

AWIPS II Topic of the Week -- Messaging

Hi everyone...

One key element of the AWIPS II architecture is messaging. In AWIPS II, messaging occurs between clients like CAVE and the Mule ESB, and even between some ESB Components. For messaging, AWIPS II uses ActiveMQ (<http://activemq.apache.org/>), a popular open source Java Message Service (JMS) broker. ActiveMQ provides support for setting up message queues and sending/receiving messages between peers (i.e., two processes wanting to "talk" to one another). Many Mule Endpoints are message queues. For example, when a piece of data has been decoded and stored, the Indexing Component will send a message to a queue and clients which are listening to that queue will learn that new data is available so they can take whatever action is appropriate for them. (In JMS lingo, a queue that feeds many peers is actually called a Topic). The use of messages to announce completed actions creates the loose coupling in the AWIPS II architecture which provides us with the flexibility we expect of this architecture.