



# Web Services Security: SOAP Message Security

## Working Draft 11, Monday, 03 March 2003

### Document identifier:

WSS: SOAP Message Security -11

Formate

### Location:

TBD

Field Cod

### Editors:

Phillip Hallam-Baker, VeriSign  
Chris Kaler, Microsoft  
Ronald Monzillo, Sun  
Anthony Nadalin, IBM

Formatte

Formatte

### Contributors:

TBD – Revise this list to include WSS TC contributors

Bob Atkinson, Microsoft	John Manfredelli, Microsoft
Giovanni Della-Libera, Microsoft	Hiroshi Maruyama, IBM
Satoshi Hada, IBM	Anthony Nadalin, IBM
Phillip Hallam-Baker, VeriSign	Nataraj Nagarathnam, IBM
Maryann Hondo, IBM	Hemma Prafullchandra, VeriSign
Chris Kaler, Microsoft	John Shewchuk, Microsoft
Johannes Klein, Microsoft	Dan Simon, Microsoft
Brian LaMacchia, Microsoft	Kent Tamura, IBM
Paul Leach, Microsoft	Hervey Wilson, Microsoft

### Abstract:

This specification describes enhancements to the SOAP messaging to provide quality of protection through message integrity, and single message authentication. These mechanisms can be used to accommodate a wide variety of security models and encryption technologies.

This specification also provides a general-purpose mechanism for associating security tokens with messages. No specific type of security token is required; it is designed to be extensible (e.g. support multiple security token formats). For example, a client might provide one format for proof of identity and provide another format for proof that they have a particular business certification.

26 Additionally, this specification describes how to encode binary security tokens, a  
27 framework for XML-based tokens, and describes how to include opaque encrypted keys.  
28 It also includes extensibility mechanisms that can be used to further describe the  
29 characteristics of the tokens that are included with a message.

30

31 **Status:**

32 This is an interim draft. Please send comments to the editors.

33

34 Committee members should send comments on this specification to the [wss@lists.oasis-](mailto:wss@lists.oasis-open.org)  
35 [open.org](mailto:wss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org) list. Others should subscribe to and send comments to the [wss-](mailto:wss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org)  
36 [comment@lists.oasis-open.org](mailto:wss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org) list. To subscribe, visit [http://lists.oasis-](http://lists.oasis-open.org/ob/adm.pl)  
37 [open.org/ob/adm.pl](http://lists.oasis-open.org/ob/adm.pl)

38 For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to  
39 implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to  
40 the Intellectual Property Rights section of the Security Services TC web page  
41 (<http://www.oasis-open.org/who/intellectualproperty.shtml>).

## Table of Contents

43	1	Introduction.....	5
44	1.1	Goals and Requirements.....	5
45	1.1.1	Requirements.....	5
46	1.1.2	Non-Goals.....	6
47	2	Notations and Terminology.....	7
48	2.1	Notational Conventions.....	7
49	2.2	Namespaces.....	7
50	2.3	Terminology.....	8
51	3	Message Protection Mechanisms.....	10
52	3.1	Message Security Model.....	10
53	3.2	Message Protection.....	10
54	3.3	Invalid or Missing Claims.....	11
55	3.4	Example.....	11
56	4	ID References.....	13
57	4.1	Id Attribute.....	13
58	4.2	Id Schema.....	13
59	5	Security Header.....	15
60	6	Security Tokens.....	17
61	6.1	Attaching Security Tokens.....	17
62	6.1.1	Processing Rules.....	17
63	6.1.2	Subject Confirmation.....	17
64	6.2	User Name Token.....	17
65	6.2.1	Usernames.....	17
66	6.3	Binary Security Tokens.....	18
67	6.3.1	Attaching Security Tokens.....	18
68	6.3.2	Encoding Binary Security Tokens.....	18
69	6.4	XML Tokens.....	20
70	6.4.1	Identifying and Referencing Security Tokens.....	20
71	7	Token References.....	21
72	7.1	SecurityTokenReference Element.....	21
73	7.2	Direct References.....	22
74	7.3	Key Identifiers.....	23
75	7.4	Embedded References.....	24
76	7.5	ds:KeyInfo.....	25
77	7.6	Key Names.....	25
78	7.7	Token Reference Lookup Processing Order.....	25

79	8	Signatures .....	26
80	8.1	Algorithms .....	26
81	8.2	Signing Messages.....	27
82	8.3	Signing Tokens .....	27
83	8.4	Signature Validation.....	28
84	8.5	Example .....	29
85	9	Encryption.....	30
86	9.1	xenc:ReferenceList .....	30
87	9.2	xenc:EncryptedKey .....	31
88	9.3	xenc:EncryptedData.....	32
89	9.4	Processing Rules .....	33
90	9.4.1	Encryption .....	33
91	9.4.2	Decryption .....	34
92	9.5	Decryption Transformation.....	34
93	10	Message Timestamps .....	35
94	10.1	Model.....	35
95	10.2	Timestamp Elements.....	35
96	10.2.1	Creation.....	36
97	10.2.2	Expiration .....	36
98	10.3	Timestamp Header.....	37
99	10.4	TimestampTrace Header .....	38
100	11	Extended Example .....	40
101	12	Error Handling .....	43
102	13	Security Considerations .....	45
103	14	Privacy Considerations .....	47
104	15	Acknowledgements .....	48
105	16	References .....	49
106		Appendix A: Utility Elements and Attributes .....	51
107	A.1.	Identification Attribute .....	51
108	A.2.	Timestamp Elements .....	51
109	A.3.	General Schema Types .....	52
110		Appendix B: SecurityTokenReference Model.....	53
111		Appendix C: Revision History .....	57
112		Appendix D: Notices .....	58
113			

---

# 114 1 Introduction

115 This specification proposes a standard set of SOAP extensions that can be used when building  
116 secure Web services to implement message level integrity and confidentiality. This specification  
117 refers to this set of extensions as the “Web Services Security Core Language” or “WSS-Core”.

118 This specification is flexible and is designed to be used as the basis for securing Web services  
119 within a wide variety of security models including PKI, Kerberos, and SSL. Specifically, this  
120 specification provides support for multiple security token formats, multiple trust domains, multiple  
121 signature formats, and multiple encryption technologies. The token formats and semantics for  
122 using these are defined in the associated profile documents.

123 This specification provides three main mechanisms: ability to send security token as part of a  
124 message, message integrity, and message confidentiality. These mechanisms by themselves do  
125 not provide a complete security solution for Web services. Instead, this specification is a building  
126 block that can be used in conjunction with other Web service extensions and higher-level  
127 application-specific protocols to accommodate a wide variety of security models and security  
128 technologies.

129 These mechanisms can be used independently (e.g., to pass a security token) or in a tightly  
130 coupled manner (e.g., signing and encrypting a message and providing a security token path  
131 associated with the keys used for signing and encryption).

## 132 1.1 Goals and Requirements

133 The goal of this specification is to enable applications to conduct secure SOAP message  
134 exchanges.

135 This specification is intended to provide a flexible set of mechanisms that can be used to  
136 construct a range of security protocols; in other words this specification intentionally does not  
137 describe explicit fixed security protocols.

138 As with every security protocol, significant efforts must be applied to ensure that security  
139 protocols constructed using this specification are not vulnerable to any one of a wide range of  
140 attacks.

141 The focus of this specification is to describe a single-message security language that provides for  
142 message security that may assume an established session, security context and/or policy  
143 agreement.

144 The requirements to support secure message exchange are listed below.

### 145 1.1.1 Requirements

146 The Web services security language must support a wide variety of security models. The  
147 following list identifies the key driving requirements for this specification:

- 148 • Multiple security token formats
- 149 • Multiple trust domains
- 150 • Multiple signature formats
- 151 • Multiple encryption technologies

- 152       • End-to-end message-level security and not just transport-level security

153       **1.1.2 Non-Goals**

154       The following topics are outside the scope of this document:

- 155       • Establishing a security context or authentication mechanisms.  
156       • Key derivation.  
157       • Advertisement and exchange of security policy.  
158       • How trust is established or determined.

159

---

## 2 Notations and Terminology

This section specifies the notations, namespaces, and terminology used in this specification.

### 2.1 Notational Conventions

The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.

When describing abstract data models, this specification uses the notational convention used by the XML Infoset. Specifically, abstract property names always appear in square brackets (e.g., [some property]).

When describing concrete XML schemas, this specification uses the notational convention of WSS: SOAP Message Security. Specifically, each member of an element's [children] or [attributes] property is described using an XPath-like notation (e.g., /x:MyHeader/x:SomeProperty/@value1). The use of {any} indicates the presence of an element wildcard (<xs:any/>). The use of @{any} indicates the presence of an attribute wildcard (<xs:anyAttribute/>).

This specification is designed to work with the general SOAP message structure and message processing model, and should be applicable to any version of SOAP. The current SOAP 1.2 namespace URI is used herein to provide detailed examples, but there is no intention to limit the applicability of this specification to a single version of SOAP.

Readers are presumed to be familiar with the terms in the [Internet Security Glossary](#).

### 2.2 Namespaces

The XML namespace URIs that MUST be used by implementations of this specification are as follows (note that elements used in this specification are from various namespaces):

```
http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext
http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility
```

The following namespaces are used in this document:

Prefix	Namespace
S	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2002/12/soap-envelope">http://www.w3.org/2002/12/soap-envelope</a>
ds	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#</a>
xenc	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#</a>

wsse	<a href="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext">http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext</a>
wsu	<a href="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility">http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility</a>

## 187 2.3 Terminology

188 Defined below are the basic definitions for the security terminology used in this specification.

189 **Attachment** – An *attachment* is a generic term referring to additional data that travels with a  
190 SOAP message, but is not part of the SOAP Envelope.

191 **Claim** – A *claim* is a declaration made by an entity (e.g. name, identity, key, group, privilege,  
192 capability, etc).

193 **Claim Confirmation** – A *claim confirmation* is the process of verifying that a claim applies to  
194 an entity

195 **Confidentiality** – *Confidentiality* is the property that data is not made available to  
196 unauthorized individuals, entities, or processes.

197 **Digest** – A *digest* is a cryptographic checksum of an octet stream.

198 **End-To\_End Message Level Security** – *End-to-end message level security* is  
199 established when a message that traverses multiple applications within and between business  
200 entities, e.g. companies, divisions and business units, is secure over its full route through and  
201 between those business entities. This includes not only messages that are initiated within the  
202 entity but also those messages that originate outside the entity, whether they are Web Services  
203 or the more traditional messages.

204 **Integrity** – *Integrity* is the property that data has not been modified.

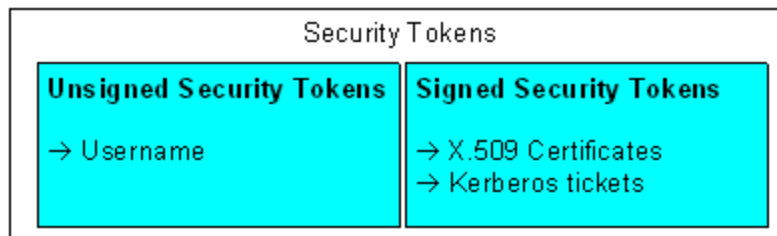
205 **Message Confidentiality** - *Message Confidentiality* is a property of the message and  
206 encryption is the service or mechanism by which this property of the message is provided.

207 **Message Integrity** - *Message Integrity* is a property of the message and digital signature is  
208 the service or mechanism by which this property of the message is provided.

209 **Proof-of-Possession** – *Proof-of-possession* is authentication data that is provided with a  
210 message to prove that the message was sent and or created by a claimed identity.

211 **Signature** - A *signature* is a value computed with a cryptographic algorithm and bound  
212 to data in such a way that intended recipients of the data can use the signature to verify that the  
213 data has not been altered since it was signed by the signer..

214 **Security Token** – A *security token* represents a collection (one or more) of claims.



215



216 **Signed Security Token** – A *signed security token* is a security token that is asserted and  
217 cryptographically signed by a specific authority (e.g. an X.509 certificate or a Kerberos ticket).

218 **Trust** - *Trust* is the characteristic that one entity is willing to rely upon a second entity to execute  
219 a set of actions and/or to make set of assertions about a set of subjects and/or scopes.

220 **Trust Domain** - A *Trust Domain* is a security space in which the target of a request can  
221 determine whether particular sets of credentials from a source satisfy the relevant security  
222 policies of the target. The target may defer trust to a third party thus including the trusted third  
223 party in the Trust Domain.

224

225

226

227

---

## 3 Message Protection Mechanisms

228 When securing SOAP messages, various types of threats should be considered. This includes,  
229 but is not limited to: 1) the message could be modified or read by antagonists or 2) an antagonist  
230 could send messages to a service that, while well-formed, lack appropriate security claims to  
231 warrant processing.

232 To understand these threats this specification defines a message security model.

### 3.1 Message Security Model

234 This document specifies an abstract *message security model* in terms of [security tokens](#)  
235 combined with digital [signatures](#) to protect and authenticate SOAP messages.

