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**URI Attributes for OpenPGP**  
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Abstract

This specification extends OpenPGP with the URI Attribute as a new type of User Attribute.

Status of This Memo

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**1. Introduction**

The OpenPGP specification [[RFC4880](#)] allows primary keys to associate themselves with identities in the form of User ID and User Attribute packets. The only defined type of User Attribute is JPEG. This document introduces the URI subpacket as an additional type of User Attribute subpacket.

**1.1. Scope**

Similar to [RFC 4880](#), the scope of this document is limited to a technical description of the format, and does not include specifics on how URI Attributes may be used by implementations.

**1.2. Conventions Used in This Document**

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 [[RFC2119](#)]. Any implementation that adheres to the format and methods specified in this document is called a compliant application. Compliant applications are a subset of the broader set of OpenPGP applications described in [[RFC4880](#)]. Any [[RFC2119](#)] keyword within this document applies to compliant applications only.

**2. URI User Attribute subpacket**

The URI subpacket is added as an additional User Attribute subpacket with type id TBD to expand [Section 5.12](#) of the OpenPGP specification [[RFC4880](#)], "User Attribute Packet (Tag 17)". The body of this subpacket consists of a single UTF-8 encoded URI string. A URI Attribute is a User Attribute packet with a single URI subpacket.

The purpose of this packet type is to provide a mechanism for associating the keyring with an identity encoded in a URI. The



particular semantics of a URI depend on its scheme, there are no restrictions on the URIs which may appear in URI Attributes.

An implementation SHOULD NOT issue certificates for URI Attributes with unknown URI schemes. It MAY treat such packets as opaque, or display their contents in a generic way.

**3. Compatibility**

An implementation SHOULD NOT use a URI Attribute to fulfill the minimum requirement of one User ID packet in a transferable keyring. This is to ensure that at least one non-opaque type of user id is part of every keyring.

**4. IANA Considerations**

IANA is requested to assign a number to the URI User Attribute subpacket, updating the User Attribute Type namespace established in [RFC4880]. See Section 2.

ID	User Attribute Type	Reference
TBD1	URI	This doc

[Notes to RFC-Editor: Please remove the table above on publication. There are no non-standardized types used in current implementations known to the author. As of now 2 is the next free number.]

**5. Security Considerations**

The security considerations of the URI Attribute are the same as for other identity packets, leaving the considerations from [RFC4880] unchanged.

**6. Normative References**

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), March 1997.

[RFC4880] Callas, J., Donnerhacke, L., Finney, H., Shaw, D., and R. Thayer, "OpenPGP Message Format", [RFC 4880](#), November 2007.



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