XML Gateway with BPEL - B2B and A2A integrations are now simpler and faster than ever

Kalyan Sura ksura@hcl.in HCL America

Introduction

With so much emphasis being made on utilizing Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) to integrate existing systems, first step towards this goal is to examine XML standards as this is how data is going to be exchanged in future. XML has been used extensively in SOA to create data which is wrapped in a nearly exhaustive description container. The core XML technology set was developed in response to eBusiness requirements for distributed Internet architectures. It now also represents a foundation data representation and management layer for SOA.

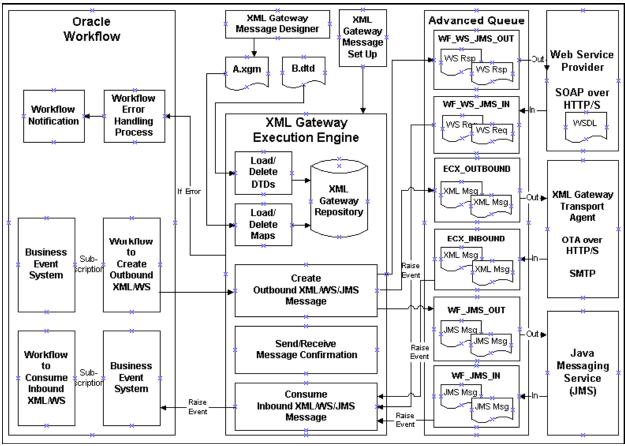
E-business best practices demand that companies electronically integrate their systems. Information must flow quickly, efficiently, and seamlessly throughout the global supply chain. Seamless information flow in an ever expanding trading partner base requires an application integration infrastructure that is flexible enough to accommodate the integration requirements of any and all applications that must integrate with the Oracle E-Business Suite. This paper will examine how Oracle XML gateway coupled with Oracle workflow business event system and BPEL can be utilized to integrate both internal and external systems. This white paper supplements the presentation "XML Gateway with BPEL - B2B and A2A integrations made easier" that was presented at OAUG Collaborate 08

This paper builds on a wealth of information already available from Oracle and other vendors in the form of white papers, presentations and guides. In areas where a white-paper or a publicly available document exists, we simply refer to the available document for implementation considerations. In areas where no publicly available document exists, we will dive into implementation details. The end of this paper contains an appendix of all referenced sources of information that can assist with implementing some of the ideas outlined in this white paper.

XML Gateway Architecture

The services supported by Oracle XML Gateway are grouped into four functional areas as follows:

- Message Designer
- XML Gateway Setup
- Execution Engine
- Transport Agent



Ref: XML Gateway User Guide

Message Designer

Use the XML Gateway Message Designer to perform the following three functions:

Define Data Source and Data Target

Each message map must contain data source and data target. The XML Message Designer supports RDBMS to XML, XML to RDBMS and XML to XML combinations with respect to data source and data target. RDBMS-based data definitions can be based on database tables, database views, Application Open Interface tables, or Application APIs.

Map Source Data to Target Data

This is where transformation happens, this is a two step process first we map the data structures (level mapping). This is very important especially if you have inbound transaction that's represented using three levels and you'll now have to collapse this to two level outbound document or vice-versa. The XML Gateway Message Designer supports both expanding and collapsing hierarchies to ensure that data can be retrieved from or populated into the Oracle E-Business Suite data model. Second step is to map each individual element. Message Designer user interface displays the data source and the data target in adjacent windows. A simple drag and drop between the source and target data elements creates a map relationship.

Identify Data Transformation and Process Control Functions

This is the step that gives the flexibility that we often required when transforming data. The common data transformation functions involve math functions and string manipulation in addition to conversions between the Oracle and OAG formats representing date, operating amount, quantity, and amount values. The common process control functions involve calling procedures or database functions to extend the integration with the Oracle E-Business Suite. For ex: use standard oracle API's to populate WHO columns, derive org_id etc etc.

Note: One question I have noticed in many forums is how to get the Message Designer, well here's how

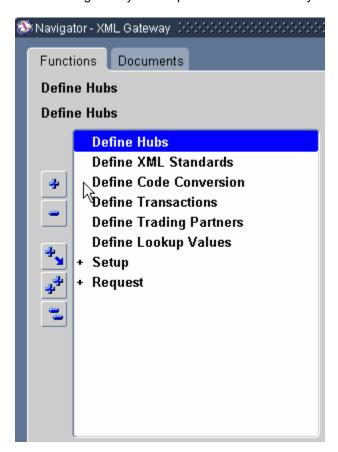
Its part of Oracle Workflow 2.6 Client (Builder) and can be downloaded from Metalink as a patch.

Platform is "Microsoft Windows (32-bit) Client"

- a) Log into Metalink.
- b) Click on the Patches&Updates tab
- c) Click Simple search
- d) Give the patch Number as 4066964
- e) for Platform select "Microsoft Windows (32-bit) Client"
- f) Click on Go.

XML Gateway Setups

There are three major setups in Oracle XML Gateway, if you have prior experience with Oracle e-Commerce gateway the steps are similar to what you do there



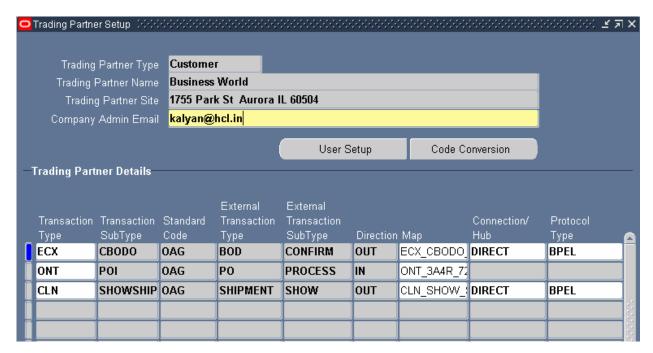
Define Transactions

Use Oracle XML Gateway to define a cross-reference between the Oracle transaction name and the external transaction name. The external transaction name will be based on what is meaningful per the XML standard used by the recipient. The external transaction name will appear on the message envelope to support message transport.



