

**12.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a login services module having an authentication module for checking the authenticity of the client application; and

an authorization module for checking the authorization of the client application to access the web service.

**13.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 12, wherein the login services module further comprises:

an authentication identifier provider for providing the client application a pool of authentication identifiers for use in subsequent communication with the web service; and

an authentication identifier validator for checking the validity of an authentication identifier from a pool of authentication identifiers sent with the subsequent communication.

**14.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 13, wherein each authentication identifier is limited to be used in one communication.

**15.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 13, wherein the pool of authentication identifiers are provided to the client application through a secured channel.

**16.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 13, wherein each communication from the client application to the web service containing one of the authentication identifiers is made through an unsecured channel.

**17.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a metering module for metering web service usage of the client application.

**18.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the standard protocol for messaging between the client application and the web service is simple object access protocol.

**19.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, wherein the client application is another web service.

**20.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a billing unit for billing the client application.

**21.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 20, wherein the billing unit bills a client application for the use of a package of bundles assigned to the client application, the bundles comprising one or more methods from a plurality of web services.

**22.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a logging and metering module for logging and metering the usage of the gateway module by the client application.

**23.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a reporting module for reporting the usage of the gateway module by the client application.

**24.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising an administration module for administering the gateway module.

**25.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a repository for storing information relating to methods of a plurality of web services organized into bundles, each bundle having one or more methods from one or more web services; and

an authorization module for authorizing a client application to access methods in one of the bundles.

**26.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 25, wherein at least one bundle has one or more methods from at least two web services.

**27.** The gateway module as claimed in claim 25, wherein the bundles are organized into packages.

**28.** A method for managing functionality for one or more web services, the method comprising steps of:

receiving communication from a client application over a standard protocol;

processing the communication for a web service; and

delegating the processed communication to the web service.

**29.** The method as claimed in claim 28, further comprising the step of storing information relating to the client application and the web service.

**30.** The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein processing step includes the step of modifying a method call received from a client application.

**31.** The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the step of modifying comprises the step of modifying a simple object access protocol method call received by the client application interface unit.

**32.** The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the step of modifying comprises the step of modifying an application programming interface contract request method call received by the client application interface unit.

**33.** The method as claimed in claim 28, further comprising steps of:

receiving communication from the web service; and

sending communication to the client application.

**34.** The method as claimed in claim 33, further comprising a step of modifying a web services response to a method call received by the web services interface unit.

**35.** The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of modifying includes the step of modifying responses to simple object access protocol method calls.

**36.** The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the step of modifying includes the step of modifying a web service description language contract.

**37.** The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processing step comprises the step of checking the authenticity of the client application.

**38.** The method as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processing step comprises the step of checking the authorization of the client application to access a web service.

**39.** The method as claimed in claim 28, further comprising the login steps of:

checking the authenticity of the client application; and

checking the authorization of the client application to access the web service.

**40.** The method claimed in claim 39, further comprising the steps of:

providing the client application a pool of authentication identifiers for use in subsequent communication with the web service; and

checking the validity of an authentication identifier from a pool of authentication identifiers sent with the subsequent communication.