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Many business-to-business (B2B) deployments are unsuccessful due to the lack of proper planning prior to installing and configuring the software solution. Also, it is often forgotten that implementing a B2B solution has implications for the overall IT infrastructure. Network security, network availability, and application integration are all equally required of a successful B2B solution implementation. In this IBM Redbooks publication, we start with a discussion about topics that a B2B consultant needs to know before working on a B2B project. A deep understanding of the B2B product, an understanding of business issues, and network technologies are all required. The second part of this book discusses the typical phases of a B2B project, starting with assessment meetings and ending with post-production support. In the last part of this book, we discuss the production implementation of WebSphere® Business Integration Connect within a topology that consists of two DMZs, a reverse proxy and a load balancer. Within this environment, we have implemented the exchange of EDI documents within AS2 messages over Secure HTTP (HTTPS). Please note that the additional material referenced in the text is not available from IBM.

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