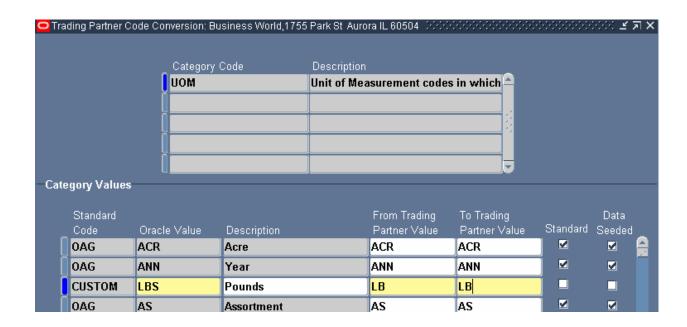
Define Trading Partner or Hub

E-Business may be conducted directly with a business partner, commonly known as a trading partner, or via a hub, such as Oracle Exchange, where many buyers and sellers converge to conduct electronic commerce



Define Code Conversions

With Oracle XML Gateway, you can cross-reference Oracle codes to codes that are meaningful to your recipient. Conversely, you can cross-reference codes you receive from your partner to codes that are meaningful to your Oracle Application. Common examples of Oracle E-Business Suite codes requiring code conversion are units of measure and currency code



Execution Engine

The XML Gateway Execution Engine is responsible for interacting with several Oracle technologies to process and transport XML messages to and from Trading Partners for B2B integration, or other information systems both within and outside the enterprise for A2A integration. Below are four most important Oracle technologies that XML Gateway Execution Engine uses

Oracle Workflow Business Event System

Oracle XML Gateway leverages the Oracle Workflow Business Event System to publish and subscribe to application business events of interest to automatically trigger message creation or consumption.

Oracle E-Business Suite

The XML Gateway Execution Engine interfaces with the Oracle E-Business Suite via business events and event subscriptions to retrieve data from or populate data into the Oracle e-Business Suite tables.

Oracle Advanced Queuing

The XML Gateway Execution Engine interfaces with Oracle Advanced Queuing to stage outbound XML messages or receive inbound XML messages for processing.

Oracle Workflow

The XML Gateway Execution Engine interfaces with Oracle Workflow to actively notify the XML Gateway system administrator regarding system or process errors, or the Trading Partner contact for data errors.

Transport Agent

The Transport Agent server is a Java-based servlet that uses the Transport Agent Messaging Protocol to support the following:

- a) Simple to install, configure and manage
- b) Guaranteed, exactly once delivery of messages
- c) Complete audit and history tracking of messages sent/received
- d) Support outbound email delivery of messages (SMTP)
- e) Support the HTTP/S Application protocol
- f) Support server certificate authentication (when using SSL mode)
- g) Provide built in Application user authentication to Oracle e-Business Suite and Oracle Exchange

The Oracle Transport Agent interfaces with Oracle Advanced Queuing and uses Oracle Workflow's Business Event System to send and receive of XML documents from Trading Partners. The sending of XML documents through OTA is simply a type of workflow using the ECX_STANDARD.SEND function activity to send through the ECX_OUTBOUND queue for OTA to dequeue and send. The receiving of inbound XML documents do not necessarily have to use OTA; however, it is up to the recipient to accept and process the XML. OTA is designed to accept inbound XML and enqueue it on the ECX Inbound queue for the ECX Inbound Agent Listener to process on to the ECX Transaction queue where the ECX Transaction Agent Listener will complete the processing of the inbound XML

Oracle Workflow Business Event System

The Oracle Workflow Business Event System is an application service that leverages the Oracle Advanced Queuing (AQ) infrastructure to communicate business events between systems. The Business Event System consists of the Event Manager and workflow process event activities. The Business Event System allows us to

- a) Define business events
- b) Register event subscriptions to these business events
- c) Raise these business events
- d) Route messages to and from business to business exchanges
- e) Route messages to and from legacy applications

Business Event

A business event is simply any event which is of importance to either development team or business users and might happen as part of daily business activities. For example, the creation of sales order might be a business event that's of importance to business users, where as order failing in import tables might be of interest to development team. Business events are represented within workflow processes by event activities. By including event activities in a workflow process, you can model complex processing or routing logic for business events beyond the options of directly running a predefined function or sending the event to a predefined recipient

Event Subscription

An event subscription is a registration indicating that a particular event is significant to a particular system and specifying the processing to perform when the triggering event occurs. Event subscriptions to a business event typically perform following actions

- a) Execution of PL/SQL code
- b) Send the business event to a predefined workflow process
- c) Send and receive messages from Trading partners

Raise Event

In addition to raising events from your applications or through workflows, you can raise events that do not require additional parameters manually using the Raise Event web page from the Oracle Workflow home page. When you raise an event, the Event Manager searches for and executes any active subscriptions by the local system to that event with a source type of Local, and also any active subscriptions by the local system to the Any event with a source type of Local. You can also raise events using PL/SQL code.

Integration with XML Gateway

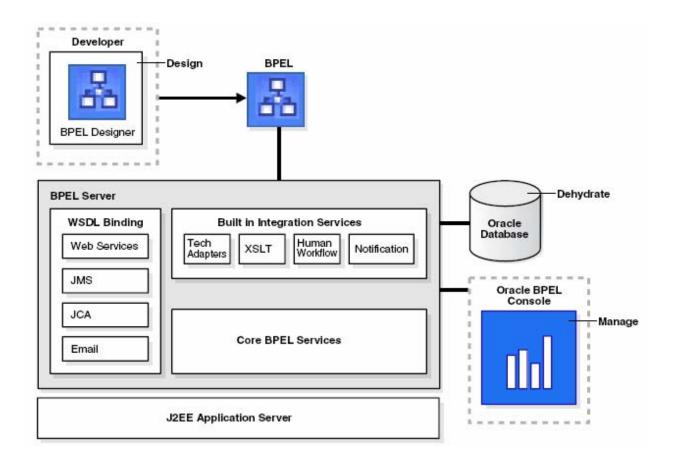
By using the built in Subscription Action Types "Send Trading Partner Message" and "Receive Trading Partner Message" we can integrate Oracle Workflow Business Event System with XML Gateway. Detailed step-by-step instructions are provided in following sections of this paper to create a Business Event, add a Subscription to the business event and then raise the event to send a XML message to your trading partner.

Business Process Execution Language

Web Services Business Process Execution Language OASIS Standard WS-BPEL 2.0 (or BPEL for short) is a language for specifying business process behavior based on Web Services. BPEL is an XML-based language for enabling task sharing across multiple enterprises using a combination of Web services. BPEL is based on the XML schema, simple objects access protocol (SOAP), and Web services description language (WSDL). BPEL is an orchestration language, it specifies an executable process that involves message exchanges with other systems, such that the message exchange sequences are controlled by the orchestration designer.BPEL provides enterprises with an industry standard for business process orchestration and execution. Using BPEL, you design a business process that integrates a series of discrete services into an end-to-end process flow. This integration reduces process cost and complexity.

