



INFORMATION SERVICES BOARD

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Identity Management User Authentication Standards

ISB Standards

Version 2.0

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Information Services Board
Enterprise Architecture Committee

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1. Document History

Date	Version	Editor	Change
June 10, 2008	1.0	Paul Warren Douglas	Initial Draft
June 11, 2008	1.1	Paul Warren Douglas	EA Committee final revisions and Endorsement
July 10, 2008	2.0	Paul Warren Douglas	Adopted by the Information Services Board

2. Document Context

This document was adopted as Standards by a vote of the Information Services Board (ISB) on July 10, 2008.

- The ISB Enterprise Architecture Standards and Guidelines are at:
<http://isb.wa.gov/policies/eaprogram.aspx>

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- The 71 members from 21 agencies are listed in Appendix A

Enterprise Architecture Committee

- Information about the ISB Enterprise Architecture Committee is at:
<http://isb.wa.gov/committees/enterprise/comartifacts/index.aspx>

3. Introduction

These standards designate the state's Enterprise Active Directory (EAD), SecureAccess Washington® (SAW), and Transact Washington™ (TAW) as common user authentication solutions for state government to leverage available statewide investments, provide an integrated end-user experience, and enable single/reduced sign-on.

Federated Identity Management (FID) is designated as an architectural strategy via extended SAW functionality, policies, practices, and technologies to enable single/reduced sign-on across organizational boundaries.

3.1. Statutory Authority

The provisions of RCW 43.105.041 detail the powers and duties of the Information Services Board (ISB), including the authority to develop statewide or interagency information services and technical policies, standards, and procedures.

3.2. Scope

These standards apply to all Washington State executive branch agencies and agencies headed by separately elected officials (referred to as "agency or agencies" throughout this document).

Exemption requests must be submitted to the Department of Information Services (DIS) Management and Oversight of Strategic Technologies Division and will be forwarded to the ISB for decision. A state agency must make a clear business case to develop or procure a custom user authentication solution.

Starting July 10, 2008, the Identity Management User Authentication Standards will govern the planning and construction of all agency applications that require user authentication as follows:

3.2.1.1. Agency to Agency – Internal to Internal

By December 31, 2010 all agencies shall develop a migration strategy in coordination with DIS to join the state's Enterprise Active Directory. EAD is defined in Section 4.1.1 and excludes the legislative and judicial branches of government, and higher education.

3.2.1.2. Individuals and Businesses to Agencies – External to Internal

Agency applications existing or under construction as of July 10, 2008 are not immediately required to incorporate SecureAccess Washington or Transact Washington as described in Section 4.2 unless there is a significant upgrade or when subject to other over-arching polices.

By December 31, 2010 all agencies shall develop a migration strategy in coordination with DIS to comply or when applications are significantly upgraded, redesigned, or replaced.

3.2.1.3. Government to Government – Internal to other Internal

Other government entities including: legislative and judicial government, higher education, local governments, and federal government users will authenticate using Federated Identity Management (FID) via extended SAW functionality as described in section 4.3.

3.3. Related Policies, Standards, and Strategic Plans

Related ISB polices include, but are not limited to: ISB [Investment Standards]; ISB EA [Networking Standards]; and ISB [Security Standards].

These recommendations are in accordance with the IdM Initiative Charter objectives (see Appendix C) adopted on March 8, 2007 by ISB, the 2008-2014 State Strategic Information Technology Plan Goals (see Appendix D), and the state's over-arching enterprise architecture (EA) principles at: <http://isb.wa.gov/committees/enterprise/architecture/index.aspx>.

43 **4. Standards**

44 These standards are designed to reduce the number of user credentials (e.g. IDs and passwords)
45 and authentications (e.g. log-in prompts) required to access state agency and educational
46 resources and services.

47 **4.1. Agency to Agency – Internal to Internal**

48 **4.1.1. Enterprise Active Directory (EAD)**

49 EAD is the standard user authentication solution for state agencies to provide single sign-on for
50 employee access to applications and IT assets within the State Government Network (SGN.)

