



# OASIS - Artifact naming guidelines

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**Abstract:**

This document contains a set of guidelines for naming artifacts, such as specifications and schema definitions, created by the technical committees of OASIS.

**Status:**

This document is a working draft.

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## 1. Introduction (non-normative)

The Board of Directors of OASIS recognizes the need to establish a set of guidelines for naming artifacts, such as requirements documents, specifications, schema definitions, attribute identifiers, profile identifiers, etc., that are produced by OASIS technical committees (TC). This document describes these artifact naming guidelines.

TCs **MUST** name their specification documents according to these guidelines. TCs **MAY** choose, but are **NOT REQUIRED**, to use the guidelines for the naming of other artifacts.

These guidelines come into effect upon receiving the approval of the OASIS Board of Directors. TCs are **NOT REQUIRED** to apply them retroactively.

This document is not intended to conflict with the [Proposed Rules for OASIS Document File Naming](#) Working Draft 02, Edited by Eve Maler. A working draft of this document will be sent to the OASIS Chairs mailing list for comment and discussion.

This document needs to be synchronized with the terminology in the revised OASIS Intellectual Property Rights Policy, which entered Member Review on 9 July 2004.

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## 2. Notation (normative)

The key WORDS **MUST**, **MUST NOT**, **REQUIRED**, **SHALL**, **SHALL NOT**, **SHOULD**, **SHOULD NOT**, **RECOMMENDED**, **MAY**, and **OPTIONAL** in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119].

This specification uses the following typographical conventions in text: *variable name*, `literal string`. Terms in ***italic bold-face*** are intended to have the meaning defined in Section 3 or in other normative OASIS documents, such as the TC Process and IPR Policy.

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## 3. Definitions (normative)

**Contributor** – The family name of the individual or individuals or the name of the organization or organizations that author a submission. It **SHALL** contain lower-case letters only. If there is informal agreement in the TC that the submission forms the sole basis for further discussion of the subject matter, then the submission **SHALL** be named as a working draft. ***(Note: this guidance would only apply to a document that was specifically prepared for submission to OASIS or one that was restyled as an OASIS document. Another possibility is that OASIS makes no stipulation with regard to submitted documents)***

**Form** - A particular presentation of a document. The same revision of a document might have several **forms**. Typically the distinguishing factor is the publication file format it uses, where the file extension indicates this information, for example, HTML (.htm or .html), Microsoft Word (.doc or .rtf), OpenOffice.org (.sxw), Adobe Acrobat (.pdf) or XML schema definition (.xsd).

**Revision** – The development stage of a working draft that is designated by a number in the form *nn* for purposes of distinguishing drafts under active TC development. An individual working draft typically goes through several revisions before becoming a Committee Draft or OASIS Standard. ***(Note: It has been suggested that we should also allow the date of publication and the full spelling of characters from the Greek alphabet either as alternatives or in combination.)***

**Part** - The name of a sub-part of a TC's **product** (e.g. "core" or a profile).

**Prefix** – A string prefix to the document identifier.

**Product** – The name (or abbreviation) of a significant body of work undertaken by a TC. For example, the Security Assertions Mark-up Language (SAML) undertaken by the Security Services Technical Committee.

**Artifact** – The type of the artifact. Here are some examples:

Charter – "charter"

Requirements – "requirements"

Specification – "spec"

Schema – "schema"

Data model – "data\_model"

Attribute definition – "attribute"

Conformance criteria – "conformance"

Etc..

Note: No such list will ever be exhaustive. Oftentimes, committees will have to define their own special-purpose **artifacts**. It is recommended that artifact type identifiers be either well accepted abbreviations (e.g. "spec") or the full spelling.

**Stage** - A specification maturity level, as recognized by the OASIS TC process. The two stages requiring special levels of TC and membership approval are Committee Draft and OASIS Standard. Prior to becoming a Committee Draft, a document is known as a working draft and cannot be assumed to have TC approval or support. The following abbreviations SHALL be used:

Contribution - co

Working Draft – wd

Committee Draft – cd

OASIS Standard – os

In the case of an individual or organizational submission, the value of **stage** SHALL be one of the **contributor** or co.

**TC** – The short name assigned by OASIS to the Technical Committee. For example, sstc would represent the OASIS Security Services Technical Committee.

