

[MS-INFODCF]:

InfoPath Data Connection File Download Protocol

Intellectual Property Rights Notice for Open Specifications Documentation

- **Technical Documentation.** Microsoft publishes Open Specifications documentation (“this documentation”) for protocols, file formats, data portability, computer languages, and standards support. Additionally, overview documents cover inter-protocol relationships and interactions.
- **Copyrights.** This documentation is covered by Microsoft copyrights. Regardless of any other terms that are contained in the terms of use for the Microsoft website that hosts this documentation, you can make copies of it in order to develop implementations of the technologies that are described in this documentation and can distribute portions of it in your implementations that use these technologies or in your documentation as necessary to properly document the implementation. You can also distribute in your implementation, with or without modification, any schemas, IDLs, or code samples that are included in the documentation. This permission also applies to any documents that are referenced in the Open Specifications documentation.
- **No Trade Secrets.** Microsoft does not claim any trade secret rights in this documentation.
- **Patents.** Microsoft has patents that might cover your implementations of the technologies described in the Open Specifications documentation. Neither this notice nor Microsoft's delivery of this documentation grants any licenses under those patents or any other Microsoft patents. However, a given Open Specifications document might be covered by the Microsoft [Open Specifications Promise](#) or the [Microsoft Community Promise](#). If you would prefer a written license, or if the technologies described in this documentation are not covered by the Open Specifications Promise or Community Promise, as applicable, patent licenses are available by contacting iplg@microsoft.com.
- **License Programs.** To see all of the protocols in scope under a specific license program and the associated patents, visit the [Patent Map](#).
- **Trademarks.** The names of companies and products contained in this documentation might be covered by trademarks or similar intellectual property rights. This notice does not grant any licenses under those rights. For a list of Microsoft trademarks, visit www.microsoft.com/trademarks.
- **Fictitious Names.** The example companies, organizations, products, domain names, email addresses, logos, people, places, and events that are depicted in this documentation are fictitious. No association with any real company, organization, product, domain name, email address, logo, person, place, or event is intended or should be inferred.

Reservation of Rights. All other rights are reserved, and this notice does not grant any rights other than as specifically described above, whether by implication, estoppel, or otherwise.

Tools. The Open Specifications documentation does not require the use of Microsoft programming tools or programming environments in order for you to develop an implementation. If you have access to Microsoft programming tools and environments, you are free to take advantage of them. Certain Open Specifications documents are intended for use in conjunction with publicly available standards specifications and network programming art and, as such, assume that the reader either is familiar with the aforementioned material or has immediate access to it.

Support. For questions and support, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com.

Preliminary Documentation. This particular Open Specifications document provides documentation for past and current releases and/or for the pre-release version of this technology. This document provides final documentation for past and current releases and preliminary documentation, as applicable and specifically noted in this document, for the pre-release version. Microsoft will release final documentation in connection with the commercial release of the updated or new version of this technology. Because this documentation might change between the pre-release version and the final

version of this technology, there are risks in relying on this preliminary documentation. To the extent that you incur additional development obligations or any other costs as a result of relying on this preliminary documentation, you do so at your own risk.

Preliminary

Revision Summary

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
4/4/2008	0.1	New	Initial Availability
6/27/2008	1.0	Major	Revised and edited the technical content
12/12/2008	1.01	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content
7/13/2009	1.02	Major	Revised and edited the technical content
8/28/2009	1.03	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content
11/6/2009	1.04	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content
2/19/2010	2.0	Minor	Updated the technical content
3/31/2010	2.01	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content
4/30/2010	2.02	Minor	Updated the technical content
6/7/2010	2.03	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content
6/29/2010	2.04	Editorial	Changed language and formatting in the technical content.
7/23/2010	2.04	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
9/27/2010	2.04	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
11/15/2010	2.04	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
12/17/2010	2.04	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
3/18/2011	2.04	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
6/10/2011	2.04	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
1/20/2012	2.5	Minor	Clarified the meaning of the technical content.
4/11/2012	2.5	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
7/16/2012	2.5	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
10/8/2012	2.5.1	Editorial	Changed language and formatting in the technical content.
2/11/2013	2.5.1	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
7/30/2013	2.6	Minor	Clarified the meaning of the technical content.
11/18/2013	2.6	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
2/10/2014	2.6	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
4/30/2014	2.6	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
7/31/2014	3.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.
10/30/2014	3.0	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
2/26/2016	4.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.
6/23/2016	4.0	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
7/15/2016	4.0	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
9/14/2016	4.0	None	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
7/24/2018	5.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.
10/1/2018	6.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.
7/20/2021	7.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.

