

SAML V2.0 Metadata Extensions for Login and Discovery User Interface Version 1.0

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This prose specification is one component of a Work Product which also includes:

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Related work:

This specification defines extensions for use with:

Metadata for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V2.0. March 2005.
 OASIS Standard. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-metadata-2.0-os.pdf

Declared XML namespaces:

urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:ui

Abstract:

This document defines a set of extensions to SAML metadata that provide information necessary for user agents to present effective user interfaces and, in the case of identity provider discovery, recommend appropriate choices to the user.

Status:

This document was last revised or approved by the OASIS Security Services (SAML) TC on the above date. The level of approval is also listed above. Check the "Latest version" location noted above for possible later revisions of this document.

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41 Introduction

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SAMLV2.0 metadata **[SAML2Meta]** provides a mechanism for expressing information necessary for SAML entities to successfully communicate with each other. However in most SAML profiles there is also a user agent involved, usually representing an actual person, that also participates in the profiled message exchanges. This document defines a set of extensions to metadata that provide information necessary for user agents to present effective user interfaces and, in the case of identity provider discovery, provide for recommendation of appropriate choices to the user.

There are existing, though incomplete, metadata elements that carry some of this information, but existing practice around their use is inconsistent, and defining extensions with more well-defined semantics is less disruptive to existing metadata deployments.

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

18 Conventional XML namespace prefixes are used throughout the listings in this specification to stand for 19 their respective namespaces as follows, whether or not a namespace declaration is present in the exam-20 ple:

Prefix	XML Namespace	Comments
md:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata	This is the SAML V2.0 metadata namespace defined in the SAML V2.0 metadata specification [SAML2Meta].
mdui:	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:ui	This is the SAML V2.0 metadata extension namespace defined by this document and its accompanying schema.
xsd:	http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema	This namespace is defined in the W3C XML Schema specification [Schema1]. In schema listings, this is the default namespace and no prefix is shown.

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.

1.21.2 Normative References

28	[RFC2119]	S. Bradner. Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels.
29		IETF RFC 2119, March 1997. http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt
30	[RFC4632]	V. Fuller et al. Classless Inter-domain Routing (CIDR): The Internet
31		Address Assignment and Aggregation Plan. IETF RFC 4632, August 2006.
32		http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4632.txt
33	[RFC5870]	A. Mayrhofer et al. A Uniform Resource Identifier for Geographic
34		Locations ('geo' URI). IETF RFC 5870, June 2010.
35		http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc5870.txt
36	[SAML2Errata]	OASIS Approved Errata, SAML V2.0 Errata, October. 1 December 2009. OASIS
37		Approved Errata. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/sstc-saml-
38		approved-errata-2.0.pdf

39 40 41	[SAML2Meta]	OASIS Standard, Metadata for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V2.0 ₇ . 15 March 2005. OASIS Standard. http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml- metadata-2.0-os.pdf
42 43 44	[Schema1]	H. S. Thompson et al. XML Schema Part 1: Structures. World Wide Web Consortium Recommendation, May 2001. http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-1-20010502/
45 46 47	[Schema2]	Paul V. Biron, Ashok Malhotra. XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes. World Wide Web Consortium Recommendation, May 2001. http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC- xmlschema-2-20010502/

22 Metadata Extensions for Login and Discovery User Interface

2.12.1 User Interface Information

The user interface extension elements are oriented towards the requirements of user agent presentation of entities represented by SAML metadata, typically as part of identity provider discovery or representing services requesting information from a user's identity provider. The specifics of such presentation and the use of the elements that follow is not in scope for this specification, but communities of use SHOULD establish guidelines and even prescriptive requirements to encourage consistency and understandability for users.

The <mdui:UIInfo> container element, defined below, MUST appear within the <md:Extensions> element of a role element (one whose type is based on md:RoleDescriptorType). The use of the <mdui:UIInfo> element, or any other element defined in this section, outside of that context is not defined by this specification.

This element, if it appears, MUST contain at least one child element.

Finally, this element MUST NOT appear more than once within a given <md:Extensions> element.

