



SAML V2.0 Deployment Profiles for X.509 Subjects

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Related Work:

This specification is an alternative to the *SAML V2.0 Attribute Sharing Profile for X.509 Authentication-Based Systems* [SAMLASP].

Declared XML Namespace(s):

urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:X509:query

Abstract:

This related set of SAML V2.0 deployment profiles specifies how a principal who has been issued an X.509 identity certificate is represented as a SAML Subject, how an assertion regarding such a principal is produced and consumed, and finally how two entities exchange attributes about such a principal.

36 **Status:**

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116 1 Introduction

117 This related set of *SAML V2.0 Deployment Profiles for X.509 Subjects* describes how a principal who has
118 been issued an X.509 identity certificate is represented as a SAML Subject, how an assertion regarding
119 such a principal is produced and consumed, and finally how two entities exchange attributes about such a
120 principal.

118 1.1 Terminology

119 This specification uses normative text to describe the use of SAML assertions and attribute queries for
120 X.509 subjects.

120 The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD
121 NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this specification are to be interpreted as
122 described in [RFC 2119]:

121 ...they MUST only be used where it is actually required for interoperation or to limit behavior
122 which has potential for causing harm (e.g., limiting retransmissions)...

122 These keywords are thus capitalized when used to unambiguously specify requirements over protocol and
123 application features and behavior that affect the interoperability and security of implementations. When
124 these words are not capitalized, they are meant in their natural-language sense.

123 Listings of XML schemas appear like this.

124 Example code listings appear like this.

126 Conventional XML namespace prefixes are used throughout the listings in this specification to stand for
127 their respective namespaces as follows, whether or not a namespace declaration is present in the
128 example:

Prefix	XML Namespace	Comments
saml:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion	This is the SAML V2.0 assertion namespace [SAMLCore]. This is the default namespace used throughout this document.
samlp:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol	This is the SAML V2.0 protocol namespace [SAMLCore].
md:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata	This is the SAML V2.0 metadata namespace [SAMLMeta].
query:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:ext:query	This is the SAML metadata query extension namespace [SAMLMeta-Ext].
x509qry:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:X509:query	This is the SAML X.509 query namespace defined by this document and its accompanying schema [X509Query-XSD].
ds:	http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#	This is the W3C XML Signature namespace, defined in the XML-Signature Syntax and Processing specification and schema [XMLSig-XSD].
xenc:	http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#	This is the W3C XML Encryption namespace, defined in the XML Encryption Syntax and Processing specification [XMLEnc] and schema [XMLEnc-XSD].
xs:	http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema	This is the XML Schema namespace [Schema1].

Prefix	XML Namespace	Comments
xsi:	http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance	This is the XML Schema namespace for schema-related markup that appears in XML instances [Schema1].

127 This specification uses the following typographical conventions in text: <UnqualifiedElement>,
128 <ns:QualifiedElement>, Attribute, **Datatype**, OtherKeyword.

128 The term *identity provider* as used in this specification refers to a typical SAML attribute authority
129 [SAMLGloss]. The term *service provider* refers to a SAML attribute requester. However, as used in this
130 specification, a service provider is not a typical SAML service provider since it performs X.509
131 authentication in lieu of consuming a SAML authentication assertion.

129 The term *X.509 identity certificate* as used in this specification refers to an X.509 end entity certificate
130 [RFC3280] or a certificate based on an X.509 end entity certificate (such as an X.509 proxy certificate
131 [RFC3820]).

130 1.2 Outline

131 Section 2 describes how a principal who has been issued an X.509 identity certificate is represented as a
132 SAML Subject. Section 3 describes in detail how a service provider and identity provider exchange
133 attributes about a principal who has been issued an X.509 identity certificate. Section 4 describes the
134 special case where the requester is the subject of the query, that is, where the principal self-queries for
135 attributes. Finally, section 5 specifies requirements that all conforming implementations must follow.

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2 X.509 SAML Subject Profile

The X.509 SAML Subject Profile describes how a principal who has been issued an X.509 identity certificate is represented as a SAML V2.0 Subject.

2.1 Required Information

Identification:

urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:query:attribute:X509-subject

Contact information: security-services-comment@lists.oasis-open.org

Description: Given below.

Updates: N/A

Extends: N/A

2.2 Profile Description

This deployment profile specifies a SAML V2.0 `<saml:Subject>` element that represents a principal who has been issued an X.509 identity certificate. An entity that produces a `<saml:Subject>` element according to this deployment profile MUST have previously determined that the principal does in fact possess the corresponding private key.

2.3 `<saml:Subject>` Usage

The `<saml:Subject>` element MUST contain exactly one of `<saml:NameID>` or `<saml:EncryptedID>`. The `<saml:Subject>` element MAY contain one or more `<saml:SubjectConfirmation>` elements that are out of scope for this deployment profile.

2.3.1 `<saml:NameID>` Usage

If the `<saml:Subject>` element contains a `<saml:NameID>` element, the following requirements MUST be satisfied:

- The value of the `<saml:NameID>` element is the Subject Distinguished Name (DN) from the principal's X.509 identity certificate.
- The `<saml:NameID>` element MUST have a `Format` attribute whose value is `urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName`. Thus the DN value of the `<saml:NameID>` element MUST satisfy the rules of section 8.3.3 of [SAMLCore]. Moreover, for the purposes of this deployment profile, the DN value MUST conform to RFC 2253 [RFC2253].
- As specified in [SAMLCore], the `NameQualifier` attribute of the `<saml:NameID>` element SHOULD be omitted.

2.3.2 `<saml:EncryptedID>` Usage

If the `<saml:Subject>` element contains a `<saml:EncryptedID>` element, the content of the enclosed `<xenc:EncryptedData>` element MUST be an encrypted `<saml:NameID>` element that satisfies the requirements of the previous section.

To encrypt the `<saml:NameID>` element, exactly one of the following procedures MUST be followed:

- The producer generates a new symmetric key to encrypt the `<saml:NameID>` element. After

206 performing the encryption, the producer places the resulting ciphertext in the
207 <xenc:EncryptedData> element. The symmetric key MUST be encrypted with the consumer's
208 public key and the resulting ciphertext MUST be placed in the <xenc:EncryptedKey> element.