Oracle BPEL Process Manager provides a user-friendly and reliable solution for designing, deploying, and managing BPEL business processes. Oracle BPEL Process Manager consists of three key components

- BPEL Designer (JDeveloper)
- BPEL Server
- BPEL Console



Features

JDeveloper BPEL Designer

- Native BPEL support
- Drag-and-drop process modeler
- Universal description, discover, and integration (UDDI) and Web services inspection language (WSIL) service browser
- Visual XPath editor
- One-click build and deploy

Oracle BPEL Console

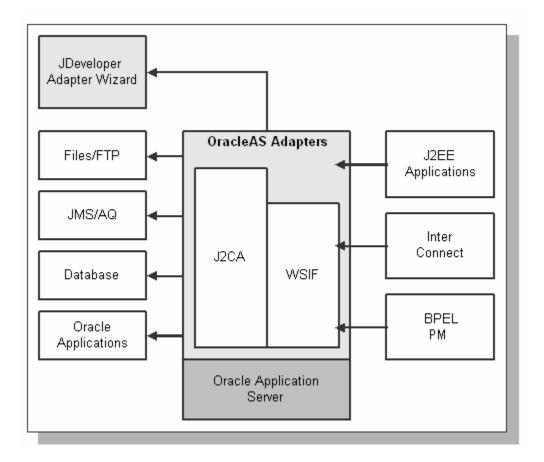
- Visual monitoring
- Auditing
- BPEL debugging
- Process versioning
- In-flight administration
- Process performance monitoring statistics
- Partitioning/domains

Oracle BPEL Server

- Comprehensive BPEL version 1.1
- · Synchronous and asynchronous messaging
- Context dehydration
- Advanced exception management
- Side-by-side versioning
- Large XML documents

Oracle Applications Adapter

OracleAS Adapter for Oracle Applications is based on J2CA 1.0 standards and deployed as a resource adapter in the same Oracle Application Server Containers for J2EE (OC4J) container as BPEL Process Manager. The architecture of OracleAS Adapter for Oracle Applications is similar to the architecture of technology adapters



Oracle Applications is a set of integrated business applications that runs entirely on the Internet. Oracle Applications offers you the following:

- Reduced costs
- Increased revenue across front-office and back-office functions
- · Access to current, accurate, and consistent data

NOTE: Please see reference section for links from Oracle® to learn more

USE CASE STEPS

This section is truly for supplementing the presentation titled "XML Gateway with BPEL - B2B and A2A integrations made easier". We'll see step by step instructions for end-to-end-flow

1. Create a table in your custom schema

```
CREATE TABLE xxorder_extract
(ordno NUMBER,
ordwt NUMBER,
rdate DATE,
city VARCHAR2(30),
zip VARCHAR2(10),
xml_extracted DATE)
```

2. Create a view to be used in XML gateway

```
CREATE OR REPLACE VIEW xxorder_extract_v (
    ordno,
    ordwt,
    rdate,
    city,
    zip )
AS
select ORDNO, ORDWT, RDATE, CITY, ZIP from xxOrder_extract where XML_extracted is null
/
```

3. How data gets inserted into this table is up to you for simplicity we'll manually insert the data

```
Insert into xxorder_extract values ( 1001,1300.56,'01-MAY-2008', 'Denver','80401', NULL); Insert into xxorder_extract values ( 1002,1434,'02-MAY-2008', 'Sunnyvale','94085', NULL); Insert into xxorder_extract values ( 1003,16100,'01-MAY-2008', 'Chicago',60515, NULL);
```

Commit;

4. Create a DTD and save it as orders.dtd

```
<?xml version = "1.0" encoding = "UTF-8"?>
<!ELEMENT ORDER_DETAILS (ORDER+ )* >
<!ELEMENT ORDER (ORDNO+,ORDWT+,RDATE+,CITY*,ZIP+ )* >
<!ELEMENT ORDNO (#PCDATA ) >
<!ELEMENT ORDWT (#PCDATA ) >
<!ELEMENT RDATE (#PCDATA ) >
<!ELEMENT CITY (#PCDATA ) >
<!ELEMENT ZIP (#PCDATA ) >
```

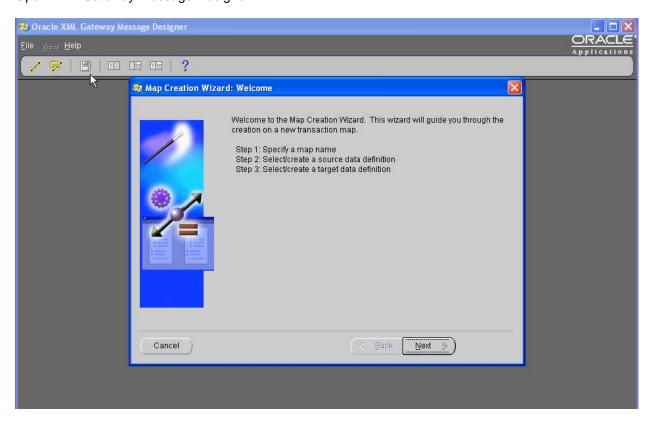
5. Use this command to upload the dtd into oracle

java LoadDTDToClob<DB username><DB password><Hostname>:<Port>:<SID><mydtd.dtd><RootElementName><Location>

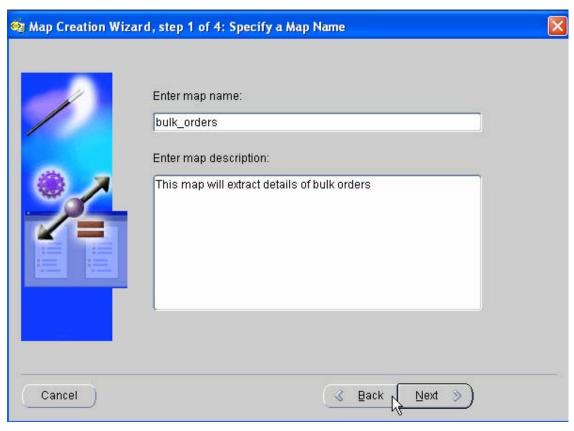
ex: java oracle.apps.ecx.loader.LoadDTDToClob apps apps hcl034.hcltech.com:1521:orcl orders.dtd ORDER_DETAILS ecx/oag72