236 Security tokens assert [claims](#) and can be used to assert the binding between authentication  
237 secrets or keys and security identities. An authority can vouch for or endorse the claims in a  
238 security token by using its key to sign or encrypt (it is recommended to use a keyed encryption)  
239 the security token thereby enabling the authentication of the claims in the token. An [X.509](#)  
240 certificate, claiming the binding between one's identity and public key, is an example of a [signed](#)  
241 [security token](#) endorsed by the certificate authority. In the absence of endorsement by a third  
242 party, the recipient of a security token may choose to accept the claims made in the token based  
243 on its [trust](#) of the sender of the containing message.

244 Signatures are used to verify message origin and integrity. Signatures are also used by message  
245 senders to demonstrate knowledge of the key used to confirm the claims in a security token and  
246 thus to bind their identity (and any other claims occurring in the security token) to the messages  
247 they create.

248 It should be noted that this security model, by itself, is subject to multiple security attacks. Refer  
249 to the [Security Considerations](#) section for additional details.

250 Where the specification requires that the elements be "processed" this means that the element  
251 type be recognized well enough to return appropriate error if not supported.

### 3.2 Message Protection

253 Protecting the message content from being disclosed (confidentiality) or modified without  
254 detection (integrity) are primary security concerns. This specification provides a means to protect  
255 a message by encrypting and/or digitally signing a body, a header, an attachment, or any  
256 combination of them (or parts of them).

257 Message [integrity](#) is provided by leveraging [XML Signature](#) in conjunction with [security tokens](#) to  
258 ensure that messages are received without modifications. The [integrity](#) mechanisms are  
259 designed to support multiple [signatures](#), potentially by multiple [SOAP](#) roles, and to be extensible  
260 to support additional [signature](#) formats.

261 Message [confidentiality](#) leverages [XML Encryption](#) in conjunction with [security tokens](#) to keep  
262 portions of a [SOAP](#) message [confidential](#). The encryption mechanisms are designed to support  
263 additional encryption processes and operations by multiple [SOAP](#) roles.

264 This document defines syntax and semantics of signatures within <wsse:Security> element.  
265 This document also does not specify any signature appearing outside of <wsse:Security>  
266 element, if any.

### 267 3.3 Invalid or Missing Claims

268 The message recipient SHOULD reject a message with a signature determined to be invalid,  
269 missing or unacceptable **claims** as it is an unauthorized (or malformed) message. This  
270 specification provides a flexible way for the message sender to make a **claim** about the security  
271 properties by associating zero or more **security tokens** with the message. An example of a  
272 security **claim** is the identity of the sender; the sender can **claim** that he is Bob, known as an  
273 employee of some company, and therefore he has the right to send the message.

### 274 3.4 Example

275 The following example illustrates the use of a username security token containing a claimed  
276 security identity to establish a password derived signing key. The password is not provided in the  
277 security token. The message sender combines the password with the nonce and timestamp  
278 appearing in the security token to define an HMAC signing key that it then uses to sign the  
279 message. The message receiver uses its knowledge of the shared secret to repeat the HMAC  
280 key calculation which it uses to validate the signature and in the process confirm that the  
281 message was authored by the claimed user identity. The nonce and timestamp are used in the  
282 key calculation to introduce variability in the keys derived from a given password value.

```
283 (001) <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
284 (002) <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
285      xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
286 (003)   <S:Header>
287 (004)     <wsse:Security
288      xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext">
289 (005)       <wsse:UsernameToken wsu:Id="MyID">
290 (006)         <wsse:Username>Zoe</wsse:Username>
291 (007)         <wsse:Nonce>FKJh...</wsse:Nonce>
292 (008)         <wsu:Created>2001-10-13T09:00:00Z</wsu:Created>
293 (009)       </wsse:UsernameToken>
294 (010)     <ds:Signature>
295 (011)       <ds:SignedInfo>
296 (012)         <ds:CanonicalizationMethod
297 (013)           Algorithm=
298             "http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#" />
299 (014)         <ds:SignatureMethod
300 (015)           Algorithm=
301             "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#hmac-sha1" />
302 (016)         <ds:Reference URI="#MsgBody">
303 (017)           <ds:DigestMethod
304 (018)             Algorithm=
305 (019)               "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1" />
306 (020)             <ds:DigestValue>LyLsF0Pi4wPU...</ds:DigestValue>
307 (021)           </ds:Reference>
308 (022)         </ds:SignedInfo>
309 (023)       <ds:SignatureValue>DJbchm5gK...</ds:SignatureValue>
310 (024)     <ds:KeyInfo>
311 (025)       <wsse:SecurityTokenReference
```

```

312 (022)         <wsse:Reference URI="#MyID"/>
313 (023)         </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
314 (024)         </ds:KeyInfo>
315 (025)         </ds:Signature>
316 (026)         </wsse:Security>
317 (027)        </S:Header>
318 (028)        <S:Body wsu:Id="MsgBody">
319 (029)          <tru:StockSymbol xmlns:tru="http://fabrikam123.com/payloads">
320                QQQ
321          </tru:StockSymbol>
322 (030)        </S:Body>
323 (031) </S:Envelope>

```

324 The first two lines start the [SOAP envelope](#). Line (003) begins the headers that are associated  
325 with this [SOAP message](#).

326 Line (004) starts the `<Security>` header defined in this specification. This header contains  
327 security information for an intended recipient. This element continues until line (026)

328 Lines (005) to (009) specify a [security token](#) that is associated with the message. In this case, it  
329 defines *username* of the client using the `<UsernameToken>`. Note that here the assumption is  
330 that the service knows the password – in other words, it is a shared secret and the `<Nonce>` and  
331 `<Created>` are used to generate the key

332 Lines (010) to (025) specify a digital signature. This signature ensures the [integrity](#) of the signed  
333 elements. The signature uses the [XML Signature](#) specification identified by the ds namespace  
334 declaration in Line (002). In this example, the signature is based on a key generated from the  
335 user's password; typically stronger signing mechanisms would be used (see the [Extended](#)  
336 [Example](#) later in this document).

337 Lines (011) to (018) describe what is being signed and the type of canonicalization being used.  
338 Line (012) specifies how to canonicalize (normalize) the data that is being signed. Lines (014) to  
339 (017) select the elements that are signed and how to digest them. Specifically, line (014)  
340 indicates that the `<S:Body>` element is signed. In this example only the message body is  
341 signed; typically all critical elements of the message are included in the signature (see the  
342 [Extended Example](#) below).

343 Line (019) specifies the signature value of the canonicalized form of the data that is being signed  
344 as defined in the [XML Signature](#) specification.

345 Lines (020) to (024) provide a *hint* as to where to find the [security token](#) associated with this  
346 signature. Specifically, lines (021) to (023) indicate that the [security token](#) can be found at (pulled  
347 from) the specified URL.

348 Lines (028) to (030) contain the *body* (payload) of the [SOAP](#) message.

349

350

## 4 ID References

351 There are many motivations for referencing other message elements such as signature  
352 references or correlating signatures to security tokens. However, because arbitrary ID attributes  
353 require the schemas to be available and processed, ID attributes which can be referenced in a  
354 signature are restricted to the following list:

355 ID attributes from XML Signature

356 ID attributes from XML Encryption

357 wsu:Id global attribute described below

358 In addition, when signing a part of an envelope such as the body, it is RECOMMENDED that an  
359 ID reference is used instead of a more general transformation, especially [XPath](#). This is to  
360 simplify processing.

361

### 4.1 Id Attribute

362 There are many situations where elements within [SOAP](#) messages need to be referenced. For  
363 example, when signing a SOAP message, selected elements are included in the scope of the  
364 signature. [XML Schema Part 2](#) provides several built-in data types that may be used for  
365 identifying and referencing elements, but their use requires that consumers of the SOAP  
366 message either to have or be able to obtain the schemas where the identity or reference  
367 mechanisms are defined. In some circumstances, for example, intermediaries, this can be  
368 problematic and not desirable.

369 Consequently a mechanism is required for identifying and referencing elements, based on the  
370 SOAP foundation, which does not rely upon complete schema knowledge of the context in which  
371 an element is used. This functionality can be integrated into SOAP processors so that elements  
372 can be identified and referred to without dynamic schema discovery and processing.

373 This section specifies a namespace-qualified global attribute for identifying an element which can  
374 be applied to any element that either allows arbitrary attributes or specifically allows a particular  
375 attribute.

376

### 4.2 Id Schema

377 To simplify the processing for intermediaries and recipients, a common attribute is defined for  
378 identifying an element. This attribute utilizes the XML Schema ID type and specifies a common  
379 attribute for indicating this information for elements.

380 The syntax for this attribute is as follows:

```
381 <anyElement wsu:Id="...">...</anyElement>
```

382 The following describes the attribute illustrated above:

383 *.../@wsu:Id*

384 This attribute, defined as type `xsd:ID`, provides a well-known attribute for specifying the  
385 local ID of an element.

386 Two `wsu:Id` attributes within an XML document MUST NOT have the same value.

387 Implementations MAY rely on XML Schema validation to provide rudimentary enforcement for

388 intra-document uniqueness. However, applications SHOULD NOT rely on schema validation  
389 alone to enforce uniqueness.

390 This specification does not specify how this attribute will be used and it is expected that other  
391 specifications MAY add additional semantics (or restrictions) for their usage of this attribute.

392 The following example illustrates use of this attribute to identify an element:

```
393 <x:myElement wsu:Id="ID1" xmlns:x="..."  
394           xmlns:wsu="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility"/>
```

395 Conformant processors that do support XML Schema MUST treat this attribute as if it was  
396 defined using a global attribute declaration.

397 Conformant processors that do not support dynamic XML Schema or DTDs discovery and  
398 processing are strongly encouraged to integrate this attribute definition into their parsers. That is,  
399 to treat this attribute information item as if its PSVI has a [type definition] which {target  
400 namespace} is "http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" and which {name} is "Id." Doing so  
401 allows the processor to inherently know *how* to process the attribute without having to locate and  
402 process the associated schema. Specifically, implementations MAY support the value of the  
403 `wsu:Id` as the valid identifier for use as an [XPointer](#) shorthand pointer for interoperability with  
404 XML Signature references.

405

## 5 Security Header

406 The `<wsse:Security>` header block provides a mechanism for attaching security-related  
407 information targeted at a specific recipient in a form of a [SOAP role](#). This MAY be either the  
408 ultimate recipient of the message or an intermediary. Consequently, elements of this type MAY  
409 be present multiple times in a [SOAP](#) message. An intermediary on the message path MAY add  
410 one or more new sub-elements to an existing `<wsse:Security>` header block if they are  
411 targeted for its [SOAP](#) node or it MAY add one or more new headers for additional targets.

412 As stated, a message MAY have multiple `<wsse:Security>` header blocks if they are targeted  
413 for separate recipients. However, only one `<wsse:Security>` header block MAY omit the  
414 `S:role` attribute and no two `<wsse:Security>` header blocks MAY have the same value for  
415 `S:role`. Message security information targeted for different recipients MUST appear in different  
416 `<wsse:Security>` header blocks. The `<wsse:Security>` header block without a specified  
417 `S:role` MAY be consumed by anyone, but MUST NOT be removed prior to the final destination  
418 or endpoint.

419 As elements are added to the `<wsse:Security>` header block, they SHOULD be prepended to  
420 the existing elements. As such, the `<wsse:Security>` header block represents the signing and  
421 encryption steps the message sender took to create the message. This prepending rule ensures  
422 that the receiving application MAY process sub-elements in the order they appear in the  
423 `<wsse:Security>` header block, because there will be no forward dependency among the sub-  
424 elements. Note that this specification does not impose any specific order of processing the sub-  
425 elements. The receiving application can use whatever order is required.

426 When a sub-element refers to a key carried in another sub-element (for example, a signature  
427 sub-element that refers to a binary security token sub-element that contains the [X.509](#) certificate  
428 used for the signature), the key-bearing security token SHOULD be prepended to the key-using  
429 sub-element being added, so that the key material appears before the key-using sub-element.

430 The following illustrates the syntax of this header:

```
431 <S:Envelope>  
432   <S:Header>  
433     ...  
434     <wsse:Security S:role="..." S:mustUnderstand="...">  
435     ...  
436     </wsse:Security>  
437     ...  
438   </S:Header>  
439   ...  
440 </S:Envelope>
```

441 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the example above:

442 */wsse: Security*

443 This is the header block for passing security-related message information to a recipient.

444 */wsse: Security/ @S:role*

445 This attribute allows a specific [SOAP](#) role to be identified. This attribute is optional;  
446 however, no two instances of the header block may omit a role or specify the same role.

447 */wsse:Security/{any}*  
448           This is an extensibility mechanism to allow different (extensible) types of security  
449           information, based on a schema, to be passed.

450 */wsse:Security/@{any}*  
451           This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
452           added to the header.

453 All compliant implementations **MUST** be able to process a `<wsse:Security>` element.  
454 All compliant implementations **MUST** declare which profiles they support and **MUST** be able to  
455 process a `<wsse:Security>` element including any sub-elements which may be defined by that  
456 profile.

