



Liberty Technical Glossary

Version: v1.4

Editors:

Jeff Hodges, Sun Microsystems, Inc

Contributors:

Robert Aarts, Nokia Corporation

Carolina Canales-Valenzuela, Ericsson

Peter Davis, NeuStar, Inc.

John Kemp, IEEE-ISTO

Elisa Korentayer, IEEE-ISTO

John Linn, RSA Security, Inc.

Thomas Wason, IEEE-ISTO

Abstract:

This glossary defines many of the technical terms and phrases used in the Liberty Alliance's various specifications and documents.

Filename: liberty-glossary-v1.4.pdf

1

Notice

2 This document has been prepared by Sponsors of the Liberty Alliance. Permission is hereby granted to use the
3 document solely for the purpose of implementing the Specification. No rights are granted to prepare derivative works
4 of this Specification. Entities seeking permission to reproduce portions of this document for other uses must contact
5 the Liberty Alliance to determine whether an appropriate license for such use is available.

6 Implementation of certain elements of this document may require licenses under third party intellectual property
7 rights, including without limitation, patent rights. The Sponsors of and any other contributors to the Specification are
8 not, and shall not be held responsible in any manner for identifying or failing to identify any or all such third party
9 intellectual property rights. **This Specification is provided "AS IS", and no participant in the Liberty Alliance
10 makes any warranty of any kind, express or implied, including any implied warranties of merchantability,
11 non-infringement of third party intellectual property rights, and fitness for a particular purpose.** Implementors
12 of this Specification are advised to review the Liberty Alliance Project's website (<http://www.projectliberty.org>) for
13 information concerning any Necessary Claims Disclosure Notices that have been received by the Liberty Alliance
14 Management Board.

15 Copyright © 2004-2005 ADAE; Adobe Systems; America Online, Inc.; American Express Company; Avatier
16 Corporation; Axalto; Bank of America Corporation; BIPAC; Computer Associates International, Inc.; DataPower
17 Technology, Inc.; Diversinet Corp.; Enosis Group LLC; Entrust, Inc.; Epok, Inc.; Ericsson; Fidelity Investments;
18 Forum Systems, Inc. ; France Telecom; Gamefederation; Gemplus; General Motors; Giesecke & Devrient GmbH;
19 Hewlett-Packard Company; IBM Corporation; Intel Corporation; Intuit Inc.; Kantega; Kayak Interactive; MasterCard
20 International; Mobile Telephone Networks (Pty) Ltd; NEC Corporation; Netegrity, Inc.; NeuStar, Inc.; Nippon
21 Telegraph and Telephone Corporation; Nokia Corporation; Novell, Inc.; NTT DoCoMo, Inc.; OpenNetwork; Oracle
22 Corporation; Ping Identity Corporation; Royal Mail Group plc; RSA Security Inc.; SAP AG; Senforce; Sharp
23 Laboratories of America; Sigaba; SmartTrust; Sony Corporation; Sun Microsystems, Inc.; Telefonica Moviles, S.A.;
24 Trusted Network Technologies.; Trustgenix; UTI; VeriSign, Inc.; Vodafone Group Plc. All rights reserved.

25 Liberty Alliance Project
26 Licensing Administrator
27 c/o IEEE-ISTO
28 445 Hoes Lane
29 Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331, USA
30 info@projectliberty.org

31 **Revision History**

32 **Contents**

33 [1. Introduction](#) 5
34 [2. Definitions](#) 6
35 [References](#) 20

36 **1. Introduction**

37 This document is Liberty Alliance Project glossary of normative technical terms.

38 This document is not an exhaustive compendium of all Liberty technical terminology because the Liberty terminology
39 is built upon existing terminology. Thus many terms that are commonly used within this context are not listed. They
40 may be found in the glossaries/documents/specifications referenced in the bibliography. Terms defined here that are
41 not attributed to other glossaries/documents/specifications are being defined here.

42 This glossary is expected to evolve along with the Liberty Alliance Project specifications.

43 2. Definitions

44 Terms

45 AC

46 See *authentication context*.

47 account

48 A formal business agreement providing for regular dealings and services between a Principal and a service
49 provider [[Merriam-Webster](#)].

50 account linkage

51 See *identity federation*.

52 AD

53 See *Authentication Domain*.

54 affiliation

55 An affiliation is a set of one or more entities, described by providerID's, who may perform Liberty interactions
56 as a member of the set. An affiliation is referenced by exactly one affiliationID, and is administered by
57 exactly one entity identified by their providerID. Members of an affiliation may invoke services either as
58 a member of the affiliation (using affiliationID), or individually (using their providerID). *Affiliation* and
59 *affiliation group* are equivalent terms.

60 affiliation group

61 See *affiliation*.

62 Affiliation ID

63 An *Affiliation ID* identifies an *affiliation*. It is schematically represented by the `affiliationID` attribute of
64 the `<AffiliationDescriptor>` metadata element [[LibertyMetadata](#)].

65 AP

66 See *Attribute Provider*.

67 AS Consumer

68 See *Authentication Service Consumer*.

69 AS Provider

70 See *Authentication Service Provider*.

71 assertion, SAML assertion

72 An XML-based data structure defined by SAML. Assertions are collections of one or more statements, made
73 by a SAML authority (also known as an *issuer*), such as an authentication statement or attribute statement. As
74 used in Liberty, assertions typically concern things such as: an act of authentication performed by a Principal,
75 attribute information about a Principal, or authorization permissions applying to a Principal with respect to a
76 specified resource.

77 attribute

78 A distinct, named, characteristic of a *Principal* or other *system entity*.

79 attribute class

80 A predefined set of attributes, such as the constituents of a Principal's name (prefix, first name, middle name,
81 last name, and suffix).

82 attribute container

83 a module comprised of a collection of attributes grouped together according to expected use patterns.

