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MIME Directory Profiles for Listing Whois++ Schema
<[draft-ietf-schema-whoispp-00.txt](#)>

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1. Abstract

This document defines two MIME directory profiles [[HOWE1](#)] necessary for supporting the definition of Whois++ [[FALT1](#)] templates (schemas). It is intended for communication with the Internet schema listing service ([[APPL1](#)], [[APPL2](#)], [[APPL3](#)], [[APPL4](#)]).

The profiles defined are:

schema-whoispp-0
whoispp-attr-0

Also, 5 MIME directory types are defined:

wpp-template-name
wpp-template-desc
wpp-attr-ptr
wpp-attr-name
wpp-attr-desc

2. Overview

Whois++ [[FALT1](#)] makes use of typed information templates, which are analogous

to schemas as defined by the Internet schema listing service. At its simplest, a Whois++ template definition is the listing and description of attributes that are useful or expected for the template. In use, some attributes may be omitted and others (local additions) may be included in data presented in a particular template.

One of the original philosophies of supporting the Whois++ protocol was that there should be as few template and attribute types as possible; standard types can and should be used wherever applicable. This key collection of templates and attributes have been defined elsewhere (see [\[FALT2\]](#)). That document defines the concept of attribute "clusters" -- a construct used solely for the purpose of template definition, and not reflected in the structure of templates as they are transmitted in the Whois++ protocol. In order to preserve some kind of order in the universe of Whois++ templates, these MIME directory profile definitions attempt to capture some of those constructs to maximize the possibility of reuse of attribute definitions.

This document therefore defines a MIME directory profile [\[HOWE1\]](#) and the necessary types to express a Whois++ template (schema) definition, in terms of the (expected) attributes it uses (schema-whoispp-0). Also, attribute (collections) are defined in a separate MIME directory profile (whoispp-attr-0). For the purposes of the Internet schema listing service, any listing is constructed of a multipart/related MIME object, where the start object is the text/directory MIME type for the schema-whoispp-0 profile, and related attribute definitions are included in separate text/directory MIME message parts with the whoispp-attr-0 profile. This approach is directly inspired by that laid out for RWhois 1.5 in [\[MEAL1\]](#).

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119](#) [\[BRAD1\]](#).

[3. Using the Internet Schema Listing Service for Whois++ Templates](#)

The format of the message must be multipart/related, where

```
'boundary' has its standard RFC2046 specified value
'start' is the CID of the text/directory 'schema-whoispp-0' profile
'type' MUST be 'text/directory'
'start-info' MUST be 'schema-whoispp-0'
```

For example, borrowing from the example in [\[MEAL1\]](#):

```
To: ietf-schema-review@TBD
Subject: schema unit listing request
MIME-Version: 1.0
Message-Id: <ids1@wherever.com>
Content-Type: multipart/related; boundary="boundary";
```

```

        start=3@foo.com; type="text/directory";
        start-info="schema-whoispp-0"
Content-ID: top@foo.com

--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="schema-whoispp-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 3@foo.com

(schema-whoispp-0 types and values as specified in Section 4
which includes a reference to an attribute whose CID is 4@foo.com)

--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 4@foo.com

(a Whois++ attribute definition)

--boundary

```

4. schema-whoispp-0 Profile Registration

The schema-whoispp-0 profile is generally as simple as a template name, a template description, and one or more attribute names with pointers to their definitions. (Attribute definitions are either expected to be included in an attached whoispp-attr-0 text/directory profile, or in a referenced schema listing).

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org
Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME profile schema-whoispp-0

Profile name: schema-whoispp-0
Profile purpose: To represent templates defined for use within the Whois++ protocol
Profile types: wpp-template-name, wpp-template-desc, wpp-attr-ptr
Profile special notes: The profile MUST include exactly one wpp-template-name and associated wpp-template-desc. If the purpose of the registration is to define a collection of generically useful Whois++ attributes, a generic basename may be constructed as follows:

```

generic-template-name = "generic-" numericid
numericid = YYYY MM DD digitstring
YYYY = <4-digit year identifier of listing date>
MM    = <2-digit month identifier of listing date>
DD    = <2-digit day identifier of listing date>
numericid = 1*DIGIT
DIGIT = "0" / "1" / "2" / "3" / "4" / "5"
        "6" / "7" / "8" / "9"