457 The next few sections outline elements that are expected to be used within the  
458 `<wsse:Security>` header.



---

## 459 6 Security Tokens

460 This chapter specifies some different types of security tokens and how they SHALL be attached  
461 to messages.

### 462 6.1 Attaching Security Tokens

463 This specification defines the `<wsse:Security>` header as a mechanism for conveying security  
464 information with and about a [SOAP](#) message. This header is, by design, extensible to support  
465 many types of security information.

466 For security tokens based on XML, the extensibility of the `<wsse:Security>` header allows for  
467 these security tokens to be directly inserted into the header.

#### 468 6.1.1 Processing Rules

469 This specification describes the processing rules for using and processing [XML Signature](#) and  
470 [XML Encryption](#). These rules MUST be followed when using any type of security token. Note  
471 that this does NOT mean that security tokens MUST be signed or encrypted – only that if  
472 signature or encryption is used in conjunction with security tokens, they MUST be used in a way  
473 that conforms to the processing rules defined by this specification.

#### 474 6.1.2 Subject Confirmation

475 This specification does not dictate if and how claim confirmation must be done; however, it does  
476 define how signatures may be used and associated with security tokens (by referencing the  
477 security tokens from the signature) as a form of claim confirmation.

## 478 6.2 User Name Token

### 479 6.2.1 Usernames

480 The `<wsse:UsernameToken>` element is introduced as a way of providing a username. This  
481 element is optionally included in the `<wsse:Security>` header.

482 The following illustrates the syntax of this element:

```
483 <wsse:UsernameToken wsu:Id="...">  
484   <wsse:Username>...</wsse:Username>  
485 </wsse:UsernameToken>
```

Formatted

486 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the example above:

487 */wsse:UsernameToken*

488 This element is used to represent a claimed identity.

489 */wsse:UsernameToken/@wsu:Id*

490 A string label for this [security token](#).

491 */wsse:UsernameToken/Username*

492 This required element specifies the claimed identity.

493 `/wsse:UsernameToken/Username/@{any}`

494 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
495 the `<wsse:Username>` element.

496 `/wsse:UsernameToken/{any}`

497 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow different (extensible) types of security  
498 information, based on a schema, to be passed.

499 `/wsse:UsernameToken/@{any}`

500 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
501 added to the `UsernameToken`.

502 All compliant implementations MUST be able to process a `<wsse:UsernameToken>` element.

503 The following illustrates the use of this:

```
504 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"  
505           xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext">  
506   <S:Header>  
507     ...  
508     <wsse:Security>  
509       <wsse:UsernameToken>  
510         <wsse:Username>Zoe</wsse:Username>  
511       </wsse:UsernameToken>  
512     </wsse:Security>  
513     ...  
514   </S:Header>  
515   ...  
516 </S:Envelope>  
517
```

## 518 6.3 Binary Security Tokens

### 519 6.3.1 Attaching Security Tokens

520 For binary-formatted security tokens, this specification provides a  
521 `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>` element that can be included in the `<wsse:Security>`  
522 header block.

523

### 524 6.3.2 Encoding Binary Security Tokens

525 Binary security tokens (e.g., [X.509](#) certificates and [Kerberos](#) tickets) or other non-XML formats  
526 require a special encoding format for inclusion. This section describes a basic framework for  
527 using binary security tokens. Subsequent specifications MUST describe the rules for creating  
528 and processing specific binary security token formats.

529 The `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>` element defines two attributes that are used to interpret  
530 it. The `ValueType` attribute indicates what the security token is, for example, a [Kerberos](#) ticket.  
531 The `EncodingType` tells how the security token is encoded, for example `Base64Binary`.

532 The following is an overview of the syntax:

```

533 <wsse:BinarySecurityToken wsu:Id=...
534         EncodingType=...
535         ValueType=.../>

```

536 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the example above:

537 */wsse:BinarySecurityToken*

538 This element is used to include a binary-encoded security token.

539 */wsse:BinarySecurityToken/@wsu:Id*

540 An optional string label for this [security token](#).

541 */wsse:BinarySecurityToken/@ValueType*

542 The `ValueType` attribute is used to indicate the "value space" of the encoded binary data (e.g. an [X.509](#) certificate). The `ValueType` attribute allows a qualified name that defines the value type and space of the encoded binary data. This attribute is extensible using [XML namespaces](#). Subsequent specifications MUST define the `ValueType` value for the tokens that they define.

547 */wsse:BinarySecurityToken/@EncodingType*

548 The `EncodingType` attribute is used to indicate, using a QName, the encoding format of the binary data (e.g., `wsse:Base64Binary`). A new attribute is introduced, as there issues with the current schema validation tools that make derivations of mixed simple and complex types difficult within [XML Schema](#). The `EncodingType` attribute is interpreted to indicate the encoding format of the element. The following encoding formats are pre-defined:

QName	Description
<code>wsse:Base64Binary</code>	<a href="#">XML Schema</a> base 64 encoding

554 */wsse:BinarySecurityToken/@{any}*

555 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be added.

557 All compliant implementations MUST be able to support a `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>` element.

559 When a `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>` is included in a signature—that is, it is referenced from a `<ds:Signature>` element—care should be taken so that the canonicalization algorithm (e.g., [Exclusive XML Canonicalization](#)) does not allow unauthorized replacement of namespace prefixes of the QNames used in the attribute or element values. In particular, it is RECOMMENDED that these namespace prefixes be declared within the `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>` element if this token does not carry the validating key (and consequently it is not cryptographically bound to the [signature](#)). For example, if we wanted to sign the previous example, we need to include the consumed namespace definitions.

567 In the following example, a custom `ValueType` is used. Consequently, the namespace definition for this `ValueType` is included in the `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>` element. Note that the definition of `wsse` is also included as it is used for the encoding type and the element.

```

570 <wsse:BinarySecurityToken

```

```
571     xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext "  
572     wsu:Id="myToken"  
573     ValueType="x:MyType" xmlns:x="http://www.fabrikam123.com/x"  
574     EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary">  
575     MIEZzCCA9CgAwIBAgIQEmtJZc0...  
576 </wsse:BinarySecurityToken>
```

## 577 **6.4 XML Tokens**

578 This section presents the basic principles and framework for using XML-based security tokens.  
579 Subsequent specifications describe rules and processes for specific XML-based security token  
580 formats.

581

### 582 **6.4.1 Identifying and Referencing Security Tokens**

583 This specification also defines multiple mechanisms for identifying and referencing security  
584 tokens using the *wsu:Id* attribute and the `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` element (as well  
585 as some additional mechanisms). Please refer to the specific profile documents for the  
586 appropriate reference mechanism. However, specific extensions MAY be made to the  
587 `wsse:SecurityTokenReference` element.

588

589

---

## 7 Token References

590

591 This chapter discusses and defines mechanisms for referencing security tokens.

### 7.1 SecurityTokenReference Element

592

593 A [security token](#) conveys a set of [claims](#). Sometimes these claims reside somewhere else and  
594 need to be "pulled" by the receiving application. The `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>`  
595 element provides an extensible mechanism for referencing [security tokens](#).

596 This element provides an open content model for referencing security tokens because not all  
597 tokens support a common reference pattern. Similarly, some token formats have closed  
598 schemas and define their own reference mechanisms. The open content model allows  
599 appropriate reference mechanisms to be used when referencing corresponding token types.

600 If a SecurityTokenReference used outside of the `<Security>` header block the meaning of the  
601 response and/or processing rules of the resulting reference are **MUST** be specified by the  
602 containing element and are out of scope of this specification.

603 The following illustrates the syntax of this element:

```
604 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference wsu:Id="..." >  
605   ...  
606 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
```

607 The following describes the elements defined above:

608 */wsse: SecurityTokenReference*

609 This element provides a reference to a security token.

610 */wsse: SecurityTokenReference/@wsu:Id*

611 A string label for this [security token](#) reference. This identifier names the reference. This  
612 attribute does not indicate the ID of what is being referenced, that is done using a  
613 fragment URI in a `<Reference>` element within the `<SecurityTokenReference>`  
614 element.

615 */wsse: SecurityTokenReference/@wsse:Usage*

616 This optional attribute is used to type the usage of the `<SecurityToken>`. Usages are  
617 specified using QNames and multiple usages **MAY** be specified using XML list  
618 semantics.

QName	Description
TBD	TBD

619

620 */wsse: SecurityTokenReference/{any}*

621 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow different (extensible) types of security  
622 references, based on a schema, to be passed.

623 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/@{any}`

624 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
625 added to the header.

626 All compliant implementations MUST be able to process a  
627 `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` element.

628 This element can also be used as a direct child element of `<ds:KeyInfo>` to indicate a hint to  
629 retrieve the key information from a security token placed somewhere else. In particular, it is  
630 RECOMMENDED, when using [XML Signature](#) and [XML Encryption](#), that a  
631 `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` element be placed inside a `<ds:KeyInfo>` to reference  
632 the [security token](#) used for the signature or encryption.

633 There are several challenges that implementations face when trying to interoperate. In order to  
634 process the IDs and references requires the recipient to *understand* the schema. This may be an  
635 expensive task and in the general case impossible as there is no way to know the "schema  
636 location" for a specific namespace URI. As well, the primary goal of a reference is to uniquely  
637 identify the desired token. ID references are, by definition, unique by XML. However, other  
638 mechanisms such as "principal name" are not required to be unique and therefore such  
639 references may be unique.

640 The following list provides a list of the specific reference mechanisms defined in WSS: SOAP  
641 Message Security in preferred order (i.e., most specific to least specific):

642 **Direct References** – This allows references to included tokens using URI fragments and external  
643 tokens using full URIs.

644 **Key Identifiers** – This allows tokens to be referenced using an opaque value that represents the  
645 token (defined by token type/profile).

646 **Key Names** – This allows tokens to be referenced using a string that matches an identity  
647 assertion within the security token. This is a subset match and may result in multiple security  
648 tokens that match the specified name.

## 649 **7.2 Direct References**

650 The `<wsse:Reference>` element provides an extensible mechanism for directly referencing  
651 [security tokens](#) using URIs.

652 The following illustrates the syntax of this element:

```
653 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference wsu:Id="...">
654   <wsse:Reference URI="..." ValueType="..." />
655 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
```

656 The following describes the elements defined above:

657 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Reference`

658 This element is used to identify an abstract URI location for locating a security token.

659 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Reference/@URI`

660 This optional attribute specifies an abstract URI for where to find a security token. If a  
661 fragment is specified, then it indicates the local ID of the token being referenced.

662 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Reference/@ValueType`

663 This optional attribute specifies a QName that is used to identify the *type* of token being  
664 referenced (see `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>`). This specification does not define

665 any processing rules around the usage of this attribute, however, specifications for  
666 individual token types MAY define specific processing rules and semantics around the  
667 value of the URI and how it SHALL be interpreted. If this attribute is not present, the URI  
668 SHALL be processed as a normal URI.

669 */wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Reference/{any}*

670 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow different (extensible) types of security  
671 references, based on a schema, to be passed.

672 */wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Reference/@{any}*

673 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
674 added to the header.

675 The following illustrates the use of this element:

```
676 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference  
677     xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext">  
678   <wsse:Reference  
679     URI="http://www.fabrikam123.com/tokens/Zoe#X509token"/>  
680 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
```

## 681 7.3 Key Identifiers

682 Alternatively, if a direct reference is not used, then it is RECOMMENDED to use a key identifier to  
683 specify/reference a security token instead of a `ds:KeyName`. The `<wsse:KeyIdentifier>`  
684 element SHALL be placed in the `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` element to reference a  
685 token using an identifier. This element SHOULD be used for all key identifiers.

686 The processing model assumes that the key identifier for a security token is constant.  
687 Consequently, processing a key identifier is simply looking for a security token whose key  
688 identifier matches a given specified constant.

689 The following is an overview of the syntax:

```
690 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
691   <wsse:KeyIdentifier wsu:Id="..."  
692     ValueType="..."  
693     EncodingType="...">  
694     ...  
695   </wsse:KeyIdentifier>  
696 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
```

697 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the example above:

698 */wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier*

699 This element is used to include a binary-encoded key identifier.

700 */wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier/@wsu:Id*

701 An optional string label for this identifier.

702 */wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier/@ValueType*

703 The `ValueType` attribute is used to optionally indicate the type of token with the  
704 specified identifier. If specified, this is a *hint* to the recipient. Any value specified for  
705 binary security tokens, or any XML token element QName can be specified here. If this  
706 attribute isn't specified, then the identifier applies to any type of token.

707 */wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier/@EncodingType*

708 The optional `EncodingType` attribute is used to indicate, using a QName, the encoding  
709 format of the binary data (e.g., `wsse:Base64Binary`). The base values defined in this  
710 specification are used:

QName	Description
<code>wsse:Base64Binary</code>	<a href="#">XML Schema</a> base 64 encoding (default)

711 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier/@{any}`

712 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
713 added.

## 714 7.4 Embedded References

715 In some cases a reference may be to an embedded token (as opposed to a pointer to a token  
716 that resides elsewhere. To do this, the `<wsse:Embedded>` element is specified within a  
717 `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` element.