-
- 84 Attribute Provider (AP)
85 An *attribute provider* (AP) provides Identity Personal Profile (ID-PP) information. Sometimes referred to as
86 an ID-PP provider.
- 87 authenticated identity
88 An *identity*, representing a *system entity*, which often is a *Principal*, that is asserted to have been the subject
89 of a successful *authentication*.
- 90 authenticated Principal
91 A Principal who has had his *identity* authenticated by an *Identity Provider*.
- 92 authenticating authority
93 Synonymous with *authenticating identity provider* or *authenticating IdP*. An *identity provider* that authenti-
94 cated a *Principal* (see also *authentication*). In [[LibertyAuthnContext](#)], the authenticating authority is identi-
95 fied by the first occurring <AuthenticatingAuthority> element instance.
- 96 authenticating entity
97 A *system entity* that engages in the process of authenticating itself to another *system entity*, the latter typically
98 being an *Identity Provider* (see also *authentication*). More formally, an *authenticating system entity*.
- 99 authentication (authn)
100 *Authentication* is the process of confirming a *system entity*'s asserted *identity* with a specified, or understood,
101 level of confidence [[TrustInCyberspace](#)].
- 102 authentication assertion
103 A SAML-based *assertion* that, in the Liberty specification suite, contains a <lib:AuthenticationStatement>.
104 Note that the foregoing element is defined in a Liberty namespace. Also known as *Liberty authentication*
105 *assertion* and *ID-FF authentication assertion*.
106 Liberty authentication assertions are formal XML extensions of SAML assertions [[SAMLCore11](#)].
107 Semantically, an assertion issuer is stating that the subject of the assertion authenticated with it (the issuer) at
108 some point in time. Assertions are typically time-limited.
- 109 authentication authority
110 A *system entity* that produces authentication assertions [[SAMLGloss](#)]. In the Liberty architecture, it is
111 typically an *Identity Provider*.
- 112 authentication context (AC)
113 *Authentication Context* is an extensible XML-based "schematic" description of authentication event charac-
114 teristics [[LibertyAuthnContext](#)].
- 115 Authentication Domain (AD)
116 An Authentication Domain (AD) is a formal community of Liberty-enabled entities that interact using a set
117 of well-known common rules.
- 118 authentication exchange
119 See *authentication protocol exchange*.
- 120 authentication mechanism
121 An *authentication mechanism* is a particular, identifiable, process or technique that results in a confirmation
122 of a *system entity*'s asserted *identity* with a specified, or understood, level of confidence. See also *SASL*
123 *mechanism*. An authentication mechanism may be employed in the process of generating *security tokens*
124 attesting to the *authenticated identity* of an *authenticating entity*. The ID-WSF Authentication Protocol
125 specifies such a process [[LibertyAuthn](#)].

-
- 126 authentication protocol exchange
127 *Authentication protocol exchange* is the term used in [\[RFC2222\]](#) to refer to the sequence of messages
128 exchanged between the *client* and *server* as specified and governed by the particular *SASL mechanism* being
129 employed to effect an act of *authentication*.
- 130 authentication quality
131 The level of assurance that a *service provider* can place in an *authentication assertion* it receives from an
132 *identity provider*.
- 133 authentication server
134 The precise, specific *role* played by a *server* in the protocol message exchanges defined in the ID-WSF
135 Authentication Protocol.
- 136 Authentication Service Consumer (AS Consumer)
137 A *Web Service Consumer* (WSC) implementing the *client*-side of the ID-WSF Authentication Service
138 [\[LibertyAuthn\]](#).
- 139 Authentication Service Provider (AS Provider)
140 A *Web Service Provider* (WSP) implementing the *server*-side of the ID-WSF Authentication Service [\[Lib-](#)
141 *ertyAuthn]*.
- 142 authentication session
143 The period of time starting after A has authenticated B and until A stops trusting B's identity assertion and
144 requires reauthentication. Also known simply as a *session*, it is the state between a successful login and a
145 successful logout by a Principal.
- 146 authorization (authz)
147 The process of determining, by evaluating applicable access control information, whether a subject is allowed
148 to have the specified types of access to a particular resource. Usually, authorization is in the context of
149 authentication. Once a subject is authenticated, it may be authorized to perform different types of access
150 [\[SAMLGloss\]](#).
- 151 bearer token
152 A *bearer token* is a form of *security token* having the property of connoting some attribute(s) to its holder,
153 or *bearer*. In [\[LibertySecMech\]](#), bearer tokens connote *identity* and they consist essentially of *credentials* of
154 some form, e.g. *SAML assertions* [\[wss-saml\]](#).
- 155 Circle of Trust (CoT)
156 A federation of service providers and identity providers that have business relationships based on Liberty
157 architecture and operational agreements and with whom users can transact business in a secure and apparently
158 seamless environment. Also known as a *Trust Circle*.
- 159 client
160 A *role* assumed by a *system entity* who makes a request of another system entity, often termed a *server*
161 [\[RFC2828\]](#). A client is at varying times a *sender* or a *receiver*.
- 162 CoT
163 See *circle of trust*.
- 164 credentials
165 Data that is transferred or presented to establish either a claimed *identity* or the authorizations of a *system*
166 *entity*.
- 167 defederate, defederate identity
168 To eliminate linkage between a Principal's accounts at an identity provider and a service provider.

