SAML V2.0 Metadata Extensions for Registration and Publication
Information Version 1.0

Working Draft 02

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This specification defines extensions for use with SAML V2.0 Metadata [SAML2Meta].

Declared XML Namespace(s):
urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:rpi

Abstract:
This document defines a set of extensions to SAML metadata that provide information about the
creation and intended usage of the metadata document and information about who and how
particular entities were registered.

Status:
This document is a Working Draft and as such as no official standing with regard to the OASIS
Technical Committee Process.

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1 Introduction

SAML Metadata [SAML2Meta] provides a mechanism for describing the information necessary for various SAML actors to interact. However, it does not provide basic information which may facilitate the business processes surrounding the production, consumption or use of metadata. For example, when a metadata document was created, when an entity was first registered, etc.

The extensions defined in this document are informed by the common registration/publication model found in other network architectures (e.g., DNS, PKI). In this case the registrar is an organization that accepts metadata for a particular entity and vouches for some, or all, of the data contained therein. The publisher is responsible for making information, collected from registrars or other publishers, available, hopefully in a scalable manner, to interested consumers.

1.1 Terminology and Notation

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefix</th>
<th>XML Namespace</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>saml:</td>
<td>urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion</td>
<td>This is the SAML V2.0 assertion namespace defined in the SAML V2.0 core specification [SAML2Errata].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>md:</td>
<td>urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata</td>
<td>This is the SAML V2.0 metadata namespace defined in the SAML V2.0 metadata specification [SAML2Meta].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xsd:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema</a></td>
<td>This namespace is defined in the W3C XML Schema specification [Schema1]. In schema listings, this is the default namespace and no prefix is shown.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>xsi:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance">http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance</a></td>
<td>This is the XML Schema namespace for schema-related markup that appears in XML instances [Schema1].</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This specification uses the following typographical conventions in text: <ns:Element>, Attribute, Datatype, OtherCode.

This specification uses the following typographical conventions in XML listings:

Listings of XML schemas appear like this.

Listings of XML examples appear like this. These listings are non-normative.

1.2 Normative References


2 Metadata Extensions for Registration and Publication Information

2.1 Registration Information

The registration information extension is used to provide information about the registrar of an entity. That is, the entity that took in SAML metadata, verified the metadata according to its registration policy, and made the information available to a wider audience. The entity registrar can be thought of as similar to a DNS registrar.

The `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>` container element, defined below, MUST appear within the `<md:Extensions>` element of `<md:EntityDescriptor>` or `<md:EntitiesDescriptor>` elements. The use of `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>`, or any other element defined in this section, outside of that context is not defined by this specification.

The `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>` element MUST NOT appear more than once within the `<md:Extensions>` element of a given `<md:EntitiesDescriptor>` or `<md:EntityDescriptor>` element.

When a `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>` element appears in the `<md:Extensions>` element of a `<md:EntitiesDescriptor>` element it applies to all descendant `<md:EntitiesDescriptor>` and `<md:EntityDescriptor>` elements. That is to say, this is an optimization to putting an identical `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>` on every descendant `<md:EntityDescriptor>`. When used in this manner, descendant `<md:EntitiesDescriptor>` and `<md:EntityDescriptor>` elements MUST NOT contain a `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>` element in their `<md:Extensions>` element.

2.1.1 Element `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>`

The `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>` contains information that describes the registrar of an entity.

registrationAuthority [Required]

The unique identifier of the authority that registered the entity. It is RECOMMENDED that this be a URL that resolves to a human readable page describing the registrar authority (i.e., the registrar’s home page).

registrationInstant [Optional]

The instant the entity was registered with the authority. This attribute SHOULD be populated for all newly registered entities but is optional because the registration instant may not have been tracked, by the registrar, for existing entities.

Time values MUST be expressed in the UTC timezone using the ‘Z’ timezone identifier.

 `<mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy>` [Optional]

The policy under which the entity was registered.

There SHOULD NOT be more than one `<mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy>`, within a given `<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>`, for a given language.
2.1.2 Element <mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy>

The <mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy> element is a URL to the localized registration policy of the registrar. The URL MUST represent a single, immutable, policy document. Any changes made to an existing policy document MUST result in a new URL. The URL SHOULD resolve to a human readable form of the policy document for the entire period in which the policy may be in use.

2.2 Publication Information

The publication information extension provides information that helps uniquely identify a specific publication of metadata and provide some information about its intended use. The ability to uniquely identify a particular publication can be very helpful in troubleshooting issues as well as facilitating the identification of the path a particular bit of metadata took before it arrived at a consumer (see section 2.3).

