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# Web Services Security Rights Expression Language (REL) Token Profile

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18 **Abstract:**  
19 This document describes how to use ISO/IEC 21000-5 Rights Expressions with the Web  
20 Services Security: SOAP Message Security [WS-Security] specification.

21 **Status:**  
22 The status of this document is OASIS Standard. Please send comments to the editors.  
23 Committee members should send comments on this specification to the  
24 <mailto:wss@lists.oasis-open.org> list. Others should subscribe to and send comments to  
25 the [wss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org](mailto:wss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org) list. To subscribe, visit  
26 <http://lists.oasis-open.org/ob/adm.pl>.  
27 For information on whether any patents have been disclosed that may be essential to  
28 implementing this specification, and any offers of patent licensing terms, please refer to  
29 the Intellectual Property Rights section of the Web Services Security TC web page  
30 (<http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/wss/ipr.php>).

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31 **Table of Contents**

32 1 Introduction (Informative)..... 5

33 2 Notations and Terminology (Normative)..... 6

34 2.1 Notational Conventions ..... 6

35 2.2 Namespaces ..... 6

36 2.3 Terminology..... 7

37 3 Usage (Normative)..... 8

38 3.1 Token Types..... 8

39 3.2 Processing Model..... 8

40 3.3 Attaching Security Tokens ..... 8

41 3.4 Identifying and Referencing Security Tokens ..... 8

42 3.5 Authentication..... 11

43 3.5.1 <r:keyHolder> Principal..... 12

44 3.6 Confidentiality..... 14

45 3.6.1 <r:keyHolder> Principal..... 15

46 3.7 Error Codes ..... 16

47 4 Types of Licenses (Informative)..... 17

48 4.1 Attribute Licenses..... 17

49 4.2 Sender Authorization..... 18

50 4.3 Issuer Authorization ..... 18

51 5 Threat Model and Countermeasures (Informative)..... 21

52 5.1 Eavesdropping ..... 21

53 5.2 Replay ..... 21

54 5.3 Message Insertion ..... 22

55 5.4 Message Deletion..... 22

56 5.5 Message Modification ..... 22

57 5.6 Man-in-the-Middle ..... 22

58 6 References..... 23

59 Appendix A: Revision History ..... 24

60 Appendix B: Notices ..... 25

61

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62 **1 Introduction (Informative)**

63 The Web Services Security: SOAP Message Security [WS-Security] specification proposes a  
64 standard set of SOAP extensions that can be used when building secure Web services to  
65 implement message level integrity and confidentiality. This specification describes the use of  
66 ISO/IEC 21000-5 Rights Expressions with respect to the WS-Security specification.

---

## 67 2 Notations and Terminology (Normative)

68 This section specifies the notations, namespaces, and terminology used in this specification.

### 69 2.1 Notational Conventions

70 The keywords "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD",  
71 "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be  
72 interpreted as described in [KEYWORDS].

73 Namespace URIs (of the general form "some-URI") represent some application-dependent or  
74 context-dependent URI as defined in [URI].

75 This specification is designed to work with the general SOAP message structure and message  
76 processing model, and should be applicable to any version of SOAP. The current SOAP 1.2  
77 namespace URI is used herein to provide detailed examples, but there is no intention to limit the  
78 applicability of this specification to a single version of SOAP.

### 79 2.2 Namespaces

80 The XML namespace [XML-ns] URIs that MUST be used by implementations of this specification  
81 are as follows (note that different elements in this specification are from different namespaces):

```
82     http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/01/oasis-200401-wss-  
83     wssecurity-secext-1.0.xsd  
84     http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/01/oasis-200401-wss-  
85     wssecurity-utility-1.0.xsd  
86     urn:mpeg:mpeg21:2003:01-REL-R-NS
```

87 The following namespaces are used in this document:

88

Prefix	Namespace
S	http://www.w3.org/2001/12/soap-envelope
ds	http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#
xenc	http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#
wsse	http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/01/oasis-200401-wss-wssecurity-secext-1.0.xsd
wsu	http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/01/oasis-200401-wss-wssecurity-utility-1.0.xsd

r	urn:mpeg:mpeg21:2003:01-REL-R-NS
sx	urn:mpeg:mpeg21:2003:01-REL-SX-NS

89

**Table 1 Namespace Prefixes**

90

## 91 **2.3 Terminology**

92 This specification employs the terminology defined in the Web Services Security: SOAP Message  
93 Security [WS-Security] Specification.