-
- 169 delegation
170 Enabling a system entity to operate on behalf of a principal to access an identity service.
- 171 discoverable
172 A *discoverable* "in principle" service is one having an *service type URI* assigned (this is typically in done in
173 the specification defining the service). A discoverable "in practice" service is one that is registered in some
174 discovery service instance.
175 ID-WSF *services* are by definition discoverable "in principle" because such services are assigned a *service*
176 *type URI* facilitating their registration in *Discovery Service* instances.
- 177 Discovery Service (DS)
178 An *ID-WSF service* facilitating the registration, and subsequent discovery of, ID-WSF service instances
179 [\[LibertyDisco\]](#), as indexed by *Principal identity*. See also *discoverable*.
- 180 Discovery Service Provider (DS Provider)
181 A *Web Service Provider* (WSP) implementing the *server-side* of the ID-WSF Discovery Service [\[Liberty-](#)
182 Disco].
- 183 endpoint
184 A term used in [\[WSDLv1.1\]](#) — it is the short form of *protocol endpoint* — and which itself means an
185 identified entity, at the current level of abstraction, to which a protocol message, of the same level of
186 abstraction, may be sent. For example, at the Internet Protocol (IP) layer, an endpoint is represented by
187 an IP address, and one may send an IP datagram (AKA a "message") to said endpoint. In contrast, at the
188 HTTP layer, an endpoint is represented by a URL.
- 189 federate
190 To link or bind two or more entities together.
- 191 federation
192 (1) The act of establishing a relationship between two entities.
193 (2) An association comprising any number of service providers and identity providers.
- 194 final SASL response
195 The final <SASLResponse> message sent from the *server* to the *client* in an *authentication exchange*
196 [\[LibertyAuthn\]](#).
- 197 gWS
198 See *generic web service*.
- 199 gWSP
200 See *generic Web Service Provider*.
- 201 generic web service (gWS)
202 A *generic web service* is defined by sense (1) of the *web service* definition.
- 203 generic Web Service Provider (gWSP)
204 A *generic Web Service Provider* (gWSP) an entity providing *generic web services*.
- 205 header, header block, header element
206 See *SOAP header block*.
- 207 ID-
208 A shorthand designator referring to the Liberty ID-WSF, ID-FF, and ID-SIS specification sets. For example,
209 one might say that the former specification sets are all part of the Liberty ID-* specification suite.

-
- 210 ID-* fault message
211 An *ID-* fault message* is a SOAP <S:Fault> element containing a <Status> element, with the attributes
212 and attribute values of both elements configured as specified herein, or as specified in other specification(s)
213 in the ID-WSF or ID-SIS specification sets.
- 214 ID-* header block
215 One of the header blocks defined in this specification, or defined in any of the other Liberty ID-* specification
216 suite.
- 217 ID-* message
218 Equivalent to *ordinary ID-* message*.
- 219 ID-FF
220 The Identity Federation Framework (ID-FF) is the title for a subset of the Liberty specification suite which
221 defines largely HTTP-based protocols for web single sign-on and identity federation [[LibertyProtSchema](#)].
- 222 ID-FF authentication assertion
223 See *authentication assertion*.
- 224 ID-PP
225 The "ID Personal Profile" is an *ID-SIS* -based service which can provide profile information regarding
226 Principals, typically subject to policy established by said Principals [[LibertyIDPP](#)].
- 227 ID-SIS
228 Liberty Identity Service Interface specification set.
- 229 ID-SIS service
230 See *ID-SIS-based service*.
- 231 ID-SIS-based service
232 *ID-SIS-based services* are *identity services* typically built on *ID-WSF* — i.e. they are essentially *ID-*
233 *WSF-based services* — and are often also built on the [[LibertyDST](#)] specification. [[LibertyIDEP](#)] and
234 [[LibertyIDPP](#)] are examples of ID-SIS service specifications.
- 235 ID-WSF
236 Liberty Identity Web Services Framework specification set.
- 237 ID-WSF service
238 See *ID-WSF-based service*.
- 239 ID-WSF-based service
240 An *ID-WSF-based service* is an *identity service* that is at least *discoverable* in principle, and is based on
241 [[LibertySOAPBinding](#)] and [[LibertySecMech](#)].
- 242 identity
243 The essence of an entity. One's *identity* is often described by one's characteristics, among which may be any
244 number of identifiers.
245 A *Principal* may wield one or more identities. See also *Principal identity*.
- 246 Identity federation
247 Creating associations between a given *system entity*'s identifiers or *accounts*.
- 248 Identity Provider (IdP)
249 A Liberty-enabled *system entity* that manages *identity* information on behalf of *Principals* and provides
250 assertions of *Principal authentication* to other *providers*.

-
- 251 identity service
252 See *identity web service*.
- 253 identity web service
254 An abstract notion of a web service whose operations are indexed by *identity*, i.e. they are "discoverable" —
255 see also *web service (2)*, *Discovery Service*, and [\[LibertyDisco\]](#).
256 Such a service might maintain information about, or on behalf of, Principals (as represented by their
257 *identities*), or perform actions on behalf of Principals. Also known as an *identity service*.
258 See also *web service*.
- 259 initial response
260 A [\[RFC2222\]](#) term referring to *authentication exchange* data sent by the *client* in the initial SASL request.
261 It is used by a subset of SASL mechanisms. See Section 5.1 of [\[RFC2222\]](#).
- 262 initial SASL request
263 The initial <SASLRequest> message sent from the *client* to the *server* in an *authentication exchange*
264 [\[LibertyAuthn\]](#).
- 265 IdP
266 See *Identity Provider*.
- 267 invocation identity
268 The identity of the *system entity* invoking a *service*.
- 269 LEC
270 See *Liberty-Enabled Client*.
- 271 LECP
272 See *Liberty-Enabled Client or Proxy* .
- 273 LEP
274 See *Liberty-Enabled Proxy*.
- 275 Liberty authentication assertion
276 See *authentication assertion*.
- 277 Liberty-enabled client (LEC)
278 An entity that has, or knows how to obtain, knowledge about the identity provider that the Principal wishes
279 to use with the service provider.
- 280 Liberty-enabled client or proxy (LECP)
281 A Liberty-enabled client is a client that has, or knows how to obtain, knowledge about the identity provider
282 that the Principal wishes to use with the service provider. A Liberty-enabled proxy is an HTTP proxy
283 (typically a WAP gateway) that emulates a Liberty-enabled client.
- 284 Liberty-enabled Provider
285 An umbrella term referring to any *Provider* offering any ID-FF-, ID-WSF-, or ID-SIS-based services.
- 286 Liberty-Enabled Client and Proxy Profile
287 This profile specifies interactions between Liberty-enabled clients and/or proxies, service providers, and
288 identity providers [\[LibertyBindProf\]](#).
- 289 Liberty-enabled Proxy (LEP)
290 A Liberty-enabled proxy is a HTTP proxy (typically a WAP gateway) that emulates a Liberty-enabled client.