Preliminary

Table of Contents

1	Introduction	7
1.1	Glossary	7
1.2	References	8
1.2.1	Normative References	8
1.2.2	Informative References	9
1.3	Overview	9
1.4	Relationship to Other Protocols	9
1.5	Prerequisites/Preconditions	10
1.6	Applicability Statement	10
1.7	Versioning and Capability Negotiation	10
1.8	Vendor-Extensible Fields	10
1.9	Standards Assignments	10
2	Messages	11
2.1	Transport	11
2.2	Message Syntax	11
2.2.1	Request Syntax	11
2.2.1.1	Request HTTP Method	11
2.2.1.2	Request-URI Syntax	11
2.2.1.3	Request Headers Syntax	12
2.2.2	Response Syntax	12
2.2.2.1	Response Status-Line	12
2.2.2.2	Response Headers Syntax	12
2.2.2.3	Response Message Body Syntax	13
3	Protocol Details	14
3.1	Common Details	14
3.1.1	Abstract Data Model	14
3.1.2	Timers	15
3.1.3	Initialization	15
3.1.4	Higher-Layer Triggered Events	15
3.1.5	Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules	15
3.1.6	Timer Events	15
3.1.7	Other Local Events	15
3.2	Protocol Server Details	15
3.2.1	Abstract Data Model	15
3.2.2	Timers	15
3.2.3	Initialization	15
3.2.4	Higher-Layer Triggered Events	15
3.2.5	Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules	15
3.2.6	Timer Events	16
3.2.7	Other Local Events	16
3.3	Protocol Client Details	16
3.3.1	Abstract Data Model	16
3.3.2	Timers	17
3.3.3	Initialization	17
3.3.4	Higher-Layer Triggered Events	17
3.3.5	Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules	17
3.3.6	Timer Events	17
3.3.7	Other Local Events	17
4	Protocol Examples	18
4.1	Making a Successful GET Request	18
4.2	Making a Successful HEAD Request	18
4.3	Receiving a Failure Response From the Protocol Server	19

5 Security **20**
5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers 20
5.2 Index of Security Parameters 20
6 Appendix A: Product Behavior **21**
7 Change Tracking..... **23**
8 Index..... **24**

Preliminary

1 Introduction

The InfoPath Data Connection File Download Protocol enables a protocol client to download information defining the connection parameters for a specific remote data store.

Sections 1.5, 1.8, 1.9, 2, and 3 of this specification are normative. All other sections and examples in this specification are informative.

1.1 Glossary

This document uses the following terms:

200 OK: A response to indicate that the request has succeeded.

ASCII: The American Standard Code for Information Interchange (ASCII) is an 8-bit character-encoding scheme based on the English alphabet. ASCII codes represent text in computers, communications equipment, and other devices that work with text. ASCII refers to a single 8-bit ASCII character or an array of 8-bit ASCII characters with the high bit of each character set to zero.

Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF): A modified version of Backus-Naur Form (BNF), commonly used by Internet specifications. ABNF notation balances compactness and simplicity with reasonable representational power. ABNF differs from standard BNF in its definitions and uses of naming rules, repetition, alternatives, order-independence, and value ranges. For more information, see [\[RFC5234\]](#).

authentication: The act of proving an identity to a server while providing key material that binds the identity to subsequent communications.

authorization: The secure computation of roles and accesses granted to an identity.

data source: A database, web service, disk, file, or other collection of information from which data is queried or submitted. Supported data sources vary based on application and data provider.

failure response: An **HTTP** response where the value of the **Status-Code** element is 4xx or 5xx, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

form definition (.xsf) file: An XML file with an .xsf file name extension. The file contains information about the files and components that are used within a form, including user interface customizations, XML schemas, views, business logic, events, and deployment settings.

form template (.xsn) file: A cabinet (.cab) file with an .xsn file name extension that contains the files that comprise a form template.

HTTP method: In an HTTP message, a token that specifies the method to be performed on the resource that is identified by the **Request-URI**, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP): An application-level protocol for distributed, collaborative, hypermedia information systems (text, graphic images, sound, video, and other multimedia files) on the World Wide Web.

Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS): An extension of HTTP that securely encrypts and decrypts web page requests. In some older protocols, "Hypertext Transfer Protocol over Secure Sockets Layer" is still used (Secure Sockets Layer has been deprecated). For more information, see [\[SSL3\]](#) and [\[RFC5246\]](#).

message body: The content within an HTTP message, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 4.3.

path component: Data that identifies a resource within the scope of a scheme and authority in a **URI**, as described in [\[RFC3986\]](#).

path segment: A portion of a **URI**, as described in [\[RFC3986\]](#). See also **path component**.

query component: A portion of a **URL** that follows a question mark (?), as described in [\[RFC3986\]](#).

