

[MS-DSML]: Directory Services Markup Language (DSML) 2.0 Protocol Extensions

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Revision Summary

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
06/20/2008	0.1		Initial Availability
07/25/2008	0.1.1	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
08/29/2008	0.1.2	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
10/24/2008	0.1.3	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
12/05/2008	0.2	Minor	Updated the technical content.
01/16/2009	1.0	Major	Updated and revised the technical content.
02/27/2009	1.1	Minor	Updated the technical content.
04/10/2009	1.2	Minor	Updated the technical content.
05/22/2009	1.2.1	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
07/02/2009	1.2.2	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
08/14/2009	1.2.3	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
09/25/2009	1.3	Minor	Updated the technical content.
11/06/2009	1.3.1	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
12/18/2009	1.4	Minor	Updated the technical content.
01/29/2010	2.0	Major	Updated and revised the technical content.
03/12/2010	3.0	Major	Updated and revised the technical content.
04/23/2010	3.0.1	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
06/04/2010	3.0.2	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
07/16/2010	4.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.
08/27/2010	5.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.
10/08/2010	5.1	Minor	Clarified the meaning of the technical content.
11/19/2010	5.1	No change	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
01/07/2011	5.2	Minor	Clarified the meaning of the technical content.
02/11/2011	5.2	No change	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
03/25/2011	5.2	No change	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
05/06/2011	5.2	No change	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
06/17/2011	5.3	Minor	Clarified the meaning of the technical content.

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1 Introduction

This is a specification of Microsoft extensions to the Directory Services Markup Language (DSML) 2.0 Protocol. These extensions are referred to as **SOAP session extensions (SSE)** in this specification. They are built on top of **SOAP** request/response bindings specified by DSML and they make it possible to maintain state information across multiple request/response operations.

1.1 Glossary

The following terms are defined in [\[MS-GLOS\]](#):

Active Directory
directory object
directory service (DS)
Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)
Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)
.NET Framework
schema
SOAP
SOAP body
SOAP fault
SOAP header
SOAP message
Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)
Web Services Description Language (WSDL)
XML
XML namespace
XML schema (XSD)

The following terms are specific to this document:

session: A collection of state information on a directory server. An implementation of the **SOAP session extensions (SSE)** is free to choose the state information to store in a session.

SOAP session extensions (SSE): Extensions to DSML that make it possible to maintain state information across multiple request/response operations.

MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT: These terms (in all caps) are used as described in [\[RFC2119\]](#). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

1.2 References

References to Microsoft Open Specification documents do not include a publishing year because links are to the latest version of the documents, which are updated frequently. References to other documents include a publishing year when one is available.

1.2.1 Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com. We will assist you in finding the relevant information. Please check the archive site,

<http://msdn2.microsoft.com/en-us/library/E4BD6494-06AD-4aed-9823-445E921C9624>, as an additional source.

[DSML2] OASIS Standard, "Directory Services Markup Language v2.0", December 2001, <http://xml.coverpages.org/DSMLv2-draft14.pdf>

[MS-ADDM] Microsoft Corporation, "[Active Directory Web Services: Data Model and Common Elements](#)".

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>

[SOAP1.1] Box, D., Ehnebuske, D., Kakivaya, G., et al., "Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) 1.1", May 2000, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/NOTE-SOAP-20000508/>

[WSDL] Christensen, E., Curbera, F., Meredith, G., and Weerawarana, S., "Web Services Description Language (WSDL) 1.1", W3C Note, March 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/NOTE-wsdl-20010315>

[XML10] World Wide Web Consortium, "Extensible Markup Language (XML) 1.0 (Third Edition)", February 2004, <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml>

[XMLNS-3ED] World Wide Web Consortium, "Namespaces in XML 1.0 (Third Edition)", December 2009, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2009/REC-xml-names-20091208/>

[XMLSCHEMA1] Thompson, H.S., Ed., Beech, D., Ed., Maloney, M., Ed., and Mendelsohn, N., Ed., "XML Schema Part 1: Structures", W3C Recommendation, May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-1-20010502/>

[XMLSCHEMA2] Biron, P.V., Ed. and Malhotra, A., Ed., "XML Schema Part 2: Datatypes", W3C Recommendation, May 2001, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2001/REC-xmlschema-2-20010502/>

1.2.2 Informative References

[MS-ADTS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Active Directory Technical Specification](#)".

[MS-GLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Protocols Master Glossary](#)".

[RFC2696] Weider, C., Herron, A., Anantha, A., and Howes, T., "LDAP Control Extension for Simple Paged Results Manipulation", RFC 2696, September 1999, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2696.txt>

1.3 Overview

The Directory Services Markup Language (DSML) Protocol [\[DSML2\]](#) is a protocol that specifies the encoding of **directory service (DS)** operations in **XML** [\[XML10\]](#) documents using a SOAP [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) request/response binding. These XML documents can be used to request that a DS operation be performed, such as the creation or removal of a **directory object**.

