

# SCIM Ticket #28

## “Clarify the Spec on Multi-Tenancy”

Summary for IETF-86  
Orlando, March 2013

# From the last WG

- Incorporate multi-tenancy into the spec

OR

- Explain that the spec does not address the topic, but provide some pointers/ guidance/ recommendations (similar in spirit to what it does for authentication)

OR

- Explain that the spec does not address the topic at all.

# Approach Taken for the Proposed Text

“Explain that the spec does not address the topic, but provide some pointers/ guidance/ recommendations (similar in spirit to what it does for authentication)”

(Recognizing that multi-tenancy is an issue for many RESTful APIs)

The proposed text is here:

<http://trac.tools.ietf.org/wg/scim/trac/ticket/28#comment:7>

# Summary of Proposed Text

- Adds a new section titled “Multi-Tenancy”
- Lists four multi-tenancy cases
  - All Consumers share all Resources (no tenancy)
  - Each single Consumer creates and accesses a private subset of Resources (1 Consumer:1 Tenant)
  - Sets of Consumers share sets of Resources (M Consumers:1 Tenant)
  - One Consumer to Multiple Tenants (1 Consumer:M Tenants)
- States: “Multi-Tenancy is OPTIONAL. The SCIM protocol does not define a scheme for multi-tenancy.”

# Summary of Proposed Text

- Includes a sub-section “Associating Consumers to Tenants”
- Illustrates four mechanisms that MAY be used:
  - Authentication of the Consumer
  - Resource URL prefix or component
    - `https://www.example.com/Tenants/{tenant_id}/v1/Users`
  - Subdomain
    - `https://{tenant_id}.example.com/v1/Users`
  - HTTP Header: SCIM\_TENANT\_ID
- States: “...the {tenant\_id} is a unique identifier for the Tenant as defined by the Service Provider.”

# Summary of Proposed Text

- Includes a subsection titled “SCIM Identifiers with Multiple Tenants”
- States: “The SCIM id, defined by the Service Provider, MUST be unique across all Resources for all Tenants”
- States: “The externalId, defined by the Consumer, is required to be unique ONLY within the Resources associated with the associated Tenant.”

# Considerations

- Multi-Tenancy for RESTful interfaces is larger than just SCIM
- A separate I-D can be created to contain specifications in this area
  - Tenant provisioning, standard URL formats, access control, etc
- How burdensome is a “globally unique SCIM id” for Service Providers?
- Interoperability

# Questions and Discussion