

# **CableLabs Specifications Online Content Access**

## **Authentication and Authorization Interface 1.0 Specification**

**CL-SP-AUTH1.0-I02-110324**

**ISSUED**

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## Document Status Sheet

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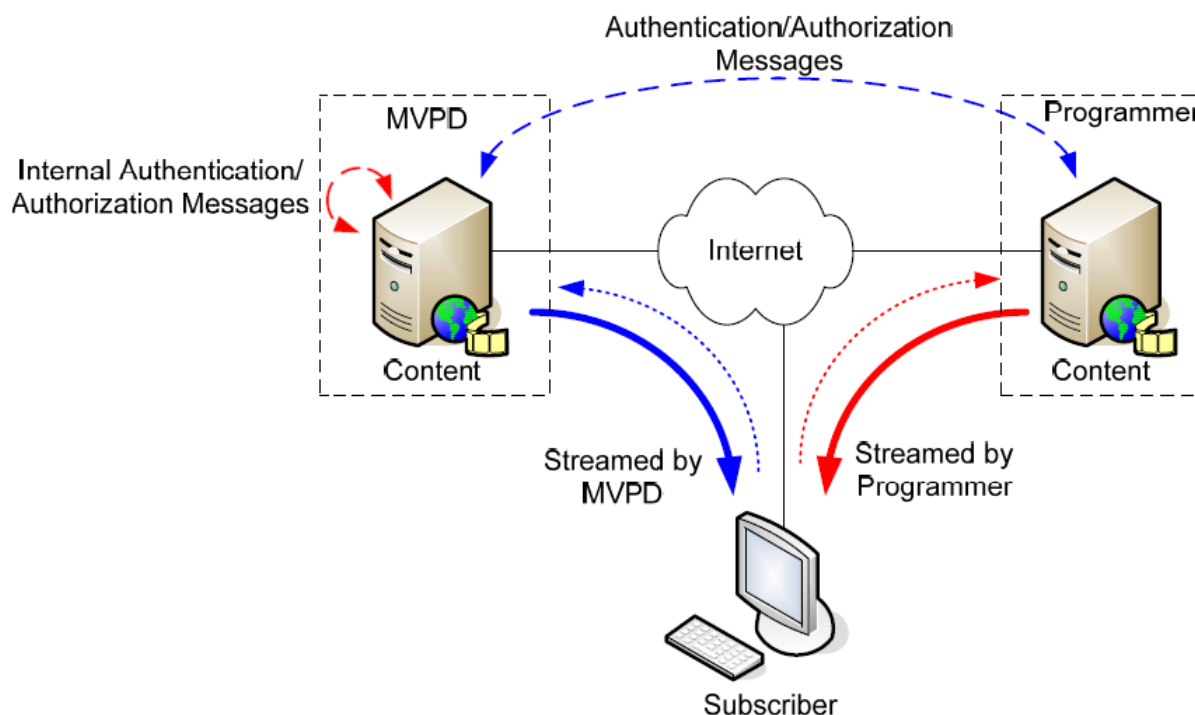
# 1 INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Overview

Initiated by CableLabs member companies, the Online Content Access (OLCA) interoperable protocol specification provides technical requirements and architecture for the delivery of video to a Multichannel Video Programming Distributor (MVPD) Customer from different online sources.

A number of MVPDs have already deployed either field trials or commercial services of online content access, in collaboration with a number of Programmers. There is an interest among MVPDs and Programmers in developing common architectures, interfaces, and operations for online content access services. It is their belief that a common approach will offer greater choice to consumers, expanding the service to include more service providers as well as enable competition among technology providers to support the market.

As shown in Figure 1, this specification will address the common standards and specifications to support authentication and authorization.



**Figure 1 - High-level MVPD, Programmer Ecosystem**

## 1.2 Principal Objectives

The principal service objectives of the cable operators engaged in providing online access to subscription cable TV services are listed below.

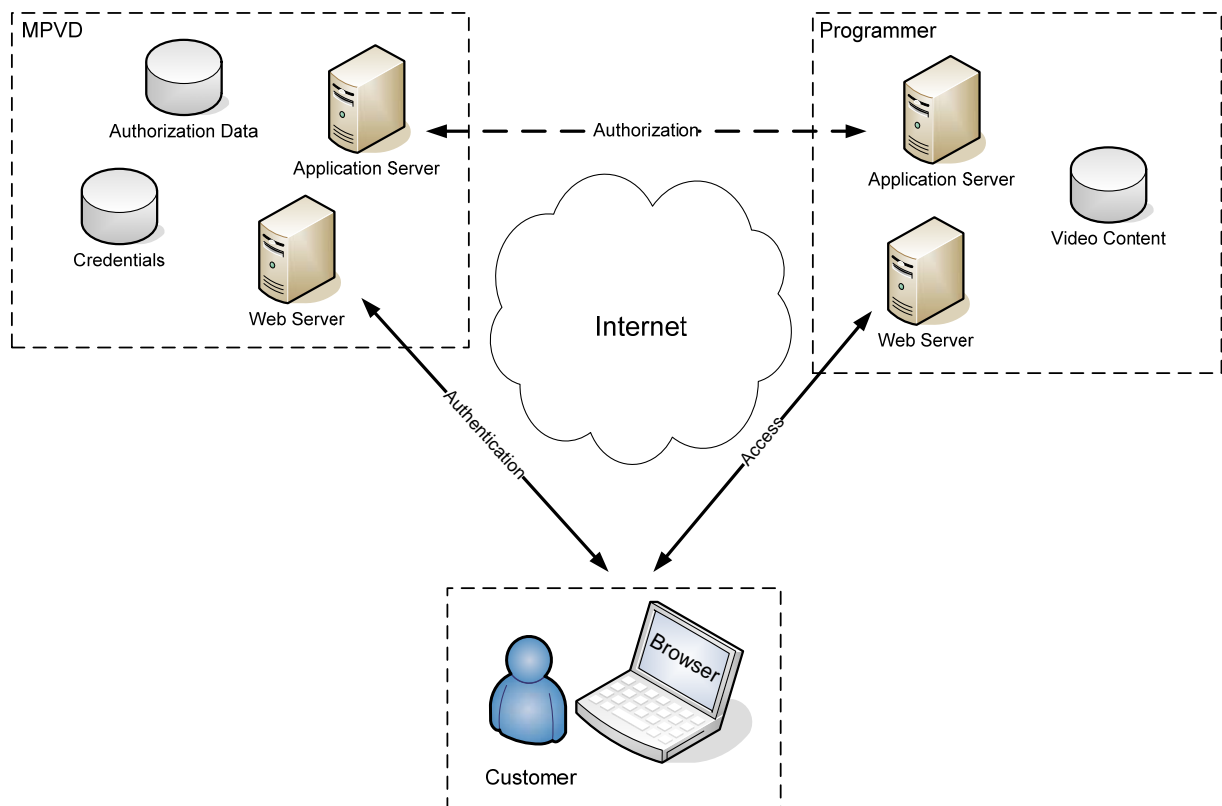
- Enable consumer choice and convenience:
  - Enable consumer choice of devices: TV, PC, and mobile devices

- Enable easy access by consumers, avoiding multiple logins and complex navigation
- Protect content owner's rights by addressing security threats:
  - Theft of service
  - Appropriate measures for user authentication and fraud prevention
- Provide the appropriate level of security to safeguard the consumer's privacy and protect the consumer's identity
- Enable both ad-supported and subscription channel statistics:
  - Provide appropriate viewership statistics to support ratings measurement while protecting consumer's privacy and identity
- Leverage common open standards to the extent possible
- Enable interoperability among the major system components allowing for multiple technology providers to provide products and services to the ecosystem

### 1.3 Scope

Online Content Access service can take on many forms, use different technologies and business models, and be developed by various entities in the online video arena. For example, an MVPD may enable its Customers access to entitled video content online at a Programmer's website.

Figure 2 shows these components, their interfaces, and some of their sub functions.



**Figure 2 - Sample OLCA Architecture**



This specification focuses on the interface between two main players in this space, the MVPD and the Programmer, and defines the authentication and authorization interfaces between these two entities to enable an online content access service.

### **1.3.1 Actors**

The three main actors in the online content access service are the MVPD, the Customer, and the Programmer.

#### **1.3.1.1 MVPD**

Multichannel Video Programming Distributor (MVPD) is a term defined by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to mean an entity such as, but not limited to, a cable operator, a Multiple System Operator (MSO), a multiple channel distribution service, or a television receive-only satellite program distributor who makes available for purchase by Subscribers or customers, multiple channels of video programming. MVPD encompasses all providers of multichannel TV, including MSOs, Private Cable Operators (PCOs), and Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs).

#### **1.3.1.2 Customer**

The Customer is any person within a household, or business that legally receives video service. A household or business entity account may support more than one Customer with its own authentication credentials and authorization status.

#### **1.3.1.3 Programmer**

The Programmer is any entity that, by means other than broadcasting, provides or distributes programming for retransmission by MVPD systems.

### **1.3.2 Roles**

This specification also uses roles such as Service Provider, Authentication Provider, Authorization Provider, and Content Provider to describe the roles that an MVPD or Programmer can take on in the Online Content Access service.

#### **1.3.3 Service Provider**

The Service Provider (SP) role provides the Subscriber interface and access control to online video content. An MVPD or Programmer can be a Service Provider. The Service Provider relies on the Authentication Provider for Customer authentication, the Authorization Provider for authorization, and the Content Provider for the content delivery to the Customer.

#### **1.3.4 Authentication Provider**

The Authentication Provider (AnP) role creates, maintains, and manages the Customer identity information. The AnP provides Customer authentication for the Service Provider. Within the scope of this document, only an MVPD can play the role of an Authentication Provider.

#### **1.3.5 Authorization Provider**

The Authorization Provider (AzP) role creates, maintains, and manages the Customer authorization information. The AzP provides Customer authorization for the Service Provider. Within the scope of this document, only an MVPD can play the role of an Authorization Provider.

### 1.3.6 Content Provider

The Content Provider role delivers content to the Customer. The MVPD or Programmer can be a Content Provider. The Content Provider is responsible for the delivery and protection of the content.

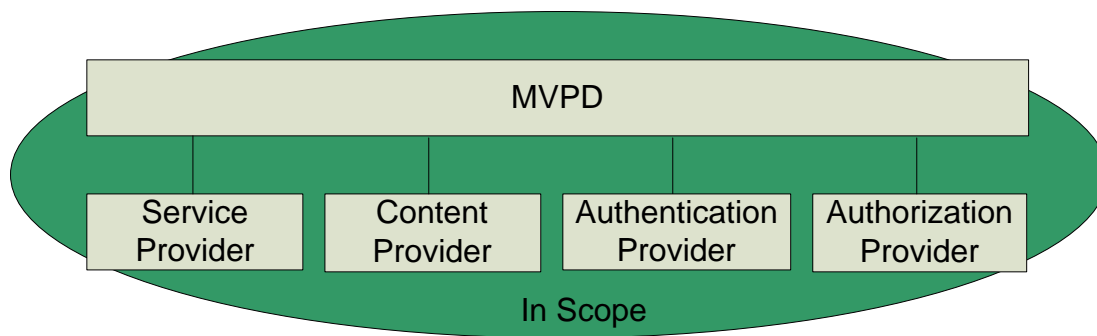
### 1.3.7 Subscriber

The Subscriber serves as the primary role for the Customer. The Subscriber possesses credentials used to authenticate with the AnP.

### 1.3.8 Actor/Role Mappings

#### 1.3.8.1 MVPD

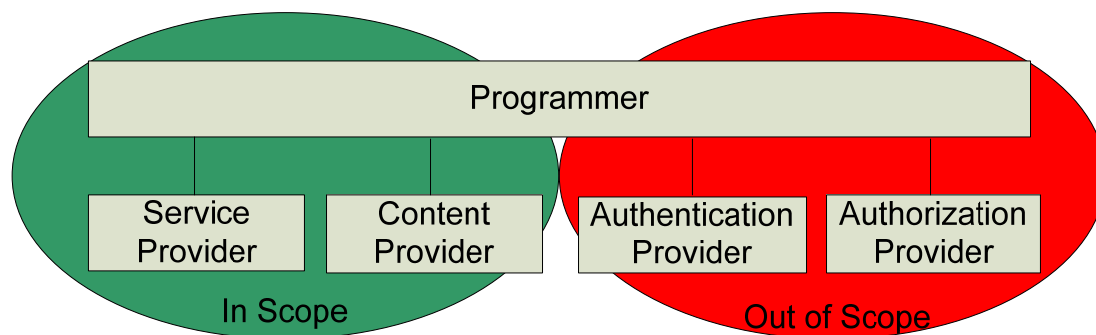
As shown in Figure 3, and within the scope of this document, an MVPD can play the role of a Service Provider, Content Provider, Authentication Provider, or a combination thereof.



**Figure 3 - MVPD Roles**

#### 1.3.8.2 Programmer

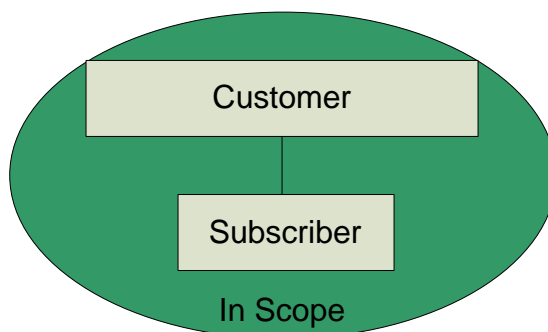
As shown in Figure 4, and within the scope of this document, a Programmer can play the role of a Service Provider, a Content Provider, or a combination thereof, but the role of a Programmer as an Authentication or Authorization Provider is out of scope for this specification.



**Figure 4 - Programmer Roles**

### 1.3.8.3 Customer

As shown in Figure 5, and within the scope of this document, a Customer can take on the sole role of the Subscriber.



**Figure 5 - Customer Roles**

### 1.3.9 User Experience Task Flow

Figure 6 outlines the generalized task flow for the use cases covered herein and can be broken down into the following tasks:

- Portal Entry – Subscriber navigates to the SP web portal
- Portal Exit – Subscriber exits the SP web portal
- Authentication – Subscriber logs in using AnP provided credentials
- Authorization – Subscriber selects content for playback and receives authorization from the AzP
- Browse – Subscriber browses for content of interest

All use cases defined below refer directly to this task flow.

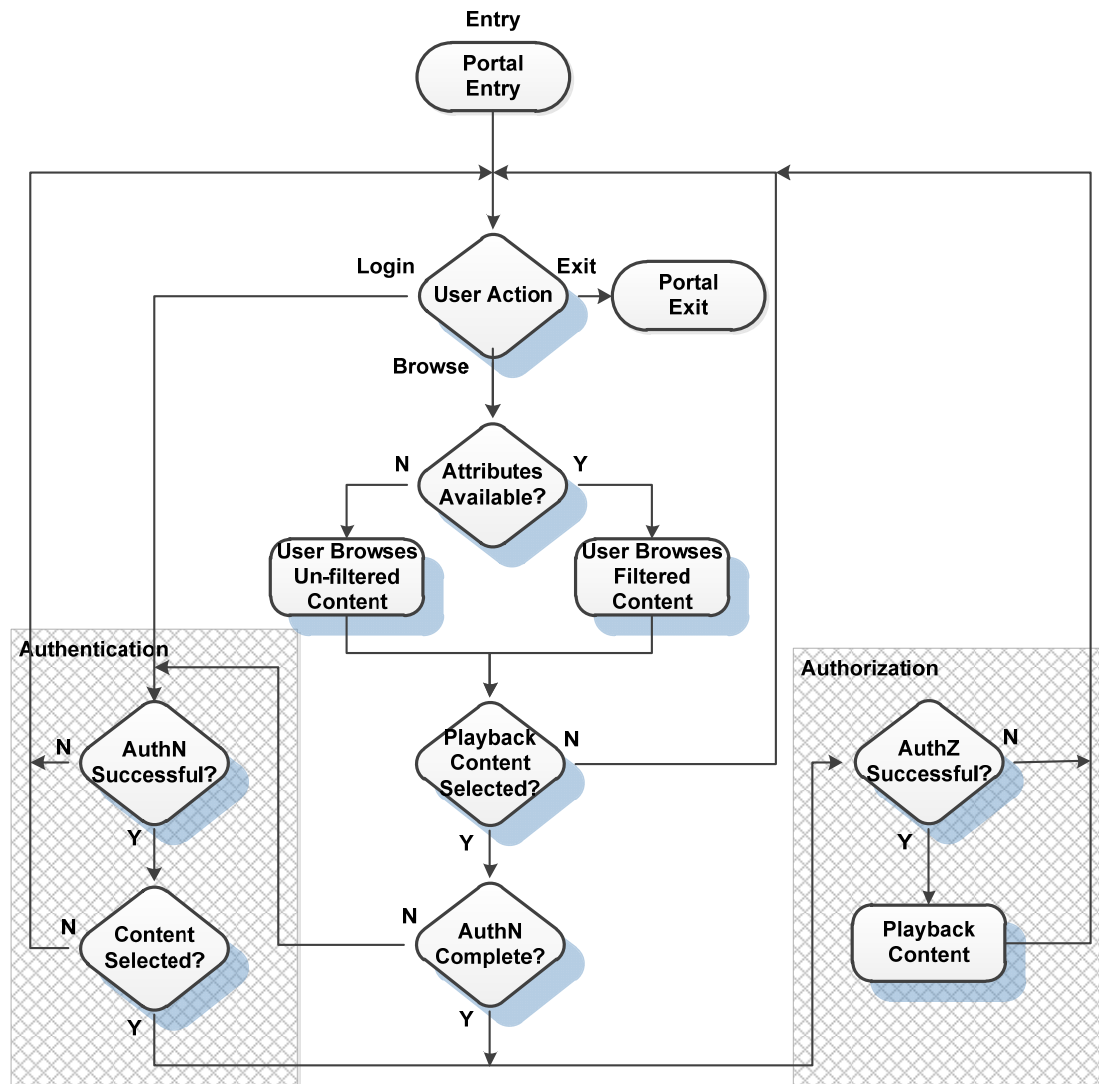


Figure 6 - User Experience Task Flow

## 1.4 Requirements (Conformance Notation)

Throughout this document, the words that are used to define the significance of particular requirements are capitalized. These words are:

"MUST"	This word means that the item is an absolute requirement of this specification.
"MUST NOT"	This phrase means that the item is an absolute prohibition of this specification.
"SHOULD"	This word means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore this item, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before choosing a different course.
"SHOULD NOT"	This phrase means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances when the listed behavior is acceptable or even useful, but the full implications should be understood and the case carefully weighed before implementing any behavior described with this label.
"MAY"	This word means that this item is truly optional. One vendor may choose to include the item because a particular marketplace requires it or because it enhances the product, for example; another vendor may omit the same item.

## 2 REFERENCES

### 2.1 Normative References

In order to claim compliance with this specification, it is necessary to conform to the following standards and other works as indicated, in addition to the other requirements of this specification. Notwithstanding, intellectual property rights may be required to use or implement such normative references.

[RFC 2459]	IETF RFC 2459, Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and CRL Profile, January 1999.
[RFC 5246]	IETF RFC 5246, The Transport Layer Security (TLS) Protocol Version 1.2, August 2008.
[SAML 2.0 BINDINGS]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-bindings-2.0-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-bindings-2.0-os.pdf</a>
[SAML 2.0 CORE]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-core-2.0-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-core-2.0-os.pdf</a>
[SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-saml-profile-spec-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-saml-profile-spec-os.pdf</a>
[SAML 2.0 Metadata]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-metadata-2.0-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-metadata-2.0-os.pdf</a>
[SAML 2.0 PROFILES]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-profiles-2.0-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-profiles-2.0-os.pdf</a>
[SAML 2.0 Security]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-sec-consider-2.0-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/security/saml/v2.0/saml-sec-consider-2.0-os.pdf</a>
[XACML 2.0 Spec Core]	<a href="http://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-core-spec-os.pdf">http://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-core-spec-os.pdf</a>

### 2.2 Informative References

This specification uses the following informative references.

[ID-IdP]	RFC IEFT Draft: PingPong IdP Discovery Protocol, draft-efazendin-pingpong-idp-discovery-00, December 2010.
[XPath]	<a href="http://www.w3.org/TR/xpath/">www.w3.org/TR/xpath/</a>

### 2.3 Reference Acquisition

- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF), Internet: <http://www.ietf.org/>  
Note: Internet-Drafts are draft documents valid for a maximum of six months and may be updated, replaced, or obsoleted by other documents at any time. The list of current Internet-Drafts can be accessed at <http://www.ietf.org/ietf/1id-abstracts.txt> Internet-Drafts may also be accessed at <http://tools.ietf.org/html/>
- OASIS – SAML documents, <http://wiki.oasis-open.org/security>.
- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), <http://www.w3.org>.