In a [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) binding, there is no correlation between subsequent operations. That is, there is no way for a caller to indicate that a directory operation is a continuation of a previous directory operation. Even though this lack of continuity does not cause an issue for many directory operations, a directory server can implement operations that are intended to be used in a sequence where an operation is required to be correlated with a preceding operation.

For example, **Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)** paged searches [\[RFC2696\]](#) allow a search that returns a large number of results to be split into multiple searches, each of which returns a subset of search results. The server can return a cookie with each search result that the client is expected to pass to the next search request. However, for the server to be able to interpret

the cookie correctly, the server is required to detect that the next search request is a continuation of the search request that returned the cookie. DSML SOAP session extension (SSE) provides such a mechanism to correlate multiple search requests. This mechanism can be used in conjunction with existing LDAP controls, such as LDAP paged search control [\[RFC2696\]](#), to enable operations such as LDAP paged searches.

In DSML SSE, the correlation between operations is abstracted as a **session**. One or more directory operations can be performed in a session, and it is the responsibility of the DS to save any state necessary for correlating the operations in that session.

SSE provides the following features to clients:

- A way to indicate that a DSML request is expected to cause the creation of a session.
- A way to associate operations with a specific session, so that the DS can save any state required for correlation between those operations.
- A way to request that a session be terminated, so that no future requests will apply to that session and so that the state of the session can be discarded by the server.

SSE does not specify the state that is required to be saved. An implementation of a DS is free to save any state that could be necessary for performing future operations within that session. For example, a DS that supports LDAP-paged searches could choose to save the portion of the search result that has not yet been returned to the client.

SSE does not specify how soon its state will be discarded after a session is terminated. Moreover, discarding the state of a session does not imply further changes to the state of the abstract data model of the directory [\[MS-ADTS\]](#). That is, directory objects that were added to the directory as part of the session stay added, objects that were removed stay removed, and objects that were modified stay modified.

1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

SSE is an extension to DSML and is built on top of its SOAP binding ([\[DSML2\]](#) section 6) over **Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)**. Therefore, these extensions are dependent on DSML [\[DSML2\]](#) and SOAP 1.1 [\[SOAP1.1\]](#).

SSE and DSML use SOAP over HTTP as shown in the following layering diagram.

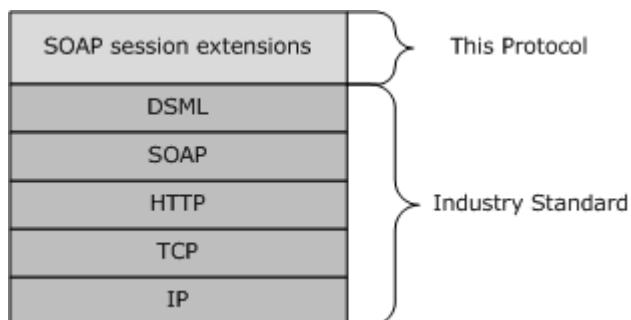


Figure 1: SSE protocol layers

1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

None.

1.6 Applicability Statement

SSE is suitable where the DSML protocol is already in use with a SOAP binding, and a means of correlating operations across multiple request/response messages is required. These extensions are not applicable outside of DSML or with alternative non-SOAP bindings of DSML, such as a file binding described in [\[DSML2\]](#) section 7.

1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation

None.

1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

1.9 Standards Assignments

None.

2 Messages

2.1 Transport

SOAP session extensions (SSE) use HTTP as the transport protocol over which SOAP 1.1 [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) messages are sent.

2.2 Common Message Syntax

This section contains common definitions that are used by this protocol. The syntax of the definitions uses **XML schema** as defined in [\[XMLSCHEMA1\]](#) and [\[XMLSCHEMA2\]](#), and **Web Services Description Language (WSDL)** as defined in [\[WSDL\]](#).

2.2.1 Namespaces

This specification defines and references various **XML namespaces** using the mechanisms specified in [\[XMLNS-3ED\]](#). Although this specification associates a specific prefix for each namespace that is used, the choice of any particular namespace prefix is implementation-specific and is not significant for interoperability.

Prefix	Namespace URI	Reference
(none) <1>	urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2	(none)
ad	http://schemas.microsoft.com/2008/1/ActiveDirectory/Data	[MS-ADDM]
dsml	urn:oasis:names:tc:DSML:2:0:core	[DSML2]
soap	http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/	[SOAP1.1]
xs	http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema	[XMLSCHEMA1]

2.2.2 Messages

SSE defines a set of **SOAP headers** that can be attached to DSML **SOAP request messages** by a client. SSE headers can be used for the following:

- To initiate a session.
- To perform an operation within the context of a previously-initiated session.
- To terminate a session.

When a client uses these headers in a request message, the server **MUST** respond by including corresponding headers in the DSML SOAP response message, which indicates that the session has been initiated or that the operation has been performed within the requested session.

The headers that are supported by SSE are specified in the following table.

