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Nodeprep: A Stringprep Profile for Node Identifiers in XMPP  
draft-ietf-xmpp-nodeprep-01

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Abstract

This document defines a stringprep profile for node identifiers in the eXtensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP).

Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

## Table of Contents

<a href="#">1.</a>	Introduction . . . . .	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">1.1</a>	Terminology . . . . .	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">1.2</a>	Discussion Venue . . . . .	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">1.3</a>	Intellectual Property Notice . . . . .	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">2.</a>	Character Repertoire . . . . .	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">3.</a>	Mapping . . . . .	<a href="#">6</a>
<a href="#">4.</a>	Normalization . . . . .	<a href="#">7</a>
<a href="#">5.</a>	Prohibited Output . . . . .	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">6.</a>	Bidirectional Characters . . . . .	<a href="#">9</a>
<a href="#">7.</a>	Security Considerations . . . . .	<a href="#">10</a>
<a href="#">8.</a>	IANA Considerations . . . . .	<a href="#">11</a>
	References . . . . .	<a href="#">12</a>
	Authors' Addresses . . . . .	<a href="#">12</a>
<a href="#">A.</a>	Revision History . . . . .	<a href="#">13</a>
<a href="#">A.1</a>	Changes from <a href="#">draft-ietf-xmpp-nodeprep-00</a> . . . . .	<a href="#">13</a>
	Full Copyright Statement . . . . .	<a href="#">14</a>

Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

## 1. Introduction

This document, which defines a profile of stringprep ([RFC 3454 \[1\]](#)), specifies processing rules that will enable users to enter internationalized node identifiers in XMPP (see XMPP Core [\[2\]](#)) and have the highest chance of getting the content of the strings correct. These processing rules are intended for XMPP node identifiers only, and not for arbitrary text.

This profile defines the following, as required by [RFC 3454 \[1\]](#):

- o The intended applicability of the profile: internationalized node identifiers within XMPP
- o The character repertoire that is the input and output to stringprep: Unicode 3.2, specified in [section 2](#)
- o The mappings used: specified in [section 3](#)
- o The Unicode normalization used: specified in [section 4](#)
- o The characters that are prohibited as output: specified in [section 5](#)
- o Bidirectional character handling: specified in [section 6](#)

### 1.1 Terminology

This document inherits the terminology defined in XMPP Core [\[2\]](#).

The capitalized 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 \[3\]](#).

## 1.2 Discussion Venue

The authors welcome discussion and comments related to the topics presented in this document. The preferred forum is the <xmppwg@jabber.org> mailing list, for which archives and subscription information are available at <<http://www.jabber.org/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/xmppwg/>>.

## 1.3 Intellectual Property Notice

This document is in full compliance with all provisions of [Section 10 of RFC 2026](#). Parts of this specification use the term "jabber" for

Saint-Andre & Hildebrand

Expires August 22, 2003

[Page 3]

---

Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

identifying namespaces and other protocol syntax. Jabber[tm] is a registered trademark of Jabber, Inc. Jabber, Inc. grants permission to the IETF for use of the Jabber trademark in association with this specification and its successors, if any.

## 2. Character Repertoire

This profile uses Unicode 3.2 with the list of unassigned code points being Table A.1, both defined in [Appendix A of RFC 3454](#) [1].

### [3](#). Mapping

This profile specifies mapping using the following tables from [RFC 3454](#) [1]:

Table B.1

Table B.2

#### [4](#). Normalization

This profile specifies using Unicode normalization form KC, as described in [RFC 3454](#) [1].





## 5. Prohibited Output

This profile specifies prohibiting use of the following tables from [RFC 3454](#) [1].

Table C.1.1

Table C.1.2

Table C.2.1

Table C.2.2

Table C.3

Table C.4

Table C.5

Table C.6

Table C.7

Table C.8

Table C.9

In addition, the following Unicode characters are also prohibited:

#x22 (")

#x26 (&)

#x27 (')

#x2F (/)

#x3A (:)

#x3C (<)

#x3E (>)

#x40 (@)

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Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

## 6. Bidirectional Characters

This profile specifies checking bidirectional strings as described in [section 6 of RFC 3454](#) [1].

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Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

## [7](#). Security Considerations

The Unicode and ISO/IEC 10646 repertoires have many characters that look similar. In many cases, users of security protocols might do visual matching, such as when comparing the names of trusted third parties. Because it is impossible to map similar-looking characters without a great deal of context such as knowing the fonts used, stringprep does nothing to map similar-looking characters together nor to prohibit some characters because they look like others.

Node identifiers are commonly employed as the username of users who connect to XMPP servers for instant messaging and presence services. The security of such services could be compromised if a user entering a single internationalized node identifier could access another user's account information based on different interpretations of the internationalized node identifier.

Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

## 8. IANA Considerations

This is a profile of stringprep. If and when it becomes an RFC, it should be registered in the stringprep profile registry maintained by the IANA [\[4\]](#).

Name of this profile:

Nodeprep

RFC in which the profile is defined:

This document

Indicator whether or not this is the newest version of the profile:

This is the first version of Nodeprep

Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

#### References

- [1] Hoffman, P. and M. Blanchet, "Preparation of Internationalized Strings ("stringprep")", [RFC 3454](#), December 2002.
- [2] Saint-Andre, P. and J. Miller, "XMPP Core ([draft-ietf-xmpp-core-03](#), work in progress)", February 2003.
- [3] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), March 1997.
- [4] Internet Assigned Numbers Authority, "Internet Assigned Numbers Authority", January 1998, <<http://www.iana.org/>>.

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Saint-Andre & Hildebrand

Expires August 22, 2003

[Page 12]

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Internet-Draft

Nodeprep

February 2003

#### [Appendix A](#). Revision History

Note to RFC editor: please remove this entire appendix, and the corresponding entries in the table of contents, prior to publication.

##### [A.1](#) Changes from [draft-ietf-xmpp-nodeprep-00](#)

- o Clarified references to Unicode 3.2 and unassigned code points.

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