- 207 • The producer uses a symmetric key previously established with the consumer to encrypt the
208 <saml:NameID> element. After performing the encryption, the producer places the resulting
209 ciphertext in the <xenc:EncryptedData> element. In this case, however, the
210 <saml:EncryptedID> element MUST NOT contain an <xenc:EncryptedKey> element.

208 A symmetric key transmitted in an <xenc:EncryptedKey> element MUST NOT be later reused by the
209 producer as a previously established symmetric key.

209 2.4 Example

210 An example of an unencrypted X.509 SAML Subject:

```
211 <!-- unencrypted X.509 SAML Subject -->  
212 <saml:Subject>  
213   <saml:NameID  
214     Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName">  
215     C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu  
216   </saml:NameID>  
217 </saml:Subject>
```

218 An example of an encrypted X.509 SAML Subject:

```
219 <!-- encrypted X.509 SAML Subject -->  
220 <saml:Subject>  
221   <saml:EncryptedID  
222     xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">  
223     <xenc:EncryptedData  
224       Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element">  
225       ...  
226     </xenc:EncryptedData>  
227     <xenc:EncryptedKey  
228       Recipient="https://idp.example.org/saml">  
229       ...  
230     </xenc:EncryptedKey>  
231   </saml:EncryptedID>  
232 </saml:Subject>
```

233 3 SAML Attribute Query Deployment Profile for X.509 234 Subjects

234 The *SAML Attribute Query Deployment Profile for X.509 Subjects* specifies how a service provider and an
235 identity provider exchange attributes about a principal who has been issued an X.509 identity certificate.
236 As such, the profile relies on the X.509 SAML Subject Profile specified in section 2 of this document. Note
237 that the deployment profile specified in section 4 is an extension of this profile.

235 3.1 Profile Overview (non-normative)

236 Consider the use case where a principal attempts to access a secured resource at a service provider.
237 Principal authentication at the service provider is accomplished by presenting a trusted X.509 identity
238 certificate and by demonstrating proof of possession of the associated private key.

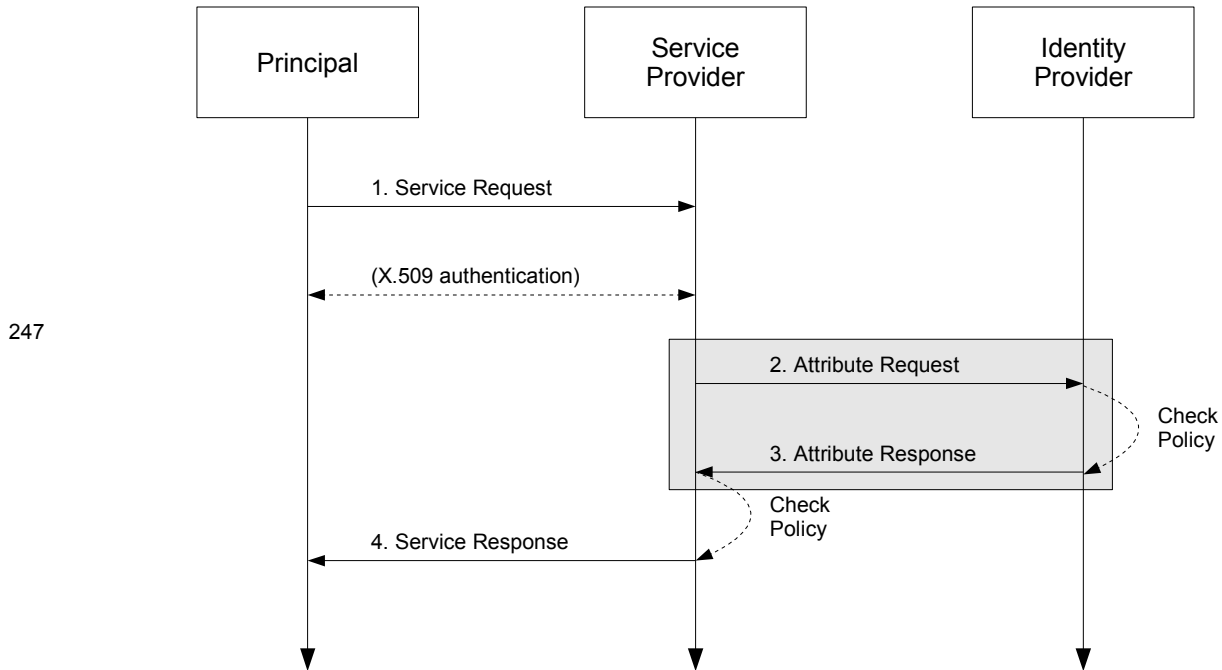
237 After the principal has been authenticated, the service provider requires additional information about the
238 principal in order to determine whether to grant access to the resource. To obtain this information, the
239 service provider uses the Subject Distinguished Name (DN) field (and perhaps other information) from the
240 principal's X.509 identity certificate to query an identity provider for attributes about the principal. Using the
241 attributes received from the identity provider, the service provider is able to make an informed access
242 control decision.

238 This use case is based upon the following assumptions:

- 239 • A principal possesses an X.509 identity credential.
- 240 • The principal wields a client that requests a service from a service provider.
- 241 • The client can access the principal's X.509 identity credential.
- 242 • The principal has an account with a SAML identity provider.
- 243 • The service provider knows the principal's preferred identity provider and is able to query that
244 identity provider for attributes.
- 244 • The identity provider is able to map an X.509 SAML Subject (as defined in section 2 of this
245 document) to one and only one principal in its security domain. In particular, the identity provider is
246 able to map the X.509 SAML Subject that represents this principal.

245 The sequence of steps for the full use case is shown below.

246 **Note:** The steps constrained by this profile are highlighted with a gray box. The other
247 steps are shown only for completeness; the profile does not constrain them.



248 **1. Service Request**

249 In step 1, the principal requests a secured resource from a service provider who requires that the
 250 principal be authenticated. The principal authenticates to the service provider with an X.509 identity
 251 certificate.

250 **2. Attribute Request**

251 In step 2, the service provider sends a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` message to the
 252 identity provider using a SAML SOAP Binding. The Subject DN from the principal's X.509 identity
 253 certificate (presented in step 1) is used to construct the `<saml:Subject>` element.

252 **3. Attribute Response**

253 In step 3, after verifying that the service provider is a valid requester, the identity provider issues a
 254 `<samlp:Response>` message containing appropriate attributes pertaining to the principal. The
 255 attributes returned to the service provider are subject to policy at the identity provider.

