



# HTTP Access Service Description URIs

Ben Schwartz, MASQUE @ IETF 115




What's an "HTTP Access Service"?

*An HTTP Access Service is an HTTP server function that enables users to access to other services on the Internet.*

With MASQUE, HTTP provides:

- a TCP proxy
- a UDP proxy
- a VPN server
- a DNS server
- an HTTP request proxy

**How do I turn it on?**



# This is how you choose a proxy server

Connection Settings

### Configure Proxy Access to the Internet

No proxy

Auto-detect proxy settings for this network

Use system proxy settings

Manual proxy configuration

HTTP Proxy  Port

Also use this proxy for FTP and HTTPS

HTTPS Proxy  Port

FTP Proxy  Port

SOCKS Host  Port

SOCKS v4  SOCKS v5

Automatic proxy configuration URL

No proxy for

Example: .mozilla.org, .net.nz, 192.168.1.0/24


Connections to localhost, 127.0.0.1, and ::1 are never proxied.

Do not prompt for authentication if password is saved

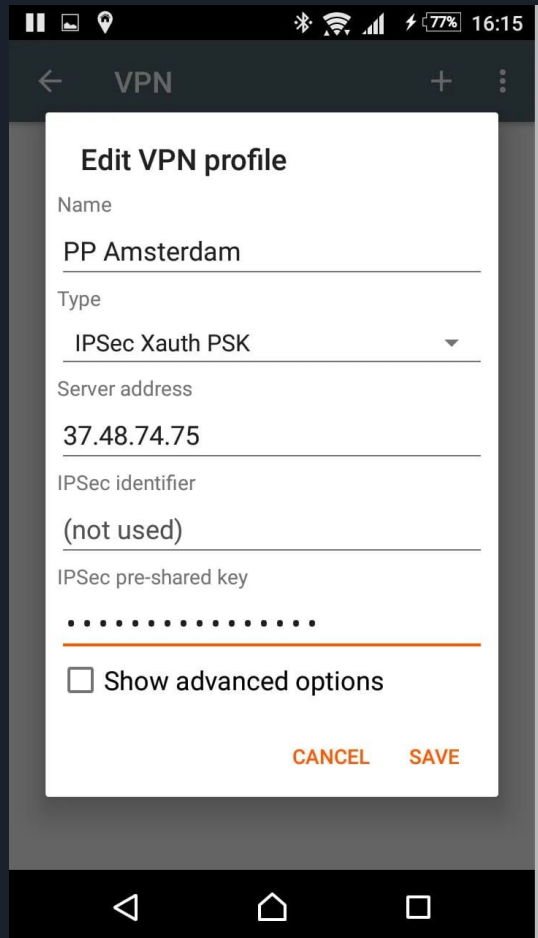
Proxy DNS when using SOCKS v5

Enable DNS over HTTPS

Use Provider



# This is how you configure a VPN



**Edit VPN profile**

Name  
PP Amsterdam

Type  
IPSec Xauth PSK

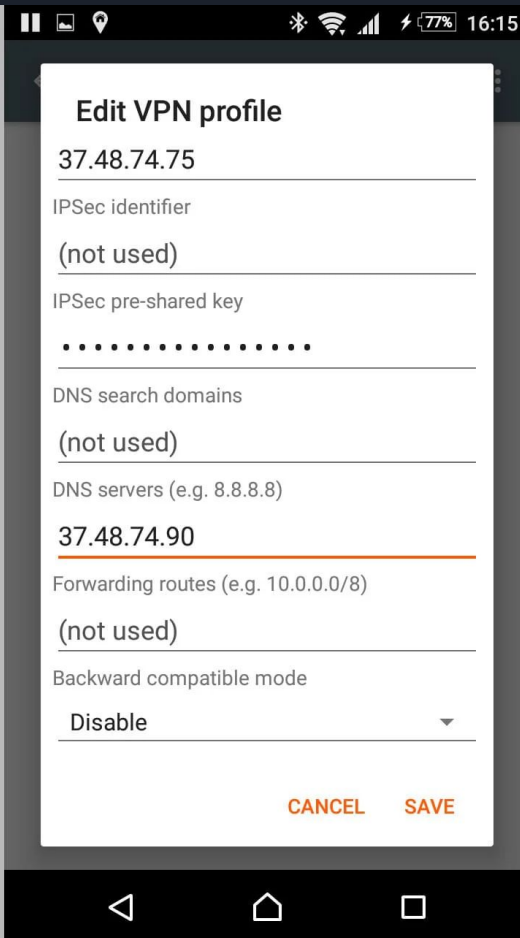
Server address  
37.48.74.75

IPSec identifier  
(not used)

IPSec pre-shared key  
.....

Show advanced options

CANCEL SAVE



**Edit VPN profile**

37.48.74.75

IPSec identifier  
(not used)

IPSec pre-shared key  
.....


DNS search domains  
(not used)

DNS servers (e.g. 8.8.8.8)  
37.48.74.90

Forwarding routes (e.g. 10.0.0.0/8)  
(not used)

Backward compatible mode  
Disable

CANCEL SAVE



# This is how you choose a DoH server

Use secure DNS

Determines how to connect to websites over a secure connection



With your current service provider  
Secure DNS may not be available all the time

With

How many times does the user need to enter this config information?