2.1.12.1.1 Element <mdui:UlInfo>

The <mdui:UIInfo> element contains information which pertains to (but is not specifically limited to) the creation of user interfaces for tasks such as identity provider selection/discovery, user authentication, attribute release consent, etc.

This element contains any number of the following elements, in any order:

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Localized names A localized name for the entity operating in the containing role.

<mdui:Description>

<u>Localized descriptions</u> of the entity operating in the containing role.

<mdui:Keywords>

Localized search keywords, tags, categories, or labels for the containing role.

<mdui:Logo>

Localized logo graphicimage for the entity operating in the containing role.

<mdui:InformationURL>

URLs URL to localized information about the entity operating in the containing role.

<mdui:PrivacyStatementURL>

URLsA URL to localized information about the privacy practices of the entity operating in the containing role.

In addition, this element MAY contain an arbitrary number of extension elements from other namespaces, the definitions/semantics of which must be supplied elsewhere.

The schema for the <mdui:UIInfo> element, and its corresponding mdui:UlInfoType complex type, is as follows:

2.1.22.1.2 Element <mdui:DisplayName>

The <mdui: DisplayName> element specifies a set of localized names fit for display to users. Such names are meant to allow a user to distinguish and identify the entity acting in a particular role. The content of this element should be suitable for use in constructing accessible user interfaces for those with disabilities.

There MUST NOT be more than one <mdui:DisplayName> element with the same xml:lang attribute value within a single role descriptor.

The schema for the <mdui:DisplayName> element is as follows:

```
<element name="DisplayName" type="md:localizedNameType"/>
```

2.1.32.1.3 Element <mdui:Description>

The <mdui:Description> element specifies a brief, localized description fit for display to users. In the case of an <md:SPSSODescriptor> role, this SHOULD be a description of the service being offered. In the case of an <md:IDPSSODescriptor> role this SHOULD beinclude a description of the user community serviced.

In all cases this text MUST be standalone, meaning it is not to be used as a template requiring additional text (e.g., "This service offers \$description").

There MUST NOT be more than one <mdui:Description> element with the same xml:lang attribute value within a single role descriptor.

115 The schema for the <mdui:Description> element is as follows:

```
<element name="Description" type="md:localizedNameType"/>
```

2.1.42.1.4 Element <mdui:Keywords>

The <mdui:Keywords> element specifies a list of localized search keywords, tags, categories, or labels that apply to the containing role. This element extends the **mdui:listOfStrings** schema type with the following attribute:

121 xml:lang [Required]

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Language specifier.

The content of this element is a "list" of strings in the XML Schema [Schema2] sense, which means the keyword strings are space-delimited. Spaces within individual keywords are encoded with a "plus" (+) character; as a consequence, keywords may not contain that character.

There MUST NOT be more than one <mdui:Keywords> element with the same xml:lang attribute value within a single role descriptor.

The schema for the <mdui:Keywords> element, and its corresponding mdui:KeywordsType complex type, is as follows:

2.1.52.1.5 Element <mdui:Logo>

The <mdui:Logo> element specifies the external location of a localized logo fit for display to users. This element extends the **anyURI** schema type with the following attributes:

height [Required]

The rendered height of the logo measured in pixels.

146 width [Required]

The rendered width of the logo measured in pixels.

148 xml:lang

 Optional language specifier.

In order to facilitate the usage of logos within a user interface, logos SHOULD:

- use a transparent background where appropriate
- 152 use PNG, or GIF (less preferred), images
 - use HTTPS URLs in order to avoid mixed-content warnings within browsers

The order of logo elements is not significant, and a consumer MAY select any logo that meets its presentation and internationalization requirements. Communities of use SHOULD establish guidelines or requirements for logo size, aspect ratio, etc. to ensure consistency. If logos without an xml:lang attribute are present, then they SHOULD be considered the default logos for use when logos in the user's preferred language are not available.

Note that while vector graphic formats may be renderable at many sizes, the height and width attributes remain mandatory to allow consumers that lack intelligence regarding image processing to locate images suitable for particular sizes. The same image MAY be specified with multiple sizes when appropriate.

