



Using HTTP 1.1

SkyTel WCTP 1.1/WCTP 1.2 Beta Release 1

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1 Introduction

Version 1.1 of the WCTP specification indicates that the recommended transport for WCTP is HTTP. Specifically, a WCTP server must support HTTP 1.0 and may support HTTP 1.1. The initial release of the SkyTel WCTP gateway met the transport requirements by supporting HTTP 1.0. Unfortunately, HTTP 1.0 does not keep connections open by default, and there are delays involved in establishing (and cleaning up) the HTTP connection required to transport WCTP packets. With HTTP 1.1, connections are maintained by default. By allowing HTTP 1.1 for transport of WCTP packets, the overhead associated with opening and closing connections may be reduced.

Although the WCTP specification indicates that HTTP 1.1 may be supported, behavior associated with its usage is not described. Version 1.2 of the WCTP specification will address this issue. In the interim, SkyTel has provided HTTP 1.1 support for transport of WCTP packets. The following describes the behavior associated with SkyTel's implementation of WCTP.

2 Submitting WCTP Requests to SkyTel's WCTP Gateway

The following behavior applies to open connections to SkyTel's WCTP Gateway.

1. If no activity has been detected on a connection after 65 seconds, the SkyTel WCTP Gateway will close the connection.
2. Up to 100 requests may be made on a single connection before the SkyTel Gateway forces a close.

3 Pushing WCTP Data to an Enterprise Server

The following describes the behavior of the SkyTel gateway regarding the pushing of WCTP XML documents to an enterprise server.

1. When data is available to be sent to an enterprise server an HTTP connection is created. An HTTP 1.0 request containing a WCTP XML document is sent to the enterprise server.
2. If the enterprise server sends an HTTP 1.0 response back to the SkyTel WCTP gateway, the connection is closed.
3. If the enterprise server sends an HTTP 1.1 response back to the SkyTel WCTP gateway and indicates the connection should be closed, the connection is closed.
4. If the enterprise server sends an HTTP 1.1 response back to the SkyTel WCTP gateway and does not indicate that the connection should be closed, if there are no other WCTP XML documents to be sent, the connection is closed.
5. If the enterprise server sends an HTTP 1.1 response back to the SkyTel WCTP gateway and does not indicate that the connection should be closed, the connection remains open. If there are remaining XML documents to be sent, the gateway submits an HTTP 1.1 request containing the next WCTP XML document to the enterprise server and waits to receive a response. This process is repeated until all queued documents have been sent, the enterprise server indicates the connection should be closed, or the connection times out.
6. The connection may time out sending a request or waiting for a response. The timeout interval in either case is 5 seconds.