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# Authentication delegation for subscription-based remote network services

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### Abstract

There is growing interest in collaboration and resource sharing among institutions and organizations. In this paper, we investigate the problems of identity management inherent in distributed subscription-based resource sharing. The paper describes the design, implementation and performance of a system that provides controlled access to subscription-based remote network services through a browser. A third-party authentication protocol is designed and employed to exchange security assertions among involved parties. The web servers use plug-ins to provide an authentication-delegation service and a policy-based authorization service. Users can use a single userID and password to access multiple subscribed resource sites.



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## Keywords

Authentication-delegation; Authorization; Third-party authentication; Digital signature; XML

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