

1

2



3

4

5 **Liberty ID-SAFE MRD - Marketing**  
6 **Requirements Document for Strong**  
7 **Authentication**

8 **Version:** 1.0

9 **Editors:**

- 10 Shelagh Callahan, Intel
- 11 Eric Malville, France Télécom
- 12 Rob Marano, Falcon Systems LLC/Individual Sponsor
- 13 Dave Nadig, Wave Systems Corp.
- 14 Sreeram Thirukkonda, Fidelity Investments

15 **Contributors:**

- 16 Shin Adachi, NTT
- 17 Alvaro Armentaros, Telefónica Móviles
- 18 Siddharth Bajajm, Verisign
- 19 Ingo Friese, Deutsche Telecon - T-Systems
- 20 Dietmar Krueger, Deutsche Telecon - T-Systems
- 21 Rob Lockhart, IEEE-ISTO
- 22 Dave Nadig, Wave Systems Corp.
- 23 Kapil Sachdeva, Gemalto
- 24 Uppili Srinivasan, Oracle
- 25 Kenji Takahashi, NTT

26 **Abstract:**

27 This MRD describes real-life usage of strong authentication that the Liberty Alliance  
28 Project should address. This shall be done broadly for all applicable environments  
29 requiring strong authentication.

30 **Filename:** liberty-id-safe-mrd-v1.0.pdf

31 This Market Requirements Document (MRD) has been developed by the Business and  
32 Marketing Expert Group of Liberty Alliance to capture the business requirements for an  
33 identity governance framework. Liberty Alliance is making this MRD publicly available  
34 to the industry at large for review and consideration. In addition, this MRD is being  
35 provided to the appropriate technical standards development group within Liberty  
36 Alliance for consideration of new technical work to address the requirements identified  
37 herein. This publication does not constitute a commitment by Liberty Alliance, explicit  
38 or implied, to develop technical specifications in full compliance with the requirements  
39 herein, now or in the future.

#### 40 Notice

41 This document has been prepared by Sponsors of the Liberty Alliance. Permission is  
42 hereby granted to use the document solely for the purpose educating the public. No  
43 rights are granted to prepare derivative works of this Liberty Alliance Publication.  
44 Entities seeking permission to reproduce portions of this document for other uses must  
45 contact the Liberty Alliance to determine whether an appropriate license for such use is  
46 available.

47 Use of certain elements of this document may require licenses under third party  
48 intellectual property rights, including without limitation, patent rights. The Sponsors of  
49 and any other contributors to the Liberty Alliance Publication are not and shall not be  
50 held responsible in any manner for identifying or failing to identify any or all such third  
51 party intellectual property rights. **This Liberty Alliance Publication is provided "AS  
52 IS," and no participant in the Liberty Alliance makes any warranty of any kind,  
53 express or implied, including any implied warranties of merchantability, non-  
54 infringement of third party intellectual property rights, and fitness for a particular  
55 purpose.** Those who are interested in additional Liberty Publications are advised to  
56 review the Liberty Alliance Project's website (<http://www.projectliberty.org/>) for  
57 information concerning any Necessary Claims Disclosure Notices that have been  
58 received by the Liberty Alliance Management Board.

59 Copyright © 2008 American Express; Computer Associates; Deutsche Telecon - T-  
60 Systems; Falkin Systems LLC; Fidelity Investments; France Télécom; Fugen Solutions;  
61 Gemalto, HP; Intel; Luminance; Rob Marano; New Zealand Govt.; NEC; NTT; Oracle;  
62 RSA Security; Sun; Telefónica Móviles; Verisign; and Wave System Corp. All rights  
63 reserved.

64 Liberty Alliance Project  
65 Licensing Administrator  
66 c/o IEEE-ISTO  
67 445 Hoes Lane  
68 Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331, USA  
69 info@projectliberty.org

70

---

|     |                          |  |
|-----|--------------------------|--|
| 71  | <b>Table of Contents</b> |  |
| 72  | 1                        | Introduction.....5   |
| 73  | 2                        | Foundational Scenarios.....6                                   |
| 74  | 2.1                      | Background.....6   |
| 75  | 2.2                      | Foundational Scenario 1 .....7                                 |
| 76  | 2.2.1                    | Single Sign-On.....8   |
| 77  | 2.2.2                    | Credential Portability.....8                                   |
| 78  | 2.3                      | Foundational Scenario 2 .....9                                 |
| 79  | 3                        | Use Cases: Foundational Scenario 1.....11                      |
| 80  | 3.1                      | Unauthenticated Principal, Credential Collection by AD.....11  |
| 81  | 3.1.1                    | Graphical Description .....11                                  |
| 82  | 3.1.2                    | Description.....11   |
| 83  | 3.1.3                    | Data Elements .....13  |
| 84  | 3.1.4                    | Mapping to the Business Cases .....14                          |
| 85  | 3.1.5                    | Out of Scope .....15   |
| 86  | 3.1.6                    | Dependencies with Other Use Cases .....15                      |
| 87  | 3.2                      | Unauthenticated Principal, Credential Collection by VD.....16  |
| 88  | 3.2.1                    | Graphical Description .....16                                  |
| 89  | 3.2.2                    | Description.....16   |
| 90  | 3.2.3                    | Data Elements .....17  |
| 91  | 3.2.4                    | Mapping to BMEG Use Cases.....17                               |
| 92  | 3.2.5                    | Out of scope .....17   |
| 93  | 3.2.6                    | Dependencies with Other Use Cases .....17                      |
| 94  | 3.3                      | Authenticated Principal: System-Enforced Step-up Access.....18 |
| 95  | 3.3.1                    | Graphical Description .....18                                  |
| 96  | 3.3.2                    | Assumptions.....18   |
| 97  | 3.3.3                    | Description.....19   |
| 98  | 3.3.4                    | Data Elements .....20  |
| 99  | 3.3.5                    | Mapping to BMEG Use Cases.....20                               |
| 100 | 3.3.6                    | Out of Scope .....20   |
| 101 | 3.3.7                    | Dependencies with Other Use Cases .....21                      |
| 102 | 3.4                      | Single Sign-On with Step-up Access.....21                      |
| 103 | 3.4.1                    | Graphical Description .....21                                  |
| 104 | 3.4.2                    | Description.....21   |
| 105 | 3.4.3                    | Data Elements .....22  |
| 106 | 3.4.4                    | Dependencies with Other Use Cases .....22                      |
| 107 | 3.5                      | Single Sign-On and Step-Down Access .....23                    |
| 108 | 3.5.1                    | Graphical Description .....23                                  |
| 109 | 3.5.2                    | Description.....23   |
| 110 | 3.5.3                    | Data Elements .....24  |
| 111 | 3.5.4                    | Mapping to BMEG Use Cases.....24                               |
| 112 | 3.5.5                    | Out of Scope .....24   |

---

|     |       |  |    |
|-----|-------|--|----|
| 113 | 3.5.6 | Dependencies with Other Use Cases .....                                  | 24 |
| 114 | 3.6   | Credential Portability .....   | 25 |
| 115 | 3.6.1 | High Level Use Case for Credential Portability .....                     | 25 |
| 116 | 3.6.2 | Service Provider-Local Credentials .....                                 | 26 |
| 117 | 3.6.3 | No SP-Local Credentials .....  | 31 |
| 118 | 4     | Use Cases: Foundational Scenario 2.....                                  | 35 |
| 119 | 4.1   | Single Sign-On: Reuse of Authentication Resultants .....                 | 35 |
| 120 | 4.1.1 | Graphical Description .....  | 35 |
| 121 | 4.1.2 | Description.....   | 35 |
| 122 | 4.1.3 | Data Elements .....  | 36 |
| 123 | 4.1.4 | Out of Scope .....   | 37 |
| 124 | 4.1.5 | Dependencies with Other Use Cases .....                                  | 37 |
| 125 | 5     | Supporting Service.....  | 38 |
| 126 | 5.1   | Discovery of Delegated Service .....                                     | 38 |
| 127 | 6     | Taxonomy .....   | 40 |
| 128 | 6.1   | SAEG-Specific Terms and Definitions.....                                 | 40 |
| 129 | 6.2   | Liberty-Specific Terms and Definitions Taken from the Master Glossary .. | 43 |
| 130 | 7     | References.....  | 48 |
| 131 |       |  |    |
| 132 |       |  |    |

## 133 **1 Introduction**

134 The goal of this MRD is to describe real-life usage of strong authentication that the  
135 Liberty Specification should address. This shall be done broadly for all applicable  
136 environments requiring strong authentication.

137 In order to tackle this goal, a two-phased approach has been used.

138 In the first phase, which is the objective of this MRD, the real-life scenarios relating to  
139 use of Strong Authentication are described. This phase does not include any use cases or  
140 requirements for interoperability related to lifecycle-supporting activities for Strong  
141 Authentication. It is strongly recommended that reviewers of this MRD first familiarize  
142 themselves with Liberty's Strong Authentication Expert Group's (SAEG) taxonomy as  
143 given in the [[Taxonomy](#)] section at the end of this MRD.

144 **2 Foundational Scenarios**

145 **2.1 Background**

146 It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the [[Taxonomy](#)] used here.

147 Building on that basic assumption, here is an attempt to differentiate between the  
 148 functional roles of Authentication Delegate (AD) and Validation Delegate (VD). It must  
 149 be stressed that the terms signify functional roles. No assumptions are made as to the  
 150 physical implementation or location of these entities. They may be implemented in one  
 151 logical entity or may be located in separate physical systems provided by separate  
 152 business entities. Thus, the definition of their requirements and interactions will always  
 153 assume the general case of complete separation.

154

| <b>Topic</b>                       | <b>Authentication Delegate</b>  | <b>Validation Delegate</b>  |
|------------------------------------|---|---|
| Identity Mapping                   | Maps authentication mechanisms and assurance levels to user identities.<br><br>Owns direct Identity relationship with the Principal.  | Maps one or more Credential IDs per mechanism to pseudonyms provided by requesting AD.<br><br>Is not able to directly relate the user identity to the credential. |
| Authentication Mechanism Discovery | Can discover additional VD or AD which can validate the Principal.<br><br>Publishes discovery meta data for use by SP.  | Does not perform additional discovery functions. However, publishes discovery meta data for use by AD.  |
| Authentication coordination        | Coordinates the authentication on behalf of the Principal (i.e., maps required assurance level to assigned assurance level and helps the user select the appropriate authentication mechanism). | Does not perform coordination function.   |
| Credential Lifecycle management    | Helps coordinate the lifecycle management of the credentials (i.e., provision, activate, deactivate and de-provision).  | Responds to lifecycle management requests from the AD. However, it relies on the AD for coordination.   |

|                       |      |                              |
|-----------------------|------|------------------------------|
| Credential Collection | Yes. | Yes, in selected mechanisms. |
| Credential Validation | No.  | Yes.                         |

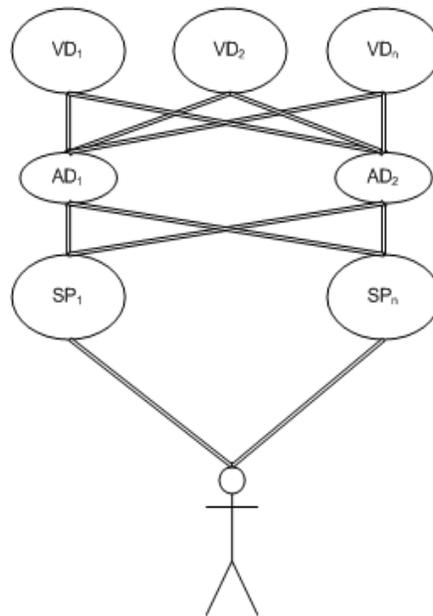
155  
 156

157 **2.2 Foundational Scenario 1**

158 Foundational scenario 1 is intended to describe the base level of interactions between  
 159 service providers (SP), Authentication Delegate (AD) and Validation Delegate (VD). The  
 160 basic characteristics of foundational scenario 1 are:

- 161 1. Each service provider has only one authentication delegate per user identity per  
 162 authentication mechanism;  
 163 2. Multiple service providers can share one AD. However, there is no need to  
 164 orchestrate distributed sessions unless the service providers share a single sign-on  
 165 relationship via the AD;  
 166 3. An AD always has a maximum of one VD per authentication mechanism, using  
 167 which, the corresponding authentication factors can be validated.  
 168

169 The most general representation of these constraints is shown below:

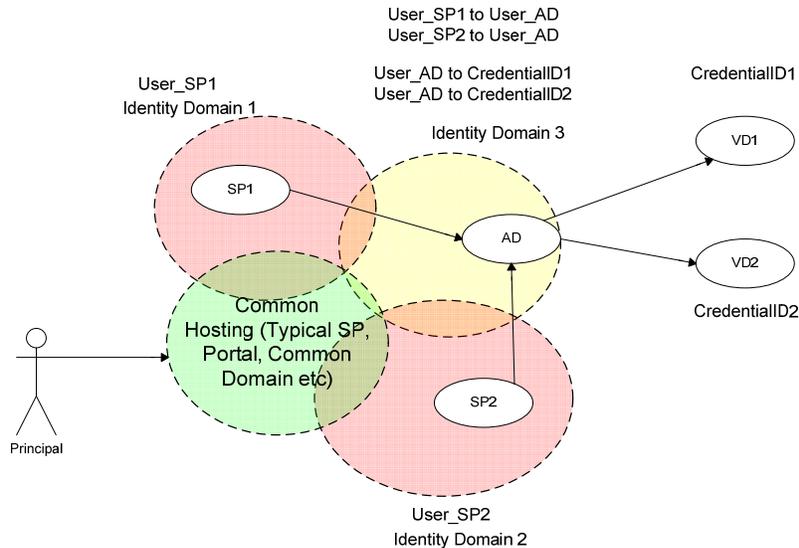


170  
 171  
 172  
 173  
 174

In this context, it is important to recognize two high level use cases that arise from interoperable strong authentication: Single Sign-On and Credential Portability.

