XEP-0506: No-reply JIDs

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Experimental	Standards Track	no-reply

This specification defines a way for JIDs to advertise that they don't accept incoming chat messages.

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1 Introduction

This protocol defines a way for a JID to advertise that it does not accept incoming chat messages. For example, automated services which broadcast messages.
Such an indication allows clients to adapt their user interface accordingly (for example, hiding message input controls), instead of allowing the user to send a message and receive errors. This can improve the user experience and avoid confusion.

2 Requirements

- The protocol should not require clients to perform additional queries.

3 Use Cases

One example use case for this protocol, would be a server which sends welcome messages or other announcements (maintenance, etc.) to its users from its own JID (e.g. 'example.com').
To show that users should not reply to messages sent from this JID, the server advertises urn:xmpp:noreply:0 in the Service Discovery (XEP-0030) [1] features of that JID (i.e. 'example.com') to indicate this to the clients.
In most cases it is expected that the recipient will learn of the feature using Entity Capabilities (XEP-0115) [2] rather than performing service discovery just to learn of the no-reply feature. In the case of a server's JID, the entity capabilities are typically communicated to the client in the initial stream features.

4 Business Rules

Any entity which does not accept chat messages should advertise the service discovery feature:

- urn:xmpp:noreply:0

In the case that a full JID advertises the no-reply feature, and there are other resources of the same JID which do not advertise the feature, a client SHOULD NOT prevent the user from sending messages (e.g. to other resources or to the bare JID).
Advertising the no-reply feature indicates that a JID does not accept messages. If a JID does accept messages, even if it sometimes sends automated messages, it MUST NOT advertise this feature.
If a JID advertises the feature and receives an incoming message anyway (e.g. from a sender

[1] XEP-0030: Service Discovery <https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0030.html>.
[2] XEP-0115: Entity Capabilities <https://xmpp.org/extensions/xep-0115.html>.

that does not support this XEP) then it SHOULD respond with an error, per the usual processing rules of RFC 6120 [3].
The no-reply feature pertains only to chat messages, such as those typically originated from humans. A JID which advertises this feature MAY accept other kinds of messages (for example, a news bot which advertises this feature would still be expected to receive pubsub notifications even though they are conveyed as messages).

5 Accessibility Considerations

There are no known special accessibility considerations for this protocol.
It is expected that it may improve accessibility by simplifying interfaces where possible.

6 Security Considerations

There are no known security considerations for this protocol, beyond those existing in normal service discovery flows.

7 Privacy Considerations

There are no known privacy considerations for this protocol.

8 IANA Considerations

This protocol does not require any interaction with IANA.

9 XMPP Registrar Considerations

This document registers the following service discovery feature:

- urn:xmpp:noreply:0

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

10 Design Considerations

It was debated whether to include the no-reply indication on a per JID, presence or message basis. As most chat clients show an interface featuring an input control per remote JID, and due to the potential optimization afforded by XEP-0115, it was decided to use service discovery.

11 XML Schema

This document defines no new XML elements or attributes.