254 **4. Service Response**

255 In step 4, based on the attributes received from the identity provider, the service provider returns the
 256 requested resource or an error, subject to policy.

256 Of the sequence of steps described above, it is steps 2 and 3 that are profiled in sections 3.3 and 3.4 of
 257 this deployment profile.

257 **3.2 Required Information**

258 **Identification:**

259 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:query:attribute:X509

259 **Contact information:** security-services-comment@lists.oasis-open.org

260 **Description:** Given below.

261 **Updates:** N/A

262 **Extends:** Assertion Query/Request Profile [SAMLProf]

263 **3.3 Profile Description**

264 This deployment profile describes the use of the SAML V2.0 Assertion Query and Request Protocol
265 [SAMLCore] in conjunction with the SAML V2.0 SOAP Binding [SAMLBind] to retrieve the attributes of a
266 principal who has authenticated using an X.509 identity certificate. The attribute exchange MUST conform
267 to the Assertion Query/Request Profile given in section 6 of [SAMLProf] unless otherwise specified below.

265 As outlined in section 3.1, a service provider sends a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` message
266 directly to an identity provider. This message contains a name identifier that identifies a principal who has
267 authenticated to the service provider using an X.509 identity certificate. If the identity provider receiving the
268 request can:

- 266 • recognize the name identifier; and
- 267 • fulfill the request subject to any applicable policies;

268 the identity provider responds with a successful `<samlp:Response>` containing the relevant attributes for
269 the identified principal.

269 **3.3.1 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` Issued by Service Provider**

270 To initiate the profile, the service provider uses a synchronous binding such as the SAML SOAP Binding
271 [SAMLBind] to send a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` message to an Attribute Service
272 endpoint at the identity provider. SAML metadata (section 3.8) MAY be used to determine the endpoint
273 locations and bindings supported by the identity provider.

271 The service provider uses information obtained from the principal's X.509 identity certificate to construct
272 the query. As required by the X.509 SAML Subject Profile (section 2), the service provider MUST have
273 previously determined that the principal does in fact possess the corresponding private key. The details of
274 this step are out of scope for this deployment profile.

272 The service provider MUST authenticate itself to the identity provider. SSL 3.0 [SSL3] or TLS 1.0
273 [RFC2246] with client authentication MAY be used for this purpose and to provide integrity protection and
274 confidentiality. Also, the `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` element MAY be signed.

273 **3.3.2 `<samlp:Response>` Issued by Identity Provider**

274 The identity provider MUST process the request as outlined in [SAMLCore]. After processing the message
275 or upon encountering an error, the identity provider MUST return a `<samlp:Response>` message
276 containing an appropriate status code to the service provider to complete the SAML protocol exchange. If
277 the identity provider is successful in locating one or more attributes for this principal, they will be included
278 in the response.

275 The identity provider MUST be able to map the referenced X.509 Subject to one and only one principal in
276 its security domain. If the identity provider is not able to map the `<saml:Subject>` element to a local
277 principal, it MUST return an error.

276 The identity provider processes the `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` element and any enclosed
277 `<saml:Attribute>` elements before returning an assertion containing a
278 `<saml:AttributeStatement>` to the requester. If no `<saml:Attribute>` elements are included in
279 the query, the identity provider returns all attributes for this principal, subject to policy. SAML metadata
280 (section 3.8) MAY be used to determine the attribute requirements of the service provider. If the identity
281 provider is unable to resolve attributes for this principal (for any reason), it MUST return an error.

277 The identity provider MUST authenticate itself to the service provider. Also, either the
278 `<samlp:Response>` element or the `<saml:Assertion>` element (or both) MAY be signed.

278 3.4 Use of SAML Request-Response Protocol

279 As required by the Assertion Query/Request Profile [SAMLProf], the `<samlp:AttributeQuery>`
280 element MUST contain a `<saml:Issuer>` element.

280 3.4.1 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` Usage

281 The request MUST contain a `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` element that conforms to the following rules:

- 282 • The `<saml:Subject>` element MUST conform to the X.509 SAML Subject Profile defined in
283 section 2 of this document.
- 283 • The `<saml:Subject>` element MUST NOT contain a `<saml:SubjectConfirmation>`
284 element.
- 284 • The `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` element MAY include one or more `<saml:Attribute>`
285 elements.

285 3.4.2 `<samlp:Response>` Usage

286 If the request is successful, the `<samlp:Response>` element MUST conform to the following rules. Any
287 assertion(s) included in the response may be encrypted or unencrypted. See section 2 of the SAML V2.0
288 Assertions and Protocols specification [SAMLCore] for general requirements regarding SAML assertions.

287 For each `<saml:Assertion>` element the following conditions MUST be satisfied:

- 288 • The `<saml:Subject>` element (which strongly matches the subject of the query [SAMLCore])
289 SHOULD NOT contain a `<saml:SubjectConfirmation>` element.
- 289 • The `<saml:Assertion>` element MUST contain a `<saml:Conditions>` element with
290 `NotBefore` and `NotOnOrAfter` attributes.
- 290 • The `<saml:Assertion>` element SHOULD contain a `<saml:Audience>` element whose value
291 is identical to the value of the `<saml:Issuer>` element in the request.
- 291 • Other conditions (including other `<saml:Audience>` elements) MAY be included as required by
292 the service provider or at the discretion of the identity provider.
- 292 • The `<saml:Assertion>` element MUST contain at least one `<saml:AttributeStatement>`
293 element and SHOULD contain *only* `<saml:AttributeStatement>` elements.

293 For each `<saml:EncryptedAssertion>` element, the content of the enclosed
294 `<xenc:EncryptedData>` element MUST be an encrypted `<saml:Assertion>` element that satisfies
295 the above requirements.

294 To encrypt the `<saml:Assertion>` element, exactly one of the following procedures MUST be followed:

- 295 • The identity provider generates a new symmetric key to encrypt the `<saml:Assertion>` element.
296 After performing the encryption, the identity provider places the resulting ciphertext in the
297 `<xenc:EncryptedData>` element. The symmetric key MUST be encrypted with the service
298 provider's public key and the resulting ciphertext placed in the `<xenc:EncryptedKey>` element.
- 296 • The identity provider uses a symmetric key previously established with the service provider to
297 encrypt the `<saml:Assertion>` element. After encrypting the `<saml:Assertion>` element
298 using this key, the identity provider places the resulting ciphertext in the `<xenc:EncryptedData>`
299 element. In this case, however, the `<saml:EncryptedAssertion>` element MUST NOT contain
300 an `<xenc:EncryptedKey>` element.