### 3 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

This specification uses the following terms:

<b>Assertion</b>	A piece of data produced by a SAML authority regarding either an act of <i>authentication</i> performed on a <i>subject</i> , <i>attribute</i> information about the subject, or <i>authorization</i> data applying to the subject with respect to a specified <i>resource</i> .
<b>Attribute</b>	A distinct characteristic of a <i>subject</i> . A subject's attributes are said to describe it, such as size, type of encoding, network address, etc. Attributes are often represented as pairs of "attribute name" and "attribute value(s)", e.g., "count" has the value 1. Often, this is referred to as "attribute value pairs."
<b>Authentication</b>	To confirm a <i>system entity</i> 's asserted <i>principal identity</i> with a specified, or understood, level of confidence.
<b>Authentication Provider</b>	A kind of <i>service provider</i> that creates, maintains, and manages identity information for <i>principals</i> and provides principal authentication to other service providers within a <i>federation</i> , such as with web browser <i>profiles</i> .
<b>Authorization</b>	The act of evaluating <i>access control information</i> , as to whether a <i>subject</i> is allowed the specified types of access to a particular <i>resource</i> .
<b>Authorization Provider</b>	A kind of <i>service provider</i> that creates, maintains, and manages authorization information for <i>principals</i> and provides principal authorization to other service providers within a <i>federation</i> , such as with web browser <i>profiles</i> .
<b>Back Channel</b>	A direct connection between two entities (not going through end user's device).
<b>Content</b>	A unit of video.
<b>Content ID</b>	A unique identifier for a unit of video programming OR channel. Please refer to the Content ID team's documentation for further details.
<b>Credentials</b>	Credentials in cryptography establish the identity of a party to communication. Usually they take the form of machine-readable cryptographic keys and/or passwords. Cryptographic credentials may be self-issued, or issued by a trusted third party; in many cases, the only criterion for issuance is unambiguous association of the credentials with a specific, real individual or other entity. Cryptographic credentials are often designed to expire after a certain period, although this is not mandatory. An x.509 certificate is an example of a cryptographic credential.
<b>Customer</b>	See Subscriber.
<b>Digital Rights Management (DRM)</b>	A technology that manages access to digital content or services to enable access and use as designated by the provider, and to prevent unauthorized access and use. DRM may prevent the sharing or copying of digital content or tie the use or viewing of content to specific individuals, operating systems, or hardware.
<b>Multichannel Video Programming Distributor (MVPD)</b>	A service provider delivering video programming services, usually for a subscription fee. These providers include cable operators, direct-broadcast satellite (DBS) providers, and wireline video providers.
<b>Party</b>	Informally, one or more <i>principals</i> participating in some process or communication, such as receiving an <i>assertion</i> or accessing a <i>resource</i> .

<b>Principal</b>	A <i>system entity</i> whose identity can be authenticated.
<b>Programmer</b>	A Programmer is any person, firm or corporation that, by means other than broadcasting, provides or distributes programming for retransmission by MVPD systems.
<b>Resource</b>	<p>Data contained in an information system (for example, in the form of files, information in memory, etc.), as well as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a) A service provided by a system</li><li>b) An item of system equipment (in other words, a system component such as hardware, firmware, software, or documentation)</li></ul> <p>SAML refers to resources by means of URI references.</p>
<b>Role</b>	<i>System entity</i> function or position. System entities can take on various types of roles serially and/or simultaneously, for example, active roles and passive roles. The notion of an Administrator is often an example of a role.
<b>Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML)</b>	The set of specifications describing security assertions that are encoded in XML, profiles for attaching the assertions to various protocols and frameworks, the request/response protocol used to obtain the assertions, and bindings of this protocol to various transfer protocols (for example, SOAP and HTTP).
<b>Service Provider</b>	A role donned by a system entity where the system entity provides services to principals or other system entities.
<b>Subject</b>	A <i>principal</i> in the context of a security domain. SAML assertions make declarations about subjects.
<b>Subscriber</b>	A person, household, or business that legally receives and pays for video service for its own use.
<b>User</b>	A person who makes use of a system and its resources for any purpose.



## 4 ABBREVIATIONS, ACRONYMS, SYMBOLS

This specification uses the following abbreviations:

<b>AnP</b>	Authentication Provider
<b>AzP</b>	Authorization Provider
<b>CLEC</b>	Competitive Local Exchange Carriers
<b>CSRF</b>	Cross Site Request Forgeries
<b>DBS</b>	Direct Broadcast Satellite
<b>DoS</b>	Denial of Service Attack
<b>DNS</b>	Domain Name Service
<b>DRM</b>	Digital Rights Management
<b>FCC</b>	Federal Communications Commission
<b>HTML</b>	HyperText Markup Language
<b>HTTP</b>	HyperText Transfer Protocol
<b>IP</b>	Internet Protocol
<b>ISM</b>	Inter-System Messaging
<b>MSO</b>	Multiple System Operator
<b>MVPD</b>	Multichannel Video Programming Distributor
<b>OASIS</b>	Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards
<b>OLCA</b>	Online Content Access
<b>PAP</b>	Policy Administration Point
<b>PCO</b>	Private Cable Operators
<b>PDP</b>	Policy Decision Point
<b>PEP</b>	Policy Enforcement Point
<b>PIP</b>	Policy Information Point
<b>SAML</b>	Security Assertion Markup Language
<b>SOAP</b>	Simple Object Access Protocol
<b>SP</b>	Service Provider

<b>SSL</b>	Secure Socket Layer
<b>TCP</b>	Transmission Control Protocol
<b>URL</b>	Uniform Resource Locator
<b>UX</b>	User Experience
<b>XACML</b>	Extensible Access Control Markup Language
<b>XHTML</b>	Extensible Hypertext Markup Language
<b>XML</b>	Extensible Markup Language

## 5 ONLINE CONTENT ACCESS SCENARIOS

A Customer of a multi-channel video programming distributor (MVPD), as part of his subscription, has access to content from multiple Programmers. Today, the Customer enjoys these programs on a TV in the living room. For convenience and other reasons, the Customer is also interested in watching these programs, inside and outside the house, for example, on a PC with a browser and internet connectivity. The Customer wants to visit a Programmer's or MVPD's website from anywhere in the world, navigate among the various content offerings, select from the content offerings and watch content for which he/she is already subscribed to via the MVPD. Additionally, the Customer would like to use MVPD credentials (e.g., username and password) to access content online, and should not be required to create new credentials at the Service Provider's site.

This section provides a list of user-centric use cases and service requirements for the Online Content Access. It also includes assumed user-centric use cases and service requirements for OLCA that may drive Authentication and Authorization requirements.

Different scenarios are considered, based primarily on the roles played by the MVPD and Programmer actors.

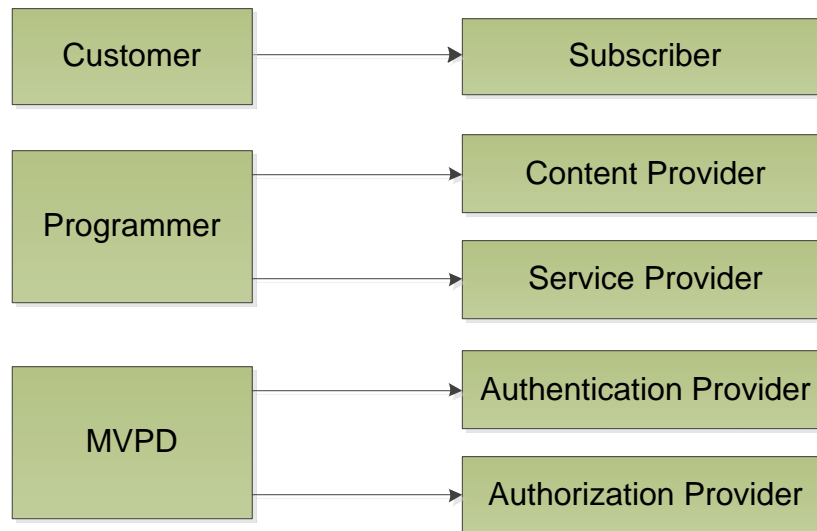
Implementation requirements defined in this specification support Scenario 1 of Section 5.1 only. Requirements may be updated in the future to support the other scenarios.

### 5.1 Scenario 1

Scenario 1 consists of the Customer visiting a Programmer's web portal with the interest of streaming content. Customer authentication and authorization functions are performed by the Customer's MVPD to verify subscription to the desired content. Upon authentication and authorization, the Programmer allows access to the requested video content.

#### 5.1.1 Actors and Roles

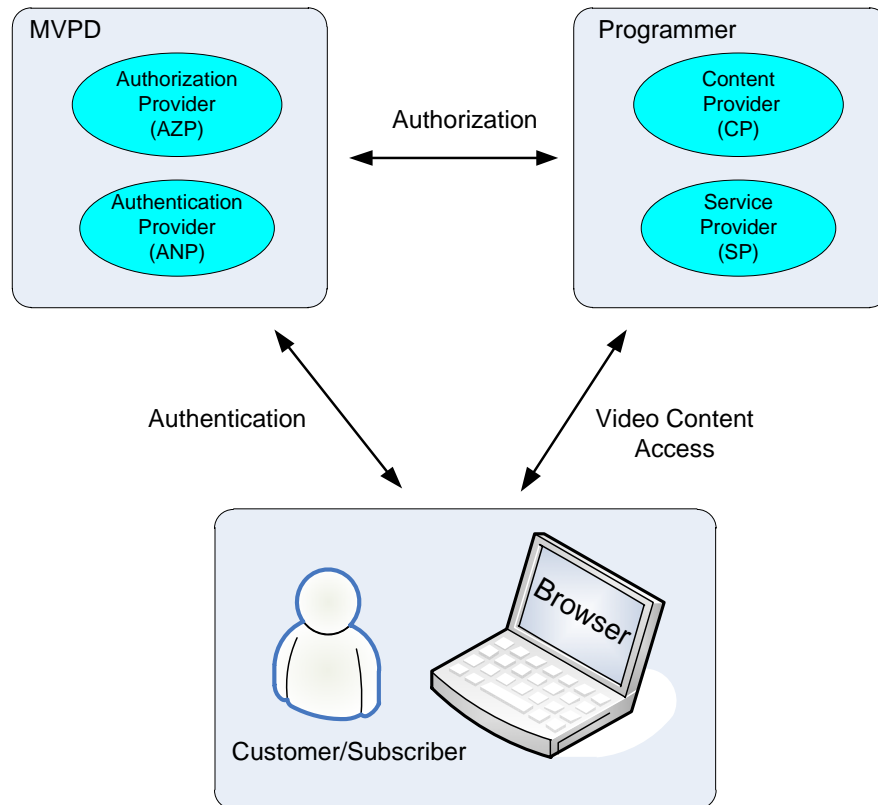
The Customer plays the role of the Subscriber, the Programmer plays the role of a Service Provider and Content Provider, and the MVPD plays the role of the Authentication and Authorization Providers.



**Figure 7 - Actors and Roles for Scenario 1**

### 5.1.2 Architecture

In Scenario 1, the MVPD and Programmer actors are separate business entities. As indicated in the previous section, each of them plays different roles to enable the MVPD Customers access to their subscribed video content at the Programmer's web portal. Figure 8 provides an architectural diagram that shows where these functional roles are located with respect to the actors in Scenario 1. It also indicates the main messaging interfaces.



**Figure 8 - Scenario 1: System Architecture**

Using the web browser, the Customer visits the Programmer web portal to access video content. Normally, the portal web page will have a login button. The SP role controls access to video content and therefore, when the Customer clicks the login button it will want to authenticate the Customer. At this point, the SP will prompt the Customer for the MVPD name or the user name and password for the Programmer account. If the Customer selects an MVPD name, the SP redirects his browser to the MVPD for authentication. The AnP role at the MVPD site authenticates the Customer using his Subscriber credentials (e.g., username password). Once the Customer has successfully authenticated, the AnP redirects the browser back to the Programmer's site. The SP then verifies that the MVPD properly authenticated the Customer.

Once the SP verifies Customer authentication it displays available video content for selection. When the Customer selects video content, the SP sends an authorization status request for that content to the MVPD. The AzP at the MVPD determines the authorization status based on the Customer's subscription level and responds back to the Programmer. If the Customer has been authorized to view the content, the SP allows access to the Content Provider, which then streams the selected video content to the Customer.

### 5.1.3 Pre-conditions

The following pre-conditions must be met for all use cases described below.

1. Customer will have an active Video subscription with the MVPD.
2. Customer will have access to a PC with web browser, video player, and a broadband internet connection.
3. There is an existing business relationship between the Programmer and the MVPD.
4. Customer knows the name of his MVPD of interest.
5. MVPD and Programmer have a business relationship.

### 5.1.4 Use Cases

#### 5.1.4.1 Use Case 1

Name	Customer Accesses Programmer Website With Initial Login Authorization Attributes Available
Summary	Customer requests access to Online Content Access service at a Programmer website. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume. Authorization attributes per Section 7 are used to filter content.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber Programmer plays role of Service Provider and Content Provider MVPD plays role of Authentication and Authorization Provider
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to Programmer web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at Programmer web portal
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to Programmer's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects "Sign In" and is presented with a list of supported MVPDs.</li> <li>3. Customer selects the MVPD with which they have a video subscription.</li> <li>4. The Programmer, as the SP, redirects the Customer's browser to the MVPD (acting as the Authentication Provider) for authentication.</li> <li>5. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>6. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP along with authorization attributes and redirects the Customer's browser back to the SP.</li> <li>7. SP verifies Customer authentication and displays filtered video content based on the Customer's authorization attributes for selection.</li> <li>8. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>9. SP sends authorization status request to MVPD, now acting as the Authorization Provider, for selected content.</li> <li>10. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>11. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content.</li> <li>12. SP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content from Content Provider.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

**5.1.4.2 Use Case 2**

Name	Customer Accesses Programmer Website Without Initial Login
Summary	Customer selects content from a Programmer website prior to Online Content Access. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber Programmer plays role of Service Provider and Content Provider MVPD plays role of Authentication and Authorization Provider
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to Programmer web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at Programmer web portal
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to Programmer's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>3. Customer is presented with a list of supported MVPDs.</li> <li>4. Customer selects the MVPD with which they have a video subscription.</li> <li>5. The Programmer, as the SP, redirects the Customer's browser to the MVPD (acting as the AnP) for authentication.</li> <li>6. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>7. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP and redirects the Customer's browser back to the SP.</li> <li>8. SP verifies Customer authentication and sends authorization status request to MVPD, now acting as the Authorization Provider, for selected content.</li> <li>9. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>10. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content.</li> <li>11. SP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content from Content Provider.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

**5.1.4.3 Use Case 3**

Name	Customer Accesses Programmer Website With Initial Login No Authorization Attributes Available
Summary	Customer requests access to Online Content Access service at a Programmer website. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume. No authorization attributes per Section 7 are available for filtering.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber Programmer plays role of Service Provider and Content Provider MVPD plays role of Authentication and Authorization Provider
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to Programmer web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at Programmer web portal

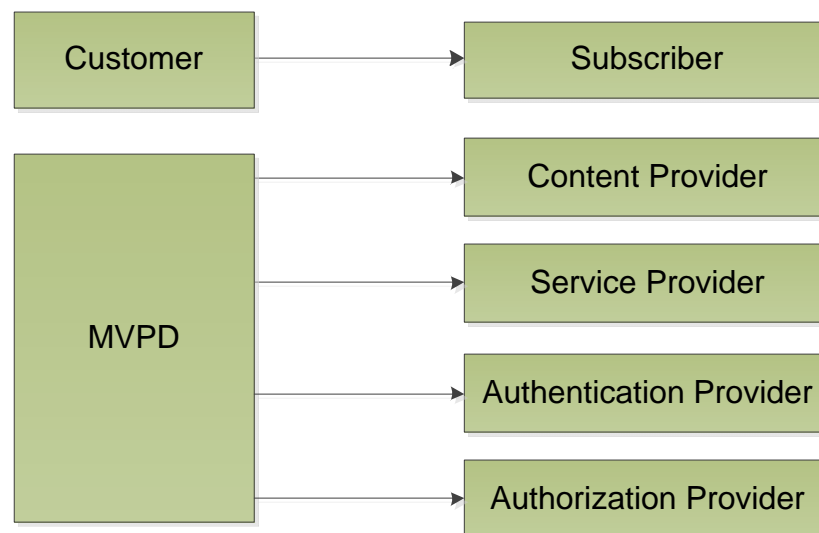
Name	Customer Accesses Programmer Website With Initial Login No Authorization Attributes Available
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to Programmer's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects "Sign In" and is presented with a list of supported MVPDs.</li> <li>3. Customer selects the MVPD with which they have a video subscription.</li> <li>4. The Programmer, as the SP, redirects the Customer's browser to the MVPD (acting as the Authentication Provider) for authentication.</li> <li>5. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>6. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP with no authorization attributes included and redirects the Customer's browser back to the SP.</li> <li>7. SP verifies Customer authentication and displays video content for selection that does not use authorization attributes for filtering.</li> <li>8. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>9. SP sends authorization status request to MVPD, now acting as the Authorization Provider, for selected content.</li> <li>10. AP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>11. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content.</li> <li>12. SP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content from Content Provider.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

## 5.2 Scenario 2

Scenario 2 consists of the Customer visiting an MVPD's web portal with the interest of streaming content. Authentication and authorization credentials are processed directly by the MVPD to verify subscription to the desired content. Upon authentication and authorization, the MVPD allows access to the requested video content.

### 5.2.1 Actors and Roles

The Customer plays the role of the Subscriber; the MVPD plays the role of a Service Provider and Content Provider, as well as the Authentication and Authorization Providers.

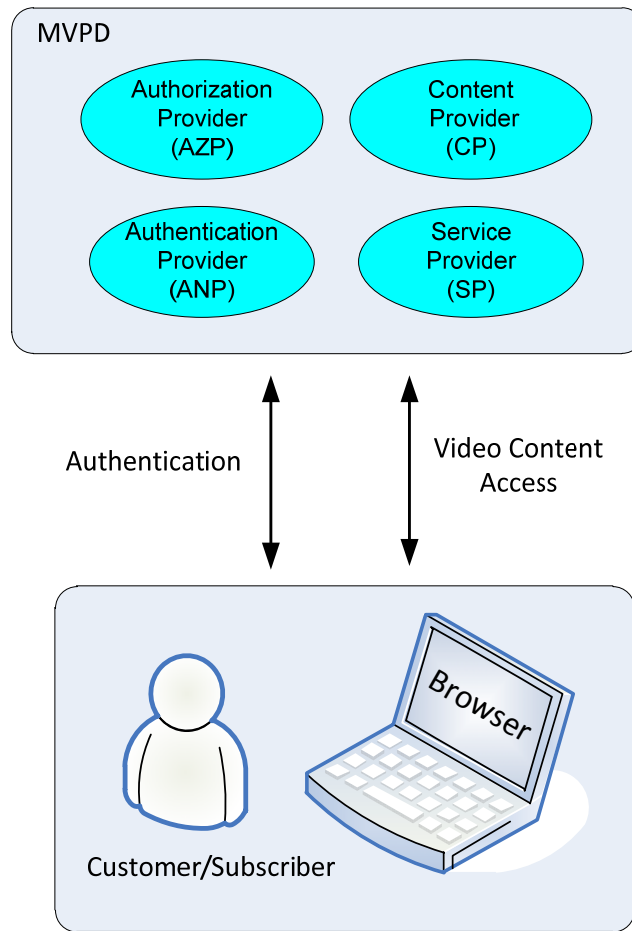


**Figure 9 - Actors and Roles for Scenario 2**

### 5.2.2 Architecture

In Scenario 2, the MVPD acts as a single unified business entity. As indicated in the previous section, the MVPD plays all of the roles required to enable the Customer access to the subscribed video content at the MVPD's web portal.

Figure 10 provides an architectural diagram that shows where these functional roles are located with respect to the actors. It also indicates the main messaging interfaces.



**Figure 10 - Scenario 2: System Architecture**

Using the web browser, the Customer visits the MVPD web portal to access video content. Normally, the portal web page will have a login button. The SP role controls access to video content and therefore, when the Customer clicks the login button it will initiate authentication of the Customer. The SP redirects the Customer to the AnP at the MVPD site, which prompts for login credentials. The AnP authenticates the Customer using the Subscriber credentials (e.g., username password).

Once the SP verifies Customer authentication it displays available video content for selection. When the Customer selects video content, the SP sends an authorization status request for that content to the AzP. The AzP at the MVPD determines the authorization status based on the Customer's subscription level and responds back to the SP.



If the Customer has been authorized to view the content, the SP allows access to the Content Provider, which then streams the selected video content to the Customer.

### 5.2.3 Pre-conditions

The following pre-conditions exist for all use cases described below.

1. Customer has an active Video subscription with the MVPD.
2. Customer has access to a PC with web browser, video player, and a broadband internet connection.
3. Customer has credentials with an Authentication Provider for authentication.