175 **2.2.1 Single Sign-On**

176 The single sign-on use cases discuss the use of authentication factors in the context of  
 177 single sign-on relationships between service providers, authentication delegates and  
 178 validation delegates. The SSO model can be depicted as follows:



179

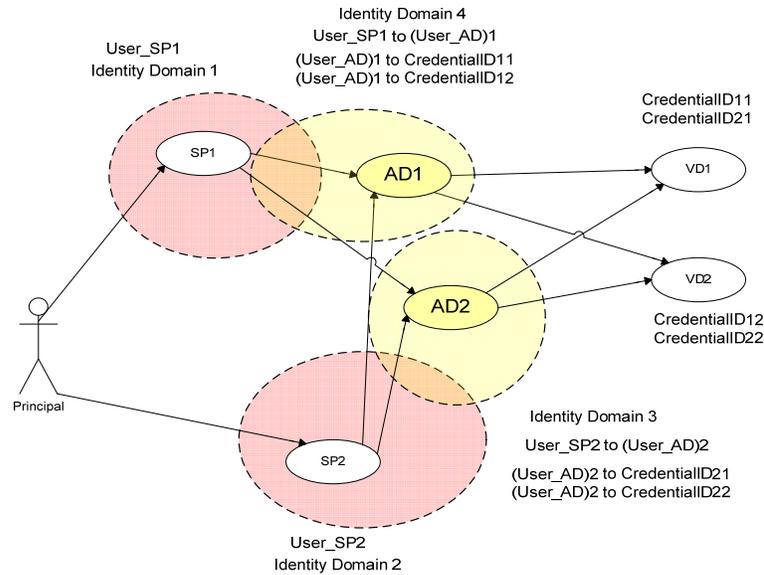
180 The single sign-on use cases also illustrate potential scenarios for re-use of authentication  
 181 resultants. In a typical SSO use case in foundational scenario 1, different service  
 182 providers share the same authentication delegate. This authentication delegate can  
 183 validate different types of credentials by establishing relationships with multiple  
 184 validation delegates for different types of credentials. By virtue of business agreements  
 185 with the authentication delegate, the service provider now has access to established  
 186 assurance levels which can be set for different assets under its control.

187 In addition, one service provider in the network may act as the portal and host access to  
 188 assets that belong to different service providers. Hence, the base level of authentication  
 189 can be shared and used as a basis for stronger authentication.

190 **2.2.2 Credential Portability**

191 The credential portability use cases discuss the reuse of credentials such as tokens,  
 192 certificates, and other factors without sharing the logical process (e.g., authentication)  
 193 itself. This does not appear to carry direct implications for orchestrating authentication,  
 194 step-down, or logout decisions. The credential portability scenario can be depicted as  
 195 follows:

196



197

198

199 In the flow above, it is assumed that the user identities at each service provider are not  
 200 related to each other. Hence, an access to a protected resource at each service provider  
 201 would be managed by separate challenges even if the same entities (AD, VD1, and VD2)  
 202 are involved in performing this action.

203 Special Cases include:

204 1. CredentialID11 = CredentialID12 and CredentialID21=CredentialID22

205 2. In addition to 1, above, (User\_AD)1 = (User\_AD)2

206

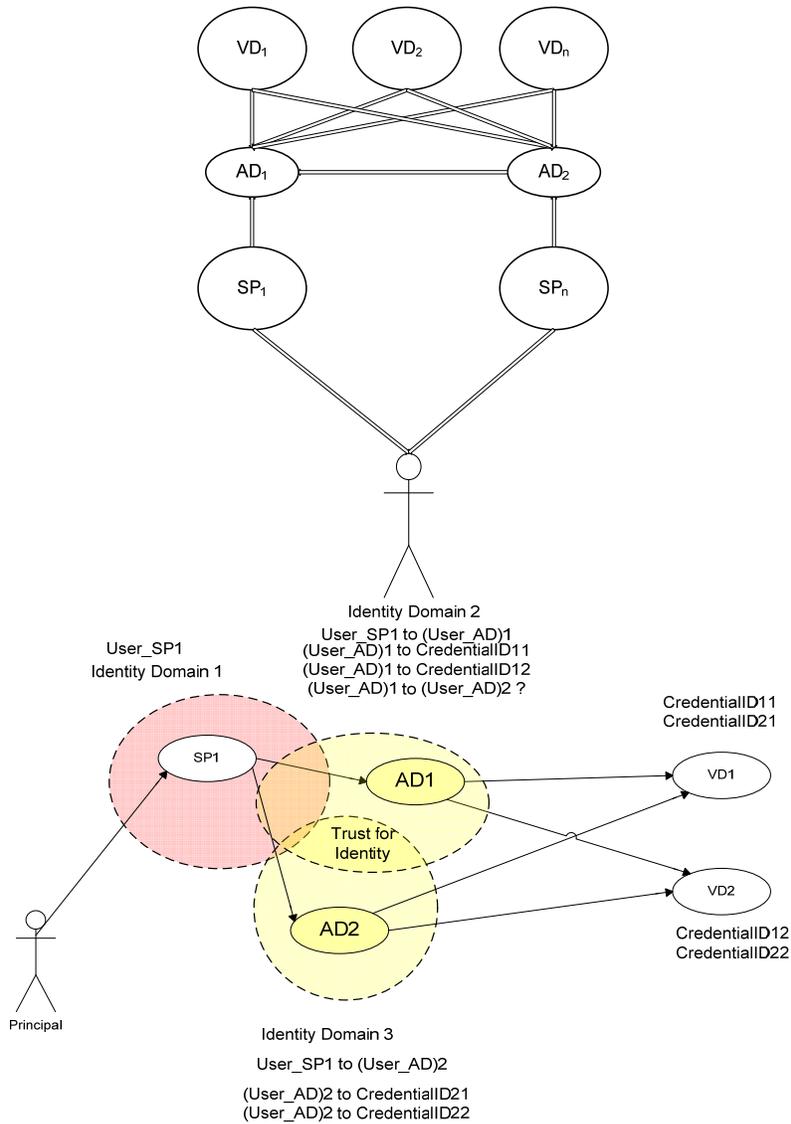
### 207 2.3 Foundational Scenario 2

208 Foundational Scenario 2 is a superset of functions to those in Foundational Scenario 1.

209 In addition to FS1, this scenario captures Circle of Trust relationships between  
 210 authentication delegates. This can be represented in a general case as follows:

211

212



213

214

215 The above figure indicates how Authentication Delegates might share Circle of Trust  
 216 relationships which enable one authentication delegate to perform higher factor upgrades  
 217 based on previously performed authentications from a different delegate.

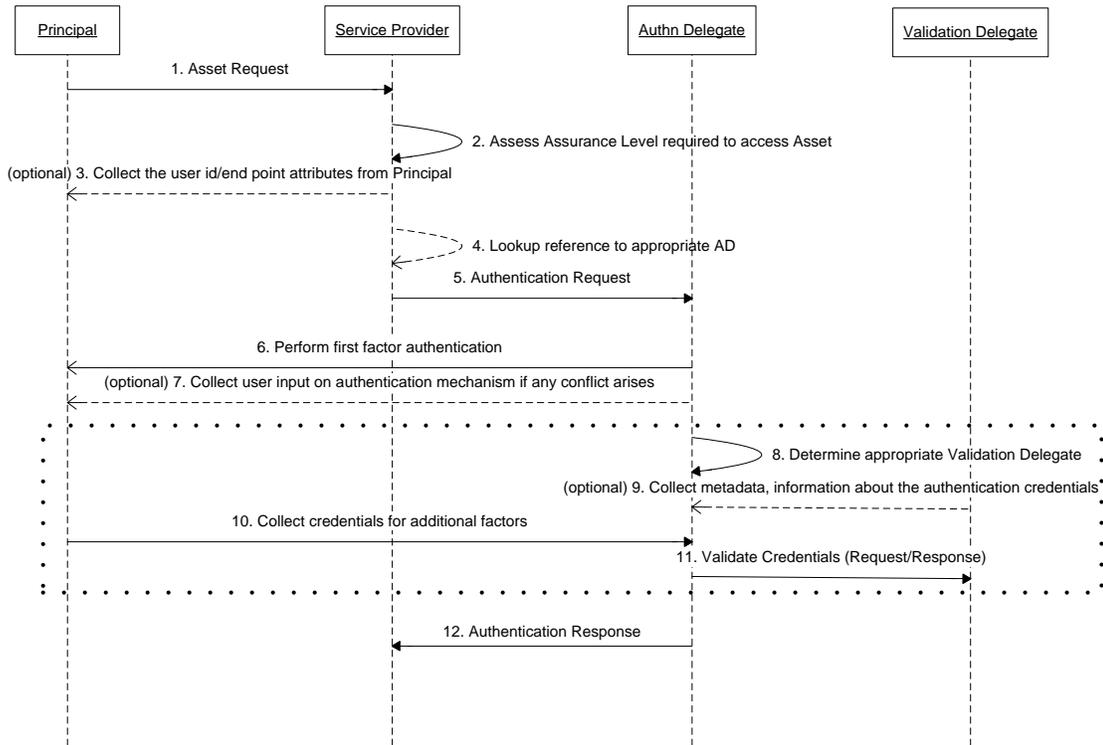
218

219 **3 Use Cases: Foundational Scenario 1**

220 **3.1 Unauthenticated Principal, Credential Collection by AD**

221 **3.1.1 Graphical Description**

222



223

224

⋮⋮⋮⋮ Denotes Operations that can be repeated over multiple VDs

225 **3.1.2 Description**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Unauthenticated Principal, Service Provider Interaction   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal does not possess any session state (or) authentication resultants corresponding to a currently active session<sup>1</sup>.</li> <li>2. All data elements required to execute the use case have been successfully provisioned at the different entities/constituents.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, Service Provider, Authentication Delegate  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal requests access to desired asset from Service Provider</li> </ol>   |

<sup>1</sup> Principal may possess expired resultants which could be used to obtain user identity.

2. Service Provider compares the current assurance level of the request (non-existent since there is not an existing Principal authentication for that session) with the required assurance level for the requested asset.
3. (Optional) The Service Provider optionally collects endpoint (e.g., device) information, user identity information prior to creating Authentication Request.
  - a. The Service Provider uses the reference to the Authentication Delegate that can match the required assurance level for the asset in addition to any available optional endpoint attributes, OR
  - b. Based on preliminary examination of endpoint attributes, Service Provider may reject the request (e.g., an internet café does not provide the required assurance level for a certain asset).
4. Service Provider looks up reference:
  - a. If the Service Provider can look up a valid reference to a valid Authentication Delegate, it creates a request with the required attributes, OR
  - b. Service Provider cannot find an appropriate Authentication Delegate that matches required the assurance level (or) attributes and returns an error.
5. Service Provider forwards the Principal over to the Authentication Delegate along with the Authentication Request.
6. Authentication Delegate performs base level authentication. In case the user does not possess first factor authentication, the flow moves to Step 7 where the user is prompted for alternate mechanisms or combination of mechanisms. (Refer to the flexible authentication use case at Section 3.1.5 (Mapping to other business cases).)
7. (Optional) If multiple authentication mechanisms exist for the user, input from the user resolves conflicts between multiple mechanisms.
8. Authentication Delegate looks up reference:
  - a. If the AD can look up a valid reference to an appropriate VD, It creates an request with the required attributes, OR
  - b. AD cannot find an appropriate VD that matches the required assurance level (or) attributes and returns an error.
9. (Optional) Once the additional authentication mechanisms are known, the Authentication Delegate can optionally collect metadata describing the mechanisms by interacting with the corresponding validation delegates.