297 See section 3.6 for additional rules regarding encryption.

298 If the request is unsuccessful and the identity provider wishes to return an error, the `<samlp:Response>`

299 element MUST NOT contain a <saml:Assertion> element. Possible error responses include the
300 following:

- 300 • The identity provider MAY return one of the status codes
301 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownAttrProfile or
302 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:InvalidAttrNameOrValue as suggested in
303 section 3.3.2.3 of [SAMLCore].
- 301 • If the identity provider does not recognize the <saml:NameID> element or otherwise is unable to
302 map the <saml:NameID> element to a local principal name, it MAY return the following status
303 code:
304 urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownPrincipal

302 3.5 Example

303 For example, the requester issues the following attribute query:

```
304 <samlp:AttributeQuery
305   xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
306   xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
307   ID="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fe114412ab72"
308   Version="2.0"
309   IssueInstant="2006-07-17T22:26:40Z">
310   <saml:Issuer>https://sp.example.org/saml</saml:Issuer>
311   <saml:Subject>
312     <saml:NameID
313       Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName">
314       C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
315     </saml:NameID>
316   </saml:Subject>
317   <saml:Attribute
318     xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
319     x500:Encoding="LDAP"
320     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
321     Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.6"
322     FriendlyName="eduPersonPrincipalName">
323   </saml:Attribute>
324   <saml:Attribute
325     xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
326     x500:Encoding="LDAP"
327     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
328     Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.1"
329     FriendlyName="eduPersonAffiliation">
330   </saml:Attribute>
331 </samlp:AttributeQuery>
```

328 After processing the request, the identity provider issues the following response:

```
329 <samlp:Response
330   xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
331   xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
332   InResponseTo="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fe114412ab72"
333   ID="b07b804c-7c29-ea16-7300-4f3d6f7928ac"
334   Version="2.0"
335   IssueInstant="2006-07-17T22:26:41Z">
336   <saml:Issuer>https://idp.example.org/saml</saml:Issuer>
337   <samlp:Status>
338     <samlp:StatusCode
339       Value="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success"/>
340   </samlp:Status>
341   <saml:Assertion
342     xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
343     xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
344     xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
345     xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#"
346     ID="a144e8f3-adad-594a-9649-924517abe933">
```

```

347     Version="2.0"
348     IssueInstant="2006-07-17T22:26:41Z">
349     <saml:Issuer>https://idp.example.org/saml</saml:Issuer>
350     <saml:Subject>
351       <saml:NameID
352         Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-
353 format:X509SubjectName">
354         C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
355       </saml:NameID>
356     </saml:Subject>
357     <saml:Conditions
358       NotBefore="2006-07-17T22:21:41Z"
359       NotOnOrAfter="2006-07-17T22:51:41Z">
360       <saml:AudienceRestriction>
361         <saml:Audience>https://sp.example.org/saml</saml:Audience>
362       </saml:AudienceRestriction>
363     </saml:Conditions>
364     <saml:AttributeStatement>
365       <saml:Attribute
366         xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:x500"
367         x500:Encoding="LDAP"
368         NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
369         Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.6"
370         FriendlyName="eduPersonPrincipalName">
371         <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
372           trscavo@uiuc.edu
373         </saml:AttributeValue>
374       </saml:Attribute>
375       <saml:Attribute
376         xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:x500"
377         x500:Encoding="LDAP"
378         NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
379         Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.1"
380         FriendlyName="eduPersonAffiliation">
381         <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
382           member
383         </saml:AttributeValue>
384         <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
385           staff
386         </saml:AttributeValue>
387       </saml:Attribute>
388     </saml:AttributeStatement>
389   </saml:Assertion>
390 </samlp:Response>

```

390 The attributes in the above example (`eduPersonAffiliation` and `eduPersonPrincipalName`)
391 conform to the MACE-Dir Attribute Profile for SAML 2.0 [MACEAttrib] and are for illustration purposes
392 only.

393 3.6 Use of Encryption

394 If the service provider encrypts the `<saml:NameID>` element in the query, the identity provider SHOULD
395 encrypt any resulting assertions. Moreover, if the service provider uses a previously established symmetric
396 key, the identity provider SHOULD use the same symmetric key to encrypt the assertion. In the case
397 where the service provider generates a new symmetric key, the identity provider MUST treat this key as a
398 previously established key, that is, the identity provider SHOULD use the same symmetric key to encrypt
399 the assertion and MUST NOT encrypt this key into the `<xenc:EncryptedKey>` element.

400 An encryption algorithm satisfying FIPS 140-2 Security Requirements [FIPS 140-2] SHALL be used for all
401 encryption operations.

402 3.7 Use of Digital Signatures

403 If the service provider encrypts the `<saml:NameID>` element in the query, the
404 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` element MUST be signed *after* the encryption operation takes place. If the
405 identity provider encrypts a `<saml:Assertion>` element in the response, the `<saml:Assertion>`
406 element MUST be signed *before* the encryption operation takes place. Whether or not an assertion is
407 encrypted, the `<saml:Response>` element MAY be signed.

408 A signing algorithm satisfying FIPS 140-2 Security Requirements [FIPS 140-2] SHALL be used for all
409 digital signature operations on encrypted elements or elements with encrypted content.

409 3.8 Use of Metadata

410 The identity provider and the service provider MAY use metadata for locating endpoints, communicating
411 key information, and so forth. The use of SAML V2.0 metadata [SAMLMeta], which is RECOMMENDED,
412 is profiled in sections 3.8.1 and 3.8.2 below.

411 3.8.1 Identity Provider Metadata

412 An identity provider that uses SAML V2.0 metadata MUST include an
413 `<md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor>` element that satisfies the following rules:

- 413 • The containing `<md:EntityDescriptor>` element MUST have an `entityID` attribute whose
414 value is the same unique identifier given as the `<saml:Issuer>` element in assertions issued by
415 the identity provider.
- 414 • The `<md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor>` element MUST include an
415 `<md:NameIDFormat>` element with value `"urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-`
416 `format:X509SubjectName"`.
- 415 • One or more `<saml:Attribute>` elements MAY be included in the
416 `<md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor>` element. Since a service provider may choose not to
417 query the identity provider based on the attributes in this list, this list SHOULD be comprehensive or
418 otherwise omitted.

