

GSSException::getOutputToken()

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background

- In JGSS-API (RFC 5653), the `GSSContext::initSecContext()` method could either return a token when the call succeeds or throw a `GSSException` if there is a failure, but **NOT** both. The same applies to `acceptSecContext()` of the same class.
- On the other hand, the C function `GSS_Init_sec_context()` can fill out an output token even if there is an error.

problem

- Without the ability to emit an error token when there is a failure, a Java application has no chance to tell the other side what the error is. For example, a "reject" NegTokenResp token will never be able to sent out for the SPNEGO mechanism.

solution

- Embed the token into the GSSException:

```
public byte[] getOutputToken()
```

If the method (For example, `initSecContext` of `GSSContext`) that throws this `GSSException` also needs to generate an output token that should be sent to the peer, that token will be returned by this method.

The return value should be null if no such token is generated. This method should never return an empty byte array.

- An accompany method `setOutputToken()` will also be added to `GSSException`

example

```
try {
    do {
        byte[] outTok = context.initSecContext(inTok, 0, inTok.length);
        if (outTok != null) sendToken(outTok);
        if (context.isEstablished()) break;
        inTok = readToken();
    } while (true);
} catch (GSSException e) {
    print("GSSAPI error: " + e.getMessage());
    if (e.getOutputToken() != null) {
        sendToken(e.getOutputToken());
    }
}
```

references

- The current RFC 5653
<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5653>
- Intended changes
<http://cr.openjdk.java.net/~weijun/spec/updates-error-token.txt>