Request-URI: A **URI** in an **HTTP** request message, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

site: A group of related pages and data within a SharePoint site collection. The structure and content of a site is based on a site definition. Also referred to as SharePoint site and web site.

Status-Code: A 3-digit integer result code in an HTTP response message, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

Status-Line: The first line of an HTTP response message, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): A string that identifies a resource. The URI is an addressing mechanism defined in Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax [\[RFC3986\]](#).

Uniform Resource Locator (URL): A string of characters in a standardized format that identifies a document or resource on the World Wide Web. The format is as specified in [\[RFC1738\]](#).

Universal Data Connection (.udc, .udcx) file: An XML file that has a .udc or .udcx file name extension that contains user credentials and other authentication information that is used to connect to a data source.

UTF-8: A byte-oriented standard for encoding Unicode characters, defined in the Unicode standard. Unless specified otherwise, this term refers to the UTF-8 encoding form specified in [\[UNICODE5.0.0/2007\]](#) section 3.9.

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

1.2 References

Links to a document in the Microsoft Open Specifications library point to the correct section in the most recently published version of the referenced document. However, because individual documents in the library are not updated at the same time, the section numbers in the documents may not match. You can confirm the correct section numbering by checking the [Errata](#).

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.

[MS-IPFF2] Microsoft Corporation, "[InfoPath Form Template Format Version 2](#)".

[MS-IPFF] Microsoft Corporation, "[InfoPath Form Template Format](#)".

[MS-UDCX] Microsoft Corporation, "[Universal Data Connection 2.0 XML File Format](#)".

[RFC1945] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., and Frystyk, H., "Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.0", RFC 1945, May 1996, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1945.txt>

[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>

[RFC2616] Fielding, R., Gettys, J., Mogul, J., et al., "Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1", RFC 2616, June 1999, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2616.txt>

[RFC3986] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., and Masinter, L., "Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax", STD 66, RFC 3986, January 2005, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc3986.txt>

[RFC5234] Crocker, D., Ed., and Overell, P., "Augmented BNF for Syntax Specifications: ABNF", STD 68, RFC 5234, January 2008, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc5234.txt>

1.2.2 Informative References

[MSDN-UDCV2] Microsoft Corporation, "Universal Data Connection v2.0 Reference and Schema", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms772017.aspx>

[RFC2818] Rescorla, E., "HTTP Over TLS", RFC 2818, May 2000, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2818.txt>

1.3 Overview

This protocol provides a method for protocol clients to request a **Universal Data Connection (.udc, .udcx) file** in the format described by [MS-UDCX]. This method requires the protocol client to have a **form template (.xsn) file** that uses information in the requested .udc file to connect to a **data source**. The protocol client provides query parameters in the **query component** submitted to the protocol server to identify the requested .udc file and the form template (.xsn) file that contains a reference to this .udc file.

This protocol uses the **Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)** for transport. The protocol client can use the **GET HTTP method** to download the file, or the **HEAD HTTP method** to determine whether the file exists without downloading it.

A typical scenario for using this protocol would be to access a .udc file that is used by several different form template (.xsn) files that are located on different **sites**. In this scenario, the protocol server can restrict access to the .udc file by verifying the protocol client has **authorization** to use a form template (.xsn) file that contains a reference to this .udc file.

For more information about using the .udc file format, see [MSDN-UDCV2].

1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

For message transport, this protocol uses the **HTTP/1.0** protocol, as described in [RFC1945], the **HTTP/1.1** protocol, as described in [RFC2616], or the **Hypertext Transfer Protocol over Secure Sockets Layer (HTTPS)** protocol, as described [RFC2818].

The following diagram shows the transport stack that this protocol uses:

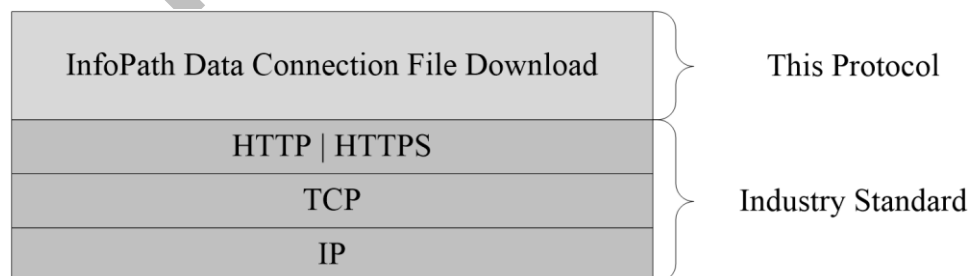


Figure 1: This protocol in relation to other protocols

1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

This protocol operates against a **site** that is identified by a **Uniform Resource Locator (URL)** that is known by protocol clients. The protocol server endpoint is formed by appending `"/_layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx "` to the URL of the site. For example, a URL could be `"http://www.contoso.com/Repository/_layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx"`.

