



DSS - Object naming guidelines

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Abstract:

This document contains a set of guidelines for naming objects, such as specifications and schema definitions for the Digital Signature Services TC of OASIS.

Status:

This document is a working draft.

If you are on the dss@lists.oasis-open.org list for committee members, send comments there. If you are not on that list, subscribe to the dss-comment@lists.oasis-open.org list and send comments there. To subscribe, send an email message to dss-comment-request@lists.oasis-open.org with the word "subscribe" as the body of the message.

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1. Introduction

The DSS committee recognizes the need for guidelines for naming objects used in its work, such as requirements, specifications, schema definitions, attribute identifiers, profile identifiers, etc.. This guideline document describes a convention for use by the various working groups of the committee.

2. Notation

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].

3. Definitions

Contribution – A document submitted by an individual to the TC for consideration. If there is informal agreement in the TC that the document forms the sole basis for further discussion of the subject matter, then the document ceases to be a **contribution** and becomes a working draft.

Contributor – The family name of the individual who submitted a **contribution**. Uses only lower-case letters.

Document identifier - A string that uniquely identifies an OASIS TC document.

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) or PDF (.pdf).

Part - The name of a project sub-part (e.g. “core” or a profile).

Object – The type of the object. 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. A good attempt should be made to complete the list. But oftentimes, committees will have to define their own special-purpose objects. And any inconsistency that may arise will just have to be accepted.

Revision - A specification development stage that is designated with a number in the form *nn* for purposes of distinguishing drafts under active TC development. An individual document typically goes through several (or many) revisions before reaching full maturity as a Committee Draft or OASIS Standard.

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. Prior to becoming a Working Draft, a document MAY be a **contribution**. The following abbreviations SHALL be used:

- Working Draft – wd
- Committee Draft – cd
- OASIS Specification – os

In the case of a **contribution**, the value of **stage** SHALL be the **contributor**.

TC identifier - A short string that uniquely identifies the OASIS Technical Committee, in this case “dss”.

Version - A specification development stage that is formally designated with 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.

4. Naming Rules

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

- Lowercase spelling is RECOMMENDED.
- The revision component MUST be omitted from the final version of an object.

4.1 URI

The following format SHOULD be used for URIs:-

```
"http://www.oasis-open.org/tc"/TC  
identifier/version/part/object/stage/revision.form
```

Note: OASIS should ensure that (where appropriate) the object or information about the object is retrieved by an HTTP GET operation using this URI. While, it is not currently possible to achieve this within KAVI, OASIS intends to provide such a facility.

4.2 Document identifier

The following format SHOULD be used for document identifiers:-

```
"oasis"-TC identifier-version-part-object-stage-revision
```

Hyphens MUST be used as separators of the major components. Spaces MUST NOT be used. Hyphens are RECOMMENDED between words within the **part** and **object** components, though underscores MAY be used. Hyphens are preferred because they are easier to see in displayed URIs and easier to type.

4.3 Filename

The following format SHOULD be used for filenames, except when the file is stored in a hierarchical file system:-

```
"oasis"-TC identifier-version-part-object-stage-revision.form
```

If the object is stored in a hierarchical file system, then the filename SHOULD be:-

```
revision.form
```

The **form** component SHALL be omitted for purposes of bibliographic citation.

If the document uses change bars or other change-tracking devices, then an extended **object** component MAY indicate this (for example, -diff).

4.4 Namespace name

The following format SHOULD be used for namespace names:-

```
"http://www.oasis-open.org/tc"/TC  
identifier/version/part/object/stage/revision
```

5. Examples

The following examples illustrate the application of the object 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.

URI = <http://www.oasis-open.org/tc/dss/1.0/timestamp-token/schema/wd/01.xsd>

Document identifier = oasis-dss-1.0-timestamp-token-schema-wd-01

Appendix A. Notices

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Appendix B. Revision History

Revision	Date	By whom	What
WD 01	05 Sep 2003	Tim Moses	Initial draft

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.