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A URN Namespace for Globus

Abstract

This document describes a URN (Uniform Resource Name) namespace to be used by Globus for naming persistent resources.

Status of This Memo

This document is not an Internet Standards Track specification; it is published for informational purposes.

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1. Introduction

Globus (<https://www.globus.org>) is a software-as-a-service provider that develops and operates services and tools for the global research and education community.

Globus provides multiple services for users across many institutions, primarily for research driven by high-performance computing. Globus creates unique identifiers that will persist in external systems and must be identifiable as references to Globus entities.

To address this need, this document requests that a formal URN space type be assigned as described in Section 4.3 of [RFC3406].

of Globus entities, often associated with a particular Globus service. For example "auth" could be used as an SNID for identifiers generated by the Globus authentication and authorization service (Globus Auth).

The "subnamespace-specific-string" is an optional US-ASCII string and second-level segment of the NSS, belonging to the "SNID" context, subject to the above syntax and conformant to the URN syntax requirements (see [RFC2141]). "subnamespace-specific-string" identifies a category of thing within that Globus service, such as "scope:transfer.api.globus.org:all"

Relevant Ancillary Documentation:

None.

Identifier Uniqueness Considerations:

Identifier uniqueness will be enforced by the Globus Project Lead. The Globus Project Lead may sub-delegate part of the namespace to third parties. It will not be permissible, neither by the Globus Project Lead nor any third party, to reassign previously assigned URNs. A practical consequence is that a previously assigned subnamespace cannot be reassigned, unless additional arrangements are made to prevent identifier reassignments.

Identifier Persistence Considerations:

Identifiers will never be reassigned, but in some circumstances they may be invalidated by the Globus Project Lead or by a third party.

Process of Identifier Assignment:

Assignment of subnamespace identifiers is limited to the Globus Project Lead and those authorities that are specifically designated by the Globus Project Lead. The Globus Project Lead may assign portions of the globus namespace (specifically, those under designated subnamespace identifiers) for assignment by third parties.

Process of Identifier Resolution:

None currently.

Future versions of this document may define resources that can be used to resolve Globus identifiers.

Rules for Lexical Equivalence:

No additional rules beyond those specified in RFC 2141.

Conformance with URN Syntax:

No special considerations.

Validation Mechanism:

None currently.

Future versions of this document may define resources that can be used to validate Globus identifiers.

Scope:

Global.

3. Examples (Informative)

The following examples are based on plans for the Globus URN. They are therefore not guaranteed to be valid.

The Globus Auth service defines the "auth" SNID and contains the following URNs:

- o urn:globus:auth:scope:transfer.api.globus.org:all
- o urn:globus:auth:grants:dependent_token

A hypothetical service, the Globus Groups service, would have a distinct SNID. If that SNID were "groups", it might have URNs such as the following:

- o urn:globus:groups:group:669b572e-9de4-11e5-966e-3c970e0c9cc4
- o urn:globus:groups:memberships:72e1c6c6-9de4-11e5-966e-3c970e0c9cc4

4. Namespace Considerations

The current set of existing IANA namespaces are insufficient because Globus will be creating unique identifiers that will persist in the external system; these identifiers must be identifiable as references to Globus entities.

The use of the Globus namespace is expected to be broad, including but not limited to usage for:

- o OAuth2 scopes (see [RFC6749])
- o OAuth2 custom extension grants
- o Entity identification for Globus Services

5. Community Considerations

Members of the Globus community will benefit from persistent and globally unique identifiers for use in software and in conformance with protocols developed and used by Globus and third-party collaborators.

6. Security Considerations

There are no special meanings for characters in the NSS. Thus, there are no additional security considerations other than those normally associated with the use and resolution of URNs in general, which are described in [RFC1737] and [RFC2141].

7. IANA Considerations

IANA has registered the "globus" namespace identifier (NID) in the "Formal URN Namespaces" registry located at <http://www.iana.org/assignments/urn-namespaces>.

8. Normative References

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- [RFC3406] Daigle, L., van Gulik, D., Iannella, R., and P. Faltstrom, "Uniform Resource Names (URN) Namespace Definition Mechanisms", BCP 66, RFC 3406, DOI 10.17487/RFC3406, October 2002, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc3406>.
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