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T. Hansen
AT&T Laboratories
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Additional Media Type Structured Syntax Suffixes
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Abstract

This document defines several Structured Syntax Suffixes for use with media type registrations. In particular, it defines and registers the "+json", "+ber", "+der", "+fastinfoset", "+wbxml" and "+zip" Structured Syntax Suffixes.

Status of this Memo

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[1.](#) Introduction

[RFC3023] created the +xml suffix convention that may be used by media types whose representation uses XML underneath, that is, they could have been successfully parsed as if the media type had been application/xml in addition to their being parsed as their media type that is using the +xml suffix. [[I-D.ietf-appsawg-media-type-regs](#)] defines a registry to be used for future Structured Syntax Suffixes.

A variety of Structured Syntax Suffixes have already been used in some Media Type registration, in particular "+json", "+der", "+fastinfoset" and "+wbxml". This document defines and registers these Structured Syntax Suffixes in the Structured Syntax Suffix registry, along with "+ber" and "+zip".

Discussion of this document should occur in the Apps Area Working Group (apps-discuss@ietf.org). [RFC Editor note: remove this paragraph.]

[2.](#) When to Use these Structured Syntax Suffixes

Each of the Structured Syntax Suffixes defined in this document are appropriate for use when the media type identifies the semantics of the protocol payload. That is, knowing the semantics of the specific media type provides for more specific processing of the content than that afforded by generic processing of the underlying representation.

At the same time, using the suffix provides receivers of the media types to do generic processing of the underlying representation in cases where 1) they do not need to handle specially the particular semantics of the exact media type, and, 2) there is no special

knowledge needed by such a generic processor in order to parse that underlying representation other than what would be needed to parse any example of that underlying representation.

[3.](#) The +json Structured Syntax Suffix

[RFC4627] defines the "application/json" media type. The suffix "+json" may be used with any media type whose representation follows that established for "application/json". The Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration form follows:

Name JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)

+suffix +json

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References [[RFC4627](#)]

Encoding considerations Per [[RFC4627](#)], JSON may be represented using UTF-8, UTF-16, or UTF-32. When JSON is written in UTF-8, JSON is 8bit compatible. When JSON is written in UTF-16 or UTF-32, JSON is binary.

Interoperability considerations n/a

Security considerations See [[RFC4627](#)]

Contact Apps Area Working Group (apps-discuss@ietf.org)

Author/Change controller The Apps Area Working Group has change control over this registration.

[4.](#) The +ber and +der Structured Syntax Suffixes

The ITU defined the Basic Encoding Rules (BER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) message transfer syntaxes in [[ITU.X690.2008](#)]. The suffix "+ber" may be used with any media type whose representation follows the BER message transfer syntax. The suffix "+der" may be used with any media type whose representation follows the DER message transfer syntax. The Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration forms follows:

Name Basic Encoding Rules (BER) message transfer syntax

+suffix +ber

References [[ITU.X690.2008](#)]

Encoding considerations BER is a binary encoding.

Interoperability considerations n/a

Security considerations There are no security considerations inherent in BER. Each individual media type registered with a +ber suffix may have additional security considerations.

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Name Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) message transfer syntax

+suffix +der

References [[ITU.X690.2008](#)]

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Encoding considerations DER is a binary encoding.

Interoperability considerations n/a

Security considerations There are no security considerations inherent in DER. Each individual media type registered with a +der suffix may have additional security considerations.

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[5.](#) The +fastinfoset Structured Syntax Suffix

The ITU defined the Fast Infoset document format as a binary representation of the XML Information Set in [[ITU.X891.2005](#)]. These documents further define the "application/fastinfoset" media type.

The suffix "+fastinfoset" may be used with any media type whose representation follows that established for "application/fastinfoset". The Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration form follows:

Name Fast Infoset document format

+suffix +fastinfoset

References [[ITU.X891.2005](#)]

Encoding considerations Fast Infoset is a binary encoding. The binary, quoted-printable and base64 content-transfer-encodings are suitable for use with Fast Infoset.