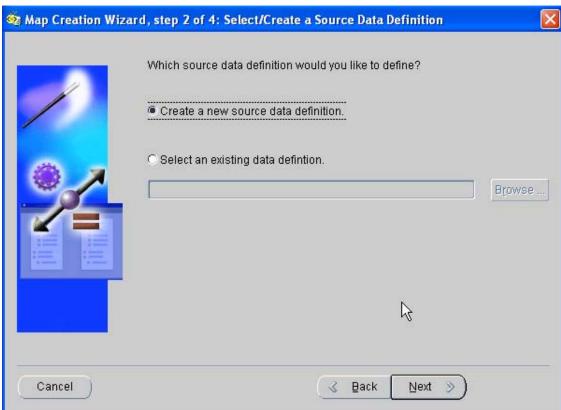
6. Create XML Gateway map

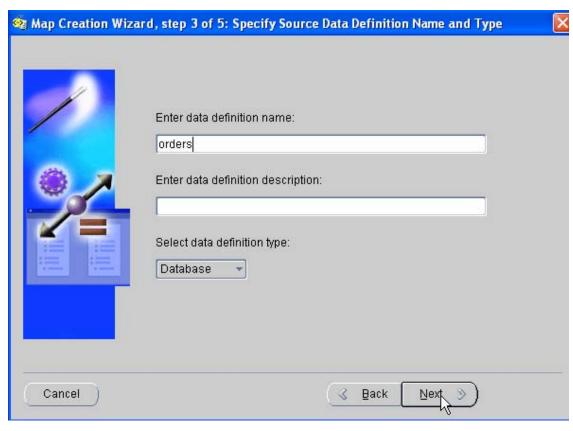
Open XML Gateway Message Designer

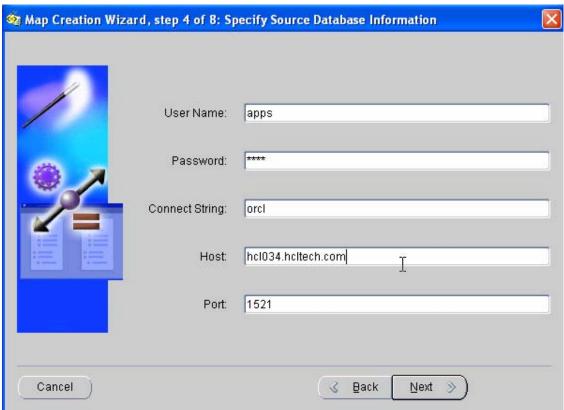


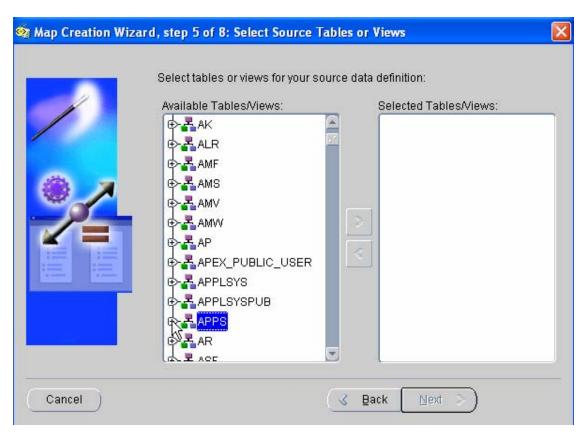
Keep clicking next and follow the self explanatory screen shots

