

SCIM Notes July 29, 2021

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What is SCIM? Phillip Hunt and Nick Wooler

SCIM characteristics (started note-taking in the middle)

- HTTP
- Robust
 - going cross-domain, not every attribute interest to all domains
 - free to ignore an attribute
 - leads to flexibility

SCIM 3.0?

- SCIM structure
 - resource: users and groups
 - how to extend the users to enterprise
 - schema as a generic document handler
 - schema extension allows for local customizations
 - extensions to IoT/password managers
- Who is using it
 - 65k+ simple-cloud.info - not all registered

Body of Work P.Lanzi, Matt Peterson

- What we want to address

Body of Work - Matt Peterson and Paul Lanzi

- What we, as a community, want to address:

Schemas:

- A better process to define schemas, using these schemas as test cases: Exchanging HR information, exchanging Enterprise group information, Privileged Access Management

Pagination:

- [draft-hunt-scim-mv-paging-00](#)
- [draft-peterson-scim-cursor-pagination-00](#)

Synchronization-related functionality:

- Initial 'download' of synced objects and ongoing sync

Best practices for use of externalid:

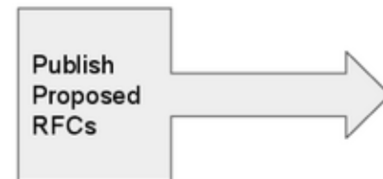
- How are implementation using externalid? What's the best practice?

Privileged Access Management:

- Expanded PAM use cases based on [draft-grizzle-scim-pam-ext-01](#)

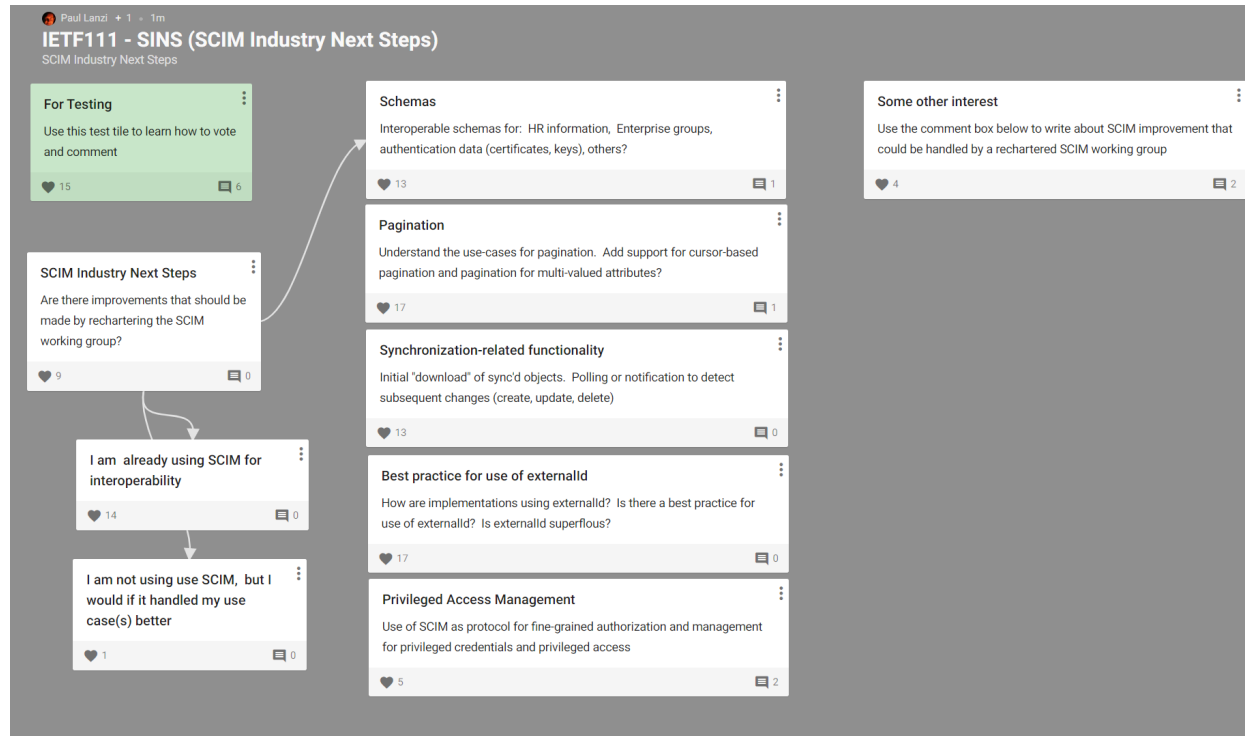
Question:

- Is there anything we've missed?