- 291 Liberty-enabled User Agent or Device (LUAD)
292 A user agent or device that has specific support for one or more profiles of the Liberty specifications. It should
293 be noted that although a standard web browser can be used in many Liberty-specified scenarios, it does not
294 provide specific support for the Liberty protocols, and thus is not a LUAD.
295 No particular claims of specific functionality should be implied about a system entity solely based on its
296 definition as a LUAD. Rather, a LUAD may perform one or more Liberty system entity roles as defined by
297 the Liberty specifications it implements. For example, a LUAD-LECP is a user agent or device that supports
298 the Liberty LECP profile, and a LUAD-DS would define a user agent or device offering a Liberty ID-WSF
299 Discovery Service.
- 300 local session state
301 In the Liberty context, this term refers to a notion of *session state* "local" to, i.e. maintained by, a *provider*,
302 with respect to an interaction with another *system entity*, typically a *user agent*. Note that the concrete
303 techniques used to maintain session state vary; cookies [RFC2965], so-called "URL re-writing", and so-
304 called "hidden form fields" are the most viable techniques in the HTTP, aka "web", world.
- 305 login
306 The act of a Principal proving their *identity* to a *system entity*, which typically establishes a *session*.
- 307 logout
308 The termination of a *session*.
- 309 LUAD
310 See *Liberty-enabled User Agent or Device*.
- 311 (LUAD-)WSC
312 A *Web Service Consumer* (WSC), that may or may not also be a *Liberty-enabled User Agent or Device*.
- 313 mechanism
314 A process or technique for achieving a result [Merriam-Webster].
- 315 MEP
316 see Message Exchange Pattern.
- 317 Message Exchange Pattern
318 A [SOAPv1.2] term for the overall notion of various patterns of message exchange between SOAP nodes.
319 For example, request-reply and one-way are two *MEPs* used in this specification.
- 320 message thread
321 A *message thread* is a synchronous exchange of messages in a request-response *MEP* between two *SOAP*
322 *nodes*. All the messages of a given message thread are "linked" via each message's <Correlation> header
323 block refToMessageID attribute value being set, by the sender, from the previous successfully received
324 message's <Correlation> header block messageID attribute value.
- 325 metadata
326 Definitional data that provides information about other data or *system entities* managed within an application
327 or environment. In Liberty, *metadata* is *Provider* information that is necessary for interacting with Providers
328 [LibertyMetadata].
- 329 network identity
330 An abstraction, consisting of a *Principal's* global set of attributes, which is composed from a "union" of the
331 *Principal's accounts*. See also *identity*.
- 332 Non-Transitive Proxy Capability
333 the ability to act for another entity based on Trusted Authority Policy. The capability is non-transferable.

-
- 334 opaque handle
335 An identifier that has meaning only in the context between a specific *identity provider* and specific *service*
336 *provider*.
- 337 ordinary ID-* message
338 An *ordinary ID-* message* is a Liberty Identity Web Services Framework (ID-WSF) or Service Interface
339 Specification (ID-SIS) message as defined in the [LibertyDST], [LibertyDisco], and [LibertyIDPP] specifi-
340 cations and others. It has the characteristics of being designed to be conveyed by essentially any transport
341 or transfer protocol, notably SOAP [SOAPv1.1]. It is also known among the ID-* specifications as a *service*
342 *request*, or an ID-WSF (service) request, or an ID-SIS (service) request.
- 343 PAOS
344 A Reversed HTTP binding for SOAP [SOAPv1.1] The primary difference from the normal HTTP binding for
345 SOAP is that here a SOAP request is bound to a HTTP response and vice versa. "PAOS" is "SOAP" spelled
346 backwards (pun intended).
- 347 PDP
348 See *Policy Decision Point*
- 349 PEP
350 See *Policy Enforcement Point*
- 351 permission
352 Privileges granted to a *system entity* with respect to operations that may be performed on some resource.
- 353 personally identifiable information (PII)
354 Any data that identifies or locates a particular person, consisting primarily of name, address, telephone
355 number, e-mail address, bank accounts, or other unique identifiers such as Social Security numbers.
- 356 PII
357 See *personally identifiable information*.
- 358 policy
359 A logically defined, enforceable, and testable set of rules.
- 360 Policy Decision Point
361 A system entity that evaluates decision requests in light of applicable policy and information describing the
362 requesting entity or entities and renders an authorization decision.
- 363 Policy Enforcement Point
364 A system entity that performs access control by making decision requests and enforcing authorization
365 decisions. If the authorization decision is pushed to the PEP there will be no need for it to create a request.
- 366 Principal
367 Succinctly, a *principal* is a *system entity* whose *identity* can be authenticated. In Liberty usage, the
368 term *Principal* is often synonymous with "natural person" or "user". A Principal's identity may be
369 federated. Examples of Principals include individual users, groups of individuals, organizational entities
370 e.g. corporations, or a component of the Liberty architecture.
- 371 Principal identity
372 An identity being wielded by a Principal, or that is mapped to a Principal in some fashion.
- 373 privacy
374 Proper handling of personal information throughout its life cycle, consistent with the preferences of the
375 subject.