94 Defined below are the basic definitions for additional terminology used in this specification.

95 **License** – ISO/IEC 21000-5 Rights Expression

---

## 96 3 Usage (Normative)

97 This section describes the syntax and processing rules for the use of licenses with  
98 the Web Services Security: Soap Message Security specification [WS-Security].

### 99 3.1 Token Types

100 When a URI value is used to indicate a license according to this profile, its value MUST be  
101 <http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/oasis-wss-rel-token-profile-1.0.pdf#license>.

### 102 3.2 Processing Model

103 The processing model for WS-Security with licenses is no different from that of WS-  
104 Security with other token formats as described in Web Services Security: SOAP Message  
105 Security [WS-Security].

106 At the token level, a processor of licenses MUST conform to the required validation  
107 and processing rules defined in ISO/IEC 21000-5 [REL].

### 108 3.3 Attaching Security Tokens

109 Licenses are attached to SOAP messages using WS-Security by placing the license  
110 element inside the `<wsse:Security>` header. The following example illustrates a  
111 SOAP message with a license.

```
112 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">  
113   <S:Header>  
114     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">  
115       <r:license xmlns:r="...">  
116         ...  
117       </r:license>  
118       ...  
119     </wsse:Security>  
120   </S:Header>  
121   <S:Body>  
122     ...  
123   </S:Body>  
124 </S:Envelope>
```

### 125 3.4 Identifying and Referencing Security Tokens

126 The Web Services Security: SOAP Message Security [WS-Security] specification defines the  
127 `wsu:id` attribute as the common mechanism for identifying security tokens (the specification  
128 describes the reasons for this). Licenses have an additional identification mechanism available:  
129 their `licenseId` attribute, the value of which is a URI. The following example shows a license that  
130 uses both mechanisms:



131  
132  
133  
134  
135

```
<r:license xmlns:r="..." xmlns:wssu="..."
  licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268"
  wssu:Id="SecurityToken-ef375268">
  ...
</r:license>
```

136 Licenses can be referenced either according to their location or their licenseld. Location  
137 references are dependent on location and can be either local or remote. Licenseld references  
138 are not dependent on location.

139 Local location references are RECOMMENDED when they can be used. Remote location  
140 references are OPTIONAL for cases where it is not feasible to transmit licenses with the SOAP  
141 message. Licenseld references are OPTIONAL for cases where location is unknown or cannot  
142 be indicated.

143 WS-Security specifies that tokens are referenced using the <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>  
144 element.

145 Implementations compliant with this profile SHOULD set the  
146 /wsse:SecurityTokenReference/wsse:Reference/@ValueType attribute to http://docs.oasis-  
147 open.org/wss/oasis-wss-rel-token-profile-1.0.pdf#license when using  
148 wsse:SecurityTokenReference to refer to a license by licenseld. This is OPTIONAL when  
149 referring to a license by location.

150 The following table demonstrates the use of the <wsse:SecurityTokenReference> element to  
151 refer to licenses.

By Location	Local	<pre>&lt;wsse:SecurityTokenReference&gt;   &lt;wsse:Reference     URI="#SecurityToken-ef375268"   /&gt; &lt;/wsse:SecurityTokenReference&gt;</pre>
	Remote	<pre>&lt;wsse:SecurityTokenReference&gt;   &lt;wsse:Reference     URI="http://www.foo.com/ef375268.xml"   /&gt; &lt;/wsse:SecurityTokenReference&gt;</pre>
By licenseld		<pre>&lt;wsse:SecurityTokenReference&gt;   &lt;wsse:Reference     URI="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268"     ValueType="http://docs.oasis- open.org/wss/oasis-wss-rel-token-profile- 1.0.pdf#license"   /&gt; &lt;/wsse:SecurityTokenReference&gt;</pre>

152

**Table 2. <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>**

153 The following example demonstrates how a <wsse:SecurityTokenReference> can be used to  
154 indicate that the message parts specified inside the <ds:SignedInfo> element were signed using  
155 a key from the license referenced by licenseld in the <ds:KeyInfo> element.

