

1 **SAML Conformance Clause**

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14 **Abstract**

15 This document describes the conformance clause for the SAML
16 specification.

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18 **Referenced Documents**

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20 1. <http://www.itl.nist.gov/div897/ctg/conformProject.shtml>

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22 2. <http://lists.oasis-open.org/archives/conformance/200104/msg00000.html>

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24 3. XML Protocol specification conformance issues

25 **Notational Conventions**

26 The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT",
27 "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this
28 document are to be interpreted as described in Key Words for Use in
29 RFC's to Indicate Requirement Levels (RFC 2119).

30 **Status of this Document**

31 This document represents work in progress upon which no reliance should
32 be made.

33 **Document Version History**

34 o Version 0.001: Initial version

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51 1 Conformance Clause

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53 1.1 Introduction

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55 The SAML conformance would be expressed by three orthogonal dimensions.

- 56 • The first dimension is a profile, which is a subset of the overall
- 57 specifications that includes all of the functionality necessary to
- 58 satisfy the requirements of a particular community of users. The
- 59 profiles for SAML are authentication authority, authorization
- 60 authority, attribute authority, session authority, Policy decision
- 61 authority and policy enforcement authority.
- 62 • The second dimension is the role of a system - consumer, producer or
- 63 producer-consumer.
- 64 • The third dimension is the binding viz http, xmlp, soap, ebXML et al.

65 1.1.1 Conformance Nomenclature

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67 The nomenclature for expressing SAML conformance would be two SAML
68 conformance matrices as follows:

69 1. Profile-Role Table :

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<i>Profile</i>	<i>Consumer</i>	<i>Producer</i>	<i>Producer/Consumer</i>
<i>Authentication authority</i>	y	y	y
<i>Authorization authority</i>	y	y	y
<i>Attribute authority</i>	y	y	y
<i>Session authority</i>	y	y	y
<i>Policy decision authority</i>	y	y	y
<i>Policy enforcement authority</i>	y	y	y

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2. Profile-Bindings Table:

Profile	http	xmlp	SOAP	BEEP
Authentication authority	y	y	y	Y
Authorization authority	y	y	y	Y
Attribute authority	y	y	y	Y
Session authority	y	y	y	Y
Policy decision authority	y	y	y	Y
Policy enforcement authority	y	y	y	Y

74 1.1.2 Mandatory/Optional :

75 All conformances profiles/roles and bindings are mandatory and there are no
76 optional characteristics. i.e. if a system describes itself as conforming
77 to a SAML Authorization authority, producer-consumer over http and SOAP, it
78 has to consume and produce *all* SAML authentication assertions and be able
79 to support the http and SOAP bindings described in the SAML specifications.

80 1.1.3 Extensions :

81 There are no mechanisms for the extension of SAML features.

82 1.1.4 Implementation Defined Features

83 TBD.

84 1.1.5 Alternate approaches

85 The different transport mechanisms are covered under the bindings
86 dimension.

87 1.2 Profiles

88 <Describe the profiles and relevant use case sections>

89 1.3 Roles

90 <Describe the roles and relevant use case sections>

91 1.4 Bindings

92 <Describe the bindings and relevant use cases sections>

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94 **2 Things To Do**

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