

Shibboleth Update TechExchange 2023



Consortium Membership

- End 2016: 20
- End 2017: 42
- End 2018: 52
- End 2019: 52
- End 2020: 61
- End 2021: 64
- End 2022: 67
- Sept 2023: 70

Current membership stands at 70, comprised of:

- 3 Principal Members
- 13 national identity Federation Members
- 47 Academic / Non-Profit Members
- 7 Commercial Members



Membership Benefits

- **Help keep the software maintained**

Membership contributions go directly to funding the ongoing maintenance, support and development of the software

- **Access expert support**

Members benefit from direct and active support from the core development team

- **Contribute to the strategic direction of the product**

Especially Principal members, who sit on the Board

Major project decisions will always involve member input



Financial Position & End 2023 Forecast

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Cash in the bank as of September 2023: | £ 675,259.00 |
| | |
| End of 2023 forecast position: | |
| Income total: | £ 734,136.81 |
| | |
| Expenditures: | |
| Development costs | £ 697,670.77 |
| Consortium Operations | £ 49,000.00 |
| Website and HTML templates | £ 2,160.00 |
| OpenID Foundation Membership | £ 200.00 |
| Travel | £ 2,000.00 |
| Total: | £ 751,030.77 |
| | |
| End of 2023 forecasted balance: | £ 658,365.04 |

Financial Implications

- Deficits begin increasing in 2024 due to increased costs for our developers
- Reaching cash flow stability is a multi-step process:
 - First, rates for individual academic, research, and commercial organizations will increase by 10% starting in 2025. This is a stopgap to reduce, but not eliminate, expected deficits.
 - Secondly, plans covering the next several years of work will be constructed and presented to membership to accurately project the costs of delivering desired work and determine the appetite for funding that work.



How to join?

- Contact Emily Brown at emily.brown@jisc.ac.uk or contact@shibboleth.net
- The appropriate tier will be established
- Sign the Membership agreement
- Jisc, as Consortium Operator, raise an invoice
- We get you set up with access to support options and relevant mailing lists



Shibboleth Survey '23

- Thank you to all you filled out our survey earlier this year!
- 372 responses. Some of the respondents have been using the Shibboleth IdP since V1.
- We have performed some preliminary analysis. More detailed work will inform the roadmap discussions.
- Overall satisfaction was around 83%, most criticisms were around complexity



Shibboleth Survey '23

- **288** from academic institutions
- **32** from federation operators
- The others were a mix of responses from R&E sector organisations, non-profits, commercial providers and government.

- **279** use the IdP. Of those, **53** use the OIDC plugin (although **167** respondees say they are familiar with OIDC)
- **243** use the SP. Of those, **41** uses the EDS
- A couple dozen respondees use only the MDA or xmlsectool

- **248** use the IdP to authenticate to internal services deployed by their own organization
- **196** use the IdP to authenticate to external services contracted from SaaS vendors
- **258** use the IdP to authenticate to external research and education services via a federation



2023 Project Summary – IdP

- V4.3 delivered early this year, the final feature update on this branch, EOL is September 2024
- OIDC RP (proxying) plugin released, along with support for combined OP/RP use
- V5.0 delivered last week after about 2 years of work, including upgrades to all extant plugins



IdP V5 Summary

- Like 4.0, 5.0 is not a huge feature release, but a technical rebase/refactor and opportunity to remove deprecations:
 - Java 17, Jakarta EE container baseline
 - Code refactor and review
 - Removal of several unused or supplanted features, some quite large (SAML delegation, legacy Duo)
 - Formally deprecates SAML 1.1 support to trigger community conversation
 - New counters/metrics and diagnostic aids



OP V4 Highlight

- Initial support for “unregistered clients”
 - <https://shibboleth.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/IDPPLUGINS/pages/3274833948>
 - Potential game changer for campus/enterprise deployments
 - Replaces traditional client registration approaches with a policy to govern client_id, response URIs, scopes, etc.
 - Allows “standard” clients to be managed generically and authenticated via service accounts managed outside the OP



2023 Project Summary – SP

- V3.4.0 completed last year, no plans for additional feature updates
- Cadence remains occasional security updates (Windows primarily, to address libraries)
- ARM packages on supported Linux distributions continue to be supplied for testing; if people are using these successfully under load, let us know



Project Roadmap

Some things we're certainly going to work on in some form (e.g., WebAuthn, continued OIDC/OAuth enhancements, general maintenance)

Many other things we can only take on if the budget is stable over the longer term (e.g., a new SP)

To that end, we will be producing a range of project plans that include different levels of effort and deliverables over the next 5 years.



Project Roadmap cont.

The range of plans will include both the low end (keep the lights on, sunset everything), medium (do some things, not others), and high end (do everything and more).

Plans will be tied to expected budget requirements and thus the required funding.

Marketing, growth, and exploring new funding opportunities are part of this, but realistically, our funding is not going to triple in the next 3 years.

Members will get to vote, and we will go forward accordingly.



Swag Opportunity

The Shibboleth Project does **not** benefit from this, but if you're in the market for a t-shirt, the original, totally insane, sort-of-accurate-but-not-really Shibboleth Flow Diagram shirt is now available for the first time in two decades for a limited time:

<https://www.bonfire.com/shibboleth-message-flow/>



Questions?