156  
157

```
<S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
  <S:Header>
```

```

158     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">
159         <r:license xmlns:r="..."
160 licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268" xmlns:wsu="..."
161 wsu:Id="SecurityToken-ef375268">
162             ...
163         </r:license>
164         ...
165         <ds:Signature>
166             <ds:SignedInfo>
167                 ...
168             </ds:SignedInfo>
169             <ds:SignatureValue>...</ds:SignatureValue>
170             <ds:KeyInfo>
171                 <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
172                     <wsse:Reference
173                         URI="#SecurityToken-ef375268"
174                     />
175                 </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
176             </ds:KeyInfo>
177         </ds:Signature>
178     </wsse:Security>
179 </S:Header>
180 <S:Body>
181     ...
182 </S:Body>
183 </S:Envelope>

```

184 The following example shows a signature over a local license using a location reference to that  
185 license. The example demonstrates how the integrity of an (unsigned) license can be preserved  
186 by signing it in the <wsse:Security> header.

```

187 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
188     <S:Header>
189         <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="..."
190             <r:license xmlns:r="..." xmlns:wsu="..." wsu:Id="SecurityToken-
191 ef375268">
192             ...
193         </r:license>
194         ...
195         <wsse:SecurityTokenReference wsu:Id="Str1">
196             <wsse:Reference
197                 URI="#SecurityToken-ef375268"
198             />
199         </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
200         ...
201         <ds:Signature>
202             <ds:SignedInfo>
203                 ...
204                 <Reference URI="#Str1">
205                     <Transforms>
206                         <ds:Transform
207                             Algorithm="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/2003/06/STR-
208 Transform">
209                             <ds:CanonicalizationMethod
210                                 Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xml-c14n-
211 20010315"/>
212                         </ds:Transform>

```

```

213         </ds:Transforms>
214         <ds:DigestMethod
215             Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"
216         />
217         <ds:DigestValue>...</ds:DigestValue>
218     </ds:Reference>
219 </ds:SignedInfo>
220 <ds:SignatureValue>...</ds:SignatureValue>
221 <ds:KeyInfo>...</ds:KeyInfo>
222 </ds:Signature>
223 </wsse:Security>
224 </S:Header>
225 <S:Body>
226     ...
227 </S:Body>
228 </S:Envelope>

```

229 Note: since licenses allow the use of the wsu:Id attribute, it is usually not necessary to use the  
230 STR-Transform because the license can be referred to directly in the ds:SignedInfo as shown in  
231 the following example:

```

232 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
233   <S:Header>
234     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">
235       <r:license xmlns:r="..." xmlns:wsu="..." wsu:Id="SecurityToken-
236 ef375268">
237         ...
238       </r:license>
239       ...
240       <ds:Signature>
241         <ds:SignedInfo>
242           ...
243           <ds:Reference URI="#SecurityToken-ef375268">
244             <ds:DigestMethod
245               Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"
246             />
247             <ds:DigestValue>...</ds:DigestValue>
248           </ds:Reference>
249         </ds:SignedInfo>
250         <ds:SignatureValue>...</ds:SignatureValue>
251         <ds:KeyInfo>...</ds:KeyInfo>
252       </ds:Signature>
253     </wsse:Security>
254   </S:Header>
255   <S:Body>
256     ...
257 </S:Body>
258 </S:Envelope>

```

### 259 3.5 Authentication

260 The Web Services Security: SOAP Message Security [WS-Security] specification does not dictate  
261 how claim confirmation must be performed. As well, the REL allows for multiple types of  
262 confirmation. This profile of WS-Security REQUIRES that message senders and receivers  
263 support claim confirmation for <r:keyHolder> principals. It is RECOMMENDED that an XML

264 Signature be used to establish the relationship between the message sender and the claims. This  
265 is especially RECOMMENDED whenever the SOAP message exchange is conducted over an  
266 unprotected transport.