```

For example:

generic-199804210

Intended usage: COMMON

5. whoispp-attr-0 Profile Registration

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org

Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME profile whoispp-attr-0

Profile name: whoispp-attr-0

Profile purpose: To represent attributes defined for use within the Whois++ protocol

Profile types: wpp-attr-name, wpp-attr-ptr, wpp-attr-desc

Profile special notes: There MUST be exactly one of wpp-attr-name and wpp-attr-ptr, and there MUST be exactly one wpp-attr-desc in the whoispp-attr-0 profile. If the wpp-attr-ptr type is used, the wpp-attr-desc is taken to override or refine the description of the attribute that is referenced by pointer (e.g., to specify the attributes role in this template, etc).

Intended usage: COMMON

6. MIME Directory type registrations

This document also defines the MIME directory types used by the schema-whoispp-0 and whoispp-attr-0 profiles.

6.1 The wpp-template-name MIME directory type

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org

Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME type wpp-template-name

Type name: wpp-template-name

Type purpose: to represent a Whois++ template name

Type encoding: 8bit

Type valuetype: text, with additional syntax constraints as defined in "type special notes".

Type special notes: The syntax of this type MUST conform to the following grammar, expressed using the ABNF defined in [[CROC1](#)].

wpp-template-name = 0*restrictedbyte

restrictedbyte = <%d33-%d255 except specialbyte>

```
specialbyte      =  %d58 / %d09/ %d13 %d10
                   ; That is,  ":" / <tab> / <CR><LF> in ascii
```

For example,

```
FREd              is a valid template name, although
Fred's template  is not (the space character, %d32)
```

Intended usage: COMMON

6.2 The wpp-template-desc MIME directory type

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org

Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME type wpp-template-desc

```
Type name:      wpp-template-desc
Type purpose:    to contain the textual description of a Whois++ template
Type encoding:   8bit
Type valuetype:  text
Type special notes:  NONE
Intended usage:  COMMON
```

6.3 The wpp-attr-ptr MIME directory type

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org

Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME type wpp-attr-ptr

```
Type name:      wpp-attr-ptr
Type purpose:    to contain the pointer to an attribute used in a Whois++
                  template; the pointer must indicate a part of the current
                  template defininition listing, or some other
                  previously-listed template
Type encoding:   8bit
Type valuetype:  text, with the syntax restrictions as defined in "Type
                  special notes"
Type special notes:  The syntax for this type is as follows:
```

```
wpp-attr-ptr = attr-name attr-def
attr-def  = "." attr-cid / template-defn-uri attr-name [attr-cid]
           ; "." means this template definition
template-defn-uri = <URI to retrieve a template definition
                   that includes the necessary attribute def'n>
attr-cid  = <CID of MIME object defining the attribute;
           Content-ID as defined as used in [LEVI1]; required if
           the attribute is defined locally>
attr-name = 0*veryrestrictedbyte
veryrestrictedbyte =  <%d33-%d127 except specialbyte>
specialbyte      =  %d58 / %d09/ %d13 %d10
                   ; That is,  ":" / <tab> / <CR><LF> in ascii
```

where the semantics are as follows:

wpp-attr-ptr = <attribute name as used in this template> +
 <id of template where the attribute is defined> +
 <attribute name as it appears in defining template> +
 <optional CID of portion of MIME object defining
 the attribute in that template definition. Required
 if the definition is contained in this template's
 registration>

For example,

wpp-attr-ptr:colourscheme . 4@foo.com

or

wpp-attr-ptr:kolorskeam <ftp://ftp.someorg.com/somefile> colourdef

(which uses the "colourdef" attribute from the specified template definition).

[6.4](#) The wpp-attr-name MIME directory type

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org

Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME type wpp-attr-name

Type name: wpp-attr-name

Type purpose: to represent a Whois++ attribute name

Type encoding: 8bit

Type valuetype: text, with additional syntax constraints as defined in
"type special notes".

