



# XMPP

## XEP-0157: Contact Addresses for XMPP Services

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

Jacek Konieczny  
<mailto:jajcus@jajcus.net>  
<xmpp:jajcus@jabber.bnet.pl>

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This document defines a method for specifying contact addresses related to an XMPP service.

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## 1 Introduction

RFC 2142 <sup>1</sup> specifies conventional electronic mailbox names for common services, roles, and functions related to SMTP, NNTP, and HTTP (such as security@domain.tld, usenet@domain.tld, and abuse@domain.tld). However, no such conventional email address or XMPP address has been specified for XMPP services (e.g., in RFC 3920 <sup>2</sup>). This document remedies that oversight, and the email recommendation specified here has been incorporated into RFC 6120 <sup>3</sup>.

## 2 Email Address

Consistent with RFC 2142 <sup>4</sup>, a domain that offers a Jabber/XMPP service SHOULD provide an Internet mailbox of "XMPP" for inquiries related to that service.

## 3 XMPP Addresses

The administrators of an XMPP service may desire to advertise contact information related to that service. <sup>5</sup> This contact information may include email addresses, web URLs, and JabberIDs for specific roles and functions such as the service administrators, abuse reports, customer feedback, sales inquiries, technical support, and security concerns. For this purpose, domains SHOULD support the electronic mailboxes required by RFC 2142 <sup>7</sup>. However, additional contact mechanisms may be desirable, and it would be helpful if those who want to initiate contact could discover the contact information using standard XMPP extensions, specifically *Service Discovery (XEP-0030)* <sup>8</sup>. To make such discovery possible, we specify a *Service Discovery Extensions (XEP-0128)* <sup>9</sup> mechanism that a server SHOULD return in response to service discovery information ("disco#info") requests sent to the bare domain of the server. This information MUST be scoped using a FORM\_TYPE of "http://jabber.org/network/serverinfo"

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<sup>1</sup>RFC 2142: Mailbox Names for Common Services, Roles and Functions <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2142>>.

<sup>2</sup>RFC 3920: Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP): Core <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3920>>.

<sup>3</sup>RFC 6120: Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP): Core <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6120>>.

<sup>4</sup>RFC 2142: Mailbox Names for Common Services, Roles and Functions <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2142>>.

<sup>5</sup>Many existing Jabber/XMPP server implementations use the bare domain <domain.tld> of the server (e.g., "example.org") as an alias for the server administrators, such that a <message/> stanza addressed to that domain name is delivered to the JIDs of the server administrators. (Currently, this functionality does not apply to <iq/> or <presence/> stanzas.) Unfortunately, using the "domain.tld" address as a way to direct messages to the server administrators may result in overloading of the bare domain address (i.e., it may be desirable to send messages to the server's address without having those messages delivered to the server admins, for example if the server doubles as a *Publish-Subscribe (XEP-0060)* <sup>6</sup> service). Therefore, it is instead RECOMMENDED to support service discovery of contact addresses as specified herein.

<sup>7</sup>RFC 2142: Mailbox Names for Common Services, Roles and Functions <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2142>>.

<sup>8</sup>XEP-0030: Service Discovery <<https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0030.html>>.

<sup>9</sup>XEP-0128: Service Discovery Extensions <<https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0128.html>>.

(as already specified in [Service Discovery Extensions \(XEP-0128\)](#) <sup>10</sup>) and data form fields registered for this purpose as defined in the [XMPP Registrar Considerations](#) section of this document.

Values of 'status-addresses' form field MUST be valid URIs, i.e. comply with the 'xs:anyURI' datatype of [XML Schema Part 2](#) <sup>11</sup>. Values of the 'abuse-addresses', 'admin-addresses', 'feedback-addresses', 'sales-addresses', 'security-addresses' and 'support-addresses' SHOULD be valid URIs.

To illustrate this usage, consider the following example of a disco#info request sent to the mythical shakespeare.lit XMPP server:

Listing 1: Entity queries server for information

```
<iq from='juliet@capulet.com/chamber'
  to='shakespeare.lit'
  id='disco1'
  type='get'>
  <query xmlns='http://jabber.org/protocol/disco#info' />
</iq>
```

Listing 2: Server communicates information

```
<iq from='shakespeare.lit'
  to='juliet@capulet.com/chamber'
  id='disco1'
  type='result'>
  <query xmlns='http://jabber.org/protocol/disco#info'>
    <identity category='server' type='im' />
    <feature var='http://jabber.org/protocol/disco' />
    <x xmlns='jabber:x:data' type='result'>
      <field var='FORM_TYPE' type='hidden'>
        <value>http://jabber.org/network/serverinfo</value>
      </field>
      <field var='abuse-addresses'>
        <value>mailto:abuse@shakespeare.lit</value>
        <value>xmpp:abuse@shakespeare.lit</value>
      </field>
      <field var='admin-addresses'>
        <value>mailto:xmpp@shakespeare.lit</value>
        <value>xmpp:admins@shakespeare.lit</value>
      </field>
      <field var='feedback-addresses'>
        <value>http://shakespeare.lit/feedback.php</value>
        <value>mailto:feedback@shakespeare.lit</value>
        <value>xmpp:feedback@shakespeare.lit</value>
      </field>
      <field var='sales-addresses'>
```

<sup>10</sup>XEP-0128: Service Discovery Extensions <<https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0128.html>>.