### 5.2.4 Use Cases

#### 5.2.4.1 Use Case 1

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD's Website With Initial Login Authorization Attributes Available
Summary	Customer requests access to Online Content Access service at an MVPD website. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume. Authorization attributes are used to filter content.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber MVPD plays role of Service, Content, Authentication and Authorization Providers
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at MVPD's web portal
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal, which is acting as the SP.</li> <li>2. Customer selects "Sign In" and is prompted for login credentials.</li> <li>3. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>4. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP along with authorization attributes.</li> <li>5. SP verifies Customer authentication and displays filtered video content based on the Customer's subscription for selection.</li> <li>6. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>7. SP sends authorization status request to MVPD's AzP, for selected content.</li> <li>8. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>9. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content.</li> <li>10. SP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content from Content Provider.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

#### 5.2.4.2 Use Case 2

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD Website Without Initial Login
Summary	Customer selects content from an MVPD website prior to Online Content Access. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber MVPD plays role of Service, Content, Authentication and Authorization Providers
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at MVPD's web portal

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD Website Without Initial Login
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>3. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>4. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP.</li> <li>5. SP verifies Customer authentication and sends authorization status request to the MVPD's AzP, for the selected content.</li> <li>6. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>7. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content.</li> <li>8. SP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content from Content Provider.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

### 5.2.4.3 Use Case 3

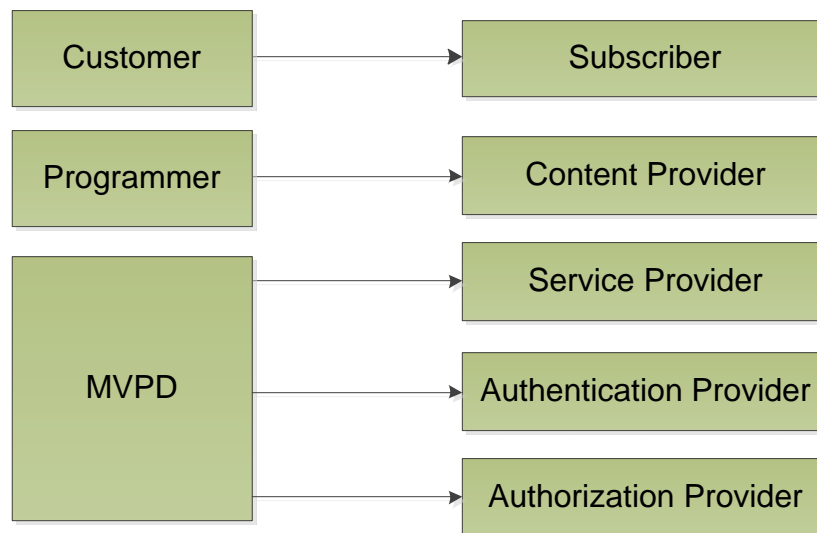
Name	Customer Accesses MVPD's Website With Initial Login No Authorization Attributes Available
Summary	Customer requests access to Online Content Access service at an MVPD's website. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume. No authorization attributes are available for filtering.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber MVPD plays role of Service, Content, Authentication and Authorization Providers
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at MVPD's web portal
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal, which is acting as the SP.</li> <li>2. Customer selects "Sign In" and is prompted for login credentials.</li> <li>3. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>4. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP without authorization attributes.</li> <li>5. SP verifies Customer authentication and displays unfiltered video content.</li> <li>6. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>7. SP sends authorization status request to MVPD's AzP, for selected content.</li> <li>8. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>9. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content.</li> <li>10. SP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content from Content Provider.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

## 5.3 Scenario 3

Scenario 3 consists of the Customer visiting an MVPD's web portal with the interest of streaming content provided by a separate Programmer. Authentication and authorization are performed directly by the MVPD. The authentication and authorization status are then passed to the Programmer, which uses the information to make content access decisions.

### 5.3.1 Actors and Roles

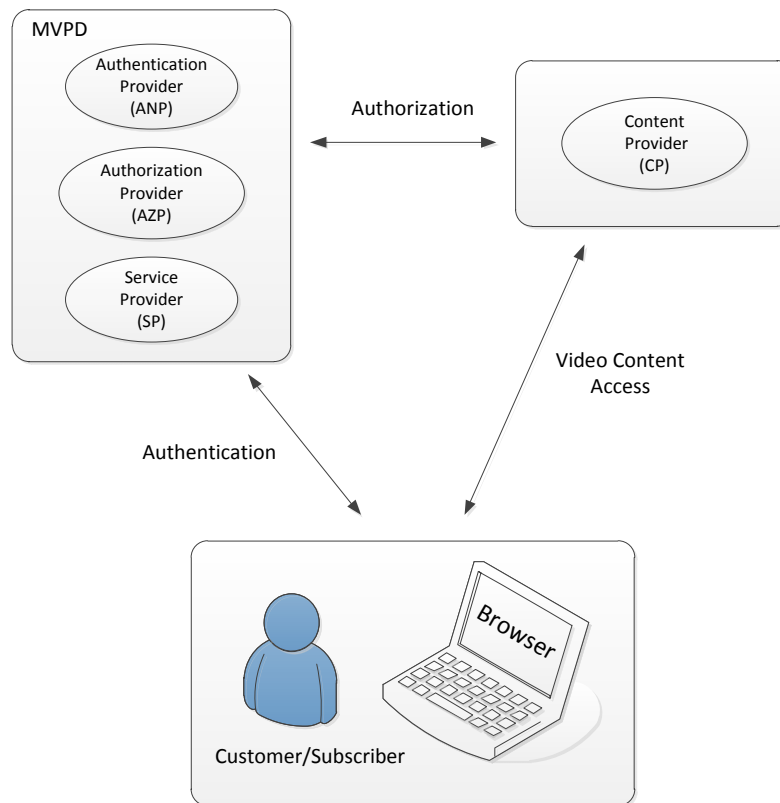
The Customer plays the role of the Subscriber, the Programmer plays the role of a Content Provider, and the MVPD plays the role of the Service, Authentication and Authorization Providers.



**Figure 11 - Actors and Roles for Scenario 3**

### 5.3.2 Architecture

In Scenario 3, the MVPD and Programmer actors are separate business entities. As indicated in the previous section, each of them play different roles to enable the MVPD Customer access to their subscribed video content at the MVPD's web portal provided by the Programmer. Figure 12 provides an architectural diagram that shows where these functional roles are located with respect to the actors. It also indicates the main messaging interfaces.



**Figure 12 - Scenario 3: System Architecture**

Using their web browser, the Customer visits the MVPD web portal to access video content. Normally, the portal web page will have a login button. The SP role controls access to video content and therefore, when the Customer clicks the login button it will want to authenticate the Customer. At this point, the SP will prompt the Customer for the Subscriber credentials (e.g., username password). The MVPD's ANP role authenticates the customer and passes the credentials back to the SP.

Once the SP verifies Customer authentication it displays available video content for selection. When the Customer selects video content, the SP sends an authorization to the MVPD's AzP, which determines the authorization status based on the Customer's subscription level. If the Customer has been authorized to view the content, the SP passes the authorization credentials to the Programmer, acting as the Content Provider, which then streams the selected video content to the Customer.

### 5.3.3 Pre-conditions

The following pre-conditions exist for all use cases described below.

1. Customer has an active Video subscription with the MVPD.
2. Customer has access to a PC with web browser, video player, and a broadband internet.
3. Customer has credentials with an Authentication Provider for authentication.
4. Customer knows the name of his MVPD of interest.
5. There is an existing business relationship between the Programmer and the MVPD.

### 5.3.4 Use Cases

#### 5.3.4.1 Use Case 1

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD Website With Initial Login Authorization Attributes Available
Summary	Customer requests access to Online Content Access service at an MVPD website. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume. Authorization attributes are used to filter content.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber Programmer plays role of Content Provider MVPD plays role of Service, Authentication and Authorization Provider
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at MVPD's web portal
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects "Sign In" and is prompted for subscription credentials.</li> <li>3. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>4. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP along with authorization attributes.</li> <li>5. SP verifies Customer authentication and displays filtered video content based on the Customer's subscription for selection.</li> <li>6. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>7. SP sends authorization status request for selected content to the MVPD's Authorization Provider.</li> <li>8. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>9. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content and passes the authorization credentials to the Programmer, acting as the Content Provider.</li> <li>10. CP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

#### 5.3.4.2 Use Case 2

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD Website Without Initial Login
Summary	Customer selects content from an MVPD's website prior to Online Content Access. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber Programmer plays role of Content Provider MVPD plays role of Service, Authentication and Authorization Provider
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at MVPD's web portal

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD Website Without Initial Login
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>3. MVPD acting as the AnP, prompts the Customer for subscription credentials.</li> <li>4. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP which verifies the authentication.</li> <li>5. SP sends authorization status request for the selected content to the MVPD's Authorization Provider.</li> <li>6. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>7. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content and sends the authorization credentials to the Programmer acting as the Content provider.</li> <li>8. CP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

### 5.3.4.3 Use Case 3

Name	Customer Accesses MVPD Website With Initial Login No Authorization Attributes Available
Summary	Customer requests access to Online Content Access service at an MVPD website. MVPD authenticates Customer and provides authorization status for video content the Customer wishes to consume. No authorization attributes are available for filtering.
Actor(s)	Customer plays role of Subscriber Programmer plays role of Content Provider MVPD plays role of Service, Authentication and Authorization Provider
Pre-Conditions in Addition to 5.1.3	None
Trigger	Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal
Terminates	Customer closes session at MVPD's web portal
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Customer navigates to MVPD's web portal, which is acting as the Service Provider.</li> <li>2. Customer selects "Sign In" and is prompted for subscription credentials.</li> <li>3. Customer, acting as a Subscriber of the MVPD, uses his credentials to login to the AnP.</li> <li>4. The AnP sends the results of the login to the SP with no authorization attributes included.</li> <li>5. SP verifies Customer authentication and displays unfiltered video content for selection.</li> <li>6. Customer selects video content.</li> <li>7. SP sends authorization status request for selected content to the MVPD's Authorization Provider.</li> <li>8. AzP determines Customer authorization status for requested content and responds to SP.</li> <li>9. SP verifies that Customer is authorized to access content and passes the authorization credentials to the Programmer, acting as the Content Provider.</li> <li>10. CP allows Customer to access/consume selected video content.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber has access to desired video content online.

## 6 AUTHENTICATION REQUIREMENTS

### 6.1 Overview

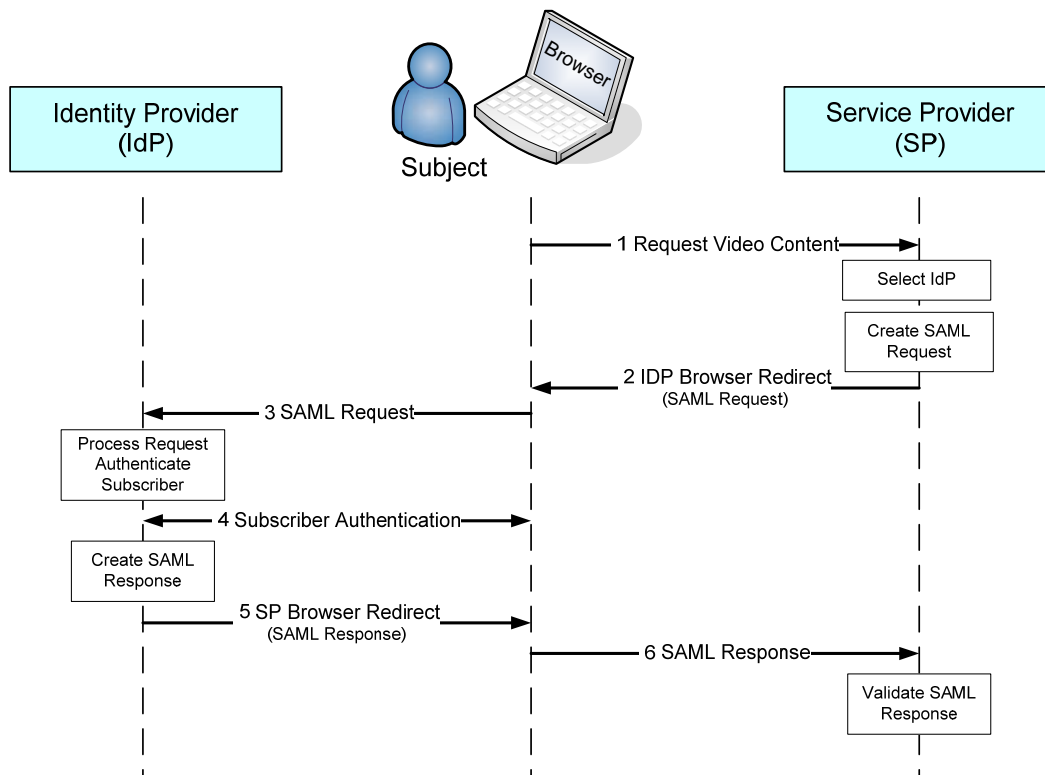
OLCA defines different scenarios for allowing Customers to access their video subscription content online. In each scenario the Customer must be authenticated before the service provider (SP) allows them to access content. This section specifies the necessary requirements to support Customer authentication.

### 6.2 Authentication Architecture

In each OLCA scenario Actors can take on different functional Roles. The Roles that this section is primarily concerned with are the Authentication Provider (AnP), Service Provider (SP), and Subscriber. In general, authentication messaging and functional requirements will be the same no matter what Role an Actor takes on. Therefore, the authentication architecture is based on these functional Roles.

Authentication messaging between the SP and AnP is supported using the 2.0 version of the Secure Association Markup Language (SAML 2.0). SAML 2.0 defines a number of different application profiles. The profile used to support OLCA Subscriber authentication will be the Web Single Sign-On (SSO) profile. SAML defines three functional entities that map to OLCA Roles. The Identity Provider (IdP) maps to the AnP Role, the Service Provider (SP) maps to the SP Role, and the Subject maps to the Subscriber Role. The implementation requirements in this section are written to apply to these SAML functional entities.

Figure 13 shows the main message flow between the Subject, SP, and IdP.



**Figure 13 - SAML 2.0 Authentication Flow**

When the Subject visits the SP website to access video content, the SP will need to authenticate them using their IdP before allowing them to view content. In order to do this, the SP will need to know which IdP to use for Subscriber authentication. The SP can discover a Subject's IdP by some automated method (see Section 6.11) or it can simply ask the Subject to select his IdP from an authorized list. The SP can also use some kind of automated IdP discovery method.

Once the SP knows what IdP to use for Subject authentication, a SAML 2.0 Authentication Request is created, using information found in the IdP and SP metadata files (see Section 6.8). The SP **MUST** create a SAML 2.0 Authentication Request as defined in Section 6.5 and respond with a browser redirect to the selected IdP for Subject Authentication.

The Subject's browser receives the redirect and connects to the IdP site. The IdP extracts the Authentication Request and validates it. The IdP **MUST** process the Authentication Request as defined in Section 6.5. Once the Authentication request has been processed and validated, the IdP authenticates the Subject. The IdP **MUST** authenticate the Subject as defined by Section 6.6.

After successful Subject Authentication, the IdP creates an Authentication Response that contains assertion and attribute information about the Subject. The IdP **MUST** create an Authentication Response as defined in Section 6.7 and respond with a browser redirect containing the Authentication Response to the SP.

The Subject's browser receives the redirect and connects to the SP site. The SP extracts the Authentication Response and validates it. The SP **MUST** process the Authentication Response as defined in Section 6.7. Once the Authentication request has been successfully processed, the SP can allow the Subject to access video content according to authorization data defined in Section 7.

A number of errors can occur when processing requests and response messages. The SP **MUST** respond to Authentication Response processing error conditions as defined in Section 6.7. The IdP **MUST** respond to Authentication Request, Subject Authentication, and Authentication Response processing error conditions as defined in Sections 6.5, 6.6, and 6.7.

For OLCA Scenario #2 the IdP and SP are both located at the MVPD. In this case the SP can use SAML messaging as defined above for Subject authentication or some other method supported by the MVPD. Also, the SP should know the IdP to use for Subject authentication and should not need to prompt the Subject for it.

## 6.3 Assumptions

The following assumptions apply for OLCA authentication:

- The Subject and the IdP have established a relationship and possess some form of mutually understood authentication credential.
- It is assumed that the Subject is using a standard commercial browser and can authenticate to the IdP by some means outside the scope of SAML.
- There is an existing bilateral agreement between the IdP and the SP, which allows a Subject of IdP to access online content through the SP's portal.
- Subject knows the SP URL to access OLCA services.
- SP is providing the video content.
- Automatic discovery of IdP is not required.
- IdP is not required to disclose the identity of the Subject to the SP.



## 6.4 System Security requirements

As SAML messages are sent between the SP, browser, and IdP, there are security risks that need to be addressed. Appendix III discusses the various threats that exist for OLCA's application of SAML messaging. System security requirements are necessary to help prevent these threats.

To protect against spoofing and tampering threats when messages are sent across untrusted networks, the SP and IdP **MUST** support digital signatures for Authentication Request and Authentication Response messages as defined in Sections 6.5 and 6.7. The IdP **MUST** also use some kind of method to securely authenticate the Subject. This is typically done with a username and password.

IdP **SHOULD** use a secure channel that provides server authentication and traffic encryption (such as HTTPS) when authenticating the Subscriber.

The SP **MUST** verify that the received Authentication Response message has not been replayed by using the methods defined in Section 6.7.2.

To help reduce impacts of DoS attacks, the IdP **SHOULD** implement some kind of DoS detection and response mechanism.

## 6.5 Authentication Request

The SAML 2.0 Authentication Request is used by the SP to request Subject authentication at the IdP.

### 6.5.1 Request Creation at the SP

When an SP creates an Authentication Request, it **MUST** use an <AuthnRequest> element as defined in the Web Browser SSO profile of the [SAML 2.0 PROFILES] specification. The SP **MUST** support signing the <AuthnRequest>. The SP **MUST** use a digital certificate as defined in Section 8 for signing SAML messages. See <AuthnRequest> XML message example in Appendix I.1.

The SP **MUST** use HTTP POST binding as described in the [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] specification when sending Authentication Request messages to the IdP.

The SP **SHOULD** manage a response time-out function for each Authentication Request that it sends and clear any state data associated with that request if the IdP does not respond within a configured amount of time.

### 6.5.2 Request Reception at the IdP

The IdP **MUST** support receiving and processing Authentication Requests from the SP as defined in the Web Browser SSO profile section of the [SAML 2.0 PROFILES] specification, and the HTTP POST Binding section of the [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] specification.

If an Authentication Request is signed, the IdP **MUST** validate the request as defined in Section 8.

## 6.6 Subject Authentication

The IdP is responsible for using a secure method to authenticate the Subject. The method used to authenticate the Subject is not defined in this specification. The IdP **MAY** maintain authentication state or a security contact for a Subject and respond to an Authentication Request without prompting the Subject for authentication credentials.

The IdP SHOULD provide a link on the login page to return to the SP, if the person attempting to login is not a Subscriber with that IdP, using a <Response> status code of urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:status:WrongIdP.

### 6.6.1 Cancel Login

When a Subscriber is at the Authentication Provider login page to authenticate, the Subscriber can decide to cancel the authentication transaction. Canceling the authentication transaction can happen for any reason, and the Authentication Provider MUST send a <Response> with a status code of urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:status:AuthnCanceled to the Service Provider for notification.

## 6.7 Authentication Response

When an IdP receives an Authentication Request, it processes that request and sends an appropriate Authentication Response to the SP. If the Subject is authenticated, an assertion is included in the response.

### 6.7.1 IdP Processing and Response

When an IdP receives an Authentication Request, it MUST support processing and responding to it as defined in the Web Browser SSO profile section of the [SAML 2.0 PROFILES] specification, and the HTTP POST Binding section of the [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] specification with the following exceptions:

- If the status code is "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:success", the <SubjectConfirmationData> element of the assertion MUST contain an Address attribute.
- If the status code is "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:success", the <Subject> element MUST contain a <NameID> element with an "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:nameid-format:transient", or an "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:nameid-format:persistent" Format attribute.

The IdP MAY support HTTP Artifact Binding as defined in the [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] specification.

The IdP MUST use a digital certificate as defined in Section 8 for signing SAML messages.

See <Response> XML message example in Appendix I.2.

### 6.7.2 SP Processing

When the SP receives an Authentication Response, it MUST process that request as defined in the Web Browser SSO profile section of the [SAML 2.0 PROFILES] specification. The SP MUST also perform the following checks when processing the Authentication Response:

- Verify that the service provider identifier found in the <AudienceRestriction> element matches the service provider's identifier in the SP metadata.
- Verify that the assertion is signed by the IdP that the original <AuthnRequest> message was sent to.
- Validate the signature as defined in Section 8.

The SP MAY support HTTP Artifact Binding as defined in the [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] specification.

If the SP is unable to process and validate the Authentication Response according to the requirements above, it MUST NOT allow the Subject access to video content requiring IdP authorization.

## 6.8 Establishing Trust Relationships

SAML requires agreements between system entities regarding identifiers, binding support and endpoints, certificates and keys, and so forth. Metadata is used for describing this configuration information in a standardized way. IdPs and SPs that are within the same circle of trust should exchange metadata files. Metadata exchange SHOULD be done over a secure channel to prevent compromise of security parameters.

The IdP and SP MUST support the SSO Identity Provider and SSO Service Provider Profiles as defined in the SAML-Metadata specification [SAML 2.0 Metadata].

## 6.9 Error Conditions

The IdP MUST respond to Authentication Request, Subject authentication, and Authentication Response error conditions as defined by the [SAML 2.0 CORE] specification, the HTTP POST Binding section of the [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] specification, and the Web Browser SSO Profile section of the [SAML 2.0 PROFILES] specification, unless otherwise stated in this specification. An IdP MAY notify the Subscriber of the error condition and provide a link to continue to the SP with the appropriate <Response> error status code.

When the SP receives an error response, it SHOULD log the error message and notify the Subscriber with links to return to the original page or retry.