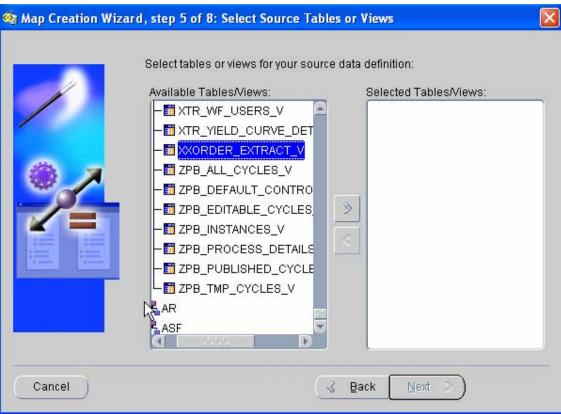


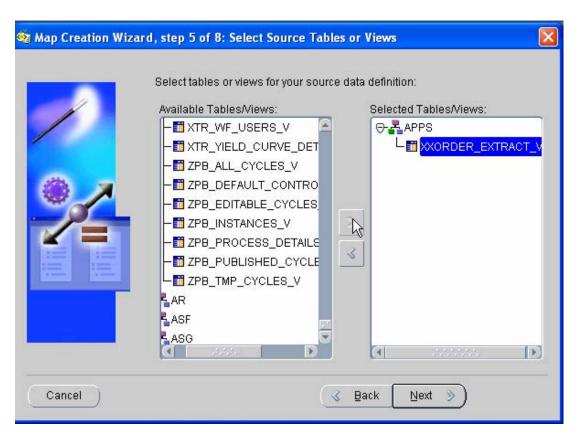


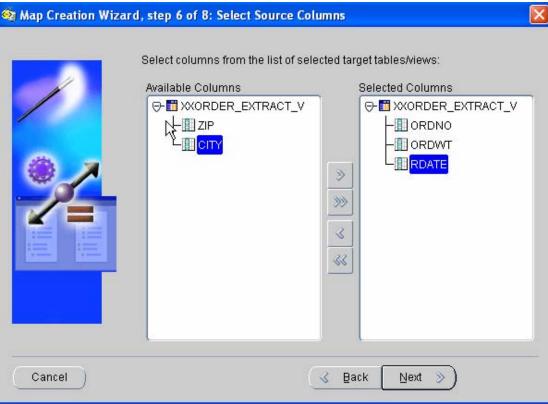


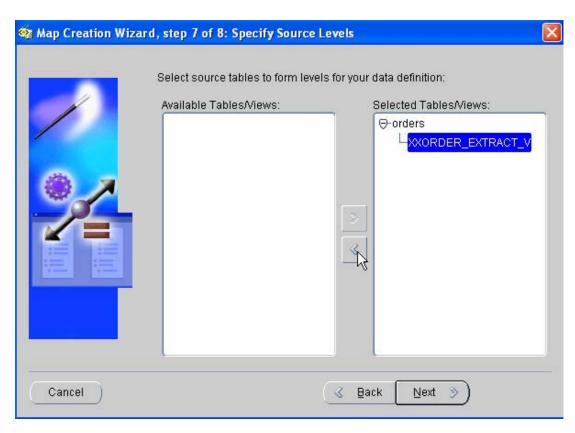


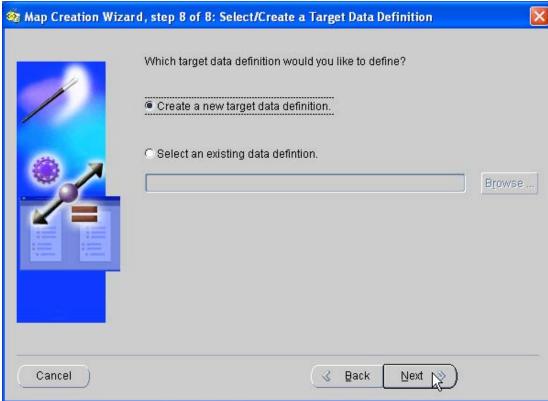


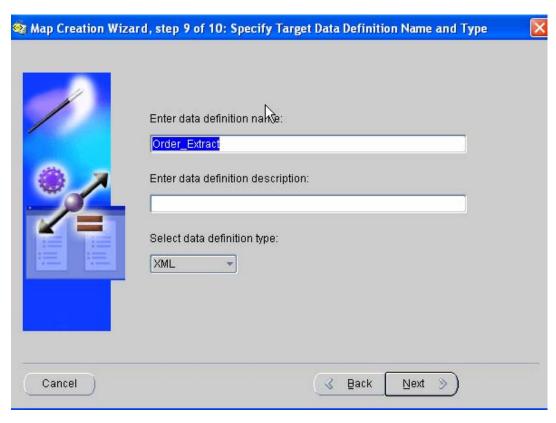


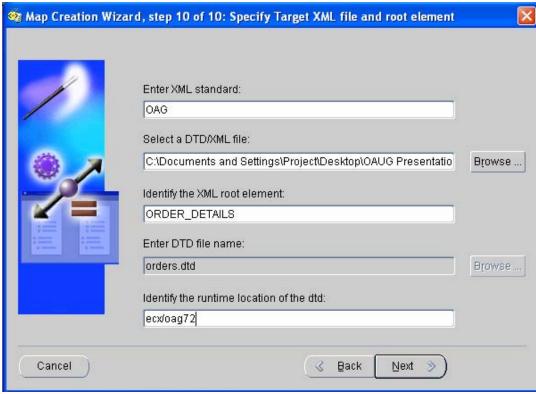


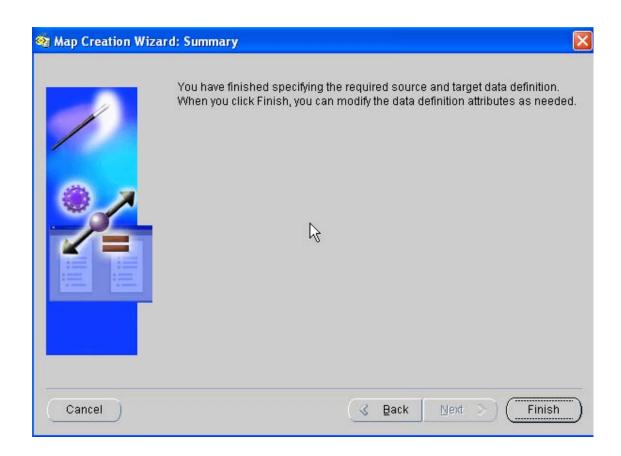


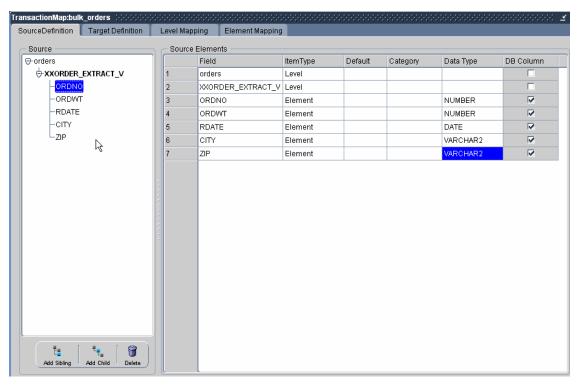


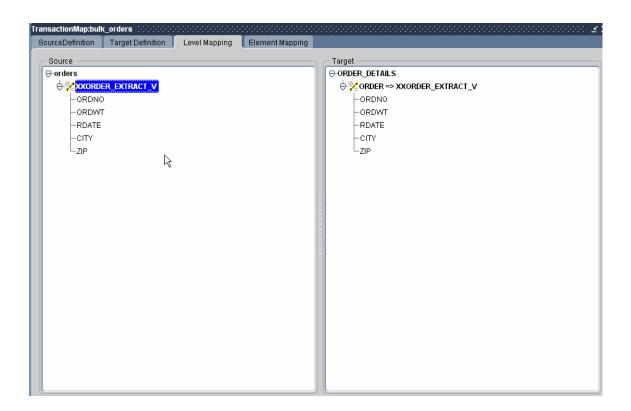


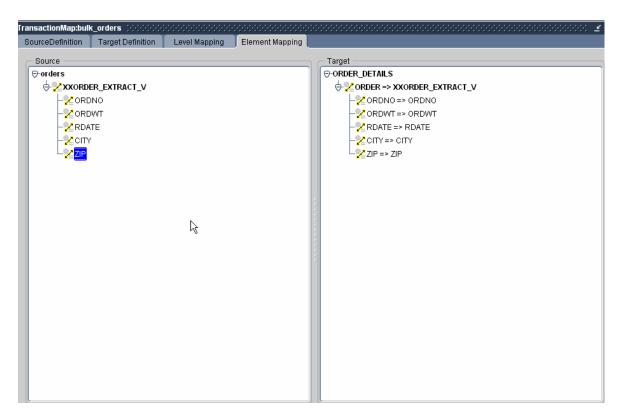












Save the map as bulk_orders.xgm

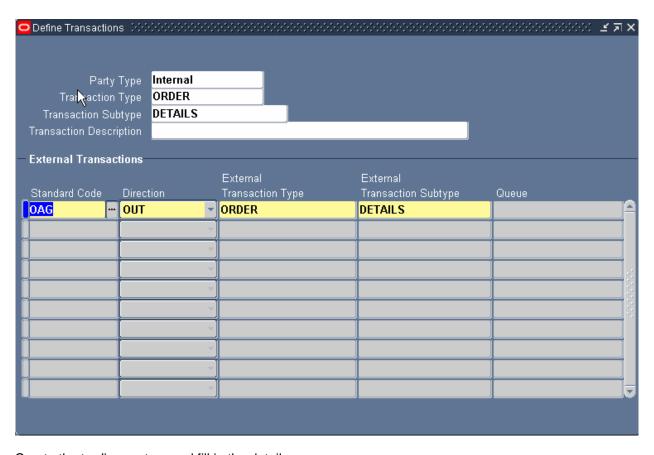
7. Use this command to upload the map into oracle