- want to take to publication, since mature specifications
- Collaboration tool for input/feedback
 - https://padlet.com/paulpad1/ietf111_sins
 - Answer by commenting on the questions
 - vote by Liking the improvements you think are important
 - categorized following the conversation in the ML
 - Pagination: handling large datasets
 - all members of the group
 - synchronization-related functionality
 - SCIM client wants to keep local copy of the information they retain
 - popular for IDM systems/application that need to enforce authz based on the objects they retrieve using SCIM
 - another use-cases: entire users are deleted/group memberships are removed
 - RFC7643: externalId
 - want to head more scenarios - can be confusing how to use it
 - do we need externalId?
 - PAM (privileged access management)
 - use SCIM to grant access

- SCIM not good enough for this?
 - some other interest
- How the likes/comments looked like at the point of presentation



- Comments
 - SCIM might help with IoT
 - why is SCIM restricted to users/roles? Can't we publish entitlements?
 - other entitlements provisioned in the same way
 - any role assignment within cloud provider that grants access to the users/groups needs to be done through API - no SCIM
 - Inconsistencies
 - missing best practices/profiling
 - people free to define whatever schema - can IANA register if wish
 - SCIM defined roles
 - how to extent to add metadata such as expiry dates
 - now will define an enterprise group that will carry all metadata
 - ppl just add the object and off you go
 - interop tests if schemas are better refined - scaling
 - security piece - HR schema

- advantage to make requirements around

Proposed Charter - Pam Dingle

Desired Outcomes

A re-chartered SCIM WG can accomplish:

- Easier Understanding (therefore more adoption)
 - Better address of common implementation roles & patterns
 - Clarification of terms
 - Reduction of Known Pain Points
 - Almost a decade of implementation experience brought to bear
 - Optimization for Multi-Cloud Scenarios
 - Examination of multi-tenant representations
 - Examination of how SCIM fits into greater cloud platform architectures
 - Compatibility with modern security best practice
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- can help adoption in the changed world
 - papercuts of the small things that prevent easier connection

How could this charter unfold (priority list)

- CAVEAT: this is a non-WG forming BoF, but if enough interest can proceed to WG formation - please comment
1. change the language to be more modern
 - ex) few cloud providers to be talking to each other, new use-cases, etc.
 - clarify - ex) SCIM client that pushes/pulles, etc.
 2. any changes in core language
 - ex) security review - how to get an OAuth key
 - need implementor's pain feedback
 3. schema workshopping
 - specialized participation
 4. extension breakouts
 - to prevent fragmentation of the conversation
 5. interop testing

- make sure they occur, so that developers do not need to guess

Next steps

- Need to be careful with starting schema standardization
 - implementations do a lot of private schemas
 - might get us stuck in details as each company has separate definitions
 - a world where you can use your own schema in a standardized way on top of the schemas built into the vendor products: ex - EDU space
- Moving SCIM spec into standard vs extensions and changes - seems conflicting
 - for example, compatibility with SCIM 1.0?
- how much do we want to work on synchronization?
 - how tight do you want synchronization to be?
 - we might not be ready to work on solid concept yet, need a strong use-case document that describes the requirements?
 - for example, paging described as a solution to synchronization - dumping data so becomes expensive when you pay for bytes
 - potentially - basing off identity/security events -> going to event notification rather than synchronization
 - proposal to add to charter "work on notification mechanism in SCIM that can be used for synchronization"
 - worth building consensus on agreeing on the problem first
 - collection of SCIM services in imp, but want to avoid being pulled by specrum of protocols from LDAP days
- Enough authors :)
- Anyone opposed to a WG chartered along this charter?
 - no one
- No IAB questions

How to proceed

1. Clarify what body of work is needed
 2. how we prioritize it
- Slightly refine the charter, prioritize and proceed to the WG
 - have a WG with the same name?

discussion continues at scim@ietf.org

- <https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/scim>