This protocol assumes that **authentication** has been performed by the underlying protocols.

This protocol assumes that both the protocol client and protocol server have copies of a **form template (.xsn) file** resource. This protocol does not specify how the protocol client and protocol server obtain their respective copies of this resource.

1.6 Applicability Statement

This protocol is appropriate for providing protocol clients access over **HTTP** or **HTTPS** to a **.udc file** when both the following conditions apply:

- the protocol client is requesting the .udc file because it is used by a **form template (.xsn) file** that the protocol server also has a copy of.
- the .udc file is referenced by a **connectoid** element in the form template (.xsn) file, as described in [\[MS-IPFF\]](#) section 2.2.147.30 and [\[MS-IPFF2\]](#) section 2.2.2.2.23, with a **connectionLinkType** attribute equal to "store".
- the .udc file is in the format described by [\[MS-UDCX\]](#).

1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation

This protocol uses multiple transports with **HTTP**, as described in section [2.1](#).

This protocol refers to different file format specifications, [\[MS-IPFF\]](#) and [\[MS-IPFF2\]](#), both of which define the structure of a valid **form template (.xsn) file**. In cases where both specifications are cited as references, the **SolutionFormatVersion** attribute of the **xDocumentClass** element, as described in [\[MS-IPFF2\]](#) section 2.2.1.2.1, specifies whether to use the InfoPath Form Template Format, as described in [\[MS-IPFF\]](#), or the InfoPath Form Template Format Version 2, as described in [\[MS-IPFF2\]](#).

1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

1.9 Standards Assignments

None.

2 Messages

2.1 Transport

Protocol servers MUST support **HTTP**. Protocol servers SHOULD additionally support **HTTPS** for securing communication with clients.

2.2 Message Syntax

All messages in this protocol MUST be valid **HTTP** requests and responses, as specified in [\[RFC1945\]](#) or [\[RFC2616\]](#). The HTTP version, as specified in [\[RFC1945\]](#) or [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 3.1, MUST be either "HTTP/1.0" or "HTTP/1.1". The following subsections detail the relevant portions of HTTP request and response messages.

2.2.1 Request Syntax

2.2.1.1 Request HTTP Method

The protocol client MUST use the **GET** or **HEAD** **HTTP methods** specified in [\[RFC1945\]](#), section 8 or [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 9. The protocol server determines whether to return a **message body** in the response based on the HTTP method, as specified section [2.2.2](#).

2.2.1.2 Request-URI Syntax

The **Request-URI** sent in the **HTTP** request MUST be a valid **Uniform Resource Identifier (URI)**, as specified in [\[RFC3986\]](#). The **path component** of the Request-URI MUST end with `"/_layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx"`. The following **Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)** specifies the syntax that the path component MUST adhere to, using the notation specified in [\[RFC5234\]](#). The ABNF rules **path-absolute** and **path-rootless** are defined in [\[RFC3986\]](#) section 3.3.

```
path    = [base]"/_layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx"  
base    = path-absolute / path-rootless
```

The value of the **base** ABNF rule identifies the **site** the request operates on, and MUST be negotiated prior to initiating this protocol, as described section [1.5](#).

The **query component** of the Request-URI MUST be present, and MUST contain 3 query parameters with the following case-insensitive **ASCII** names:

- "Udc"
- "Urn"
- "Version"

The following ABNF specifies the syntax for the query component. The ABNF for the **pct-encoded** rule is specified in [\[RFC3986\]](#).

```
query-component    = <query-parameter>"&"<query-parameter>"&"  
                   <query-parameter>  
query-parameter    = name="value"  
name                = "Udc" / "Urn" / "Version"
```

```
value = 1*(allowed-char | optional-allowed-char)
allowed-char = ALPHA / DIGIT / pct-encoded / "-" / "_" / "." /
"! " / "@" / "$" / "," / "="
optional-allowed-char = "+" / "' " ; plus and apostrophe symbols
```

The **value** for all query parameters MUST be a non-empty ASCII **string**, and MUST NOT contain "&". The protocol server MUST support values that use only characters matching the **allowed-char** rule. The protocol server SHOULD [<1>](#) also support characters matching the **optional-allowed-char** rule. The escaped encoding specified in [RFC3986] section 2 SHOULD [<2>](#) be used for other punctuation, space, and non-ASCII characters in the query parameters.

