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Abstract:

This document describes how to use X509 Certificates with the [WS-Security](#) specification.

Status:

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

Committee members should send comments on this specification to the wss@lists.oasis-open.org list. Others should subscribe to and send comments to the wss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org list. To subscribe, visit <http://lists.oasis-open.org/ob/adm.pl>.

For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to

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the Intellectual Property Rights section of the Security Services TC web page
(<http://www.oasis-open.org/who/intellectualproperty.shtml>).

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51 **1 Introduction**

52 This specification describes the use of X509 certificates with respect to the [WS-Security](#)
53 specification.

54 Note that Section 1 is non-normative.

2 Notations and Terminology

55

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

2.1 Notational Conventions

57

58 The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD",
59 "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be
60 interpreted as described in RFC2119.

61 Namespace URIs (of the general form "some-URI") represent some application-dependent or
62 context-dependent URI as defined in RFC2396.

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

67 Readers are presumed to be familiar with the terms in the Internet Security Glossary.

2.2 Namespaces

68

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

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

73 The following namespaces are used in this document:

74

Prefix	Namespace
S	http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope
ds	http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#
xenc	http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#
wsse	http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/secext
wsu	http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/xx/utility

2.3 Terminology

75

76 This specification employs the terminology defined in the WS-Security Core Specification.

77 Defined below are the basic definitions for additional terminology used in this specification.

3 Usage

79

80 This section describes the profile (specific mechanisms and procedures) for the X509
81 binding of [WS-Security](#).

82 **Identification:** urn:oasis:names:tc:WSS:1.0:bindings:WSS-X509-binding

83 **Contact information:** TBD

84 **Description:** Given below.

85 **Updates:** None.

3.1 Processing Model

86

87 The processing model for [WS-Security](#) with X509 certificates is no different from that
88 of [WS-Security](#) with other token formats as described in [WS-Security](#).

3.2 Attaching Security Tokens

89

90 The WS-Security specification indicates that X.509 certificates MAY be described
91 inside of a `<ds:KeyInfo>` element, however, it is RECOMMENDED that they be
92 specified using a `<wsse:BinarySecurityToken>`. If, however, an implementation
93 needs to use `<ds:KeyInfo>`, it SHOULD place the `<ds:KeyInfo>` element as a child
94 of the `<wsse:Security>` header rather than embedded within the signature. This
95 allows receivers to have a single processing model.

96 The following value spaces are defined for @ValueType:

QName	Description
wsse:X509v3	X.509 v3 certificate

97

98 The following example illustrates a SOAP message with an X509 Certificate.

```
99 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
100   <S:Header>
101     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">
102       <wsse:BinarySecurityToken
103         xmlns:wsse="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2002/04/secext"
104         Id="myToken"
105         ValueType="wsse:X509v3"
106         EncodingType="wsse:Base64Binary">
107           MIIIEZzCCA9CgAwIBAgIQEmtJZc0...
108         </wsse:BinarySecurityToken>
109       ...
110     </wsse:Security>
111   </S:Header>
112   <S:Body>
113     ...
114   </S:Body>
115 </S:Envelope>
```

116
117
118

```
</S:Body>  
</S:Envelope>
```

119 **3.3 Identifying and Referencing Security Tokens**

120 [TBS]

121

122 **3.4 Proof-of-Possession of Security Tokens**

123 As previously stated, the [WS-Security](#) specification does not dictate how subject
124 confirmation must be performed.

125 [TBS]

126 **3.5 Error Codes**

127 When using X509 Certificates, it is RECOMMENDED to use the error codes defined in
128 the [WS-Security](#) specification. However, implementations MAY use custom errors,
129 defined in private namespaces if they desire. Care should be taken not to introduce
130 security vulnerabilities in the errors returned.

131 **3.6 Threat Model and Countermeasures**

132 The use of X509 certificates with [WS-Security](#) introduces no new threats beyond
133 those identified for WS-Security with other types of security tokens.

134 Message alteration and eavesdropping can be addressed by using the integrity and
135 confidentiality mechanisms described in WS-Security. Replay attacks can be
136 addressed by using message timestamps and caching, as well as other application-
137 specific tracking mechanisms. For X.509 certificates ownership is verified by use of
138 keys, man-in-the-middle attacks are generally mitigated.

139 It is strongly RECOMMENDED that all relevant and immutable message data be
140 signed.

141 It should be noted that transport-level security MAY be used to protect the message
142 and the security token.

143

4 Acknowledgements

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146 The input specifications for this document were developed as a result of joint work with many
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149 Microsoft, David Melgar, IBM, Dan Simon, Microsoft, Wayne Vicknair, IBM.

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165 [T-REC-X.509-200003-I](http://www.itu.int/rec/recommendation.asp?type=items&lang=e&parent=T-REC-X.509-200003-I)
- 166

167

Appendix A: Revision History

Rev	Date	What
01	18-Sep-02	Initial draft based on input documents and editorial review

168

169

Appendix B: Notices

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