previous section:

```
boolean op_with_multi_args(
  in string message1,
  in string message2,
  in long long_val,
  inout short short_val
);
```

This will now result in the following data being written in the HTTP response body (in JSON format):

```
{
  "ret"          : false,
  "short_val"    : 24500
}
```

```
}
```

Or in the case of XML:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>  
<op_with_multi_argsResponseWrapper xmlns="">  
  <ret>false</ret>  
  <short_val>24500</short_val>  
</op_with_multi_argsResponseWrapper>
```

You can see here that irrespective of whether the data format is JSON or XML, the data format contains two pieces of data:

- 1 The `ret` key or node corresponds to the return value from the IDL operation.
- 2 The `short_val` key or node corresponds to the IDL parameter that is returned by the CORBA server, as the IDL parameter had the `inout` parameter mode.

As you have seen above, any parameters that have a response-based parameter mode (that is, `inout` and `out`) will be serialized in the HTTP response body.

System Exceptions

This chapter describes system exception mapping in the CORBA Add-on for REST.

The CORBA Add-on for REST product provides a means to map any CORBA System Exceptions raised during the invocation or processing of a CORBA call to a HTTP response code. This gives a seamless way for REST developers to handle any error conditions, in a more HTTP-friendly manner, without needing to understand CORBA System Exceptions.

The table below shows the System Exceptions that the CORBA Add-on for REST currently maps. Further System Exception mappings may be added in a future release.

CORBA System Exception	HTTP Response Code
COMM_FAILURE and TIMEOUT	TIMEOUT (408)
OBJECT_NOT_EXIST and INV_OBJREF	GONE (410)
TRANSIENT	NOT_FOUND (404)
NO_PERMISSION	UNAUTHORISED (401)
BAD_OPERATION and BAD_PARAM	METHOD_NOT_ALLOWED (405)
MARSHAL	BAD_REQUEST (400)
INTERNAL and INITIALIZE	INTERNAL_SERVER_ERROR (500)
NO_IMPLEMENT	NOT_IMPLEMENTED (501)
IMP_LIMIT, NO_MEMORY, and NO_RESOURCES	SERVICE_UNAVAILABLE (503)
All other System Exceptions	CONFLICT (409)

Configuration

This chapter describes configuration properties for the CORBA Add-on for REST.

The CORBA Add-on for REST product typically requires a configuration file called `connector.properties`. This file is generated when you run the **idl2rest** tool to create the REST connector. The file is placed in the `generated_config` sub-folder of the current directory.

The table below shows the configuration variables that are currently supported in the product.

Property Name	Description
REST_CONNECTOR_HOSTNAME	The hostname that the Connector's HTTP server uses to listen for incoming HTTP messages
REST_CONNECTOR_PORT	The port number that the Connector's HTTP server uses to listen for incoming HTTP messages.
REST_CONNECTOR_SECURE	Whether or not the Connector uses security. The default is <code>false</code> . If security is enabled the variables <code>REST_KEYSTORE_*</code> and <code>REST_TRUSTSTORE_*</code> must be configured to point at the TLS keystore and truststores for the Connector to use.
REST_KEYSTORE_SERVER_FILE	The Java keystore file to be used when the REST Connector is deployed securely.
REST_KEYSORE_SERVER_PWD	The passphrase for the server's keystore.
REST_TRUSTSTORE_SERVER_FILE	The Java truststore file to be used when the REST Connector is deployed securely.
REST_TRUSTSTORE_SERVER_PWD	The passphrase for the server's truststore.
REST_RESOURCE_PACKAGE	The package to scan for generated REST resource classes.
REST_ADD_ON_CLASS	The fully qualified classname to look for to load a custom add-on class. This is a class that extends from the <code>com.microfocus.rest4corba.ext.CorbaAddOn</code> abstract class and that can be extended for custom operations, such as <code>getObjectKey()</code> . This configuration item would typically be used when the product is installed on top of another ORB product.
REST_CONNECTOR_ORB_ADAPTER_CLASS	The fully qualified class name to look for to load a custom ORB adapter add-on class. This is a class that extends from the <code>com.microfocus.rest4corba.ext.CorbaAddOn</code> abstract class, which can be extended for custom operations. See " Extending the ORB Adapter Class " for more information on extending the class. This configuration item would typically be used when the product is installed on top of another ORB product.

Configuring Multiple Connectors

The most straightforward method of configuring multiple connectors is to maintain separate copies of the `connector.properties` file, and pass in the `--config-file` command line option to each of the Connectors.

As is detailed in the next section, it is also possible to configure the connector in a variety of ways, such as with command line options and environment variables, or even a mixture of the two approaches. That being said, Micro Focus recommends having the configuration in a single configuration file, as this gives a clearer insight into the exact configuration of the Connector.

Overriding the Configuration Variables

By default, configuration variables are configured by specifying them in the `connector.properties` file that is generated from running the **idl2rest** tool. Any of the variables in this file can be overridden by specifying an environment variable of the same name.

A configuration variable is read and set as follows:

- The value is read from the configuration file, if there is no environment variable set with the same name. If there is an environment variable set with the same name, then this value is used.
- If a command line option is set, then this takes precedence over the previous setting whether the variable existed in the configuration file or as an environment variable.

Extending the ORB Adapter Class

The CORBA Add-on for REST product provides an extension mechanism where different CORBA implementations may have a proprietary means of discovering certain information. For example this can be used if you wanted to leverage the use of a CORBA Objects object key, which is a useful piece of information to identify a unique CORBA Object.

The following excerpt shows the code listing for an abstract Java class that is provided by the product. By extending this abstract class, and implementing the `getObjectKey()` Java method, it is possible to have the product use this method to allow URIs to leverage the use of the object key to uniquely identify the CORBA Object.

