

2003-11-13 WSDM UPlat Conference Call Minutes

Agenda

- Let's agree on more of the definitions (what and why) of the platform features that remain.
 - meta data
 - transaction
 - collection
 - correlatable name
 - security
 - etc.

Action Items

- Homayoun. Update the wording for Meta data.
- Andreas D. Update the wording for Policy.
- John. Add something to Security about Policy. And add How.

Motions

- None.

Summary

- Kept going through the document. Andreas sent out a new version before the meeting with all the latest inputs.
- Discussed Meta Data. Decided that Policy was different from Meta Data. Consensus that meta data is descriptive, while Policy is prescriptive. Agreed to reword based on the discussion.
- Discussed Policy. Agreed to reword some sections and remove examples from the What to make is shorter and more focused.
- Discussed Security. Noted that there is a relationship between Policy and Security, as there will be Security Policies. Will add some words to clarify this. Will want to take all the definitions into a Glossary at some point for clarity. How section will refer to WS-Security and related standards.
- Remember that the next UPlat meeting is Tuesday, 18 November.

Meeting Notes

- John as scribe.
- No comments on previous minutes, approved as sent out.
- Let's agree on more of the definitions (what and why) of the platform features that remain. Went through the document that Andreas has been updating.
 - meta data.
 - Liked having examples, even if a bit repetitive.
 - If policies are meta data, do we need a separate section? Think we do, because

they are also independent of manageable resources.

- Is there a distinction between policies and meta data? Or are they simply very important and worth describing separately?
- Perhaps the policy, needing a separate language, being prescriptive, is different from meta data, being descriptive. If we say meta data doesn't influence the behavior, then policy would not be meta data.
- Why? - relates to higher level purposes. Or needed to put the data in context. Helps “make sense” out of the data.
- Discussion that What and Why are mixed together in the current text.
- Suggested rewording. Move the “in the context of management” to Why section.
- Scalability is one reason why it is important. Can't rely on hard-coded information about the data. Heterogeneous environment, federated management. Need for introspection.
- Management can't afford to hard-code the meta data, it needs to be able to receive it at run-time.
- What – XML schema is meta data about XML, XML annotations are meta data about XML schema.
- Policy.
 - Heather added constraints to second item in What.
 - Heather asked about third item. Igor asked if it is just the manageability or the resource. Discussion about who the requirements apply to, consumer or provider or resource. Policies are requirements. And they affect the consumer as well.
 - Heather – two kinds of policies. 1 – advertised behavior – end of story, you as consumer has to conform. 2 – governs behavior of the resource.
 - Need a way to express the policy. Both use same language, perhaps.
 - Resource may need to get the policy or manager may push a policy to the resource.
 - Need to express these two cases in the What and Why.
 - Why – 1. to convey information to the clients about how resource works so it can be used. Such as a specific security mechanism. 2. to get information to the resource about how to work. Such as specific behavior.
 - Homayoun suggested UPlat leverage the roles from UArch. Refer to the Consumer and Provider, not client and resource.
- Security.
 - May need to refer to Security Policy as an example.
 - How is encryption expressed? It would be advertised as part of a Policy.
 - Security is provided by this feature, though the security configuration may show up in a Policy. And both types of Policy referred to in Policy, those items that affect the consumer.
- Reminder that we are meeting next Tuesday.

END OF MEETING.