java LoadMap<DB username><DB password><Hostname>:<Port>:<SID><mymap.xgm>

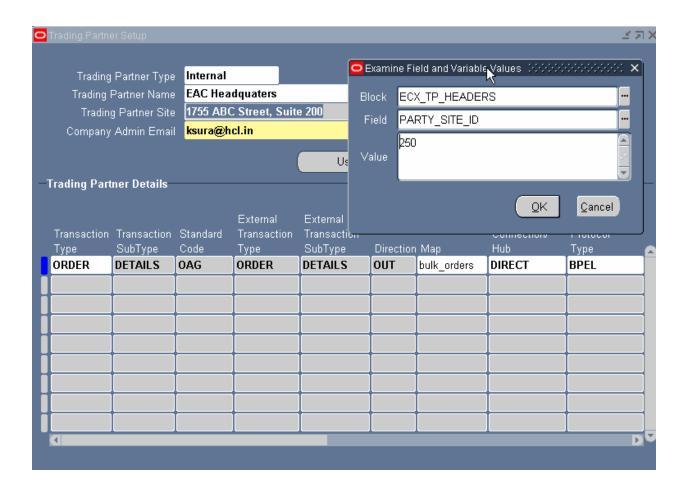
for ex: java oracle.apps.ecx.loader.LoadMap apps apps hcl034.hcltech.com:1521:orcl bulk_orders.xgm

8. XML gateway setups

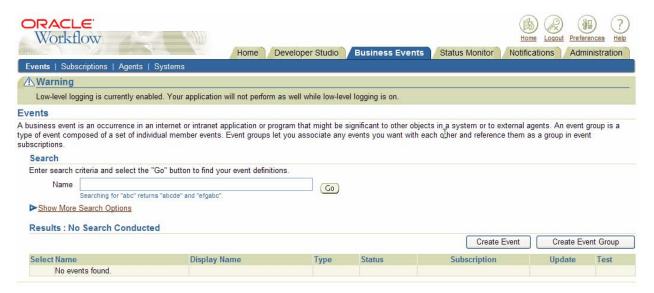
Create transactions

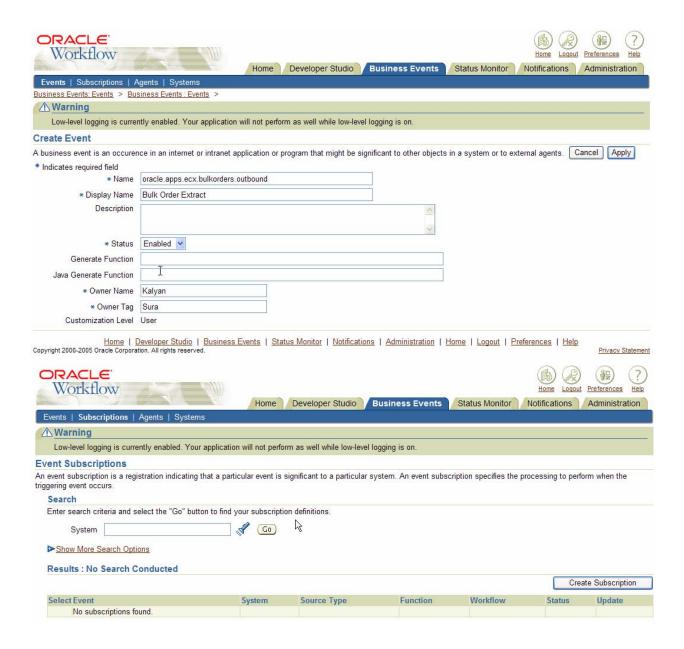


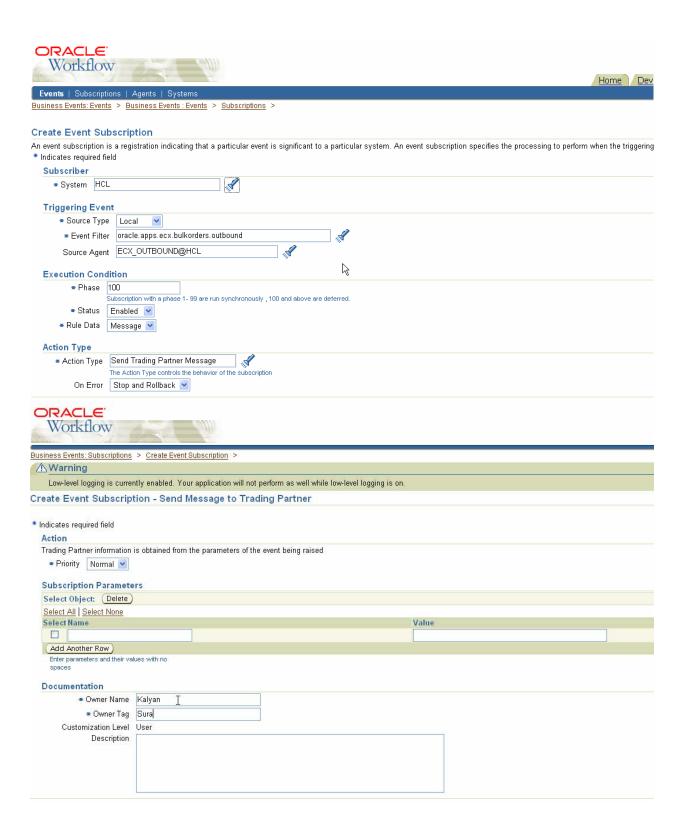
Create the trading partner and fill in the details