Header	Description
BeginSession	Used by a client request to instruct the server to begin a session. The SOAP body to which this header is attached MUST be processed in the context of the session. That is, it MUST be processed as if the session were initiated prior to processing the request message.

Header	Description
Session	Used by a client request to instruct the server to process a SOAP request message inside a session that was previously created with a BeginSession operation. Used by a server response to inform the client that the operation was performed within the requested session.
EndSession	Used by a client request to instruct the server to terminate a session that was previously created with a BeginSession operation. The SOAP body to which this header is attached MUST be processed in the context of the session. That is, it MUST be processed as if the session were terminated after the request message completed processing.

2.2.2.1 BeginSession

A client MUST attach a <BeginSession> header to a DSML SOAP message that contains a <dsml:batchRequest> payload in order to instruct the server to initiate a new session and to process the <dsml:batchRequest> payload in the context of that session.

The client SHOULD specify the <BeginSession> header as follows:

- The "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" XML namespace SHOULD be specified. [<2>](#)
- The **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute SHOULD be set to 1.

The following XML shows a <BeginSession> header and a <dsml:batchRequest> payload in a SOAP message.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <BeginSession xmlns="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      soap:mustUnderstand="1" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchRequest>
      DSML payload
    </dsml:batchRequest>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

2.2.2.2 Session

A client MUST attach a <Session> header to a DSML SOAP message that contains a <dsml:batchRequest> payload in order to instruct the server that the payload MUST be processed in the context of a previously allocated session.

The client SHOULD specify the <Session> header as follows:

- The "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" XML namespace SHOULD be specified. [<3>](#)
- The **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute SHOULD be set to 1.

Subsequently, the server MUST attach a <Session> header to a DSML SOAP response message that contains a <dsml:batchResponse> payload in order to indicate that the corresponding <dsml:batchRequest> payload was processed in the context of a session.

The server SHOULD attach a <Session> header when responding to a DSML SOAP message from a client that contained a <BeginSession> header (section [2.2.2.1](#)), a <Session> header, or an <EndSession> header (section [2.2.2.3](#)).

The following XML shows a <Session> header and a <dsml:batchRequest> payload as sent by a client in a SOAP message.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:Session xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="sessionId" soap:mustUnderstand="1" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchRequest>
      DSML payload
    </dsml:batchRequest>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

In the preceding script, **sessionId** MUST be the identifier that was returned from the server in a preceding <Session> header. Its type is **sessionId** (section [2.2.5.1](#)).

The following XML shows a <Session> header and a <dsml:batchResponse> payload as sent by the server in a SOAP message.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:Session xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="sessionId" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchResponse>
      DSML payload
    </dsml:batchResponse>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

In the preceding script, if the server is returning this <Session> header in response to a BeginSession operation performed by the client, then the **sessionId** MUST be a unique value that is freshly allocated by the server and associated with the newly-created session.

Instead, if the server is returning this <Session> header in response to a Session or EndSession operation performed by the client, then the **sessionId** MUST be the same value as that passed in by the client.

2.2.2.3 EndSession

A client **MUST** attach an <EndSession> header to a DSML SOAP message in order to instruct the server to terminate the specified session after the <dsml:batchRequest> payload has been processed in the context of the session.

The client **SHOULD** specify the <EndSession> header as follows:

- The "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" XML namespace **SHOULD** be specified. [<4>](#)
- The **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute **SHOULD** be set to 1.

The following XML shows an <EndSession> header and a <dsml:batchRequest> payload in a SOAP message.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:EndSession xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="sessionId" soap:mustUnderstand="1" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchRequest>
      DSML payload
    </dsml:batchRequest>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

In the preceding script, **sessionId** **MUST** be an identifier that was returned from the server in a previously received <Session> header. It is of type **sessionId** (section [2.2.5.1](#)).

2.2.3 Elements

The following table summarizes the set of common XML schema element definitions defined by this specification. XML schema element definitions that are specific to a particular operation are described with the operation.

Element	Description
BeginSession	The XML schema definition for the <BeginSession> element.
Session	The XML schema definition for the <Session> element.
EndSession	The XML schema definition for the <EndSession> element.

2.2.3.1 BeginSession Element

The **BeginSession** element encloses an XML header necessary to initiate a DSML SOAP message that contains the <dsml:batchRequest> payload.

```
<xs:element name="BeginSession">
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:attribute
```

```

        use="optional"
        ref="soap:mustUnderstand"
    />
</xs:complexType>
</xs:element>

```

Attributes

Name	Type	Description
soap:mustUnderstand		See [SOAP1.1] section 4.2.3.

2.2.3.2 Session Element

The **Session** element encloses an XML header necessary to a DSML SOAP message that contains the <dsml:batchRequest> payload to instruct the server the payload MUST be processed in the context of a previously allocated session.

```

<xs:element name="Session">
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:attribute name="SessionID"
      type="sessionId"
      use="required"
    />
    <xs:attribute
      use="optional"
      ref="soap:mustUnderstand"
    />
  </xs:complexType>
</xs:element>

```

Attributes

Name	Type	Description
SessionID	sessionId	A string value that uniquely identifies an existing session.
soap:mustUnderstand		See [SOAP1.1] section 4.2.3.