## 6.10 Session Management

HTTP cookies may be used to track Subject sessions. After a Subject authenticates at the IdP, using ZSO or with their credentials, the IdP can create an authentication session cookie. Each time an IdP receives an Authentication Request from a Subject's redirected browser it can check for an authentication session cookie. If one exists it can immediately respond with an assertion. If an authentication session cookie does not exist the IdP will need to authenticate the Subject via ZSO or using their credentials before responding with an assertion.

SPs can also use cookies for tracking Subject sessions. After an SP has validated an assertion response from an IdP it can create a session cookie that maintains a security context with the Subject. Using the session cookie the SP can allow the Subject to access different resources on their site without having to perform authentication each time.

Session cookies should not be permanent and have a validity time associated with them. MVPDs and Programmers should carefully set cookie validity time so it provides a good user experience for the Subject, but does not make it easy for hackers to steal service.

## 6.11 IdP Discovery

To improve the Subscriber's OLCA experience SPs MAY use a method to discover the Subscriber's IdP without having to prompt them for it. One approach for IdP discovery is defined in [ID-IdP]. This technique uses web browser cookies associated with the IdP's domain, and an iframe and javascript solution to reveal the existence of those cookies to SPs.

## 6.12 Logging Out

### 6.12.1 Service Provider Log Out

How the Subject logs out from a particular SP's service is unspecified and left up to the SP. Typically, logout will automatically occur when the Subject closes their browser, or if the session times out based on a defined service timeout value.

### 6.12.2 Single Log Out

The IdP can share a single authentication context with multiple service providers. SAML 2.0 offers a single logout profile, which allows a Subject to easily terminate each session across multiple SPs at once. An SP can initiate a single logout request with the Subject's IdP, which will propagate the logout request to other SPs.

With Single Logout enabled, when a Subject logs out of the SP's site, the SP will send a digitally signed <LogoutRequest> message to the IdP. The IdP will then send <LogoutRequest> messages to all the SPs that the user is logged into. Each SP will respond to the IdP with a <LogoutResponse> message. After the IdP receives <LogoutResponse> messages from each SP, the IdP sends a final <LogoutResponse> message to the SP that initiated the Single Log Out process. The SP then terminates the Subject's session to complete the single logout process.

## 7 AUTHORIZATION REQUIREMENTS

### 7.1 Overview

Authorization is the process used to validate that a particular user is indeed a subscriber for a particular content, and that he/she is authorized to view that content online. AzPs make this authorization decision, and SPs will enforce this decision. Many factors (and environmental data) may be taken into consideration to arrive at this decision.

This section covers the architecture necessary to achieve this. A preliminary use case for the architecture, is the SP checking with the AzP for authorization to a particular content. As the Subscriber interacts with the SP's system, it becomes evident that the SP may need to filter content shown for selection. Parental controls, or channels subscribed to, are prime examples. Thus, the architecture also covers use cases where the AzP shares certain attributes about the user with the SP.

**NOTE:** Attribute information is provided by the AzPs solely for the sake of content selection filtering at the SP. Such sharing does not constitute a decision by the AzP that any or all content satisfying the attributes is permitted for a subscriber to view. SPs are required to get such a decision using back-channel authorization decisions (see Use Case 2 in Section 7.2.1.2).

The term 'back-channel' refers to a direct connection between two entities, not involving the subscriber's browser.

#### 7.1.1 Assumptions (for OLCA Scenario-1)

- SP has successfully authenticated the subscriber with AnP before the authorization process begins.
- Authorization should not require AnP/AzP to share the subscriber identity with the SP. SP and AzP should be able to use a unique opaque identifier (or other mechanism), shared as part of authentication, to correlate the authorization request to a subscriber.
- The SP and AzP have a pre-established and well-understood mechanism to identify the content (content IDs).

### 7.2 Authorization Use Cases

#### 7.2.1 Use Cases

Authorization specific use cases are listed below.

##### 7.2.1.1 Use Case 1

Name	Present subscription based content
Summary	SP wants to present to the Subscriber a list of (eligible) content to choose from to view online.
Pre-Conditions	Subscriber is authenticated.
Trigger	Subscriber visits the SP's portal and completes the authentication process.
Terminates	Customer closes session at SP's web portal.

Name	Present subscription based content
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subscriber navigates to SP's web portal.</li> <li>2. Subscriber completes the authentication process.</li> <li>3. SP now needs to present (eligible) content to the Subscriber.</li> <li>4. If no attributes are included in the Authentication response, SP will issue an attribute query to the AzP.</li> <li>5. AzP responds with values to the requested attributes.</li> <li>6. SP will use the attribute values to determine which content is eligible to the Subscriber and presents that content.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber is presented only with content that satisfies his/her subscription and other configuration attributes.

### 7.2.1.2 Use Case 2

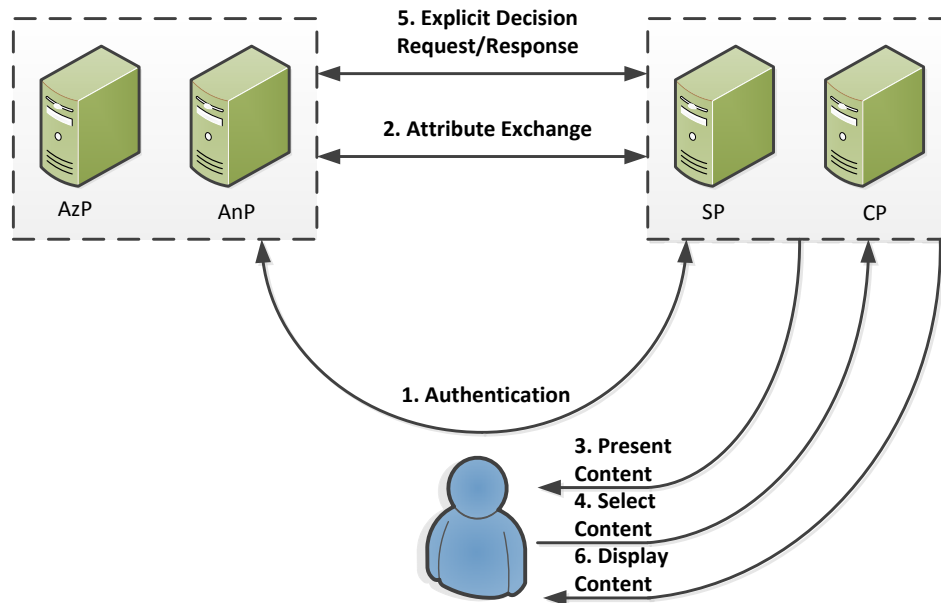
Name	Authorize a particular content for viewing online
Summary	SP wants to know if the subscriber is authorized to view a particular content.
Pre-Conditions	Subscriber is authenticated, and presented content to view online.
Trigger	Subscriber selects a content to start watching online.
Terminates	Subscriber is either allowed or denied the content.
Main Steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Subscriber navigates to SP's web portal.</li> <li>2. Subscriber completes the authentication process.</li> <li>3. SP presents eligible content to the Subscriber (earlier use case).</li> <li>4. Subscriber selects a particular content to start watching online.</li> <li>5. SP queries the AzP to verify if this Subscriber can watch this particular content.</li> <li>6. AzP responds with a permit or deny decision.</li> </ol>
Post-Conditions	Subscriber is either permitted to watch the content or denied access.

## 7.3 Authorization Architecture

From the use cases identified above, the following are the high-level interactions needed to perform and enforce authorization decisions.

1. Explicit decision request –SP asks AzP for an allow/deny decision on a specific content.
2. Attribute exchange – the AnP/AzP may provide SP with a set of attributes that qualifies the content for a given subscriber. This exchange could be 'explicit' – SP explicitly seeking some attributes from the AzP, or 'implicit' – AnP passing them to SP without an explicit request.

Based on these exchanges, a high-level architecture for authorization will be as follows.



**Figure 14 - Authorization Framework**

### 7.3.1 Technology

SAML 2.0 and XACML 2.0 will be the two technologies used to communicate authorization messages between the AA/PDP and the SP.

SAML provides a good vehicle for exchanging attributes – for attribute requests and responses, as well as implicit attribute exchange using attribute statements in the authentication assertion.

XACML provides a clear contract for requesting fine-grained authorization requests and responding with decisions.

Thus, SAML will be used for all attribute exchanges, and XACML will be used for the explicit authorization decision request and response messages. However, while XACML clearly defines the message content necessary for authorization, it does not prescribe the additional constructs necessary to secure the communication. "SAML profile for XACML" bridges that gap (see section 1 of [SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0] for more details). Thus, to be more specific, XACML over SAML is used for the explicit authorization request and response messages (see [SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0] for more details).

#### 7.3.1.1 Terminology

Given the technology choices mentioned above, SAML and XACML, given below is a mapping between SAML and XACML terms and the roles used in this document.

**PDP – Policy Decision Point:** an entity that accepts decision requests, evaluates policies and responds with a decision. The AzP role provides the PDP functionality.

**AA – Attribute Authority:** an entity that accepts attribute queries, and responds back with attribute values. The AzP or the AnP roles provide the AA functionality.

PEP – Policy Enforcement Point: an entity that ultimately guards the content, and allows or denies access to content by the subscriber, based on the decision received from the PDP. It will issue decision requests to the PDP, and enforce the received decision. The SP role provides the PEP functionality.

### **7.3.1.2 Message Data Types**

Below are the specific data types used in each type of exchange (as identified earlier).

1. Explicit Attribute exchange – this will be achieved using SAML <AttributeQuery> and SAML <Response> containing an <Assertion> with an <AttributeStatement>.
2. Implicit attribute exchange – this will be communicated as a SAML <AttributeStatement> within a SAML <Assertion> that contains the <AuthenticationStatement>.
3. Explicit Decision request/response – this will be achieved using SAML/XACML <XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery> and SAML <Response> containing an <Assertion> with a <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>.

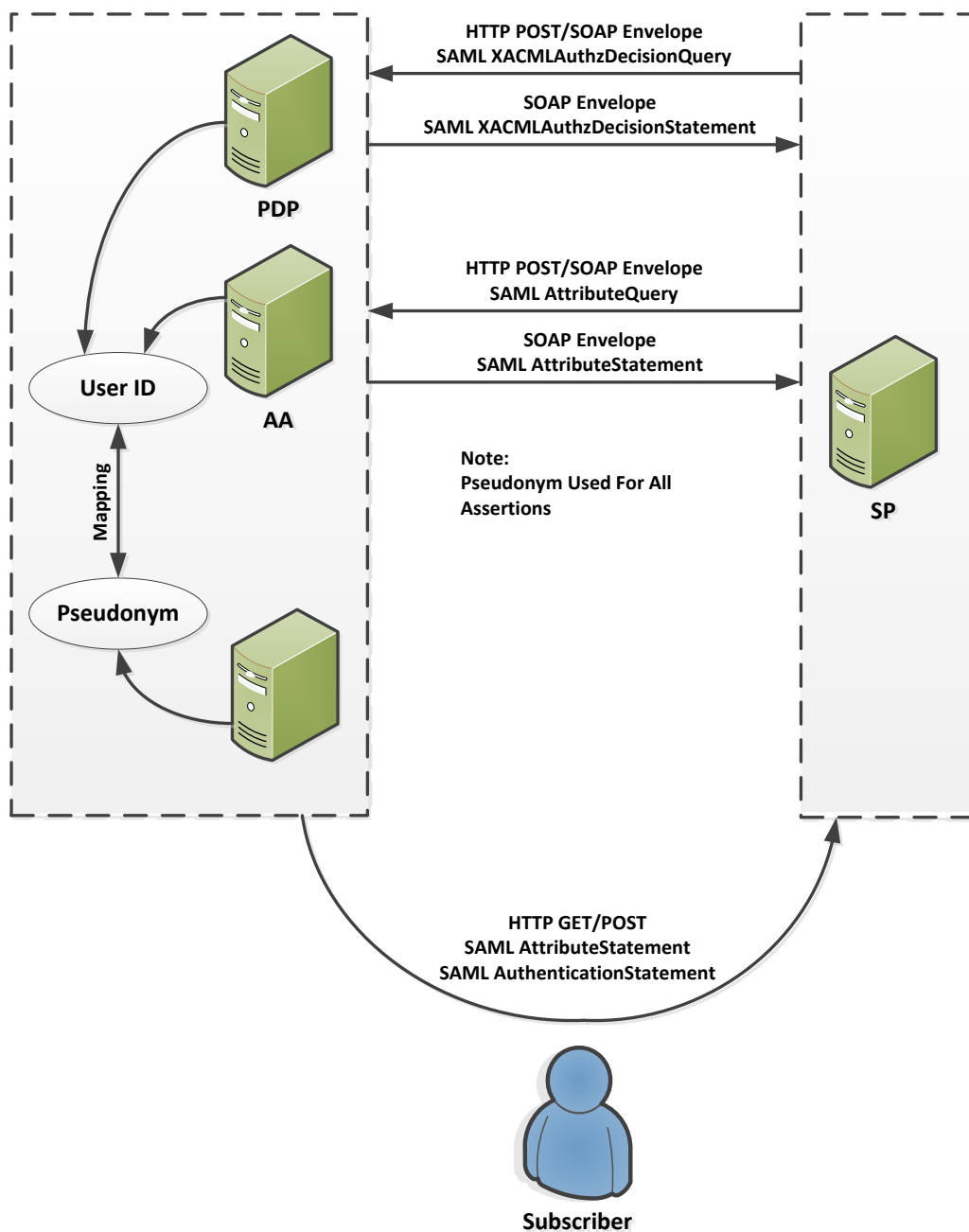
The explicit exchanges are made using SOAP over HTTP. The picture below gives the exchanges using the technology choices identified above.

The AzP is responsible for

- Receiving decision requests from the SP,
- Evaluating applicable policies, and
- Delivering authorization decision to the SP.

The SP is responsible for performing content access control by enforcing the authorization decision received from the AzP.





**Figure 15 - Authorization Architecture**

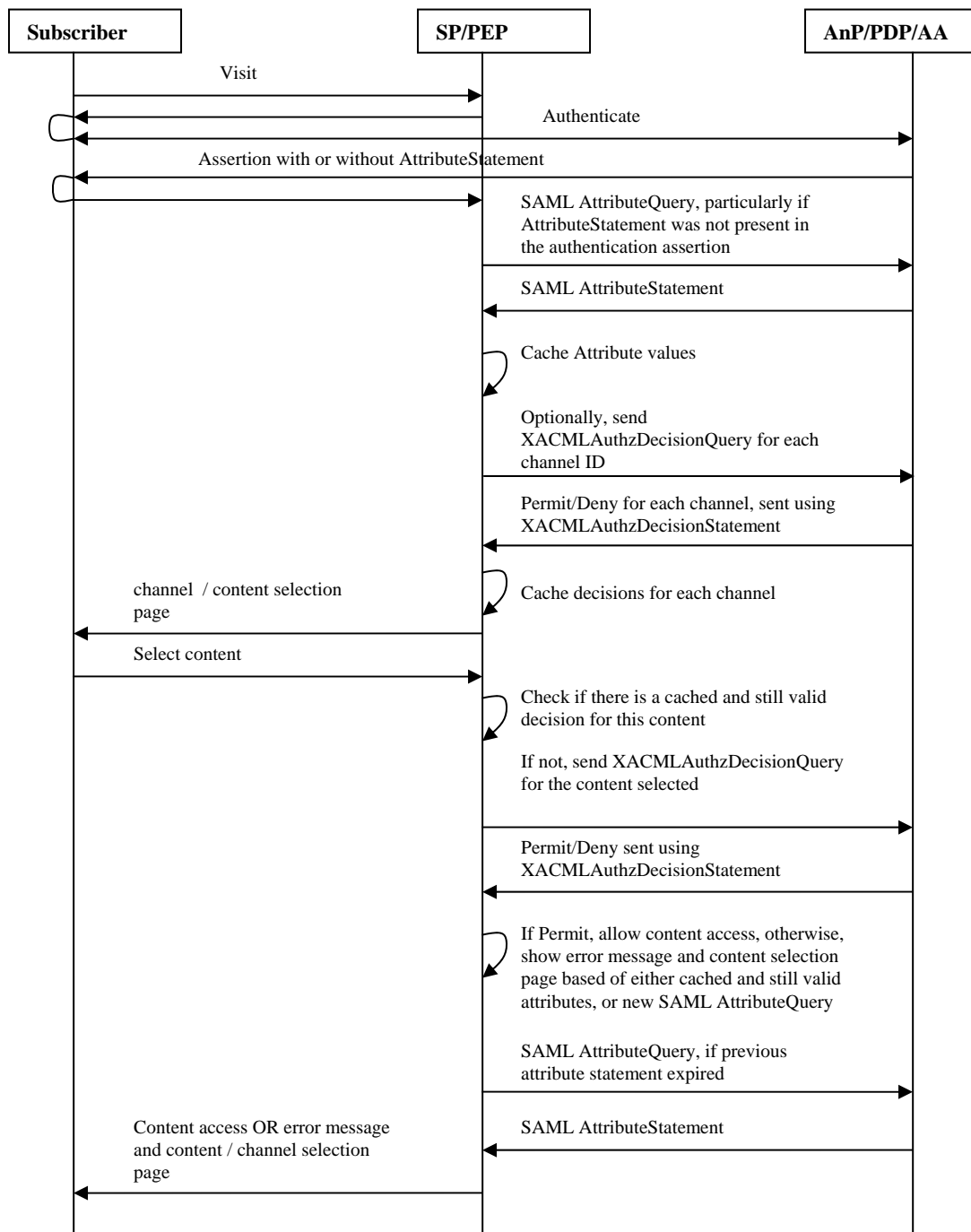
### 7.3.1.3 Sample Message Flows

Message flows for two sample scenarios are shown in Figure 16.

**NOTE:** This is intended for reference only; actual implementations can look different.

### Example 1: Subscriber authenticated upfront

In this example, subscriber visits the SP's web site and is authenticated prior to access to any content.

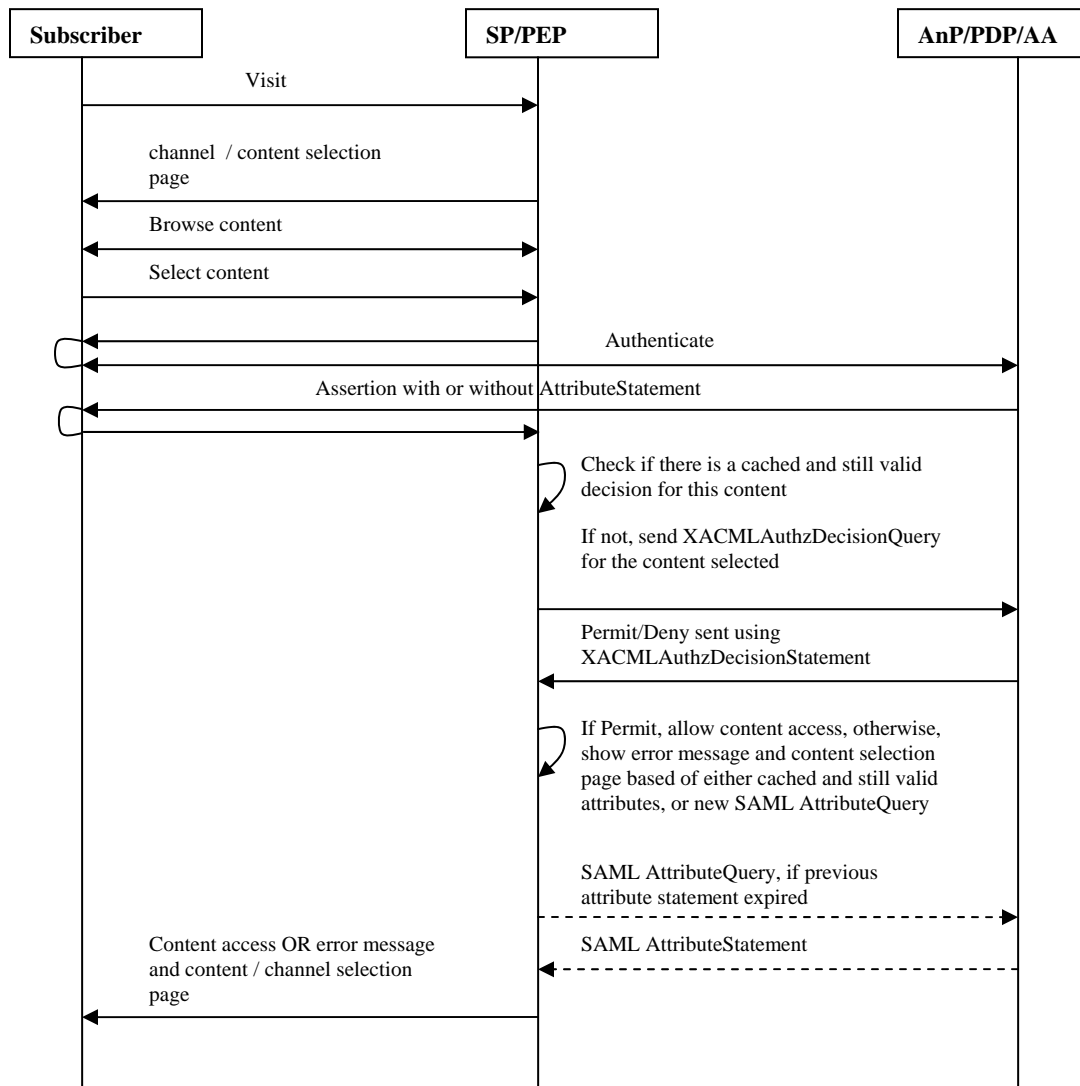


**Figure 16 - Scenario 1: Subscriber Authenticated Up-Front**

**Example 2: Subscriber browses content before authentication**

In this example, the subscriber browses through the SP's web site and selects a content to view. Authentication, followed by authorization, occurs at that time.

