

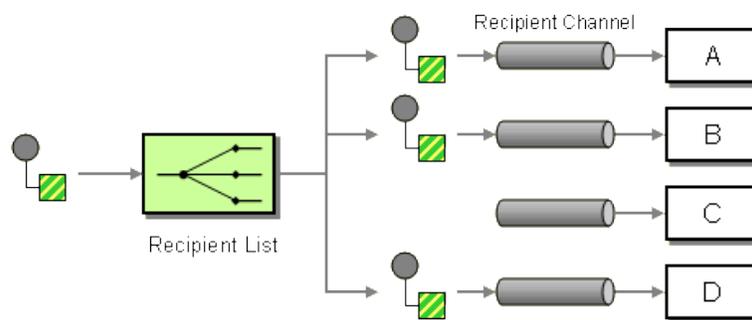
# CONTENT BASED ROUTER

A *Content-Based Router* allows us to route a message to the correct system based on message content. This process is transparent to the original sender in the sense that the originator simply sends the message to a channel, where the router picks it up and takes care of everything.

In some cases, though, we may want to specify one or more recipients for the message. A common analogy are the recipient lists implemented in most e-mail systems. For each e-mail message, the sender can specify a list of recipients. The mail system then ensures transport of the message content to each recipient. An example from the domain of enterprise integration would be a situation where a function can be performed by one or more providers. For example, we may have a contract with multiple credit agencies to assess the credit worthiness of our customers. When a small order comes in we may simply route the credit request message to one credit agency. If a customer places a large order, we may want to route the credit request message to multiple agencies and compare the results before making a decision. In this case, the list of recipients depends on the dollar value of the order.

In another situation, we may want to route an order message to a select list of suppliers to obtain a quote for the requested item. Rather than sending the request to all vendors, we may want to control which vendors receive the request, possibly based on user preferences

**How do we route a message to a list of dynamically specified recipients?**



**Define a channel for each recipient. Then use a *Recipient List* to inspect an incoming message, determine the list of desired recipients, and forward the message to all channels associated with the recipients in the list.**

The logic embedded in a *Recipient List* can be pictured as two separate parts even though the implementation is often coupled together. The first part computes a list of recipients. The second part simply traverses the list and sends a copy of the received message to each recipient. Just like a *Content-Based Router*, the *Recipient List* usually does not modify the message contents.

Source: <http://www.enterpriseintegrationpatterns.com/patterns/messaging/RecipientList.html>