The query component (1) MUST NOT contain extra query parameters beyond the 3 required parameters. The protocol server MUST ignore the order of these parameters. For example, the following two query components (1) are identical for purposes of this protocol:

```
Udc=sample.udcx&Urn=urn:sample&Version=1.0.0.0
```

and

```
Version=1.0.0.0&Udc=sample.udcx&Urn=urn:sample
```

A complete example of Request-URIs are shown in section [4](#).

2.2.1.3 Request Headers Syntax

The following request header is relevant to this protocol:

- **Accept:** Specified in [\[RFC1945\]](#), section D.2 or [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 14.1. The protocol client SHOULD specify this header with the value "*/*". The protocol server MAY [<3>](#) ignore the value of this header.

2.2.2 Response Syntax

2.2.2.1 Response Status-Line

The response **Status-Line** MUST be valid according to [\[RFC1945\]](#) or [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 6.1. The protocol server MUST return a **200 OK** for successful requests.

The protocol server MUST return a 4xx or 5xx **Status-Code**, as specified in [RFC1945] or [RFC2616] section 6.1.1 to indicate that a request failed. The protocol server MUST return the Status-Code 403 if the **query component** of the **Request-URI** does not match the syntax specified in section [2.2.1.2](#). The protocol server SHOULD [<4>](#) use the Status-Code 401 to indicate that the protocol client can retry the request using a different **authentication** protocol or different properties.

For information about the **message body** to return for different Status-Codes, see section [2.2.2.3](#).

2.2.2.2 Response Headers Syntax

The following response headers are relevant to this protocol:

Content-Type: MUST be present and set to "text/xml; charset=utf-8" on **200 OK** responses.

2.2.2.3 Response Message Body Syntax

The following table specifies the required **message body** content based on the **HTTP method** and response **Status-Code**.

HTTP Method	Response Status-Code	Response Message-Body
GET	200	MUST be a valid .udc file in the format specified by [MS-UDCX] and MUST use UTF-8 encoding.
GET	4xx or 5xx	MUST NOT be a .udc file. SHOULD<5> be a message describing the failure reason, but MAY<6> be omitted by the protocol server.
HEAD	Any valid Status-Code	MUST be omitted by the protocol server.

3 Protocol Details

3.1 Common Details

This section specifies details common to both protocol server and protocol client behavior.

Except where specified, protocol clients SHOULD interpret **HTTP Status-Codes** returned by the protocol server as specified in [\[RFC1945\]](#) section 9 or [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.

This protocol allows protocol servers to perform implementation-specific **authorization** checks and notify protocol clients of authorization faults using HTTP Status-Codes.

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. The described organization is provided to facilitate the explanation of how the protocol behaves. This document does not mandate that implementations adhere to this model as long as their external behavior is consistent with that described in this document.

Requested .udc file: The **.udc file** that the protocol client is attempting to download using this protocol. The requested .udc file is identified by the *Udc* query parameter in the **query component** submitted to the protocol server, as specified in the following table.

Request Site: The **site** that this request is running on. This is determined from the **path segment** of the **Request-URI** that matches the **base ABNF** rule, as specified in section [2.2.1.2](#).

Referring Form Template: A **form template (.xsn) file** that references the requested .udc file. The protocol client and protocol server are both expected to have a copy of this file, as described in section [1.5](#). The referring form template is uniquely identified by the *Urn* and *Version* query parameters, as specified in the following table.

Referring Element: An element in the **form definition (.xsf) file** of the referring form template that refers to the requested .udc file. The reason that this protocol requires *Urn* and *Version* query parameters is that the protocol server can then verify that a referring element exists. A process for finding a referring element is specified in section [3.2.5](#).

Query Parameters: The *Udc*, *Urn*, and *Version* query parameters specified in section 2.2.1.2. The values of these parameters are **strings** matching the **value** rule in the ABNF specified in section 2.2.1.2. The protocol client and protocol server interpret values of these parameters, as specified in the following table.

Parameter	Description
<i>Udc</i>	This parameter identifies the file name of the .udc file to be returned.
<i>Urn</i>	This parameter partially identifies the referring form template. The value of this parameter MUST be the value of the name attribute on the xDocumentClass element in the referring form template, as specified in [MS-IPFF] section 2.2.20 or [MS-IPFF2] section 2.2.1.2.1.
<i>Version</i>	This parameter partially identifies the referring form template. This parameter MUST be a string valid according to the xDSolutionVersion type specified in [MS-IPFF] section 2.2.10 or [MS-IPFF2] section 2.2.1.1.10. This value MUST be the value of the solutionVersion attribute on the xDocumentClass element specified in [MS-IPFF] section 2.2.20 or [MS-IPFF2] section 2.2.1.2.1 in the referring form template.