718 The following is an overview of the syntax:

```
719 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
720   <wsse:Embedded wsu:Id="...">  
721     ...  
722   </wsse:Embedded>  
723 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
```

724 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the example above:

725 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Embedded`

726 This element is used to embedded a token directly within a reference (that is, to create a  
727 *local* or *literal* reference).

728 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/Embedded/@wsu:Id`

729 An optional string label for this element.

730 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier/{any}`

731 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow any security token, based on schemas, to be  
732 embedded.

733 `/wsse:SecurityTokenReference/KeyIdentifier/@{any}`

734 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes, based on schemas, to be  
735 added.

736 The following example illustrates embedding a SAML assertion:

```
737 <S:Envelope>  
738   <S:Header>  
739     <wsse:Security>  
740       ...  
741       <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
742         <wsse:Embedded wsu:Id="tok1">  
743           </wsse:Embedded>  
744         </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
745       ...
```



746  
747  
748  
749

```
<wsse:Security>  
</S:Header>  
...  
</S:Body>
```

## 750 7.5 ds:KeyInfo

751 The <ds:KeyInfo> element (from [XML Signature](#)) can be used for carrying the key information  
752 and is allowed for different key types and for future extensibility. However, in this specification,  
753 the use of <wsse:BinarySecurityToken> is the RECOMMENDED way to carry key material  
754 if the key type contains binary data. Please refer to the specific profile documents for the  
755 appropriate way to carry key material.

756 The following example illustrates use of this element to fetch a named key:

757  
758  
759

```
<ds:KeyInfo Id="..." xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">  
  <ds:KeyName>CN=Hiroshi Maruyama, C=JP</ds:KeyName>  
</ds:KeyInfo>
```

## 760 7.6 Key Names

761 It is strongly RECOMMENDED to use key identifiers. However, if key names are used, then it is  
762 strongly RECOMMENDED that <ds:KeyName> elements conform to the attribute names in  
763 section 2.3 of RFC 2253 (this is recommended by XML Signature for <X509SubjectName>) for  
764 interoperability.

765 Additionally, defined for e-mail addresses, SHOULD conform to RFC 822:

766

```
EmailAddress=ckaler@microsoft.com
```

## 767 7.7 Token Reference Lookup Processing Order

768 There are a number of mechanisms described in [XML Signature](#) and this specification  
769 for referencing security tokens. To resolve possible ambiguities when more than one  
770 of these reference constructs is included in a single KeyInfo element, the following  
771 processing order SHOULD be used:

- 772 1. Resolve any <wsse:Reference> elements (specified within  
773 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>).
- 774 2. Resolve any <wsse:KeyIdentifier> elements (specified within  
775 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>).
- 776 3. Resolve any <ds:KeyName> elements.
- 777 4. Resolve any other <ds:KeyInfo> elements.

778 The processing stops as soon as one key has been located.

779

## 8 Signatures

780 Message senders may want to enable message recipients to determine whether a message was  
781 altered in transit and to verify that the claims in a particular [security token](#) apply to the sender of  
782 the message.

783 Demonstrating knowledge of a confirmation key associated with a token key claim supports  
784 confirming the other token claims. Knowledge of a confirmation key may be demonstrated using a  
785 key to create an XML Signature, for example. The relying party acceptance of the claims may  
786 depend on confidence in the token . Multiple tokens may have a key claim for a signature and  
787 may be referenced from the signature using a SecurityTokenReference. A key claim can be an  
788 X.509 Certificate token, or a Kerberos service ticket token to give two examples.

789 Because of the mutability of some [SOAP](#) headers, senders SHOULD NOT use the *Enveloped*  
790 *Signature Transform* defined in [XML Signature](#). Instead, messages SHOULD explicitly include  
791 the elements to be signed. Similarly, senders SHOULD NOT use the *Enveloping Signature*  
792 defined in [XML Signature](#).

793 This specification allows for multiple signatures and signature formats to be attached to a  
794 message, each referencing different, even overlapping, parts of the message. This is important  
795 for many distributed applications where messages flow through multiple processing stages. For  
796 example, a sender may submit an order that contains an orderID header. The sender signs the  
797 orderID header and the body of the request (the contents of the order). When this is received by  
798 the order processing sub-system, it may insert a shippingID into the header. The order sub-  
799 system would then sign, at a minimum, the orderID and the shippingID, and possibly the body as  
800 well. Then when this order is processed and shipped by the shipping department, a shippedInfo  
801 header might be appended. The shipping department would sign, at a minimum, the shippedInfo  
802 and the shippingID and possibly the body and forward the message to the billing department for  
803 processing. The billing department can verify the signatures and determine a valid chain of trust  
804 for the order, as well as who authorized each step in the process.

805 All compliant implementations MUST be able to support the [XML Signature](#) standard.

### 8.1 Algorithms

807 This specification builds on [XML Signature](#) and therefore has the same algorithm requirements as  
808 those specified in the [XML Signature](#) specification.

809 The following table outlines additional algorithms that are strongly RECOMMENDED by this  
810 specification:

Algorithm Type	Algorithm	Algorithm URI
Canonicalization	Exclusive XML Canonicalization	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#">http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#</a>
Transformations	XML Decryption Transformation	<a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/decrypt#">http://www.w3.org/2001/04/decrypt#</a>

811 The [Exclusive XML Canonicalization](#) algorithm addresses the pitfalls of general canonicalization  
812 that can occur from *leaky* namespaces with pre-existing signatures.

813 Finally, if a sender wishes to sign a message before encryption, they should use the [Decryption](#)  
814 [Transformation for XML Signature](#).

## 815 **8.2 Signing Messages**

816 The `<wsse:Security>` header block MAY be used to carry a signature compliant with the [XML](#)  
817 [Signature](#) specification within a [SOAP](#)Envelope for the purpose of signing one or more elements  
818 in the [SOAP](#)Envelope. Multiple signature entries MAY be added into a single [SOAP](#)Envelope  
819 within the `<wsse:Security>` header block. Senders SHOULD take care to sign all important  
820 elements of the message, but care MUST be taken in creating a signing policy that will not to sign  
821 parts of the message that might legitimately be altered in transit.

822 [SOAP](#)applications MUST satisfy the following conditions:

823 The application MUST be capable of processing the required elements defined in the [XML](#)  
824 [Signature](#) specification.

825 To add a signature to a `<wsse:Security>` header block, a `<ds:Signature>` element  
826 conforming to the [XML Signature](#) specification SHOULD be prepended to the existing content of  
827 the `<wsse:Security>` header block. All the `<ds:Reference>` elements contained in the  
828 signature SHOULD refer to a resource within the enclosing [SOAP](#)envelope, or in an attachment.  
829 [XPath](#) filtering can be used to specify objects to be signed, as described in the [XML Signature](#)  
830 specification. However, since the [SOAP](#)message exchange model allows intermediate  
831 applications to modify the Envelope (add or delete a header block; for example), [XPath](#) filtering  
832 does not always result in the same objects after message delivery. Care should be taken in using  
833 [XPath](#) filtering so that there is no subsequent validation failure due to such modifications.

834 The problem of modification by intermediaries is applicable to more than just [XPath](#) processing.  
835 Digital signatures, because of canonicalization and [digests](#), present particularly fragile examples  
836 of such relationships. If overall message processing is to remain robust, intermediaries must  
837 exercise care that their transformations do not occur within the scope of a digitally signed  
838 component.

839 Due to security concerns with namespaces, this specification strongly RECOMMENDS the use of  
840 the "[Exclusive XML Canonicalization](#)" algorithm or another canonicalization algorithm that  
841 provides equivalent or greater protection.

842 For processing efficiency it is RECOMMENDED to have the signature added and then the  
843 security token pre-pended so that a processor can read and cache the token before it is used.

## 844 **8.3 Signing Tokens**

845 It is often desirable to sign security tokens that are included in a message or even external to the  
846 message. The XML Signature specification provides several common ways for referencing  
847 information to be signed such as URIs, IDs, and [XPath](#), but some token formats may not allow  
848 tokens to be referenced using URIs or IDs and [XPath](#)s may be undesirable in some situations.

849 This specification allows different tokens to have their own unique reference mechanisms which  
850 are specified in their profile as extensions to the `<SecurityTokenReference>` element. This  
851 element provides a uniform referencing mechanism that is guaranteed to work with all token

852 formats. Consequently, this specification defines a new reference option for XML Signature: the  
853 STR Dereference Transform.

854 This transform is specified by the URI `http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/2002/xx/STR-Transform` and  
855 when applied to a `<SecurityTokenReference>` element it means that the output is the token  
856 referenced by the `<SecurityTokenReference>` element not the element itself.

857 The processing model is to echo the input to the transform except when a  
858 `<SecurityTokenReference>` element is encountered. When one is found, the element is not  
859 echoed, but instead, it is used to locate a token(s) matching the criteria and rules defines by the  
860 `<SecurityTokenReference>` element and echo it (them) to the output. Consequently, the  
861 output of the transformation is the resultant sequence representing the input with any  
862 `<SecurityTokenReference>` elements replaced by the referenced security token(s) matched.

863 The following illustrates an example of this transformation which references a token contained  
864 within the message envelope:

```
865 ...  
866 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference wsu:Id="Str1">  
867 ...  
868 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
869 ...  
870 <Signature xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">  
871   <SignedInfo>  
872     ...  
873     <Reference URI="#Str1">  
874       <Transforms>  
875         <ds:Transform  
876           Algorithm=  
877             "http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/2002/xx/STR-Transform"/>  
878         </Transforms>  
879         <DigestMethod Algorithm=  
880           "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"/>  
881         <DigestValue>...</DigestValue>  
882       </Reference>  
883     </SignedInfo>  
884     <SignatureValue></SignatureValue>  
885   </Signature>  
886 ...
```

## 887 8.4 Signature Validation

888 The validation of a `<ds:Signature>` element inside an `<wsse:Security>` header block  
889 SHALL fail if

- 890 • the syntax of the content of the element does not conform to this specification, or
- 891 • the validation of the [signature](#) contained in the element fails according to the core  
892 validation of the [XML Signature](#) specification, or
- 893 • the application applying its own validation policy rejects the message for some reason  
894 (e.g., the [signature](#) is created by an untrusted key – verifying the previous two steps only  
895 performs cryptographic validation of the [signature](#)).

896 If the validation of the signature element fails, applications MAY report the failure to the sender  
897 using the fault codes defined in [Section 12](#) Error Handling.

## 898 8.5 Example

899 The following sample message illustrates the use of integrity and security tokens. For this  
900 example, only the message body is signed.

```
901 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
902 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
903           xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
904           xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext"
905           xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
906   <S:Header>
907     <wsse:Security>
908       <wsse:BinarySecurityToken
909         ValueType="wsse:X509v3"
910         EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary"
911         wsu:Id="X509Token">
912         MIIeZzCCA9CgAwIBAgIQEmtJZc0rqrKh5i...
913       </wsse:BinarySecurityToken>
914     <ds:Signature>
915       <ds:SignedInfo>
916         <ds:CanonicalizationMethod Algorithm=
917           "http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#" />
918         <ds:SignatureMethod Algorithm=
919           "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#rsa-sha1" />
920         <ds:Reference URI="#myBody">
921           <ds:Transforms>
922             <ds:Transform Algorithm=
923               "http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#" />
924           </ds:Transforms>
925           <ds:DigestMethod Algorithm=
926             "http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1" />
927           <ds:DigestValue>EULddytSo1...</ds:DigestValue>
928         </ds:Reference>
929       </ds:SignedInfo>
930       <ds:SignatureValue>
931         BL8jdfToEbl1/vXcMZNNjPOV...
932       </ds:SignatureValue>
933       <ds:KeyInfo>
934         <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
935           <wsse:Reference URI="#X509Token" />
936         </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
937       </ds:KeyInfo>
938     </ds:Signature>
939   </wsse:Security>
940 </S:Header>
941 <S:Body wsu:Id="myBody">
942   <tru:StockSymbol xmlns:tru="http://www.fabrikam123.com/payloads">
943     QQQ
944   </tru:StockSymbol>
945 </S:Body>
946 </S:Envelope>
```

Formatted

947

## 9 Encryption

948 This specification allows encryption of any combination of body blocks, header blocks, any of  
949 these sub-structures, and attachments by either a common symmetric key shared by the sender  
950 and the recipient or a symmetric key carried in the message in an encrypted form.

951 In order to allow this flexibility, this specification leverages the [XML Encryption](#) standard.  
952 Specifically what this specification describes is how three elements (listed below and defined in  
953 [XML Encryption](#)) can be used within the `<wsse:Security>` header block. When a sender or  
954 an intermediary encrypts portion(s) of a [SOAP](#) message using [XML Encryption](#) they MUST  
955 prepend a sub-element to the `<wsse:Security>` header block. Furthermore, the encrypting  
956 party MUST prepend the sub-element into the `<wsse:Security>` header block for the targeted  
957 recipient that is expected to decrypt these encrypted portions. The combined process of  
958 encrypting portion(s) of a message and adding one of these a sub-elements referring to the  
959 encrypted portion(s) is called an encryption step hereafter. The sub-element should contain  
960 enough information for the recipient to identify which portions of the message are to be decrypted  
961 by the recipient.

