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The IETF Profile URI Registry
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Abstract

This document defines a registry for profile URIs to be used in specifications standardizing profiles.

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1. Introduction

Profiles, as defined by [RFC6906], can be used to signal support for additional semantics, such as constraints, conventions, extensions, or any other aspects that do not alter the basic media type semantics. Profiles are identified by a URI and can thus be created without central coordination.

Similarly to media types and link relation types it is, in some cases, beneficial to centrally manage profile URIs to ensure interoperability and decrease the coupling between clients and servers. This allows the independent evolution of clients and servers as both are coupled to these central contracts instead of being coupled to each other. Therefore, this document establishes an IANA registry for profile URIs.

2. Registration Process

All elements in this registry require a URI in order to be registered. The meaning of the profile URI must be documented in a permanent and readily available public specification in sufficient detail so that interoperability between independent implementations is possible ("Specification Required" per [RFC5226]).

An exemplary registration request can be found in Section 3.

3. Example Registration Request

The following is an example registration request for the profile URI http://example.com/profiles/example.

This is a request to IANA to please register the profile URI "http://example.com/profiles/example" in the Profile URI Registry according [this document].

- Profile URI: http://example.com/profiles/example
- Common Name: Exemplary Profile URI
- Description: An exemplary profile URI registration.
- Specification Document: [this document]

4. IANA Considerations

This document establishes the Profile URI registry. The registration procedure for new entries requires a request in the form of the following template and is "Specification Required" per [RFC5226]. Instructions for a registrant to request the registration of a profile URI are in Section 2.

The underlying registry data (e.g., the XML file) must include Simplified BSD License text as described in Section 4.e of the Trust Legal Provisions (<http://trustee.ietf.org/license-info>).

The registration template is:

- Profile URI: The URI that identifies the registered profile.
- Common Name: The name by which the profile being registered is generally known.
- Description: A short description of the profile
- Specification Document: Reference to the document that specifies the URI, preferably including a URI that can be used to retrieve a copy of the document. An indication of the relevant sections may also be included but is not required.
- Notes: [optional]

4.1. Initial Registry Contents

The Profile URI registry's initial contents are:

- Profile URI: urn:example:profile-uri
- Common Name: Exemplary Profile
- Description: A profile to be used in examples.
- Specification Document: [this document]

5. Security Considerations

There are no additional security considerations beyond those already inherent to using URIs. Security considerations for URIs in general can be found in [RFC3986].

6. Change Log

Note to RFC Editor: Please remove this section before publication.

6.1. From -01 to -02

- Do not establish a new IETF URN Sub-namespace anymore.

6.2. From -00 to -01

- Use HTTP URI instead of URN in example registration request to make it clearer that not only URNs can be registered.

- Move security considerations to the end.

7. Acknowledgements

Thanks to Dave Cridland for valuable comments and suggestions.

8. Normative References

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[RFC5226] Narten, T. and H. Alvestrand, "Guidelines for Writing an IANA Considerations Section in RFCs", BCP 26, RFC 5226, May 2008.

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