267 The following table enumerates the mandatory principals to be supported by claim confirmation  
268 and summarizes their associated processing models. It should be noted that this table is not all-  
269 encompassing, and it is envisioned that future specifications may expand this table over time.

Principal	RECOMMENDED Processing Rules
<r:keyHolder>	The message sender adds (to the security header) an XML Signature that can be verified with the key information specified in the <r:keyHolder> of the referenced license.

270 **Table 3. Processing Rules for Claim Confirmation**

271 Note that the high-level processing model described in the following sections does not  
272 differentiate between message author and message sender as would be necessary to guard  
273 against replay attacks. The high-level processing model also does not take into account  
274 requirements for authentication of receiver by sender or for message or token confidentiality.  
275 These concerns must be addressed by means other than those described in the high-level  
276 processing model. If confidentiality of the token in the message is important, then use the  
277 approach defined by [WS-Security] to encrypt the token.

### 278 **3.5.1 <r:keyHolder> Principal**

279 The following sections describe the <r:keyHolder> method of establishing the correspondence  
280 between a SOAP message sender and the claims within a license.

#### 281 **Sender**

282 The message sender MUST include within the <wsse:Security> header element a <r:license>  
283 containing at least one <r:grant> to an <r:keyHolder> identifying the key to be used to confirm the  
284 claims. If the message sender includes an <r:license> containing more than one <r:grant> to an  
285 <r:keyHolder>, then all of those <r:keyHolder> elements MUST be equal.

286 In order for the receiver to perform claim confirmation, the sender MUST demonstrate knowledge  
287 of the confirmation key. The sender MAY accomplish this by using the confirmation key to sign  
288 content from within the message and by including the resulting <ds:Signature> element in the  
289 <wsse:Security> header element. <ds:Signature> elements produced for this purpose MUST  
290 conform to the canonicalization and token inclusion rules defined in the core WS-Security  
291 specification and this profile specification.

292 Licenses that contain at least one <r:grant> to an <r:keyHolder> SHOULD contain an <r:issuer>  
293 with a <ds:Signature> element that identifies the license issuer to the relying party and protects  
294 the integrity of the confirmation key established by the license issuer.

295 **Receiver**

296 If the receiver determines that the sender has demonstrated knowledge of a confirmation key as  
297 specified in an <r:keyHolder>, then the claims (found in the licenses) pertaining to that  
298 <r:keyHolder> MAY be attributed to the sender. If one of these claims is an identity and if the  
299 conditions of that claim are satisfied, then any elements of the message whose integrity is  
300 protected by the confirmation key MAY be considered to have been authored by that identity.

301 **Example**

302 The following example illustrates how a license security token having an <r:keyHolder> principal  
303 can be used with a <ds:Signature> to establish that John Doe is requesting a stock report on  
304 FOO.

```
305 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
306   <S:Header>
307     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">
308       <r:license xmlns:r="..."
309 licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
310         <r:grant>
311           <r:keyHolder>
312             <r:info>
313               <ds:KeyValue>...</ds:KeyValue>
314             </r:info>
315           </r:keyHolder>
316           <r:possessProperty/>
317           <sx:commonName xmlns:sx="...">John Doe</sx:commonName>
318         </r:grant>
319         <r:issuer>
320           <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
321         </r:issuer>
322       </r:license>
323     </S:Header>
324   <ds:Signature>
325     <ds:SignedInfo>
326       ...
327       <ds:Reference URI="#MsgBody">
328         <ds:DigestMethod
329           Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"
330         />
331         <ds:DigestValue>...</ds:DigestValue>
332       </ds:Reference>
333     </ds:SignedInfo>
334     <ds:SignatureValue>...</ds:SignatureValue>
335     <ds:KeyInfo>
336       <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
337         <wsse:Reference
338           URI="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268"
339           ValueType="http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/oasis-wss-rel-
340 token-profile-1.0.pdf#license"
341         />
342       </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
343     </ds:KeyInfo>
344   </ds:Signature>
```

346  
347  
348  
349  
350  
351  
352  
353  
354  
355  
356  
357

```
</ds:Signature>

</wsse:Security>
</S:Header>

<S:Body @wsu:Id="MsgBody" xmlns:wsu="...">
  <ReportRequest>
    <TickerSymbol>FOO</TickerSymbol>
  </ReportRequest>
</S:Body>

</S:Envelope>
```

