



SAML V2.0 Subject Management Protocol

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11 **Technical Committee:**

12 OASIS Security Services TC

13 **Chair(s):**

14 Hal Lockhart, BEA Systems, Inc.
15 Thomas Hardjono, MIT

16 **Editors:**

17 Phil Hunt, Oracle Corporation

18 **Contributors:**

19 Based on NSN Draft: SAML V2.0Attributes Management Protocol Version 1.0 Working Draft 06
20 November 2009

21 **Declared XML Namespace(s):**

22 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:mgmt

23 **Abstract:**

24 The SAML V2.0 Management Protocol describes the request and response messages for
25 managing subject entity and attribute information.

27 **Status**

28 This is initial draft of Subject Management Protocol based on NSN proposal (http://www.oasis-open.org/apps/org/workgroup/security/document.php?document_id=34222)

30 TC members should send comments on this specification to the TC's email list. Others
31 should send comments to the TC by using the "Send A Comment" button on the TC's
32 web page at <http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/security>.

33 For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to
34 implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to the IPR
35 section of the TC web page (<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/security/ipr.php>).

36 The non-normative errata page for this specification is located at <http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/security>.

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103 1 Introduction

104 The Subject Management Protocol is a message exchange protocol by which a service provider requests
105 an identity provider to update or store authorized subject entity or attribute information. This message
106 exchange protocol uses the SAML Protocols V2.0 [SAML2Core].

107 1.1 Notation

108 This specification uses normative text. The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL",
109 "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this
110 specification are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119]:

111 ...they MUST only be used where it is actually required for interoperation or to limit behavior
112 which has potential for causing harm (e.g., limiting retransmissions)...

113 These keywords are thus capitalized when used to unambiguously specify requirements over protocol
114 and application features and behavior that affect the interoperability and security of implementations.
115 When these words are not capitalized, they are meant in their natural-language sense.

116 Listings of XML schemas appear like this.

117 Example code listings appear like this.

119 Conventional XML namespace prefixes are used throughout the listings in this specification to stand for
120 their respective namespaces as follows, whether or not a namespace declaration is present in the
121 example:

| Prefix | XML Namespace | Comments |
|--------|---|---|
| saml: | urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion | This is the SAML V2.0 assertion namespace defined in the SAML V2.0 core specification [SAML2Core]. |
| ds: | http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig# | This is the XML Signature namespace [XMLSig]. |
| xs: | http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema | This is the XML Schema namespace [Schema1]. |
| xsi: | http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance | This is the XML Schema namespace for schema-related markup that appears in XML instances [Schema1]. |

122 This specification uses the following typographical conventions in text: <SAMLElement>,
123 <ns:ForeignElement>, Attribute, **Datatype**, OtherCode.

124 1.2 Terminology

125

126 1.3 Normative References

- 127 [[RFC2119](#)] S. Bradner. *Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels*. IETF
128 RFC 2119, March 1997. <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>
129 [[RFC4514](#)] K. Zeilenga. *Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP): String Representation of Distinguished Names*. IETF RFC 4514, June 2006.
130 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4514.txt>

| | | |
|-----|--------------------|---|
| 132 | [RFC5280] | D. Cooper, S. Santesson, S. Farrell, S. Boeyen, R. Housley, W. Polk. <i>Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Profile</i> . IETF RFC 5280, May 2008. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc5280.txt |
| 133 | | |
| 134 | | |
| 135 | [SAML2Core] | OASIS Standard, <i>Assertions and Protocols for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V2.0</i> . March 2005. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-core-2.0-os.pdf |
| 136 | | |
| 137 | | |
| 138 | [SAML2Prof] | OASIS Standard, <i>Profiles for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V2.0</i> . March 2005. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-profiles-2.0-os.pdf |
| 139 | | |
| 140 | | |
| 141 | [Schema1] | H. S. Thompson et al. <i>XML Schema Part 1: Structures</i> . World Wide Web Consortium Recommendation, May 2001. See http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-1-20010502/ |
| 142 | | |
| 143 | | |
| 144 | [XMLSig] | D. Eastlake, J. Reagle, D. Solo, F. Hirsch, T. Roessler. <i>XML Signature Syntax and Processing (Second Edition)</i> . World Wide Web Consortium Recommendation, 10 June 2008. http://www.w3.org/TR/xmldsig-core/ |
| 145 | | |
| 146 | | |
| 147 | [XMLEnc] | D. Eastlake, J. Reagle. <i>XML Encryption Syntax and Processing</i> . World Wide Web Consortium Recommendation, 10 December 2002. http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlenc-core/ |
| 148 | | |
| 149 | | |