-
- 376 processing context
377 A *processing context* is the collection of specific circumstances under which a particular processing step or
378 set of steps take place.
- 379 processing context facet
380 A *processing context facet* is an identified aspect, inherent or additive, of a *processing context*.
- 381 profile
382 Data comprising the broad set of attributes that may be maintained on behalf of an *system entity* (usually a
383 *Principal*), over and beyond its various identifiers. At least some of this information (for example, addresses,
384 preferences, card numbers) is typically provided by the Principal.
- 385 provider
386 A *provider* is a Liberty-enabled entity that performs one or more of the provider *roles* in the Liberty
387 architecture, for example *Service Provider* or *Identity Provider*. Providers are identified in Liberty protocol
388 interactions by their *Provider IDs* or optionally their *Affiliation ID* if they are a member of an affiliation(s)
389 and are acting in that capacity.
- 390 Provider ID
391 A *Provider ID* identifies an entity known as a *provider*. It is schematically represented by the `providerID`
392 attribute of the `<EntityDescriptor>` metadata element [[LibertyMetadata](#)].
- 393 proxy
394 (1) An entity authorized to act for another [[Merriam-Webster](#)].
395 (2) A *system entity* whose authenticated identity, according to the *recipient*, differs from that of the system
396 entity making the invocation under consideration.
- 397 pseudonym
398 An arbitrary identifier assigned by the identity or service provider to identify a Principal to a given relying
399 party so that the name has meaning only in the context of the relationship between the parties.
- 400 recipient
401 An entity that receives a message and acts as the message's ultimate processor.
- 402 RELs
403 See *Rights Expression Languages*.
- 404 receiver
405 A *role* taken by a *system entity* when it receives a message sent by another system entity. See also *SOAP*
406 *receiver* in [[SOAPv1.2](#)].
- 407 relying party
408 The recipient of a message that relies on a request message and associated assertions to determine whether to
409 provide a requested service.
- 410 requester
411 A *system entity* which sends a *service request* to a *provider*.
- 412 resource
413 Either data related to some identity or identities, or a service acting on behalf of some identity or group of
414 identities. An example of a resource is a calendar containing appointments for a particular identity.
- 415 resource offering
416 The association of a resource and a service instance.

-
- 417 Rights Expression Language (REL)
418 *A Rights Expression Language* facilitates the expression of who are the "rights holders" for a resource, who
419 is authorized to use a resource and their applicable permissions, and any constraints or conditions imposed
420 on such permissions. They also may express "rights entities" and "rights transactions".
- 421 role
422 A function or part performed, especially in a particular operation or process [[Merriam-Webster](#)].
- 423 SAML (Security Assertion Markup Language)
424 An XML-based standard defining a means for making *assertions* about events, attributes, and policy
425 evaluations concerning subjects [[SAMLCore11](#)]. In Liberty usage, SAML subjects are typically Principals.
- 426 SAML assertion
427 See *assertion*.
- 428 SAML Authority
429 An abstract system entity in the SAML domain model that issues assertions [[SAMLGloss](#)].
- 430 SASL
431 See *Simple Authentication and Security Layer*.
- 432 SASL mechanism
433 A *SASL mechanism* is an *authentication mechanism* that has been profiled for use in the context of *SASL*
434 [[RFC2222](#)]. See [[RFC2444](#)] for a particular example of profiling an existing authentication mechanism —
435 one-time passwords [[RFC2289](#)] — for use as a SASL mechanism. See also [[LibertyAuthn](#)].
- 436 security token
437 In Liberty, a *security token* is a collection of security-related information that is used to represent and
438 substantiate a claim [[LibertyIDWSFSecurityPrivacyGuidelines](#)] [[LibertySecMech](#)].
439 Outside of Liberty, the term "security token" often refers to hardware-based devices, e.g. so-called "token
440 cards". One should not confuse the latter and the former definitions. However, it is possible for some given
441 *authentication mechanism* to employ token cards in the process of *authentication*.
- 442 sender
443 (1) A *role* donned by a *system entity* when it constructs and sends a message to another system entity. See
444 also *SOAP sender* in [[SOAPv1.2](#)].
445 (1a) an initial *SOAP sender*. A sender is a *proxy* when its identity differs from the *invocation identity*.
- 446 server
447 A *role* donned by a *system entity* that provides a service in response to requests from other system entities
448 called *clients* [[RFC2828](#)]. Note that in order to provide a service to clients, a server will often be both a
449 *sender* and a *receiver*.
- 450 service
451 (1) A collection of *endpoints* designed to offer some service or to provide information [[WSDLv1.1](#)].
452 (2) Short form of *ID-WSF Service* or *ID-WSF-based Service*.
- 453 service discovery
454 The act of looking up a *service(s)* in the *Discovery Service*.
- 455 service instance
456 The physical instantiation of a service. A service instance is a running web service at a distinct endpoint.
- 457 Service Provider (SP)
458 (1) A *role* donned by *system entities*. In the Liberty architecture, *Service Providers* interact with other system
459 entities primarily via vanilla HTTP.