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
|                                       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10. The AD collects all credentials required for the secondary mechanisms and cycles through the appropriate VD for the mechanisms.</li> <li>11. The AD maps the credential ID for the user and generates a validation request for the Principal to be sent to the VD.</li> <li>12. Upon successful completion of validation requests, the AD creates the authentication context and returns the resultant to the SP. The resultant contains the context (either by reference or by value) for all authentications performed for this Principal. The SP in turn may issue local cookies/references to sessions for subsequent intra-session access.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Post conditions</b>                | Principal is successfully authenticated for all authentication factors. Steps 8-11 above can be repeated for multiple authentication factors  |
| <b>Out of band / error conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal requests invalid asset and the request is rejected.</li> <li>2. Service Provider cannot contact appropriate Authentication Delegate and returns error.</li> <li>3. AD cannot refer to any VD and returns error.</li> <li>4. Authentication fails for one or more factors and failure is returned to the Principal.</li> </ol>   |

226

227

### 3.1.3 Data Elements

| Constituent      | Data Element                    | Function | Description  |
|------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--|
| Principal        | Endpoint Attributes             | Manage   | The end user/terminal may possess attributes which are required by the Service Provider. These may be collected automatically by the Service Provider.             |
| Service Provider | Asset                           | Manage   | Assets are owned and managed entirely by the Service Provider.   |
|                  | Assurance Level for given asset | Manage   | Assigns and maintains (upgrades, downgrades) assurance levels for assets.  |
|                  | Reference to the AD(s)          | Use      | This is a static reference to the Authentication Delegate Location/Address.  |
|                  | AD attributes per reference     | Use      | Service Provider needs to be aware of user endpoint attributes and assurance levels that are supported by each AD in order to map a request to the appropriate AD. |

|                              |  |        |  |
|------------------------------|--|--------|--|
|                              | Authentication Request                                 | Create | Service Provider uses identity attributes, endpoint attributes, assurance levels to create a Request.  |
| Authenticat-<br>ion Delegate | Mapping between user identity & appropriate mechanisms | Manage | These links are used as part of the Validation Request created by the AD. AD maps the user identity to one or more CredentialID.   |
|                              | Endpoint attributes & supported assurance levels       | Manage | Manages all supported endpoint attributes and assurance levels.  |
|                              | CredentialIDs & identifiers for the Principal          | Manage | These links are used as part of the Validation Request created by the AD. AD maps the user identity to one or more CredentialIDs.  |
|                              | Validation Request                                     | Create | AD creates the validation request and passes it to the appropriate VD.   |
|                              | Authentication Response                                | Create | Creates response which contains the resultant. In cases where the credential collection is performed by the VD, this may also include the credential ID for use by the AD in credential mapping. |
|                              | Reference to the VD(s)                                 | Manage | This is a static reference to the Validation Delegate Location/Address.  |
| Validation Delegate          | Validation Response                                    | Create | The VD validates the credentials for appropriate factors and returns the response back to the AD.  |

228

229 **3.1.4 Mapping to the Business Cases**

230 **3.1.4.1 Strong and Flexible AuthN Use Case**

231 **3.1.4.1.1 Background**

232 Authentication is a very important process in order to make business, enable  
 233 personalization, and privacy. Authentication can be of different qualities. Strong  
 234 Authentication now has the notion of very high assurance level, but most services do not  
 235 really need a very high assurance level. The basic mechanism of Strong AuthN, as  
 236 described in the MRD, is the combination of two or more AuthN methods.

237 This use case aims on using the basic mechanisms of Strong AuthN, also, for lower and  
238 medium assurance level. This makes AuthN more flexible in terms of usable AuthN  
239 methods and achievable assurance level (Flexible and Strong AuthN).

#### 240 **3.1.4.1.2 Summary**

241 Alice usually accesses SP by using AuthN method A1 (e.g., SIM card in her IMS  
242 handheld device). A1 is supposed as a rather strong AuthN.

243 Now Alice wants to access SP in a situation where A1 is not available (e.g., other device,  
244 other location). Alice is able to use AuthN method A2 or A3. Both of them are rather  
245 weak AuthN methods (e.g., IP-address authentication (in fixed network) or  
246 login/Password).

247 Alone, none of them is sufficient for SP since they are not as strong as A1.

248 Alice gets access by combining them, first A2 and the step-up with A3.

#### 249 **3.1.4.1.3 Pre-condition**

250 Alice has several credentials or is able to provide different AuthN methods.

251 A1 is for higher assurance levels.

252 A2 and A3 is for rather lower assurance levels.

#### 253 **3.1.4.1.4 Description**

- 254 1. Alice requests access to SP.
- 255 2. SP requests IDP to authenticate Alice with certain assurance level.
- 256 3. IdP asks Alice to go for AuthN A1 to fulfill assurance level.
- 257 4. Alice indicates that she cannot provide AuthN A1 but A2 and A3 instead (A2 and A3  
258 alone not matching the requested assurance level, but the combination does).
- 259 5. IdP authenticates Alice using A2 and A3.
- 260 6. Alice accesses SP.

261

262 For a visual example of these, please see the associated slide set "Use Case for Flexible  
263 Strong Authentication" [[MRD.Strong.Auth.Slides](#)].

#### 264 **3.1.5 Out of Scope**

265 Error conditions presented to the user.

266

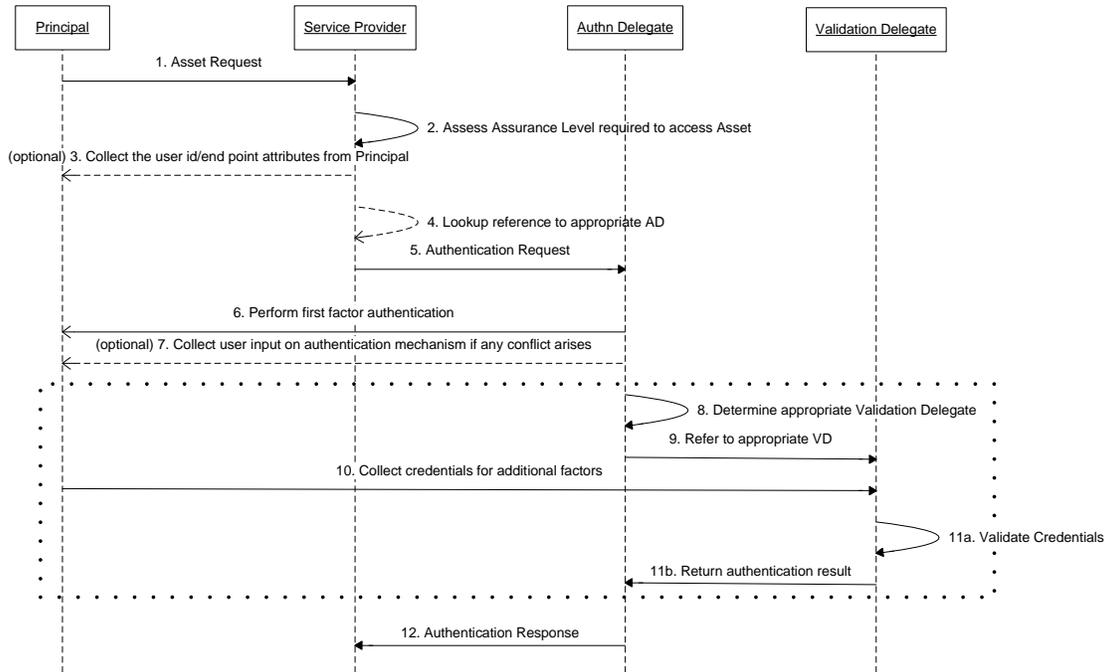
#### 267 **3.1.6 Dependencies with Other Use Cases**

268 None

269

270 **3.2 Unauthenticated Principal, Credential Collection by VD**

271 **3.2.1 Graphical Description**



..... Denotes Operations that can be repeated over multiple VDs

272  
 273

274 **3.2.2 Description**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Unauthenticated Principal, Credential collection by the VD   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | Same as Use Case 3.1.  |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Same as Use Case 3.1.  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <p>Steps 1-8 are the same as in Use Case 3.1.</p> <p>9. The AD performs the CredentialID mapping for the user and generates a validation request for the Principal to be sent to the VD. <b>Please note:</b> In this context, it is assumed the AD still retains the role to coordinate credential provisioning and management for the Principal with the VD. Hence, this role is still aware of all the other credentials (via credential ID only) available for a Principal. This is also used to redirect the Principal to the VD.</p> <p>10. The VD collects all credentials required for its corresponding mechanism directly by interacting with the Principal.</p> <p>11. The following two steps are implicit in validation:</p> |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
|                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Credential Validation, and</li><li>b. Upon successful completion of validation requests, the VD sends the results back to the AD.</li></ul> <p>12. The AD repeats steps 9-11 for all appropriate VDs and composes a result which is sent back to the Principal as proof of success.</p> |
| <b>Post conditions</b>                | Same as Use Case <a href="#">3.1</a> .   |
| <b>Out of band / error conditions</b> | Same as Use Case <a href="#">3.1</a> .   |

275

276 **3.2.3 Data Elements**

277 Same as Use Case [3.1](#).

278

279 **3.2.4 Mapping to BMEG Use Cases**

280 Same as Use Case [3.1](#).

281

282 **3.2.5 Out of scope**

283 Same as Use Case [3.1](#).

284

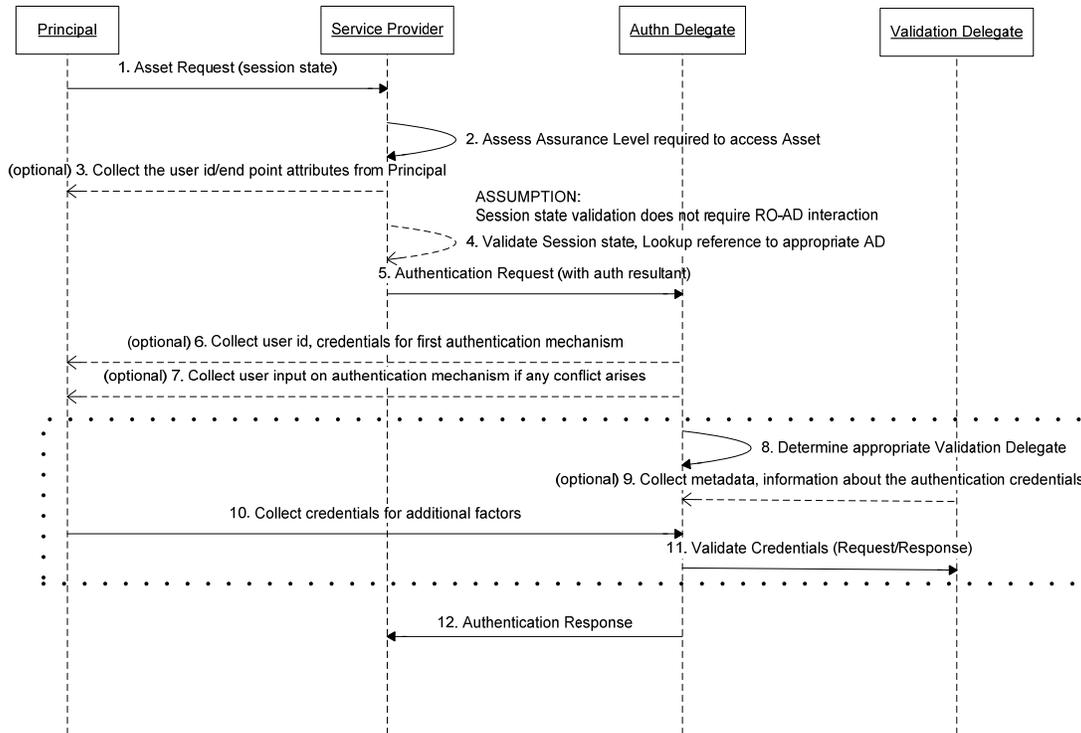
285 **3.2.6 Dependencies with Other Use Cases**

286 Same as Use Case [3.1](#).

287

288 **3.3 Authenticated Principal: System-Enforced Step-up Access**

289 **3.3.1 Graphical Description**



⋮⋮⋮⋮ Denotes Operations that can be repeated over multiple VDs

290  
291

292 **3.3.2 Assumptions**

- 293 1. Active session in a steady-state where a resultant exists from prior authentication and  
 294 is stored in a cache at the Service Provider.  
 295 2. Principal returns to access the same resource at the same SP.  
 296 3. Once a high assurance level is attained, the latest resultant replaces any previous  
 297 resultants in the same context. However, no restrictions are imposed on the Principal  
 298 possessing resultants of multiple assurance levels in different contexts.  
 299

300 **3.3.3 Description**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Authenticated Principal, Service Provider Interaction  |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal possesses a reference to an active session state that could optionally contain resultants corresponding to that session<sup>2</sup>.</li> <li>2. All data elements required to execute the use case have been successfully provisioned at the different entities/constituents.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Same as Use Case 3.1.  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal requests Service Provider for access to the desired asset(s) using a previously authenticated context.</li> <li>2. Service Provider compares the current assurance level of the request (as manifested in the current active session) with that required for the requested asset.</li> <li>3. The Service Provider optionally collects endpoint information, user identity information prior to creating the Authentication Request.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Service Provider uses the reference to the Authentication Delegate that can match the required assurance level for the asset in addition to any available optional endpoint attributes.</li> <li>b. Based on preliminary examination of the endpoint attributes, Service Provider rejects request (e.g., an internet café does not provide the required assurance level for a certain asset).</li> </ol> </li> <li>4. Subsequently, the service provider validates the session assurance state and looks up a reference to the AD:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. If the Service Provider can look up a valid reference to a valid Authentication Delegate, It creates an authentication request which may optionally contain the previous authentication resultant, OR</li> <li>b. Service Provider cannot find an appropriate Authentication Delegate that matches the required assurance level (or) attributes and returns an error.</li> </ol> </li> <li>5. Service Provider forwards the Principal over to the Authentication Delegate along with the Request which now contains the Resultant..</li> <li>6. (Optional) As the resultant is already passed as part of the request, step 6 of Use Case 3.1 is optional in this use case and required only if mandated by policy.</li> </ol> <p>Steps 7-12 are captured in Use Case 3.1 and Use Case 3.2.</p> |

<sup>2</sup> Principal may possess expired resultants which could be used to obtain user identity.