962 All compliant implementations MUST be able to support the [XML Encryption](#) standard.

### 9.1 xenc:ReferenceList

964 When encrypting elements or element contents within a [SOAP](#) envelope, the  
965 `<xenc:ReferenceList>` element from [XML Encryption](#) MAY be used to create a manifest of  
966 encrypted portion(s), which are expressed as `<xenc:EncryptedData>` elements within the  
967 envelope. An element or element content to be encrypted by this encryption step MUST be  
968 replaced by a corresponding `<xenc:EncryptedData>` according to [XML Encryption](#). All the  
969 `<xenc:EncryptedData>` elements created by this encryption step SHOULD be listed in  
970 `<xenc:DataReference>` elements inside an `<xenc:ReferenceList>` element.

971 Although in [XML Encryption](#), `<xenc:ReferenceList>` is originally designed to be used within  
972 an `<xenc:EncryptedKey>` element (which implies that all the referenced  
973 `<xenc:EncryptedData>` elements are encrypted by the same key), this specification allows  
974 that `<xenc:EncryptedData>` elements referenced by the same `<xenc:ReferenceList>`  
975 MAY be encrypted by different keys. Each encryption key can be specified in `<ds:KeyInfo>`  
976 within individual `<xenc:EncryptedData>`.

977 A typical situation where the `<xenc:ReferenceList>` sub-element is useful is that the sender  
978 and the recipient use a shared secret key. The following illustrates the use of this sub-element:

```
979 <S:Envelope
980   xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
981   xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
982   xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext"
983   xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
984   <S:Header>
985     <wsse:Security>
986       <xenc:ReferenceList>
987         <xenc:DataReference URI="#bodyID"/>
988       </xenc:ReferenceList>
```

```

989     </wsse:Security>
990 </S:Header>
991 <S:Body>
992     <xenc:EncryptedData Id="bodyID">
993         <ds:KeyInfo>
994             <ds:KeyName>CN=Hiroshi Maruyama, C=JP</ds:KeyName>
995         </ds:KeyInfo>
996         <xenc:CipherData>
997             <xenc:CipherValue>...</xenc:CipherValue>
998         </xenc:CipherData>
999     </xenc:EncryptedData>
1000 </S:Body>
1001 </S:Envelope>

```

## 1002 9.2 xenc:EncryptedKey

1003 When the encryption step involves encrypting elements or element contents within a [SOAP](#)  
1004 envelope with a symmetric key, which is in turn to be encrypted by the recipient's key and  
1005 embedded in the message, <xenc:EncryptedKey> MAY be used for carrying such an  
1006 encrypted key. This sub-element SHOULD have a manifest, that is, an  
1007 <xenc:ReferenceList> element, in order for the recipient to know the portions to be  
1008 decrypted with this key. An element or element content to be encrypted by this encryption step  
1009 MUST be replaced by a corresponding <xenc:EncryptedData> according to [XML Encryption](#).  
1010 All the <xenc:EncryptedData> elements created by this encryption step SHOULD be listed in  
1011 the <xenc:ReferenceList> element inside this sub-element.

1012 This construct is useful when encryption is done by a randomly generated symmetric key that is  
1013 in turn encrypted by the recipient's public key. The following illustrates the use of this element:

```

1014 <S:Envelope
1015     xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
1016     xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
1017     xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext"
1018     xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
1019     <S:Header>
1020         <wsse:Security>
1021             <xenc:EncryptedKey>
1022                 <xenc:EncryptionMethod Algorithm="..."/>
1023                 <ds:KeyInfo>
1024                     <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
1025                         <wsse:KeyIdentifier EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary"
1026                             ValueType="wsse:X509v3">MIGfMa0GCSq...
1027                         </wsse:KeyIdentifier>
1028                     </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
1029                 </ds:KeyInfo>
1030                 <xenc:CipherData>
1031                     <xenc:CipherValue>...</xenc:CipherValue>
1032                 </xenc:CipherData>
1033                 <xenc:ReferenceList>
1034                     <xenc:DataReference URI="#bodyID"/>
1035                 </xenc:ReferenceList>
1036             </xenc:EncryptedKey>
1037         </wsse:Security>
1038     </S:Header>
1039     <S:Body>

```



```

1040     <xenc:EncryptedData Id="bodyID">
1041         <xenc:CipherData>
1042             <xenc:CipherValue>...</xenc:CipherValue>
1043         </xenc:CipherData>
1044     </xenc:EncryptedData>
1045 </S:Body>
1046 </S:Envelope>

```

1047 While XML Encryption specifies that `<xenc:EncryptedKey>` elements MAY be specified in  
1048 `<xenc:EncryptedData>` elements, this specification strongly RECOMMENDS that  
1049 `<xenc:EncryptedKey>` elements be placed in the `<wsse:Security>` header.

### 1050 9.3 xenc:EncryptedData

1051 In some cases security-related information is provided in a purely encrypted form or non-XML  
1052 attachments MAY be encrypted. The `<xenc:EncryptedData>` element from [XML Encryption](#)  
1053 SHALL be used for these scenarios. For each part of the encrypted attachment, one encryption  
1054 step is needed; that is, for each attachment to be encrypted, one `<xenc:EncryptedData>` sub-  
1055 element MUST be added with the following rules (note that steps 2-4 applies only if MIME types  
1056 are being used for attachments).

1057 The contents of the attachment MUST be replaced by the encrypted octet string.

1058 The replaced MIME part MUST have the media type `application/octet-stream`.

1059 The original media type of the attachment MUST be declared in the `MimeType` attribute of the  
1060 `<xenc:EncryptedData>` element.

1061 The encrypted MIME part MUST be referenced by an `<xenc:CipherReference>` element with  
1062 a URI that points to the MIME part with `cid`: as the scheme component of the URI.

1063 The following illustrates the use of this element to indicate an encrypted attachment:

```

1064 <S:Envelope
1065     xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
1066     xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
1067     xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext"
1068     xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
1069     <S:Header>
1070         <wsse:Security>
1071             <xenc:EncryptedData MimeType="image/png">
1072                 <ds:KeyInfo>
1073                     <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
1074                         <xenc:EncryptionMethod Algorithm="..."/>
1075                         <wsse:KeyIdentifier EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary"
1076                             ValueType="wsse:X509v3">MIGfMa0GCSq...
1077                     </wsse:KeyIdentifier>
1078                 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
1079             </ds:KeyInfo>
1080             <xenc:CipherData>
1081                 <xenc:CipherReference URI="cid:image"/>
1082             </xenc:CipherData>
1083         </xenc:EncryptedData>
1084     </wsse:Security>
1085     </S:Header>
1086     <S:Body> </S:Body>
1087 </S:Envelope>

```



## 1088 9.4 Processing Rules

1089 Encrypted parts or attachments to the SOAP message using one of the sub-elements defined  
1090 above MUST be in compliance with the XML Encryption specification. An encrypted SOAP  
1091 envelope MUST still be a valid SOAP envelope. The message creator MUST NOT encrypt the  
1092 <S:Envelope>, <S:Header>, or <S:Body> elements but MAY encrypt child elements of  
1093 either the <S:Header> and <S:Body> elements. Multiple steps of encryption MAY be added  
1094 into a single <Security> header block if they are targeted for the same recipient.

1095 When an element or element content inside a SOAP envelope (e.g. of the contents of <S:Body>)  
1096 is to be encrypted, it MUST be replaced by an <xenc:EncryptedData>, according to XML  
1097 Encryption and it SHOULD be referenced from the <xenc:ReferenceList> element created  
1098 by this encryption step. This specification allows placing the encrypted octet stream in an  
1099 attachment. For example, if an <xenc:EncryptedData> element in an <S:Body> element has  
1100 <xenc:CipherReference> that refers to an attachment, then the decrypted octet stream  
1101 SHALL replace the <xenc:EncryptedData>. However, if the <xenc:EncryptedData>  
1102 element is located in the <Security> header block and it refers to an attachment, then the  
1103 decrypted octet stream MUST replace the encrypted octet stream in the attachment.

### 1104 9.4.1 Encryption

1105 The general steps (non-normative) for creating an encrypted SOAP message in compliance with  
1106 this specification are listed below (note that use of <xenc:ReferenceList> is  
1107 RECOMMENDED).

1108 Create a new SOAP envelope.

1109 Create a <Security> header

1110 Create an <xenc:ReferenceList> sub-element, an <xenc:EncryptedKey> sub-element, or  
1111 an <xenc:EncryptedData> sub-element in the <Security> header block (note that if the  
1112 SOAP "role" and "mustUnderstand" attributes are different, then a new header block may be  
1113 necessary), depending on the type of encryption.

1114 Locate data items to be encrypted, i.e., XML elements, element contents within the target SOAP  
1115 envelope, and attachments.

1116 Encrypt the data items as follows: For each XML element or element content within the target  
1117 SOAP envelope, encrypt it according to the processing rules of the XML Encryption specification.  
1118 Each selected original element or element content MUST be removed and replaced by the  
1119 resulting <xenc:EncryptedData> element. For an attachment, the contents MUST be replaced  
1120 by encrypted cipher data as described in section 9.3 Signature Validation.

1121 The optional <ds:KeyInfo> element in the <xenc:EncryptedData> element MAY reference  
1122 another <ds:KeyInfo> element. Note that if the encryption is based on an attached security  
1123 token, then a <SecurityTokenReference> element SHOULD be added to the  
1124 <ds:KeyInfo> element to facilitate locating it.

1125 Create an <xenc:DataReference> element referencing the generated  
1126 <xenc:EncryptedData> elements. Add the created <xenc:DataReference> element to the  
1127 <xenc:ReferenceList>.

## 1128 **9.4.2 Decryption**

1129 On receiving a [SOAP](#) envelope containing encryption header elements, for each encryption  
1130 header element the following general steps should be processed (non-normative):

1131 Locate the `<xenc:EncryptedData>` items to be decrypted (possibly using the  
1132 `<xenc:ReferenceList>`).

1133 Decrypt them as follows: For each element in the target [SOAP](#) envelope, decrypt it according to  
1134 the processing rules of the [XML Encryption](#) specification and the processing rules listed above.

1135 If the decrypted data is part of an attachment and MIME types were used, then revise the MIME  
1136 type of the attachment to the original MIME type (if one exists).

1137 If the decryption fails for some reason, applications MAY report the failure to the sender using the  
1138 fault code defined in [Section 12](#) Error Handling.

## 1139 **9.5 Decryption Transformation**

1140 The ordering semantics of the `<wsse:Security>` header are sufficient to determine if  
1141 signatures are over encrypted or unencrypted data. However, when a signature is included in  
1142 one `<wsse:Security>` header and the encryption data is in another `<wsse:Security>`  
1143 header, the proper processing order may not be apparent.

1144 If the sender wishes to sign a message that MAY subsequently be encrypted by an intermediary  
1145 then the sender MAY use the Decryption Transform for XML Signature to explicitly specify the  
1146 order of decryption.

1147

1148

---

## 10 Message Timestamps

1149 It is often important for the recipient to be able to determine the *freshness* of a message. In some  
1150 cases, a message may be so *stale* that the recipient may decide to ignore it.

1151 This specification does not provide a mechanism for synchronizing time. The assumption is  
1152 either that the recipient is using a mechanism to synchronize time (e.g. NTP) or, more likely for  
1153 federated applications, that they are making assessments about time based on three factors:  
1154 creation time of the message, transmission checkpoints, and transmission delays and their local  
1155 time.

1156 To assist a recipient in making an assessment of staleness, a requestor may wish to indicate a  
1157 suggested expiration time after which the recipient should ignore the message. The specification  
1158 provides XML elements by which the requestor may express the expiration time of a message,  
1159 the requestor's clock time at the moment the message was created, checkpoint timestamps  
1160 (when an [SOAP](#) role received the message) along the communication path, and the delays  
1161 introduced by transmission and other factors subsequent to creation. The quality of the delays is  
1162 a function of how well they reflect the actual delays (e.g., how well they reflect transmission  
1163 delays).

1164 It should be noted that this is not a protocol for making assertions or determining when, or how  
1165 fast, a service produced or processed a message.

1166 This specification defines and illustrates time references in terms of the *dateTime* type defined in  
1167 XML Schema. It is RECOMMENDED that all time references use this type. It is further  
1168 RECOMMENDED that all references be in UTC time. If, however, other time types are used,  
1169 then the *ValueType* attribute (described below) MUST be specified to indicate the data type of the  
1170 time format. Requestors and receivers SHOULD NOT rely on other applications supporting time  
1171 resolution finer than milliseconds. Implementations MUST NOT generate time instants that  
1172 specify leap seconds.

### 1173 10.1 Model

1174 This specification provides several tools for recipients to process the expiration time presented by  
1175 the requestor. The first is the [creation time](#). Recipients can use this value to assess possible  
1176 clock skew. However, to make some assessments, the time required to go from the requestor to  
1177 the recipient may also be useful in making this assessment. Two mechanisms are provided for  
1178 this. The first is that [intermediaries](#) may add timestamp elements indicating when they received  
1179 the message. This knowledge can be useful to get a holistic view of clocks along the message  
1180 path. The second is that intermediaries can specify any delays they imposed on message  
1181 delivery. It should be noted that not all [delays](#) can be accounted for, such as wire time and  
1182 parties that don't report. Recipients need to take this into account when evaluating clock skew.