51 The Enterprise Active Directory is defined as the state's Active Directory implementation in the
52 SGN that serves the SGN executive branch agencies. It provides the directory structure used for
53 authentication inside of the SGN. It excludes the separate branches of government (Legislative
54 Branch and Judicial Branch) and higher education.

55 *4.1.1.1. Assumptions*

- 56 • Agencies are responsible for creating processes that support user access. Passwords
57 should be managed by the individual user.
- 58 • Agencies and Application Owners should be responsible for identity proofing new users to
59 ensure authorized access for SGN employees.

60 **4.2. Individuals and Businesses to Agencies – External to Internal**

61 **4.2.1. SecureAccess Washington (SAW)**

62 SAW is the standard user authentication solution to be used by state agencies to allow users to
63 access resources/online applications in a secure manner.

64 SAW provides single/reduced sign-on for non-SGN users, businesses, and the public to access
65 applications that require user authentication via a user ID and password.

- 66 • Agencies determine the role of a user and the authorization to conduct certain activities.
67 Agencies are responsible for which user is placed in a particular role to ensure authorized
68 access.
- 69 • Application Owners are responsible for identity proofing new users requesting access to their
70 applications via the User ID authentication gateway. Application Owners have the ability to
71 remove access to a backend application if a user no longer has a business need to access
72 the application, or if it is believed a user account has been compromised.

73 *4.2.1.1. Assumptions*

- 74 • Future security allows for gradation of authentication levels based on common risk
75 assessment
- 76 • The state's IdM solutions will evolve to meet changing business needs and technical
77 solutions.

78 **4.2.2. Transact Washington (TAW)**

79 TAW is the standard authentication solution for applications that require the strongest level of
80 user authentication.

- 81 • TAW provides single sign-on via public key infrastructure (PKI) and digital certificate
82 technology for applications that require the strongest level of user authentication.
- 83 • Identity proofing for users of x.509 digital certificates is conducted by the issuer of the digital
84 certificates.

85 4.2.2.1. Assumptions

- 86 • Future statewide risk assessment model provides agencies with additional decision criteria to
87 determine the level of risk necessary for PKI.
- 88 • The state's IdM solutions will evolve to meet changing business needs and technical
89 solutions.

90 4.3. Government to Government – Internal to other Internal

91 4.3.1. Federated Identity Management (FID)

92 FID is an architectural strategy via extended SAW functionality for Government to Government
93 interaction, and future Businesses to Government interaction.

94 FID IdM solution enables single/reduced sign-on across organizational boundaries. Employees
95 access other government applications without re-authenticating to each application.

- 96 • FID architecture extends SAW and provides the architecture to extend and “federate”
97 authentication to other government entities including: the Legislative Branch, Judicial Branch,
98 higher education, local governments, and federal government users.
- 99 • Requires trust models and cross-organizational relationships through policy, contracts and
100 data sharing agreements, and technologies.
- 101 • Non-SGN connected Government users access an agency application via a Single Sign-On
102 Gateway. The Gateway authenticates the user via a federated identity management (FID)
103 solution that communicates with non-agency user directories.
- 104 • Authentication across organizational boundaries is determined through risk assessment and
105 contractually agreed upon identity proofing methods appropriate to the information being
106 transmitted or data accessed.
- 107 • Identity proofing is the responsibility of the employee's agency.

108 4.3.1.1. Assumptions

- 109 • FID requires a combination of business and architectural components including:
- 110 ○ *Trust relationships between the cross-organizational partners:* The architecture should
111 identify one or more industry standard trust models.
- 112 ○ *Agreements built on policies, contracts, and principles.* The trust relationship is
113 established and built on a contractual framework for user authentication, confidentiality,
114 data integrity, and accountability.
- 115 ○ *Agreed upon assurance levels and risk assessment models:* The architecture will include
116 an agreed upon risk assessment model aligned with industry standards.
- 117 ○ *Technologies for interoperability:* Technologies may include any one or more industry
118 standard.
- 119 • The architecture supports future individual and business user authentication via a federated
120 identity management solution to access an agency application.