9. Create a Business Event and Subscription

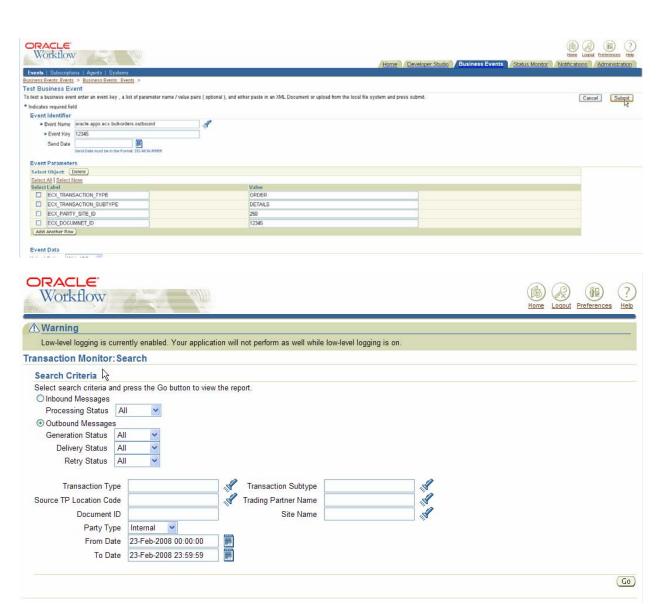


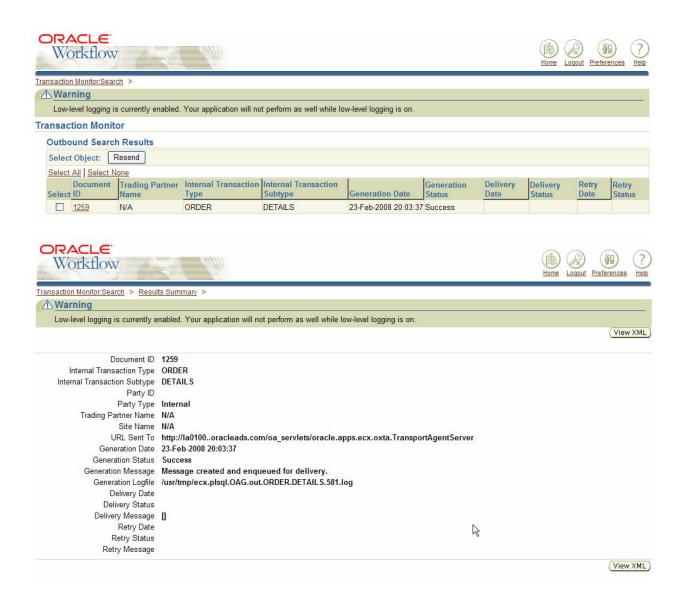




10. Test the business event









<u>Transaction Monitor:Search</u> > <u>Results Summary</u> > <u>Outbound Message Details</u> >

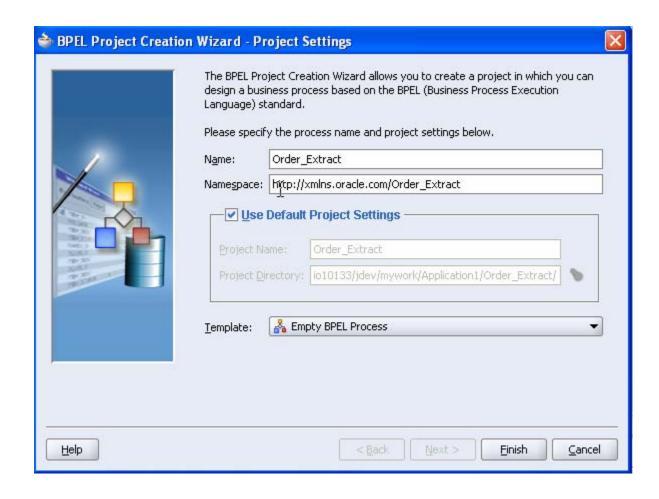
⚠ Warning

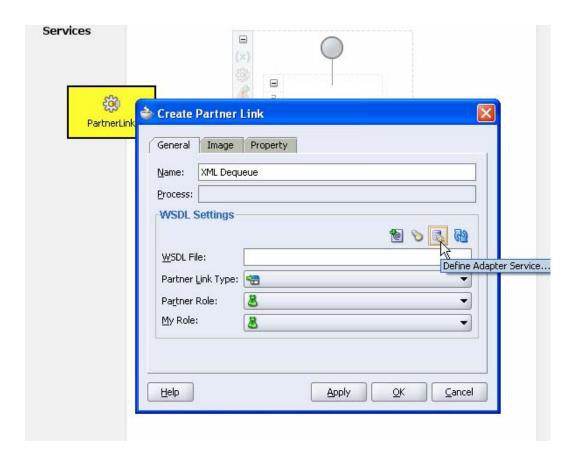
Low-level logging is currently enabled. Your application will not perform as well while low-level logging is on.

```
<?xml version = '1.0' encoding = 'US-ASCII' standalone = 'no'?>
<!-- Oracle eXtensible Markup Language Gateway Server -->
<!DOCTYPE ORDER DETAILS SYSTEM "orders.dtd">
<ORDER DETAILS>
  <ORDER>
     <ORDNO>1001</ORDNO>
     <ORDWT>1300.56</ORDWT>
     <RDATE>20080501 000000</RDATE>
     <CITY>Denver</CITY>
     <ZIP>80401</ZIP>
  </ORDER>
  <ORDER>
     <ORDNO>1002</ORDNO>
                                       4
     <ORDWT>1434</ORDWT>
     <RDATE>20080502 000000</RDATE>
     <CITY>Sunnyvale</CITY>
     <ZIP>94085</ZIP>
  </ORDER>
  <ORDER>
     <ORDNO>1003</ORDNO>
     <ORDWT>16100</ORDWT>
     <RDATE>20080501 000000</RDATE>
     <CITY>Chicago</CITY>
     <ZIP>60515</ZIP>
  </ORDER>
</ORDER DETAILS>
```