416 To distinguish between this deployment profile and other uses of `X509SubjectName`, an identity provider
417 requires the means to explicitly call out its support of this deployment profile. An XML attribute has been
418 specified for this purpose [X509Query-XSD]:

```
417 <xs:attribute  
418   name="supportsX509Query" type="boolean" use="optional"/>
```

419 Use of this attribute is OPTIONAL. An identity provider that chooses to use this attribute, however, MUST
420 do so as follows:

- 420 • The `<md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor>` element MUST include at least one
421 `<md:AttributeService>` element having attribute `supportsX509Query` set to `"true"`.
- 421 • At least one `<md:AttributeService>` element having attribute `supportsX509Query` set to
422 `"true"` MUST have its `Binding` attribute set to
423 `"urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:bindings:SOAP"`.

422 An example of identity provider metadata follows:

```
423 <!-- An Identity Provider supporting this deployment profile -->  
424 <md:EntityDescriptor  
425   xmlns:md="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"  
426   entityID="https://idp.example.org/saml">  
427  
428   <md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor  
429     protocolSupportEnumeration="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">
```

```

431     <md:AttributeService
432       x509qry:supportsX509Query="true"
433       xmlns:x509qry="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:X509:query"
434       Binding="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:bindings:SOAP"
435       Location="https://idp.example.org:8443/saml-idp/AA"/>
436
437     <md:NameIDFormat>
438       urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName
439     </md:NameIDFormat>
440
441     <!-- see [MACEAttr] -->
442     <md:AttributeProfile>
443       urn:mace:dir:profiles:attribute:samlv2
444     </md:AttributeProfile>
445
446   </md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor>
447
448 </md:EntityDescriptor>

```

449 3.8.2 Service Provider Metadata

450 A service provider that uses SAML V2.0 metadata **MUST** include an `<md:RoleDescriptor>` element
451 that satisfies the following rules:

- 451 • The containing `<md:EntityDescriptor>` element **MUST** have an `entityID` attribute whose
452 value is the same unique identifier used as the `<saml:Issuer>` element in attribute queries
453 issued by the service provider.
- 452 • The type of the `<md:RoleDescriptor>` element **MUST** be derived from type
453 **query:AttributeQueryDescriptorType** [SAMLMeta-Ext].
- 453 • The `<md:RoleDescriptor>` element **MUST** include an `<md:NameIDFormat>` element with
454 value "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName".
- 454 • One or more `<md:RequestedAttribute>` elements **MAY** be included in the
455 `<md:AttributeConsumingService>` element.

455 An example of service provider metadata follows:

```

456 <!-- A Service Provider supporting this profile -->
457 <md:EntityDescriptor
458   xmlns:md="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"
459   entityID="https://sp.example.org/saml">
460
461   <md:RoleDescriptor
462     xmlns:query="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:ext:query"
463     xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
464     xsi:type="query:AttributeQueryDescriptorType"
465     protocolSupportEnumeration="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">
466
467     <md:NameIDFormat>
468       urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName
469     </md:NameIDFormat>
470
471     <md:AttributeConsumingService isDefault="true" index="0">
472       <md:ServiceName xml:lang="en">
473         Grid Service Provider
474       </md:ServiceName>
475       <md:RequestedAttribute
476         NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
477         Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.6"
478         FriendlyName="eduPersonPrincipalName">
479       </md:RequestedAttribute>
480       <md:RequestedAttribute
481         NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
482         Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.1"

```

```
483         FriendlyName="eduPersonAffiliation">
484         </md:RequestedAttribute>
485         </md:AttributeConsumingService>
486
487     </md:RoleDescriptor>
488
489 </md:EntityDescriptor>
```

490 The attributes in the above example (`eduPersonAffiliation` and `eduPersonPrincipalName`)
491 conform to the MACE-Dir Attribute Profile for SAML 2.0 [MACEAttrib] and are for illustration purposes
492 only.

491 **3.9 Security and Privacy Considerations**

492 The motivation for this deployment profile is to specify a secure means of obtaining SAML attributes in
493 conjunction with X.509 authentication.

493 **3.9.1 Background**

494 The SAML Security and Privacy specification [SAMLSecure] provides general background material
495 relevant to all SAML bindings and profiles. Section 6.1 of [SAMLSecure], in particular, considers the
496 security requirements of the SAML SOAP Binding, and is therefore pertinent to this deployment profile. In
497 addition, section 3.1.2 of the SAML Bindings specification [SAMLBind] provides further security guidelines
498 regarding SAML bindings.

495 **3.9.2 General Security Requirements**

496 SAML profiles often involve a system entity that relies on an earlier act of user authentication. For
497 example, the SAML Web Browser SSO Profile [SAMLProf] relies on an authentication service that
498 validates a credential (typically a username/password) for a user. The authentication service must be
499 securely linked to an identity provider that issues SAML authentication assertions based on that user's act
500 of authentication. Similarly, this deployment profile assumes that the system entity that performs the
501 X.509 authentication is operating in a secure environment that includes the attribute requester.

497 In this deployment profile, an end user presents an X.509 identity certificate to authenticate at the service
498 provider. The system entity that performs this authentication (i.e., validates the certificate and its trust
499 chain) must be securely linked to the SAML attribute requester that subsequently initiates this deployment
500 profile. The latter must have a secure means of obtaining the X.509 subject name (and other information)
501 from the certificate and issuing a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` for that subject to the
502 appropriate asserting party. The mechanism by which these system entities are linked is out of scope for
503 this deployment profile.

498 Local policy settings at the attribute authority will determine whether or not the asserting party is permitted
499 to return attributes for the requested subject.

499 **3.9.3 User Privacy**

500 Since a DN persists for the life of the certificate, a service provider may query for attributes at any time.
501 To prevent service providers from querying for attributes after the certificate has expired, an identity
502 provider SHOULD check the lifetime of the referenced certificate before issuing an assertion regarding an
503 X.509 Subject. If the certificate has expired, an error should be returned.

501 As a further privacy measure, the principal may use a short-lived X.509 identity certificate. For example,
502 an X.509 proxy certificate [RFC3820]) may be used.

502 **3.10 Implementation Guidelines (non-normative)**

503 The following non-normative guidelines are provided for the convenience of implementers.

504 **3.10.1 Discovery**

505 The service provider must determine the principal's preferred identity provider. This is called *identity*
506 *provider discovery*.