### 358 3.6 Confidentiality

359 This section details how licenses may be used to protect the confidentiality of a SOAP message  
360 within WS-Security. The Web Services Security: SOAP Message Security [WS-Security]  
361 specification does not dictate how confidentiality must be performed. As well, the REL allows for  
362 multiple types of confidentiality. This profile of WS-Security REQUIRES that message senders  
363 and receivers support confidentiality for <r:keyHolder> principals. It is RECOMMENDED that  
364 XML Encryption be used to ensure confidentiality. This is especially RECOMMENDED whenever  
365 the SOAP message exchange is conducted over an unprotected transport.

366 The following table enumerates the mandatory principals to be supported for confidentiality and  
367 summarizes their associated processing models. It should be noted that this table is not all-  
368 encompassing, and it is envisioned that future specifications may expand this table over time.

Principal	RECOMMENDED Processing Rules
<r:keyHolder>	The message sender adds (to the security header) either 1) an <xenc:ReferenceList> that points to one or more <xenc:EncryptedData> elements that can be decrypted with a key which can be determined from information specified in the <r:keyHolder> of the referenced license or 2) an <xenc:EncryptedKey> that can be decrypted with a key determined from information specified in the <r:keyHolder> of the referenced license.

369 **Table 4. Processing Rules for Confidentiality**

370 Note that this section deals only with Confidentiality. Details of authentication of the sender by  
371 the receiver must be addressed by means other than those described in this section (see the  
372 previous section).

### 373 3.6.1 <r:keyHolder> Principal

374 The following sections describe the <r:keyHolder> method of establishing confidentiality using a  
375 license.

#### 376 Sender

377 The message sender MUST include within the <wsse:Security> header element a <r:license>  
378 containing at least one <r:grant> to an <r:keyHolder> identifying the key used to encrypt some  
379 data or key. If the message sender includes an <r:license> containing more than one <r:grant> to  
380 an <r:keyHolder>, then all of those <r:keyHolder> elements MUST be equal.

381 In order for the receiver to know when to decrypt the data or key, the sender MUST indicate the  
382 encryption in the message. The sender MAY accomplish this by placing an  
383 <xenc:EncryptedData> or <xenc:EncryptedKey> in the appropriate place in the message and by  
384 including the resulting <xenc:ReferenceList> or <xenc:EncryptedKey> element in the  
385 <wsse:Security> header element. <xenc:ReferenceList> or <xenc:EncryptedKey> elements  
386 produced for this purpose MUST conform to the rules defined in the core WS-Security  
387 specification and this profile specification.

#### 388 Receiver

389 If the receiver determines that he has knowledge of a decryption key as specified in an  
390 <r:keyHolder>, then he MAY decrypt the associated data or key. In the case of decrypting a key,  
391 he may then recursively decrypt any data or key that that key can decrypt.

392

#### 393 Example

394 The following example illustrates how a license containing a <r:keyHolder> principal can be used  
395 with XML encryption schema elements to protect the confidentiality of a message using a  
396 separate encryption key given in the <xenc:EncryptedKey> in the security header.

397 In this example, the r:license element provides information about the recipient's RSA public key  
398 (i.e., KeyValue in keyHolder) used to encrypt the symmetric key carried in the EncryptedKey  
399 element. The recipient uses this information to determine the correct private key to use in  
400 decrypting the symmetric key. The symmetric key is then used to decrypt the EncryptedData child  
401 of the Body element.

