

INTERNET-DRAFT
Expires: July 2002

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January 2002.

Additional XML Security URIs

<draft-eastlake-xmldsig-uri-02.txt>

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Abstract

A number of algorithm and keying information identifying URIs intended for use with XML Digital Signatures and XML Encryption are defined.

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Acknowledgements

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1. Introduction

XML Digital Signatures have been standardized by the joint IETF/W3C XMLDSIG working group. The Proposed Standard is specified in [RFC 3075] and a Draft Standard version is pending before the IESG

[XMLDSIG-D]. Canonical XML, which is used by many digital signatures, has been standardized by the W3C and is documented in Informational [RFC 3076]. In addition, XML Encryption [XMLENC] and Exclusive XML Canonicalization [Exclusive] are currently being standardized by the W3C.

All of these standards and recommendations use URIs to identify algorithms and keying information types. This document is intended to be a convenient reference list of URIs and descriptions for algorithms in which there is substantial interest but which can not or have not been included in the main documents for some reason. Note in particular that raising XML digital signature to Draft Standard in the IETF requires removal of any algorithms for which there is not demonstrated interoperability from the main standards document. This requires removal of the Minimal Canonicalization algorithm, in which there appears to be continued interest, to be dropped from the standards track specification. It is included here.

2. Algorithm URIs

The URI being dropped from the standard due to the transition from Proposed Standard to Draft Standard is included herein with its original

<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#>

prefix so as to avoid changing the XMLDSIG standard's namespace. Additional non-proprietary algorithms, particularly those based on USA Government and W3C standards, are given URIs that start with

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more>

as are some URIs from the on-going XML Encryption standardization effort. An "xmlsig-more" URI does not imply any official W3C status for these algorithms or identifiers. Currently, dereferencing such URIs may produce a temporary placeholder document. Permission to use these URIs has been given by the W3C.

2.1 DigestMethod Algorithms

2.1.1 MD5

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#md5>

The MD5 algorithm [RFC 1321] takes no explicit parameters. An example

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of an MD5 DigestAlgorithm element is:

```
<DigestMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#md5"/>
```

An MD5 digest is a 128-bit string. The content of the DigestValue element shall be the base64 [RFC 2045] encoding of this bit string viewed as a 16-octet octet stream.

2.1.2 SHA-384

Identifier:
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#sha384>

The SHA-384 algorithm [SHA-384] takes no explicit parameters. An example of a SHA-384 DigestAlgorithm element is:

```
<DigestMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#sha384"/>
```

A SHA-384 digest is a 384 bit string. The content of the DigestValue element shall be the base64 [RFC2045] encoding of this string viewed as a 48-octet stream. Because it takes roughly the same amount of effort to compute a SHA-384 message digest as a SHA-512 digest and terseness is usually not a criteria in XML application, use of SHA-512 as an alternative is recommended.

2.2 SignatureMethod Message Authentication Code Algorithms

Some text in this section is duplicated from RFC 3075 for the convenience of the reader.

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2.2.1 HMAC-MD5

Identifier:
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#hmac-md5>

The HMAC algorithm [RFC 2104] takes the truncation length in bits as a parameter; if the parameter is not specified then all the bits of the hash are output. An example of an HMAC-MD5 SignatureMethod element is as follows:

```
<SignatureMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#hmac-md5">
  <HMACOutputLength>112</HMACOutputLength>
</SignatureMethod>
```

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The output of the HMAC algorithm is ultimately the output (possibly truncated) of the chosen digest algorithm. This value shall be base64 [RFC 2405] encoded in the same straightforward fashion as the output of the digest algorithms. Example: the SignatureValue element for the HMAC-MD5 digest

9294727A 3638BB1C 13F48EF8 158BFC9D

from the test vectors in [RFC 2104] would be

<SignatureValue>kpRyejY4uxwT9I74FYv8nQ==</SignatureValue>

Schema Definition:

```
<simpleType name="HMACOutputLengthType">
  <restriction base="integer"/>
</simpleType>
```

DTD:

```
<!ELEMENT HMACOutputLength (#PCDATA)>
```

The Schema Definition and DTD immediately above are copied from RFC 3075.

Although some cryptographic suspicions have recently been cast on MD5 for use in signatures such as RSA-MD5 below, this does not effect use of MD5 in HMAC.

2.2.2 HMAC SHA Variations

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#hmac-sha256>

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<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#hmac-sha384>

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#hmac-sha512>

SHA-256, SHA-384, and SHA-512 [SHA-256] can also be used in HMAC as described in section 2.2.1 above for HMAC-MD5.

2.2.3 HMAC-RIPEMD160

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#hmac-ripemd160>

RIPEMD-160 [RIPEMD-160] can also be used in HMAC as described in section 2.2.1 above for HMAC-MD5.

2.3 SignatureMethod Public Key Signature Algorithms

2.3.1 RSA-MD5

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-md5>

This implies the PKCS#1 v1.5 padding algorithm described in [RFC 2437].

An example of use is

```
<SignatureMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-md5"/>
```

The SignatureValue content for an RSA-MD5 signature is the base64 [RFC 2405] encoding of the octet string computed as per [RFC 2437], section 8.1.1.