507 Some possible approaches to identity provider discovery in the context of this deployment profile are
508 discussed briefly below:

- 509 • The identity provider's unique identifier may be preconfigured at the service provider. This is useful,
510 for instance, if there is only one identity provider per deployment.
- 511 • The subject DN of the principal's X.509 identity certificate may include a reference to the identity
512 provider. New deployments are discouraged from decorating long-lived DNs in this manner,
513 however, since this practice may lessen interoperability with existing PKIs. For short-lived X.509
514 identity certificates, this practice may be satisfactory.
- 515 • The issuer DN or the issuer alternative name may provide clues about the principal's preferred
516 identity provider. This technique may not be practical, however, since SAML authorities do not
517 typically issue X.509 credentials.
- 518 • A reference to the identity provider may be inserted into a non-critical X.509 extension [RFC3280] at
519 the time the credential is issued. For long-term credentials, this practice may not be feasible, but
520 for short-term credentials, this technique may be satisfactory.

521 This deployment profile does not specify a particular method of identity provider discovery.

522 **3.10.2 Name Mapping**

523 An identity provider that consumes a `<saml:Subject>` element produced according to this deployment
524 profile must be able to map the referenced X.509 Subject to one and only one principal in its security
525 domain. If the identity provider issued the X.509 credential in the first place, or otherwise has access to
526 the principal's X.509 identity certificate, this should be straightforward. Otherwise a persistent certificate
527 registration process to facilitate the mapping of X.509 Subjects to principals may be used.

528 **3.10.3 Canonicalization**

529 According to this deployment profile, the format of the DNs used to construct the `<saml:Subject>`
530 element is dictated by [SAMLCore]. Since the latter allows some flexibility in the precise format of a DN
531 (by virtue of its dependence on [RFC2253]), it may be necessary for an identity provider to canonicalize
532 the DN during the course of mapping it to a local principal name. Note that the details of the
533 canonicalization process are of concern only to the identity provider. As long as the service provider
534 provides a DN whose canonicalization is recognized by the identity provider, the correct mapping will
535 occur.

536 **3.10.4 Identity Provider Policy**

537 Service providers may explicitly enumerate the required attributes in queries or may issue so-called
538 "empty queries" that essentially request all available attributes. Regardless of the attribute requirements
539 called out in the query (or in metadata, if used for this purpose), it is the identity provider that determines
540 the actual attributes returned to the service provider. Thus a responsible identity provider will initiate and
541 enforce policy that strictly limits the attributes released to service providers.

542 **3.10.5 Caching of Attributes**

543 A service provider will most likely provide a capability to cache user attributes returned in assertions. If so,
544 cache expiration settings should be configurable by administrators.

545 4 SAML Attribute Self-Query Deployment Profile for 546 X.509 Subjects

547 The *SAML Attribute Self-Query Deployment Profile for X.509 Subjects* specifies how a principal who has
548 been issued an X.509 identity certificate self-queries an identity provider for attributes. The profile extends
549 the SAML Attribute Query Deployment Profile for X.509 Subjects specified in section 3 of this document.
550 Where the two profiles conflict, this deployment profile takes precedence.

551 4.1 Profile Overview (non-normative)

552 In this scenario, a principal self-queries an identity provider for attributes. The principal uses the Subject
553 Distinguished Name (DN) field (and perhaps other information) from its X.509 identity certificate to
554 formulate the query. Principal authentication is accomplished by presenting a trusted X.509 identity
555 certificate (the same certificate used to construct the query) and by demonstrating proof of possession of
556 the associated private key. After the principal has been authenticated, the identity provider binds the
557 principal's public key to an assertion, which is issued directly to the principal.

558 The principal subsequently requests a secured resource at the service provider. The principal presents
559 the previously obtained assertion to the service provider and demonstrates proof of possession of the
560 corresponding private key. Using the attributes in the assertion, the service provider is able to make an
561 informed access control decision.

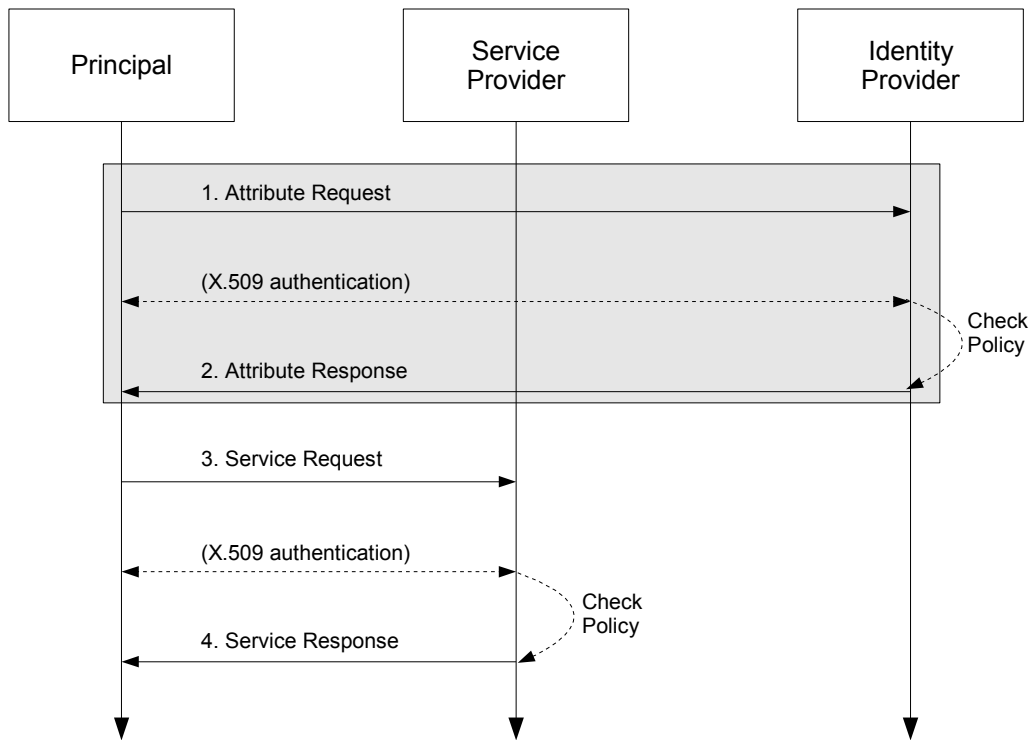
562 This use case is based on the following assumptions:

- 563 • A principal possesses an X.509 credential.
- 564 • The principal wields a client that can both query an identity provider for attributes and request a
565 service from a service provider.
- 566 • The client can access the principal's X.509 credential.
- 567 • The principal has an account with a SAML identity provider.
- 568 • The client knows the principal's preferred identity provider and the attribute requirements of the
569 target service provider.
- 570 • The identity provider is able to map an X.509 SAML Subject (as defined in section 2 of this
571 document) to one and only one principal in its security domain. In particular, the identity provider is
572 able to map the X.509 SAML Subject that represents this principal.