402

```
403 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">  
404   <S:Header>  
405     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">  
406       <r:license xmlns:r="..."  
407         licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">  
408         <r:grant>  
409           <r:keyHolder>  
410             <r:info>  
411               <ds:KeyValue>...</ds:KeyValue>  
412             </r:info>  
413           </r:keyHolder>
```

```

414     <r:possessProperty/>
415     <sx:commonName xmlns:sx="...">SOME COMPANY</sx:commonName>
416 </r:grant>
417 <r:issuer>
418     <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
419 </r:issuer>
420 </r:license>
421 <xenc:EncryptedKey xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
422     <xenc:EncryptionMethod
423         Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-1_5"/>
424     <KeyInfo xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
425         <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
426             <wsse:Reference URI="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268"/>
427         </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
428     </KeyInfo>
429     <xenc:CipherData>
430         <xenc:CipherValue>dNYS...fQ=</xenc:CipherValue>
431     </xenc:CipherData>
432     <xenc:ReferenceList>
433         <xenc:DataReference URI="#enc"/>
434     </xenc:ReferenceList>
435 </xenc:EncryptedKey>
436 </wsse:Security>
437 </S:Header>
438 <S:Body wsu:Id="body"
439     xmlns:wsu="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/ws/2003/06/utility">
440     <xenc:EncryptedData Id="enc"
441         Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Content"
442         xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
443         <xenc:EncryptionMethod
444             Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#tripledes-cbc"/>
445         <xenc:CipherData>
446             <xenc:CipherValue>d2s...GQ=</xenc:CipherValue>
447         </xenc:CipherData>
448         </xenc:EncryptedData>
449     </S:Body>
450 </S:Envelope>

```

### 451 3.7 Error Codes

452 It is RECOMMENDED that the error codes defined in the Web Services Security:  
453 SOAP Message Security [WS-Security] specification are used. However,  
454 implementations MAY use custom errors, defined in private namespaces if they  
455 desire. Care should be taken not to introduce security vulnerabilities in the errors  
456 returned.



457

## 4 Types of Licenses (Informative)

458

### 4.1 Attribute Licenses

459

In addition to key information, licenses can carry information about attributes of those keys.

460

Examples of such information on a client are e-mail address or common name. A service's key,

461

on the other hand, might be associated with a DNS name and common name.

462

The following is an example client attribute license.

463

```
<r:license xmlns:r="..."licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
  <r:inventory>
    <r:keyHolder licensePartId="client">
      <r:info>
        <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>
      </r:info>
    </r:keyHolder>
  </r:inventory>
  <r:grant>
    <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="client"/>
    <r:possessProperty/>
    <sx:commonName>John Doe</sx:commonName>
  </r:grant>
  <r:grant>
    <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="client"/>
    <r:possessProperty/>
    <sx:emailName>jd@foo.com</sx:emailName>
  </r:grant>
  <r:issuer>
    <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
  </r:issuer>
</r:license>
```

485

The following is an example service attribute license.

486

```
<r:license xmlns:r="..."licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
  <r:inventory>
    <r:keyHolder licensePartId="service">
      <r:info>
        <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>
      </r:info>
    </r:keyHolder>
  </r:inventory>
  <r:grant>
    <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="service"/>
    <r:possessProperty/>
    <sx:commonName>MyService Company</sx:commonName>
  </r:grant>
  <r:grant>
    <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="service"/>
    <r:possessProperty/>
    <sx:dnsName>www.myservice.com</sx:dnsName>
  </r:grant>
  <r:issuer>
    <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
  </r:issuer>
</r:license>
```

507

508 Additional examples of and processing rules for the use of attribute licenses can be found in the  
509 above sections on Authentication and Confidentiality.

## 510 4.2 Sender Authorization

511 Licenses may be used by a sender as proof of authorization to perform a certain action on a  
512 particular resource. This WS-Security specification does not describe how authorization must be  
513 performed. In the context of web services, a sender can send to a receiver an authorization  
514 license in the security header as proof of authorization to call the sender. Typically, this  
515 authorization license is signed by a trusted authority and conforms to the syntax pattern specified  
516 below.

```
517 <r:license xmlns:r="..."licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">  
518   <r:grant>  
519     <r:keyHolder>  
520       <r:info>  
521         <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>  
522       </r:info>  
523     </r:keyHolder>  
524     <sx:rightUri definition='...'/>  
525     <x:someResource/>  
526     <x:someCondition/>  
527   </r:grant>  
528   <r:issuer>  
529     <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>  
530   </r:issuer>  
531 </r:license>
```

532 The above license contains an authorization grant authorizing the keyholder (sender's public  
533 key), the right to exercise the right identified in the <sx:rightUri> element. The resource in the  
534 license typically corresponds to the semantics of the URI given in the definition attribute of the  
535 <sx:rightUri> element. The entire license along with the <ds:Signature> element in the <r:issuer>  
536 certifies the fact that the principal (<keyholder>) is granted the authorization to exercise the right  
537 in the <sx:rightUri> element over the specified resource. The integrity of the license is usually  
538 protected with a digital signature contained within the <ds:Signature>.