Signature generation for the RSASSA-PKCS1-v1_5 signature scheme. As specified in the EMSA-PKCS1-V1_5-ENCODE function in [RFC 2437, section 9.2.1], the value input to the signature function MUST contain a pre-pended algorithm object identifier for the hash function, but the availability of an ASN.1 parser and recognition of OIDs is not required of a signature verifier. The PKCS#1 v1.5 representation appears as:

```
CRYPT (PAD (ASN.1 (OID, DIGEST (data))))
```

Note that the padded ASN.1 will be of the following form:

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```
01 | FF* | 00 | prefix | hash
```

where "|" is concatenation, "01", "FF", and "00" are fixed octets of the corresponding hexadecimal value, "hash" is the MD5 digest of the data, and "prefix" is the ASN.1 BER MD5 algorithm designator prefix required in PKCS #1 [RFC 2437], that is,

```
hex 30 20 30 0c 06 08 2a 86 48 86 f7 0d 02 05 05 00 04 10
```

This prefix is included to make it easier to use standard cryptographic libraries. The FF octet MUST be repeated the maximum number of times such that the value of the quantity being CRYPTed is one octet shorter than the RSA modulus.

Due to increases in computer processor power and advances in cryptography, use of RSA-MD5 is NOT RECOMMENDED.

2.3.2 RSA-SHA256

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-sha256>

An example of use is

```
<SignatureMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-sha256"
/>
```

[I think the SHA-256/384/512 RSA signature algorithms should use PKCS#1 v2, i.e., OAEP.]

2.3.3 RSA-SHA384

Identifier:
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-sha384>

An example of use is

```
<SignatureMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-sha384"
/>
```

Because it takes about the same effort to calculate a SHA-384 message digest as it does a SHA-512 message digest, it is recommended that RSA-SHA512 be used in preference to RSA-SHA384 where possible.

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2.3.4 RSA-SHA512

Identifier:
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-sha512>

An example of use is

```
<SignatureMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more#rsa-sha512"
/>
```

2.3.5

Identifier:
<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more/rsa-ripemd160>

This signature method uses PKCS#1 padding as described in section 2.3.1. An example of use is

```
<SignatureMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more/rsa-ripemd160"
/>
```

2.4 Minimal Canonicalization

At this time two independent interoperable implementations of Minimal
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Canonicalization have not been announced. Therefore, when XML Digital Signature is advanced from Proposed Standard to Draft Standard, it must be dropped from the standard track documents. However, there is still interest and indicates of possible future use for Minimal Canonicalization. For its definition, see [RFC 3075], Section 6.5.1.

For reference, it's identifier remains:
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig#minimal>

2.5 Transform Algorithms

Note that all CanonicalizationMethod algorithms listed can also be used as Transform algorithms.

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2.5.1 XPointer

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more/xptr>

This transform algorithm takes an [XPointer] as an explicit parameter. An example of use is:

```
<Transform
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more/xptr">
  <XPointer
    xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsig-more/xptr">
    xpointer(id("foo")) xmlns(bar=urn:baz)
    xpointer(//bar:Zab[@Id="foo"])
  </XPointer>
</Transform>
```

Schema Definition:

```
<element name="XPointer" type="string"/>
```

DTD:

```
<!ELEMENT XPointer (#PCDATA)>
```

Input to this transform is an octet stream (which is then parsed into XML).

Output from this transform is a node set; the results of the XPointer are processed as defined in the XMLSIG specification [RFC 3075] for a same-document XPointer.

2.6 ARCFOUR Encryption Algorithm

Identifier:

<http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsigschema-more#arcfour>

ARCFOUR is a fast, simple stream encryption algorithm that is compatible with RSA Security's RC4 algorithm. An example EncryptionMethod element using ARCFOUR is

```
<EncryptionMethod
  Algorithm="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsigschema-more#arcfour">
  <KeySize>40</KeySize>
</EncryptionMethod>
```

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3. KeyInfo

In section 3.1 below a new KeyInfo element child is specified while in section 3.2 additional KeyInfo Type values for use in RetrievalMethod are specified.

3.1 PKCS #7 Bag of Certificates and CRLs

A PKCS #7 [RFC 2315] "signedData" can also be used as a bag of certificates and/or certificate revocation lists (CRLs). The PKCS7signedData element is defined to accommodate such structures within KeyInfo. The binary PKCS #7 structure is base64 [RFC 2405] encoded. Any signer information present is ignored. The following is an example, elliding the base64 data:

```
<foo:PKCS7signedData
  xmlns:foo="http://www.w3.org/2001/04/xmlsigschema-more">
  ..
</foo:PKCS7signedData>
```

3.2 Additional RetrievalMethod Type Values

The Type attribute of RetrievalMethod is an optional identifier for the type of data to be retrieved. The result of de-referencing a RetrievalMethod reference for all KeyInfo types with an XML structure is an XML element or document with that element as the root. The various "raw" key information types return a binary value. Thus they require a Type attribute because they are not unambiguously parseable.

Identifiers:

<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsigschema-more#KeyValue>
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsigschema-more#RetrievalMethod>
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsigschema-more#KeyName>
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsigschema-more#rawX509CRL>
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsigschema-more#rawPGPKeyPacket>
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsigschema-more#rawSPKISexp>

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<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig-more#PKCS7signedData>
<http://www.w3.org/2000/09/xmlsig-more#rawPKCS7signedData>

4. IANA Considerations

None. (so far)

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5. Security Considerations

Due to computer speed and cryptographic advances, the use of MD5 as a DigestMethod or in the RSA-MD5 SignatureMethod is NOT RECOMMENDED. The cryptographic advances concerned do not effect the security of HMAC-MD5; however, there is little reason not to go for one of the SHA series of algorithms.

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Expiration and File Name

This draft expires July 2002.

Its file name is draft-eastlake-xmldsig-uri-02.txt.

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