2.2.3.3 EndSession Element

The **EndSession** element encloses an XML header necessary to a DSML SOAP message that contains the <dsml:batchRequest> payload to instruct the server the payload has been processed and to terminate the session.

```

<xs:element name="EndSession">
  <xs:complexType>
    <xs:attribute name="SessionID"
      type="sessionId"
      use="required"
    />
    <xs:attribute

```

```

        use="optional"
        ref="soap:mustUnderstand"
    />
</xs:complexType>
</xs:element>

```

Attributes

Name	Type	Description
SessionID	sessionId	A string value that uniquely identifies an existing session.
soap:mustUnderstand		See [SOAP1.1] section 4.2.3.

2.2.4 Complex Types

This specification does not define any common XML schema (XSD) complex type definitions.

2.2.5 Simple Types

The following table specifies the set of common XML schema simple type definitions that are defined in SSE. XML schema simple type definitions that are specific to a particular operation are specified in the context of that operation.

Simple type	Description
sessionId	Uniquely identifies a session on the server.

2.2.5.1 sessionId Simple Type

The **sessionId** is the type used for the **SessionID** attribute in the <Session> and <EndSession> headers.

```

<xs:simpleType name="sessionId">
  <xs:restriction
    base="xsd:string"
  />
</xs:simpleType>

```

2.2.6 Attributes

The following table summarizes the set of common XML schema attribute definitions defined by this specification. XML schema attribute definitions that are specific to a particular operation are described with the operation.

Attribute	Description
SessionID	The XML schema definition for the SessionID attribute.

2.2.6.1 SessionID Attribute

The SessionID is an attribute in the <Session> (section [2.2.3.2](#)) and <EndSession> (section [2.2.3.3](#)) elements, the value of which uniquely identifies an existing session. It is assigned by the server and returned in the response to a [BeginSession \(section 2.2.3.1\)](#) message.

```
<xs:attribute name="SessionID"
  type="sessionId"
  use="required"
/>
```

2.2.7 Groups

This specification does not define any common XML schema (XSD) group definitions.

2.2.8 Attribute Groups

This specification does not define any common XML schema (XSD) attribute group definitions.

3 Protocol Details

3.1 Server Details

3.1.1 Abstract Data Model

This section describes a conceptual model of possible data organization that an implementation maintains to participate in this protocol. This organization is provided to further clarify the explanation of how the protocol behaves. This specification does not mandate that implementations adhere to this model as long as their external behavior is consistent with that described in this specification.

SessionTableEntry: A quadruple consisting of the following elements:

- **SessionID:** A value of type **sessionId** (section [2.2.5.1](#)) that is unique in the **SessionTable**.
- **Session:** This protocol extension does not impose any limits or requirements on the contents of a session. An implementation SHOULD [<5>](#) store in a session any information that will be required by that implementation in correlating directory operations.
- **SessionIp:** A value that is the IP address of the client that initiated the session by sending a [<BeginSession>](#) (section [2.2.2.1](#)) header.
- **SessionIdleTimer** (section [3.1.2.1](#)): A timer that tracks the elapsed time since the last request associated with this session.

SessionTable: An array of **SessionTableEntry** objects; one per **Session**.

MaxSessionsAllowed: A 32-bit unsigned integer that specifies the maximum number of sessions that can be open at one time.

MaxSessionsAllowedPerIp: A 32-bit unsigned integer that specifies the maximum number of sessions that a single client, identified by its IP address, can have open at one time.

MaxSessionIdleTimeAllowed: A value that specifies the maximum time after which an idle session will be terminated by the server even if the client does not send an [<EndSession>](#) (section [2.2.2.3](#)) header.

Note The preceding conceptual data can be implemented using a variety of techniques.

3.1.2 Timers

3.1.2.1 SessionIdleTimer

This per-session timer controls the amount of time that a session is allowed to remain idle before the server terminates it.

3.1.3 Initialization

The **SessionTable** SHOULD be initialized to be empty. That is, the protocol extension starts with no sessions created.

MaxSessionsAllowed, **MaxSessionsAllowedPerIp**, and **MaxSessionIdleTimeAllowed** MUST be initialized. [<6>](#)

3.1.4 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The following table shows the processing events that are defined for DSML:

Operation	Description
BeginSession	Causes a new session to be created.
Session	Causes an operation to be performed using the state stored in the session.
EndSession	Causes a session to be terminated.
Faults	Performs an action if the session request cannot be processed.

3.1.4.1 BeginSession

Note Abstract data model objects that are referenced in this section are defined in section [3.1.1](#). **SOAP fault** processing is specified in section [3.1.4.4](#).