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Post conditions</b>                | Service Provider creates the request and forwards the Principal over to the Authentication Delegate.  |
| <b>Out of band / error conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal requests an invalid asset and the request is rejected.</li> <li>2. Service Provider cannot contact an appropriate Authentication Delegate and returns an error.</li> <li>3. The resultant is invalid and rejected by AD.</li> </ol> |

301

302 **3.3.4 Data Elements**

303 In addition to data elements captured in Use Case 3.1:

304

| Constituent                  | Data Element   | Function | Description   |
|------------------------------|--|----------|---|
| Principal                    | Session State  | Use      | Principal is able to provide a reference to an active session state.  |
| Service Provider             | Session State  | Manage   | Service Provider is responsible for creating a reference to a session state and expiring the reference per its policies.  |
|                              | Session State x Resultant Mapping  | Manage   | The Service Provider is responsible for creating the session state and managing the mapping of session state to previous resultants. In a trivial case, the session state may itself contain the resultant. |
| Authenticat-<br>ion Delegate | User tracking at different service providers (i.e., SP and assurance level required for the session at the SP) | Manage   | Authentication Delegate needs to track user authentication and the assurance level at which user is authenticated at different service providers from the perspective of sign-out.                          |

305

306 **3.3.5 Mapping to BMEG Use Cases**

307 All relevant mappings captured in Use Case 3.1.

308

309 **3.3.6 Out of Scope**

310 Error conditions presented to the user.

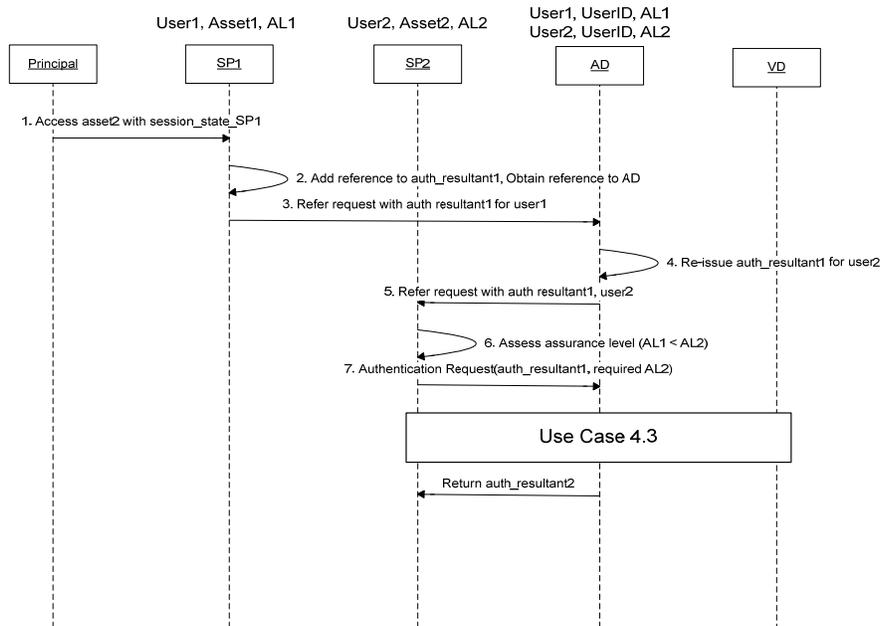
311

312 **3.3.7 Dependencies with Other Use Cases**

313 Same as Use Case 3.1.

314 **3.4 Single Sign-On with Step-up Access**

315 **3.4.1 Graphical Description**



316  
 317

318 **3.4.2 Description**

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, SP1, SP2, AD, VD   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal has been previously allowed to access asset1 at SP1 at assurance level1 (AL1) and has a currently active session at SP1.</li> <li>2. Asset2 is managed by SP2, but asset2 is also hosted at SP1 as a single sign-on resource. As part of this single sign-on, SP2 also knows or can derive the identity domain for SP1.</li> <li>3. SP1 and SP2 have agreed to use AD in common. The AD can also perform conversion between user identities at the different SP using indicative data.</li> <li>4. It is also assumed that in the most general case, <math>AL1 &lt; AL2</math>, since <math>AL1 \geq AL2</math> would not trigger flows 7 and beyond in this use case. Also, if the assurance levels are shared between SP1 and SP2, AL1 would effectively be 0.</li> </ol> |

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Use Case</b>                       | <p>5. This use case depends on Use Case <a href="#">3.3</a> for incremental step-up access.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal creates a request for asset2 which is hosted at SP1 or in a portal scenario at the AD or a common domain SP.</li> <li>2. SP1 validates the session state and injects the auth_resultant1 (previously issued) or a suitable reference.</li> <li>3. The Principal is referred to the authentication delegate along with the auth resultant and asset which is requested (i.e., asset2 and the identity domain in which asset2 is managed).</li> <li>4. The AD re-issues the auth resultant while performing the conversion between user 1 and user 2.</li> <li>5. The AD refers the request to SP2 along with requested asset2 and auth_resultant1 which is AL1 for user2.</li> <li>6. SP2 assesses AL1 and determines it to be less than AL2. If AL1 is not known to SP2, it assumes the current assurance level to be 0.</li> <li>7. SP2 then creates an authentication request with the current auth resultant, user identity, and required assurance level AL2.</li> <li>8. This triggers execution of Use Case <a href="#">3.3</a>.</li> <li>9. At the end of this use case, SP2 has an auth_resultant2 which has user2 for the user issues and is issued at AL2.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Post conditions</b>                | User now has access to asset2 at SP2.   |
| <b>Out of band / error conditions</b> | Same as Use Case <a href="#">3.1</a> .  |

319

320 **3.4.3 Data Elements**

| <b>Constituent</b> | <b>Data Element</b>                       | <b>Function</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|--------------------|---|-----------------|---|
| Service Provider   | Identity Domains for all hosted resources | Use             | SP1 knows or is able to obtain the identity domain for SP2. |

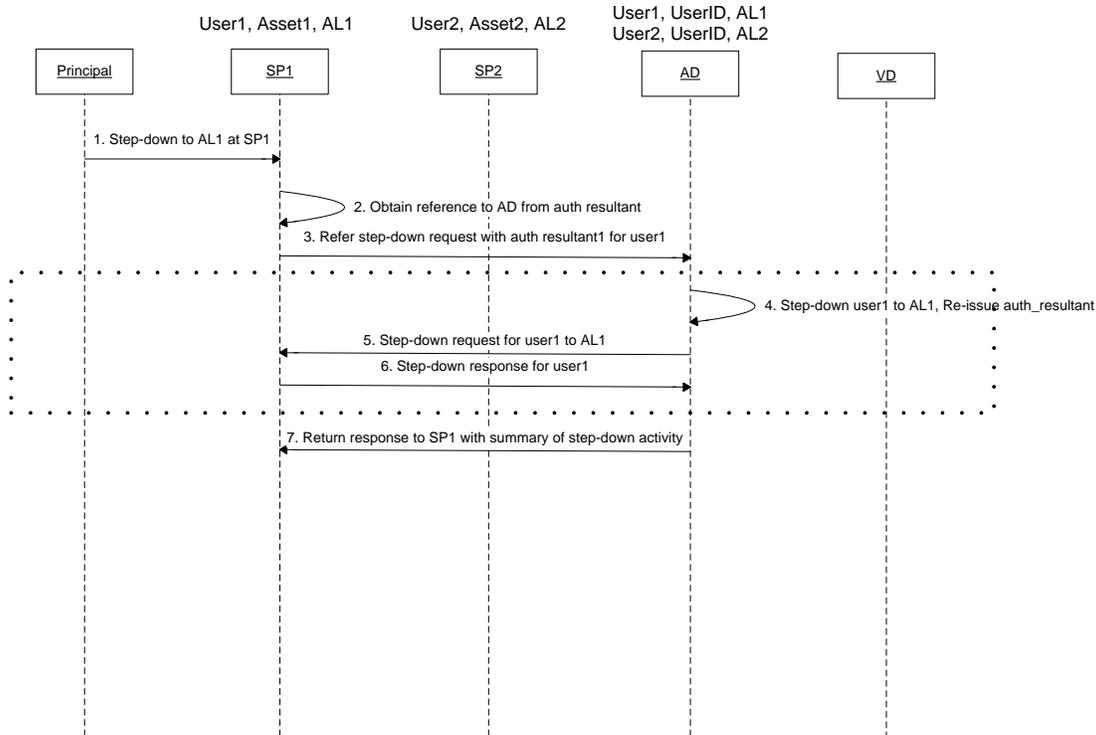
321

322 **3.4.4 Dependencies with Other Use Cases**

323 Same as Use Case [3.3](#).

324 **3.5 Single Sign-On and Step-Down Access**

325 **3.5.1 Graphical Description**



⋮ Denotes Operations that can be repeated over multiple SPs

326  
327

328 **3.5.2 Description**

329

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Single Sign-On and Step Down Access   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. User has received varying assurance levels and is single signed on to different service providers.</li> <li>2. There is only one authentication delegate in this use case.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Same as Use Case 3.4.   |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. User initiates a step-down request at SP1 to the new assurance level AL1. Alternately, this can also be initiated at the AD in which case the flow continues from Step 4 below.</li> <li>2. SP1 obtains reference to Authentication Resultant 1.</li> <li>3. Creates and refers step-down request to the appropriate AD. In case of system-directed step-down, the flow starts with this step.</li> </ol> |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
|                                       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. AD steps down the user to AL1 at SP1.</li><li>5. AD issues step-down request to SP1.</li><li>6. SP1 returns step-down response: Steps 4-6 are repeated for all SP for which current assurance level is greater than target assurance level AL2.</li><li>7. A summary of the step-down process is returned to the initial requestor and displayed to the user.</li></ol> |
| <b>Post conditions</b>                | User is stepped down to AL1 at all service providers.  |
| <b>Out of band / error conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Same as Use Case <a href="#">3.4</a>.</li><li>2. One or more step down requests could have failed.</li></ol>  |

330

### 331 **3.5.3 Data Elements**

332 All relevant data elements captured in Use Case [3.1](#).

333

### 334 **3.5.4 Mapping to BMEG Use Cases**

335 All relevant mappings captured in Use Case [3.1](#).

336

### 337 **3.5.5 Out of Scope**

338 Error conditions presented to the user.

339

### 340 **3.5.6 Dependencies with Other Use Cases**

341 None.

342

343

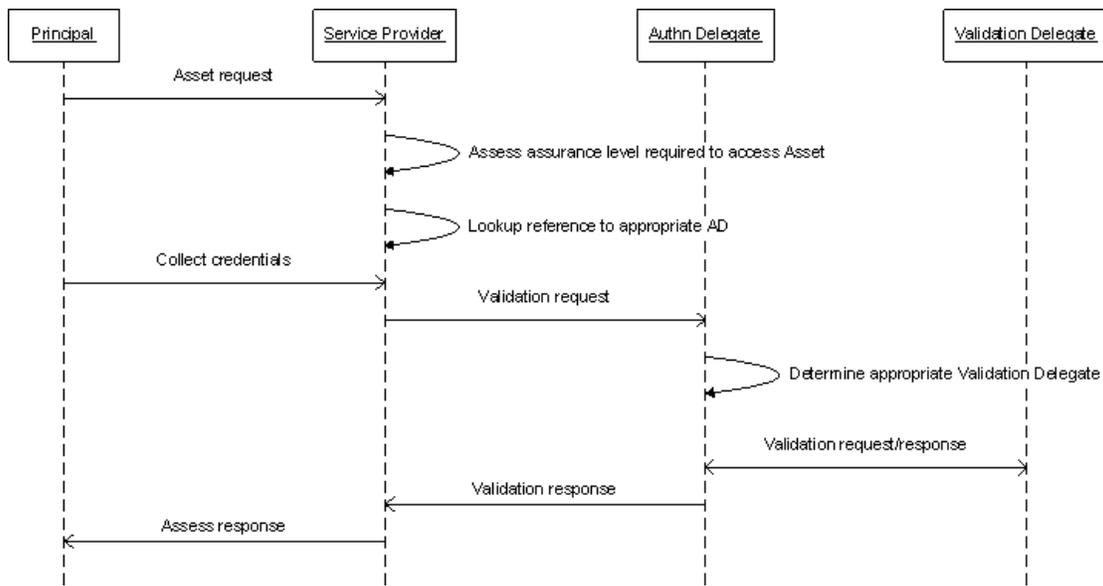
344 **3.6 Credential Portability**

345 The following use cases describe the various constituents' experiences in order to realize  
 346 the benefits of credential portability.

