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IANA registry for Sieve actions
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Abstract

This document creates a registry of Sieve ([RFC 5228](#)) actions in order to help developers and Sieve extension writers track interactions between different extensions.

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Internet-Draft

IANA registry for Sieve actions

March 2022

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[1.](#) Introduction

Sieve Email Filtering Language [[RFC5228](#)] is a popular email filtering language used upon final mail delivery. Popularity of Sieve resulted in a myriad of Sieve extensions that can interact with each other in wonderful and complex ways. There is currently no easy way to find out all actions defined by Sieve extensions published in RFCs, which make it quite difficult for Sieve extension writers and Sieve implementation developers to foresee interactions between Sieve actions.

This document creates a registry of Sieve [[RFC5228](#)] actions in order to help developers and Sieve extension writers track interactions between different extensions.

[2.](#) Conventions Used in This Document

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [BCP 14](#) [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

[3.](#) IANA Considerations[3.1.](#) Sieve Actions Registration Template and Procedure

IANA is requested to create a new registry for Sieve actions (see [Section 2.9 of \[RFC5228\]](#) for details on Sieve actions). Registration

of both actions specified in IETF Stream RFCs and vendor specific actions is allowed and encouraged. The registration template contains:

1. name of the action;

2. short description;
3. references: one or more documents describing the action and any significant updates to its definition (this field is REQUIRED for actions described in RFCs and OPTIONAL otherwise);
4. name(s) of Sieve capabilit(ies) associated with the Sieve action being registered;
5. interactions with other Sieve actions, if any;
6. flag specifying whether the action cancels the implicit keep (see [Section 2.10.2 of \[RFC5228\]](#));
7. whether or not this action can be used with IMAP events in Sieve ([\[RFC6785\]](#)), and
8. optional comment.

Registration procedure for this registry is Expert Review. The Designated Expert only checks that the name of the action being registered matches documentation, that the description field is accurate, that the correct documents are referenced and that the list of relevant documents is as complete as possible. The Designated Expert can't reject a registration based on personal dislike of the document defining an action and should always err on the side of registering, even if documentation is not complete.

Addition of a new reference to an existing registration or change to the description field goes through the same registration procedure as a new registration.

[3.2.](#) Initial Sieve Action Registry

The following table is used to initialize the actions registry.

Name	Description	References	Capabilities	Interactions	Cancel Implicit Keep?
addheader	Add a header field to the existing message header	[RFC5293]	"editheader"	All subsequent tests and actions apply to the altered	N

				message	
addflag	Add flags to a list of IMAP flags	[RFC5232] , [RFC5229]	"imap4flags", "variables"		N
convert	Convert body parts from one MIME type to another	[RFC6558]	"convert"	All subsequent tests and actions apply to the altered message	N
deleteheader	Remove a header field from the existing message header	[RFC5293]	"editheader"	All subsequent tests and actions apply to the altered message	N
discard	Silently throw away the message	[RFC5228]		Compatible with all other actions	Y
enclose	Enclose a message as an	[RFC5703]	"enclose"	All subsequent	N

	attachment to a new message			tests and actions, except "redirect" apply to the altered message	
ereject	Refuse delivery of the message	[RFC5429]	"ereject"		Y
extracttext	Store text of a MIME part into a variable	[RFC5703] , [RFC5229]	"extracttext", "variables"		N
fileinto	Deliver the message into	[RFC5228] , [RFC3894]	"fileinto", "copy",	Use of :copy suppresses	Y

	the specified mailbox	[RFC5232] , [RFC5490] , [RFC9042] , [RFC8579]	"imap4flags", "mailbox", "mailboxid", "special-use"	cancelation of implicit keep	
keep	File message into the user's main mailbox	[RFC5228] , [RFC5232]	"imap4flags"		Y
notify	Send a notification to a user	[RFC5435] , [RFC8580]	"enotify", "fcc"		N
redirect	Send (forward) the message to another user	[RFC5228] , [RFC3894] , [RFC6009] , [RFC6134]	"copy", "redirect- dsn", "redirect- deliverby", "extlists"	Use of :copy suppresses cancelation of implicit keep	Y
reject	Refuse	[RFC5429]	"reject"		Y

	delivery of the message				
removeflag	Remove flags from a list of IMAP flags	[RFC5232], [RFC5229]	"imap4flags", "variables"		N
replace	Replace a MIME part	[RFC5703]	"replace"	All subsequent tests and actions, except "redirect" apply to the altered message	N
set	Store a value in a variable	[RFC5229]	"variables"		N
setflag	Set IMAP system flags or keywords	[RFC5232], [RFC5229]	"imap4flags", "variables"		N
vacation	Vacation autoresponder	[RFC5230], [RFC6131]	"vacation", "vacation-		N

		[RFC8580]	seconds", "fcc"		
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Table 1

4. Security Considerations

The sole purpose of this document is to create a new IANA registry, so it doesn't create new security considerations for Sieve implementations.

The new registry should help Sieve extension writers and Sieve implementors track interactions between different Sieve actions, so it might improve quality of specifications and implementations,

including security aspects.

5. References

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[Appendix A](#). Acknowledgements

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