573 Note that in the case of a self-query, the client possesses significantly more functionality than the client
574 alluded to in section 3.1.

575 The sequence of steps for the full use case is shown below.

576 **Note:** The steps constrained by this profile are highlighted with a gray box. The other
577 steps are shown only for completeness; the profile does not constrain them.



578

579 **1. Attribute Request**

580 In step 1, the principal sends a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` message to the identity
 581 provider using a SAML SOAP Binding. The Subject DN from the principal's X.509 identity certificate is
 582 used to construct the `<saml:Subject>` element of the query. The identity provider requires that the
 583 principal be authenticated. The principal authenticates to the identity provider using the same X.509
 584 credential used to construct the query.

585 **2. Attribute Response**

586 In step 2, after verifying that the principal is a valid requester, the identity provider issues a
 587 `<samlp:Response>` message containing appropriate attributes. The attributes returned to the
 588 principal are subject to policy at the identity provider.

589 **3. Service Request**

590 In step 3, the principal requests a secured resource at the service provider. The principal presents the
 591 assertion obtained at step 2 to the service provider. The service provider requires that the principal be
 592 authenticated. The principal authenticates to the service provider using the same X.509 credential
 593 used to authenticate to the identity provider at step 1.

594 **4. Service Response**

595 In step 4, based on the attributes in the pushed assertion, the service provider returns the requested
 596 resource or an error, subject to policy.

597 Of the sequence of steps described above, it is steps 1 and 2 that are profiled in sections 4.3 and 4.4 of
 598 this deployment profile.

599 **4.2 Required Information**

600 **Identification:**

601 `urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:query:attribute:X509-self`

602 **Contact information:** security-services-comment@lists.oasis-open.org

603 **Description:** Given below.

604 **Updates:** N/A

605 **Extends:** SAML Attribute Query Deployment Profile for X.509 Subjects (section 3)

606 **4.3 Profile Description**

607 This deployment profile extends the SAML Attribute Query Deployment Profile for X.509 Subjects
608 described in section 3.3.

609 As outlined in section 4.1, a principal sends a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` message directly
610 to an identity provider. The principal authenticates to the identity provider using an X.509 identity
611 certificate. If the identity provider receiving the request can:

- 612 • recognize the name identifier; and
- 613 • determine that the requester is the principal; and
- 614 • fulfill the request subject to any applicable policies;

615 the identity provider responds with a successful `<samlp:Response>` containing the relevant attributes for
616 the principal. To determine that the requester is the principal, the identity provider MUST authenticate the
617 principal.

618 **4.3.1 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` Issued by Principal**

619 To initiate the profile, the principal uses a synchronous binding such as the SAML SOAP Binding
620 [SAMLBind] to send a SAML V2.0 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` message as described in section 3.3.
621 The principal uses information obtained from its X.509 identity certificate to construct the query. The
622 principal MUST authenticate itself to the identity provider using the same X.509 credential used to
623 construct the query. SSL 3.0 [SSL3] or TLS 1.0 [RFC2246] with client authentication MAY be used for this
624 purpose and to provide integrity protection and confidentiality.

625 **4.3.2 `<samlp:Response>` Issued by Identity Provider**

626 The identity provider MUST process the request as outlined in section 3.3.

627 **4.4 Use of SAML Request-Response Protocol**

628 As required by the Assertion Query/Request Profile [SAMLProf], the `<samlp:AttributeQuery>`
629 element MUST contain a `<saml:Issuer>` element. Since the requester is the principal, the
630 `<saml:Issuer>` element MUST be identical to the `<saml:NameID>` element, that is, both MUST satisfy
631 the rules of the X.509 SAML Subject Profile (section 2).

632 **4.4.1 `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` Usage**

633 The request MUST contain a `<samlp:AttributeQuery>` element that conforms to the rules of
634 section 3.4.1.

635 **4.4.2 `<samlp:Response>` Usage**

636 If the request is successful, the `<samlp:Response>` element MUST conform to the rules of section 3.4.2
637 except as noted below:

- 638 • The `<saml:Subject>` element MUST contain a `<saml:SubjectConfirmation>` element

- 639 whose Method attribute has value "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:cm:holder-of-key".
- 640 • A <saml:SubjectConfirmationData> element MUST be present and it MUST contain a
 - 641 <ds:KeyInfo> element that refers to the principal's X.509 identity certificate.
 - 642 • On the <saml:Conditions> element, the value of the NotBefore attribute (resp., the
 - 643 NotOnOrAfter attribute) MUST be greater than or equal to (resp., less than or equal to) the
 - 644 NotBefore field (resp., the NotOnOrAfter field) of the certificate.
 - 645 • The <saml:Assertion> element MUST be signed.
 - 646 • The <saml:Assertion> element MAY include a <saml:AuthnStatement> element.

647 4.4.3 Processing Rules

648 In addition to the assertion processing rules outlined in [SAMLCore], the service provider MUST verify the
649 following:

- 650 • The <saml:SubjectConfirmationData> element MUST be present and it MUST contain a
- 651 <ds:KeyInfo> element that refers to the principal's X.509 identity certificate.
- 652 • The value of the NotBefore attribute (resp., the NotOnOrAfter attribute) MUST be greater than
- 653 or equal to (resp., less than or equal to) the NotBefore field (resp., the NotOnOrAfter field) of
- 654 the certificate.

655 The certificate referred to in the above processing rules MUST be the same certificate used to construct
656 the <saml:Subject> of the query.