347 **3.6.1 High Level Use Case for Credential Portability**

348 The following use case highlights the difference between credential portability and single  
 349 sign-on.

350



351  
 352

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Credential Portability   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal has already federated/bound his credential at the AD to his identity at the SP.</li> <li>2. The Principal's credentials at the VD have to be bound, using an opaque handle aka Credential ID, to the Principal's identity at the AD prior to the actual authentication.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, Service Provider, Authentication Delegate, Validation Delegate  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal requests Service Provider for access to an asset.</li> <li>2. Service Provider compares the current assurance level of the request (non-existent since there is not an appropriate existing session state) with that required for the requested asset.</li> <li>3. The Service Provider determines which Authentication Delegate can match the required assurance level for the asset.</li> <li>4. If the Service Provider can look up a valid reference to a valid Authentication Delegate, it collects credentials. Otherwise, it</li> </ol> |

returns an error.

5. The Service provider creates a request with the required attributes and sends it to the Authentication Delegate.
6. The Authentication Delegate determines which Validation Delegate can validate the provided credentials. If AD cannot find an appropriate VD, it returns an error.
7. The AD creates a validation request with the required attributes and passes it to the Validation Delegate.
8. The VD validates the credentials and generates a validation response specifying the result of the actual credential validation.
9. Upon successful completion of the validation requests, the AD creates the authentication context and returns the resultant to the SP. The resultant contains, either by reference or by value, the context for all authentications performed for this Principal.

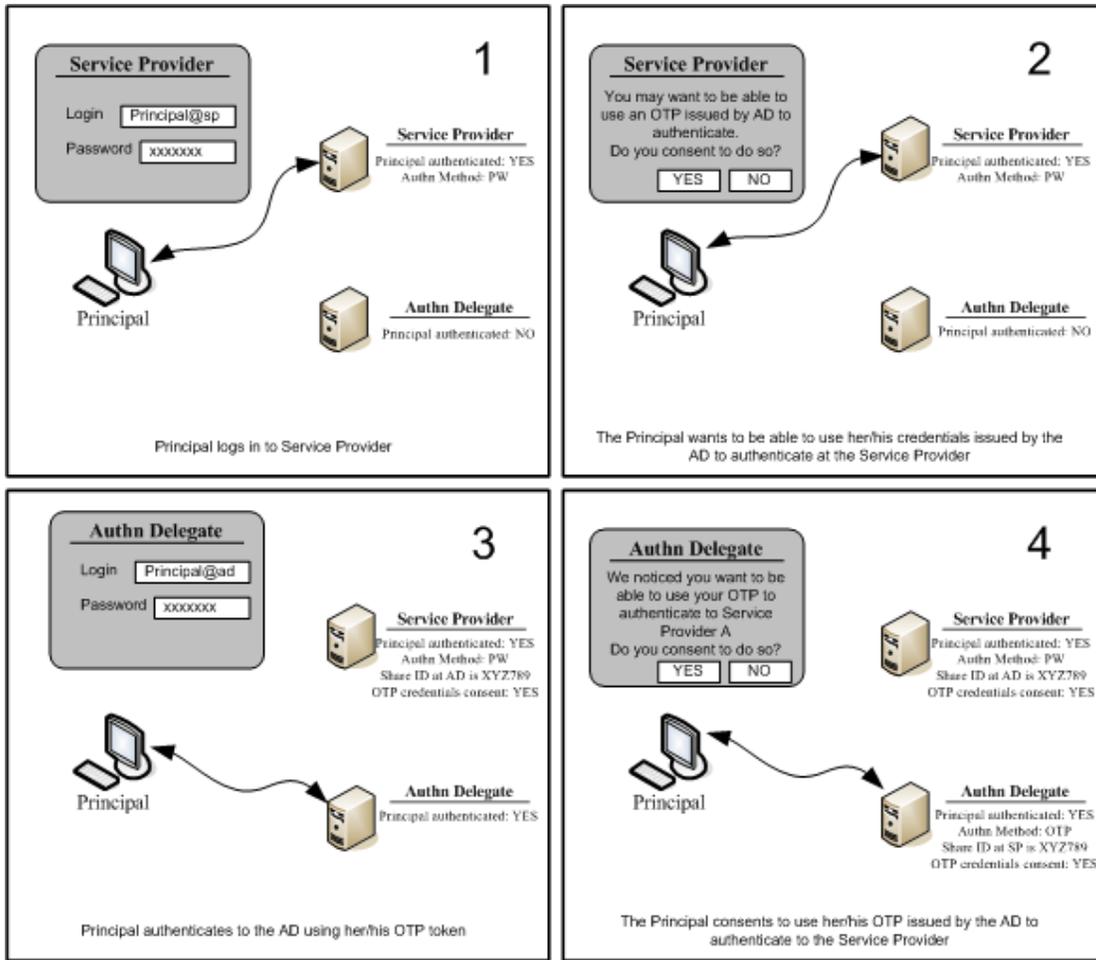
353

### 354 **3.6.2 Service Provider-Local Credentials**

355 The Principal has credentials local to the SP and uses AD-issued credentials for a  
356 stronger authentication.

#### 357 **3.6.2.1 Principal Links Credentials at AD to Identity at SP**

358 Linking the Principal's AD-issued credentials to the Principal's SP identity is a  
359 prerequisite for being able to use these credentials to authenticate at the SP. This can be  
360 done on a different channel than the one on which the credentials are actually evaluated.



361  
 362

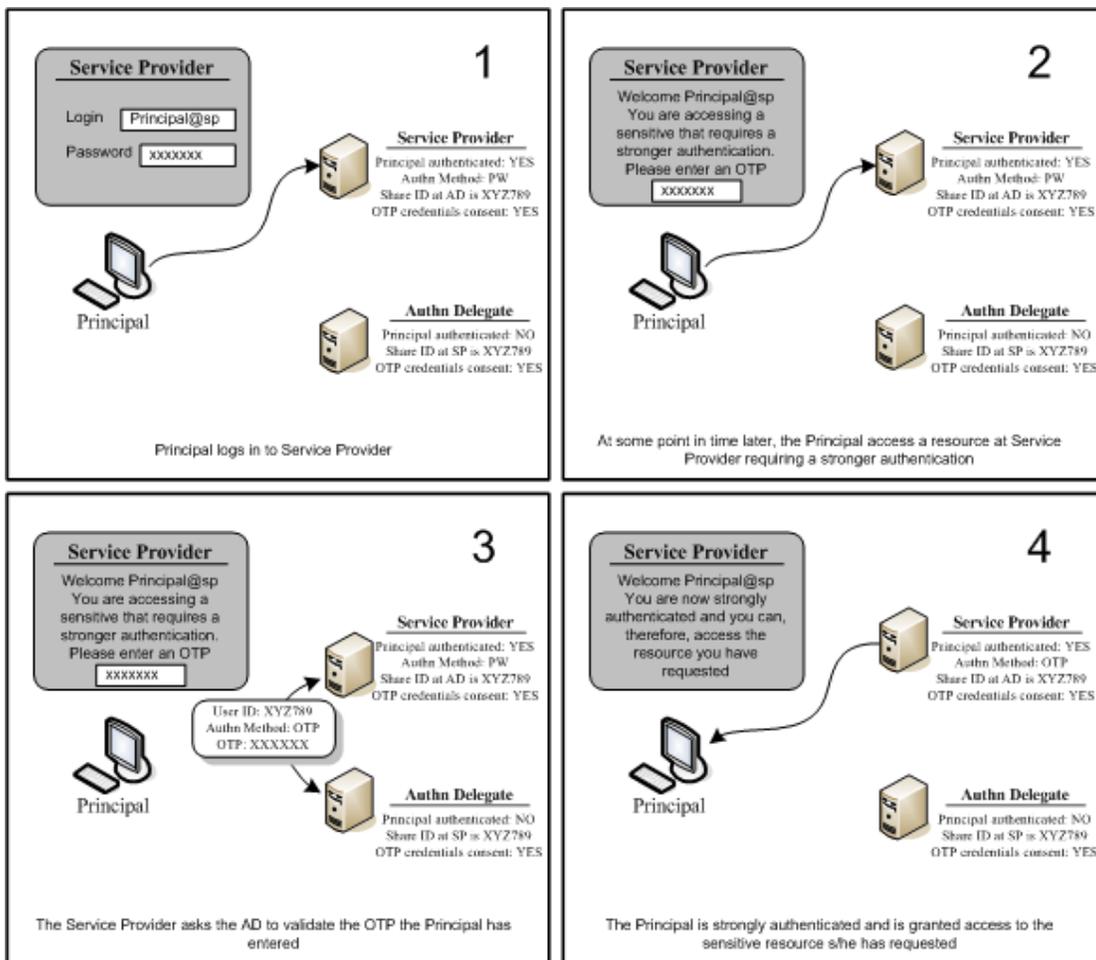
|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Principal Links Credentials at AD to Identity at SP   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal has an identity and strong credentials (typically an OTP token) at an Authentication Delegate.</li> <li>2. Principal has an identity and credentials (typically a login/password) at the Service Provider.</li> <li>3. The Authentication Delegate has entered into an agreement with the Service Provider by which the Service Provider accepts authentication of the Principal with credentials issued by the Authentication Delegate, including what authentication mechanism(s) the SP will accept.</li> <li>4. The Authentication Delegate has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and managing the linking of a Principal's identity at the Authentication Delegate to the Principal's identity at the Service Provider.</li> <li>5. The Authentication Delegate tells the Principal how their identity at the Authentication Delegate can be linked to their identity at this Service Provider, as well as any other Service Providers with whom the Authentication Delegate has a relationship, in accordance with Liberty guidelines.</li> <li>6. The Principal gives consent to link their identity at the Authentication Delegate with their identity at the Service Providers with whom the Authentication Delegate has a relationship.</li> <li>7. The Authentication Delegate binds the Principal's consent to the notice in accordance with Liberty guidelines.</li> <li>8. The Authentication Delegate stores the bound notice and choice such that the Principal can gain later access to this information in accordance with Liberty guidelines.</li> <li>9. The Service Provider has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and managing the linking of a Principal's identity at the Authentication Delegate to the Principal's identity at the Service Provider.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, Authentication Delegate, Service Provider  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal navigates to the Service Provider, verifies the identity of the Service Provider, and authenticates to the Service Provider using her/his local credentials (e.g., her/his login/password). The Service Provider recognizes that the Principal is currently authenticated with the assurance level consistent with password verification.</li> <li>2. The Service Provider provides the Principal with notice that she/he has the opportunity to use the credentials issued by the AD, in addition to their local credentials, to strongly</li> </ol>   |

- authenticate at the SP. Principal chooses to link her/his identities and gives the Service Provider her/his consent.
3. The Principal is redirected to the AD and authenticates using credentials issued by the AD.
4. The Authentication Delegate tells the Principal that she/he has asked to use credentials issued by the AD to strongly authenticate at the SP. The Principal chooses to link her/his identities and gives the Authentication Delegate her/his consent.

363

364  
 365

**3.6.2.2 Principal Authenticates to SP by Using Credentials at SP and Credentials at AD**



366

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Principal Authenticates to SP by Using both Credentials at SP and Credentials at AD   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal has an identity and credentials (typically an OTP token) at an Authentication Delegate.</li> <li>2. The Principal has an identity and credentials (typically a login/password) at the Service Provider.</li> <li>3. The Authentication Delegate has entered an agreement with the Service Provider by which the Service Provider accepts authentication of the Principal with credentials issued by Authentication Delegate and has agreed what Authentication mechanism(s) they will accept.</li> <li>4. The Authentication Delegate has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and has given notice and obtained consent from the Principal to accept credential validation requests from the Service Provider.</li> <li>5. The Service Provider has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and has given notice and obtained consent from the Principal to use credentials issued by the Authentication Delegate to authenticate her/him.</li> <li>6. The Principal's identity at the Service Provider is linked with her/his credentials issued by the Authentication Delegate.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, Authentication Delegate, Service Provider  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal navigates to the Service Provider, verifies the identity of Service Provider and authenticates to the Service Provider using her/his local credentials (e.g., her/his login/password). The Service Provider recognizes that the Principal is currently assigned an assurance level consistent with password validation.</li> <li>2. The Principal requests a sensitive resource or service at the Service Provider. The Service Provider recognizes that the Principal can be authenticated with a credential managed by the Authentication Delegate (e.g., an OTP) and asks the Principal to use the credentials issued by the Authentication Delegate to initiate stronger authentication mechanism. The Principal provides the requested input.</li> <li>3. The Service Provider asks the Authentication Delegate to validate the credential the Principal has provided. The Authentication Delegate obtains validation of the credential and securely asserts the Principal's authentication and the type of authentication to the Service Provider.</li> <li>4. The Service Provider recognizes that the Principal is currently authenticated with a stronger authentication method (e.g., OTP)</li> </ol> |

and recognizes that thus type of authentication is acceptable to access the requested service or asset. The Service Provider delivers service to the Principal.