The server **SHOULD** perform a BeginSession operation when it receives a DSML SOAP request message that contains a <BeginSession> header (section [2.2.2.1](#)).

If the server is not capable of performing a BeginSession operation, and if the header contains a **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute equal to 1, then the server **MUST** generate a SOAP fault and **MUST NOT** process any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the message. Otherwise, if the header does not contain a **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute equal to 1, or if that attribute is not present, then the server **SHOULD** process the DSML operations as if the <BeginSession> header were not specified.

If the total number of **SessionTableEntry** objects in the **SessionTable** already equals **MaxSessionsAllowed**, the server **MUST** not perform the BeginSession operation and **MUST** generate a SOAP fault.

If the number of **SessionTableEntry** objects, which have the same value for **SessionIp** as the IP address of the client, already equals **MaxSessionsAllowedPerIp**, the server **MUST** not perform the <BeginSession> operation, and it **MUST** generate a SOAP fault.

To perform the BeginSession operation, the server **MUST** allocate a new **SessionTableEntry**, assigning a value to the **SessionID** object that is not used by any other **SessionTableEntry** in the **SessionTable**, record the IP address of the client in the <SessionIp> element, and record the time the DSML SOAP request is received in the <SessionLastAccessTime> element. A server **MAY** [<7>](#) try to minimize the chance of duplicating a **SessionID** value.

The server **SHOULD** initialize the state of the **Session** object of the **SessionTableEntry**. The server **MUST** allocate a new idle session timer, assign it to the <SessionIdleTimer> element of the **SessionTableEntry**, and initialize the timer to 0. The timer **MUST** be set to expire after a duration specified by **MaxSessionIdleTimeAllowed**. The **SessionTableEntry** is then added to the **SessionTable**. If the server is unable to allocate or initialize a new entry in the **SessionTable**, then it **MUST** generate a SOAP fault, and it **MUST NOT** process any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the message.

After the **SessionTableEntry** has been initialized, the server **MUST** perform any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the request message by using the state stored in the **SessionTableEntry**. DSML operations have the form of a <dsml:batchRequest> element with one or more child elements. The server **SHOULD** save any state changes in the **Session** object of the **SessionTableEntry** to correlate these operations with future operations.

Once the operations have successfully completed, or if there were no operations to perform, the server MUST generate a DSML response message [\[DSML2\]](#), with a <Session> header (section [2.2.2.2](#)). The **SessionID** attribute of the <Session> header MUST be assigned the value of the **SessionID** object of the allocated **SessionTableEntry**.

3.1.4.2 Session

Note Abstract data model objects that are referenced in this section are defined in section [3.1.1](#). SOAP fault processing is specified in section [3.1.4.4](#).

The server SHOULD perform a Session operation when it receives a DSML SOAP request message that contains a <Session> header (section [2.2.2.2](#)).

If the server is not capable of performing a Session operation and if the header contains a **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute equal to 1, then the server MUST generate a SOAP fault and MUST NOT process any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the message. Otherwise, if the server is not capable of performing a Session operation and either the header does not contain a **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute equal to 1 or that attribute is not present, then the server SHOULD process the DSML operations as if the <Session> header were not specified.

To perform the Session operation, the server MUST retrieve the **SessionTableEntry** from the **SessionTable**, which contains a **SessionID** object with a value that matches the **SessionID** attribute specified in the <Session> header. If no such **SessionTableEntry** is found, then the server MUST generate a SOAP fault.

After the matching **SessionTableEntry** has been retrieved, the server MUST reset the timer represented by the <SessionIdleTimer> element of the **SessionTableEntry**, to 0. The server MUST perform any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the request message, using the state stored in the **SessionTableEntry**. DSML operations have the form of a <dsml:batchRequest> element with one or more child elements. The server SHOULD save any state changes in the **Session** object of the **SessionTableEntry** to correlate these operations with future operations.

When all operations, if any, have been successfully completed, the server MUST generate a DSML response message [\[DSML2\]](#) with a <Session> header. The **SessionID** attribute of that <Session> header MUST be assigned the value of the **SessionID** object of the retrieved **SessionTableEntry**.

3.1.4.3 EndSession

Note Abstract data model objects that are referenced in this section are defined in section [3.1.1](#). SOAP fault processing is specified in section [3.1.4.4](#).

The server SHOULD perform an EndSession operation when it receives a DSML SOAP request message that contains an <EndSession> header (section [2.2.2.3](#)).

If the server is not capable of performing an EndSession operation, and if the header contains a **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute equal to 1, then the server MUST generate a SOAP fault and MUST NOT process any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the message. Otherwise, if the server is not capable of performing an EndSession operation, and either the header does not contain a **soap:mustUnderstand** attribute equal to 1 or that attribute is not present, then the server SHOULD process the DSML operations as if the <EndSession> header were not specified.

To perform the EndSession operation, the server MUST retrieve the **SessionTableEntry** from the **SessionTable** that contains a **SessionID** with a value that matches the **SessionID** attribute specified in the <EndSession> header.