The <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> element, defined below, MUST appear within the <md:Extensions> element of either <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or <md:EntityDescriptor> elements. The use of <mdrpi:PublicationInfo>, or any other element defined in this section, outside of that context is not defined by this specification.

The <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> element SHOULD only be used on the root element of a metadata document.

The <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> element MUST NOT appear more than once within the <md:Extensions> element of a given <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or <md:EntityDescriptor> element.

2.2.1 Element <mdrpi:PublicationInfo>

The <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> element contains information which pertains to the publication of a metadata document. Within a given <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> either the <mdrpi:CreationInstant> or <mdrpi:SerialNumber> element SHOULD be present.

**publisher** [Required]

A unique identifier for the publisher of the metadata. This may be the location from which the metadata was retrieved, an abstracted identifier such as a SAML entity ID, or some other unique identifier for the publisher.

**creationInstant** [Optional]

The instant the metadata publication was created. Creation is loosely defined as the moment when the metadata publication is ready for consumption by external processes. This may, for example, correspond to the time a document is signed.

Time values MUST be expressed in the UTC timezone using the 'Z' timezone identifier.
publicationId [Optional]

A unique, publisher-specific, identifier for this metadata publication. This identifier MAY change
independently of the ID attribute found on <md:EntitiesDescriptor> and
<md:EntityDescriptor> elements. For example, if a metadata document is auto-generated,
the ID attribute may change upon each generation but the publicationId may only change if
a particular set of data of changes.

The publicationId MUST be considered an opaque string.

<mdrpi:UsagePolicy> [Optional]

A URL to a document providing a human readable description of the intended usage for the
metadata document.

There SHOULD NOT be more than one <mdrpi:UsagePolicy>, within a given
<mdrpi:PublicationInfo>, for a given language.

2.2.2 Element <mdrpi:UsagePolicy>

The <mdrpi:UsagePolicy> element is a URL to a localized description of the intended usage of this
metadata publication. The URL MUST represent a single, immutable, policy document. Any changes
made to an existing policy document MUST result in a new URL. The URL SHOULD resolve to a human
readable form of the policy document for the entire period in which the policy may be in use.

2.3 Publication Path

In some cases, a metadata document may be published by something other than the original registrar
(e.g., a metadata lookup service or an aggregator that assembled a new document from a number of
documents). In such cases it can be helpful to know the path the <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or
<md:EntityDescriptor> elements took before being included in the consumed document. The
<mdrpi:PublicationPath>, defined below, provides a way of expressing this.

The <mdrpi:PublicationPath> element MUST appear within the <md:Extensions> element of
either <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or <md:EntityDescriptor> elements. The use of
<mdrpi:PublicationPath>, or any other element defined in this section, outside of that context is not
defined by this specification.

The <mdrpi:PublicationPath> element MUST NOT appear more than once within the
<md:EntitiesDescriptor> element of a given <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or <md:EntityDescriptor>
element.

When a <mdrpi:PublicationPath> element appears in the <md:Extensions> element of a
<md:EntitiesDescriptor> element it applies to all descendant <md:EntitiesDescriptor> and
<md:EntityDescriptor> elements. That is to say, this is an optimization to putting an identical
<mdrpi:PublicationPath> on every descendant <md:EntityDescriptor>. When used in this
manner, descendant <md:EntitiesDescriptor> and <md:EntityDescriptor> elements MUST
NOT contain a <mdrpi:PublicationPath> element in their <md:Extensions> element.

### 2.3.1 Element <mdrpi:PublicationPath>

The <mdrpi:PublicationPath> element provides a record of the publication path, from current
publication to initial publication, for the <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or <md:EntityDescriptor>
element on which it resides.

Each contained <mdrpi:Publication> element represents one step in the publication path. The list of
<mdrpi:Publication> elements is ordered from most recent, excluding the current publication, to
least recent (the initial source publication).

For example, assume the current publication is PubC. Further assume that an
<md:EntityDescriptor> in PubC was retrieved from PubB which itself received the
<md:EntityDescriptor> from PubA. In such a situation the publication path for that entity descriptor
would be PubB, PubA.