The schema for the <mdui:Logo> element, and its corresponding mdui:LogoType complex type, is as follows:

2.1.62.1.6 Element <mdui:InformationURL>

The <mdui:InformationURL> specifies an external location for localized information about the entity acting in a given role meant to be viewed by users. The content found at the URL SHOULD provide more complete information than what would be provided by the <mdui:Description> element.

There MUST NOT be more than one <mdui:InformationURL> element with the same xml:lang attribute value within a single role descriptor.

The schema for the <mdui: InformationURL> element is as follows:

```
<element name="InformationURL" type="md:localizedURIType"/>
```

2.1.72.1.7 Element <mdui:PrivacyStatementURL>

The <mdui:PrivacyStatementURL> specifies an external location for localized privacy statements.

Such statements are meant to provide a user with information about how information will be used and managed by the entity acting in a given role.

There MUST NOT be more than one <mdui:PrivacyStatementURL> element with the same xml:lang attribute value within a single role descriptor.

189 The schema for the <mdui:PrivacyStatementURL> element is as follows:

```
<element name="PrivacyStatementURL" type="md:localizedURIType"/>
```

2.22.2 Discovery Hinting Information

The discovery hinting extension elements provide information which may hinting at the identity provider with which a user is associated. A server-side selection mechanism could leverage such hints in conjunction with client-supplied information to adjust likely choices.

Information provided by the content of this element is meant only as a hint and SHOULD NOT be used to definitively select an identity provider without user intervention or confirmation. As a consequence, hints are inappropriate to use in conjunction with discovery protocols or protocol features that would prevent user interaction.

- 199 The <mdui:DiscoHints> container element, defined below, MUST appear within the
- 200 <md:Extensions> element of an <md:IDPSSODescriptor> element. The use of the
- 201 <mdui:DiscoHints> element, or any other element defined in this section, outside of that context is not 202 defined by this specification.
- This element, if it appears, MUST contain at least one child element. 203
- 204 Finally, this element MUST NOT appear more than once within a given <md:Extensions> element.

Element < mdui: DiscoHints>

The <mdui:DiscoHints> element contains information whichthat may be used by an identity provider selection/discovery service as hints in determining with which identity provider(s) the user may be associ-

This element contains any number of the following elements, in any order:

210 <mdui:IPHint>

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IP address blocks associated with, or serviced by, the entity operating in the containing role.

212 <mdui:DomainHint>

DNS domain names associated with, or serviced by, the entity operating in the containing role.

Geographic coordinates associated with, or serviced by, the entity operating in the containing role.

In addition, this element MAY contain an arbitrary number of extension elements from other namespaces, the definitions/semantics of which must be supplied elsewhere.

The schema for the <mdui:DiscoHints> element, and its corresponding mdui:DiscoHintsType complex type, is as follows:

```
<element name="DiscoHints" type="mdui:DiscoHintsType"/>
<complexType name="DiscoHintsType">
  <choice minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded">
      <element ref="mdui:IPHint"/>
      <element ref="mdui:DomainHint"/>
      <element ref="mdui:GeolocationHint"/>
      <any namespace="##other" processContents="lax"/>
  </choice>
</complexType>
```

2.2.22.2.2 Element <mdui:IPHint>

The <mdui: IPHint> element specifies an [RFC4632] block associated with, or serviced by, the entity. Both IPv4 and IPv6 CIDR blocks MUST be supported.

The schema for the <mdui: IPHint> element is as follows:

```
<element name="IPHint" type="string"/>
```

2.2.32.2.3 **Element < mdui: Domain Hint>**

236 The <mdui: DomainHint> element specifies a DNS domain associated with, or serviced by, the entity. 237

```
The schema for the <mdui: DomainHint> element is as follows:
```

```
<element name="DomainHint" type="string"/>
```

2.2.42.2.4 Element <mdui:GeolocationHint>

240 The <mdui: GeolocationHint> element specifies a set of geographic coordinates associated with, or serviced by, the entity. Coordinates are given in URI form using the geo URI scheme [RFC5870].

The schema for the <mdui:GeolocationHint> element is as follows: 242

```
<element name="GeolocationHint" type="anyURI"/>
```

Security Considerations

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The information contained in these extensions, as well as the content identified by various URLs, is in-245 tended for the construction of user interfaces. As such, special consideration by implementers and de-246 247

248 Any URLs MUST be carefully sanitized and encoded to protect against cross-site scripting and related 249 vulnerabilities. Schemes other than "https", "http", or "data" SHOULD NOT be used.

