

Transporting Presence Information Data Format (PIDF) over the Extensible
Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP)

[draft-saintandre-xmpp-pidf-03](#)

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Abstract

This document defines how to send information encoded in the Presence Information Data Format (PIDF) over the Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP).

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1. Introduction

1.1 Overview

The Presence Information Data Format ([[PIDF](#)]) defines a common data format for presence protocols that conform to the Common Profile for Presence ([[CPP](#)]), enabling presence information to be transferred across CPP-compliant protocol boundaries without modification, with attendant benefits for end-to-end encryption and performance. Because the syntax for PIDF is Extensible Markup Language [[XML](#)], it should be straightforward to send PIDF data over the Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP) [[XMPP-CORE](#)], since XMPP is simply an XML streaming protocol. This memo defines a mechanism for encapsulating PIDF data within an "extended namespace" contained in an XMPP presence stanza.

1.2 Terminology

This document inherits terminology defined in [[PIDF](#)], [[XMPP-CORE](#)], and [[XMPP-IM](#)].

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](#) [[TERMS](#)].

2. Protocol

The PIDF format is defined in [[PIDF](#)]. Briefly, the XML namespace name is 'urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf', the root element is <presence/>, the <presence/> element must possess an 'entity' attribute that specifies the pres: URI (see [[CPP](#)]) that identifies the presentity (see [[RFC2778](#)]) to which the PIDF data relates, and the <presence/> element may contain any number of <tuple/> child elements specifying information about the entity.

The recommended method for encapsulating PIDF data within an XMPP presence stanza is by including the PIDF <presence/> element as a child of the XMPP <presence/> stanza. Although it may appear that this is potentially confusing, the inclusion of the 'urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf' namespace ensures that PIDF data is kept separate from XMPP presence data (in accordance with [[XML-NAMES](#)]). The following is a simple example of encapsulating PIDF data within an "extended namespace" in XMPP:

A basic example of PIDF over XMPP:

```
<presence from='romeo@example.net/orchard' xml:lang='en'>
  <show>dnd</show>
  <status>Wooing Juliet</status>
  <presence xmlns='urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:pidf'
    entity='pres:romeo@example.net'>
    <tuple id='orchard'>
      <status>
        <basic>open</basic>
      </status>
    </tuple>
  </presence>
</presence>
```

Because base PIDF data does not encapsulate any additional information over and above XMPP presence stanzas, there is little point to including it in native XMPP systems when it is not encrypted (obviously, encrypting PIDF data can help to ensure end-to-end encryption of presence information, as described in [\[XMPP-E2E\]](#), especially across boundaries between CPP-compliant systems such as those described in [\[XMPP-SIMPLE\]](#)). The power of PIDF in the context of XMPP derives from PIDF extensions, such as those for rich presence (see [\[RPID\]](#)) and geographical location (see [\[GEOLOC\]](#)). Any such extension to PIDF can be included in an XMPP presence stanza, since, according to the definition of "extended namespaces" in [\[XMPP-IM\]](#), the format of such extended data is defined by the extension rather than by the base XMPP specification itself. Thus the ability to include PIDF data and PIDF data extensions in XMPP enables XMPP-aware applications to include any PIDF-compatible data that is currently defined or that may be defined in the future. Naturally, there is no guarantee that all XMPP entities will be able to understand such PIDF data, and entities that do not understand the data MUST ignore it (in accordance with [\[XMPP-CORE\]](#)). However, this memo at least defines a mechanism for including PIDF data, which XMPP applications are encouraged to implement if they desire to make use of PIDF data extensions for rich presence, geographical location, and other kinds of presence-related information.

3. Security Considerations

This memo introduces no new security considerations above and beyond those provided for PIDF in [\[PIDF\]](#) and for XMPP in [\[XMPP-CORE\]](#).

4. References

4.1 Normative References

- [CPP] Peterson, J., "Common Profile for Presence (CPP)", [RFC 3859](#), August 2004.
- [PIDF] Sugano, H., Fujimoto, S., Klyne, G., Bateman, A., Carr, W., and J. Peterson, "Presence Information Data Format (PIDF)", [RFC 3863](#), August 2004.
- [TERMS] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), March 1997.
- [XML] Bray, T., Paoli, J., Sperberg-McQueen, C., and E. Maler, "Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (2nd ed)", W3C REC-xml, October 2000, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml>>.
- [XML-NAMES] Bray, T., Hollander, D., and A. Layman, "Namespaces in XML", W3C REC-xml-names, January 1999, <<http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml-names>>.
- [XMPP-CORE] Saint-Andre, P., "Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP): Core", [RFC 3920](#), October 2004.
- [XMPP-E2E] Saint-Andre, P., "End-to-End Signing and Object Encryption for the Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP)", [RFC 3923](#), October 2004.
- [XMPP-IM] Saint-Andre, P., "Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP): Instant Messaging and Presence", [RFC 3921](#), October 2004.

4.2 Informative References

- [GEOLOC] Peterson, J., "A Presence-based GEOPRIV Location Object Format", [RFC 4119](#), December 2005.
- [RFC2778] Day, M., Rosenberg, J., and H. Sugano, "A Model for Presence and Instant Messaging", [RFC 2778](#), February 2000.
- [RPID] Schulzrinne, H., "RPID: Rich Presence Extensions to the Presence Information Data Format (PIDF)", [draft-ietf-simple-rpid-10](#) (work in progress), December 2005.
- [XMPP-SIMPLE]

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Author's Address

Peter Saint-Andre
Jabber Software Foundation
P.O. Box 1641
Denver, CO 80201
US

Email: stpeter@jabber.org

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