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

18 June 2004

6 **Document identifier:**

7 urn:oasis:names:tc:WSS:1.0:profiles:REL

8 **Location:**

9 http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/##/oasis-####-wss-REL-token-profile-1.0

10 http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/documents.php

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

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

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## 60      **1 Introduction (Informative)**

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

---

## 65    2 Notations and Terminology (Normative)

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

### 67    2.1 Notational Conventions

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

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

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

### 77    2.2 Namespaces

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

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

85    The following namespaces are used in this document:

86

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

87

**Table 1 Namespace Prefixes**

88

89 **2.3 Terminology**

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

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

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

---

## 94    3 Usage (Normative)

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

### 97    3.1 Token Types

98    When a URI value is used to indicate a license according to this profile, its value MUST be  
99    <http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/##/oasis-##-wss-REL-token-profile-1.0#license>.

### 100    3.2 Processing Model

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

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

### 106    3.3 Attaching Security Tokens

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

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

### 123    3.4 Identifying and Referencing Security Tokens

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

```

129 <r:license xmlns:r="..." xmlns:wsu="..." 
130   licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268" 
131   wsu:Id="SecurityToken-ef375268">
132   ...
133 </r:license>

```

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

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

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

143 Implementations compliant with this profile SHOULD set the  
144 /wsse:SecurityTokenReference/wsse:Reference/@ValueType attribute to http://docs.oasis-  
145 open.org/wss/2004/##/oasis-####-wss-REL-token-profile-1.0#license when using  
146 wsse:SecurityTokenReference to refer to a license by licenseld. This is OPTIONAL when  
147 referring to a license by location.

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

By Location	Local	<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>       <wsse:Reference         URI="#SecurityToken-ef375268"       />     </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
	Remote	<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>       <wsse:Reference         URI="http://www.foo.com/ef375268.xml"       />     </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
By licenseld		<wsse:SecurityTokenReference>       <wsse:Reference         URI="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268"         ValueType="http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/##/oasis-####-wss-REL-token-profile-1.0#license"       />     </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>

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

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

```

154 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
155   <S:Header>

```

```

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

```

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

```

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

```

```

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

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

```

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

## 257 3.5 Authentication

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

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

265 The following table enumerates the mandatory principals to be supported by claim confirmation  
266 and summarizes their associated processing models. It should be noted that this table is not all-  
267 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.

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

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

### 276 **3.5.1 <r:keyHolder> Principal**

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

#### 279 **Sender**

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

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

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

293 **Receiver**

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

299 **Example**

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

```
303 <S:Envelope xmlns:S="...">
304
305   <S:Header>
306     <wsse:Security xmlns:wsse="...">
307
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:possessProperty>
319         </r:grant>
320         <r:issuer>
321           <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
322         </r:issuer>
323       </r:license>
324
325       <ds:Signature>
326         <ds:SignedInfo>
327           ...
328             <ds:Reference URI="#MsgBody">
329               <ds:DigestMethod
330                 Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1"
331               />
332               <ds:DigestValue>...</ds:DigestValue>
333             </ds:Reference>
334           </ds:SignedInfo>
335           <ds:SignatureValue>...</ds:SignatureValue>
336           <ds:KeyInfo>
337             <wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
338               <wsse:Reference
339                 URI="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268"
340                 ValueType="http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/2004/#/oasis-
341                 #####-wss-REL-token-profile-1.0#license"
342               />
343             </wsse:SecurityTokenReference>
344           </ds:KeyInfo>
```

```

344     </ds:Signature>
345
346     </wsse:Security>
347 </S:Header>
348
349     <S:Body @wsu:Id="MsgBody" xmlns:wsu="...">
350         <ReportRequest>
351             <TickerSymbol>FOO</TickerSymbol>
352         </ReportRequest>
353     </S:Body>
354
355 </S:Envelope>

```

## 356 3.6 Confidentiality

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

364 The following table enumerates the mandatory principals to be supported for confidentiality and  
 365 summarizes their associated processing models. It should be noted that this table is not all-  
 366 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.

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

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

371    **3.6.1 <r:keyHolder> Principal**

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

374    **Sender**

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

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

386    **Receiver**

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

390

391    **Example**

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

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

400

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

```

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

```

## 449   3.7 Error Codes

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

---

## 455    4 Types of Licenses (Informative)

### 456    4.1 Attribute Licenses

457    In addition to key information, licenses can carry information about attributes of those keys.  
458    Examples of such information on a client are e-mail address or common name. A service's key,  
459    on the other hand, might be associated with a DNS name and common name.

460    The following is an example client attribute license.

```
461 <r:license xmlns:r="..." licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
462   <r:inventory>
463     <r:keyHolder licensePartId="client">
464       <r:info>
465         <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>
466       </r:info>
467     </r:keyHolder>
468   </r:inventory>
469   <r:grant>
470     <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="client"/>
471     <r:possessProperty/>
472     <sx:commonName>John Doe</sx:commonName>
473   </r:grant>
474   <r:grant>
475     <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="client"/>
476     <r:possessProperty/>
477     <sx:emailName>jd@foo.com</sx:emailName>
478   </r:grant>
479   <r:issuer>
480     <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
481   </r:issuer>
482 </r:license>
```

483    The following is an example service attribute license.

```
484 <r:license xmlns:r="..." licenseId="urn:foo:SecurityToken:ef375268">
485   <r:inventory>
486     <r:keyHolder licensePartId="service">
487       <r:info>
488         <ds:KeyValue>FDFEWEFF...</ds:KeyValue>
489       </r:info>
490     </r:keyHolder>
491   </r:inventory>
492   <r:grant>
493     <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="service"/>
494     <r:possessProperty/>
495     <sx:commonName>MyService Company</sx:commonName>
496   </r:grant>
497   <r:grant>
498     <r:keyHolder licensePartIdRef="service"/>
499     <r:possessProperty/>
500     <sx:dnsName>www.myservice.com</sx:dnsName>
501   </r:grant>
502   <r:issuer>
503     <ds:Signature>...</ds:Signature>
504   </r:issuer>
505 </r:license>
```

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

## 508 **4.2 Sender Authorization**

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

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

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

## 537 **4.3 Issuer Authorization**

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

543

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

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

```

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

```

566 The following license is an example issuer authorization license for authorizing an issuer to issue  
567 sender authorization licenses.

```

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

```

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

```

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

```

615

</r:license>

616

---

617 **5 Threat Model and Countermeasures**  
618 **(Informative)**

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

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

636 The following few sections elaborate on the afore-mentioned threats and suggest  
637 countermeasures.

638 **5.1 Eavesdropping**

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

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

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

650 **5.2 Replay**

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

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

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

### 657 **5.3 Message Insertion**

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

### 661 **5.4 Message Deletion**

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

### 665 **5.5 Message Modification**

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

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

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

### 678 **5.6 Man-in-the-Middle**

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

682

---

683

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707

## 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

708

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