3.1.2 Timers

None.

3.1.3 Initialization

None.

3.1.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

None.

3.1.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

None.

3.1.6 Timer Events

None.

3.1.7 Other Local Events

None.

3.2 Protocol Server Details

3.2.1 Abstract Data Model

Requested .udc file: Described in section [3.1.1](#).

Request Site: Described in section 3.1.1.

Referring Form Template: Described in section 3.1.1.

Referring Element: Described in section 3.1.1.

Query Parameters: Described in section 3.1.1.

3.2.2 Timers

None.

3.2.3 Initialization

None.

3.2.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

None.

3.2.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The protocol server MUST process request messages received from the protocol client as follows:

- First the protocol server MUST identify the request **site** from the **Request-URI**. The protocol server MUST return a **failure response** if there is no site associated with the Request-URI or if the protocol client does not have **authorization** to access the path in the request URI.
- Then the protocol server MUST find the referring form template identified by the *Urn* and *Version* query parameters using the interpretation of those parameters specified in section [3.1.1](#). The protocol server MUST return a failure response if no referring form template can be found on the request site (2), or if any implementation-specific authorization for this file fails.
- Then the protocol server MUST find the requested **.udc file** identified by the *Udc* query parameter. The protocol server MUST return a failure response if it cannot find the requested .udc file or if any implementation-specific authorization fails.
- The protocol server MUST find the referring element in the referring form template as follows, or return a failure response if no referring element can be found. If a **connectoid** element is found that passes all of these checks, it is a valid referring element.
 - The referring element MUST be a **connectoid** element, as specified in [\[MS-IPFF\]](#) section 2.2.147.30 or [\[MS-IPFF2\]](#) section 2.2.2.23.
 - This **connectoid** element MUST have a **source** attribute where the rightmost **path segment** equals the value of the *Udc* query parameter. The protocol server MUST use a case-insensitive **ASCII string** for this comparison.
 - This **connectoid** element MUST have a **connectionLinkType** attribute with the value "store".
- After performing these validation steps and any other implementation-specific validation [<7>](#), the protocol server MUST return an **HTTP** response message, as specified in section [2.2.2](#).
 - If all validation steps succeed and a .udc file and referring element are found, the protocol server MUST return a **200 OK** response. If the request **HTTP method** was **GET**, the protocol server MUST return a **UTF-8** encoded **message body** containing the .udc file that is identified by the *Udc* query parameter. If the HTTP method was **HEAD**, the protocol server MUST NOT return a message body (1).
 - Otherwise a failure response MUST be returned. For the response syntax for failure responses, see section [2.2.2.1](#) and section [2.2.2.3](#).

3.2.6 Timer Events

None.

3.2.7 Other Local Events

None.

3.3 Protocol Client Details

3.3.1 Abstract Data Model

Requested .udc file: Described in section [3.1.1](#).

Request Site: Described in section 3.1.1.

Referring Form Template: Described in section 3.1.1.

Referring Element: Described in section 3.1.1.

Query Parameters: Described in section 3.1.1.

3.3.2 Timers

None.

3.3.3 Initialization

None.

3.3.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

None.

3.3.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

Request messages sent by the protocol client MUST be in the syntax specified in section [2.2.1](#).

The protocol client MUST interpret the protocol server response based on the **Status-Code** as follows:

- **200:** The request was successful. If the **HTTP method** was **GET**, the protocol client can assume the **message body** MUST be a valid **UTF-8** encoded **.udc file** in the format specified by [\[MS-UDCX\]](#).
- **401:** The request failed because of an **authentication** or **authorization** failure.
- **4xx/5xx:** The request failed and, if present, the message body MUST NOT be interpreted as a **.udc file**.

3.3.6 Timer Events

None.

3.3.7 Other Local Events

None.

4 Protocol Examples

The following examples show sample interactions between the protocol client and the protocol server.

4.1 Making a Successful GET Request

This example shows the messages exchanged when the protocol client makes a successful **GET** request to a protocol server using this protocol.

The following example is a protocol client request.

```
GET /_layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx?Udc=sample.udcx&Urn=urn:sample&Version=1.0.0.0
HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0
Host: www.contoso.com
```

The following example is a protocol server response.