## 539 4.3 Issuer Authorization

540 To enunciate that a particular issuer is allowed to issue particular types of licenses, one can use  
541 the kind of license described here. Issuer authorization licenses can accompany other licenses in  
542 the security header such as those used for authentication, sender authorization, or other issuer  
543 authorizations. These issuer authorization licenses might help complete the authorization proof  
544 that is required for authorizing or authenticating a particular sender.

545

546 The following license is an example issuer authorization license for authorizing an issuer to issue  
547 a simple attribute license.

```
548 <r:license xmlns:r="..."licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">  
549   <r:grant>  
550     <r:forAll varName='K' />  
551     <r:forAll varName='P' />  
552     <r:keyHolder>  
553       <r:info>  
554         <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>  
555       </r:info>
```

```

556     </r:keyHolder>
557     <r:issue/>
558     <r:grant>
559         <r:keyHolder varRef='K' />
560         <r:possessProperty/>
561         <r:propertyAbstract varRef='P' />
562     </r:grant>
563 </r:grant>
564 <r:issuer>
565     <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
566 </r:issuer>
567 </r:license>

```

568 The following license is an example issuer authorization license for authorizing an issuer to issue  
569 sender authorization licenses.

```

570 <r:license xmlns:r="..."licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
571     <r:grant>
572         <r:forAll varName='K' />
573         <r:forAll varName='R' />
574         <r:keyHolder>
575             <r:info>
576                 <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>
577             </r:info>
578         </r:keyHolder>
579         <r:issue/>
580         <r:grant>
581             <r:keyHolder varRef='K' />
582             <sx:rightUri definition='...' />
583             <r:resource varRef='R' />
584         </r:grant>
585     </r:grant>
586     <r:issuer>
587         <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
588     </r:issuer>
589 </r:license>

```

590 The following license is an example issuer authorization license for authorizing an issuer to issue  
591 (to other issuers) issuer authorization licenses allowing those other issuers to issue simple  
592 attribute licenses, such as those that can be used for authentication or confidentiality.

```

593 <r:license xmlns:r="..."licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
594     <r:grant>
595         <r:forAll varName='I' />
596         <r:keyHolder>
597             <r:info>
598                 <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>
599             </r:info>
600         </r:keyHolder>
601         <r:issue/>
602         <r:grant>
603             <r:forAll varName='K' />
604             <r:forAll varName='P' />
605             <r:keyHolder varRef='I' />
606             <r:issue/>
607             <r:grant>
608                 <r:keyHolder varRef='K' />
609                 <r:possessProperty/>
610                 <r:propertyAbstract varRef='P' />
611             </r:grant>
612         </r:grant>
613     </r:grant>
614     <r:issuer>
615         <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
616     </r:issuer>

```

617

</r:license>

618

---

619

## 5 Threat Model and Countermeasures (Informative)

620

621 This section addresses the potential threats that a SOAP message may encounter and the  
622 countermeasures that may be taken to thwart such threats. A SOAP message containing licenses  
623 may face threats in various contexts. This includes the cases where the message is in transit,  
624 being routed through a number of intermediaries, or during the period when the message is in  
625 storage.

626 The use of licenses with WS-Security introduces no new threats beyond those identified for the  
627 REL or WS-Security with other types of security tokens. Message alteration and eavesdropping  
628 can be addressed by using the integrity and confidentiality mechanisms described in WS-  
629 Security. Replay attacks can be addressed by using of message timestamps and caching, as well  
630 as other application-specific tracking mechanisms. For licenses, ownership is verified by the use  
631 of keys; man-in-the-middle attacks are generally mitigated. It is strongly RECOMMENDED that all  
632 relevant and immutable message data be signed. It should be noted that transport-level security  
633 MAY be used to protect the message and the security token. In order to trust licenses, they  
634 SHOULD be signed natively and/or using the mechanisms outlined in WS-Security. This allows  
635 readers of the licenses to be certain that the licenses have not been forged or altered in any way.  
636 It is strongly RECOMMENDED that the <r:license> elements be signed (either within the token,  
637 as part of the message, or both).

