Part A

Web User — HTML/HTTP → Web Application (Portal) — <soap> <SAML> Assertion → Web Service

Part B

SAML Artifact → Web Application B — <soap> <SAML> Assertion → Web Service

Web User · SAML Artifact · SAML Assertion Retrieval · Cross-Site Transfer · Web Application A

W-10 B2B Use Case

A Web User is accessing a portal which makes use of a SOAP Web Service that requires authentication of the user, on whose behalf the Web Application is making the request. Each message can be assumed to be over a public network and between different organizations. The SOAP request is a real-time request and delivered using a synchronous protocol like HTTP. The SOAP request needs to attest to the identity of the Web User so that the Web Service can determine the correct processing of the message as well as maintain proper accountability. The SOAP message carries a SAML assertion as part of a Web Services Security header.

Part A: We can presume the user has authenticated himself directly to the Web Application.

Part B: The Web User used a cross-site transfer mechanism to arrive at Web Application B (Destination) which is making a SOAP request to the Web Service. Web Application B could either use a different SAML assertion or re-use the one retrieved from Web Application A.