How many times does the user need to authenticate?

Goal:

- Users enter **one string** into **one UI**
- Users authenticate **once**





# Proposal: Access Service Descriptions

1. The Access Service Provider gives users a URL.
2. Users paste this URL into **one place** in their client system.
3. The system tries to fetch this URL.
4. If authentication is required, the server sends “WWW-Authenticate”, and the client prompts the user as needed.
5. The client retrieves the URL contents, which indicates all available Access Services.
6. The client uses these services, authenticating each HTTP request with the same credentials used for the description URL.



## What's at this URL?

```
{
  "http": {
    "template": "https://proxy.example.org/http{?target_uri}"
  },
  "tcp": {
    "template": "https://proxy.example.org/tcp{?target_host,tcp_port}"
  },
  "dns": {
    "template": "https://doh.example.com/dns-query{?dns}",
  },
  "udp": {
    "template": "https://proxy.example.org/masque{?target_host,target_port}"
  },
  "ip": {
    "template": "https://proxy.example.org/masque{?target,ip_proto}"
  }
}
```



# Changes since IETF 114

- Incorporated template-driven TCP and HTTP request proxies from draft-schwartz-modern-http-proxies.
- Removed explicit OHTTP support
  - No more KeyConfigs
  - OHTTP Gateway is represented by a general HTTP request proxy
- Added discussion of authentication



Next step: **masque://** ?

A “vanity” URI scheme would enable hyperlinking Access Service Description URIs directly into the config UI, making it dramatically easier to change the Access Service configuration.

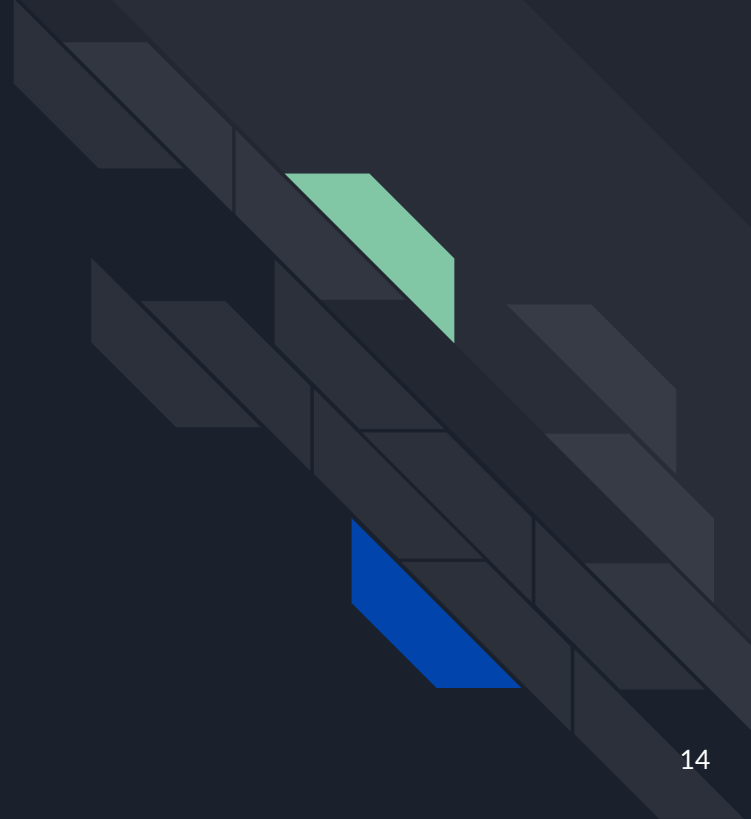
Client implementations would be responsible for handling this capability with great care!



# Conclusion

- Very simple
- Reasonably future-proof
  - All keys are controlled by an IANA registry
- **Seeking adoption in MASQUE**
  - with appropriate cross-area review

# Appendix





# Use Cases

- Richer DNS interaction while using a proxy (without assuming a trusted third-party resolver)
  - HTTP/3 bootstrap with CONNECT-UDP
  - Encrypted ClientHello, even via “legacy” proxy configuration APIs
  - Client-side DNSSEC validation
  - “Alt-SvcB” support
- Advertising new access service features
  - e.g. CONNECT-UDP Listener mode
- Changing the capabilities of an existing service without reconfiguring the clients
  - e.g. adding CONNECT-IP support to a CONNECT-UDP proxy
- Key-Consistency DoubleCheck (related proposal in OHAI)
- Hybrid VPN + Proxy service with unified login
  - Improves performance over VPN alone



# Origin vs. URL for service identification

- Access Services are identified by the URL of an Access Service Description
  - ... unless this is not possible for the use case.
- If the service is identified by a hostname or HTTP Origin, we fetch `/.well-known/access-services`.
- We need `.well-known` if
  - The user already has an old-style proxy configuration, and the system wants to discover related DoH server and other modern proxy options.
  - The user knows the origin of a DoH server but doesn't know the path.
    - See ODoH example in DoubleCheck