Type special notes: The syntax of this type MUST conform to the following
grammar, expressed using the ABNF defined in [[CROC1](#)].

```
wpp-attr-name = 0*veryrestrictedbyte
veryrestrictedbyte = <%d33-%d127 except specialbyte>
specialbyte       = %d58 / %d09 / %d13 %d10
                  ; That is, ":" / <tab> / <CR><LF> in ascii
```

Intended usage: COMMON

[6.5](#) The wpp-attr-desc MIME directory type

To: ietf-mime-direct@imc.org

Subject: Registration of text/directory MIME type wpp-attr-desc

Type name: wpp-attr-desc

Type purpose: to contain the free-text description description of an
attribute, along with any expected uses, restrictions, etc.

Type encoding: 8bit

Type valuetype: text

Type special notes: NONE
Intended usage: COMMON

7. Examples

The following example defines the "address cluster" as defined in [\[FALT2\]](#).

```
To: ietf-schema-review@TBD
Subject: schema unit listing request
MIME-Version: 1.0
Message-Id: <ids1@wherever.com>
Content-Type: multipart/related; boundary="boundary";
    start=3@foo.com; type="text/directory";
    start-info="schema-whoispp-0"
Content-ID: top@foo.com

--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="schema-whoispp-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 3@foo.com

wpp-template-name:generic-199804210
wpp-template-desc: Generic collection of useful address attributes.
wpp-attr-ptr:address . 4@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-type . 5@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-city . 6@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-country . 7@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-room . 8@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-state . 9@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-street . 10@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-zip-code . 11@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:address-locality . 12@foo.com

--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 4@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address
wpp-attr-desc:Full address
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 5@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-Type
wpp-attr-desc:Type of address, e.g., work or home
--boundary
```

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 6@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-City
wpp-attr-desc:City
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 7@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-Country
wpp-attr-desc:Country
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 8@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-Room
wpp-attr-desc:Room
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 9@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-State
wpp-attr-desc:State, county or province
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 10@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-Street
wpp-attr-desc:Street address
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 11@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-Zip-Code
wpp-attr-desc:Zip or Postal code
--boundary

Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 12@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:Address-Locality
wpp-attr-desc:Geographic region
--boundary

Then, the following template definition can make use of the address definitions, assuming the above definition can be found at:

<ftp://ftp.somewhere.com/addr-defns>

To: ietf-schema-review@TBD
Subject: schema unit listing request
MIME-Version: 1.0
Message-Id: <ids1@wherever.com>
Content-Type: multipart/related; boundary="boundary";
 start=3@foo.com; type="text/directory";
 start-info="schema-whoispp-0"
Content-ID: top@foo.com

--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="schema-whoispp-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 3@foo.com

wpp-template-name:simple-home-user
wpp-template-desc: A simplified user template.
wpp-attr-ptr:mailing-address . 4@foo.com
wpp-attr-ptr:mailing-address-locality <ftp://ftp.somewhere.com/addr-defns>
 address-locality
wpp-attr-ptr:cust-number . 5@foo.com

--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 4@foo.com

wpp-attr-ptr:mailing-address <ftp://ftp.somewhere.com/addr-defns> address
wpp-attr-desc:This is for the home mailing address of the user
--boundary
Content-Type: text/directory; profile="whoispp-attr-0"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: Quoted-Printable
Content-ID: 5@foo.com

wpp-attr-name:cust-number
wpp-attr-desc:User's customer number; syntax is "any 7 digits"
--boundary

Note that the address-locality attribute is used as described remotely, but an overriding description is provided for the address attribute.

8. Security Considerations

This document introduces no new security considerations to those already discussed in the Internet directory schema listing service documentation ([[APPL1](#)], [[APPL2](#)], [[APPL3](#)], [[APPL4](#)]).

9. Acknowledgements

Thanks to Chris Apple for politely poking me into producing this document -- and my apologies for being the last kid on the block to submit a sensible draft. That tardiness also provokes a word of acknowledgement to the authors of the other profile definitions for the Schema listing services, whose documents I read for inspiration in structuring this one -- Micheal Mealling and Ryan Moats in particular will perhaps recognize where I've borrowed structure from their RWhois 1.5 and Whois documents, respectively :-)

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