This scenario also applies to bookmarks – when users either bookmark content, or get a link to content from somewhere else – authentication, followed by authorization, happens at the time of actual access to the content.



**Figure 17 - Scenario-2: Subscriber Authenticated (and Authorized) at Time of Content Access**

**Requirements**

1. AnPs MAY include AttributeStatement in the Assertion sent at the time of authentication.
2. SPs MUST support a PEP role that issues XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery (as described in this document) and processes XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement (as described in this document).
3. SPs MUST honor the decision delivered by the PDP.

4. SPs SHOULD support accepting AttributeStatement in the Assertion, sent at the time of authentication.
5. SPs MUST support SAML AttributeQuery.
6. SPs MUST use the attribute values to filter content in their UI, if provided by the AnP/AA.
7. SPs MUST base their access on explicit XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement for every individual content (not just based on attribute values used to filter content for UI).

**NOTE:** See Appendix II for sample messages.

## 7.4 Trust relationships

Each pair of entities communicating over the back channel needs to establish a trust relationships – this relationship will identify the service URLs as well as identities of each entity. These identities will be used for message and / or connection authentication (see Section 7.5.5).

A typical way to establish trust relationships is using the metadata schema provided by the SAML standard. This specification recommends SAML metadata based trust relationships; however, individual implementation may choose other approaches. Also, this specification does not cover exactly how such metadata is exchanged – it is left to individual implementations.

### 7.4.1 Service URLs from metadata

If using SAML metadata, the following requirements apply.

For attribute queries, data provided under the 'AttributeAuthorityDescriptor' MUST be used. Specifically, 'AttributeService' element under the 'AttributeAuthorityDescriptor' element MUST be used.

For authorization queries, AuthzService element under PDPDescriptor element of AzP's metadata MUST be used.

**NOTE:** PDPDescriptor is originally intended for SAML AuthzDecisionQuery. XACML has not published (but is currently working on) a metadata schema that will create an XACMLPDPDescriptorType with service URLs specifically for XACML (see <http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/download.php/24681/xacml-profile-saml2.0-v2-spec-wd-5-en.pdf>). Until the time such an XACML metadata is made a standard, this specification recommends that the SAML PDPDescriptor be used for XACML as well. When the XACML metadata is standardized, this specification will be updated to use it.

PDPs and AAs SHOULD publish SAML metadata. If acting as AA, then AttributeAuthorityDescriptor entry MUST be included. KeyDescriptor with use as 'signing' MUST be included within the AttributeAuthorityDescriptor. If PDP, then PDPDescriptor element MUST be included. KeyDescriptor with use as 'signing' MUST be included within the PDPDescriptor.

## 7.5 Authorization Message Details

### 7.5.1 Attribute Statement

An AttributeStatement can contain any number of either Attribute or EncryptedAttribute element.

#### Attribute element

<Attribute> element identifies the attribute by its name. The name of the attribute is pre-defined, either in this specification or in a bilateral agreement. An optional format for the attribute's name can also be specified using the

NameFormat attribute. This specification uses 'URI' as the format - identified by "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri" – for all the attributes identified in this specification.

An attribute may have more than one <AttributeValue> child element. The data type for the pre-defined attributes is identified later in this specification.

Below is a sample <AttributeStatement> with one <Attribute> element having two <AttributeValue> elements.

```
<saml:AttributeStatement>
  <saml:Attribute NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-
format:uri" Name="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:channelID">
    <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">Channel-1-unique-
ID</saml:AttributeValue>
    <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">Channel-2-unique-
ID</saml:AttributeValue>
  </saml:Attribute>
</saml:AttributeStatement>
```

### EncryptedAttribute element

It should be noted that the AnP (who issues the assertions with the AttributeStatements) might not really know if the channel between the subscriber and the SP (over which the assertion is transported) is secured or not. Thus, it is advised that any attribute whose contents are to be protected from a potential eavesdropper be encrypted.

The actual content is symmetrically encrypted (with the algorithm identified within the contents of EncryptedAttribute element) with a random key. The key itself is encrypted with the public key of the SP. The SP's public key is obtained from the <KeyDescriptor> entry of the <SPSSODescriptor> element of SP's metadata. The 'use' on the <KeyDescriptor> must be 'encryption'.

For the rest of the details on <EncryptedAttribute>, please see [SAML 2.0 CORE] document.

Below is a sample <AttributeStatement> with <EncryptedAttribute> element entry.

```
<saml:AttributeStatement>
  <saml:EncryptedAttribute>
    <xenc:EncryptedData Id="_encryptedAttr1"
Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#Element"
xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
      <xenc:EncryptionMethod
Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#aes128-cbc"/>
      <ds:KeyInfo xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
        <ds:RetrievalMethod
Type="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#EncryptedKey"... URI="#_encryptedKey"/>
      </ds:KeyInfo>

      <xenc:CipherData><xenc:CipherValue>A1B2C3...</xenc:CipherValue></xenc:CipherData>
    </xenc:EncryptedData>

    <xenc:EncryptedKey Id="_encryptedKey"
xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
      <xenc:EncryptionMethod Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#rsa-
1_5" xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#" />
      <xenc:CipherData xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">
        <xenc:CipherValue
xmlns:xenc="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlenc#">encrypted key value
here</xenc:CipherValue>
      </xenc:CipherData>
      <xenc:ReferenceList>
        <xenc:DataReference URI="#_encryptedAttr1"/>
      </xenc:ReferenceList>
    </xenc:EncryptedKey>
```

```
</saml:EncryptedAttribute>
</saml:AttributeStatement>
```

**NOTE: To AnPs/AAs** - AnPs/AAs must ensure that the values they are including for attributes are not only subscriber specific, but also SP specific. For example, an attribute called channelId may have only values that are subscribed by the subscriber *and* are within the domain of the SP in context.

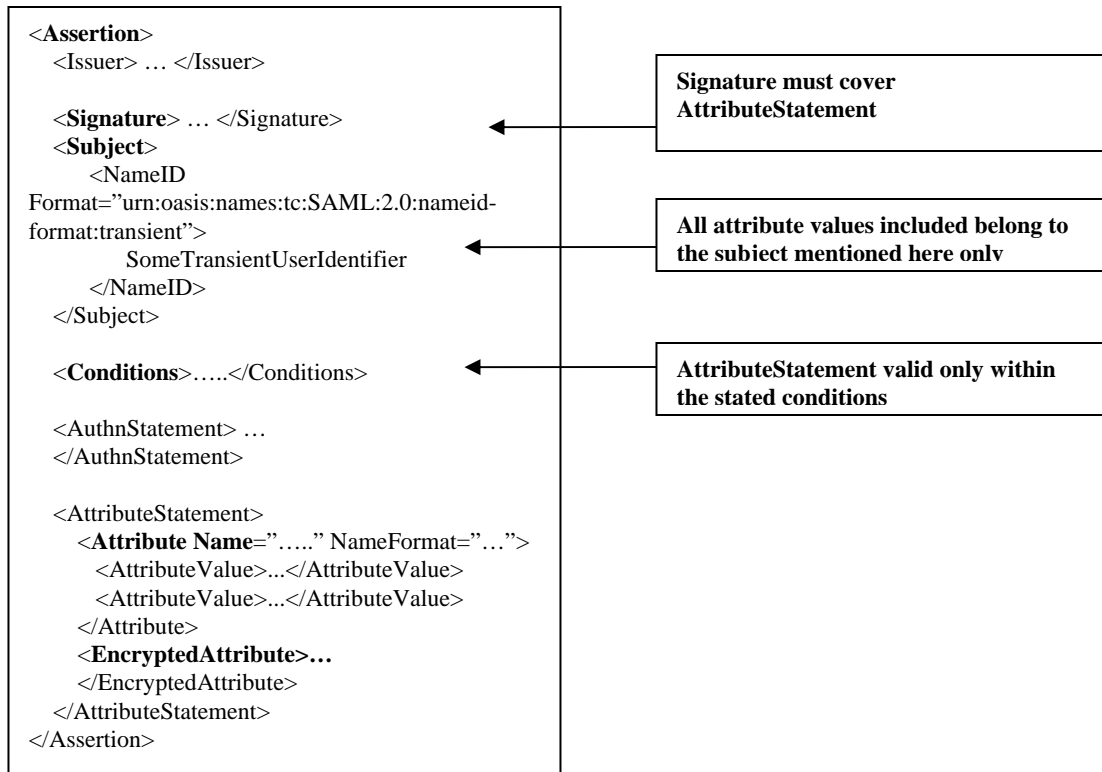
### Requirements

1. AnPs, AAs, and SPs **MUST** conform to SAML 2.0 specification for schema and processing instructions for <AttributeStatement>, including <Attribute> and <EncryptedAttribute> elements.
2. Implementers (SP, AnP/AA) **MUST** support the attribute names as published in this specification. Implementers (SP, AnP/AA) **MAY** support additional attributes based on bilateral agreements.
3. The NameFormat **MUST** be "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri" for all attributes identified in this specification.
4. The type of <AttributeValue> **MUST** be according to this specification for attributes identified in this specification.
5. An <Attribute> may have more than one <AttributeValue> child element.
6. For <EncryptedAttribute>, the key **MUST** be encrypted with "encryption" usage certificate from the SP's metadata element <SPSSODescriptor>.
7. SP/PEP **MAY** cache these attributes for the period that the enclosing assertion is valid. After that period, SP/PEP **MUST** discard these values and issue new attribute query.

### 7.5.2 Attribute Statement within authentication assertion

Since the attribute statement within the authentication response is of an unsolicited nature, it is important to set expectations on which attributes may be present in such an attribute statement. This specification identifies a set of attributes as a mandatory/optional set that will/can be included in the attribute statement (see the Requirements section below).

A sample message and its contents are identified in Figure 18. Note that the namespaces are not included; real messages will use namespaces as defined in the SAML and XACML schemas.



**Figure 18 - Sample Attribute Statement Within Authentication Assertion**

## Requirements

1. Signature **MUST** cover <AttributeStatement> (if signature covers the entire assertion or SAML response, then it implicitly covers AttributeStatement as well).
2. <AttributeStatement> contents are subject to the entries in the <Conditions> element. Please see the Authentication section (Section 6) of this specification for details on <Conditions> element. After the conditions expire, SP **MUST** renew the values by issuing a SAML <AttributeQuery> (see Appendix II).
3. AnP **MUST** include the following attributes (identified by Name of the attribute):
  - a. "urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:subscriber:identifier" – used to uniquely identify this subscriber at the AnP/PDP. SP will use this in all back channel requests.
4. AnP **MAY** include the following attributes (identified by Name of the attribute):
  - a. "urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:channelID" – a list of channel IDs that the subscriber is authorized to view
  - b. "urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:maxMPAA" – the maximum MPAA rating the subscriber is authorized to view
  - c. "urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:maxVCHIP" – the maximum VChip rating the subscribed is authorized to view

### 7.5.3 SAML Attribute Query and Response

#### 7.5.3.1 Request

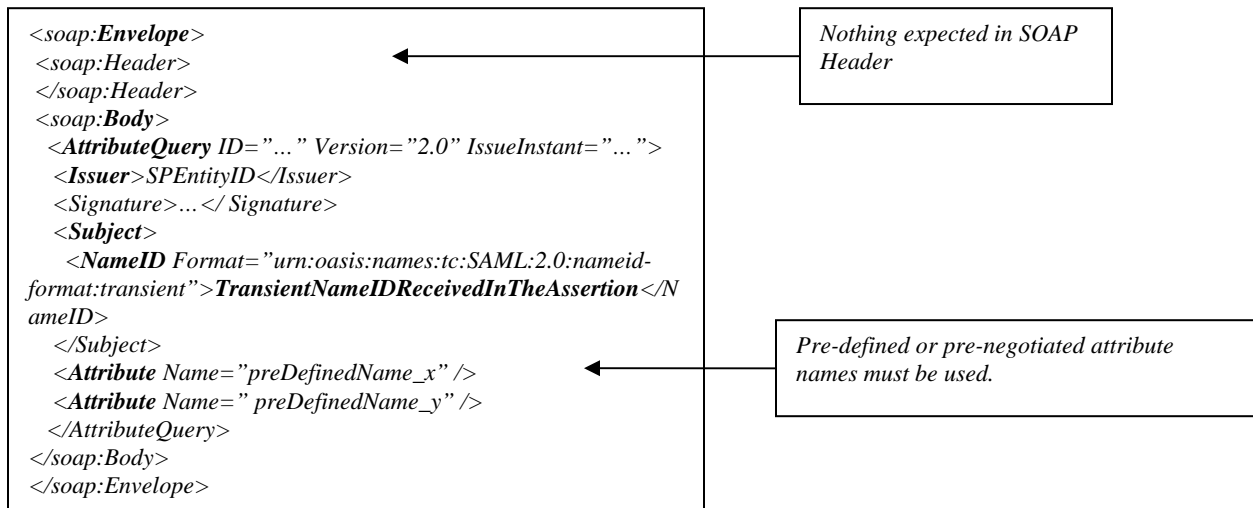
Attribute queries are used by SP to obtain specific attribute information from the AnP or AA. These requests are sent directly from the SP to the AA using a back channel – not through subscriber's browser channel.

SAML Attribute queries and responses are transported over HTTP/S within a SOAP Envelope.

#### Requirements

1. The implementations **MUST** adhere to requirements from section 6, Assertion Query/Request Profile, of [SAML 2.0 PROFILES].
2. SAML SOAP Binding **MUST** be used for attribute query and response. Implementations **MUST** adhere to section 3.2, SAML SOAP Binding, of [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS].

Figure 19 is a sample message with the important data highlighted.



**Figure 19 - Sample Attribute Query Message**

Though the SAML schema allows more than one <Subject> to be given in the <AttributeQuery>, in the context of this specification, only one <Subject> entry is expected.

AA is expected to be able to map from the <Subject>'s <NameID> provided in this request to the actual user record – as this <NameID> value equals the one sent by the AnP during authentication.

Multiple attributes **MAY** be mentioned within a single <AttributeQuery>. AA **MUST** either respond with values for all attributes or an error message (see Section 7.5.6) with no AttributeStatement.

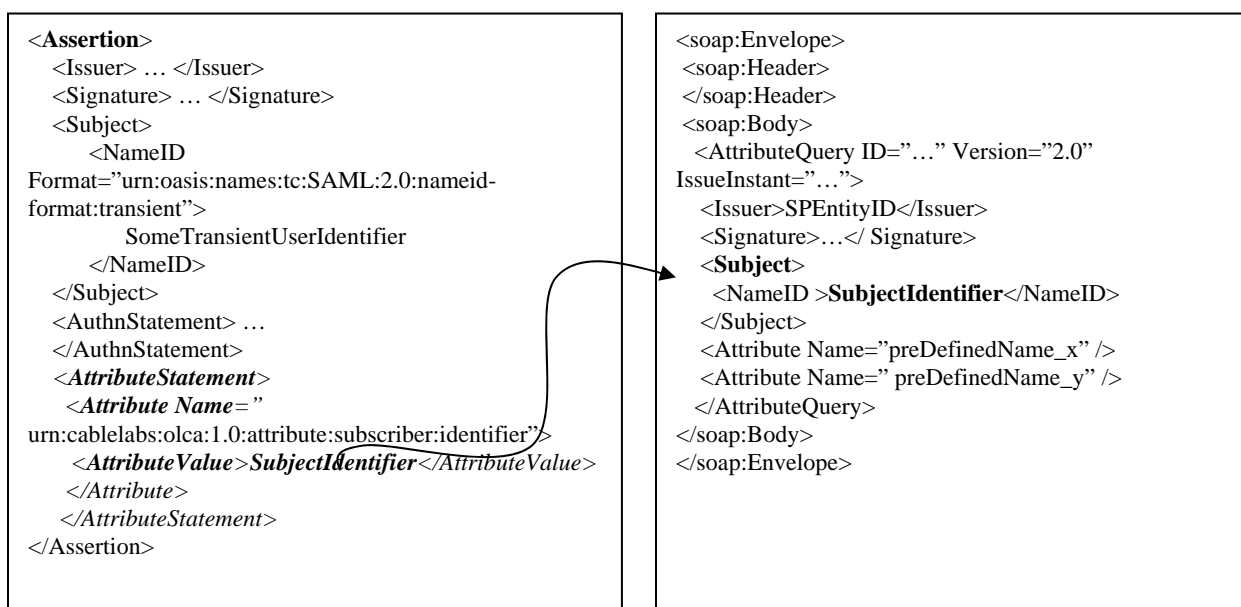


## Requirements

1. <Issuer> MUST be present and equal the entity ID of the SP.
2. The <Subject>'s <NameID> element MUST be equal to value of the "urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:subscriber:identifier" attribute from the authentication assertion (see below).
3. <Attribute> names MUST be either as defined in this specification, or pre-negotiated using a bilateral agreement.
4. <Attribute> entries MUST not contain any <AttributeValue> child elements.

## Mapping from subject identifier attribute to Subject/NameID

Figure 20 outlines how the Subject/NameID in the AttributeQuery needs to be populated from the "urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:subscriber:identifier" attribute from the authentication assertion.



**Figure 20 - Mapping Subject Identifier from Authentication Assertion to Subject/NameID in Attribute Query**

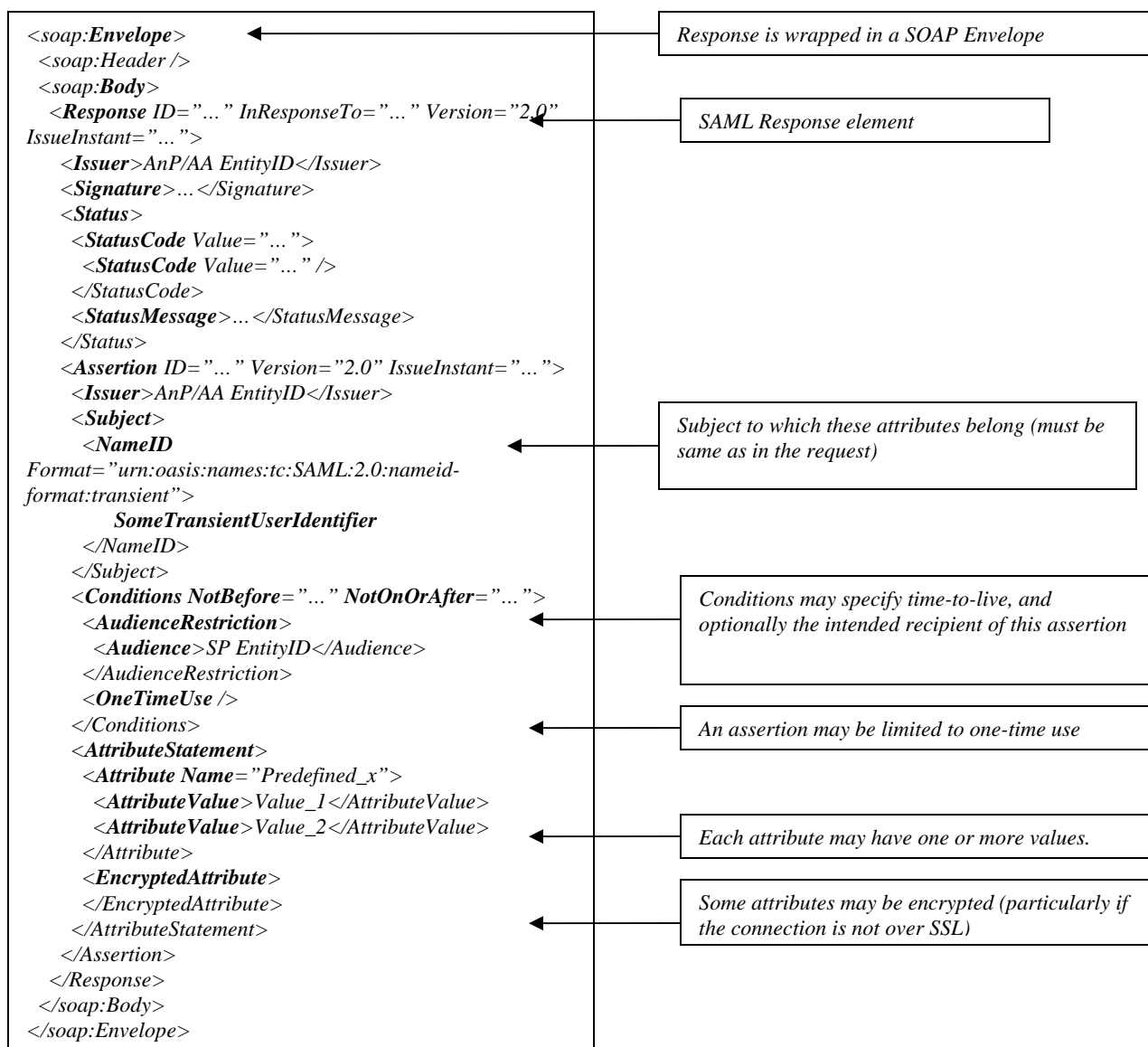
### 7.5.3.2 Response

The response is sent using the same connection used for sending the request.

