

Remove Whitespace from HTTP Response Payload

Use Case:

Removing headers from HTTP request or response flow is a common task. When the headers or specific values are altered we get whitespaces in between which needs to be taken care of as well. Here HTTP Request header "Accept encoding" tag will be removed and if response's "Content-type" is Text based then two or more spaces will be replaced with single space on http response.

F5 iRules:

```
when HTTP_REQUEST {

    # Prevent server compression
    HTTP::header remove "Accept-Encoding"

    # Disable the stream filter by default
    STREAM::disable
}

when HTTP_RESPONSE {

    # Check if server response is text based
    if { [HTTP::header Content-Type] contains "text" }{

        # Set the stream expression to match two or more consecutive whites
pace characters
        # Replace them with a single space
        STREAM::expression @"\s+@ @}
        STREAM::enable
    }
}
```

NetScaler Solution:

```
add rewrite action act_header_remove DELETE_HTTP_HEADER Accept-Encoding
add rewrite policy new_policy HTTP.REQ.IS_VALID act_header_remove
bind rewrite global new_policy 1 -type req_default
add rewrite action replace_action replace_all
"HTTP.RES.BODY(HTTP.RES.CONTENT_LENGTH)" ' ' -search regex(re/\s+/)
add rewrite policy replace_policy HTTP.RES.HEADER("Content-
Type").SET_TEXT_MODE(IGNORECASE).CONTAINS("text") replace_action
bind rewrite global replace_policy 1 -type res_default
```

Here we first delete the Accept-Encoding HTTP header and then look for whitespaces in the response body and replace multiple whitespaces with single ones.