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