<sup>11</sup>XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes <<http://www.w3.org/TR/xmlschema11-2/>>.

```

    <value>xmpp:bard@shakespeare.lit</value>
  </field>
  <field var='security-addresses'>
    <value>xmpp:security@shakespeare.lit</value>
  </field>
  <field var='status-addresses'>
    <value>https://status.shakespeare.lit</value>
  </field>
  <field var='support-addresses'>
    <value>http://shakespeare.lit/support.php</value>
    <value>xmpp:support@shakespeare.lit</value>
  </field>
</x>
</query>
</iq>

```

## 4 Deployment Notes

The "domain.tld" at which the XMPP service is hosted need not be the same as the "domain.tld" at which the email service is hosted. For example, it is common for a service provider to host its XMPP service at a hostname such as "jabber.example.org" whereas email related to the service provider is sent to a hostname of "example.org". Thus while the XMPP address and email address may be the same for some service providers (e.g., both "xmpp@example.com"), that similarity is not necessary.

Although some service providers that use the same address for both XMPP and email messaging may integrate delivery of messages sent by those mechanisms (e.g., XMPP messages sent while a user is offline are redirected to email delivery), XMPP and email remain separate messaging systems.

A service provider that supports the functionality specified herein may advertise the service through a Mailto URI (see [RFC 2368](http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2368)<sup>12</sup>) of <mailto:xmpp@domain.tld> and through appropriate XMPP URIs (see [RFC 5122](http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5122)<sup>13</sup>) such as <xmpp:admins@domain.tld> or (per [XMPP URI Query Components \(XEP-0147\)](https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0147.html)<sup>14</sup>) <xmpp:admins@domain.tld?message>.

It is a matter of service policy whether the XMPP addresses provided are dedicated accounts or aliases that redirect communications to the appropriate accounts.

## 5 Security Considerations

Providing or advertising contact addresses may open those addresses to unwanted communication. Server administrators should balance the need for openness with the desire for

<sup>12</sup>RFC 2368: The mailto URL scheme <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc2368>>.

<sup>13</sup>RFC 5122: Internationalized Resource Identifiers (IRIs) and Uniform Resource Identifiers (URIs) for the Extensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP) <<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5122>>.

<sup>14</sup>XEP-0147: XMPP URI Query Components <<https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0147.html>>.

control over communication with customers and peers.

## 6 IANA Considerations

This document requires no interaction with the [Internet Assigned Numbers Authority \(IANA\)](#)<sup>15</sup>.

## 7 XMPP Registrar Considerations

The [XMPP Registrar](#)<sup>16</sup> includes the following information in its registries.

### 7.1 Field Standardization

[Field Standardization for Data Forms \(XEP-0068\)](#)<sup>17</sup> defines a process for standardizing the fields used within Data Forms qualified by a particular namespace, and [Service Discovery Extensions \(XEP-0128\)](#)<sup>18</sup> describes how to use field standardization in the context of service discovery. This section registers fields for server information scoped by the "http://jabber.org/network/serverinfo" FORM\_TYPE.

```
<form_type>
  <name>http://jabber.org/network/serverinfo</name>
  <doc>XEP-0157</doc>
  <desc>
    Forms enabling the communication of contact addresses
    and other server information.
  </desc>
  <field
    var='abuse-addresses'
    type='list-multi'
    label='One_or_more_addresses_for_communication_related_to_
      abusive_traffic' />
  <field
    var='admin-addresses'
    type='list-multi'
```

---

<sup>15</sup>The 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/>.

<sup>16</sup>The 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/>.

<sup>17</sup>XEP-0068: Field Data Standardization for Data Forms <https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0068.html>.

<sup>18</sup>XEP-0128: Service Discovery Extensions <https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0128.html>.

```
        label='One_or_more_addresses_for_communication_with_the_service_
            administrators' />
    <field
        var='feedback-addresses'
        type='list-multi'
        label='One_or_more_addresses_for_customer_feedback' />
    <field
        var='sales-addresses'
        type='list-multi'
        label='One_or_more_addresses_for_communication_related_to_sales_
            and_marketing' />
    <field
        var='security-addresses'
        type='list-multi'
        label='One_or_more_addresses_for_communication_related_to_
            security_concerns' />
    <field
        var='status-addresses'
        type='list-multi'
        label='One_or_more_addresses_for_service_status' >
    </field>
    <field
        var='support-addresses'
        type='list-multi'
        label='One_or_more_addresses_for_customer_support' />
</form_type>
```