



XMPP

XEP-0094: Agent Information

Peter Saint-Andre
<mailto:stpeter@stpeter.im>
<xmpp:stpeter@jabber.org>
<https://stpeter.im/>

2003-10-08
Version 0.3

Status	Type	Short Name
Obsolete	Historical	iq-agents

This specification provides canonical documentation of the obsolete Agent Information namespace.
Note: This document has been superseded by XEP-0030: Service Discovery.

Legal

Copyright

This XMPP Extension Protocol is copyright © 1999 – 2024 by the [XMPP Standards Foundation](#) (XSF).

Permissions

Permission is hereby granted, free of charge, to any person obtaining a copy of this specification (the "Specification"), to make use of the Specification without restriction, including without limitation the rights to implement the Specification in a software program, deploy the Specification in a network service, and copy, modify, merge, publish, translate, distribute, sublicense, or sell copies of the Specification, and to permit persons to whom the Specification is furnished to do so, subject to the condition that the foregoing copyright notice and this permission notice shall be included in all copies or substantial portions of the Specification. Unless separate permission is granted, modified works that are redistributed shall not contain misleading information regarding the authors, title, number, or publisher of the Specification, and shall not claim endorsement of the modified works by the authors, any organization or project to which the authors belong, or the XMPP Standards Foundation.

Warranty

NOTE WELL: This Specification is provided on an "AS IS" BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF ANY KIND, express or implied, including, without limitation, any warranties or conditions of TITLE, NON-INFRINGEMENT, MERCHANTABILITY, or FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Liability

In no event and under no legal theory, whether in tort (including negligence), contract, or otherwise, unless required by applicable law (such as deliberate and grossly negligent acts) or agreed to in writing, shall the XMPP Standards Foundation or any author of this Specification be liable for damages, including any direct, indirect, special, incidental, or consequential damages of any character arising from, out of, or in connection with the Specification or the implementation, deployment, or other use of the Specification (including but not limited to damages for loss of goodwill, work stoppage, computer failure or malfunction, or any and all other commercial damages or losses), even if the XMPP Standards Foundation or such author has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Conformance

This XMPP Extension Protocol has been contributed in full conformance with the XSF's Intellectual Property Rights Policy (a copy of which can be found at <https://xmpp.org/about/xsf/ipr-policy>) or obtained by writing to XMPP Standards Foundation, P.O. Box 787, Parker, CO 80134 USA).

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Definition	1
3	Examples	2
4	Security Considerations	2
5	IANA Considerations	2
6	XMPP Registrar Considerations	3
7	XML Schema	3

1 Introduction

Over the years there have been three different protocols used in the Jabber community to discover information about other entities on the network. The most recent protocol, and the only one that is standards-track, is [Service Discovery \(XEP-0030\)](https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0030.html)¹. The protocol prior to Service Discovery was [Jabber Browsing \(XEP-0011\)](https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0011.html)². Before Jabber Browsing, there was the 'jabber:iq:agents' namespace. This specification provides historical documentation for the Agent Information protocol.

Note well that the Agent Information protocol is deprecated; applications desiring such functionality SHOULD implement Service Discovery. This specification is provided only in order to ensure complete documentation of earlier protocols.

2 Definition

The 'jabber:iq:agents' namespace was used to obtain a list of entities associated with another Jabber Entity; most commonly, the list of trusted services associated with a specific host.

When 'jabber:iq:agents' is used, information about available agents properties is contained within a <query/> element that is scoped by the 'jabber:iq:agents' namespace. The reply to a request of type "get" in the 'jabber:iq:agents' namespace contains zero or more <agent/> elements. The <agent/> element has a required 'jid' attribute that contains the Jabber Identifier of each agent. The <agent/> element in turn may contain the following children:

- name - a natural-language name for the service
- description - a short phrase describing the service
- transport - inclusion of this empty element signals that the service is a gateway to a non-Jabber instant messaging system
- groupchat - inclusion of this empty element signals that the service is multi-user chat service
- service - the CDATA of this element specifies the type of gateway (aim, icq, irc, msn, yahoo), the type of conferencing service (public or private), or user directory (jud); these values were never standardized and are not registered with the XMPP Registrar
- register - inclusion of this empty element signals that the service supports registration
- search - inclusion of this empty element signals that the service supports searching

¹XEP-0030: Service Discovery <<https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0030.html>>.

²XEP-0011: Jabber Browsing <<https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0011.html>>.

3 Examples

Listing 1: Request for Agents List

```
<iq id='agents1' type='get' to='shakespeare.lit'>
  <query xmlns='jabber:iq:agents' />
</iq>
```

Listing 2: Reply Containing Agents List

```
<iq
  to='juliet@capulet.com/balcony'
  from='shakespeare.lit'
  type='result'
  id='agents1'>
  <query xmlns='jabber:iq:agents'>
    <agent jid='users.shakespeare.lit'>
      <name>Jabber User Directory</name>
      <service>jud</service>
      <search/>
      <register/>
    </agent>
    <agent jid='chat.shakespeare.lit'>
      <name>Conferencing Service</name>
      <service>public</service>
      <groupchat/>
    </agent>
  </query>
</iq>
```

4 Security Considerations

There are no security features or concerns related to this proposal.

5 IANA Considerations

This document requires no interaction with the [Internet Assigned Numbers Authority \(IANA\)](http://www.iana.org/)³.

³The Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) is the central coordinator for the assignment of unique parameter values for Internet protocols, such as port numbers and URI schemes. For further information, see <http://www.iana.org/>.

6 XMPP Registrar Considerations

No action on the part of the [XMPP Registrar](#)⁴ is necessary as a result of this document, since 'jabber:iq:agents' is already a registered namespace.

7 XML Schema

```
<?xml version='1.0' encoding='UTF-8'?>

<xs:schema
  xmlns:xs='http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema'
  targetNamespace='jabber:iq:agents'
  xmlns='jabber:iq:agents'
  elementFormDefault='qualified'>

  <xs:element name='query'>
    <xs:complexType>
      <xs:sequence minOccurs='0'>
        <xs:element ref='agent' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='unbounded' />
      </xs:sequence>
    </xs:complexType>
  </xs:element>

  <xs:element name='agent'>
    <xs:complexType>
      <xs:sequence>
        <xs:element ref='name' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
        <xs:element ref='description' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
        <xs:element ref='transport' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
        <xs:element ref='groupchat' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
        <xs:element ref='service' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
        <xs:element ref='register' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
        <xs:element ref='search' minOccurs='0' maxOccurs='1' />
      </xs:sequence>
      <xs:attribute name='jid' type='xs:string' use='required' />
    </xs:complexType>
  </xs:element>

  <xs:element name='name' type='xs:string' />
  <xs:element name='description' type='xs:string' />
  <xs:element name='transport' />
  <xs:element name='groupchat' />
  <xs:element name='service' type='xs:string' />
```

⁴The XMPP Registrar maintains a list of reserved protocol namespaces as well as registries of parameters used in the context of XMPP extension protocols approved by the XMPP Standards Foundation. For further information, see <https://xmpp.org/registrar/>.

```
<xs:element name='register'/>
<xs:element name='search'/>

</xs:schema>
```