```
package com.microfocus.rest4corba.ext;

public abstract class CorbaAddOn {

    public org.omg.CORBA.Object string_to_object(String ref)
    {
        return null;
    }

    public String
    getObjectKey(org.omg.CORBA.portable.ObjectImpl obj) {
        return null;
    }
}
```

The following is an example of implementing this class:

```
import com.microfocus.rest4corba.ext.CorbaAddOn;

public class RESTOrbAdapter extends CorbaAddOn {

    @Override
    public String
    getObjectKey(org.omg.CORBA.portable.ObjectImpl obj) {
        byte[] objectKeyBytes = null;
        // ... Retrieve the object key via the ORBs underlying
        proprietary APIs
        objectKeyBytes = <objkey-bytes>
        return new String(objectKeyBytes);
    }

}
```

You must then ensure that the class is compiled and present on the Connectors classpath. When the connector runs and a URI is present with the placeholder {objkey}, the Connector will call the RESTOrbAdapter.getObjectKey() method to retrieve the unique value for the CORBA Object.

idl2rest Options

The table below shows the command line flags that the **idl2rest** tool will accept.

Option	Usage
-D, -define <i>foo</i> [= <i>bar</i>]	Define a preprocessor macro, optionally with value.
-I, -include < <i>dir</i> >	Specify an additional directory for #include searching.
-P, -no_line_directives	Do not emit #line directives from preprocessor. Defaults to off.
-H, -list_includes	Display #included file names as they are encountered. Defaults to off.
-C, -retain_comments	Retain comments in preprocessed output. Defaults to off.
-U, -undefine <i>foo</i>	Undefine a preprocessor macro
-[no_]idl_strict	Strict OMG-standard interpretation of IDL source. Defaults to off.
-[no_]builtin (TypeCode Principal)	Create built-in type "::TypeCode" or "::Principal". Defaults to on.
-[no_]warn_unrecognized_pragmas	Warn if a #pragma is not recognized. Defaults to on.
-[no_]back_compat_mapping	Use mapping that is compatible with VisiBroker 3.x. Defaults to off.
-[no_]preprocess	Preprocess the input file before parsing. Defaults to on.
-[no_]warn_all	Turn all warnings on/off simultaneously. Defaults to off.
-dump_tree	Dump the IDL Parse Tree (Front End)
-root_dir < <i>path</i> >	Directory in which generated files should reside.
-package < <i>pkg</i> >	Specify a root package for generated code.
-[no_]compile	Compile any Java file written automatically. Defaults to off.
-[no_]gen_config	Generate a usable Connector configuration file called <code>connector.properties</code> in the current folder. Defaults to on.
-version	Display software version numbers.

Connector Options

The table below shows the command line flags that the `rest_connector` Java class will accept.

Option	Usage
<code>--hostname</code>	The hostname where the Connector should listen for HTTP requests.
<code>--port</code>	The port where the Connector should listen for HTTP requests.
<code>--secure</code>	Whether the Connector should listen securely for HTTP requests on an <code>https</code> URL.
<code>--rest-package</code>	The Java package that should be scanned for idl2rest -generated classes.
<code>--config-file</code>	The path to a configuration file with which the connector should run with. A default file can be generated by running: <pre>idl2rest.<bat sh> -gen_config</pre>

The `rest_connector` script in addition takes the following option.

Option	Usage
<code>-verbose</code>	Runs the connector with tracing or more logging verbosity.

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