After the matching **SessionTableEntry** has been retrieved, the server MUST perform any DSML operations that are contained in the SOAP body of the request message, using the state stored in the **SessionTableEntry**. DSML operations have the form of a <dsml:batchRequest> element with one or more child elements. The server SHOULD save any state changes in the **Session** object of the **SessionTableEntry** to correlate these operations with future operations.

Once the operations have successfully completed, or if there were no operations to perform, the server MUST remove the **SessionTableEntry** from the **SessionTable**. The server MUST generate a DSML response message [\[DSML2\]](#) with a <Session> header (section [2.2.2.2](#)). The **SessionID** attribute of that <Session> header MUST be assigned the value of the **SessionID** object of the **SessionTableEntry** that was removed.

The server SHOULD dispose of the removed **SessionTableEntry**, including the state saved in **SessionTableEntry.Session**. The server MAY [\[8\]](#) wait for some time after it has removed the **SessionTableEntry** from the **SessionTable** before disposing of the **SessionTableEntry**.

3.1.4.4 Faults

If the session request cannot be processed, the server MUST return the following SOAP fault:

```
<SOAP:Envelope xmlns:SOAP="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
  <SOAP:Body>
    <SOAP:Fault>
      <faultcode>SOAP:Client</faultcode>
      <faultstring>SOAP Invalid Request</faultstring>
      <detail>Bad Session Request</detail>
    </SOAP:Fault>
  </SOAP:Body>
</SOAP:Envelope>
```

If the server receives a bad request, it MUST return the following SOAP fault:

```
<SOAP:Envelope xmlns:SOAP="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
  <SOAP:Body>
    <SOAP:Fault>
      <faultcode>SOAP:Client</faultcode>
      <faultstring>SOAP Invalid Request</faultstring>
      <detail>Bad Request</detail>
    </SOAP:Fault>
  </SOAP:Body>
</SOAP:Envelope>
```

If the request cannot be processed for any other reason, the server MUST return the following SOAP fault:

```
<SOAP:Envelope xmlns:SOAP="http://schemas.xmlsoap.org/soap/envelope/">
  <SOAP:Body>
    <SOAP:Fault>
      <faultcode>SOAP:Server</faultcode>
      <faultstring>SOAP Server Application Faulted</faultstring>
    </SOAP:Fault>
  </SOAP:Body>
</SOAP:Envelope>
```

```
        <detail>Internal DSML Server Error</detail>
      </SOAP:Fault>
    </SOAP:Body>
  </SOAP:Envelope>
```

3.1.5 Timer Events

3.1.5.1 SessionIdletimer Event

When the timer represented by the <SessionIdleTimer> element of a **SessionTableEntry** expires, the server **MUST** perform an <EndSession> operation on the session associated with that **SessionTableEntry**. The idle session timer expires after reaching **MaxSessionIdleTimeAllowed**.

3.1.6 Other Local Events

None.

3.2 Client Details

The client side of this protocol is simply a pass-through. There are no additional timers or other states that are required on the client side of this protocol. Calls made by the higher-layer protocol or application are passed directly to the transport and the results that are returned by the transport are passed directly back to the higher-layer protocol or application.

4 Protocol Examples

In this section, a complete session exchange is shown, consisting of the following steps:

1. The client requests the server to create a session.
2. The server creates a session and returns a **SessionID** attribute value for that session.
3. The client requests the server to perform some operations within the context of the session.
4. The client requests the server to terminate the session.

In this example, the DSML payload is an empty `<dsml:batchRequest />`, so that the only operation the server performs is to create the session.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <BeginSession xmlns="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      soap:mustUnderstand="1" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchRequest />
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

The server creates a session and assigns it a unique **SessionID** attribute value. It then sends a response to the client informing it of the **SessionID** of the new session.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:Session xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="12345" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchResponse />
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>
```

The client requests a standard DSML operation. By attaching the `<Session>` header (section [2.2.2.2](#)) with the previously defined **SessionID**, the client causes the server to perform the operation in the context of the session.

[SOAP]

```
<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:Session xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="12345" soap:mustUnderstand="1" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchRequest>
```

```

    <dsml:searchRequest dn="ou=Sales,dc=fabrikam,dc=com"
      scope="baseObject"
      derefAliases="neverDerefAliases">
      <dsml:filter>
        <dsml:present name="objectclass" />
      </dsml:filter>
    </dsml:searchRequest>
  </dsml:batchRequest>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>

```

The server returns the response with a <Session> header attached.

[SOAP]