367

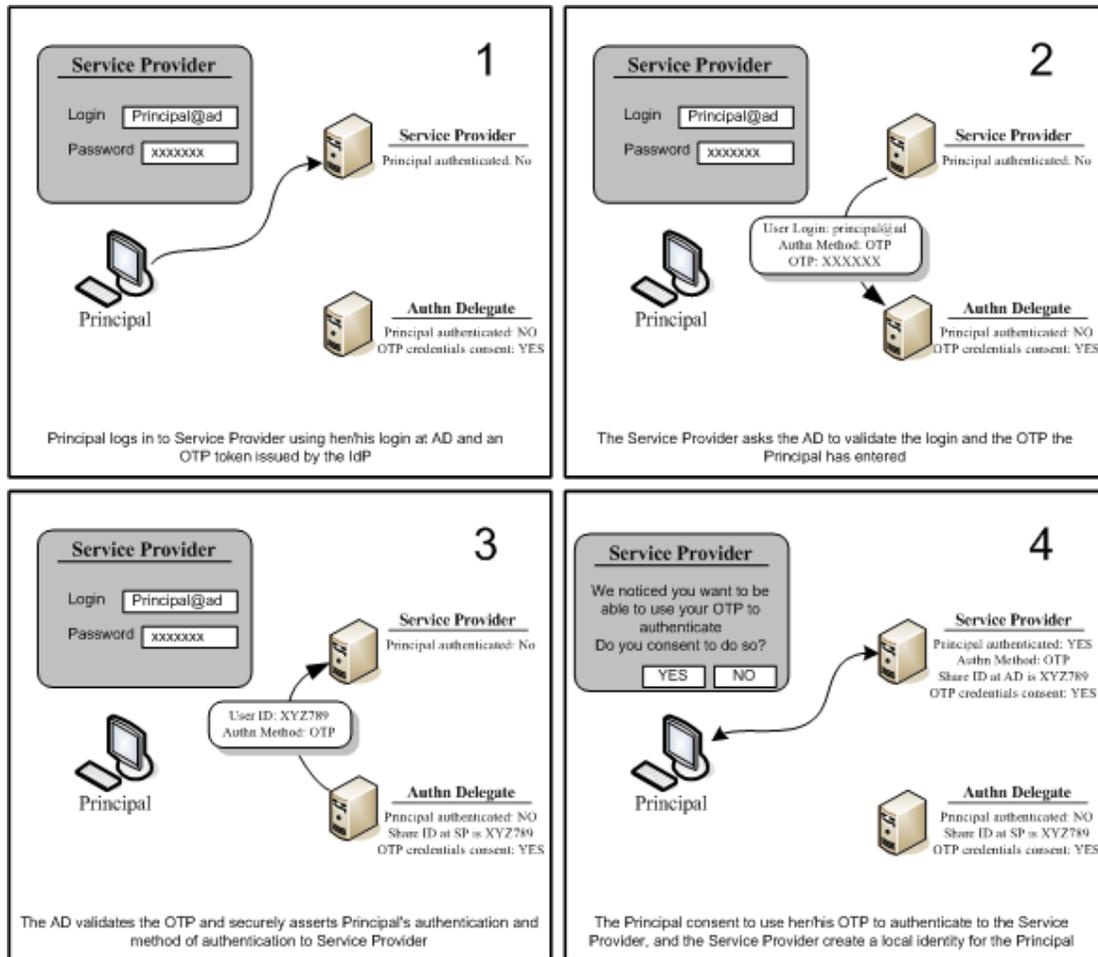
368 **3.6.3 No SP-Local Credentials**

369 Principal has no credentials local to the SP and instead uses only AD-issued credentials to  
 370 authenticate to the SP.

371 **3.6.3.1 Principal Links Credentials at AD to a Newly Created Identity at SP**

372 Linking the Principal's AD-issued credentials to a newly created identity at the SP is a  
 373 prerequisite for being able to use these credentials to authenticate at the SP.

374



375  
 376

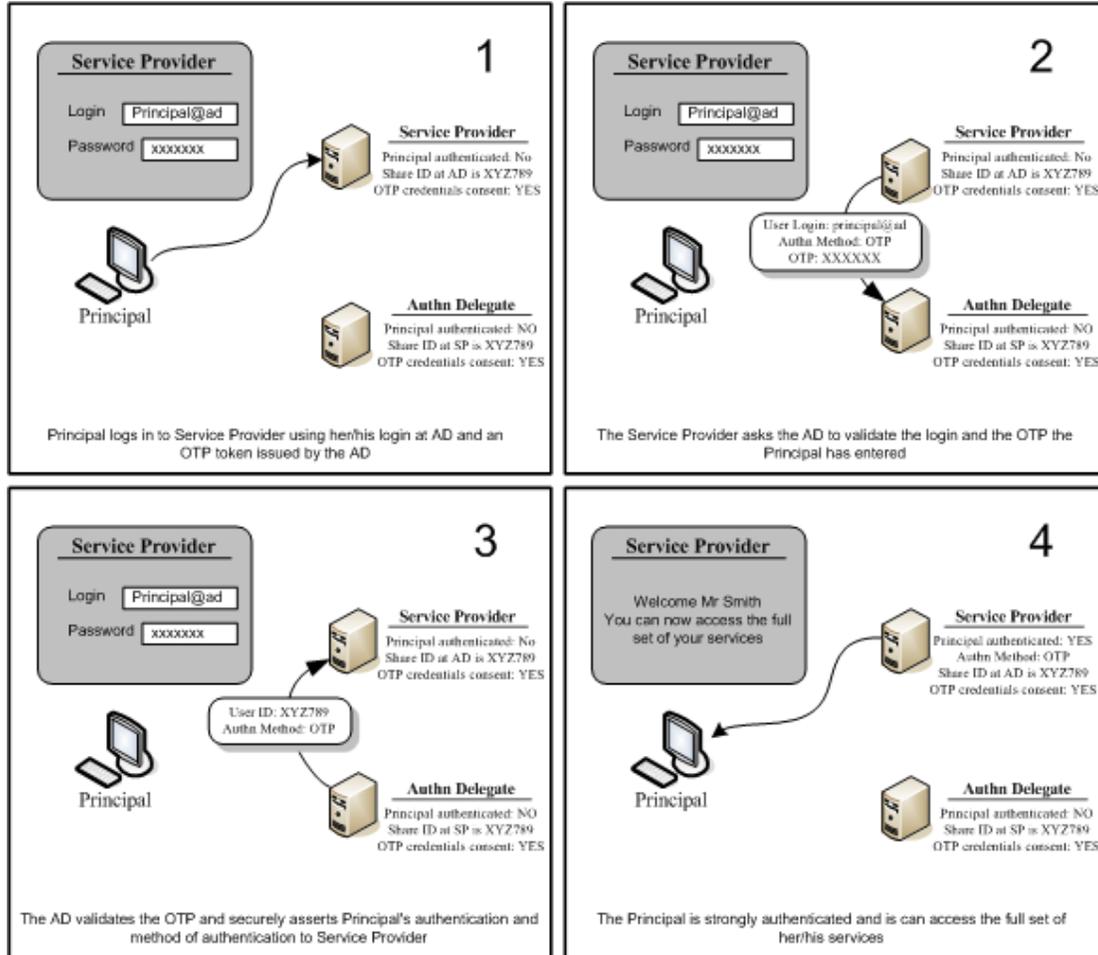
|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Principal Links Credentials at AD to a Newly Created Identity at SP   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal has an identity and stronger credentials (e.g., an OTP token) at an Authentication Delegate.</li> <li>2. The Principal has no identity at the Service Provider yet.</li> <li>3. The Authentication Delegate has entered an agreement with the Service Provider by which the Service Provider accepts authentication of the Principal using AD-issued credentials and has agreed what authentication mechanism(s) will be accepted.</li> <li>4. The Authentication Delegate has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and managing the linking of a Principal's identity at the Authentication Delegate to identities at Service Provider.</li> <li>5. The Authentication Delegate tells the Principal how their identity at the Authentication Delegate can be linked to their identity at the Service Provider, and any other Service Providers with whom that Authentication Delegate has a relationship, in accordance with Liberty guidelines.</li> <li>6. The Principal gives consent to link their identity at the Authentication Delegate with a newly created identity at the Service Providers with whom that Authentication Delegate has a relationship.</li> <li>7. The Authentication Delegate binds the Principal's consent to the notice in accordance with Liberty guidelines.</li> <li>8. The Authentication Delegate stores the bound notice and choice such that the Principal can gain later access this information in accordance with Liberty guidelines.</li> <li>9. The Service Provider has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and managing the linking of a Principal's identity at the Authentication Delegate to the Principal's identity at Service Provider.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, Authentication Delegate, Service Provider  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal navigates to the Service Provider, verifies the identity of the Service Provider, and authenticates to the Service Provider using this AD-issued credentials.</li> <li>2. The Service Provider determines which Authentication Delegate can handle the credentials provided by the Principal and asks the Authentication Delegate to obtain validation for them.</li> <li>3. The Authentication Delegate obtains validation of the provided credentials and returns a resultant (e.g., an authentication assertion) back to the Service Provider.</li> <li>4. The Service Provider determines that the Principal has no identity yet and tells the Principal that she/he must use her/his AD-issued</li> </ol>  |

credentials authenticate at the SP. The Principal chooses to create a new identity local to the Service Provider and to link her/his identities, then gives Service Provider her/his consent.

377

378 **3.6.3.2 Principal Authenticates to SP by Only Using Credentials at AD**

379



380  
 381

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Principal Authenticates to SP by Only Using Credentials at AD   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal has an identity and credentials (e.g., an OTP token) at an Authentication Delegate.</li> <li>2. The Principal has an identity but no credentials at the Service Provider to make assertions about that identity.</li> <li>3. The Authentication Delegate has entered an agreement with the Service Provider by which the Service Provider accepts authentication of the Principal with AD-issued credentials and has agreed what authentication mechanism(s) they will accept.</li> <li>4. The Authentication Delegate has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and has given notice and obtained consent from the Principal to accept credential validation requests from the Service Provider.</li> <li>5. The Service Provider has followed Liberty guidelines for provisioning identities and has given notice and obtained consent from the Principal to use credentials issued by the Authentication Delegate to authenticate her/him.</li> <li>6. The Principal's identity at the Service Provider is linked with her/his credentials issued by the Authentication Delegate.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Constituents</b>   | Principal, Authentication Delegate, Service Provider  |
| <b>Use Case</b>       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Principal navigates to the Service Provider, verifies the identity of the Service Provider, and authenticates to the Service Provider using her/his AD-issued credentials (e.g., her/his login and an OTP).</li> <li>2. The Service Provider asks the Authentication Delegate to obtain validation of the login and the OTP that the Principal has just provided.</li> <li>3. The Authentication Delegate obtains validation of the OTP and securely asserts Principal's authentication and type of authentication to the Service Provider.</li> <li>4. The Service Provider recognizes that the Principal is currently authenticated with a stronger authentication method (e.g., OTP).</li> </ol>   |

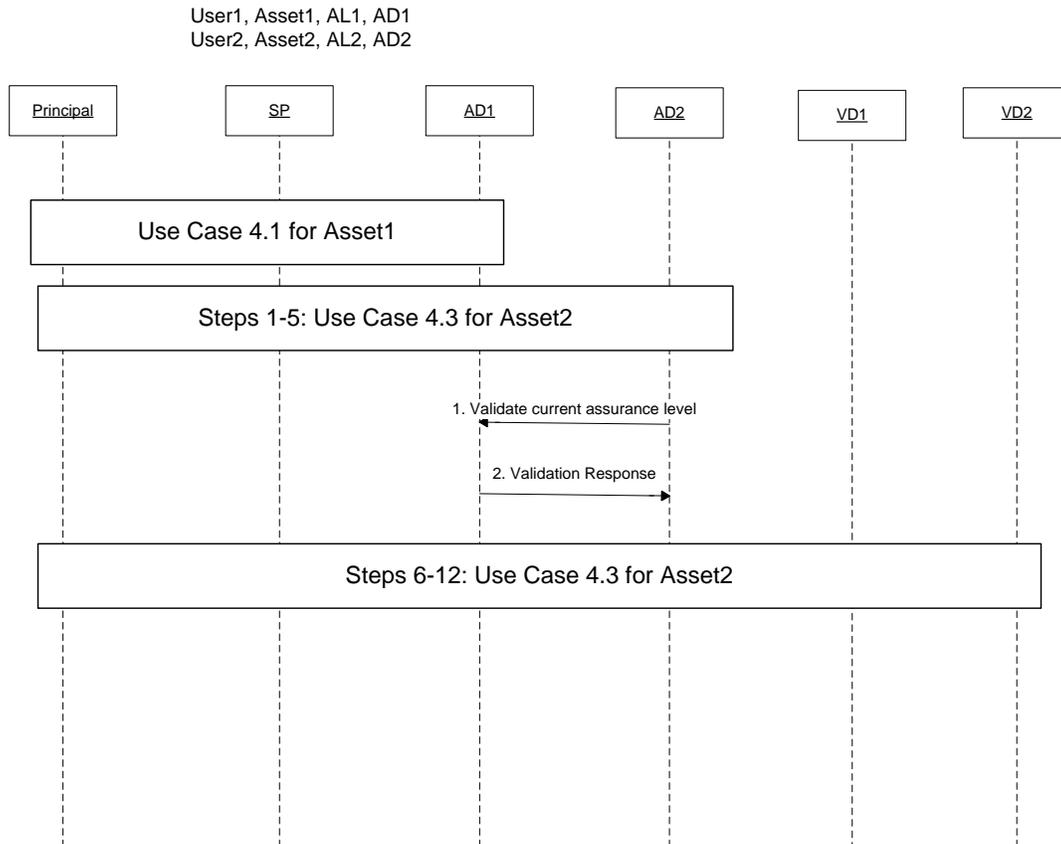
382  
 383  
 384  
 385  
 386

**NB:** This use case raises privacy issue since a same login may be provided to several SPs, enabling these SPs to directly establish a link between the Principal's identities. The SP should, therefore, commit to not storing this information and, instead, use the name ID provided by the AD.