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Connection: Keep-Alive
Cache-Control: Private
Date: Tue, 22 Jan 2008 01:13:30 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Content-Type: text/xml; charset=utf-8
Content-Length: 1234

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<?MicrosoftWindowsSharePointServices ContentTypeID="0x102030FF"?>
<udc:DataSource MajorVersion="2" MinorVersion="0"
xmlns:udc=http://schemas.microsoft.com/office/infopath/2006/udc>
...
</udc:DataSource>
```

For complete examples and specification of the **DataSource** element in a **.udc file**, see [\[MS-UDCX\]](#).

4.2 Making a Successful HEAD Request

This example shows the messages exchanged when the protocol client makes a successful **HEAD** request to a protocol server using this protocol.

The following example is a protocol client request.

```
HEAD /_layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx?Udc=sample.udcx&Urn=urn:sample&Version=1.0.0.0
HTTP/1.1
Host: www.contoso.com
Content-Length: 0
Pragma: no-cache
```

The following example is a protocol server response.

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Cache-Control: private
Date: Tue, 22 Jan 2008 01:13:30 GMT
```

```
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Content-Type: text/xml; charset=utf-8
Content-Length: 1252
```

4.3 Receiving a Failure Response From the Protocol Server

This example shows the messages exchanged when the protocol server returns a **failure response**.

The following example is a protocol client request.

```
GET / layouts/GetDataConnectionFile.aspx?Udc=NotFound.udcx&Urn=urn:sample&Version=1.0.0.1
HTTP/1.1
Accept: */*
User-Agent: Mozilla/4.0
Host: www.contoso.com
```

The following example is a protocol server response.

```
HTTP/1.1 403 Forbidden
Connection: Keep-Alive
Cache-Control: Private
Date: Tue, 22 Jan 2008 01:13:30 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Content-Length: 0
```

5 Security

5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

The information in a **.udc file** is likely to be security-sensitive. For example, the file could contain server names, account names, and passwords. Using a method of **authentication** is recommended to establish the protocol client's identity and validate **authorization** for the requested resource.

The .udc file returned by this protocol could describe a data connection that is not located on the protocol server. Sending data to or receiving data from such a data connection could pose security risks if that data connection is not trusted. The protocol client implementation can mitigate this risk by validating data that is not transferred to a location that is not trusted. The protocol server implementation can mitigate this risk by only allowing highly trusted users to add or modify the .udc file or files to be returned by this protocol.

5.2 Index of Security Parameters

None.

6 Appendix A: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include updates to those products.

- Microsoft Office Forms Server 2007
- Microsoft Office InfoPath 2007
- Microsoft InfoPath 2010
- Microsoft InfoPath 2013
- Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007
- Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010
- Microsoft SharePoint Server 2013
- Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise
- Microsoft SharePoint Server 2016
- Microsoft SharePoint Server 2019
- Microsoft SharePoint Server Subscription Edition Preview

Exceptions, if any, are noted in this section. If an update version, service pack or Knowledge Base (KB) number appears with a product name, the behavior changed in that update. The new behavior also applies to subsequent updates 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 2.2.1.2](#): Characters that match the **optional-allowed-char** rule are supported in query parameter values by SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise and SharePoint Server 2013. Office SharePoint Server 2007 fails the request with a 403 **Status-Code** if either of the **optional-allowed-char** characters is present in a query parameter value.

[<2> Section 2.2.1.2](#): The Office InfoPath 2007 client will send non-**ASCII** characters in the *udc* parameter if the **source** attribute on the **connectoid** element specified in [\[MS-IPFE\] 2.2.147.30](#) contains characters not in the ASCII character set. Office SharePoint Server 2007, SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise and SharePoint Server 2013 respond to these requests with a 403 failure Status-Code.

[<3> Section 2.2.1.3](#): Office SharePoint Server 2007, SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise and SharePoint Server 2013 ignore the **Accept**, **Accept-Charset**, **Accept-Encoding**, and **Accept-Language** headers when returning a **.udc file**. A **message body** of content-type "text/xml; charset=utf-8" can be returned even if that conflicts with the request headers sent by the protocol client.

[<4> Section 2.2.2.1](#): Office SharePoint Server 2007, SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise and SharePoint Server 2013 return a 401 Unauthorized Status-Code if the client is not authorized to access the path in the **Request-URI**, and returns a 403 Forbidden Status-Code if the client is authorized to access the path in the Request-URI but is not authorized to access a resource identified by the query parameters in the Request-URI.

<5> [Section 2.2.2.3](#): The Office InfoPath 2007, InfoPath 2010 and InfoPath 2013 protocol clients ignore the message body of any **failure response**.