```

<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:Session xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="12345"/>
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchResponse>
      <dsml:searchResponse>
        <dsml:searchResultEntry dn="ou=Sales,dc=fabrikam,dc=com">
          <dsml:attr name="description">
            <dsml:value>Sales force organizational unit</dsml:value>
          </dsml:attr>
          remaining attributes of the object...
        </dsml:searchResultEntry>
        <dsml:searchResultDone>
          <dsml:resultCode code="0" />
        </dsml:searchResultDone>
      </dsml:searchResponse>
    </dsml:batchResponse>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>

```

The client can continue requesting DSML operations in the context of the session by attaching <Session> headers as in the preceding example. When the client is finished, it terminates the session by sending an <EndSession> header (section [2.2.2.3](#)).

In this example, the client also includes a <dsml:addRequest> operation inside the <dsml:batchRequest>. This operation is performed in the context of the <Session>. That is, the operation is equivalent to the client first sending a <dsml:batchRequest> that contains the <dsml:addRequest> with a <Session> header attached, followed by an empty <dsml:batchRequest> that contains an <EndSession> header.

[SOAP]

```

<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:EndSession xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="12345" soap:mustUnderstand="1" />
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchRequest>

```

```

    <dsml:addRequest dn="ou=DSMLSamples,dc=fabrikam,dc=com">
      <dsml:attr name="objectClass">
        <dsml:value>organizationalUnit</dsml:value>
      </dsml:attr>
    </dsml:addRequest>
  </dsml:batchRequest>
</soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>

```

The server responds as follows and includes the **SessionID** attribute value of the session it terminated.

