SAML
Conformance Sub-Group Report

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Face-to-face meeting
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Topics

- Status
- Proposal for "Partitions"
- Proposal for Validation vs. Certification
- Proposal for Test Groups / Test Cases
- Discussion of test suite (Lynne Rosenthal / Mark Skall)

Status

- Conformance Clause
  - Version 0.006 in SAML spec
  - Includes proposals for partitions/roles/levels, mandatory/optional, validation/certification

- Conformance Program
  - Version 0.005 available
  - Includes cut at test cases for Authentication Authority Partition, including traceability

- Certification
  - Preliminary discussions underway
  - Focus on validation for SAML V1

- Test suite
  - Discussion of test tools scheduled for F2F

- Traceability of SAML to S2ML, AuthXML…
  - To be done

Proposal for "Conformance Partitions"

- Means of grouping SAML functionality to allow subsets of conformance by implementations or applications
    - Authentication authority partition
        - Produce/consume valid authentication assertions and references
        - Valid request/response messages for authentication assertions and authentication assertion references using specific bindings
    - Authorization authority partition
    - Attribute authority partition
    - Session authority partition
    - Policy Decision authority partition
    - Policy Enforcement authority partition
- Each partition requires one or more roles (producer, consumer, both) to be supported
- Implementation or application claiming conformance to a given partition must specify which bindings for that partition it supports

Validation/Certification

- Validation: conformance claim based on successful run of entire set of tests for given partition(s) / level(s)
  - Target for SAML v1
- Certification: third-party attestation to meeting criteria for conformance to partition(s) / level(s)
  - Under investigation

Tests

- Organize in groups corresponding to partitions
- Within each group, test cases define:
  - Purpose of test (conditions, requirements, or capabilities to be tested)
  - Pass/fail criteria
  - Use cases / requirements addressed by test case
- For each test group, achieve unique set of test cases that addresses all relevant use cases and requirements
- Across all test groups, ensure that all use cases and requirements have been addressed

Components of a Test Suite

Test Harness

Test Cases

Test Scenario

Test Assertions, Axioms, Semantic Requirements

Specification