121 5. Rationale

122 5.1.1.1. Leverage Existing Investments

123 Baseline architecture findings indicated Washington State's current IdM Solution Sets are
124 relatively mature when compared with other state's and educational solutions (**NASCIO,**
125 **GARTNER**).

- 126 • The state's common enterprise IdM security infrastructure includes Secure Access
127 Washington, Transact Washington, and Enterprise Active Directory.

128 5.1.1.2. Integrated End-User Experience

129 Ensures citizens and businesses can interact seamlessly with multiple federal, state, and local
130 agencies.

- 131 • Single/Reduced Credentials and Sign-on reduce the number of user credentials (e.g. IDs and
132 passwords) and authentications (e.g. log-in prompts) required to access state agency and
133 educational resources and services.

134 5.1.1.3. Efficiency and cost-effectiveness

135 Common user authentication promotes efficiency and cost-effectiveness of the state's user
136 authentication investments.

- 137 • More efficient and cost-effective than alternatives provisioned separately by individual
138 agencies.
- 139 • Consolidating user authentication frees state agencies to devote more resources to their core
140 business missions and to direct technology support for their customers.

141 5.1.1.4. Security

142 Common security system infrastructure protects agencies from unauthorized external access to
143 or broadcast on the Internet of the agencies' intellectual property, proprietary and confidential
144 data.

- 145 • The IdM solutions are housed in a secure Data Center that allows physical access only to
146 authorized personnel.
- 147 • The perimeter firewalls, gateways, and security policies implement a baseline level of
148 network security that satisfies enterprise-wide security requirements
- 149 • The IdM solutions ensure the appropriate level of protection of state resources through
150 security best practices.
- 151 • The architecture solutions ensure compliance with the ISB IT Security Standards and industry
152 best practices.

153 5.1.1.5. Scalability

- 154 • Network infrastructure, hardware and software component architecture are highly available,
155 and fully redundant to allow for the addition of resources without system downtime. The
156 system should be scalable to include all state employees.
- 157 • The solutions are designed to be scalable to handle hundreds of thousands of registered
158 users and be able to grow as needed to support concurrent usage.

159 **5.1.2. Implications**

160 The designation of the IdM User Authentication Standards as common, shared solutions has
161 potential implications including:

162 *5.1.2.1. Migration Strategies*

- 163 • Agencies not currently part of the EAD may need to invest in future infrastructure. Each
164 agency will build a migration and risk mitigation strategy (see Section 3.2 Scope.)

165 *5.1.2.2. Regulatory Compliance*

166 Agencies are encouraged to contact their legal and policy offices, including the agency's
167 appointed Attorney General, for relevant laws and regulations applicable to the business of the
168 agency.

169 There are a number of federal and state laws, policies, and regulations related to regulatory
170 compliance. Privacy is growing concern and legal issues continue to evolve due to the ubiquitous
171 nature of the Internet and virtual physical location of information of data. States now have a
172 responsibility to protect a resident's private/sensitive information regardless of location.

173

6. Glossary

174 The Conceptual Technical Reference Architecture contains the 'Global Glossary.' Some terms
175 are included within this document's Glossary for readability.

176 AUTHENTICATION

177 Validation of identification credentials. This is a process
178 where a person, device or a computer program proves
179 their identity in order to access environments, systems,
180 resources and information. The person's identity is a
181 simple assertion, the login ID for a particular computer
182 application, for example. Proof is the most important part
183 of the concept and that proof is generally something
184 known, like a password; something possessed, like your
185 ATM card; or something unique about your appearance
or person, like a fingerprint.

186 AUTHORIZATION

187 The act of granting a person or other entity permission to
188 use resources in a secured environment. This is usually
189 tightly linked to authentication. A person or other identity
190 first authenticates and then is given pre-determined
191 access rights. They now have the authority to take
specific actions.

192 CREDENTIALS

193 Credentials are the components or attributes of identity
194 that are assessed to prove a person, device, or
195 computer program is who they claim to be. Common
196 credential stores include databases, directories and
smart cards.