**Version** - A specification development stage that is formally designated by a number (typically in *major.minor* format, such as 1.0 or 2.3) for purposes of distinguishing levels of implementation and conformance by a public community of developers. An OASIS Standard is associated with a single version throughout its development and approval. For example, several products claim conformance to SAML version 1.0.

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## 4. Common conventions (non-normative)

This section contains guidelines that are common to artifacts of all types.

Lowercase spelling is RECOMMENDED.

The revision component MUST be omitted from identifiers for Committee Drafts and OASIS Standards.

In the case where an artifact is equally applicable to all parts of a TC's work, the **part** component SHALL be omitted.

Hyphens MUST be used to separate the name components. Spaces MUST NOT be used. It is NOT RECOMMENDED to use hyphens between words within the **part**, **artifact** and **contributor** components. Rather, it is RECOMMENDED to use underscore (\_).

If a document uses change bars or other change-tracking devices, then an extended **artifact** component MAY indicate this (for example, by extending the **revision** with the string “-diff”).

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## 5. Specific conventions

The following sections provide the naming guidelines for objects of specific types.

### 5.1 Document identifiers (normative)

OASIS documents MUST contain a document identifier. The following format SHALL be used for document identifiers:-

```
prefix-TC-product-version-part-artifact-stage-revision
```

Ordinarily, the **prefix** component SHALL be:-

```
oasis-
```

#### 5.1.1. Uniform resource locators

In the event that a TC chooses to use a hyperlink as a document identifier, the **prefix** SHALL be

```
http://docs.oasis-open.org/{TC}/
```

And the **form** component MAY be appended. However, for purposes of bibliographic citation, the **form** component MUST be omitted. Namespace declarations MAY use this class of document identifier. A namespace declaration MAY be a hyperlink to the schema definition document.

Note that in this case, the **TC** component is duplicated in the **prefix**.

#### 5.1.2. Uniform resource name

In the event that a TC chooses to use a URN as a document identifier, the component separator SHALL be a colon (:) and the prefix SHALL be:-

```
urn:oasis:names:tc:{TC}:{artifact}:
```

See [RFC 3121]. Namespace declarations MAY use this class of document identifier.

**(Upon reviewing RFC 3121, the guidance provided here appears to be in conflict.)**

### 5.2 Filenames (non-normative)

Documents may be contained in files. In which case, the associated leaf filename SHOULD be in the following form:-

```
Prefix-TC-product-version-part-artifact-stage-revision.form
```

The **prefix** component SHALL be:-

```
oasis-
```

---

## 6. Examples (non-normative)

The following examples illustrate the application of the artifact naming guidelines to the first working draft of the schema definition file for the timestamp token project within the OASIS Digital Signature Services version 1.0 technical committee.

Document identifier = oasis-dss-1.0-timestamp\_token-schema-wd-01

Document identifier = [http://www.docs.oasis-open.org/dss/dss-1.0-timestamp\\_token-schema-wd-01.xsd](http://www.docs.oasis-open.org/dss/dss-1.0-timestamp_token-schema-wd-01.xsd)

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## 7. References

[RFC 3121] – Request For Comments 3121, A URN Namespace for OASIS, K. Best, N. Walsh  
June 2001.

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## Appendix A. Notices

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## Appendix B. Revision History

Revision	Date	By whom	What
WD 01	12 Sep 2003	Tim Moses	Initial draft
WD 02	10 Oct 2003	Tim Moses	Introduced the product component. Introduced the urn convention. Introduced the hyperlink prefix.
WD 03	1 Mar 2004	Tim Moses	Incorporated comments from Eduardo
WD 04	4 Apr 2004	Tim Moses	Incorporated decisions of the TAB meeting on 2 April 2004.
WD 05	9 Jul 2004	William Cox	Incorporated comments from TAB email and discussion, prior to broader publication within OASIS.
WD 06	9 July 2004	Chris Ferris	Why are we calling these things "objects". That term carries way too much baggage. Artifact or document would be preferable, Also added in some editorial tweaks. Name change for document. Should it go back to WD1?



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## Appendix C. References

[RFC 2119] S. Bradner. *RFC 2119: Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels*. IETF (Internet Engineering Task Force). 1997.