-
- 460 (2) From a Principal's perspective, a Service Provider is typically a website providing services and/or goods.
- 461 service request
- 462 A *service request* is another term for an *ordinary ID-* message* sent by a *client*. Service request is also
- 463 loosely equivalent to a "SOAP-bound (ordinary) ID-* message".
- 464 Service Type URI
- 465 *ID-WSF-based services* are assigned a *Service Type URI* as a part of each service's definition. The Service
- 466 Type URI is a factor in *service discovery* [[LibertyDisco](#)].
- 467 session
- 468 [[Merriam-Webster](#)] defines *session* (in its sixth sense [sic]) as: "a meeting or period devoted to a particular
- 469 activity" [as in "an Irish drinking session", Ed.]. Thus, a given interaction between some set of *system entities*
- 470 may involve a notion of session, especially if one or more of the system entities maintain *session state*.
- 471 session state
- 472 If an interaction between *system entities* involves one or more of the system entities maintaining information
- 473 pertaining to the interaction itself — such as who the other involved system entity(ies) are, when the
- 474 interaction began, etc. — then there likely is an explicit notion of *session* and thus this information is termed
- 475 *session state* information.
- 476 See also *local session state*.
- 477 Simple Authentication and Security Layer (SASL)
- 478 SASL [[RFC2222](#)] is an approach to modularizing protocol design such that the security design components,
- 479 e.g. authentication and security layer mechanisms, are reduced to a uniform abstract interface. This facilitates
- 480 a protocol's use of an open-ended set of security mechanisms, as well as a so-called "late binding" between
- 481 implementations of the protocol and the security mechanisms' implementations. This late binding can
- 482 occur at implementation- and/or deployment-time. The SASL specification also defines how one packages
- 483 authentication and security layer mechanisms to fit into the SASL framework, where they are known as *SASL*
- 484 *mechanisms*, as well as register them with the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority [[IANA](#)] for reuse.
- 485 single sign-on (SSO)
- 486 From a *Principal's* perspective, *single sign-on* encompasses the capability to authenticate with some *system*
- 487 *entity* — in the Liberty context, an *Identity Provider* — and have that authentication honored by other system
- 488 entities, termed *Service Providers* in the Liberty context.
- 489 Note that upon authenticating with an Identity Provider, the Identity Provider typically establishes and
- 490 maintains some notion of *local session state* between itself and the Principal's *user agent*. Service Providers
- 491 may also maintain their own distinct local session state with a Principal's user agent.
- 492 Single Sign-On Service (SSO Service, SSOS)
- 493 An *ID-WSF-based service* providing *WSCs* a means of obtaining *ID-FF authentication assertions* [[Lib-](#)
- 494 [ertyAuthn](#)].
- 495 Single Sign-On Service Consumer (SSO Service Consumer, SSOS Consumer)
- 496 A *Web Service Consumer* (WSC) implementing the *client-side* of the ID-WSF Single Sign-On Service
- 497 [[LibertyAuthn](#)].
- 498 Single Sign-On Service Provider (SSO Service Provider, SSOS Provider)
- 499 A *Web Service Provider* (WSP) implementing the *server-side* of the ID-WSF Single Sign-On Service
- 500 [[LibertyAuthn](#)].
- 501 SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)
- 502 An XML envelope and data encoding technology used to communicate information and requests across the
- 503 Web. It is typically considered the protocol used by Web services. It is actually an envelope encapsulation
- 504 format that can be used with lower level Web protocols such as HTTP and FTP. See [[SOAPv1.1](#)] and
- 505 [[SOAPv1.2](#)].

-
- 506 SOAP-bound ID-* message
507 A *SOAP message* conveying ID-WSF and perhaps ID-SIS header blocks and conveying either an *ordinary*
508 *ID-* message* or an *ID-* fault message*. After being bound to SOAP, the resultant composite messages are
509 referred to as an *Ordinary SOAP-bound ID-* Message* and a *SOAP-bound ID-* Fault Message*, respectively.
- 510 SOAP header block
511 A [\[SOAPv1.2\]](#) term meaning: An [element] used to delimit data that logically constitutes a single computa-
512 tional unit within the SOAP header. In [\[SOAPv1.1\]](#) these are known as simply *SOAP headers*, or simply
513 *headers*. Liberty specifications use the SOAPv1.2 terminology.
- 514 SOAP-bound ID-* message
515 A *SOAP message* conveying ID-WSF and perhaps ID-SIS header blocks and conveying either an *ordinary*
516 *ID-* message* or an *ID-* fault message*. After being bound to SOAP, the resultant composite messages are
517 referred to as an *Ordinary SOAP-bound ID-* Message* and a *SOAP-bound ID-* Fault Message*, respectively.
- 518 SOAP node
519 A [\[SOAPv1.2\]](#) term describing *system entities* who are parties to SOAP-based message exchanges that are, for
520 purposes of this specification, also the ultimate destination of the exchanged messages, i.e. *SOAP endpoints*.
521 In [\[SOAPv1.1\]](#), SOAP nodes are referred to as *SOAP endpoints*, or simply *endpoints*. This specification uses
522 the SOAPv1.2 terminology.
- 523 SP
524 See *Service Provider*.
- 525 SSL (Secure Sockets Layer Protocol)
526 An Internet protocol (originally developed by Netscape Communications, Inc.) that uses connection-oriented
527 end-to-end encryption to provide data confidentiality service and data integrity service for traffic between a
528 client (often a Web browser) and a server and that can optionally provide peer entity authentication between
529 the client and the server. See *Transport Layer Security*. [\[RFC2828\]](#).
- 530 SSO
531 See *single sign-on*.
- 532 SSOS, SSO Service
533 See *Single Sign-On Service*.
- 534 SSOS Provider, SSO Service Provider
535 See *Single Sign-On Service Provider*.
- 536 system entity
537 An active element of a computer/network system. For example, an automated process or set of processes, a
538 subsystem, a person or group of persons that incorporates a distinct set of functionality [\[SAMLGloss\]](#).
- 539 TLS (Transport Layer Security Protocol)
540 An evolution of the SSL protocol. The TLS protocol provides communications privacy over the Internet. The
541 protocol allows client/server applications to communicate in a way that is designed to prevent eavesdropping,
542 tampering, or message forgery. See [\[RFC2246\]](#).
- 543 token
544 See *security token*.
- 545 trust circle
546 See *Circle of Trust*.

