

## A URN Namespace of Object Identifiers

### Status of this Memo

This memo provides information for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

### Copyright Notice

Copyright (C) The Internet Society (2000). All Rights Reserved.

### Abstract

This document describes a Uniform Resource Names (URN) namespace that contains Object Identifiers (OIDs).

### 1. Introduction

An Object Identifier is a series of digits delimited in some way. The rules roughly state that once an entity is assigned an Object Identifier (OID) it has sole discretion to further subdelegate off of that OID. Some examples of OIDs include:

- o 1.3.6.1 - the Internet OID
- o 1.3.6.1.4.1 - IANA-assigned company OIDs, used for private MIBs and such things
- o 1.3.6.1.2.1.27 - The Applications MIB
- o 0.9.2342.19200300.100.4 - Object ID's used in the directory pilot project to identify X.500 Object Classes. Mostly defined in RFC-1274.

This document specifies the "oid" URN namespace [1]. This namespace is for encoding an Object Identifier as specified in ASN.1 [2] as a URI.

The namespace specification is for a formal namespace.

### 2. Specification Template

Namespace ID:

"oid" requested.

#### Registration Information:

Registration Version Number: 1  
Registration Date: 2000-04-30

#### Declared registrant of the namespace:

I need help here. I'm not comfortable being the 'registrant'. So who do I actually put here?

The ISO/IEC Joint Technical Committee 1 - Subcommittee 6 The actual real authority is the ASN.1 specification itself but at present SC6 is the committee that has the authority to interpret what that means.

#### Declaration of structure:

The NSS portion of the identifier follows the string encoding rules found in RFC 1778 Section 2.15 [3] which specifies a series of digits separated by a period with the most significant digit being at the left and the least significant being at the right.

No changes are anticipated since Object Identifiers are fairly simple and have been standardized with no changes for many years.

#### Relevant ancillary documentation:

Relevant documentation can be found in X.660/Amd 2 | ISO/IEC 9834-1/Amd 2 [2].

#### Identifier uniqueness considerations:

The rules for assignment of OIDs requires that each OID be unique to the OID space and that it cannot be reassigned or reused. By reference this URN namespace inherits those rules.

#### Identifier persistence considerations:

The rules concerning the use of OIDs requires that they not be reused once assigned. By reference this URN namespace inherits those rules.

#### Process of identifier assignment:

Once an OID is assigned to some entity, that entity can then create and assign new OIDs below that particular OID. There are multiple entities that assign new OIDs to the general public. The top three levels are pre-assigned as follows:

- 0 - ITU-T assigned
- 1 - ISO assigned
- 2 - Joint ISO/ITU-T assignment

several assigned OIDs that are of importance to the Internet are:

- 1.3.6.1 - the Internet OID
- 1.3.6.1.4.1 - IANA-assigned company OIDs, used for private MIBs and such things

Process of identifier resolution:

At this time no resolution mechanism is defined.

Rules for Lexical Equivalence:

OIDS are composed of multiple occurrences of digits and the "." character. Lexical equivalence is achieved by exact string match.

Conformance with URN Syntax:

There are no additional characters reserved.

Validation mechanism:

None.

Scope:

Global

### 3. Examples

The following examples are taken from the example OIDs from the Introduction:

```
urn:oid:1.3.6.1
urn:oid:1.3.6.1.4.1
urn:oid:1.3.6.1.2.1.27
URN:OID:0.9.2342.19200300.100.4
```

### 4. Security Considerations

None not already inherent to using unverifiable OIDs

## 5. Acknowledgements

The author would like to thank Harald Alvestrand for the use of his OID database as a source for examples and references.

## References

- [1] Moats, R., "URN Syntax", RFC 2141, May 1997.
- [2] CCITT, "Specification of Basic Encoding Rules for Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1)", CCITT Recommendation X.209, January 1988.
- [3] Howes, T., Kille, S., Yeong, W. and C. Robbins, "The String Representation of Standard Attribute Syntaxes", RFC 1778, March 1995.

## Author's Address

Michael Mealling  
Network Solutions, Inc.  
505 Huntmar Park Drive  
Herndon, VA 22070  
US

Phone: +1 770 935 5492  
EMail: michaelm@netsol.com  
URI: <http://www.netsol.com>

## Full Copyright Statement

Copyright (C) The Internet Society (2000). All Rights Reserved.

This document and translations of it may be copied and furnished to others, and derivative works that comment on or otherwise explain it or assist in its implementation may be prepared, copied, published and distributed, in whole or in part, without restriction of any kind, provided that the above copyright notice and this paragraph are included on all such copies and derivative works. However, this document itself may not be modified in any way, such as by removing the copyright notice or references to the Internet Society or other Internet organizations, except as needed for the purpose of developing Internet standards in which case the procedures for copyrights defined in the Internet Standards process must be followed, or as required to translate it into languages other than English.

The limited permissions granted above are perpetual and will not be revoked by the Internet Society or its successors or assigns.

This document and the information contained herein is provided on an "AS IS" basis and THE INTERNET SOCIETY AND THE INTERNET ENGINEERING TASK FORCE DISCLAIMS ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY THAT THE USE OF THE INFORMATION HEREIN WILL NOT INFRINGE ANY RIGHTS OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

## Acknowledgement

Funding for the RFC Editor function is currently provided by the Internet Society.

