4 FTP

This section defines the File Transfer Protocol binding for ebXML Messaging.

4.1 Minimum Level of Supported Protocols

Implementations of the ebXML Messaging FTP transport binding MUST conform with rfc949.

4.2 Sending ebXML Service Messages over FTP

Message transmission via FTP is accomplished by having the sender connect to the recipient's FTP server, and uploading the message contents into a file located in the FTP server's root directory, named thusly: `<message id>.ebms`.

Messages MAY be placed in a directory other than the root directory of the FTP filesystem depending on values defined in the CPA. *TODO: Dale, how's this work?*

The example below illustrates a probably command sequence for transferring an ebXML Message using FTP.

Sample FTP Session

```
Connected to ftp.partner.com.
220 ebMS-FTP Server (ftp.partner.com FTP) [ftp]
Name (ftp.partner.com:anonymous): anonymous
331 Password required for anonymous.
Password:
230 User anonymous logged in.
Remote system type is UNIX.
Using binary mode to transfer files.
ftp> cdup
250 CDUP command successful.
ftp> put message@id.ebms
local: message@id.ebms remote: message@id.ebms
502 Command not implemented.
227 Entering Passive Mode (10,36,3,5,67,144)
150 File status okay; about to open data connection.
100% |*****************************************************************************************************|    10       7.28 KB/s    00:00 ETA
226 Transfer complete, closing data connection.
10 bytes sent in 00:00 (0.13 KB/s)
ftp> bye
221 Service closing control connection.↵
```

4.3 Response Messages

Since FTP is designed for one way file transfer sessions, all response and error messages will be returned asynchronously via the transport that is configured in the CPA. Transmission and FTP protocol level errors will, however, be handled as specified in rfc959.

4.4 Access Control Considerations

If the CPA defines access control settings (username and password), that information MUST be used to perform the login operation at the start of the FTP session. Otherwise, username anonymous should be used with the password set as the same value as the From header field of the ebXML Service Message.

4.5 Confidentiality and Transport Protocol Level Security.

Security extensions to FTP such as those defined by RFC 2228 (Security Extensions for FTP) have not been widely adopted by vendors of FTP software. To achieve confidentiality during message transmission, it is recommended that security be enforced at a higher level, possibly via a VPN connection or SSL tunnel. These approaches to confidentiality can be setup so as to be completely transparent to the message service handler.