1.4 Non-normative References

| | | |
|-----|----------------------|--|
| 150 | [RFC3820] | S. Tuecke, V. Welch, D. Engert, L. Pearlman, M. Thompson. <i>Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) Proxy Certificate Profile</i> . IETF RFC 3820, June 2004. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3820.txt |
| 151 | | |
| 152 | | |
| 153 | | |
| 154 | [RFC4346] | T. Dierks, E. Rescorla. <i>The Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol Version 1.1</i> . IETF RFC 4346, April 2006. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4346.txt |
| 155 | | |
| 156 | [SAML2ConDel] | S. Cantor. <i>SAML V2.0 Condition for Delegation Restriction</i> . OASIS SSTC Committee Draft 01, 10 March 2009. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/Post2.0/sstc-saml-delegation-cd-01.pdf |
| 157 | | |
| 158 | | |

159 2 SAML V2.0 Subject Management Protocol

160 2.1 Required Information

161 **Identification:** urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:mgmt

162 **Contact information:** security-services-comment@lists.oasis-open.org

163 **Description:** Given below.

164 **Updates:** None.

165 2.2 Description

166 The SAML Subject Management Protocol is a message exchange protocol by which the Service Provider
167 (SP) requests the Identity Provider (IdP) to update or store the authorized subject information. This
168 message exchange protocol uses the SAML Protocols V2.0 [SAML2Core] and SAML Profile
169 specifications [SAMLProf].

170 When a Service Provider wishing to register a new subject and/or add, replace, or remove attribute
171 values of a Subject, the Service Provider informs the Identify Provider of the change by sending them a
172 <ManageSubjectRequest> message.

173 After successfully processing the request, the Identity Provider responses with a
174 <samlp:ManageSubjectResponse> to the request.

175 2.3 Elements <ManageSubjectRequest>

176 A Service Provider sends a <ManageSubjectRequest> message containing either an <AddSubject> or
177 <ModifySubject> sub-element.

178 This message has the complex type ManageSubjectRequestType, which extends RequestAbstractType.

179 2.3.1 Element <AddSubject>

180 The <AddSubject> element has the complex type <AddSubjectType> which requires that either a
181 <saml:Assertion> or <saml:EncryptedAssertion> be provided. The provided assertion constitutes the
182 entire object that the SP wishes to provide. The IdP may choose to accept the request by either creating
183 a new record, or by modifying or mapping the request to one that makes sense within the IDP's context.
184 This is useful in cases where a SP may perceive that a subject entity is new, but to the IDP, the change
185 represents only a role change or provisioning state change.

186 Example

187 A SP may request to add a subject by providing a SAML assertion containing one or more attributes to be
188 used in the add request.

189 In this request, the <saml:Issuer> is the subject identifier of the party issuing the information (typically the
190 SP). The <saml:Subject> is an identifier representing the requested unique identifier for the subject. The
191 IdP is not obligated to accept the identifier, but should return the actual identifier in its response.

```
192    <AddSubject>
193     <saml:Assertion IssueInstant="2006-07-17T20:31:40Z" ID="bbf23196-1773-2113-474a-
194     fe114412ab73"
195       Version="2.0">
196       <saml:Issuer>
```

```

197      Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameidformat:X509SubjectName">
198      C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=Apps, CN=hrsvc@uiuc.edu
199    </saml:Issuer>
200    <saml:Subject>
201      <saml:NameID
202        Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameidformat:X509SubjectName">
203        C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
204      </saml:NameID>
205    </saml:Subject>
206    <saml:AttributeStatement>
207      <saml:Attribute
208        xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
209        x500:Encoding="LDAP" NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-
210      format:uri"
211      Name="urn:oid:2.5.4.42" FriendlyName="givenName">
212        <saml:AttributeValue>
213          John
214        </saml:AttributeValue>
215      </saml:Attribute>
216      <saml:Attribute
217        xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
218        x500:Encoding="LDAP" NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-
219      format:uri"
220      Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.26" FriendlyName="mail">
221        <saml:AttributeValue>johndoe@gmail.com
222        </saml:AttributeValue>
223      </saml:Attribute>
224    </saml:AttributeStatement>
225  </saml:Assertion>
226 </AddSubject>
227 </samlm:ManageSubjectRequest>
228

```

229 **2.3.2 Element <ModifySubject>**

230 The <ModifySubject> element is used to update the attributes of an existing subject. Operations allowed
231 are:

- 232 • AddAttributeValue – To add one or more values to an attribute (which may or may not have an
233 existing value).
- 234 • DeleteAttributeValue – To remove a specific value or to remove all values of an Attribute. If no
235 values are specified, all values are to be deleted. If specific values are provided than only those
236 values are to be deleted.
- 237 • ReplaceAttributeValue – To replace the existing attribute values with a new set of values.

238 A <ModifySubject> element includes a <saml:Subject> which is used to reference the target of the modify
239 operation and one or more of the above operations.