## Requirements

1. AAs SHOULD tailor the response attribute value based on the subject in the request *and* the SP issuing the request.

Figure 21 is a sample response message with the important data highlighted.



**Figure 21 - Sample Attribute Response Message**

## Requirements

1. SP MUST validate that the `<Issuer>` of the `<Response>` is the same entity to which it originally sent the request. This can be done by validating the signature (see Appendix III).
2. `<StatusCode>` values MUST be according to section 3.2.2.2 of [SAML 2.0 CORE]. Values relevant to this specification are identified below. AA and SP MUST support these values. AA and SP MUST adhere to the interpretation as given in section 3.2.2.2 of [SAML 2.0 CORE].
  - a. `urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success`
  - b. `urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Requester`

- c. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Responder
  - d. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:VersionMismatch
  - e. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:InvalidAttrNameOrValue
  - f. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestDenied
  - g. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestUnsupported
  - h. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownPrincipal
3. If the <StatusCode> is not "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success", then AA MUST NOT include any <Assertion>.
  4. AA MAY include a secondary <StatusCode> and/or <StatusMessage>. These are considered specific to the AA implementation and are to be used for logging/diagnosis purposes only.
  5. If the AA does not support <AttributeQuery>, then it MUST respond with a <StatusCode> of "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestUnsupported". In this case, SP MAY continue to let the user browse the available content (obviously not filtered as the SP has no way to filter). After the user selects to view a particular content, SP MUST base its access control on the XACML request/response.
  6. If the <StatusCode> is "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownPrincipal", then SP MUST invalidate the subscriber session and initiate the authentication process.
  7. If the <StatusCode> is neither "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success" or "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestUnsupported", or "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownPrincipal", then SP MUST show a error message to the subscriber and deny access to the content. SP MAY log the status code(s) and status messages in the response for alert generation and diagnosis.
  8. AA MAY include <Conditions> element within the Assertion. If included, SP MUST process them according to [SAML 2.0 CORE]. In particular,
    - a. If NotBefore is mentioned, then SP MUST not use the attribute values before such a time.
    - b. If NotOnOrAfter is mentioned, then SP MAY cache the results until such a time. The SP MUST discard the values and issue a fresh AttributeQuery after that time.
    - c. If <OneTimeUse> is included, then SP MUST NOT cache the attribute values ever, and issue a fresh AttributeQuery the next time the values are needed.
  9. AA MUST include all attributes from the request in the response. If any attributes cannot be included for any reason, then no assertion MUST be included in the response. Also, the status code MUST NOT be "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success".
  10. There can be more than one AttributeValue for each Attribute.
  11. Some attributes MAY be encrypted (see Security requirements below). SPs MUST be capable of decrypting such encrypted attributes.

## **7.5.4 XACML Authorization query and response**

### **7.5.4.1 Authorization Query**

XACML authorization queries are used to request subscriber authorization to view a specific content. More than one content ID can be included in the request and the response can state permit/deny decisions individually or collectively. Environmental data may also be included in the request. This specification identifies some environmental attributes, others may be established through bilateral agreements.

PDP will evaluate the contents of the request (subject, content IDs and environmental data) against its stored policies and respond with a decision of permit or deny. The PEP MUST enforce the decision that it received from the PDP.

The implementations MUST adhere to SOAP binding as given in [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] (section 3.2 for SOAP Binding), SAML profile for [SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0], and [XACML 2.0 Spec Core].

Figure 22 is a sample message with important data highlighted.

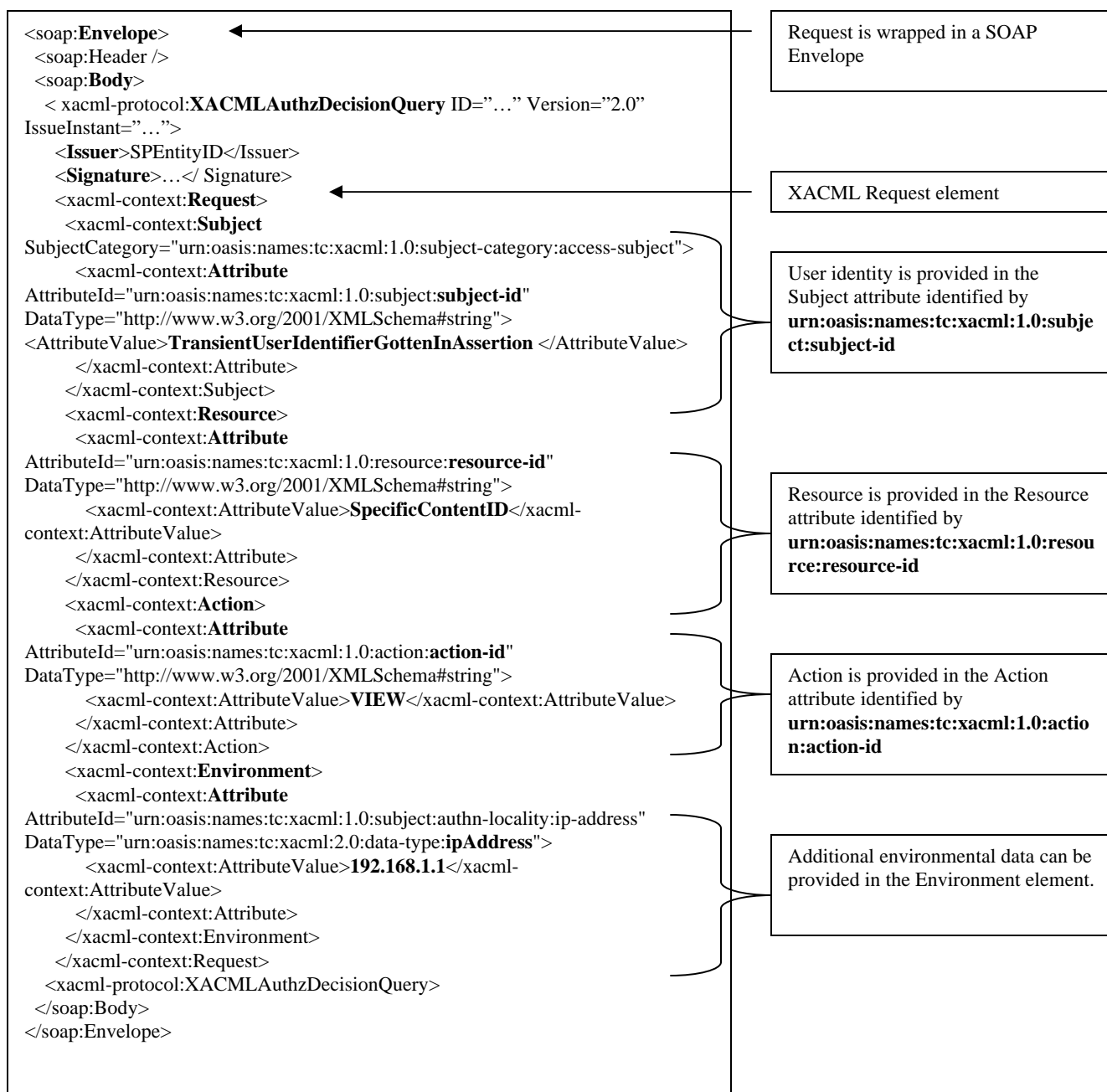
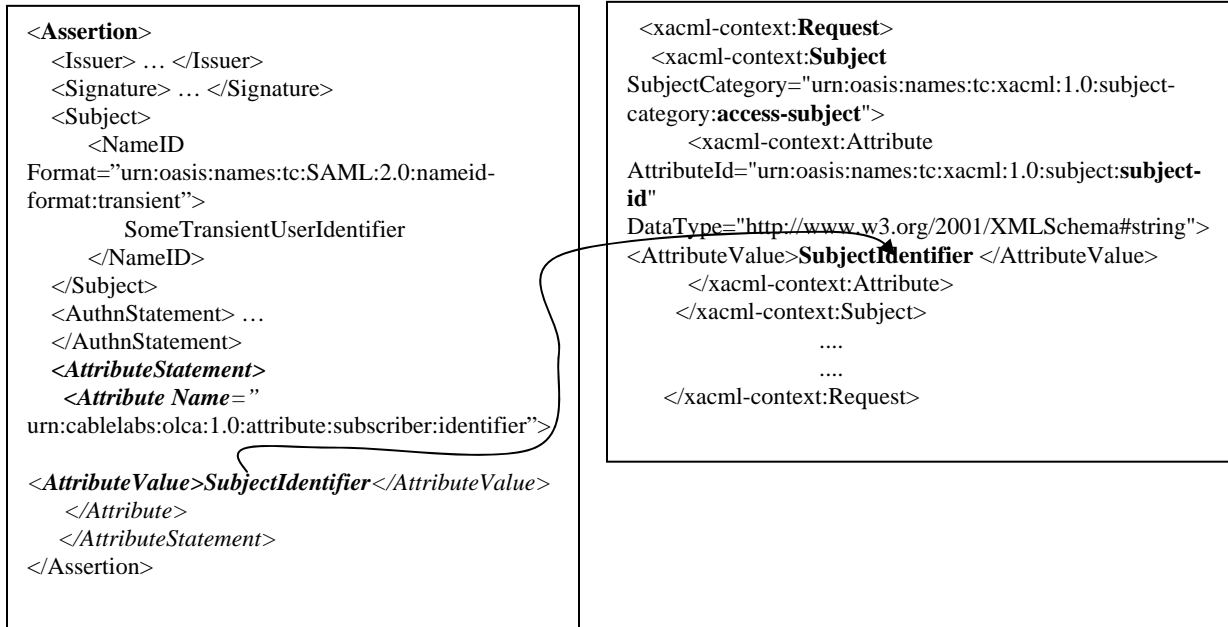


Figure 22 - Sample XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery Message

### Subject element: Mapping from SAML assertion to XACML request

Figure 23 shows the mapping from the subject-identifier attribute from authentication assertion to the Subject element in XACML request.



**Figure 23 - Mapping from SAML Subject to XACML Subject**

The following rules apply

1. There MUST be only one <Subject> element in the request. Its <SubjectCategory> MUST be "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:subject-category:access-subject".
2. There MUST be only one <Attribute> within an access-subject <Subject>. Its AttributeID for that attribute MUST be "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:subject:subject-id".
3. There MUST be only one <AttributeValue> present for the subject-id <Attribute>. Its value MUST match the value of the " urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:subscriber:identifier" attribute from the authentication assertion.

PDP is expected to be able to map from the given Subject's AttributeValue to the actual user record, as this <NameID> used equals the one sent by the AnP during authentication. The state correlation between AnP and PDP instances is internal to implementation.

### Resource element

<Resource> element identifies the content ID under OLCA. Each content ID MUST be provided through an <Attribute> of "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:resource:resource-id". Multiple content IDs MUST be represented by multiple <Resource> elements, not by multiple <Attribute> elements within a single <Resource> element. Thus, the following rules apply.

1. Each <Resource> element MUST have only one <Attribute> element, with an AttributeID of "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:resource:resource-id".

2. The above <Attribute> element MUST have only one <AttributeValue> element whose contents are the content ID.
3. If including multiple content IDs, each content ID MUST be represented by separate <Resource> elements.

In addition, based on a bilateral agreement, the <Resource> element may also contain XACML <ResourceContent> element that contains XML content. Such implementations SHOULD adhere to the OASIS "Hierarchical resource profile for XACML" document ([http://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access\\_control-xacml-2.0-hier-profile-spec-os.pdf](http://docs.oasis-open.org/xacml/2.0/access_control-xacml-2.0-hier-profile-spec-os.pdf)).

It is recognized that different schemes could be used to identify the resource to be authorized – for example, through a resource-id attribute or through XML content. To make it easier for the receiving party to know which scheme is being used by the sender, a new 'scheme' attribute is added to the original <Resource> element schema from XACML. Given below is an example usage of this attribute.

```
<Resource scheme="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:EIDR">
  <Attribute AttributeId="resource-id" DataType="xsd:String">
    <AttributeValue>alb2c3</AttributeValue>
  </Attribute>
</Resource>
```

The original XACML schema for the <Resource> element is extended as below

```
<xs:element name="Resource" type="xacml-context:ResourceType"/>
<xs:complexType name="ResourceType">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element ref="xacml-context:ResourceContent" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Attribute" minOccurs="0"
maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </xs:sequence>
  <xs:attribute ref="olca:scheme" use="optional"/>
</xs:complexType>
```

See Section 7.7 for the extension attribute definition.

### Action element

The only action applicable in OLCA is "VIEW". Thus, the following rules apply:

1. There MUST be only one <Attribute> within the <Action> element. The AttributeID on that <Attribute> element MUST be "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:action:action-id".
2. There MUST be only one <AttributeValue> within the above <Attribute> element. The value of <AttributeValue> MUST be "VIEW".

### Environment attributes

This specification recognizes the following attributes that MUST be included in the request.

1. Subscriber's IP address – AttributeId MUST be "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:subject:authn-locality:ip-address". The DataType MUST be "urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:data-type:ipAddress".

### Requirements

1. Implementations MUST adhere to SOAP binding as given in [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] (section 3.2 for SOAP Binding), SAML profile for [SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0] and [XACML 2.0 Spec Core].

- Only one <Subject> element MUST be present in the request (note that XACML schema allows multiple Subjects).
- Mapping from SAML Assertion <Subject> to XACML request <Subject> MUST be performed according to the rules outlined earlier in this document.

#### 7.5.4.2 Authorization Response

The XACML query response essentially delivers a Permit or Deny decision for the details given in the request. If there are multiple resources given in the request, then there may be multiple decisions, one for each resource. However, a single decision could also be delivered, which implicitly covers all resources in the request.

Figure 24 is a sample response message with the important data highlighted.

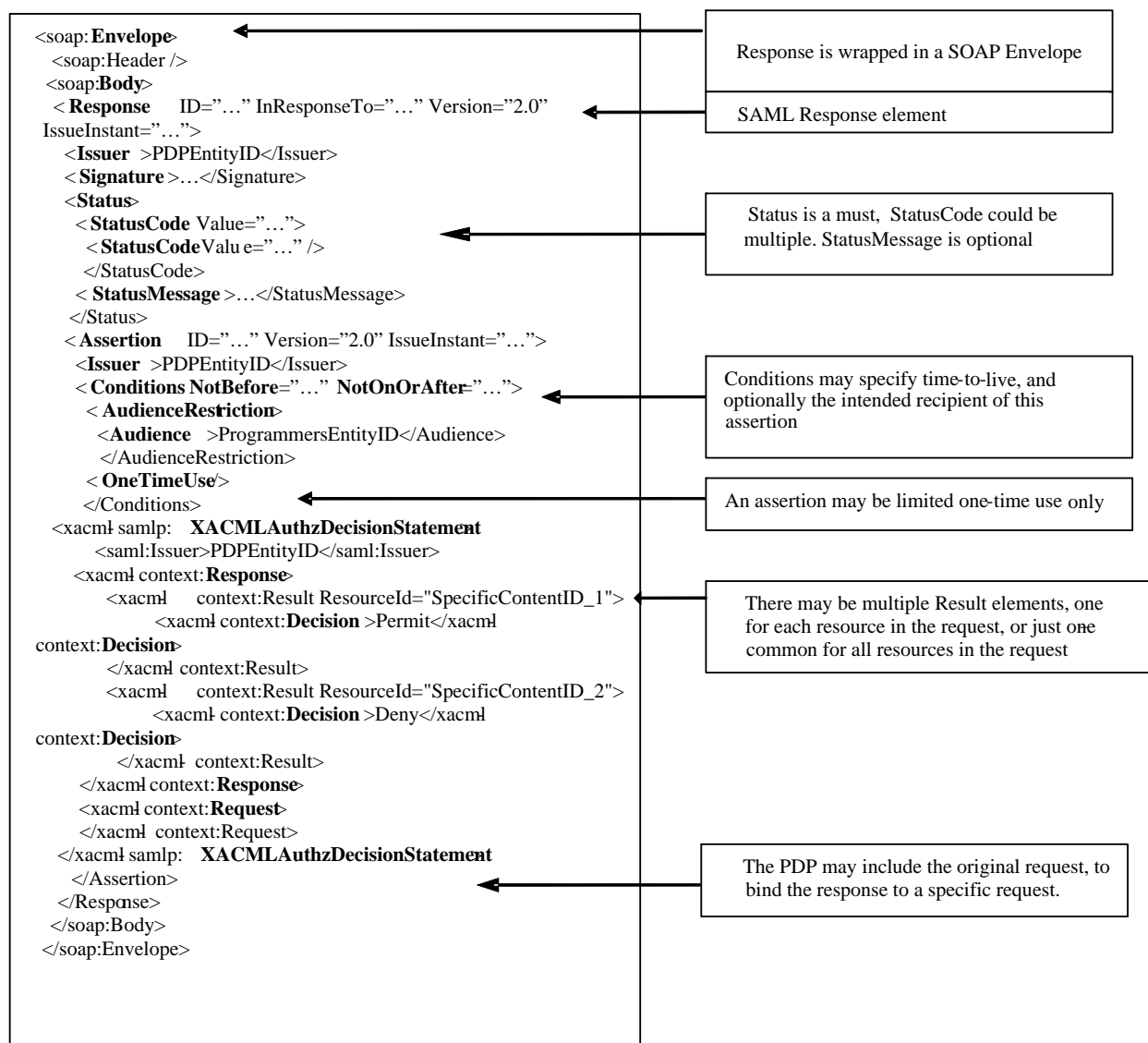


Figure 24 - Sample XACML Response



For details on the schema or explanation of the content, please see [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS], [XACML 2.0 Spec Core] and [SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0].

Multiple <Result> elements may be included – one for each Resource from the Request. Alternately, only one <Result> element may be included – without the ResourceId attribute – that applies to all Resources from the Request.

The PEP MUST adhere to the decisions from the response. The XACMLAuthzDecision assertion may include <Conditions>. The PEP MUST follow the conditions – the description of the expected behavior for each component of Conditions is explained within [SAML 2.0 CORE].

## Requirements

1. Implementations MUST adhere to SOAP binding as given in [SAML 2.0 BINDINGS] (section 3.2 for SOAP Binding), SAML profile for [XACML 2.0 Spec Core] and [SAML 2.0 Profile XACML 2.0].
2. If <StatusCode> is "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success", then <Assertion> MUST be present. <Assertion> MUST have a single XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement. If <StatusCode> is not "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success", then <Assertion> MUST not be present.
3. Multiple <Result> elements MAY be present. If so, then ResourceId attribute MUST be present for each <Result> element. If only one <Result> element is present, then ResourceId MAY be included, only if the request contained one resource.
4. If there is a problem with any resource, then <Decision> for that Resource MUST be "Indeterminate".
5. <Decision> values can only be "Deny", "Permit", "Indeterminate", or "NotApplicable" (per XACML standard).
  - a. "Permit" and "Deny" MUST be treated as per XACML spec.
  - b. "Indeterminate" MUST be used to indicate that the PDP encountered problems. SP/PEP MUST treat this as equivalent to "Deny". However, it MUST not cache this decision and resend the request when required next time.
  - c. "NotApplicable" means that the PDP did not find the resource or any policies corresponding to the resource. This may happen when SP has a content that the PDP is not aware of or not configured for. This decision MUST be treated by SP/PEP as equivalent to "Deny". However, both parties SHOULD also take steps to rectify the configuration issues. SP MAY show a corresponding error message to the subscriber. Again, this decision MUST not be cached, and the SP/PEP MUST send another request when required next time.
6. The <Request> element MAY be present in the Response. This is solely for the sake of binding the response to a particular request. PEPs MUST not expect this to be present.
7. PDP MAY include <Obligations> in the response. If included, SP MUST perform those obligations before enforcing the decision in the response. This documents defines some obligations (see Section 7.6.2). Bilateral agreements can be used to define additional obligations.

### 7.5.4.3 Caching Authorization Responses

If the PDP determines that a particular decision is going to be valid, not just at the time of making the decision but, into sometime in the future – it may communicate such 'validity period' to the SP. SPs MAY then cache such decision for the given validity period – meaning that they can reuse that decision (within the validity period) without sending another authorization decision to the PDP.

This feature can be used to reduce the load at the PDP, as well as improve the response times for the subscriber.

Note that the core SAML and XACML schemas do not have a provision for conveying such a validity period.

This specification adds a new element – called 'Validity' – to both <XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement> element and to the <Result> element.

The schema for <Validity> element is given in Section 7.7.

The extended schema for <Result> element is given below.

```
<xs:element name="Result" type="xacml-context:ResultType"/>
<xs:complexType name="ResultType">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element ref="olca:Validity"/>
    <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Decision"/>
    <xs:element ref="xacml-context:Status" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element ref="xacml:Obligations" minOccurs="0"/>
  </xs:sequence>
  <xs:attribute name="ResourceId" type="xs:string" use="optional"/>
</xs:complexType>
```

#### Requirements:

1. <Validity> element is required.
2. If the Validity element contains the <Use> element with a value of 'OneTime', then SPs MUST not cache this decision.
3. SPs MAY cache the <Result> contents only for the Validity period mentioned in the <TimeBounds> element. After the validity period ends, if authorization on the same content is required, SP MUST send another authorization request.

