

**The 'wp' and 'yp' Abstract Service Types**  
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Abstract

This document presents definitions for the "wp" and "yp" abstract services. The "wp" service is for finding people, while the "yp" service is for finding general things (including people).

**1. Introduction**

In "Advertising Services" [[1](#)], several abstract services are proposed. As specified in [[2](#)], the "wp" and "yp" abstract services are documented here. The "wp" service is intended for finding people, while the "yp" service is a superset that is intended for finding objects.

## 2. The "wp" Abstract Service

The "wp" abstract service is for locating people via a directory. Version 0.0 of this service specifies four protocols for accessing such services: LDAP, WHOIS++, CCSO/Ph and HTTP.

-----template begins here-----

template-type = wp

template-version = 0.0

template-language = EN

template-description =

The WP Abstract Service is for locating people using either LDAP, WHOIS, CCSO/Ph or HTTP

template-url-syntax =

url-path            = ldapurl / whoisppurl / phurl / httpurl

ldapurl            = url as defined in [3]

whoisppurl        = url as defined in [4]

httpurl            = url as defined in [5]

phurl              = "ph://" hostport

hostport           = host [ ":" port ]

host               = hostname / hostnumber

hostname           = \*( domainlavel "." ) toplabel

domainlabel        = alphanum / alphanum \* [alphanum / "-"] alphanum

toplabel            = alpha / alpha \* [alphanum / "-"] alphanum

hostnumber         = ipv4-number / ipv6-number

ipv4-number        = 1\*3digit 3\*3("." 1\*3digit)

ipv6-number        = 32\*hex

3digit             = digit digit digit

port                = 1\*digit

                    ; A port number must be included if the

                    ; protocol field does not have an IANA

                    ; assigned port number.

alphanum            = alpha / digit

alpha               = "a" / "b" / "c" / "d" / "e" / "f" / "g" /

                    "h" / "i" / "j" / "k" / "l" / "m" / "n" /

                    "o" / "p" / "q" / "r" / "s" / "t" / "u" /

                    "v" / "w" / "x" / "y" / "z" /

                    "A" / "B" / "C" / "D" / "E" / "F" / "G" /

                    "H" / "I" / "J" / "K" / "L" / "M" / "N" /

                    "O" / "P" / "Q" / "R" / "S" / "T" / "U" /

                    "V" / "W" / "X" / "Y" / "Z"

digit               = "0" / "1" / "2" / "3" / "4" / "5" / "6" /

                    "7" / "8" / "9"

-----template ends here-----

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### 3. The "yp" Abstract Service

The "yp" abstract service is for locating resources on the Internet and is a superset of the "wp" abstract service. Version 0.0 specifies the following protocols for accessing such services in addition to those specified for the "wp" abstract service: Z39.50 and WHOIS++.

```
-----template begins here-----
template-type = yp

template-version = 0.0

template-language = EN

template-description =
The yp Abstract Service is for locating general resources on the internet

template-url-syntax =
url-path          = z3950url / httpurl / whoisppurl / ldapurl
                   phurl
z3950url          = url as defined in [6]
httpurl           = url as defined in [5]
whoisppurl        = url as defined in [4]
ldapurl           = url as defined in [3]
phurl             = "ph://" hostport
hostport          = host [ ":" port ]
host              = hostname / hostnumber
hostname          = *( domainlavel "." ) toplabel
domainlabel       = alphanum / alphanum * [alphanum / "-"] alphanum
toplabel          = alpha / alpha * [alphanum / "-"] alphanum
hostnumber        = ipv4-number / ipv6-number
ipv4-number       = 1*3digit 3*3("." 1*3digit)
ipv6-number       = 32*hex
3digit            = digit digit digit
port              = 1*digit
                   ; A port number must be included if the
                   ; protocol field does not have an IANA
                   ; assigned port number.

alphanum          = alpha / digit
alpha             = "a" / "b" / "c" / "d" / "e" / "f" / "g" /
                   "h" / "i" / "j" / "k" / "l" / "m" / "n" /
                   "o" / "p" / "q" / "r" / "s" / "t" / "u" /
                   "v" / "w" / "x" / "y" / "z" /
                   "A" / "B" / "C" / "D" / "E" / "F" / "G" /
                   "H" / "I" / "J" / "K" / "L" / "M" / "N" /
                   "O" / "P" / "Q" / "R" / "S" / "T" / "U" /
                   "V" / "W" / "X" / "Y" / "Z"
digit             = "0" / "1" / "2" / "3" / "4" / "5" / "6" /
```

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"7" / "8" / "9"

-----template ends here-----

#### **4. Contact Information**

The contact point for version 0.0 of both of these templates is the author.

#### **5. Security Considerations**

Both of these abstract services inherit the security considerations of the "service:" URL scheme as specified in [2]. As these services are both abstract, they further inherit considerations from the protocol used to provide the underlying concrete services as discussed below.

##### **5.1 Considerations for the "wp" service**

Since the "wp" abstract service can use any of LDAP, HTTP, WHOIS or CCSO/Ph, it inherits the security considerations for each of these protocols. See [3] and [8] for LDAP, [9] and [10] for HTTP, [4] and [11] for WHOIS, and [12] for CCSO/Ph.

**5.2 Considerations for the "yp" service** Since the "yp" abstract service is a superset of the "wp" service, it inherits all the considerations from the above section. In addition, it inherits the security considerations from [6] for Z39.50.

#### **6. Acknowledgments**

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#### **7. References**

Request For Comments (RFC) and Internet Drafts documents are available from <URL:ftp://ftp.internic.net> and numerous mirror sites

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