240 **Example**

```

241 <samlm:ManageSubjectRequest xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
242   xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
243   xmlns:samlm="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:mgmt"
244   ID="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fe114412ab72" Version="2.0"
245   IssueInstant="2006-07-17T20:31:40Z">
246   <saml:Subject>
247     <saml:NameID
248       Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameidformat:X509SubjectName">
249       C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
250     </saml:NameID>

```

```

251     </saml:Subject>
252     <ModifySubject>
253         <saml:NameID
254             Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameidformat:X509SubjectName">
255             C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
256         </saml:NameID>
257         <AddAttributeValue>
258             <saml:Attribute xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
259                 x500:Encoding="LDAP" NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
260                 Name="urn:oid:2.5.4.42" FriendlyName="givenName">
261                 <saml:AttributeValue>John
262                 </saml:AttributeValue>
263             </saml:Attribute>
264         </AddAttributeValue>
265         <ReplaceAttributeValue>
266             <saml:Attribute xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
267                 x500:Encoding="LDAP" NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
268                 Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.26" FriendlyName="mail">
269                 <saml:AttributeValue>johndoe@gmail.com
270                 </saml:AttributeValue>
271             </saml:Attribute>
272         </ReplaceAttributeValue>
273     </ModifySubject>
274 </samlm:ManageSubjectRequest>
275

```

2.3.3 Delete Operation

276 The delete operation is not directly covered in this specification as it is already covered by the existing
277 <samlp:ManageNameIDRequest> element. In this case, a subject deletion is handled by providing the
278 <saml:NameID> identifier of a subject to be deleted in conjunction with the element <samlp:Terminate>

280 Example

```

281 <samlp:ManageNameIDRequest
282     xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
283     xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
284     ID="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fe114412ab72" Version="2.0"
285     IssueInstant="2006-07-17T20:31:40Z">
286     <saml:NameID Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameidformat:X509SubjectName">
287         C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
288     </saml:NameID>
289     <samlp:Terminate />
290 </samlp:ManageNameIDRequest>

```

291 2.4 Elements <ManageSubjectResponse>

292 The recipient of the <ManageSubjectRequest> message MUST respond with a
293 <ManageSubjectResponse> message, which is of StatusResponseType.

294 2.4.1 Management Related Status Response Codes

295 In addition to status codes values specified in section 3.2.2.2 of [SAML2Core], the following additional
296 <StatusCode> responses are defined:

297 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:SubjectNotUnique

298 The target subject already exists. Usually in response to an AddSubject operation of a
299 ManageSubjectRequest.

300 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:NoSuchContext

301 The domain or IDP for subject could not be located, or is not valid within the current IDP.
302 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Schema
303 The attribute or set of attributes defined is not valid for the specified operation. In the case of an
304 AddSubject, the IDP may have a minimum set of attributes required to perform an AddSubject operation.
305 **The <StatusDetail> element MAY contain the minimum attributes required for the operation requested.**
306 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Consent
307 The operation was not performed or was partially completed due to a consent exception. <StatusDetail>
308 MAY contain details of failure.

309 **2.4.2 Example**

310 The following XML fragment exemplifies the <ManageSubjectResponse> element:

```
311 <samlm:ManageAttributeResponse  
312   xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"  
313   xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"  
314   ID="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fe114412ab72"  
315   Version="2.0"  
316   IssueInstant="2006-07-17T20:31:40Z">  
317   <samlp:Status  
318     xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">  
319     <samlp:StatusCode  
320       xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"  
321       Value="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success">  
322     </samlp:StatusCode>  
323   </samlp:Status>  
324 </samlp:ManageAttributeResponse>
```

325 **2.5 Processing Rules**

326 If the Service Provider requests that a Subject entity be added or modified and/or stored at the Identity
327 Provider, the Service Provider MUST include a <samlp:ManageSubjectRequest> specifying either
328 <AddSubject> or <ModifySubject> elements.
329 To perform a delete subject operation, the Service Provider MAY include a <ManageNameIDRequest>
330 element with the <Terminate> element as specified in [SAML2Core].
331 On receiving a request, an IDP may process the request within its own context and security policies. On
332 completion, or rejection of the request, the IDP must respond with a <ManageSubjectResponse> element
333 including the appropriate <StatusCode>.

334

335 **3 Conformance**

336 **Appendix A. Acknowledgments**

337 The editor would like to acknowledge the contributions of the OASIS Security Services (SAML) Technical
338 Committee, whose voting members at the time of publication were:

- 339 • TBD

340 The editor would also like to acknowledge the contribution of an earlier draft from NSN entitled: "SAML
341 V2.0Attributes Management Protocol Version 1.0 Working Draft 06 November 2009", upon which this
342 document attempts to incorporate supporting requirements from.

343

Appendix B. Revision History

| Document ID | Date | Committer | Comment |
|--|----------|--------------------|---------------|
| sstc-saml2-attributes-management-protocol-01 | 05/11/09 | Thinh Nguyenphu | Initial draft |
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