### 1183 10.2 Timestamp Elements

1184 This specification defines the following message timestamp elements. These elements are  
1185 defined for use with the `<wsu:Timestamp>` header for SOAP messages, but they can be used  
1186 anywhere within the header or body that creation, expiration, and delay times are needed.

1187

## 1188 10.2.1 Creation

1189 The <wsu:Created> element specifies a creation timestamp. The exact meaning and  
1190 semantics are dependent on the context in which the element is used. The syntax for this  
1191 element is as follows:

```
1192 <wsu:Created ValueType="..." wsu:Id="...">...</wsu:Created>
```

1193 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the schema above:

1194 */wsu:Created*

1195 This element's value is a creation timestamp. Its type is specified by the ValueType  
1196 attribute.

1197 */wsu:Created/@ValueType*

1198 This optional attribute specifies the type of the time data. This is specified as the XML  
1199 Schema type. The default value is `xsd:dateTime`.

1200 */wsu:Created/@wsu:Id*

1201 This optional attribute specifies an XML Schema ID that can be used to reference this  
1202 element.

## 1203 10.2.2 Expiration

1204 The <wsu:Expires> element specifies the expiration time. The exact meaning and processing  
1205 rules for expiration depend on the context in which the element is used. The syntax for this  
1206 element is as follows:

```
1207 <wsu:Expires ValueType="..." wsu:Id="...">...</wsu:Expires>
```

1208 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the schema above:

1209 */wsu:Expires*

1210 This element's value represents an expiration time. Its type is specified by the ValueType  
1211 attribute

1212 */wsu:Expires/@ValueType*

1213 This optional attribute specifies the type of the time data. This is specified as the XML  
1214 Schema type. The default value is `xsd:dateTime`.

1215 */wsu:Expires/@wsu:Id*

1216 This optional attribute specifies an XML Schema ID that can be used to reference this  
1217 element.

1218 The expiration is relative to the requestor's clock. In order to evaluate the expiration time,  
1219 recipients need to recognize that the requestor's clock may not be synchronized to the recipient's  
1220 clock. The recipient, therefore, MUST make an assessment of the level of trust to be placed in  
1221 the requestor's clock, since the recipient is called upon to evaluate whether the expiration time is  
1222 in the past relative to the requestor's, not the recipient's, clock. The recipient may make a  
1223 judgment of the requestor's likely current clock time by means not described in this specification,  
1224 for example an out-of-band clock synchronization protocol. The recipient may also use the  
1225 creation time and the delays introduced by intermediate SOAP roles to estimate the degree of  
1226 clock skew .

1227 One suggested formula for estimating clock skew is

1228 `skew = recipient's arrival time - creation time - transmission time`  
1229 Transmission time may be estimated by summing the values of delay elements, if present. It  
1230 should be noted that wire-time is only part of this if delays include it in estimates. Otherwise the  
1231 transmission time will not reflect the on-wire time. If no delays are present, there are no special  
1232 assumptions that need to be made about processing time

## 1233 **10.3 Timestamp Header**

1234 A `<wsu:Timestamp>` header provides a mechanism for expressing the creation and expiration  
1235 times of a message introduced throughout the message path. Specifically, it uses the previously  
1236 defined elements in the context of message creation, receipt, and processing.

1237 All times SHOULD be in UTC format as specified by the [XML Schema](#) type (`dateTime`). It should  
1238 be noted that times support time precision as defined in the [XML Schema](#) specification.

1239 Multiple `<wsu:Timestamp>` headers can be specified if they are targeted at different [SOAP](#)  
1240 roles. The ordering within the header is as illustrated below.

1241 The ordering of elements in this header is fixed and MUST be preserved by intermediaries.

1242 To preserve overall integrity of each `<wsu:Timestamp>` header, it is strongly RECOMMENDED  
1243 that each [SOAP](#) role create or update the appropriate `<wsu:Timestamp>` header destined to  
1244 itself.

1245 The schema outline for the `<wsu:Timestamp>` header is as follows:

```
1246 <wsu:Timestamp wsu:Id="...">  
1247   <wsu:Created>...</wsu:Created>  
1248   <wsu:Expires>...</wsu:Expires>  
1249   ...  
1250 </wsu:Timestamp>
```

1251 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the schema above:

1252 */wsu:Timestamp*

1253 This is the header for indicating message timestamps.

1254 */wsu:Timestamp/Created*

1255 This represents the [creation time](#) of the message. This element is optional, but can only  
1256 be specified once in a `Timestamp` header. Within the SOAP processing model, creation  
1257 is the instant that the infonet is serialized for transmission. The creation time of the  
1258 message SHOULD NOT differ substantially from its transmission time. The difference in  
1259 time should be minimized.

1260 */wsu:Timestamp/Expires*

1261 This represents the [expiration](#) of the message. This is optional, but can appear at most  
1262 once in a `Timestamp` header. Upon expiration, the requestor asserts that the message  
1263 is no longer valid. It is strongly RECOMMENDED that recipients (anyone who processes  
1264 this message) discard (ignore) any message that has passed its expiration. A Fault code  
1265 (`wsu:MessageExpired`) is provided if the recipient wants to inform the requestor that its  
1266 message was expired. A service MAY issue a Fault indicating the message has expired.

1267 */wsu:Timestamp/{any}*

1268 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional elements to be added to the  
1269 header.

1270 */wsu:Timestamp/@wsu:Id*  
1271 This optional attribute specifies an XML Schema ID that can be used to reference this  
1272 element.  
1273 */wsu:Timestamp/@{any}*  
1274 This is an extensibility mechanism to allow additional attributes to be added to the  
1275 header.  
1276 The following example illustrates the use of the `<wsu:Timestamp>` element and its content.

```
1277 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"  
1278           xmlns:wsu="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility">  
1279   <S:Header>  
1280     <wsu:Timestamp>  
1281       <wsu:Created>2001-09-13T08:42:00Z</wsu:Created>  
1282       <wsu:Expires>2001-10-13T09:00:00Z</wsu:Expires>  
1283     </wsu:Timestamp>  
1284     ...  
1285   </S:Header>  
1286   <S:Body>  
1287     ...  
1288   </S:Body>  
1289 </S:Envelope>
```

## 1290 **10.4 TimestampTrace Header**

1291 A `<wsu:TimestampTrace>` header provides a mechanism for expressing the delays introduced  
1292 throughout the message path. Specifically, it uses the previously defined elements in the context  
1293 of message creation, receipt, and processing.

1294 All times SHOULD be in UTC format as specified by the [XML Schema](#) type (`dateTime`). It should  
1295 be noted that times support time precision as defined in the [XML Schema](#) specification.

1296 Multiple `<wsu:TimestampTrace>` headers can be specified if they reference a different [SOAP](#)  
1297 role.

1298 The `<wsu:Received>` element specifies a receipt timestamp with an optional processing delay.  
1299 The exact meaning and semantics are dependent on the context in which the element is used.

1300 It is also strongly **RECOMMENDED** that each [SOAP](#) role sign its elements by referencing their  
1301 ID, **NOT** by signing the `TimestampTrace` header as the header is mutable.

1302 The syntax for this element is as follows:

```
1303 <wsu:TimestampTrace>  
1304   <wsu:Received Role="..." Delay="..." ValueType="..."  
1305     wsu:Id="...">...</wsu:Received>  
1306 </wsu:TimestampTrace>
```

1307 The following describes the attributes and elements listed in the schema above:

1308 */wsu:Received*

1309 This element's value is a receipt timestamp. The time specified SHOULD be a UTC  
1310 format as specified by the `ValueType` attribute (default is [XML Schema](#) type `dateTime`).

1311 */wsu:Received/@Role*

1312 A required attribute, `Role`, indicates which [SOAP](#) role is indicating receipt. Roles MUST  
1313 include this attribute, with a value matching the role value as specified as a SOAP  
1314 intermediary.

1315 */wsu:Received/@Delay*

1316 The value of this optional attribute is the delay associated with the [SOAP](#) role expressed  
1317 in milliseconds. The delay represents processing time by the Role after it received the  
1318 message, but before it forwarded to the next recipient.

1319 */wsu:Received/@ValueType*

1320 This optional attribute specifies the type of the time data (the element value). This is  
1321 specified as the XML Schema type. If this attribute isn't specified, the default value is  
1322 `xsd:dateTime`.

1323 */wsu:Received/@wsu:Id*

1324 This optional attribute specifies an XML Schema ID that can be used to reference this  
1325 element.

1326 The delay attribute indicates the time delay attributable to an [SOAP](#) role (intermediate  
1327 processor). In some cases this isn't known; for others it can be computed as *role's send time –*  
1328 *role's receipt time*.

1329 Each delay amount is indicated in units of milliseconds, without fractions. If a delay amount  
1330 would exceed the maximum value expressible in the datatype, the value should be set to the  
1331 maximum value of the datatype.

1332 The following example illustrates the use of the `<wsu:Timestamp>` header and a  
1333 `<wsu:TimestampTrace>` header indicating a processing delay of one minute subsequent to the  
1334 receipt which was two minutes after creation.

```

1335 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
1336           xmlns:wsu="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility">
1337   <S:Header>
1338     <wsu:Timestamp>
1339       <wsu:Created>2001-09-13T08:42:00Z</wsu:Created>
1340       <wsu:Expires>2001-10-13T09:00:00Z</wsu:Expires>
1341     </wsu:Timestamp>
1342     <wsu:TimestampTrace>
1343       <wsu:Received Role="http://x.com/" Delay="60000">
1344         2001-09-13T08:44:00Z</wsu:Received>
1345     </wsu:TimestampTrace>
1346     ...
1347   </S:Header>
1348   <S:Body>
1349     ...
1350   </S:Body>
1351 </S:Envelope>
1352
```



1353

## 11 Extended Example

1354 The following sample message illustrates the use of security tokens, signatures, and encryption.  
1355 For this example, the timestamp and the message body are signed prior to encryption. The  
1356 decryption transformation is not needed as the signing/encryption order is specified within the  
1357 <wsse:Security> header.

```
1358 (001) <?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
1359 (002) <S:Envelope xmlns:S="http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope"
1360         xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
1361         xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext"
1362         xmlns:wsu="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility"
1363         xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
1364 (003)   <S:Header>
1365 (004)     <wsu:Timestamp>
1366 (005)       <wsu:Created wsu:Id="T0">
1367 (006)         2001-09-13T08:42:00Z
1368 (007)       </wsu:Created>
1369 (008)     </wsu:Timestamp>
1370 (009)     <wsse:Security>
1371 (010)       <wsse:BinarySecurityToken
1372             ValueType="wsse:X509v3"
1373             wsu:Id="X509Token"
1374             EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary">
1375 (011)         MIEEZzCCA9CgAwIBAgIQEmtJZc0rqrKh5i...
1376 (012)       </wsse:BinarySecurityToken>
1377 (013)       <xenc:EncryptedKey>
1378 (014)         <xenc:EncryptionMethod Algorithm=
1379             "http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-1_5"/>
1380 (015)         <wsse:KeyIdentifier EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary"
1381             ValueType="wsse:X509v3">MIGfMa0GCSq...
1382 (017)         </wsse:KeyIdentifier>
1383 (018)         <xenc:CipherData>
1384 (019)           <xenc:CipherValue>d2FpbmdvbGRfE0lm4byV0...
1385 (020)           </xenc:CipherValue>
1386 (021)         </xenc:CipherData>
1387 (022)         <xenc:ReferenceList>
1388 (023)           <xenc:DataReference URI="#enc1"/>
1389 (024)         </xenc:ReferenceList>
1390 (025)       </xenc:EncryptedKey>
1391 (026)       <ds:Signature>
1392 (027)         <ds:SignedInfo>
1393 (028)           <ds:CanonicalizationMethod
1394             Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#"/>
1395 (029)           <ds:SignatureMethod
1396             Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#rsa-sha1"/>
1397 (039)           <ds:Reference URI="#T0">
1398 (031)             <ds:Transforms>
1399 (032)               <ds:Transform
1400                 Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#"/>
1401 (033)             </ds:Transforms>
```



```

1402      (034)          <ds:DigestMethod
1403                  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"/>
1404      (035)          <ds:DigestValue>LyLsF094hPi4wPU...
1405      (036)          </ds:DigestValue>
1406      (037)          </ds:Reference>
1407      (038)          <ds:Reference URI="#body">
1408      (039)          <ds:Transforms>
1409      (040)          <ds:Transform
1410                  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#" />
1411      (041)          </ds:Transforms>
1412      (042)          <ds:DigestMethod
1413                  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"/>
1414      (043)          <ds:DigestValue>LyLsF094hPi4wPU...
1415      (044)          </ds:DigestValue>
1416      (045)          </ds:Reference>
1417      (046)          </ds:SignedInfo>
1418      (047)          <ds:SignatureValue>
1419      (048)          Hp1ZkmFZ/2kQLXDJbchm5gK...
1420      (049)          </ds:SignatureValue>
1421      (050)          <ds:KeyInfo>
1422      (051)          <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
1423      (052)          <wsse:Reference URI="#X509Token"/>
1424      (053)          </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
1425      (054)          </ds:KeyInfo>
1426      (055)          </ds:Signature>
1427      (056)          </wsse:Security>
1428      (057)          </S:Header>
1429      (058)          <S:Body wsu:Id="body">
1430      (059)          <xenc:EncryptedData
1431                  Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element"
1432                  wsu:Id="enc1">
1433      (060)          <xenc:EncryptionMethod
1434                  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#3des-cbc"/>
1435      (061)          <xenc:CipherData>
1436      (062)          <xenc:CipherValue>d2FpbmdvbGRfE0lm4byV0...
1437      (063)          </xenc:CipherValue>
1438      (064)          </xenc:CipherData>
1439      (065)          </xenc:EncryptedData>
1440      (066)          </S:Body>
1441      (067)          </S:Envelope>

```

1442 Let's review some of the key sections of this example:

1443 Lines (003)-(057) contain the SOAP message headers.

1444 Lines (004)-(008) specify the timestamp information. In this case it indicates the creation time of  
1445 the message.

