Bringing the JOSE WG Specifications to WGLC

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JOSE Status by Specification

- JWS
 - Very stable since March 2011
 - Well over a dozen known implementations
- JWE
 - Open issues largely closed since IETF 84
 - At least 5 known implementations
- JWK
 - Semantically very stable a few syntax changes
 - Also over a dozen known implementations
- JWA
 - Open issues largely closed since IETF 84
 - Used in JWS, JWE, JWK implementations

Conclusions

- The specs are fairly mature and implemented
- Most issues have been closed
- We're ready for WGLC
- Options:
 - Go to WGLC with the current specs
 - Close issues we can quickly close, then go to WGLC

Remaining Open Issues

- Default RSA-OAEP parameters
- Criticality of understanding header fields
- Define nonce, timestamp, and/or uninterpreted string parameter(s)?

Default RSA-OAEP parameters

- SHA-1 (and mgf1SHA1) are the default OAEP parameters in RFC 3447
 - They are also the parameters specified in JWA
- Many libs don't support other OAEP parameters
 - Interop argues for keeping things as-is
- Previous results:
 - 7 YES keep the current default OAEP parameters
 - 2 NO change the default parameters
 - 4 DISCUSS

Criticality of understanding header fields

- Currently implementations must understand all header fields
- Security argues for the current behavior
- Extensibility argues for allowing not-understood fields or specifically identified fields
- Previous results:
 - 9 YES all header fields are critical
 - 1 NO all header fields are non-critical
 - 4 MAYBE criticality should be specified per field
 - 3 DISCUSS

Define nonce, timestamp, and/or uninterpreted string parameter(s)?

- Previous results:
 - 7 YES Define nonce/timestamp parameter
 - 1 NO Do not define nonce/timestamp parameter
 - 14 DISCUSS
- DISCUSS likely dominated because there were no concrete proposals
- One possibility is to defer decision(s) until concrete proposals are made