<mdrpi:Publication> [zero or more]

The publication from which the <md:EntityDescriptor> or <md:EntitiesDescriptor>, to
which this extension is applied, was retrieved.

```xml
<element name="PublicationPath" type="mdrpi:PublicationPathType" />
<complexType name="PublicationPathType">
  <sequence>
    <element ref="mdrpi:Publication" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded" />
  </sequence>
</complexType>
```

### 2.3.2 Element <mdrpi:Publication>

The <mdrpi:Publication> element identifies a metadata publication that was incorporated, in full or in
part, in to the metadata document containing this extension.

publisher [Required]

The publisher value of the <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> found on the root element of the
document containing the republished <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or
<md:EntityDescriptor> elements.

creationInstant [Optional]

The creationInstant value of the <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> found on the root element
of the document containing the republished <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or
<md:EntityDescriptor> elements.

publicationId [Optional]

The publicationId value of the <mdrpi:PublicationInfo> found on the root element of
the document containing the republished <md:EntitiesDescriptor> or
<md:EntityDescriptor> elements.
2.4 Example

```xml
<EntitiesDescriptor xmlns="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"
                     xmlns:mdrpi="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:dri">

  <Extensions>

    <mdrpi:RegistrationInfo creationInstant="2010-11-17T16:59:02Z">
      <mdrpi:UsagePolicy xml:lang="en">
      </mdrpi:UsagePolicy>
      <mdrpi:UsagePolicy xml:lang="de">
        http://www.switch.ch/aai/metadata/de_usage.html
      </mdrpi:UsagePolicy>
    </mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>

    <mdrpi:PublicationInfo publisher="urn:example.org:md:publisher"
                             publicationId="1q2w3e4r" />
  </Extensions>

<!-- SWITCH IDP -->
<EntityDescriptor entityID="https://aai-logon.switch.ch/idp/shibboleth">

  <Extensions>

    <mdrpi:RegistrationInfo
        registrationAuthority="urn:mace:switch.ch:SWITCHaai"
        registrationInstant="2006-05-29T11:34:27Z">
      <mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy xml:lang="en">
        http://www.switch.ch/aai/metadata/en_registration.html
      </mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy>
      <mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy xml:lang="de">
        http://www.switch.ch/aai/metadata/de_registration.html
      </mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy>
    </mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>

    <mdrpi:PublicationPath publisher="urn:mace:switch.ch:SWITCHaai"
                            publicationId="http://metadata.aai.switch.ch/metadata.switchaai.xml"/>
  </Extensions>

  <IDPSSODescriptor
    protocolSupportEnumeration="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">
    <SingleSignOnService
      Binding="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:bindings:HTTP-POST"
      Location="https://aai-logon.switch.ch/idp/profile/SAML2/POST/SSO"/>
  </IDPSSODescriptor>

</EntityDescriptor>

<!-- Ohio State IDP -->
<EntityDescriptor entityID="urn:mace:incommon:osu.edu">

  <Extensions>

  </Extensions>
</EntitiesDescriptor>
```
<mdrpi:RegistrationInfo
registrationAuthority="urn:mace:incommon">
  <mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy xml:lang="en">
    http://www.incommonfederation.org/metadata/en_registration.html
  </mdrpi:RegistrationPolicy>
</mdrpi:RegistrationInfo>

<mdrpi:PublicationPath publisher="urn:mace:incommon"
  publicationId="http://incommonfederation.org/InCommon-metadata.xml"/>

</Extensions>

<IDPSSODescriptor
  protocolSupportEnumeration="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:protocol">
  <SingleSignOnService
    Binding="urn:mace:shibboleth:1.0:profiles:AuthnRequest"
    Location="https://idp.ohio-state.edu/idp/profile/Shibboleth/SSO"/>
</IDPSSODescriptor>
</EntityDescriptor>
</EntitiesDescriptor>
3 Conformance

3.1 SAML V2.0 Metadata Extensions for Documentation and Registration Information Version 1.0

A metadata producer conforms to this profile if it has the ability to produce metadata in accordance with sections 2.1 and 2.2.
Appendix A. Acknowledgments

The editors would like to acknowledge the contributions of the OASIS Security Services Technical Committee, whose voting members at the time of publication were:

- TBD

The editor would also like to acknowledge the following contributors:

- Scott Cantor, The Ohio State University
- Ian Young, EDINA, University of Edinburgh
Appendix B. Revision History

Changes made to produce WD02

- Title changed to "SAML V2.0 Metadata Extensions for Registration and Publication Information"
- Namespace changed to urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:rpi
- Concept of "document information" changed to "publication information" with corresponding element name changes.
- Registration Information put before publication information
- Editorial and grammar fix ups