197 DIGITAL CERTIFICATE

198 In general use, a certificate is a document issued by
199 some authority to attest to a truth or to offer certain
200 evidence. A digital certificate is commonly used to offer
201 evidence in electronic form about the holder of the
202 certificate. In PKI it comes from a trusted third party,
203 called a certification authority (CA) and it bears the
digital signature of that authority.

204 FID

205 Federated Identity Management (FID) is a set of policies,
206 practices, and technologies that enable single/reduced
207 sign-on across organizational boundaries. FID allows a
208 verified user to be authenticated across organizational
209 boundaries in order to access state agency and
educational resources and services.

210 FID requires a combination of business and architectural
211 components including: a trust relationship between the
212 cross-organizational partners; agreements built on
213 legally binding policies, contracts, and principles; agreed
214 upon assurance levels and risk assessment models; and
215 technologies

216 IDENTITY PROOFING

217 Identity proofing is the process of validating the claimed
218 identity of an individual. It is central to a secure and
219 authoritative process for the issuance and use of identity
credentials.

220 Identity proofing can be accomplished through a variety
221 of processes that establish a history of identity by
222 collecting identity information (e.g. personal,

223		demographic, and biographical information) and
224		validating the accuracy and legitimacy of the information
225		collected by conducting a face-to-face interaction and/or
226		verifying the validity of identity source documents
227		against third-party databases
228	LEVEL OF ASSURANCE	Level of Assurance describes the degree of certainty
229		that the user has presented a valid set of identifier
230		attributes (credentials, etc.) that refer to his or her
231		identity. In this context, assurance is defined as:
232		The degree of confidence in the vetting process used to
233		establish or validate the identity of the individual to
234		whom the credential was issued, therefore establishing
235		the degree of confidence (assurance) the person who
236		accepts the credential should have, that the provider is
237		the individual to whom the credential was issued.
238	PKI	Public-Key Infrastructure is the infrastructure needed to
239		support asymmetric cryptography. At a minimum, this
240		includes the structure and services needed to do the
241		following:
242		• Register and verify identities
243		• Build and store credentials
244		• Certify the credentials (issue digital certificates)
245		• Disseminate the public key
246		• Secure the private key and yet make it available for use
247	SGN	The State Government Network, managed by the
248		Department of Information Services, is a managed
249		network for Washington state government organizations.
250		The SGN provides Washington state government with a
251		shared, fault-tolerant, economical network to meet the
252		diverse business needs across state government. The
253		SGN also provides the necessary security layers,
254		including but not limited to firewalls, authentication
255		gateways and intrusion detection to allow Washington
256		state government organizations to perform government
257		business securely over the Internet.
258	SSO	Single/Reduced Credentials and Sign-on - Reduce the
259		number of credentials (e.g., login IDs and passwords)
260		that a user must remember and manage, and reduce the
261		number of sign-ons (e.g. login prompts) presented to the
262		user, when accessing state agency and educational
263		resources and services across organizational
264		boundaries.
265		Describes the ability of a user to leverage one sign-on
266		act, for example entering an ID and password or
267		passcode, to authenticate and access information across
268		system, application and organizational boundaries. Is
269		sometimes also referred to as Web SSO when
270		everything is accessed through a browser
271	Tier one	Business processes, data, or technologies that are
272		common for the state. The various elements that are
273		defined in the statewide Enterprise Architecture are
274		comprised of business processes, data, or technologies.

275 Those EA elements can be categorized into different
276 tiers depending on the degree to which they should be
277 common, and what other entities with which they should
278 be common. A description of the state's Tiers is
279 available at:
280 <http://isb.wa.gov/committees/enterprise/concepts/>

281 **7. References**

282 **EA Principles** Washington State Information Services Board (2004).
283 *Over-Arching Enterprise Architecture Principles.*

284 **Investment Standards** Washington State Information Services Board (2003).
285 *Information Technology Investment Standards.*

286 **NASCIO** Enterprise Security – A conversation with Bruce
287 Schneier, (June 2007)

288 Teleconference with NASCIO executives, (June 2007)

289 **Gartner** Analyst Inquiry, Identity Management Trends, Earl
290 Perkins, (Aug 2007)