-
- 547 Trusted Authority
548 In Liberty, a Trusted Third Party (TTP) which issues and vouches for assertions, otherwise known as an
549 *Identity Provider*.
- 550 Trusted Third Party
551 In general, a security authority or its agent, trusted by other entities with respect to security-related activities.
552 In the context of Liberty, these other entities are, for example, *Principals* and *Service Providers*, and the
553 trusted third party is typically the *Identity Provider(s)* involved in the particular interaction of interest.
- 554 TTP
555 See Trusted Third Party
- 556 URI (Uniform Resource Identifier)
557 A compact string of characters for identifying an abstract or physical resource. [\[RFC2396\]](#) defines the generic
558 syntax of URIs. URNs and URLs are proper subsets of URIs.
- 559 URL (Uniform Resource Locator)
560 URLs identify resources via a representation of their primary access mechanism (e.g., their network location)
561 rather than identifying the resource by name or by some other attributes of that resource [\[RFC2396\]](#). URLs
562 are a proper subset of URIs.
- 563 URN (Uniform Resource Name)
564 Persistent, location-independent, resource names with delegatable sub-namespaces, termed *Uniform Re-*
565 *source Name (URN) Namespaces* [\[RFC2141\]](#). Liberty's URN Namespace is defined in [\[RFC3622\]](#). URNs
566 are a proper subset of URIs.
- 567 user agent
568 Software that a "natural person" interacts with directly. A user agent typically implements a user interface.
- 569 user interface
570 The controls (such as menus, buttons, prompts, etc.) and mechanisms (such as selection and focus) provided
571 by, e.g., a user agent.
- 572 web service
573 (1) Generically, a *service* defined in terms of an *XML*-based protocol, often transported over *SOAP*, and/or a
574 service whose instances, and possibly data objects managed therein, are concisely addressable via *URIs*. Such
575 a *generic web service* (gWS) may be defined in various proprietary and/or standardized terms, e.g. security
576 paradigms.
577 (2) As specifically used in Liberty specifications, usually in terms of *WSCs* and *WSPs*, it means a web service
578 that's defined in terms of the *ID-** "stack", and thus utilizes [\[LibertySOAPBinding\]](#), [\[LibertySecMech\]](#), and
579 is "discoverable" [\[LibertyDisco\]](#). See also *identity web service*.
- 580 Web Service Consumer
581 A *role* donned by a *system entity* when it makes a request to a *web service*.
- 582 Web Services Description Language
583 A means to describe the interface of a Web service. See [\[WSDLv1.1\]](#).
- 584 Web Service Provider
585 A *role* donned by a *system entity* when it provides a *web service*.
- 586 WML (Wireless Markup Language)
587 A markup language based on XML and intended for use in specifying content and user interface for
588 narrowband devices, including cellular phones and pagers.

- 589 WSC
590 See *Web Service Consumer*.
- 591 WSDL
592 See *Web Services Description Language*.
- 593 WSP
594 See *Web Service Provider*.
- 595 X.509 token
596 A *X.509 token* is a type of *security token* containing an X.509 public key certificate.
- 597 XML (eXtensible Markup Language)
598 A W3C technology for encoding information and documents for exchange over the Web. See [\[XML\]](#),
599 [\[XMLCanon\]](#), [\[XMLDsig\]](#), [\[xmlenc-core\]](#), [\[Schema1\]](#) and [\[Schema2\]](#)

References

600

601 Normative

- 602 [LibertyAuthn] Hodges, Jeff, Aarts, Robert, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF Authentication Service Specification ,"
603 Version 1.1, Liberty Alliance Project (14 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs/>
604 [<http://www.projectliberty.org/specs/>]
- 605 [LibertyAuthnContext] Madsen, Paul, eds. "Liberty ID-FF Authentication Context Specification," Version 1.3, Liberty
606 Alliance Project (14 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 607 [LibertyBindProf] Cantor, Scott, Kemp, John, Champagne, Darryl, eds. "Liberty ID-FF Bindings and
608 Profiles Specification," Version 1.2-errata-v2.0, Liberty Alliance Project (12 September 2004).
609 <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 610 [LibertyDisco] Sergeant, Jonathan, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF Discovery Service Specification," Version 1.2, Liberty
611 Alliance Project (12 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 612 [LibertyDST] "Liberty ID-WSF Data Services Template Specification," Version 1.1, Liberty Alliance Project (14
613 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs> Kainulainen, Jukka, Ranganathan, Aravindan, eds.
- 614 [LibertyIDEP] Kellomaki, Sampo, eds. (12 November 2003). "Liberty ID-SIS Employee Profile Service Specifica-
615 tion," Version 1.0, Liberty Alliance Project <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 616 [LibertyIDPP] Kellomaki, Sampo, eds. "Liberty Identity Personal Profile Service Specification," Version 1.0, Liberty
617 Alliance Project (12 November 2003). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 618 [LibertyIDWSFSecurityPrivacyGuidelines] Landau, Susan, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF Security and Privacy Overview,"
619 Version 1.0, Liberty Alliance Project (8 October 2003). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 620 [LibertyMetadata] Davis, Peter, eds. "Liberty Metadata Description and Discovery Specification," Version 1.1, Liberty
621 Alliance Project (14 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 622 [LibertySecMech] Ellison, Gary, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF Security Mechanisms," Version 1.2, Liberty Alliance Project
623 (14 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 624 [LibertySOAPBinding] Hodges, Jeff, Kemp, John, Aarts, Robert, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF SOAP Binding Specification
625 ," Version 1.2, Liberty Alliance Project (14 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 626 [LibertyProtSchema] Cantor, Scott, Kemp, John, eds. "Liberty ID-FF Protocols and Schema Specification," Version
627 1.2-errata-v3.0, Liberty Alliance Project (14 December 2004). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 628 [RFC1510] Kohl, J., Neuman, , C., eds. (September 1993). "The Kerberos Network Authentication Service (V5),"
629 RFC 1510, Internet Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1510.txt> [September 1993].
- 630 [RFC2119] Bradner, S., eds. "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels," RFC 2119, The Internet
631 Engineering Task Force (March 1997). <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt> [March 1997].
- 632 [RFC2141] Moats, R., eds. (May 1997). "URN Syntax," RFC 2141, Internet Engineering Task Force
633 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2141.txt> [May 1997].
- 634 [RFC2222] "Simple Authentication and Security Layer (SASL)," John G. Myers (October 1997). RFC 2222, Internet
635 Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2222.txt> [October 1997].
- 636 [RFC2246] Dierks, T., Allen, C., eds. (January 1999). "The TLS Protocol," Version 1.0 RFC 2246, Internet
637 Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2246.txt> [January 1999].