```

<soap:Envelope>
  <soap:Header>
    <ad:Session xmlns:ad="urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2"
      ad:SessionID="12345"/>
  </soap:Header>
  <soap:Body>
    <dsml:batchResponse>
      <dsml:addResponse>
        <dsml:resultCode code="0" descr="success" />
      </dsml:addResponse>
    </dsml:batchResponse>
  </soap:Body>
</soap:Envelope>

```


5 Security

5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

Each session that the client asks the server to create consumes storage on the server. A server implementation can limit the number of sessions that a single client is permitted to have open at one time, or it can restrict the total number of sessions that are open at one time (see section [3.1.1](#) for Abstract Data Model elements that represent these limits). A server implementation can also limit the maximum lifetime during which a session can be left open or idle.

If a client is able to guess the value of the **SessionId** attribute that is assigned to a session created by a different client, then the first client can perform operations in the second client's session by attaching a <Session> header (section [2.2.2.2](#)) that contains the second client's **SessionId**; or it can terminate the second client's session by using an <EndSession> header (section [2.2.2.3](#)) that contains the second client's **SessionId**. A server implementation can perform additional validation checks to ensure that the client using a particular **SessionId** in a <Session> or <EndSession> header is the same client that created the session. [<9>](#)

5.2 Index of Security Parameters

None.

6 Appendix A: Full WSDL

This specification does not describe a Web Service protocol and does not specify Web Services Description Language (WSDL).

7 Appendix B: Product Behavior

This document specifies version-specific details in the Microsoft® .NET Framework. For information about which versions of .NET Framework are available in each released Microsoft Windows® product or as supplemental software, see [.NET Framework](#).

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include released service packs:

- Microsoft® Directory Services Markup Language (DSML) Services for Windows®
- Microsoft® .NET Framework 2.0
- Microsoft® .NET Framework 3.0
- Microsoft® .NET Framework 3.5
- Microsoft® .NET Framework 4.0

Exceptions, if any, are noted below. If a service pack or Quick Fix Engineering (QFE) number appears with the product version, behavior changed in that service pack or QFE. The new behavior also applies to subsequent service packs of the product unless otherwise specified. If a product edition appears with the product version, behavior is different in that product edition.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification that is prescribed using the terms SHOULD or SHOULD NOT implies product behavior in accordance with the SHOULD or SHOULD NOT prescription. Unless otherwise specified, the term MAY implies that the product does not follow the prescription.

[<1> Section 2.2.1:](#) DSML Services for Windows does not use a specific prefix in requests for the "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" namespace; however, the prefix used in a **BeginSession** request is different from that used in **Session** and **EndSession** requests. When sending a **BeginSession** request, the sender does not specify a prefix. When sending **Session** and **EndSession** requests, the sender uses an arbitrary prefix. Regardless of the prefix used by the client in a request, the server response contains the "ad:" prefix when the request is successful. See [Protocol Examples \(section 4\)](#).

[<2> Section 2.2.2.1:](#) DSML Services for Windows does not use a specific prefix in requests for the "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" namespace. However, the prefix used in a [BeginSession \(section 3.1.4.1\)](#) request is different from that used in [Session \(section 3.1.4.2\)](#) and [EndSession \(section 3.1.4.3\)](#) requests. When sending a [BeginSession](#) request, the sender does not specify a prefix. When sending [Session](#) and [EndSession](#) requests, the sender uses an arbitrary prefix. Regardless of the prefix used by the client in a request, the server response contains the "ad:" prefix when the request is successful. See [Protocol Examples \(section 4\)](#).

[<3> Section 2.2.2.2:](#) DSML Services for Windows does not use a specific prefix in requests for the "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" namespace. However, the prefix used in a [BeginSession \(section 3.1.4.1\)](#) request is different from that used in [Session \(section 3.1.4.2\)](#) and [EndSession \(section 3.1.4.3\)](#) requests. When sending a [BeginSession](#) request, the sender does not specify a prefix. When sending [Session](#) and [EndSession](#) requests, the sender uses an arbitrary prefix. Regardless of the prefix used by the client in a request, the server response contains the "ad:" prefix when the request is successful. See [Protocol Examples \(section 4\)](#).

[<4> Section 2.2.2.3:](#) DSML Services for Windows does not use a specific prefix in requests for the "urn:schema-microsoft-com:activedirectory:dsmlv2" namespace. However, the prefix used in a [BeginSession \(section 3.1.4.1\)](#) request is different from that used in [Session \(section 3.1.4.2\)](#) and

[EndSession \(section 3.1.4.3\)](#) requests. When sending a [BeginSession](#) request, the sender does not specify a prefix. When sending [Session](#) and [EndSession](#) requests, the sender uses an arbitrary prefix. Regardless of the prefix used by the client in a request, the server response contains the "ad:" prefix when the request is successful. See [Protocol Examples \(section 4\)](#).

[<5> Section 3.1.1:](#) DSML Services for Windows stores the LDAP connection to the directory server in the session. This ensures that all operations performed within a session are performed using the same LDAP connection. This is required to support the following LDAP controls [\[MS-ADTS\]](#) because the **Active Directory** service does not permit the cookies embedded in these controls to be used across LDAP connections.

- LDAP_PAGED_RESULT_OID_STRING
- LDAP_CONTROL_VLVREQUEST

[<6> Section 3.1.3:](#) DSML Services for Windows enforces the following limits by default:

- **MaxSessionsAllowed:** 100 sessions
- **MaxSessionsAllowedPerIp:** 5 sessions
- **MaxSessionIdleTimeAllowed:** 10 minutes

[<7> Section 3.1.4.1:](#) DSML Services for Windows generates **SessionID** attribute values randomly. If the randomly generated value matches a **SessionID** attribute value that is currently in the **SessionTable**, then a new **SessionID** value is randomly generated. This process is repeated, if necessary, until a **SessionID** value that is not currently in the **SessionTable** is generated.

[<8> Section 3.1.4.3:](#) DSML Services for Windows immediately disposes of the state after removing it from the **SessionTable**. It does this by closing the LDAP connection.

[<9> Section 5.1:](#) DSML Services for Windows enforces the following validation checks by default:

- The IP address of the client sending a <Session> or <EndSession> header for a given session matches the IP address of the client that performed the BeginSession operation to create that session.
- The DSML request to which the <Session> or <EndSession> header is attached for a given session is authenticated as the same identity as the DSML request that created that session with a BeginSession operation.

8 Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to the [MS-DSML] protocol document between the May 2011 and June 2011 releases. Changes are classified as New, Major, Minor, Editorial, or No change.

The revision class **New** means that a new document is being released.

The revision class **Major** means that the technical content in the document was significantly revised. Major changes affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of major changes are:

- A document revision that incorporates changes to interoperability requirements or functionality.
- An extensive rewrite, addition, or deletion of major portions of content.
- The removal of a document from the documentation set.
- Changes made for template compliance.

The revision class **Minor** means that the meaning of the technical content was clarified. Minor changes do not affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of minor changes are updates to clarify ambiguity at the sentence, paragraph, or table level.

The revision class **Editorial** means that the language and formatting in the technical content was changed. Editorial changes apply to grammatical, formatting, and style issues.

The revision class **No change** means that no new technical or language changes were introduced. The technical content of the document is identical to the last released version, but minor editorial and formatting changes, as well as updates to the header and footer information, and to the revision summary, may have been made.

Major and minor changes can be described further using the following change types:

- New content added.
- Content updated.
- Content removed.
- New product behavior note added.
- Product behavior note updated.
- Product behavior note removed.
- New protocol syntax added.
- Protocol syntax updated.
- Protocol syntax removed.
- New content added due to protocol revision.
- Content updated due to protocol revision.
- Content removed due to protocol revision.
- New protocol syntax added due to protocol revision.

- Protocol syntax updated due to protocol revision.
- Protocol syntax removed due to protocol revision.
- New content added for template compliance.
- Content updated for template compliance.
- Content removed for template compliance.
- Obsolete document removed.

Editorial changes are always classified with the change type **Editorially updated**.

Some important terms used in the change type descriptions are defined as follows:

- **Protocol syntax** refers to data elements (such as packets, structures, enumerations, and methods) as well as interfaces.
- **Protocol revision** refers to changes made to a protocol that affect the bits that are sent over the wire.

The changes made to this document are listed in the following table. For more information, please contact protocol@microsoft.com.

Section	Tracking number (if applicable) and description	Major change (Y or N)	Change type
1.2 References	Added explanatory statement regarding the removal of the publishing year from Microsoft Open Specification document references.	N	Content updated.

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