





Token Containers

Justin Richer and Orie Steele WIMSE BoF IETF118

The Problem

- We use tokens to limit access to APIs
- HTTP gives us a place to put one token in a request
 - Authorization: Foo token.goes.here-probably
 - *?access_token=token.goes.here-but.not.if.you.follow.best.practices*
- What if we need more than one object like this?

Why would we need more than one security object?

- Workload processing
 - Each stage can augment the request
 - Trusted nodes attest to the state of the request at that point
- Auditing
 - The fully disclosed token can be proven to have been witnessed by the transparency service
- SBOM
 - Enabled progressive disclosure of software bill of materials
- Reality
 - Treating everything like an access token is an anti-pattern







A Multi-Token Data Structure

- Anyone can add a new token value to the structure (as a node)
- Each node can have metadata parameters (external to the token)
- Any token node can reference other nodes in the structure
- Once values and parameters are set, they can't be changed
- Anyone can sign a token node in the graph



tag=foo; created=123456798; k=K1

T1 tag=foo; created=123456798; k=K1

H(T1)



T1	tag=foo; created=123456798; k=K1	H(T1)	S(K1, T1)	S(K5, T1)
Т2	tag=foo;	H(T2)	S(K2, T2)	
Т3	tag=bar; k=k3	H(T3)		
Τ4	tag=baz;	H(T4)	S(K4, T4)	
Т5	tag=qux;	H(T5)	S(K5, T5)	



GRAPHS

are SNAKES

Notable attributes

- All node references are via (fixed) hash
- Signatures are over hash
- Signatures not included in hash
 - To protect a signature, include key identifier in metadata
- Can be pruned if needed

Digital Credential Workflows

Workflow:

The sequence of industrial, administrative, or other processes through which a piece of work passes from initiation to completion.

Credential Workflows:

A workflow executed through the use of digital credential technologies, including identity documents, digital signatures and encrypted envelopes.

Transparent Workflows:

Credential workflows, where messages are stored in a verifiable data structure, which enables new messages representing proofs of inclusion, consistency, or "receipts", "endorsements" or "evidence".

Infosec personnel might audit a transparency service provider to ensure that they witnessed specific supply chain activity, or certify that a digital compliance policy is in place and being leveraged to secure an industry use case, such as software supply chain, physical supply chain, or digital content provenance.

Auditors / Notaries / Witnesses



Receipt

Inclusion Proof

```
[ / Inc
2, / Tre
1, / Lea
[ / Inc
h'5979d2d8...c6bf0202' / Int
]
```

```
/ Inclusion proof 1
/ Tree size
/ Leaf index
/ Inclusion hashes (1)
/ Intermediate hash 1
```