387 **4 Use Cases: Foundational Scenario 2**

388 **4.1 Single Sign-On: Reuse of Authentication Resultants**

389 **4.1.1 Graphical Description**



390  
 391

392 **4.1.2 Description**

|                       |  |
|-----------------------|--|
| <b>Title/ID</b>       | Single Sign-On: Reuse of Authentication Resultants   |
| <b>Pre conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. There exists a trusted relationship between AD1 and AD2 using which authentication requests made by AD1 can be verified by AD2 and used to establish a basic level of assurance on which further authentication can be performed to achieve higher assurance levels. Elements of the trusted relationship between AD include:                         <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Assurance Levels,</li> <li>b. CredentialID mapping,</li> </ol> </li> </ol> |

|                                       |  |
|---------------------------------------|--|
|                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Shared identities, and</li> <li>d. Hierarchy of authentication mechanisms: for example, OTP based on passwords, certificates based on smart cards.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. AD2 is capable of using the current authentication resultants issued to the Principal in order to bootstrap or upgrade to the next level of assurance.</li> <li>3. (Open note) Does AD1 need to perform CredentialID mapping? Would the SP be responsible for this mapping?</li> <li>4. (Open note) Is there a need for the notion of a primary authentication delegate? For points 3 and 4, per TEG sync up, need to look into SAML Proxying model for further interaction details.</li> <li>5. (Open note) Need to specify auditing requirements and limitations of dynamic provisioning and tracking of sessions across AD.</li> <li>6. In a browser-based profile, AD1 may redirect the Principal to AD2. In a smart client-based profile, the client would make a call with the current authentication resultant prior to higher level authentication.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Constituents</b>                   | SP, AD1, AD2, VD1, VD2   |
| <b>Use Case</b>                       | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Principal initiates request for asset1 which is protected by AD1. This leads to execution of Use Case 3.1.</li> <li>2. Principal now requests asset2 for which higher assurance level AL2 is required.</li> <li>3. The SP creates a request to send to AD2 and embeds the resultant or a reference to the resultant in the request along with the verifier URL at AD1 (Steps 1-5 of Use Case 3.3).</li> <li>4. AD2 on receiving the request makes a direct call to AD1 to verify the assertion.</li> <li>5. On receiving confirmation, AD2 performs the higher level authentication and issues a higher level authentication resultant (Steps 6-12 of Use Case 3.3).</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Post conditions</b>                | Principal is able to access higher assurance level asset2 at SP with having to authenticate only the higher level factor.  |
| <b>Out of band / error conditions</b> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Authentication Resultant from AD1 is expired or invalid in which case AD2 could perform a full authentication for the user.</li> <li>2. Other out of band conditions from Use Cases 3.1 and 3.3.</li> </ol>  |

393

394 **4.1.3 Data Elements**

395 In addition to data elements in Use Cases 3.1 and 3.3, the following are net new  
 396 elements:

397

---

| <b>Constituent</b> | <b>Data Element</b> | <b>Function</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---|
| AD2                | Validation Request  | Create, Use     | Out of band trusted connections may enable the Validation request. However, the request contains the requested assurance level in addition to the base resultant. |
| AD1                | Validation Response | Create, Use     | Returns successful confirmation of user identity along with optional CredentialID mapping functions.  |

398

399 **4.1.4 Out of Scope**

400 **4.1.5 Dependencies with Other Use Cases**

401 1. Use Case [3.1](#).

402 2. Use Case [3.3](#).

403 **5 Supporting Service**

404 A Supporting Service fulfills a required role in multiple use cases. Its required set of  
 405 features, including any variances between data sets, are the union of the requirements  
 406 across all of the foundational use cases and any other enhanced use cases, such as those  
 407 described in the [[Identity Theft Whitepaper](#)]. The description of a Supporting Service  
 408 does not in itself constitute a unique use case.

409 **5.1 Discovery of Delegated Service**

410 A range of Authentication Delegates and Validation Delegates may be available in any  
 411 given authentication cycle, and, in fact, using more than one (1) authentication  
 412 mechanism for a given user identity or more than one (1) validator for a credential may  
 413 increase the surety of the authentication. The following discussion applies to both  
 414 Authentication Delegates and Validation Delegates, where the "interactor" refers to the  
 415 service making the discovery request and "evaluator" refers to the service being sought.  
 416 In other words, an Authentication Delegate is an Evaluator when it is being discovered  
 417 and then becomes an Interactor when it searches for a Validation Delegate.

418 It is assumed that the Discovery Service used to locate Evaluators is built from an  
 419 existing Discovery Service. Thus, no new requirements are introduced that read on the  
 420 composition of the basic discovery protocol (e.g., whether the discovery is a network-  
 421 based broadcast or a directory look-up).

422 No assumption is made of a pre-existing relationship between the Interactor and the  
 423 Evaluator, although a pre-existing relationship is allowed, and, should either party desire,  
 424 signatures may be used to verify that relationship.

425 The attributes are basically the same for both the Interactor and the Evaluator. Any non-  
 426 null attributes provided by the Interactor are to be used as search criteria for an Evaluator.  
 427 Each Evaluator discovered will be described with all available attributes and the  
 428 Interactor may or may not choose to actually engage with any of the discovered  
 429 Evaluators.

| Attribute       | Description   |
|-----------------|---|
| Location        | The source (Interactor) of the discovery request, or if this is the result of a discovery request, then this is the location of the Evaluator service.                                |
| Service Name    | Identifying tag for the service. If a prior relationship exists, this may be signed. Any signature or other trust assurance data may be included in sub-attributes to this attribute. |
| Assurance Level | The degree of assurance that will be provided by the Evaluator. In general, if there is no prior relationship, this value has little to no meaning.                                   |

---

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Source         | Source of the Evaluator's knowledge. In the case of an Authentication Delegate, this may identify the Validation Delegate. In the case of a Validation Delegate, this may indicate a repository, as an example. |
| Type of Source | Direct or indirect.   |
| Mechanism      | Type of evaluator mechanism.  |
| Credential     | Type of credential.   |
| Private Data   | Additional attributes that may be provided by an Interactor with a prior relationship with the Evaluator.   |

430

431 The attributes used in the discovery process are used by the Interactor to choose an  
432 evaluator. They do not actually perform the evaluation activity. The Interactor may  
433 choose to save the discovery attributes provided by an Evaluator to qualify the  
434 Evaluator's results. It is important, however, that the Interactor NOT provide user  
435 identity data (e.g., in the Private Data attributes) during the discovery process.

## 436 6 Taxonomy

### 437 6.1 SAEG-Specific Terms and Definitions

#### 438 1. **Asset**

439 Something to which the Principal seeks access. Interchangeable with the term  
440 "resource."

441 a. Either data related to some identity or identities or a service acting on  
442 behalf of some identity or group of identities. An example of a resource is  
443 a calendar containing appointments for a particular identity.

#### 444 2. **Principal** (as adopted from Main [[LibertyGlossary](#)].)

#### 445 3. **Service Provider (SP)**

446 A system entity that provides or denies access to an asset based upon policy. The  
447 SP has an identity store, pointer to authentication mechanisms, and a policy store.  
448 The SP knows the real identity of the Principal.

#### 449 4. **Authentication Delegate (AD)**

450 In a Liberty context, the Authentication Delegate can be thought of as an  
451 **enhanced IdP**. In addition to conventional IdP functions, the AD is required to  
452 perform the following tasks:

453 a. Identity functions related to mapping authentication mechanisms and  
454 assurance levels to user identities.

455 i. Mapping/un-mapping.

456 1. User to authentication mechanism(s).

457 2. Authentication mechanism to assurance level.

458 ii. Discovery.

459 SP and AD must exist in a circle of trust in order to have a trusted  
460 exchange of sensitive strong-authentication information:

461 1. Discovery of services

462 a. AD discovery by SP.

463 b. VD discovery by AD.

464 2. Discovery of strong authentication-related attributes per  
465 service and per user/group, e.g., respond to requests for  
466 discovery of available authentication mechanisms per user.

467 iii. Coordination of authentication of the Principal.

468 iv. Lifecycle (provision, activation, and management) for strong  
469 authentication credentials for set of Principals under management.

470 b. Credential collection from SP or Principal and respective transmission to  
471 another AD and/or VD.

472 c. Correlation of the authentication mechanisms per Principal against the  
473 authentication strength as required by the SP.

#### 474 5. **Validation Delegate**

475 The Validation Delegate is aware of the mapping between a Credential ID and the

- 476 Credential for one or more authentication mechanisms without the ability to  
477 correlate the mechanisms for a given Principal, that is the actual user's identity is  
478 masked with a handle or equivalent, for purposes of privacy protection. One or  
479 more Credential IDs can be associated to one authentication mechanism.
- 480 The VD performs the following services:
- 481 a. Optionally sources/collects the Credentials,
  - 482 b. Validates given authentication credentials for a claimed Principal,
  - 483 c. Maps one or more Credential IDs for a Credential per authentication  
484 mechanism, and
  - 485 d. Enumerates the attributes of itself including, but not limited to, its  
486 supported authentication mechanisms and associated metadata.
- 487 **6. Credential Alias**
- 488 An opaque reference that is bound to an identity at the AD and is also bound to  
489 one credential at the VD to be validated. A VD may establish a unique credential  
490 alias per AD for enhanced privacy.
- 491 **7. Credential Identifier (ID)**
- 492 A unique identifier of the credential at the VD.
- 493 **8. Authentication Resultant**
- 494 Stores/represents/contains result and its respective authentication context of a  
495 previous authentication process in the form of a token. One implementation of  
496 the resultant could be the SAML assertion.
- 497 **9. Authentication Context**
- 498 Container of descriptive attributes required as an input to select an authentication  
499 mechanism (or) derived as an output from execution of the selected authentication  
500 mechanism. This does not assume successful authentication. Additional data  
501 communicated related the specific result of a transaction.
- 502 a. Empty.
    - 503 i. Nothing.
  - 504 b. Rich (extensible).
    - 505 i. Audit trail.
    - 506 ii. States.
    - 507 iii. Strikes.
    - 508 iv. System information.
    - 509 v. Previous authentications.
- 510 **10. Assurance Level:**
- 511 An assurance level can be defined as the required set of criteria that must be  
512 satisfied in order for a Principal to obtain access to an asset. In the current  
513 context, these criteria are expected to be restricted to those that are conveyed  
514 within an authentication resultant. In this context:
- 515 a. Each asset can be thought off as possessing a "Required" Assurance  
516 Level. This is the basic set of criteria which must be met in order to  
517 obtain access to the asset.