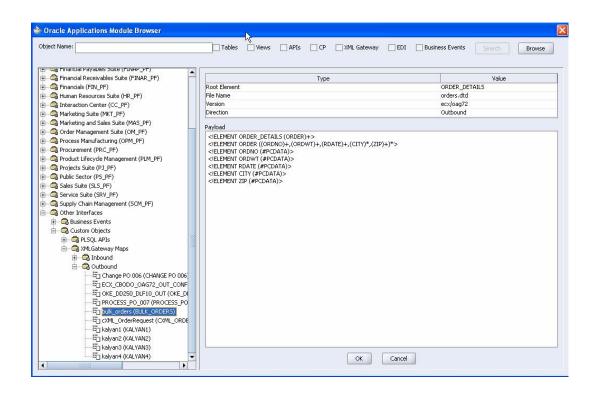
11. Create BPEL process to dequeue and route this message

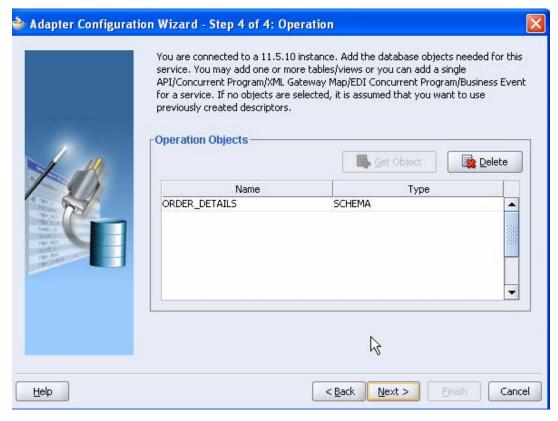
Open Jdeveloper and follow the self explanatory screen shots

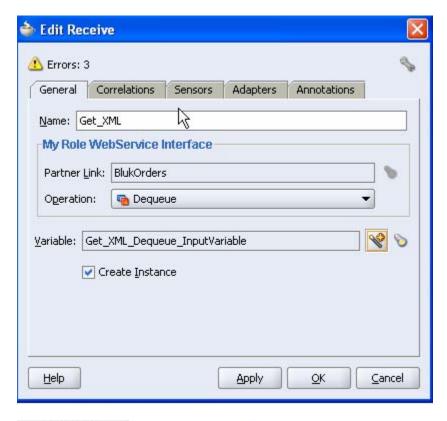


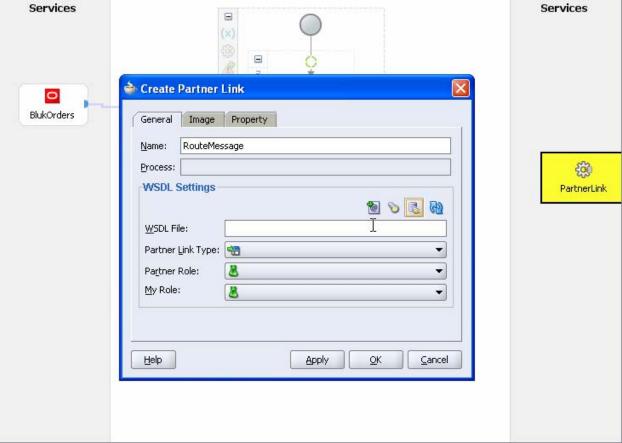




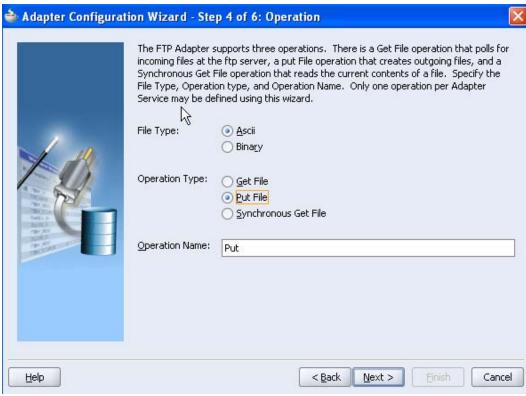


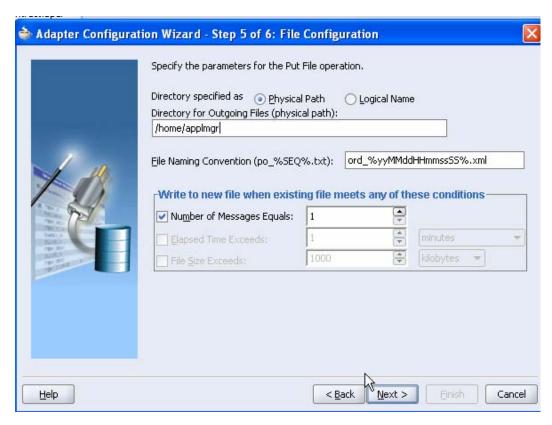


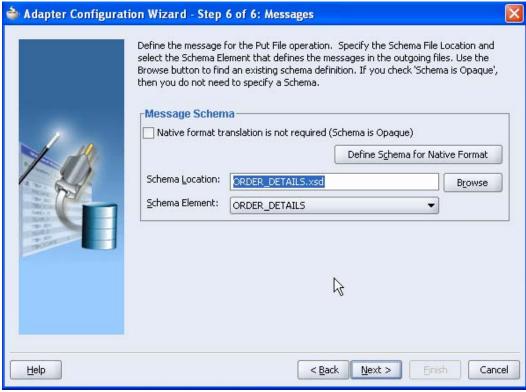


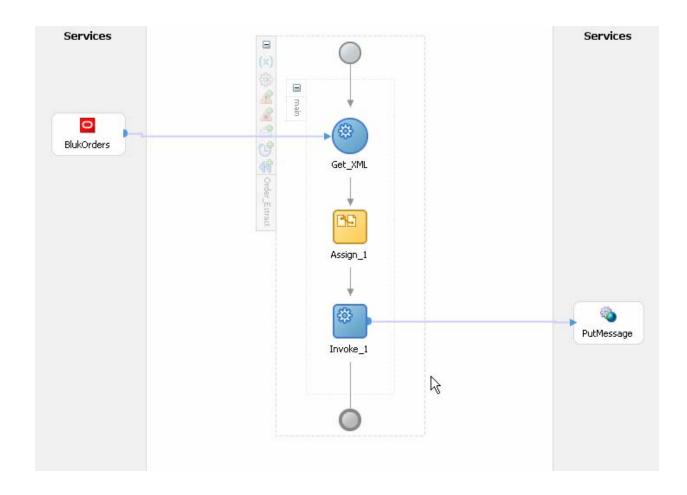












Deploy the BPEL process