657 4.5 Example

658 For example, the principal issues the following attribute query:

```
659 <samlp:AttributeQuery
660   xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
661   xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
662   ID="aaf23196-1773-2113-474a-fe114412ab72"
663   Version="2.0"
664   IssueInstant="2006-07-17T20:31:40Z">
665   <saml:Issuer
666     Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName">
667     C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
668   </saml:Issuer>
669   <saml:Subject>
670     <saml:NameID
671       Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName">
672       C=US, O=NCSA-TEST, OU=User, CN=trscavo@uiuc.edu
673     </saml:NameID>
674   </saml:Subject>
675   <saml:Attribute
676     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
677     Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.6"
678     FriendlyName="eduPersonPrincipalName">
679   </saml:Attribute>
680   <saml:Attribute
681     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
682     Name="urn:oid:2.5.4.42"
683     FriendlyName="givenName">
684   </saml:Attribute>
685   <saml:Attribute
686     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
687     Name="urn:oid:2.5.4.4"
688     FriendlyName="sn">
689   </saml:Attribute>
690   <saml:Attribute
```



```

756 <saml:AttributeStatement>
757   <saml:Attribute
758     xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
759     x500:Encoding="LDAP"
760     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
761     Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.5923.1.1.1.6"
762     FriendlyName="eduPersonPrincipalName">
763     <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
764       trscavo@uiuc.edu
765     </saml:AttributeValue>
766   </saml:Attribute>
767   <saml:Attribute
768     xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
769     x500:Encoding="LDAP"
770     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
771     Name="urn:oid:2.5.4.42"
772     FriendlyName="givenName">
773     <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
774       Tom
775     </saml:AttributeValue>
776   </saml:Attribute>
777   <saml:Attribute
778     xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
779     x500:Encoding="LDAP"
780     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
781     Name="urn:oid:2.5.4.4"
782     FriendlyName="sn">
783     <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
784       Scavo
785     </saml:AttributeValue>
786   </saml:Attribute>
787   <saml:Attribute
788     xmlns:x500="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:profiles:attribute:X500"
789     x500:Encoding="LDAP"
790     NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
791     Name="urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1.1466.115.121.1.26"
792     FriendlyName="mail">
793     <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
794       trscavo@gmail.com
795     </saml:AttributeValue>
796   </saml:Attribute>
797 </saml:AttributeStatement>
798 </saml:Assertion>

```

799 The attributes in the above example (eduPersonPrincipalName, givenName, sn, and mail) conform
800 to the MACE-Dir Attribute Profile for SAML 2.0 [MACEAttrib] and are for illustration purposes only.

801 4.6 Use of Metadata

802 As outlined in section 3.8, the use of SAML V2.0 metadata [SAMLMeta] is RECOMMENDED, but since a
803 principal is not expected to publish metadata about itself, only the use of identity provider metadata is
804 profiled below. Note, however, that the principal may wield a client that relies on service provider metadata
805 (see, e.g., section 4.8.1), in which case the rules in section 3.8.2 apply as well.

806 4.6.1 Identity Provider Metadata

807 An identity provider that uses SAML V2.0 metadata MUST include an
808 <md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor> element that satisfies the rules given in section 3.8.1, except
809 that in this case the identity provider uses XML attribute supportsX509SelfQuery instead of
810 supportsX509Query [X509Query-XSD]:

```
811 <xsi:attribute
```

812 name="supportsX509SelfQuery" type="boolean" use="optional"/>

813 As before, use of this attribute is OPTIONAL.

814 An example of identity provider metadata follows:

```
815 <!-- An Identity Provider supporting both deployment profiles -->
816 <md:EntityDescriptor
817   xmlns:md="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"
818   entityID="https://idp.example.org/saml">
819
820   <md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor
821     protocolSupportEnumeration="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">
822
823     <md:AttributeService
824       x509qry:supportsX509Query="true"
825       x509qry:supportsX509SelfQuery="true"
826       xmlns:x509qry="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:X509:query"
827       Binding="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:bindings:SOAP"
828       Location="https://idp.example.org:8443/saml-idp/AA"/>
829
830     <md:NameIDFormat>
831       urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-format:X509SubjectName
832     </md:NameIDFormat>
833
834     <!-- see [MACEAttr] -->
835     <md:AttributeProfile>
836       urn:mace:dir:profiles:attribute:samlv2
837     </md:AttributeProfile>
838
839   </md:AttributeAuthorityDescriptor>
840
841 </md:EntityDescriptor>
```

842 Note that this identity provider supports both X.509 attribute query deployment profiles at the same
843 endpoint location.

844 4.7 Security and Privacy Considerations

845 Except for section 3.9.2, the security and privacy considerations outlined in section 3.9 apply equally as
846 well in the case of self-query. As a further privacy measure, a principal may limit the self-query to non-
847 identity attributes (such as givenName) and push the resulting assertion to the service provider who
848 subsequently queries the identity provider for additional attributes (according to the deployment profile in
849 section 3). In this way, a service provider receives only those attributes that are actually required for
850 access.

851 4.8 Implementation Guidelines (non-normative)

852 In addition to the guidelines outlined in section 3.10, the following non-normative guidelines are provided
853 for the convenience of implementers.

854 4.8.1 Discovery

855 In the SAML Attribute Query Deployment Profile for X.509 Subjects (section 3), we encounter the problem
856 of identity provider discovery (section 3.10.1). In the case where the principal self-queries for attributes, we
857 encounter a different problem, which we call *service provider discovery*. In both cases, we assume the
858 client knows the principal's preferred identity provider, so identity provider discovery is a non-issue in the
859 case of self-queries, but in that case the client is faced with a self-query for unknown attributes.

860 If the client had access to the published metadata of potential service providers, and that metadata
861 included the attribute requirements of the service providers, the client would be able to formulate specific
862 attribute queries targeted for specific service providers.

863 This deployment profile does not specify a particular method of service provider discovery.

864 **5 Implementation Conformance**

865 A client implementation of this specification shall be a conforming *Extended Mode X.509 Attribute Query*
866 *Requester* or a conforming *Extended Mode X.509 Attribute Self-Query Requester* (or both). On the server
867 side, an implementation of this specification shall be a conforming *Extended Mode X.509 Attribute Query*
868 *Responder* or a conforming *Extended Mode X.509 Attribute Self-Query Responder*, respectively.

869 An Extended Mode X.509 Attribute Query Requester or Responder MUST conform to the relevant
870 normative statements in section 3. An Extended Mode X.509 Attribute Self-Query Requester or
871 Responder MUST conform to the relevant normative statements in section 4, which includes references to
872 normative portions of section 3.

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