250 Since it is generally impractical to guarantee the continued safety of content behind a particular URL, the 251 use of "https" URLs is RECOMMENDED, and control over the URLs in question must be carefully estab-

lished by the publisher of metadata containing these extensions. Consumers of metadata using these 252

253 extensions to construct UIs must ensure the provenance of metadata and that the processes by which the extensions are managed by the publisher are sufficiently sound. 254

This is particularly relevant for the <mdui:Logo> element, since such URLs are often dereferenced by 255 256 the user agent without intervention. Where practical, the use of server-side image processing may enable a higher degree of safety and control over the presentation of images than direct embedding of links 257 258 to logos.

Relationship with Existing Metadata Elements 2.42.4

2.4.12.4.1 <md:Organization> Elements

SAML metadata defines localized organizational names, display names, and URLs at both the entity and role level. These elements are meant to reflect information about the organization that "owns" or operates a particular entity. To date, most known identity provider discovery interfaces have relied on entity-level <md:OrganizationDisplayName> element content. Some applications will also display the organization name for service providers as a means of identifying the service.

However, such usage is based on two implicit assumptions:

- 267 the organization name is recognizable and can be understood by the user within the context that it is used
 - the organization only has one entity operating in a given role at any specific time There are many cases, however, where one or both of these assumption are not true. An example conflicting with the first assumption may be Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, which the world knows as "Virginia Tech". An example that conflicts with both assumptions might be a third-party hosting service. Its name would not be recognized by any user and it could operate many entities at any given time.
- 275 However, the organizational display name may still be useful, for example within "owned by..." or "operat-276 ed by..." statements.

2.4.22.4.2 **Service Name and Description**

Entities with a <md: SPSSODescriptor> role may optionally include one or more

<md:AttributeConsumingService> elements which in turn contain <md:ServiceName> and <md:ServiceDescription> elements. These elements are normally used to expose the attribute requirements for various service "levels" and to associate certain names and descriptions with them.

The following issues make these elements inappropriate for carrying a general display name and descrip-282 tion for the service: 283

- other role elements have no analogous elements
- some services do not require attributes, but the <md:AttributeConsumingService> element requires the inclusion of one or more <md:RequestedAttribute> elements
- theone typical usage for these elements may not convey a name and description for the service itself, but rather for some aspect of the service (e.g., a service level, or a type of access)

Suggested Precedence 2.4.32.4.3

Implementations that rely on display name information SHOULD rely on elements in the following order of 290 291 preference:

- <mdui:DisplayName>
- 293 <md:ServiceName> (if applicable)
- 294 entityID or a hostname associated with the endpoint of the service

295 As a consequence, entities may rely on the existing <md:ServiceName> (or where appropriate the <md:ServiceDescription>) element by omitting the <mdui:DisplayName> (or 296 297

<mdui:Description>) element from their metadata.

Note that when multiple <md: AttributeConsumingService> elements are used, some identity or discovery protocols may lack the ability to signal which of the multiple elements is relevant to a request. In such deployments, limiting the cardinality to a single element or requiring the use of the <mdui:DisplayName> element may be necessary.

Implementations MAY support the use of <md:OrganizationDisplayName>, particularly as a migration strategy, but this is not recommend this as a general practice.

2.52.5 Example

An elided example follows.