#### 7.5.4.4 Hierarchical content treatment

Content could be structured in a hierarchy – for example, a series is composed of seasons. A season itself could be composed of episodes. Further down, a particular content could have manifestations in different format, or different quality/resolution.

From an authorization perspective, hierarchical representation of content allows efficient communication of the decisions. For example, in one shot the PDP can indicate to the SP/PEP that a particular subscriber is allowed to watch all the episodes belonging to all seasons of a series. As another example, the decision can state that the subscriber is allowed to watch episodes belonging to only one season.

What this allows is:

- reduction in traffic (back and forth at each level),
- more intelligent presentation at the SP.

Note that the hierarchy may not necessarily be evident in the 'content ID' – for example, the 'content ID' could be an opaque string, without any hint of who is the parent content ID or what are its child content IDs. On the other hand, an XML representation of the content could provide information regarding the parent or children. Further, the 'content ID' for an XML content could be represented as an XPath (see [XPath]), not as an opaque string. Further, the notion of hierarchy can be anything that is commonly understood between PDP and the PEP.

In this section, however, the 'content ID' will be assumed to be an opaque string. Moreover, 'content ID' will be treated as representing a node in the hierarchy. Also, the hierarchy is assumed to be a tree structure – one parent and many children.

### Results on hierarchical content

If the content ID belongs to a hierarchical content, then the meaning of the decisions need to be clearly specified. For example, what is the meaning of a 'Permit' decision on a content ID that is at level-2 of a 5 level tree?

In general, it is assumed that the ultimate viewable content is always the leaf node of the hierarchy. And decisions have the following interpretation.

1. Permit – if given on a leaf node, then the viewable content is allowed. If given on a non-leaf node, then it means that all content IDs underneath this content ID (at all levels below) are allowed.
2. Deny – if a given on a leaf node, then the viewable content is not allowed. If given on a non-leaf node, then its meaning could vary depending on the <Status> element (see later). If the <Status> element within the <Result> contains a <StatusCode> of urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_TOO\_COARSE\_GRAINED then some content underneath this content ID is allowed, but not all the content. The requester will need to make another query for the content underneath. But if either the <Status> element is missing, or has a different <StatusCode>, then it means all the content underneath this content ID is not allowed.
3. Indeterminate – the meaning of this decision does not change from what is stated earlier in this document.
4. NotApplicable – the meaning of this decision does not change from what is stated earlier in this document.

### Hierarchical suffixes in Authorization Requests

For non-XPath content IDs, the following suffixes will be used

\\* – all immediate child nodes

\\\* – all nodes at all levels below the current node

For XPath content IDs, this section does not apply.

These are introduced to allow the requester to specify what level of details they want to include in the response. If '\\*' is specified, then it means the query is for all immediate children of the given content ID. The responder then will have to include responses for all immediate children – assuming that the decision for the given content ID is not a 'Permit' (in which case it means all content at all levels under this content ID is allowed), or 'Deny' (which means all content at all levels underneath this content ID is not allowed). Similarly, if the query includes '\\\*', then it means the query is for all children at all levels

Also note that this makes '\' and '\*' as reserved characters in content IDs.

This specification addresses the following requirements:

1. ability to query for a decision on 'all' child nodes of a given node,
2. ability to respond with a decision that applies to 'all' child nodes of a given node,
3. ability to query for a decision for 'all' nodes at all levels below the given node,
4. ability to respond with a decision that applies to 'all' nodes at all levels below a given node, and
5. ability to respond with a decision that applies to some, but not all, nodes below a given node.

### Requesting decision for 'all immediate child nodes'

The content ID in the 'resource-id' attribute of the <Resource> element can now be appended with a '\\*', as shown in the example below.

```
<xacml-context:Resource>
  <xacml-context:Attribute
AttributeId="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:resource:resource-id"
DataType="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
    <xacml-context:AttributeValue>SpecificContentID\*</xacml-
context:AttributeValue>
  </xacml-context:Attribute>
</xacml-context:Resource>
```

The response for such a request could be as earlier - that is a straight-forward 'Permit' or 'Deny', or the PDP could provide responses to specific content at levels below the given content's level. For example, the below example says that all content under 'SpecificContentID/Level-1-1' is allowed, but no content under 'SpecificContentID/Level-1-2' is allowed, and 'some' content under 'SpecificContentID/Level-1-3' is allowed (see later for the status code).

```
<xacml-context:Response xmlns:xacml-
context="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:context:schema:os">
  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId=" SpecificContentID">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Deny</xacml-context:Decision>
  <xacml-context:Status>
    <xacml-context:StatusCode
Value="urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID_TOO_COARSE_GRAINED" />
  </xacml-context:Status>
</xacml-context:Result>
  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId=" Level-1-1_ContentID">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Permit</xacml-context:Decision>
  </xacml-context:Result>
  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId=" Level-1-2_ContentID">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Deny</xacml-context:Decision>
  </xacml-context:Result>
  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId=" Level-1-3_ContentID">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Deny</xacml-context:Decision>
  </xacml-context:Result>
  <xacml-context:Status>
    <xacml-context:StatusCode
Value="urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID_TOO_COARSE_GRAINED" />
  </xacml-context:Status>
</xacml-context:Result>
</xacml-context:Response>
```

### Requesting decision for 'all lower-level nodes'

This is done similar to 'all immediate child nodes' case, except that the resource ID in the request will look like 'SpecificContentID\\*'. The responses will also be similar to the 'all immediate child nodes' case.

### Authorizing at a higher-level

Depending on the level of request content within the hierarchy, the PDP may also come back with a decision that applies to a much higher level than the one requested. Consider the following <Resource> element in the request

```
<xacml-context:Resource>
  <xacml-context:Attribute
AttributeId="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:resource:resource-id"
DataType="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
    <xacml-context:AttributeValue>Level-6_ContentID</xacml-
context:AttributeValue>
  </xacml-context:Attribute>
</xacml-context:Resource>
```

The response for such a request could be

```
<xacml-context:Response>
```

```

    <xacml-context:Result ResourceId="Level-6_ContentID">
      <xacml-context:Decision>Permit</xacml-context:Decision>
    </xacml-context:Result>
    <xacml-context:Result ResourceId="Level-3_ContentID">
      <xacml-context:Decision>Permit</xacml-context:Decision>
    </xacml-context:Result>
  </xacml-context:Response>

```

**Note:** The response contains <Result>s for both the level 6 content ID and the level 3 content ID.

## Error Conditions

The following error conditions are identified

1. urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_HIERARCHY\_NOT\_SUPPORTED – PDP does not support hierarchical content representation. Thus, the PEP will have to get authorizations without using hierarchical suffixes.
2. urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_MISSING\_HIERARCHY\_DATA – PDP is missing the hierarchy data for this particular resource ID.
3. urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:ResourceNotRecognized – PDP may respond with this status code if it does not realize that hierarchical suffixes are used along with content ID. The PEP may try the request again without the hierarchical suffixes.
4. urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_TOO\_COARSE\_GRAINED – PDP determines that it cannot give an authorization decision at the current level of the given content ID. It needs more granular content ID.

If the decision is provided at a level other than the one in the request, the PDP will use the following informational codes.

1. urn:olca:1.0:status:AUTHZD\_AT\_HIGHER\_LEVEL – means that the content is actually authorized at a higher level than what is given in the request
2. urn:olca:1.0:status:AUTHZD\_AT\_LOWER\_LEVEL – means that the content is actually authorized at a lower (more detailed) level than what is given in the request

All the codes are to be used in the <Status> element of the <Result> element. Examples are given below.

```

    <xacml-context:Response xmlns:xacml-
context="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:2.0:context:schema:os">
  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId="Level-1-ContentID">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Deny</xacml-context:Decision>
    <xacml-context:Status>
      <xacml-context:StatusCode
Value="urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID_TOO_COARSE_GRAINED" />
    </xacml-context:Status>
  </xacml-context:Result>

  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId="Level-2-ContentID\*">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Permit</xacml-context:Decision>
    <xacml-context:Status>
      <xacml-context:StatusCode Value="urn:olca:1.0:status:
AUTHZD_AT_HIGHER_LEVEL" />
    </xacml-context:Status>
  </xacml-context:Result>

  <xacml-context:Result ResourceId="Level-6-ContentID">
    <xacml-context:Decision>Permit</xacml-context:Decision>
    <xacml-context:Status>
      <xacml-context:StatusCode Value="urn:olca:1.0:status:
AUTHZD_AT_LOWER_LEVEL" />
    </xacml-context:Status>
  </xacml-context:Result>
</xacml-context:Response>

```

**Note:** It is assumed that both the PDP and PEP share the same hierarchy data, and that given two content IDs that are related, each entity can create the path from one to the other.

### Requirements

1. PDP implementations MUST recognize hierarchy suffixes. If the PDP does not support hierarchies for evaluating authorization decisions, it MUST respond with a status code of urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_HIERARCHY\_NOT\_SUPPORTED.
2. If the PDP is missing the hierarchy data for the given resource ID, and thus cannot support the request, then the PDP MUST respond with a status code of urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_MISSING\_HIERARCHY\_DATA.
3. If the response contains a status code of urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_HIERARCHY\_NOT\_SUPPORTED or urn:olca:1.0:status:ContentID\_MISSING\_HIERARCHY\_DATA, then the PEP MUST try the request without hierarchical suffixes.
4. If authorizing at a higher level, then the PDP MUST include the information status code of urn:olca:1.0:status:AUTHZD\_AT\_HIGHER\_LEVEL.
5. If authorizing at a higher level, the PDP MUST include <Result>s for both the requested content ID and the higher level content ID.
6. If authorizing at a lower level, then the PDP MUST include the information status code of urn:olca:1.0:status:AUTHZD\_AT\_LOWER\_LEVEL.
7. If authorizing at a lower level, then the PDP MUST include <Result>s for both the requested content ID and the lower level content ID.

### 7.5.5 Security Considerations

Appendix III of this document covers many of the weaknesses in any back-channel communication – such as MIT, eavesdropping, replays, etc. To counter such threats, it is recommended that either TLS is used or message level signatures/encryption is used.

#### Requirements (Security)

1. AA/PDPs and SPs MUST support TLS 1.2 based communication as defined by [RFC 5246]

If message-level security is desired, it can be negotiated through a bilateral agreement.

#### TLS requirements

The following requirements apply if TLS is used.

1. AAs/PDPs MUST support TLS server functionality on port 443.
2. SPs MUST support TLS client functionality.
3. SPs MUST support TLS client authentication using digital certificates.
4. SPs and AAs/PDPs MUST support the certificate profiles and validation methods as defined in Section 8. The AA/PDP certificate used for the TLS connection MUST be the "signing" certificate included in the AttributeAuthorityDescriptor entry of metadata for AAs, and PDPDescriptor entry of metadata for PDPs. SP MUST ensure that the AA/PDP certificate used in TLS is the same as the one found in the metadata for the entity ID to which it is connecting.

5. The SP certificate used for the TLS connection MUST be the "signing" certificate included in the SPSSODescriptor entry of the SP's metadata. AA/PDP MUST ensure that the SP certificate used in the TLS connection is the same as the one found in the metadata for the entity ID mentioned as issuer in the request.
6. If any of the above checks fail on the incoming request, AA/PDP MAY either drop the connection or respond with a status code of '*urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestDenied*'. Additional status codes and / or status messages MAY be used to communicate the problem details. (This specification does not define additional status codes or messages – it is up to the AA/PDP implementation.)
7. If any of the above checks fail on the response, SP MUST discard the message SP MUST also show an error message to the subscriber and deny access to content.
8. SP and AA/PDPs MUST support TLS\_RSA\_WITH\_3DES\_EDE\_CBC\_SHA and TLS\_RSA\_WITH\_AES\_128\_CBC\_SHA cipher suites.

### Message-level security requirements

The following requirements apply if message level encryption/signature are used.

1. Requests MUST be signed using a digital certificate as defined in Section 8. The signature MUST cover the entire request.
2. AA/PDP MUST verify the signature against the certificate from the metadata of the entity whose ID is mentioned in the Issuer element of the request. The particular certificate used MUST be the 'signing' certificate from the SPSSODescriptor entry of the SP's metadata.
3. AA/PDP SHOULD ensure that IssueInstant value from request is within a valid window with respect to current time (determined at the discretion of individual implementations). Further AA/PDP SHOULD ensure that the ID attribute from the request is not a duplicate within the time window. These requirements ensure replay attack prevention.
4. In the response, AA/PDP MUST encrypt all attribute whose values it wants to protect from eavesdropping. The encryption key itself is encrypted using the public key found in the KeyDescriptor entry with use as 'encryption' under the SPSSODescriptor entry of the SP's metadata.
5. The entire response MUST be signed using a digital certificate as defined in Section 8.
6. SP MUST ensure that the response is signed with the certificate from metadata of the entity identified as the issuer of the response. The particular certificate used MUST be the 'signing' certificate of the AttributeAuthorityDescriptor entry of metadata for AAs and PDPDescriptor entry of metadata for PDPs. using a digital certificate as defined in Section 8.
7. SP MUST ensure that the value of the InResponseTo is equal to the ID of the request it issued and is expecting a reply for.
8. SP MUST ensure that the IssueInstant of the response falls within a valid time window (determined at the discretion of individual implementations).
9. If any of the above checks fail on the incoming request, AA/PDP MAY either drop the connection or respond with a status code of '*urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestDenied*'. Additional status codes and / or status messages MAY be used to communicate the problem details. (This specification does not define additional status codes or messages – it is up to the AA/PDP implementation.)

10. If any of the above checks fail on the response, SP MUST discard the message. SP MUST also show an error message to the subscriber and deny access to content.

### 7.5.6 Error Conditions

For any back-channel communication, it is possible that errors are encountered. This specification identifies possible error conditions and the required behavior for each.

1. TLS handshake (certificate validation) errors – AA/ PDP MUST drop the connection; SP MUST drop the connection, and deny access to content. Both parties MAY generate internal alerts to rectify the problem.
2. Invalid signature on the request – AA/ PDP MUST drop the message. AA/ PDP MAY generate a response. The status code MUST be 'urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestDenied'.
3. Invalid signature on the response – SP MUST drop the message. SP MUST also shown an show error message to the user and deny access to the content.
4. AttributeQueries are not supported – the AA MUST respond with a response with the status code value of "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestUnsupported". The SP will have to proceed without attribute information, and rely only on fine-grained authorization through XACML query. Note, this is not the same as receiving an 'error' from the AA, in which case the SP MUST explicitly deny access to the content.
5. Invalid attribute names (either unknown or unsupported attributes) – AA will generate a response with the status code of "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:InvalidAttrNameOrValue". This status code MUST have child status elements that indicate which attribute is at fault. For example,

```
<Status>
  <StatusCode Value="
urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:InvalidAttrNameOrValue">
    <StatusCode Value="attributeName_a" />
  </StatusCode>
</Status>
```

6. Unknown resource – PDP MUST generate a response with the status code of "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:ResourceNotRecognized". This status code MAY have child status elements that indicate which resource is at fault. For example,

```
<Status>
  <StatusCode Value="
urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:ResourceNotRecognized">
    <StatusCode Value="contentID_a" />
  </StatusCode>
</Status>
```

7. Subject identifier is not found – the AA/ PDP MUST send a SAML response with the status code value of "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownPrincipal". It MAY include a status message. Upon receiving this message, the SP/PEP MUST invalidate his own session, and re-authenticate the subscriber with the AnP.
8. Internal error at the AA/ PDP – AA/ PDP MAY generate a response with the status code of "urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Responder". A status message MAY be included, but that will be opaque to the SP. SP MUST deny access in such cases.
9. Request timeout – if the AA/ PDP does not respond (within a certain period of time), SP MUST treat this as an error condition, and MUST show an error message to the subscriber and deny access to the content.



### 7.5.6.1 Conveying status

A summary of the behavior is captured in this table.

SAML <Response> element provides a <Status> element for conveying status. The implementations **MUST** use this element to communicate success or error status.

In addition, the HTTP status code of 500 (Internal server error code) **MAY** be used to convey a system error.

The following table summarizes the different types of errors and how each party **MUST** behave for each.

**Table 1 - Error Codes and Appropriate Response**

Error Condition	Error Code in Response/Status/StatusCode	MVPD / SP Behavior
AA/PDP service is unavailable (not responding)	None / Not applicable	SP <b>SHOULD</b> timeout (the actual timeout period is SP defined) For attribute queries, SP <b>MAY</b> limit the UI to public content. For authorization queries, SP <b>MUST</b> deny access.
AA/PDP service encounters errors	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Responder OR HTTP 500 response code	For attribute queries, SP <b>MAY</b> limit the UI to public content. For authorization queries, SP <b>MUST</b> deny access.
Security exceptions: TLS validations		AA/PDP service drops the connection, For attribute queries, SP <b>MAY</b> limit the UI to public content. For authorization queries, SP <b>MUST</b> deny access.
Security exceptions: digital signature validations fail	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Requester (optional)	AA/PDP <b>MAY</b> drop the connection, or respond with the status code For attribute queries, SP <b>MAY</b> limit the UI to public content. For authorization queries, SP <b>MUST</b> deny access.
AA does not support attribute queries	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:RequestUnsupported	SP <b>MAY</b> present 'unfiltered' content list to the subscriber.
SP queries for attributes not supported by AA	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:InvalidAttrNameOrValue	SP <b>MAY</b> continue to construct the UI without using the unsupported attribute for filtering
User needs to be re-authenticated	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:UnknownPrincipal	SP <b>MUST</b> destroy the current session and re-authenticate the user.
PDP does not recognize the content	urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:ResourceNotRecognized	SP <b>MUST</b> deny access to the content.

## 7.6 Standard identifiers

### 7.6.1 Standard attributes

Given below is a set of attributes and their semantics and usage.

**Table 2 - URN Attributes, Interpretation and Support**

Attribute URN	Interpretation	Support
urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:subscriber:identifier	<p>This attribute is used by the AnP to identify a subscriber's record.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Subject/NameID in authentication assertion could potentially have a transient value or a distinct value across SPs. Thus, Subject/NameID value may not be the optimal way to identify a subscriber. AnP may choose to use a different way to identify the subscriber than what they need to put in Subject/NameID.</p> <p>This attribute gives the AnPs this flexibility.</p>	<p>AnPs MUST support this attribute. There MUST be only one &lt;AttributeValue&gt; for this attribute.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> AnPs MAY use the same value as that of Subject/NameID, but it is totally up to them.</p> <p>SPs MUST support this attribute. SPs MUST cache this information for the duration of the session and use this in all back-channel requests as detailed in this specification.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> This attribute cannot be queried on. This attribute value is passed only through authentication assertion.</p>
urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:channelID	<p>Can contain one or more channel IDs. By providing this information, AnPs convey to SPs that the subscriber is allowed ONLY these channels. SPs MUST limit subscriber access to only these channels.</p> <p>However, if this attribute is not present in the authentication assertion, SP MUST issue a back-channel attribute query for this attribute. If the AnP does not support either attribute queries or this attribute in particular, then SP is allowed to show contents of all channels that SP caters to. However, SP MUST still get individual content authorization (XACML query) before allowing the subscriber to view a particular content.</p>	<p>AnP MAY support this attribute.</p> <p>SPs MUST support this attribute.</p>
urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:maxMPAA	<p>Designates the maximum MPAA rating that this subscriber is allowed to watch. By providing this information, AnPs mandate the SP to show content that has a MPAA rating of this attribute's value, or below. SPs MUST show content to the subscriber that is below or equal to this rating.</p> <p>However, if this attribute is not present in the authentication assertion, SP MUST issue a back-channel attribute query for this attribute. If the AnP does not support either attribute queries, or this attribute in particular, then SP is allowed to show content with any rating. However, SP MUST still get individual content authorization (XACML query) before allowing the subscriber to view a particular content.</p> <p>The allowed values for this attribute are as provided at <a href="http://www.mpaa.org/">http://www.mpaa.org/</a>.</p>	<p>AnP MAY support this attribute.</p> <p>SPs MUST support this attribute.</p>
urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:maxVCHIP	<p>To be used similar to the MPAA rating attribute, but for the content rated via the vchip format.</p> <p>The allowed values for this attribute are as provided by FCC at <a href="http://www.fcc.gov/vchip/">http://www.fcc.gov/vchip/</a>.</p>	

## 7.6.2 Standard obligation URNs

Table 3 lists a set of obligations indicating if their support is mandatory.

