



CONFERENCE ROOMS WITHIN COVERSANT'S SOAPBOX PLATFORM

Conference room, or persistent chat, capabilities available on Coversant's SoapBox Platform provide users the ability to easily deploy a powerful and easy to use conferencing infrastructure.

The combination of advanced configurability and ease of use makes the Coversant SoapBox conferencing offering powerful, extensible, and appealing.

CONFERENCE ROOM CONFIGURATION OPTIONS

Creating and configuring conference rooms on the SoapBox Platform offers a myriad of options. Along with being able to define the basic information of the room, such as name, description, and whether the room is public, you can also configure several other options.

Below is a summary of the advanced room configuration options offered by Coversant as well as the easy to use conferencing interface.

Maximum Occupants

This allows you to predefine that maximum number of users who can occupy the room.

Persistent

This defines whether the room will persist and remain after everyone has left. If this option is not chosen, the room will automatically be destroyed when no longer in use.

Assign Affiliations

There are four different affiliations a user can have with a room:

- **Owner**
A user who is an owner of a room has the highest level of privileges in the room. Only users who are owners can modify the room's configuration.
- **Administrator**
A user who is an administrator of a room is able to temporarily remove another user from a room ("kick"), permanently remove another user from a room ("ban"), or invite new users to the room. In addition, when an administrator is in the room (an occupant), they are automatically given the Occupant Role of Moderator.
- **Members**
A user who is a member of a room can enter that room even if it is configured to be "members only".

Assign Occupant Roles

A user becomes an occupant of a room once they have entered it. At this point that user may be in one of the following roles:

- **Moderator**
An occupant who is a moderator has complete control within the room. They can modify the subject, remove Participants and Visitors from the room temporarily (“kick”) or permanently (“ban”). They can also grant and revoke to users the ability to add messages to the room (“voice”).
- **Participants**
An occupant who is a participant has the ability to send and receive messages in the room. If the room configuration allows, they are also able to modify the subject and invite other users to the room.
- **Visitors**
An occupant who is a visitor is only able to see messages in the conference room and not add them (they have no “voice”).

Members Only

Only allow users defined as member of the room to enter. If a user is invited to a room, they are automatically joined to the members list.

Moderated

If a room is defined as “moderated”, only users that have been granted “voice” are allowed to speak.

Maximum Message History Size

When a new occupant enters the room, there is the option to send some of the messages that were previously passed in the conference room. This configuration allows you to set how much of that message history is sent.

Password Protected

This option allows you to place a password on a conference room, which would be prompted for before a user could join the room.

Room Language

This allows users to determine the language of the room.

Occupant Invites

This option, when set, allows all occupants to invite additional users to the conference room.

Occupant Change Subject

This option, when set, allows all occupants to change the current subject of the room.

Presence Broadcast Roles

These are the occupant roles for which presence is broadcast. By default the presence for all occupant roles is broadcast. However, if a role is not selected, all occupants in that role will effectively be a ghost in the room.

Non-Anonymous Role

Any user in the occupant role defined here (and any role above it) can see any other occupant’s real JID. Any user in a role below this can only see other occupant’s nicknames.

Allow Registration

When a room allows registration, any non-member may register with the room, become a member, and reserve a nick name.

Approve Registrations

If a room allows registration, and this option is set, all room registration requests are sent to a room administrator for approval.

CONFERENCE ROOM MANAGEMENT

Conference Rooms can be easily created and configured using the SoapBox Server Management Studio. In addition a majority of the room creation and configuration options can be found in the SoapBox Communicator as well.

Participating and administering the room from the SoapBox Communicator is easy. There are easily accessible options to Join or Search for an Existing Conference Room. When searching for a conference you can browse the available conference rooms on your local server, or connect to a remote server and browse through their available conference rooms. You can also use a filter to search for the room you are looking for.

Once in the room your occupant role and others occupant roles are clearly defined. You can easily see everyone who is available in the room. You can easily change your nick name for the room, or (if configured) send a private message to another member of the conference room. The chat window is very similar to the one on one chat window and contains much of the same functionality for composing messages in the room.

If you are administering the room, it is also equally easy. If you want to grant or revoke voice to a particular user, simply right-click on their avatar and do so. This is also true when kicking a user out of the room or banning them.

POLICIES

In addition to advanced room configuration, the SoapBox Server also has an extensive policy infrastructure that provides administrators with the ability to quickly and easily secure the SoapBox Server based on their needs. These policies are applied to roles defined on the SoapBox Server. Several of these policies are related to conference rooms. These include:

- **Create Non-Persistent Rooms:** Allows users with policy to create their own non-persistent rooms that will be destroyed after they are done being used.
- **Create Persistent Rooms:** Allows users with policy to create their own rooms that will persist even when they are not in use.
- **Global Room Owners:** Users with this policy are automatically granted the room affiliation of “owner” for all rooms created on the server.
- **Global Room Administrators:** Users with this policy are automatically granted the room affiliation of “administrator” for all rooms created on the server.
- **Global Room Members:** Users with this policy are automatically granted the room affiliation of “member” for all rooms created on the server.
- **Global Banned Users:** Users with this policy are banned from all rooms that are created on this server.

BOOKMARKING

Coversant's SoapBox Communicator also has bookmark functionality. This allows you to bookmark conference rooms so you can easily return to them at a later time. A bookmark allows you to store a password, in the case that the room is password protected, and provides an option to automatically join the room when you login.

APPLICATION INTEGRATION AND EXTENSIBILITY

The SoapBox Server and SoapBox Communicator alone offer a very powerful and flexible conferencing solution. However, if your needs are more advanced, Coversant offers an even more powerful set of SDKs to extend this solution. The SoapBox Server and SoapBox Communicator are based on the SoapBox Framework; a robust, .Net-based, software development framework for XMPP-based solutions. Coversant offers this framework, as well as all of its powerful SDKs, as a part of the SoapBox Studio. SoapBox Studio allows you to extend Coversant's product offerings to meet your specific business needs. No other company offers such a powerful extension development platform.

The combination of advanced configurability and ease of use, and advanced customizability makes the Coversant SoapBox conferencing offering very powerful and appealing