1446 Lines (009)-(056) represent the <wsse:Security> header block. This contains the security-  
1447 related information for the message.

1448 Lines (010)-(012) specify a [security token](#) that is associated with the message. In this case, it  
1449 specifies an [X.509](#) certificate that is encoded as Base64. Line (011) specifies the actual Base64  
1450 encoding of the certificate.

1451 Lines (013)-(025) specify the key that is used to encrypt the body of the message. Since this is a  
1452 symmetric key, it is passed in an encrypted form. Line (014) defines the algorithm used to  
1453 encrypt the key. Lines (015)-(017) specify the name of the key that was used to encrypt the

1454 symmetric key. Lines (018)-(021) specify the actual encrypted form of the symmetric key. Lines  
1455 (022)-(024) identify the encryption block in the message that uses this symmetric key. In this  
1456 case it is only used to encrypt the body (Id="enc1").

1457 Lines (026)-(055) specify the digital signature. In this example, the signature is based on the  
1458 [X.509](#) certificate. Lines (027)-(046) indicate what is being signed. Specifically, Line (039)  
1459 references the creation timestamp and line (038) references the message body.

1460 Lines (047)-(049) indicate the actual signature value – specified in Line (042).

1461 Lines (051)-(053) indicate the key that was used for the signature. In this case, it is the [X.509](#)  
1462 certificate included in the message. Line (052) provides a URI link to the Lines (010)-(012).

1463 The body of the message is represented by Lines (056)-(066).

1464 Lines (059)-(065) represent the encrypted metadata and form of the body using [XML Encryption](#).  
1465 Line (059) indicates that the "element value" is being replaced and identifies this encryption. Line  
1466 (060) specifies the encryption algorithm – Triple-DES in this case. Lines (062)-(063) contain the  
1467 actual cipher text (i.e., the result of the encryption). Note that we don't include a reference to the  
1468 key as the key references this encryption – Line (023).

---

## 12 Error Handling

1469

1470 There are many circumstances where an *error* can occur while processing security information.  
1471 For example:

1472 Invalid or unsupported type of security token, signing, or encryption

1473 Invalid or unauthenticated or unauthenticatable security token

1474 Invalid signature

1475 Decryption failure

1476 Referenced security token is unavailable

1477 Unsupported namespace

1478 These can be grouped into two *classes* of errors: unsupported and failure. For the case of  
1479 unsupported errors, the recipient *MAY* provide a response that informs the sender of supported  
1480 formats, etc. For failure errors, the recipient *MAY* choose not to respond, as this may be a form  
1481 of Denial of Service (DOS) or cryptographic attack. We combine signature and encryption  
1482 failures to mitigate certain types of attacks.

1483 If a failure is returned to a sender then the failure *MUST* be reported using [SOAPs Fault](#)  
1484 mechanism. The following tables outline the predefined security fault codes. The "unsupported"  
1485 class of errors are:

Error that occurred	faultcode
An unsupported token was provided	wsse:UnsupportedSecurityToken
An unsupported signature or encryption algorithm was used	wsse:UnsupportedAlgorithm

1486 The "failure" class of errors are:

Error that occurred	faultcode
An error was discovered processing the <wsse:Security> header.	wsse:InvalidSecurity
An invalid security token was provided	wsse:InvalidSecurityToken
The security token could not be authenticated or authorized	wsse:FailedAuthentication
The signature or decryption was invalid	wsse:FailedCheck

Referenced security token could not be retrieved

wsse:SecurityTokenUnavailable

1487

---

## 13 Security Considerations

1488 It is strongly RECOMMENDED that messages include digitally signed elements to allow message  
1489 recipients to detect replays of the message when the messages are exchanged via an open  
1490 network. These can be part of the message or of the headers defined from other [SOAP](#)  
1491 extensions. Four typical approaches are:

1492 Timestamp

1493 Sequence Number

1494 Expirations

1495 Message Correlation

1496 This specification defines the use of [XML Signature](#) and [XML Encryption](#) in [SOAP](#) headers. As  
1497 one of the building blocks for securing [SOAP](#) messages, it is intended to be used in conjunction  
1498 with other security techniques. Digital signatures need to be understood in the context of other  
1499 security mechanisms and possible threats to an entity.

1500 Digital signatures alone do not provide message authentication. One can record a signed  
1501 message and resend it (a replay attack). To prevent this type of attack, digital signatures must be  
1502 combined with an appropriate means to ensure the uniqueness of the message, such as  
1503 timestamps or sequence numbers (see earlier section for additional details). The proper usage of  
1504 nonce guards against replay attacks.

1505 When digital signatures are used for verifying the claims pertaining to the sending entity, the  
1506 sender must demonstrate knowledge of the confirmation key. One way to achieve this is to use a  
1507 challenge-response type of protocol. Such a protocol is outside the scope of this document.

1508 To this end, the developers can attach timestamps, expirations, and sequences to messages.

1509 Implementers should also be aware of all the security implications resulting from the use of digital  
1510 signatures in general and [XML Signature](#) in particular. When building trust into an application  
1511 based on a digital signature there are other technologies, such as certificate evaluation, that must  
1512 be incorporated, but these are outside the scope of this document.

1513 Requestors should use digital signatures to sign security tokens that do not include signatures (or  
1514 other protection mechanisms) to ensure that they have not been altered in transit. It is strongly  
1515 RECOMMENDED that all relevant and immutable message content be signed by the sender.  
1516 Receivers SHOULD only consider those portions of the document that are covered by the  
1517 sender's signature as being subject to the security tokens in the message. Security tokens  
1518 appearing in `<wsse:Security>` header elements SHOULD be signed by their issuing authority  
1519 so that message receivers can have confidence that the security tokens have not been forged or  
1520 altered since their issuance. It is strongly RECOMMENDED that a message sender sign any  
1521 `<SecurityToken>` elements that it is confirming and that are not signed by their issuing  
1522 authority.

1523 Also, as described in [XML Encryption](#), we note that the combination of signing and encryption  
1524 over a common data item may introduce some cryptographic vulnerability. For example,  
1525 encrypting digitally signed data, while leaving the digital signature in the clear, may allow plain  
1526 text guessing attacks. The proper usage of nonce guards against replay attacks.

1527 In order to *trust* Ids and timestamps, they SHOULD be signed using the mechanisms outlined in  
1528 this specification. This allows readers of the IDs and timestamps information to be certain that  
1529 the IDs and timestamps haven't been forged or altered in any way. It is strongly  
1530 RECOMMENDED that IDs and timestamp elements be signed.

1531 Timestamps can also be used to mitigate replay attacks. Signed timestamps MAY be used to  
1532 keep track of messages (possibly by caching the most recent timestamp from a specific service)  
1533 and detect replays of previous messages. It is RECOMMENDED that timestamps and nonces be  
1534 cached for a given period of time, as a guideline a value of five minutes can be used as a  
1535 minimum to detect replays, and that timestamps older than that given period of time set be  
1536 rejected. in interactive scenarios.

1537 When a password (or password equivalent) in a <UsernameToken> is used for authentication,  
1538 the password needs to be properly protected. If the underlying transport does not provide enough  
1539 protection against eavesdropping, the password SHOULD be digested as described in Section  
1540 6.1.1. Even so, the password must be strong enough so that simple password guessing attacks  
1541 will not reveal the secret from a captured message.

1542 In one-way message authentication, it is RECOMMENDED that the sender and the recipient re-  
1543 use the elements and structure defined in this specification for proving and validating freshness of  
1544 a message. It is RECOMMEND that the nonce value be unique per message (never been used  
1545 as a nonce before by the sender and recipient) and use the <wsse:Nonce> element within the  
1546 <wsse:Security> header. Further, the <wsu:Timestamp> header SHOULD be used with a  
1547 <wsu:Created> element. It is strongly RECOMMENDED that the <wsu:Created> ,  
1548 <wsse:Nonce> elements be included in the signature.

---

1549 **14 Privacy Considerations**

1550 TBD

---

## 15 Acknowledgements

1551

1552 This specification was developed as a result of joint work of many individuals from the WSS TC  
1553 including: TBD

1554 The input specifications for this document were developed as a result of joint work with many  
1555 individuals and teams, including: Keith Ballinger, Microsoft, Bob Blakley, IBM, Allen Brown,  
1556 Microsoft, Joel Farrell, IBM, Mark Hayes, VeriSign, Kelvin Lawrence, IBM, Scott Konersmann,  
1557 Microsoft, David Melgar, IBM, Dan Simon, Microsoft, Wayne Vicknair, IBM.



---

## 16 References

- 1558
- 1559     **[DIGSIG]**            Informational RFC 2828, "[Internet Security Glossary](#)," May 2000.
- 1560     **[Kerberos]**            J. Kohl and C. Neuman, "The Kerberos Network Authentication Service  
1561     (V5)," [RFC 1510](#), September 1993, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1510.txt> .
- 1562     **[KEYWORDS]**         S. Bradner, "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels,"  
1563     [RFC 2119](#), Harvard University, March 1997
- 1564     **[SHA-1]**             FIPS PUB 180-1. Secure Hash Standard. U.S. Department of  
1565     Commerce / National Institute of Standards and Technology.  
1566     <http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/fips/fips180-1/fip180-1.txt>
- 1567     **[SOAP11]**            W3C Note, "[SOAP: Simple Object Access Protocol 1.1](#)," 08 May 2000.
- 1568     **[SOAP12]**            **W3C Working Draft**, "SOAP Version 1.2 Part 1: Messaging  
1569     Framework", 26 June 2002
- 1570     **[SOAP-SEC]**         W3C Note, "[SOAP Security Extensions: Digital Signature](#)," 06 February  
1571     2001.
- 1572     **[URI]**                T. Berners-Lee, R. Fielding, L. Masinter, "Uniform Resource Identifiers  
1573     (URI): Generic Syntax," [RFC 2396](#), MIT/LCS, U.C. Irvine, Xerox  
1574     Corporation, August 1998.
- 1575     **[WS-Security]**        "[Web Services Security Language](#)", IBM, Microsoft, VeriSign, April 2002.  
1576     "[WS-Security Addendum](#)", IBM, Microsoft, VeriSign, August 2002.  
1577     "[WS-Security XML Tokens](#)", IBM, Microsoft, VeriSign, August 2002.
- 1578     **[XML-C14N]**         W3C Recommendation, "[Canonical XML Version 1.0](#)," 15 March 2001
- 1579     **[XML-Encrypt]**        W3C Working Draft, "[XML Encryption Syntax and Processing](#)," 04 March  
1580     2002.
- 1581     **[XML-ns]**            W3C Recommendation, "[Namespaces in XML](#)," 14 January 1999.
- 1582     **[XML-Schema]**        W3C Recommendation, "[XML Schema Part 1: Structures](#)," 2 May 2001.  
1583     W3C Recommendation, "[XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes](#)," 2 May 2001.
- 1584     **[XML Signature]**    W3C Recommendation, "[XML Signature Syntax and Processing](#)," 12  
1585     February 2002.
- 1586     **[X509]**             S. Santesson, et al, "Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Qualified  
1587     Certificates Profile,"  
1588     [http://www.itu.int/rec/recommendation.asp?type=items&lang=e&parent=](http://www.itu.int/rec/recommendation.asp?type=items&lang=e&parent=T-REC-X.509-200003-1)  
1589     [T-REC-X.509-200003-1](http://www.itu.int/rec/recommendation.asp?type=items&lang=e&parent=T-REC-X.509-200003-1)
- 1590     **[XPath]**             W3C Recommendation, "[XML Path Language](#)", 16 November 1999
- 1591     **[WSS-SAML]**         OASIS WorkiFeburary 2003
- 1592     **[WSS-XrML]**         OASIS Working Draft 01, "Web Services Security XrML Token Profile, 30  
1593     January 2003



1604

---

## Appendix A: Utility Elements and Attributes

1605 This specification defines several elements, attributes, and attribute groups which can be re-used  
1606 by other specifications. This appendix provides an overview of these *utility* components. It  
1607 should be noted that the detailed descriptions are provided in the specification and this appendix  
1608 will reference these sections as well as calling out other aspects not documented in the  
1609 specification.