638 The following few sections elaborate on the afore-mentioned threats and suggest  
639 countermeasures.

640

### 5.1 Eavesdropping

641 Eavesdropping is a threat to the confidentiality of the message, and is common to all types of  
642 network protocols. The routing of SOAP messages through intermediaries increases the potential  
643 incidences of eavesdropping. Additional opportunities for eavesdropping exist when SOAP  
644 messages are persisted.

645 To provide maximum protection from eavesdropping, licenses, license references, and sensitive  
646 message content SHOULD be encrypted such that only the intended audiences can view their  
647 content. This removes threats of eavesdropping in transit, but does not remove risks associated  
648 with storage or poor handling by the receiver.

649 Transport-layer security MAY be used to protect the message from eavesdropping while in  
650 transport, but message content must be encrypted above the transport if it is to be protected from  
651 eavesdropping by intermediaries.

652

### 5.2 Replay

653 The reliance on authority protected (e.g. signed) licenses to <r:keyHolder> principals precludes  
654 all but the key holder from binding the licenses to a SOAP message. Although this mechanism

655 effectively restricts message authorship to the holder of the confirmation key, it does not preclude  
656 the capture and resubmission of the message by other parties.

657 Replay attacks can be addressed by using message timestamps and caching, as well as other  
658 application-specific tracking mechanisms.

### 659 **5.3 Message Insertion**

660 This profile of WS-Security is not vulnerable to message insertion attacks. Higher-level protocols  
661 built on top of SOAP and WS-Security should avoid introducing message insertion threats and  
662 provide proper countermeasures for any they do introduce.

### 663 **5.4 Message Deletion**

664 This profile of WS-Security is not vulnerable to message deletion attacks other than denial of  
665 service. Higher-level protocols built on top of SOAP and WS-Security should avoid introducing  
666 message deletion threats and provide proper countermeasures for any they do introduce.

### 667 **5.5 Message Modification**

668 Message Modification poses a threat to the integrity of a message. The threat of message  
669 modification can be thwarted by signing the relevant and immutable content by the key holder.  
670 The receivers SHOULD only trust the integrity of those segments of the message that are signed  
671 by the key holder.

672 To ensure that message receivers can have confidence that received licenses have not been  
673 forged or altered since their issuance, licenses appearing in <wsse:Security> header elements  
674 SHOULD be integrity protected (e.g. signed) by their issuing authority. It is strongly  
675 RECOMMENDED that a message sender sign any <r:license> elements that it is confirming and  
676 that are not signed by their issuing authority.

677 Transport-layer security MAY be used to protect the message and contained licenses and/or  
678 license references from modification while in transport, but signatures are required to extend such  
679 protection through intermediaries.

### 680 **5.6 Man-in-the-Middle**

681 This profile of WS-Security is not vulnerable to man-in-the-middle attacks. Higher-level protocols  
682 built on top of SOAP and WS-Security should avoid introducing Man-in-the-Middle threats and  
683 provide proper countermeasures for any they do introduce.

684

685

---

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## Appendix A: Revision History

Rev	Date	What
01	19-Sep-02	Initial draft produced by extracting SAML related content from [XML token]
02	12-Dec-02	Naming changes
03	30-Jan -03	Name changes, merged in comments from Thomas DeMartini
04	13-Nov-03	Updates, merged in comments from Thomas DeMartini
05	08-Jan-04	Contributor list updates, many title page updates, document name updates, namespace updates, switched from QNames to URIs.
06	29-Apr-04	Clarified case when a license contains more than one grant. Updated URIs.
07	24-May-04	Removed XrML from document name, per request from OASIS staff. Updated document to remove references to XrML.
08	18-Jun-04	Updated Contributor List
09	07-Sep-04	Updated contributor list and added link to errata



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