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306
          <EntityDescriptor entityID="https://idp.switch.ch/idp/shibboleth"</pre>
307
                            xmlns="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:metadata"
308
                            xmlns:mdui="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:metadata:ui">
309
310
            <IDPSSODescriptor
                protocolSupportEnumeration="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">
311
312
              <Extensions>
313
                <mdui:UIInfo>
314
315
                   <mdui:DisplayName xml:lang="en">SWITCH</mdui:DisplayName>
316
                   <mdui:DisplayName xml:lang="de">SWITCH</mdui:DisplayName>
317
318
                   <mdui:Description xml:lang="en">
319
                      Switzerland's national research and eduction network.
320
                   </mdui:Description>
321
                   <mdui:Description xml:lang="de">
322
                      Das schweizerische Hochschul- und Forschungsnetzwerk.
323
                   </mdui:Description>
324
325
                   <mdui:Logo height="16" width="16">
326
                       https://switch.ch/resources/images/smalllogo.png
327
                   </mdui:Logo>
328
                   <mdui:Logo height="97" width="172">
329
                       https://switch.ch/resources/images/logo.png
330
                   </mdui:Logo>
331
332
                   <mdui:InformationURL xml:lang="en">
333
                      http://switch.ch
334
                   </mdui:InformationURL>
335
                   <mdui:InformationURL xml:lang="de">
336
                      http://switch.ch/de
337
                   </mdui:InformationURL>
338
339
                </mdui:UIInfo>
340
341
                <mdui:DiscoHints>
342
343
                   <mdui:IPHint>130.59.0.0/16</mdui:IPHint>
344
                   <mdui:IPHint>2001:620::0/96</mdui:IPHint>
345
346
                   <mdui:DomainHint>switch.ch</mdui:DomainHint>
347
348
                   <mdui:GeolocationHint>geo:47.37328,8.531126</mdui:GeolocationHint>
349
350
                </mdui:DiscoHints>
351
              </Extensions>
352
353
              <!-- other role-level elements -->
354
            </IDPSSODescriptor>
355
          </EntityDescriptor>
```

33 Conformance

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3.13.1 SAML V2.0 Metadata Extensions for Login and Discovery

User Interface 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.

A metadata consumer conforms to this profile if it can consume extended metadata produced in accordance with sections 2.1 and 2.2.

An identity provider discovery service or agent conforms to this profile if it has the ability to consume and utilize extended metadata produced in accordance with sections 2.1, 2.2, and 2.4.3.

Appendix A Acknowledgments

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Appendix A Revision History

381 Working Draft 10:

 Address public comments from http://wiki.oasis-open.org/security/PublicComments20111014-20111113

Working Draft 09:

- Clarify lack of support for '+' in keywords
- s/then/than

Working Draft 08:

Fix namespace in example

389 Working Draft 07:

- Remove normative reference to schema (can't be kept current with document process)
- 391 Allow for spaces in keywords using '+' escape
- 392 Add security considerations section
 - Add TC member list

Working Draft 06:

395 • Add <Keywords> element as a search "catch-all"

396 Working Draft 05:

- Fix typo
- Reword "languageless logo" text and move together with other logo use guideline text

399 Working Draft 04:

- Migrated text to new OASIS template and filename
- 401 Removed specific logo guidance in favor of generic advice
- 402 Added fallback option to hostnames in addition to entityID
- 403 Better guidance on intended use of elements and scope of specification

- 404 Working Draft 03:
- Fixed namespace in section 1 table
- 406 Add limit on one wrapper element per Extensions block
- 407 Improve example to reflect guidance in spec
- 408 Add note about accessibility to DisplayName
- 409 Working Draft 02:
- 410 Fixed missing wildcard in schema
- 411 Corrected some typos
- 412 Removed ODN from fallback precedence
- 413 Working Draft 01
- 414 Initial OASIS submission
- 415 Removed SAML version number from namespace for consistency with other extensions
- 416 Various editorial rewording and combining of normative sections, externalized the schema.
- 417 Added conformance section
- 418 Changed base type of <Logo> to URI, and switched <GeolocationHint> to URI based on
- 419 RFC5870
- 420 Added wildcards to wrapper elements, changed them to choice bags
- 421 Presubmission Changes:
- 422 Changes to Draft 03:
- Correct typo in DiscoHints schema; the 's' was missing from Hints
- 424 Add a couple examples where the assumptions noted in section 2.3.1 do not hold
- 425 Minor typographical corrections
- 426 Changes to Draft 02:
- 427 Add SAML version number to declared namespace
- 428 Add <UIInfo> and <DiscoHints>
- 429 Changes to Draft 01:
- 430 Move from the use of metadata entity attributes to direct XML elements located with in role <Ex-431 tensions> elements
- 432 Make xml:lang attribute on <Logo> elements optional with the lack of language indicating the default logo to use
- 434 Add <PrivacyStatementURL> element