- 518                    b. Each Principal can be thought off as possessing a "Resultant" Assurance  
519                    Level. This is the basic set of criteria which the principal has already  
520                    fulfilled by virtue of a previous authentication event. In the most trivial  
521                    case, lack of authentication implies only unrestricted criteria which are  
522                    possessed by all principals.
- 523                    **11. Authentication Discovery**  
524                    The request-response interaction by which a Resource Owner (RO)/Asset Owner  
525                    (AO) can interrogate and identify one or more AuthD entities that can to the  
526                    fullest extent possible the passed authentication context attributes.
- 527                    **12. Authentication Upgrade**  
528                    The process by which an RO/AO can request issuance of security resultants  
529                    which can be used by the requester to access resources/perform operations which  
530                    demand levels of assurance higher than that conveyed by the requestors most  
531                    recent security resultants.
- 532                    **13. Factor**  
533                    A unique type of information that can be tested to validate a claimed attribute.  
534                    Commonly considered factors at this point:  
535                        a. Possession.  
536                        b. Knowledge.  
537                        c. Essence.
- 538                    **14. Transaction**  
539                    A unique request and response exchange between any two system entities.
- 540                    **15. Policy store**  
541                    Holds a set of policies used to make authorization decisions which are based upon  
542                    authentication results and additional data.
- 543                    **16. Identity store**  
544                    Local repository of known Principals.
- 545                    **17. Provisioning**  
546                    The aggregation of fulfillment and activation.
- 547                    **18. Credential store**  
548                    Local repository of factor information associated to an identity through a unique  
549                    identifier.
- 550                    **19. Fulfillment**  
551                    The delivery of a credential to a Principal.
- 552                    **20. Activation**  
553                    The association of a credential with a credential store so that authentication event  
554                    can take place.

555

## 556 **6.2 Liberty-Specific Terms and Definitions Taken from the** 557 **Master Glossary**

558 From the master [[LibertyGlossary](#)]:

559 1. **authenticated identity**

560 An identity, representing a system entity, which often is a Principal, that is  
561 asserted to have been the subject of a successful authentication.

562 2. **authenticating entity**

563 A system entity that engages in the process of authenticating itself to another  
564 system entity, the latter typically being an Identity Provider (see also  
565 authentication). More formally, an authenticating system entity.

566 3. **authentication** (authn)

567 Authentication is the process of confirming a system entity's asserted identity  
568 with a specified, or understood, level of confidence [[TrustInCyberspace](#)].

569 4. **authentication mechanism**

570 An authentication mechanism is a particular, identifiable, process or technique  
571 that results in a confirmation of a system entity's asserted identity with a  
572 specified, or understood, level of confidence.

573 5. **authentication session**

574 The period of time starting after A has authenticated B and until A stops trusting  
575 B's identity assertion and requires reauthentication. Also known simply as a  
576 session, it is the state between a successful login and a successful logout by a  
577 Principal.

578 6. **authorization** (authz)

579 The process of determining, by evaluating applicable access control information,  
580 whether a subject is allowed to have the specified types of access to a particular  
581 resource. Usually, authorization is in the context of authentication. Once a  
582 subject is authenticated, it may be authorized to perform different types of access  
583 [[SAMLGloss](#)].

584 7. **client**

585 A role assumed by a system entity who makes a request of another system entity,  
586 often termed a server [[RFC2828](#)]. A client is at varying times a sender or a  
587 receiver.

588 8. **credentials**

589 Data that is transferred or presented to establish either a claimed identity or the  
590 authorizations of a system entity.

591 9. **federation**

592 a. The act of establishing a relationship between two entities.

593 b. An association comprising any number of service providers and identity  
594 providers.

- 595        10. **identity**  
596            The essence of an entity. One's identity is often described by one's  
597            characteristics, among which may be any number of identifiers. A Principal may  
598            wield one or more identities. See also Principal identity.  
599        11. **Identity Provider (IdP)**  
600            A Liberty-enabled system entity that manages identity information on behalf of  
601            Principals and provides assertions of Principal authentication to other providers.  
602        12. **login**  
603            The act of a Principal proving their identity to a system entity, which typically  
604            establishes a session.  
605        13. **logout**  
606            The termination of a session.  
607        14. **metadata**  
608            Definitional data that provides information about other data or system entities  
609            managed within an application or environment. In Liberty, metadata is Provider  
610            information that is necessary for interacting with Providers [[LibertyMetadata](#)].  
611        15. **opaque handle**  
612            An identifier that has meaning only in the context between a specific identity  
613            provider and specific service provider.  
614        16. **permission**  
615            Privileges granted to a system entity with respect to operations that may be  
616            performed on some resource.  
617        17. **policy**  
618            A logically defined, enforceable, and testable set of rules.  
619        18. **Policy Decision Point**  
620            A system entity that evaluates decision requests in light of applicable policy and  
621            information describing the requesting entity or entities and renders an  
622            authorization decision.  
623        19. **Policy Enforcement Point**  
624            A system entity that performs access control by making decision requests and  
625            enforcing authorization decisions. If the authorization decision is pushed to the  
626            PEP, there will be no need for it to create a request.  
627        20. **Principal**  
628            Succinctly, a principal is a system entity whose identity can be authenticated. In  
629            Liberty usage, the term Principal is often synonymous with "natural person" or  
630            "user." A Principal's identity may be federated. Examples of Principals include  
631            individual users, groups of individuals, organizational entities (e.g., corporations),  
632            or a component of the Liberty architecture.  
633        21. **Principal identity**  
634            An identity being wielded by a Principal or that is mapped to a Principal in some  
635            fashion.

- 636 22. **privacy**  
637 Proper handling of personal information throughout its life cycle, consistent with  
638 the preferences of the subject.
- 639 23. **processing context**  
640 A processing context is the collection of specific circumstances under which a  
641 particular processing step or set of steps take place.
- 642 24. **processing context facet**  
643 A processing context facet is an identified aspect, inherent or additive, of a  
644 processing context.
- 645 25. **profile**  
646 Data comprising the broad set of attributes that may be maintained on behalf of an  
647 system entity (usually a Principal), over and beyond its various identifiers. At  
648 least some of this information (for example, addresses, preferences, card  
649 numbers) is typically provided by the Principal.
- 650 26. **provider**  
651 A provider is a Liberty-enabled entity that performs one or more of the provider  
652 roles in the Liberty architecture, for example Service Provider or Identity  
653 Provider. Providers are identified in Liberty protocol interactions by their  
654 Provider IDs or optionally their Affiliation ID if they are a member of an  
655 affiliation(s) and are acting in that capacity.
- 656 27. **proxy**  
657 a. An entity authorized to act for another [[Merriam-Webster](#)].  
658 b. A system entity whose authenticated identity, according to the recipient,  
659 differs from that of the system entity making the invocation under  
660 consideration.
- 661 28. **pseudonym**  
662 An arbitrary identifier assigned by the identity or service provider to identify a  
663 Principal to a given relying party so that the name has meaning only in the  
664 context of the relationship between the parties.
- 665 29. **recipient**  
666 An entity that receives a message and acts as the message's ultimate processor.
- 667 30. **receiver**  
668 A role taken by a system entity when it receives a message sent by another system  
669 entity.
- 670 31. **relying party**  
671 The recipient of a message that relies on a request message and associated  
672 assertions to determine whether to provide a requested service.
- 673 32. **requester**  
674 A system entity which sends a service request to a provider.
- 675 33. **resource**  
676 Either data related to some identity or identities, or a service acting on behalf of  
677 some identity or group of identities. An example of a resource is a calendar  
678 containing appointments for a particular identity.

- 679        34. **role**  
680            A function or part performed, especially in a particular operation or process  
681            [[Merriam-Webster](#)].
- 682        35. **security token**  
683            In Liberty, a security token is a collection of security-related information that is  
684            used to represent and substantiate a claim  
685            [[LibertyIDWSFSecurityPrivacyGuidelines](#)] [[LibertySecMech](#)]. Outside of  
686            Liberty, the term "security token" often refers to hardware-based devices, e.g., so-  
687            called "token cards." One should not confuse the latter and the former definitions.  
688            However, it is possible for some given authentication mechanism to employ token  
689            cards in the process of authentication.
- 690        36. **sender**  
691            a. A role donned by a system entity when it constructs and sends a message  
692            to another system entity. See also SOAP sender in [[SOAPv1.2](#)].  
693                i. An initial SOAP sender. A sender is a proxy when its identity  
694                differs from the invocation identity.
- 695        37. **server**  
696            A role donned by a system entity that provides a service in response to requests  
697            from other system entities called clients [[RFC2828](#)]. Note that in order to provide  
698            a service to clients, a server will often be both a sender and a receiver.
- 699        38. **session**  
700            [[Merriam-Webster](#)] defines session (in its sixth sense [*sic*]) as: "a meeting or  
701            period devoted to a particular activity." Thus, a given interaction between some  
702            set of system entities may involve a notion of session, especially if one or more of  
703            the system entities maintain session state.
- 704        39. **session state**  
705            If an interaction between system entities involves one or more of the system  
706            entities maintaining information pertaining to the interaction itself—such as who  
707            the other involved system entity(ies) are, when the interaction began, etc.—then  
708            there likely is an explicit notion of session and thus this information is termed  
709            session state information.
- 710        40. **single sign-on (SSO)**  
711            From a Principal's perspective, single sign-on encompasses the capability to  
712            authenticate with some system entity—in the Liberty context, an Identity  
713            Provider—and have that authentication honored by other system entities, termed  
714            Service Providers in the Liberty context. Note that upon authenticating with an  
715            Identity Provider, the Identity Provider typically establishes and maintains some  
716            notion of local session state between itself and the Principal's user agent. Service  
717            Providers may also maintain their own distinct local session state with a  
718            Principal's user agent.
- 719        41. **system entity**  
720            An active element of a computer/network system. For example, an automated

- 721 process or set of processes, a subsystem, a person or group of persons that  
722 incorporates a distinct set of functionality [[SAMLGloss](#)].
- 723 42. **token**  
724 See security token.
- 725 43. **Trusted Third Party (TTP)**  
726 In general, a security authority or its agent, trusted by other entities with respect  
727 to security-related activities. In the context of Liberty, these other entities are, for  
728 example, Principals and Service Providers, and the trusted third party is typically  
729 the Identity Provider(s) involved in the particular interaction of interest.  
730

---

## 731 **7 References**

- 732 [Identity Theft Whitepaper] Duserick, William, eds, "Whitepaper on Liberty Protocol  
733 and Identity Theft," Version 1.0, Liberty Alliance Project (February 20, 2004).  
734 [http://www.projectliberty.org/liberty/content/download/389/2726/file/Liberty\\_Identity\\_Th](http://www.projectliberty.org/liberty/content/download/389/2726/file/Liberty_Identity_Th)  
735 [eft\\_Whitepaper.pdf](http://www.projectliberty.org/liberty/content/download/389/2726/file/Liberty_Identity_Th_eft_Whitepaper.pdf)
- 736 [LibertyIDWSFSecurityPrivacyGuidelines] Landau, Susan, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF  
737 Security and Privacy Overview," Version 1.0, Liberty Alliance Project (8 October 2003).  
738 <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 739 [LibertyGlossary] Hodges, Jeff, eds. "Liberty Technical Glossary," Version v2.0, Liberty  
740 Alliance Project (30 July, 2006). <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 741 [LibertyMetadata] Davis, Peter, eds. "Liberty Metadata Description and Discovery  
742 Specification," Version 2.0-02, Liberty Alliance Project (25 November 2004).  
743 <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 744 [LibertySecMech] Hirsch, Frederick, eds. "Liberty ID-WSF Security Mechanisms Core,"  
745 Version 2.0-errata-v1.0, Liberty Alliance Project (21 April, 2007).  
746 <http://www.projectliberty.org/specs>
- 747 [Merriam-Webster] "Merriam-Webster Dictionary," <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>
- 748 [MRD.Strong.Auth.Slides] Friese, Ingo, eds. "Use Case for Flexible Strong  
749 Authentication," Liberty Alliance Project  
750 (<http://www.projectliberty.org/liberty/content/download/4298/28776/file/MRD.Strong.Au>  
751 [th.slides.pdf](http://www.projectliberty.org/liberty/content/download/4298/28776/file/MRD.Strong.Au_th.slides.pdf))
- 752 [RFC2828] Shirey, R., eds. (May 2000). "Internet Security Glossary," RFC 2828.,  
753 Internet Engineering Task Force. <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2828.txt>
- 754 [SAMLGloss] Hodges, Jeff, Maler, Eve, eds. (05 November 2002). "Glossary for the  
755 OASIS Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML)," SAML V1.0, OASIS Standard,  
756 Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards [http://www.oasis-](http://www.oasis-open.org/specs/index.php#samlv1.0)  
757 [open.org/specs/index.php#samlv1.0](http://www.oasis-open.org/specs/index.php#samlv1.0)
- 758 [SOAPv1.2] "SOAP Version 1.2 Part 1: Messaging Framework," Gudgin, Martin, Hadley,  
759 Marc, Mendelsohn, Noah, Moreau, Jean-Jacques, Nielsen, Henrik Frystyk, eds. World  
760 Wide Web Consortium W3C Recommendation (07 May 2003).  
761 <http://www.w3.org/TR/2003/PR-soap12-part1-20030507/>
- 762 [TrustInCyberspace] Schneider, Fred B., eds. "Trust in Cyberspace," National Research  
763 Council (1999) <http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/trust/>