### 1610 A.1. Identification Attribute

1611 There are many situations where elements within [SOAP](#) messages need to be referenced. For  
1612 example, when signing a SOAP message, selected elements are included in the signature. [XML  
1613 Schema Part 2](#) provides several built-in data types that may be used for identifying and  
1614 referencing elements, but their use requires that consumers of the SOAP message either to have  
1615 or be able to obtain the schemas where the identity or reference mechanisms are defined. In  
1616 some circumstances, for example, intermediaries, this can be problematic and not desirable.

1617 Consequently a mechanism is required for identifying and referencing elements, based on the  
1618 SOAP foundation, which does not rely upon complete schema knowledge of the context in which  
1619 an element is used. This functionality can be integrated into SOAP processors so that elements  
1620 can be identified and referred to without dynamic schema discovery and processing.

1621 This specification specifies a namespace-qualified global attribute for identifying an element  
1622 which can be applied to any element that either allows arbitrary attributes or specifically allows  
1623 this attribute. This is a general purpose mechanism which can be re-used as needed.

1624 A detailed description can be found in [Section 4.0 ID References](#).

### 1625 A.2. Timestamp Elements

1626 The specification defines XML elements which may be used to express timestamp information  
1627 such as creation, expiration, and receipt. While defined in the context of messages, these  
1628 elements can be re-used wherever these sorts of time statements need to be made.

1629 The elements in this specification are defined and illustrated using time references in terms of the  
1630 *dateTime* type defined in XML Schema. It is RECOMMENDED that all time references use this  
1631 type for interoperability. It is further RECOMMENDED that all references be in UTC time for  
1632 increased interoperability. If, however, other time types are used, then the *ValueType* attribute  
1633 MUST be specified to indicate the data type of the time format.

1634 The following table provides an overview of these elements:

Element	Description
<wsu:Created>	This element is used to indicate the creation time associated with the enclosing context.
<wsu:Expires>	This element is used to indicate the expiration time associated with the enclosing context.

<wsu:Received>	This element is used to indicate the receipt time reference associated with the enclosing context.
----------------	--

1635 A detailed description can be found in Section [10 Message Timestamp](#).

### 1636 **A.3. General Schema Types**

1637 The schema for the utility aspects of this specification also defines some general purpose  
 1638 schema elements. While these elements are defined in this schema for use with this  
 1639 specification, they are general purpose definitions that may be used by other specifications as  
 1640 well.

1641 Specifically, the following schema elements are defined and can be re-used:

Schema Element	Description
wsu:commonAtts attribute group	This attribute group defines the common attributes recommended for elements. This includes the <code>wsu:Id</code> attribute as well as extensibility for other namespace qualified attributes.
wsu:AttributedDateTime type	This type extends the XML Schema <code>dateTime</code> type to include the common attributes.
wsu:AttributedURI type	This type extends the XML Schema <code>dateTime</code> type to include the common attributes.

1642

---

## 1643 Appendix B: SecurityTokenReference Model

1644 This appendix provides a non-normative overview of the usage and processing models for the  
1645 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference> element.

1646 There are several motivations for introducing the <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
1647 element:

1648 The XML Signature reference mechanisms are focused on "key" references rather than general  
1649 token references.

1650 The XML Signature reference mechanisms utilize a fairly closed schema which limits the  
1651 extensibility that can be applied.

1652 There are additional types of general reference mechanisms that are needed, but are not covered  
1653 by XML Signature.

1654 There are scenarios where a reference may occur outside of an XML Signature and the XML  
1655 Signature schema is not appropriate or desired.

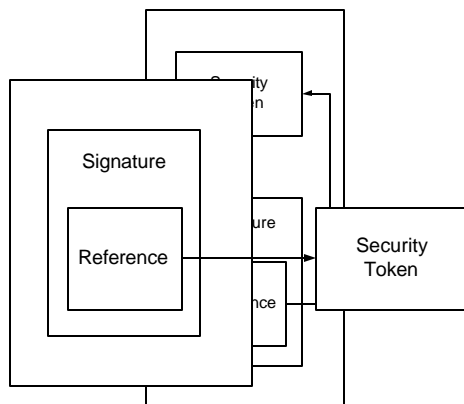
1656 The XML Signature references may include aspects (e.g. transforms) that may not apply to all  
1657 references.

1658

1659 The following use cases drive the above motivations:

1660 **Local Reference** – A security token, that is included in the message in the <wsse:Security>  
1661 header, is associated with an XML Signature. The figure below illustrates this:

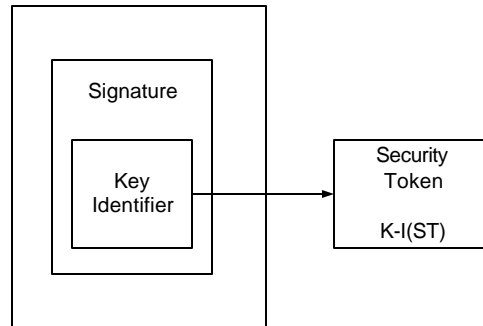
1662



1663 **Remote Reference** – A security token, that is not included in the message but may be available  
1664 at a specific URI, is associated with an XML Signature. The figure below illustrates this:

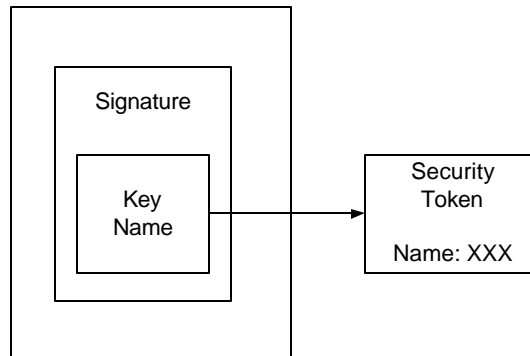
1665

1666 **Key Identifier** – A security token, which is associated with an XML Signature and identified using

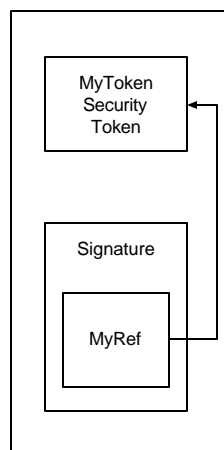


1667 a known value that is the result of a well-known function of the security token (defined by the  
1668 token format or profile). The figure below illustrates this where the token is located externally:  
1669

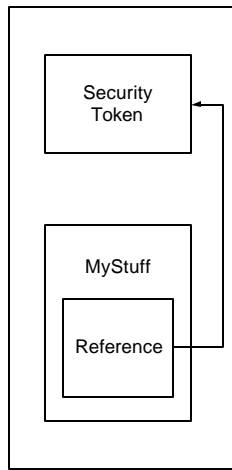
1670 **Key Name** – A security token is associated with an XML Signature and identified using a known  
1671 value that represents a "name" assertion within the security token (defined by the token format or  
1672 profile). The figure below illustrates this where the token is located externally:



1673 **Format-Specific References** – A security token is associated with an XML Signature and  
1674 identified using a mechanism specific to the token (rather than the general mechanisms  
1675



1676 described above). The figure below illustrates this:  
1677



1678

1679

1680

1681

1682

1683

**Non-Signature References** – A message may contain XML that does not represent an XML signature, but may reference a security token (which may or may not be included in the message). The figure below illustrates this:

1684

1685

1686

All conformant implementations **MUST** be able to process the `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` element. However, they are not required to support all of the different types of references.

1687

1688

The reference **MAY** include a *ValueType* attribute which provides a "hint" for the type of desired token.

1689

If multiple sub-elements are specified, together they describe the reference for the token.

1690

There are several challenges that implementations face when trying to interoperate:

1691

1692

1693

1694

1695

1696

**ID References** – The underlying XML referencing mechanism using the XML base type of ID provides a simple straightforward XML element reference. However, because this is an XML type, it can be bound to *any* attribute. Consequently in order to process the IDs and references requires the recipient to *understand* the schema. This may be an expensive task and in the general case impossible as there is no way to know the "schema location" for a specific namespace URI.

1697

1698

1699

**Ambiguity** – The primary goal of a reference is to uniquely identify the desired token. ID references are, by definition, unique by XML. However, other mechanisms such as "principal name" are not required to be unique and therefore such references may be unique.

1700

1701

1702

1703

1704

1705

The XML Signature specification defines a `<ds:KeyInfo>` element which is used to provide information about the "key" used in the signature. For token references within signatures, it is **RECOMMENDED** that the `<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>` be placed within the `<ds:KeyInfo>`. The XML Signature specification also defines mechanisms for referencing keys by identifier or passing specific keys. As a rule, the specific mechanisms defined in WSS: SOAP Message Security or its profiles are preferred over the mechanisms in XML Signature.

1706

1707

The following provides additional details on the specific reference mechanisms defined in WSS: SOAP Message Security:

1708

1709

1710

1711

1712

**Direct References** – The `<wsse:Reference>` element is used to provide a URI reference to the security token. If only the fragment is specified, then it references the security token within the document whose *wsu:Id* matches the fragment. For non-fragment URIs, the reference is to a [potentially external] security token identified using a URI. There are no implied semantics around the processing of the URI.

1713

1714

**Key Identifiers** – The `<wsse:KeyIdentifier>` element is used to reference a security token by specifying a known value (identifier) for the token, which is determined by applying a special

1715 *function* to the security token (e.g. a hash of key fields). This approach is typically unique for the  
1716 specific security token but requires a profile or token-specific function to be specified. The  
1717 *ValueType* attribute provide a *hint* as to the desired token type. The *EncodingType* attribute  
1718 specifies how the unique value (identifier) is encoded. For example, a hash value may be  
1719 encoded using base 64 encoding (the default).

1720 **Key Names** – The `<ds:KeyName>` element is used to reference a security token by specifying a  
1721 specific value that is used to *match* identity assertion within the security token. This is a subset  
1722 match and may result in multiple security tokens that match the specified name. While XML  
1723 Signature doesn't imply formatting semantics, WSS: SOAP Message Security RECOMMENDS  
1724 that X.509 names be specified.

1725 It is expected that, where appropriate, profiles define if and how the reference mechanisms map  
1726 to the specific token profile. Specifically, the profile should answer the following questions:

1727 What types of references can be used?  
1728 How "Key Name" references map (if at all)?  
1729 How "Key Identifier" references map (if at all)?  
1730 Any additional profile or format-specific references?  
1731  
1732



1733

---

## Appendix C: Revision History

Rev	Date	What
01	20-Sep-02	Initial draft based on input documents and editorial review
02	24-Oct-02	Update with initial comments (technical and grammatical)
03	03-Nov-02	Feedback updates
04	17-Nov-02	Feedback updates
05	02-Dec-02	Feedback updates
06	08-Dec-02	Feedback updates
07	11-Dec-02	Updates from F2F
08	12-Dec-02	Updates from F2F

1734

1735

---

## Appendix D: Notices

1736 OASIS takes no position regarding the validity or scope of any intellectual property or other rights  
1737 that might be claimed to pertain to the implementation or use of the technology described in this  
1738 document or the extent to which any license under such rights might or might not be available;  
1739 neither does it represent that it has made any effort to identify any such rights. Information on  
1740 OASIS's procedures with respect to rights in OASIS specifications can be found at the OASIS  
1741 website. Copies of claims of rights made available for publication and any assurances of licenses  
1742 to be made available, or the result of an attempt made to obtain a general license or permission  
1743 for the use of such proprietary rights by implementors or users of this specification, can be  
1744 obtained from the OASIS Executive Director.

1745 OASIS invites any interested party to bring to its attention any copyrights, patents or patent  
1746 applications, or other proprietary rights which may cover technology that may be required to  
1747 implement this specification. Please address the information to the OASIS Executive Director.

1748 Copyright © OASIS Open 2002. *All Rights Reserved.*

1749 This document and translations of it may be copied and furnished to others, and derivative works  
1750 that comment on or otherwise explain it or assist in its implementation may be prepared, copied,  
1751 published and distributed, in whole or in part, without restriction of any kind, provided that the  
1752 above copyright notice and this paragraph are included on all such copies and derivative works.  
1753 However, this document itself does not be modified in any way, such as by removing the  
1754 copyright notice or references to OASIS, except as needed for the purpose of developing OASIS  
1755 specifications, in which case the procedures for copyrights defined in the OASIS Intellectual  
1756 Property Rights document must be followed, or as required to translate it into languages other  
1757 than English.

1758 The limited permissions granted above are perpetual and will not be revoked by OASIS or its  
1759 successors or assigns.

1760 This document and the information contained herein is provided on an "AS IS" basis and OASIS  
1761 DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO  
1762 ANY WARRANTY THAT THE USE OF THE INFORMATION HEREIN WILL NOT INFRINGE  
1763 ANY RIGHTS OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A  
1764 PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

1765