- 638 [RFC2396] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., Masinter, L., eds. (August 1998). "Uniform Resource Identifiers (URI):
639 Generic Syntax," RFC 2396, The Internet Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2396.txt>
640 [August 1998].
- 641 [RFC2616] Fielding, R., Gettys, J., Mogul, J., Frystyk, H., Masinter, L., Leach, P., Berners-Lee, T., eds. (June
642 1999). "Hypertext Transfer Protocol – HTTP/1.1," RFC 2616, The Internet Engineering Task Force
643 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2616.txt> [June 1999].
- 644 [RFC2828] Shirey, R., eds. (May 2000). "Internet Security Glossary," RFC 2828., Internet Engineering Task Force
645 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2828.txt> [May 2000].
- 646 [RFC3280] Housley, R., eds. (April 2002). "Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and
647 Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Profile," RFC 3280, The Internet Engineering Task Force
648 <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3280.txt> [April 2002].
- 649 [RFC3622] Mealling, M., eds. (February 2004). " A Uniform Resource Name (URN) Namespace for the Liberty
650 Alliance Project ," RFC 3622, The Internet Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3622.txt> [Feb
651 2004].
- 652 [SAMLBind11] Maler, Eve, Mishra, Prateek, Philpott, Rob, eds. (27 May 2003). "Bindings and Profiles
653 for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V1.1," OASIS Committee Specification,
654 version 1.1, Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards [http://www.oasis-
655 open.org/committees/documents.php?wg_abbrev=security](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/documents.php?wg_abbrev=security)
- 656 [SAMLCore11] Maler, Eve, Mishra, Prateek, Philpott, Rob, eds. (27 May 2003). "Assertions and Protocol
657 for the OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) V1.1," OASIS Committee Specification,
658 version 1.1, Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards [http://www.oasis-
659 open.org/committees/documents.php?wg_abbrev=security](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/documents.php?wg_abbrev=security)
- 660 [SAMLGloss] Hodges, Jeff, Maler, Eve, eds. (05 November 2002). "Glossary for the OASIS Security Assertion
661 Markup Language (SAML)," Version 1.0, OASIS Standard, Organization for the Advancement of Structured
662 Information Standards <http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/security/#documents>
- 663 [Schema1] Thompson, Henry S., Beech, David, Maloney, Murray, Mendelsohn, Noah, eds. (May
664 2002). "XML Schema Part 1: Structures," Recommendation, World Wide Web Consortium
665 <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-1/>
- 666 [Schema2] Biron, Paul V., Malhotra, Ashok, eds. (May 2002). "XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes," Recommendation,
667 World Wide Web Consortium <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema-2/>
- 668 [SOAPv1.1] "Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) 1.1," Box, Don, Ehnebuske, David , Kakivaya, Gopal, Layman,
669 Andrew, Mendelsohn, Noah, Nielsen, Henrik Frystyk, Winer, Dave, eds. World Wide Web Consortium W3C
670 Note (08 May 2000). <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/NOTE-SOAP-20000508/>
- 671 [SOAPv1.2] "SOAP Version 1.2 Part 1: Messaging Framework," Gudgin, Martin, Hadley, Marc, Mendelsohn,
672 Noah, Moreau, Jean-Jacques, Nielsen, Henrik Frystyk, eds. World Wide Web Consortium W3C Proposed
673 Recommendation (07 May 2003). <http://www.w3.org/TR/2003/PR-soap12-part1-20030507/>
- 674 [WSDLv1.1] "Web Services Description Language (WSDL) 1.1," Christensen, Erik, Curbera, Francisco, Meredith,
675 Greg, Weerawarana, Sanjiva, eds. World Wide Web Consortium W3C Note (15 March 2001).
676 <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/NOTE-wsdl-20010315>
- 677 [wss-saml] Hallam-Baker, Phillip, Kaler, Chris, Monzillo, Ronald, Nadalin, Anthony, eds. (December 1, 2004). Orga-
678 nization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards [http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/oasis-wss-
679 saml-token-profile-1.0.pdf](http://docs.oasis-open.org/wss/oasis-wss-saml-token-profile-1.0.pdf) "Web Services Security: SAML Token Profile," OASIS Standard V1.0 [OASIS
680 200412],

- 681 [TrustInCyberspace] Schneider, Fred B., eds. "Trust in Cyberspace ," National Research Council (1999).
682 <http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/trust/>
- 683 [XML] Bray, Tim, Paoli, Jean, Sperberg-McQueen, C.M., Maler, Eve, eds. (Oct 2000). "Extensible
684 Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Second Edition)," Recommendation, World Wide Web Consortium
685 <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/REC-xml-20001006>
- 686 [XMLDsig] Eastlake, Donald, Reagle, Joseph, Solo, David, eds. (12 Feb 2002). "XML-Signature Syntax and
687 Processing," Recommendation, World Wide Web Consortium <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlsig-core>
- 688 [XMLCanon] Boyer, John, Eastlake, Donald, Reagle, Joseph, eds. (18 July 2002). "Exclusive XML Canonicaliza-
689 tion," Recommendation, World Wide Web Consortium <http://www.w3.org/TR/xml-exc-c14n>
- 690 [xmlesc-core] Eastlake, Donald, Reagle, Joseph, eds. (December 2002). "XML Encryption Syntax and Processing,"
691 W3C Recommendation, World Wide Web Consortium <http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlesc-core/>

692 Informative

- 693 [IANA] "The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority," <http://www.iana.org/>
- 694 [Merriam-Webster] "Merriam-Webster Dictionary," <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>
- 695 [RFC2289] "A One-Time Password System," N. Haller C. Metz P. Nessner M. Straw (February 1998). RFC 2289,
696 Internet Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2289.txt> [February 1998].
- 697 [RFC2444] Newman, C., eds. (October 1998). "The One-Time-Password SASL Mechanism," RFC 2444, The Internet
698 Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2444.txt> [October 1998].
- 699 [RFC2965] Kristol, D., Montulli, L., eds. (October 2000). "HTTP State Management Mechanism," RFC 2965.,
700 Internet Engineering Task Force <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2965.txt> [October 2000].