Interoperability considerations n/a

Security considerations There are no security considerations inherent in Fast Infoset. Each individual media type registered with a +fastinfoset suffix may have additional security considerations.

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[6.](#) The +wbxml Structured Syntax Suffix

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The WAP Forum has defined the WAP Binary XML (WBXML) document format as a binary representation of XML in [[WBXML](#)]. This document further defines the "application/vnd.wap.wbxml" media type. The suffix "+wbxml" may be used with any media type whose representation follows that established for "application/vnd.wap.wbxml". The Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration form follows:

Name WAP Binary XML (WBXML) document format

+suffix +wbxml

References [[WBXML](#)]

Encoding considerations WBXML is a binary encoding.

Interoperability considerations n/a

Security considerations There are no security considerations inherent in WBXML. Each individual media type registered with a +wbxml suffix may have additional security considerations.

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[7.](#) The +zip Structured Syntax Suffix

The ZIP format is a public domain, cross-platform, interoperable file storage and transfer format, originally defined by PKWARE, Inc.; it supports compression and encryption and is used as the underlying representation by a variety of file formats. The media type "application/zip" has been registered for such files. The suffix "+zip" may be used with any media type whose representation follows that established for "application/zip". The Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration form follows:

Name ZIP file storage and transfer format

+suffix +zip

References [[ZIP](#)]

Encoding considerations ZIP is a binary encoding.

Interoperability considerations n/a

Security considerations ZIP files support two forms of encryption: Strong Encryption and AES 128-bit, 192-bit and 256-bit encryption; see the specification for further details. Each individual media type registered with a +zip suffix may have additional security considerations.

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Author/Change controller The Apps Area Working Group has change control over this registration.

8. IANA Considerations

See the Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration forms in [Section 3](#) - [Section 7](#).

9. Security Considerations

See the Security considerations sections found in the Message Type Structured Syntax Suffix registration forms from [Section 3](#) - [Section 6](#).

10. References

10.1. Normative References

[RFC4627] Crockford, D., "The application/json Media Type for JavaScript Object Notation (JSON)", [RFC 4627](#), July 2006.

[ITU.X690.2008]
International Telecommunications Union, "Recommendation ITU-T X.690 | ISO/IEC 8825-1 (2008), ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of basic encoding Rules (BER), Canonical encoding rules (CER) and Distinguished encoding rules (DER)", ITU-T Recommendation X.690, November 2008.

[ITU.X891.2005]
International Telecommunications Union, "Recommendation ITU-T X.891 | ISO/IEC 24824-1 (2007), Generic applications of ASN.1: Fast infoset", ITU-T Recommendation X.891, May 2005.

[WBXML] Open Mobile Alliance, "Binary XML Content Format Specification", OMA Wireless Access Protocol WAP-192-WBXML-20010725-a, July 2001.

[ZIP] PKWARE, Inc., "APPNOTE.TXT - .ZIP File Format Specification", PKWARE .ZIP File Format Specification - Version 6.3.2, September 2007.

[10.2.](#) Informative References

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[RFC3023] Murata, M., St. Laurent, S. and D. Kohn, "XML Media Types", [RFC 3023](#), January 2001.

[I-D.ietf-appsawg-media-type-regs]
Freed, N., Klensin, J. and T. Hansen, "Media Type Specifications and Registration Procedures", Internet-Draft [draft-ietf-appsawg-media-type-regs-05](#), April 2012.

[Appendix A.](#) Change History

This section is to be removed before publication.

- 02 Added +zip.
 Fixed up the ISO document references.
 Minor changes.
- 01 Added +ber.
 Minor changes.

Author's Address

Tony Hansen
AT&T Laboratories
200 Laurel Ave. South
Middletown, NJ 07748
USA

Email: tony+sss@maillennium.att.com

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