<6> [Section 2.2.2.3](#): Office SharePoint Server 2007, SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise and SharePoint Server 2013 always return an empty body when returning a 403 Status-Code, and when returning a 401 Status-Code returns either an empty body or a text/html message body, depending on **authentication** settings configured by the administrator and the credentials provided in the request message.

<7> [Section 3.2.5](#): The Office SharePoint Server 2007, SharePoint Server 2010 Enterprise and SharePoint Server 2013 implementations of this protocol do the following to address security considerations:

1. This implementation requires that both the .udc file returned by this protocol and the referring **form template (.xsn) file** are uploaded by an administrator.
2. This implementation validates that the protocol client has **authorization** to view the form template (.xsn) file identified by the query parameters in a Web browser.

Preliminary

7 Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to this document since the last release. Changes are classified as Major, Minor, or None.

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.
- A document revision that captures changes to protocol functionality.

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 **None** means that no new technical changes were introduced. Minor editorial and formatting changes may have been made, but the relevant technical content is identical to the last released version.

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

Section	Description	Revision class
6 Appendix A: Product Behavior	Updated list of supported products.	Major

8 Index

A

Abstract data model

- [client](#) 16
- [common](#) 14
- [server](#) 15

[Applicability](#) 10

C

[Capability negotiation](#) 10

[Change tracking](#) 23

Client

- [abstract data model](#) 16
- [higher-layer triggered events](#) 17
- [initialization](#) 17
- [message processing](#) 17
- [other local events](#) 17
- [overview](#) 14
- [sequencing rules](#) 17
- [timer events](#) 17
- [timers](#) 17

Common

- [abstract data model](#) 14
- [higher-layer triggered events](#) 15
- [initialization](#) 15
- [message processing](#) 15
- [other local events](#) 15
- [overview](#) 14
- [sequencing rules](#) 15
- [timer events](#) 15
- [timers](#) 15

D

Data model - abstract

- [client](#) 16
- [common](#) 14
- [server](#) 15

E

Examples

- [Making a successful GET request](#) 18
- [Making a successful HEAD request](#) 18
- [overview](#) 18
- [Receiving a failure response from the protocol server](#) 19

F

[Fields - vendor-extensible](#) 10

G

[Glossary](#) 7

H

Higher-layer triggered events

- [client](#) 17

[common](#) 15

[server](#) 15

I

[Implementer - security considerations](#) 20

[Index of security parameters](#) 20

[Informative references](#) 9

Initialization

- [client](#) 17
- [common](#) 15
- [server](#) 15

[Introduction](#) 7

M

[Making a successful GET request example](#) 18

[Making a successful HEAD request example](#) 18

Message processing

- [client](#) 17
- [common](#) 15
- [server](#) 15
- [Message syntax](#) 11
 - [request syntax](#) 11
 - [request headers syntax](#) 12
 - [request HTTP method](#) 11
 - [request URI syntax](#) 11
 - [response syntax](#) 12
 - [response headers syntax](#) 12
 - [response message body syntax](#) 13
 - [response Status-Line](#) 12

Messages

- [message syntax](#) 11
 - [request](#) 11
 - [response](#) 12
 - [transport](#) 11

N

[Normative references](#) 8

O

Other local events

- [client](#) 17
- [common](#) 15
- [server](#) 16
- [Overview \(synopsis\)](#) 9

P

[Parameters - security index](#) 20

[Preconditions](#) 10

[Prerequisites](#) 10

[Product behavior](#) 21

R

[Receiving a failure response from the protocol server example](#) 19

[References](#) 8

[informative](#) 9
[normative](#) 8
[Relationship to other protocols](#) 9
Request syntax
[request headers syntax](#) 12
[request HTTP method](#) 11
[request URI syntax](#) 11
Response syntax
[response headers syntax](#) 12
[response message body syntax](#) 13
[response Status-Line](#) 12

S

Security
[implementer considerations](#) 20
[parameter index](#) 20
Sequencing rules
[client](#) 17
[common](#) 15
[server](#) 15
Server
[abstract data model](#) 15
[higher-layer triggered events](#) 15
[initialization](#) 15
[message processing](#) 15
[other local events](#) 16
[overview](#) 14
[sequencing rules](#) 15
[timer events](#) 16
[timers](#) 15
[Standards assignments](#) 10

T

Timer events
[client](#) 17
[common](#) 15
[server](#) 16
Timers
[client](#) 17
[common](#) 15
[server](#) 15
[Tracking changes](#) 23
[Transport](#) 11
Triggered events - higher-layer
[client](#) 17
[common](#) 15
[server](#) 15

V

[Vendor-extensible fields](#) 10
[Versioning](#) 10