**Table 3 - Obligation URNs and SP Support**

Obligation URN	Interpretation	SP Support
urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:obligations:log	The PEP MUST log the time, resource, action and decision before implementing the decision.	MUST
urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:obligations:reauthn	The PEP MUST re-authenticate the user. After re-authentication, PEP MAY use this decision (instead of sending another XACML request).	MUST

## 7.7 OLCA Schema

The schema for extension elements defined earlier in this section is given below.

```
<schema targetNamespace="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0"
xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema" xmlns:olca=
"urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0" version="1.0">

  <element name="Use" type="olca:UseType"/>
  <simpleType name="UseType">
    <restriction base="string">
      <enumeration value="OneTime"/>
    </restriction>
  </simpleType>

  <element name="TimeBounds" type="olca:TimeBoundsType"/>
  <complexType name="TimeBoundsType">
    <attribute name="NotBefore" type="dateTime" use="optional"/>
    <attribute name="NotOnOrAfter" type="dateTime" use="optional"/>
  </complexType>

  <element name="Validity" type="olca:ValidityType"/>
  <complexType name="ValidityType">
    <choice>
      <element ref="olca:TimeBounds"/>
      <element ref="olca:Use"/>
    </choice>
  </complexType>

  <attribute name="scheme">
    <simpleType>
      <restriction base="string">
        <enumeration value="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:EIDR"/>
        <enumeration value="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:MRSS"/>
        <enumeration value="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:CustomContentGUID"/>
        <enumeration value="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:CustomNetworkGUID"/>
      </restriction>
    </simpleType>
  </attribute>
</schema>
```

## 8 CERTIFICATE PROFILE AND VALIDATION

Digital certificates are used to support TLS mutual authentication for back channel authorization messaging and digital signatures for SAML messaging. Certificate profile and validation requirements in this section apply to the following certificates:

- TLS/SSL server certificates for AA/PDPs
- TLS/SSL client certificates for SPs
- Certificates for signing SAML messages at IdPs and SPs
- Certificate Profile

X.509 digital certificates [RFC 2459] **MUST** be used for digital signatures on SAML messages and to support TLS mutual authentication. All X.509 certificates **MUST** be signed by a trusted party. CableLabs operates a digital certificate public key infrastructure (PKI) that can be used for issuing OLCA certificates. The certificates **MUST** be profiled as described in Table 4.

**Table 4 - Certificate Profile**

Subject Name Form	C=<Country> O=<Company> CN=<FQDN>  Additional fields may be present in the subject name.  FQDN is the server's fully qualified domain name (e.g., server.example.com). Only a single FQDN is allowed in the CN field.
Intended Usage	These certificates are used to authenticate TLS handshake exchanges (and encrypt when using RSA key exchange) and digitally sign SAML messages.
Validity Period	Set by operator policy
Modulus Length	2048
Extensions	KeyUsage[c,m](digitalSignature, keyEncipherment) extendedKeyUsage[n,m] (id-kp-serverAuth, id-kp-clientAuth) authorityKeyIdentifier[n,m] (keyIdentifier=<subjectKeyIdentifier value from CA cert>)

### 8.1.1 Certificate validation

Certificates **MUST** be verified as part of a certificate chain that chains up to a Trusted Root certificate. The chain **MAY** contain intermediate Certification Authority (CA) certificates. Receiving entities **MUST** support configuration of a Trusted Root certificate.

To ensure a high degree of trust, all OLCA certificates **SHOULD** be extended validation (EV) certificates. EV certificates are issued in conformance with the extended validation guidelines defined by the [CA/Browser Forum](#). The extended validation guidelines contain a set of minimum requirements for the operations of certification authorities (CAs) that mostly govern the process of validating the identifying information that is to appear in an EV SSL certificate, but also establish requirements for several other aspects of a CA's operations, including: insurance coverage, revocation services, cryptographic key parameters, personnel qualification, etc.

Usually the first certificate in the chain is not explicitly included in the certificate chain that is sent to the receiving entity. In the cases where the first certificate is explicitly included, it **MUST** already be known to the verifying party ahead of time; and **MUST NOT** contain any changes to the certificate, with the possible exception of the certificate

serial number, validity period and the value of the signature. If changes other than the certificate serial number, validity period and the value of the signature exist in the root certificate that was received in comparison to the known root certificate, the receiving entity **MUST** conclude that the certificate verification has failed.

Receiving entities **MUST** build the certificate chain and validate the certificate according to the "Certificate Path Validation" procedures described in [RFC 2459]. In general, X.509 certificates support a liberal set of rules for determining if the issuer name of a certificate matches the subject name of another. The rules are such that two name fields may be declared to match even though a binary comparison of the two name fields does not indicate a match. [RFC 2459] recommends that certificate authorities restrict the encoding of name fields so that an implementation can declare a match or mismatch using simple binary comparison. Accordingly, the DER-encoded tbsCertificate.issuer field of a certificate **MUST** be an exact match to the DER-encoded tbsCertificate.subject field of its issuer certificate. An implementation **MAY** compare an issuer name to a subject name by performing a binary comparison of the DER-encoded tbsCertificate.issuer and tbsCertificate.subject fields.

### **8.1.2 Certificate Revocation**

Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs) **MAY** be checked as part of certificate path validation. The CRL profile and how a receiving entity obtains a CRL is not defined.

## Appendix I Authentication Prototype

These samples are for conveying the concepts discussed here, they may not be strictly according to the respective schema. Also, these examples are not complete. Many important details, for example the security elements, are left out for clarity.

### I.1 Authentication Request XML Example

```
<samlp:AuthnRequest xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
Destination="http://idphost.idp.com/idpservice"
ForceAuthn="false" ID="_a0d0341caf7e80d80abea765" IsPassive="false"
ProtocolBinding="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
IssueInstant="2010-06-16T20:35:30.582Z" Version="2.0">
  <saml:Issuer xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion">
    http://sphost.sp.com
  </saml:Issuer>
</samlp:AuthnRequest>
```

### I.2 Authentication Response XML Example

```
<samlp:Response xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol" Version="2.0"
ID="s2f6e4a0ae48e634e0b4c60b932ff7dd4773720bd8"
InResponseTo="_a0d0341caf7e80d80abea765"
IssueInstant="2010-06-16T20:35:27Z"
Destination="http://sphost.sp.com/spservice">

  <saml:Issuer xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion">
    http://idphost.idp.com
  </saml:Issuer>

  <samlp:Status xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol">
    <samlp:StatusCode
xmlns:samlp="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:protocol"
Value="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:status:Success"/>
  </samlp:Status>

  <saml:Assertion xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
ID="s2cf10a567011a68cc3fc7badfab7a43dbb5335600" IssueInstant="2010-06-
16T20:35:27Z" Version="2.0">

    <saml:Issuer>
      http://idphost.idp.com
    </saml:Issuer>

    <ds:Signature xmlns:ds="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#">
      <ds:SignedInfo>
        <ds:CanonicalizationMethod
Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#" />
        <ds:SignatureMethod
Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#rsa-sha1" />
        <ds:Reference
URI="#s2cf10a567011a68cc3fc7badfab7a43dbb5335600">
          <ds:Transforms>
            <ds:Transform
Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#enveloped-signature" />
            <ds:Transform
Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/10/xml-exc-c14n#" />
          </ds:Transforms>
          <ds:DigestMethod
Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmldsig#sha1" />
```

```

<ds:DigestValue>vGIIZERnMYQ339hJXb3m50cQg6c=</ds:DigestValue>
  </ds:Reference>
</ds:SignedInfo>
<ds:SignatureValue>
  ###DigitalSignatureHere###
</ds:SignatureValue>
<ds:KeyInfo>
  <ds:X509Data>
    <ds:X509Certificate>
      ###CertificateHere###
    </ds:X509Certificate>
  </ds:X509Data>
</ds:KeyInfo>
</ds:Signature>

<saml:Subject>
  <saml:NameID Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-
format:transient"
  NameQualifier="http://idphost.idp.com">
    ###transientidentifier###
  </saml:NameID>
  <saml:SubjectConfirmation
Method="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:cm:bearer">
    <saml:SubjectConfirmationData
InResponseTo="_a0d0341caf7e80d80abea765" NotOnOrAfter="2010-06-16T20:45:27Z"
    Recipient="http://sphost.sp.com/spservice"/>
  </saml:SubjectConfirmation>
</saml:Subject>

  <saml:Conditions NotBefore="2010-06-16T20:25:27Z"
NotOnOrAfter="2010-06-16T20:45:27Z">
    <saml:AudienceRestriction>
      <saml:Audience>
        http://sphost.sp.com
      </saml:Audience>
    </saml:AudienceRestriction>
  </saml:Conditions>

  <saml:AuthnStatement AuthnInstant="2010-06-16T20:35:27Z"
SessionIndex="s2677ff62b195683e63e8ebb0d72093d6bbc71ce01">
    <saml:AuthnContext>
      <saml:AuthnContextClassRef>

urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:ac:classes:PasswordProtectedTransport
      </saml:AuthnContextClassRef>
    </saml:AuthnContext>
  </saml:AuthnStatement>
</saml:Assertion>
</samlp:Response>

```

## Appendix II Sample Authorization Messages

These samples are for conveying the concepts discussed here, they may not be strictly according to the respective schema. Also, these examples are not complete. Many important details, such as the security elements, are left out for clarity.

### II.1 Implicit Transfer of Attributes Using Attribute Statement

```
<saml:Assertion xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
  xmlns:xs="..." xmlns:xsi="..." ID="..." Version="2.0"
  IssueInstant="...">
  <saml:Issuer>https://idp.example.org/SAML2</saml:Issuer>
  <ds:Signature xmlns:ds="...">...</ds:Signature>
  <saml:Subject> ... </saml:Subject>
  <saml:Conditions> ... </saml:Conditions>
  <saml:AuthnStatement> ... </saml:AuthnStatement>
  <saml:AttributeStatement>
    <saml:Attribute
      NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
      Name="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:channelID"
      FriendlyName="allowedChannel">
      <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
        Channel-1-unique-ID</saml:AttributeValue>
      <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
        Channel-2-unique-ID</saml:AttributeValue>
      </saml:Attribute>
    </saml:AttributeStatement>
  </saml:Assertion>
```

### II.2 Explicit Attribute Request Using SAML AttributeQuery

```
<samlp:AttributeQuery xmlns:saml="..." xmlns:samlp="..."
  ID="..." Version="2.0" IssueInstant="...">
  <saml:Issuer Format="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:1.1:nameid-
format:entity">https://sp.example.com/SAML2</saml:Issuer>
  <saml:Subject> ... </saml:Subject>
  <saml:Attribute
    NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
    Name="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:channelID"
    FriendlyName="allowedChannel">
  </saml:Attribute>
  <saml:Attribute
    NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
    Name="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:maxMPAA"
    FriendlyName="maxRating">
  </saml:Attribute>
</samlp:AttributeQuery>
```

Response to Explicit Attribute Request:

```
<saml:Assertion xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
  xmlns:xs="..." xmlns:xsi="..." ID="..." Version="2.0"
  IssueInstant="...">
  <saml:Issuer>https://idp.example.org/SAML2</saml:Issuer>
  <ds:Signature xmlns:ds="...">...</ds:Signature>
  <saml:Subject> ... </saml:Subject>
  <saml:Conditions> ... </saml:Conditions>
  <saml:AttributeStatement>
    <saml:Attribute
      NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
      Name="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:channelID"
      FriendlyName="allowedChannel">
```



```

        <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
Channel-1-unique-ID</saml:AttributeValue>
        <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
Channel-2-unique-ID</saml:AttributeValue>
    </saml:Attribute>
    <saml:Attribute
        NameFormat="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:attrname-format:uri"
        Name="urn:cablelabs:olca:1.0:attribute:authz:maxMPAA"
        FriendlyName="maxRating">
        <saml:AttributeValue xsi:type="xs:string">
PG-13</saml:AttributeValue>
    </saml:Attribute>
    </saml:AttributeStatement>
</saml:Assertion>

```

### II.3 Explicit Decision Query Using SAML/XACML XacmlAuthzDecisionQuery

```

<xacml-samlp:XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>
    <saml:Issuer>MVPD</saml:Issuer>
    <xacml-context:Request>
        <xacml-context:Subject
SubjectCategory="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:subject-category:access-subject">
        <xacml-context:Attribute
AttributeId="urn:oasis:names:tc:xacml:1.0:subject:subject-id"
        DataType="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#string">
<AttributeValue>TransientUserIdentifierGottenInAssertion </AttributeValue>
        </xacml-context:Attribute>
        </xacml-context:Subject>
        <xacml-context:Resource>
            <xacml-context:Attribute AttributeId="...:resource-id" DataType="
#string">
                <AttributeValue>SpecificContentID</AttributeValue>
            </xacml-context:Attribute>
        </xacml-context:Resource>
        <xacml-context:Action>
            <xacml-context:Attribute AttributeId="...:action-id"
DataType="#string">
                <AttributeValue>VIEW</AttributeValue>
            </xacml-context:Attribute>
        </xacml-context:Action>
    </xacml-context:Request>
</xacml-samlp:XACMLAuthzDecisionQuery>

```

### II.4 Explicit Decision Response Using SAML/XACML XacmlAuthzDecisionQuery

```

<saml:Assertion xmlns:saml="urn:oasis:names:tc:SAML:2.0:assertion"
    xmlns:xs="..." xmlns:xsi="..." ID="..." Version="2.0"
    IssueInstant="...">
    <saml:Issuer>https://idp.example.org/SAML2</saml:Issuer>
    <ds:Signature xmlns:ds="...">...</ds:Signature>
    <saml:Subject>... </saml:Subject>
    <saml:Conditions>... </saml:Conditions>
    <xacml-samlp:XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>
        <saml:Issuer>MVPD</saml:Issuer>
        <xacml-context:Response>
            <xacml-context:Result ResourceId="SpecificContentID">
                <xacml-context:Decision>Deny</xacml-context:Decision>
            </xacml-context:Result>
        </xacml-context:Response>
    </xacml-samlp:XACMLAuthzDecisionStatement>
</saml:Assertion>

```

## Appendix III Security Considerations

OLCA defines the architecture, messaging interface, and functionality to support Subscriber authentication and authorization for consuming online video content at different Service Providers (SPs). While this provides an interoperable and scalable system there are messaging interface security threats that should be considered and addressed with proper mitigation techniques.

The following sections discuss threats and proposed mitigation techniques for each of the main OLCA messaging interfaces and technologies.

### III.1 SAML Security Threats

OLCA uses the SAML 2.0 Web Browser SSO Profile to provide federated Subscriber authentication between Authentication Providers (AnPs) and SPs. Security threats associated with this application of SAML and mitigation techniques are discussed in the Security and Privacy Considerations for SAML 2.0 document [SAML 2.0 Security].

### III.2 SAML Security Features

To help protect SAML messaging SAML 2.0 defines optional requirements for digital signatures and encryption. These features support message integrity verification and message confidentiality. To properly address the threats related to the SAML authentication-messaging interface SAML messaging security features along with other security technologies, such as SSL/TLS may be needed.

### III.3 Subscriber Authentication Threats and Recommendations

In this section, we list the threats related to the authentication of the Subscriber by the Authentication Provider (AnP). The majority of these threats if not addressed would lead to theft of the Subscriber's identity and consequently theft and abuse of content across the ecosystem.

- **Theft/Compromise of Subscriber's authentication credentials:** Weak credentials such as username & passwords may be compromised or stolen in a variety of ways - through password guessing attacks (e.g. dictionary or brute force attacks), social engineering attacks, phishing and pharming attacks or through malware on the Subscriber's machine (e.g. key loggers). If the Subscriber's credentials are compromised or stolen then the malicious user(s) may have access to unauthorized content.
- **Sharing of authentication credentials:** the legitimate Subscriber may knowingly share their authentication credentials with other non-subscriber users such as their family and friends. While some amount of sharing may be acceptable (e.g. within a household), widespread sharing of credentials (e.g. in a college dormitory) would be unacceptable.
- **Subscriber Impersonation:** Both the above threats enable the malicious user to impersonate the legitimate Subscriber and access unauthorized content. Additionally, there are other more sophisticated techniques that could be used to impersonate the user. These include- man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks, session and cookie hijacking, etc.
- **Device Impersonation:** Some AnPs may authenticate the Subscriber's device in addition to the user-level credentials. For example, they may allow the Subscriber to register a specific number of devices and then ensure that the user is accessing from a registered device in addition to verifying the user's credential such as a username/password. The AnP can potentially use several methods to identify the user's device including storing cookies, installing device certificates or other proprietary techniques that 'fingerprint' the user's device. Some of the above techniques may be more susceptible to device impersonation attacks.

- **Network Impersonation (Zero-Sign On):** In some cases the MVPD may authenticate the Subscriber based on the fact that the user is accessing the content from within the MVPD's access network (Zero Sign On). The determination that the user is accessing the service from within the MVPD's network would typically be made by matching the IP-address range among other things. In this category of attacks, a non-subscriber may be able to impersonate that he is accessing the service from within the MVPD's network and thus gain access to unauthorized content. For example, the malicious user may be able to take advantage of an unsecured WiFi network, setup a web-proxy on the user's home network and proxy authentication requests to the AnP through that web-proxy.

Even though the specification does not include any specific or minimum requirements on how the AnP should authenticate the Subscriber, we list some recommendations that the AnP SHOULD use to mitigate the threats identified above and protect content across the OLCA ecosystem, while enabling access to legitimate users.

- **Strong Authentication (2-Factor):** We recommend that the AnP can use 2-factor authentication such as one-time password credentials, PKI certificates, etc. in addition to username/passwords to authenticate the users. This will help mitigate the threats around theft and sharing of user credentials.
- **Device Registration:** This is an alternative approach that the AnP may use to mitigate against threats such as theft/compromise or willful sharing of user credentials. The AnP can allow the legitimate user to register a fixed number devices (e.g. up to 5). For authenticating the user, the AnP will not only verify the user's credentials such as username/password but also verify that they are accessing the content from a previously registered device. This model is currently being used by several content platforms to enable legitimate users access to content across all the devices in the household.

As described above, we recommend that AnP use a technology that can mitigate against device impersonation attacks for the purpose of device identity and registration.

- **Fraud detection technologies:** In addition to above mitigating approaches, the AnP should implement means to detect anomalous or fraudulent patterns of usage. If a potential fraud is detected, then the user can be prompted for additional authentication. Some examples of fraudulent patterns are –
  - Same user logs in from distant geographical areas in a short amount of time – this would indicate a possible scenario that the user has shared their credentials with friends/family living in a different area.
  - Same user logs in from several different IP addresses in the short amount of time – this would indicate a possible scenario where the user's credentials are compromised.
  - High volume of devices being registered and unregistered against the user's account – this would again indicate that there is some out of ordinary sharing of user's credentials.
- **Other mitigating techniques:** We also recommend that AnP should consider implementing these additional techniques to prevent the malicious user from gaining access to the content.
  - **Limiting the simultaneous number of sessions:** this could be difficult to enforce across the ecosystem, so the AnP could look at limiting the number of authentication requests for each user in a given time period.
  - **Throttling unsuccessful authentication attempts:** In order to prevent dictionary and password guessing attacks, the AnP should limit the number of bad authentication attempts, either using throttling or by using lockouts.
  - **Blacklists:** Additionally, the AnP may want to check authentication attempts against blacklists of known bad IP-addresses, devices or users; that have been associated with prior fraudulent or malicious activities. Furthermore, there may be value in sharing the blacklists across the ecosystem, since the malicious users typically try to compromise multiple systems at the same time.

### III.4 Authorization Messaging Security Threats

Section 7 defines how an SP communicates with the Policy Decision Point (PDP) to determine if a Subscriber is authorized to access content. Authorization messaging occurs directly between the SP and PDP. This interface is sometimes referred to as the back channel, as it does not involve redirecting the Subscriber's browser (front channel).

Normally, authorization messaging traverses untrusted networks, such as the Internet, and is exposed to a number of potential attacks. The following threats exist for the back channel authorization-messaging interface:

**Tampering.** Tampering involves unauthorized modification of the message. This occurs when a message is intercepted, changed, and then forwarded to the receiving end. Authorization messages that are tampered with can cause the SP to display and allow access to content that is not authorized for a given Subscriber. Technologies that verify the integrity of messages, such as digital signatures and message authentication (HMAC), can be used to prevent this threat.

**Information Disclosure.** Hackers can snoop network traffic and glean information from messages that enable them to attack the system, steal service, or obtain sensitive information about the sender or receiver. Information obtained from snooping authorization messages can be used to determine personal information about a subscriber, such as age, location and what the subscriber has been watching. This is an invasion of privacy. Encryption helps protect the confidentiality of network messaging.

**Spoofing.** Spoofing occurs when the sender or receiver pretends to be something they are not. For example, if a hacker pretends to be a trusted SP and requests authorization information for a Subscriber, he could determine personal information about a Subscriber such as age, location and what they have been watching. This is an invasion of privacy. Authentication technologies such as a public key infrastructure (PKI) or pre-shared keys can help prevent spoofing.

**Denial of Service.** Denial of Service (DoS) is an attempt to make services unavailable to intended users. This is typically done by overwhelming a server with requests so it cannot properly respond to normal traffic. This could include messages that are replayed by an unauthorized source. DoS attacks can occur on authorization web service interfaces, particularly at the AnP. One method to counter these types of attacks is to monitor traffic patterns and reject any thing that does not look like normal traffic.

There are number of security technologies that can help prevent the attacks mentioned previously. These include TLS, IPsec, and message level security, which provide authentication, confidentiality, and integrity security services.

## Appendix IV Acknowledgements

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## Appendix II    Revision History

The following ECNs have been incorporated in CL-SP-AUTH1.0-I02-110324.

ECN	ECN date	ECN Title
AUTH1.0-N-10.0087-1	3/3/2011	Authentication Requirements Changes for Scenario 2
AUTH1.0-N-10.0089-1	3/3/2011	Updates and Clarifications to Authentication Mechanisms
AUTH1.0-N-10.0090-1	3/3/2011	Authorization Enhancements and Clarifications

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