291 **Networking Standards** Washington State Information Services Board (2006).
292 *Networking Standards.*

293 **Security Standards** Washington State Information Services Board (2008). *IT*
294 *Security Policy and Security Standards.*

295 **SGN** Washington State Information Services Board,
296 Enterprise Architecture Committee (2006). *State*
297 *Government Network Solution Set*, Enterprise
298 Architecture Committee Document

Appendix A: Documenter Team

This document resulted from the enterprise architecture Identity Management initiative, chartered March 8, 2007 by the Information Services Board. The following individuals were members of the initiative Documenter Team and participated as subject matter experts throughout documentation and review process.

- Renee Alexander, Department of Revenue
- Tammy Anderson, Department of Transportation
- Kent Andrus, Office of Financial Management
- Brian Barta, Department of Corrections
- Rupert Berk, University of Washington
- Mark Borgaard, Employment Security Department
- Scott Boyd, Legislative Service Center
- Jerry Britcher, Department of Social and Health Services
- Doug Buster, Department of Social and Health Services
- Kyle Chandler, Department of Revenue
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- Dan Cole, Office of Financial Management
- Jeff Colorossi, Department of Personnel
- Stephen Comfort-Mason, Administrative Office of the Courts
- Colin Corbin, Department of Revenue
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- Vicki Smith, Department of Revenue
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- Lyle Tillett, Department of Retirement Systems
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- Bill Wildprett, Community, Trade, and Economic Development
- Carol Wyckoff, Department of Personnel

Appendix B: Review Log

The following feedback on this document was received by the Enterprise Architecture Program; the response to each contribution is noted below.

Review by whom and when	Contribution	Response
EA Committee June 11, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Minor sentence structure changes to lines 23 and 30 to move Dec 31, 2010 due date to beginning of sentences.	Incorporated into document
Information Services Board July 10, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Adopted as state standards	Incorporated into document
July 14, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Added Documenter Team names in Appendix AAdded Terms in document to GlossaryGeneral edits for readability	Incorporated into document

Appendix C: Charter Objectives

The Initiative Charter was adopted on March 8, 2007 by the Information Services Board.

- Establish common terminology and key concepts that will help guide the design and development of Identity Management solutions.
- Reduce the number of security credentials required by a system user to access state resources and services.
- Reduce the number of authentications and authorizations required by a system user to access state resources and services.
- Identify state standards to enable interoperability, user convenience, and reduce the number of disparate solutions. Align with ISB policies and standards.
- Establish common definitions and identity proofing requirements for varying levels of assurance.
- Identify common Identity Management services that promote reuse of government resources and minimize system redundancy.
- Improve the protection of information resources from fraud and misuse by unwanted intruders.

Appendix D: 2008-2014 State Strategic Information Technology Plan

Goal 1: Invest in Common Systems

Adopt a common system approach for the state's back-office systems such as the Office of Financial Management's Roadmap project, the Department of Personnel's Human Resources Management System, and the Health Care Authority's Benefits Administration/Insurance Accounting System.

- Financial: accounting, chart of accounts, budget, performance measurement, grants, contracts, and loans
- Personnel
- Health Insurance
- Receivables
- Security
- User Authentication

Goal 2: Promote Data Sharing

Allow for the sharing of data through common data standards and management, data archiving, and the adoption of common platforms and infrastructure.

- Education, including Higher Education
- Health and Human Services
- Criminal Justice
- Economic Vitality

Goal 3: Promote Common IT Practices

Adopt standards, frameworks, and infrastructures that promote data sharing, an integrated end-user experience, and provide for common functionality across the state such as licensure and revenue collection.

- Security
- Data Standards
- Infrastructure Standards
- Application Development Standards
- Disaster Readiness

Goal 4: Provide an Integrated End-user Experience

Ensure citizens and businesses can interact seamlessly with multiple federal, state, and local agencies.

- Adopt common methodology for user authentication
- Adopt common methodology for application development
- Adopt common methodology for data management
- Adopt common user interface for cross agency systems
- Adopt common E-mail conventions