

[MS-OXDISCO]: Autodiscover HTTP Service Protocol Specification

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Revision Summary

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
04/04/2008	0.1		Initial Availability.
06/27/2008	1.0		Initial Release.
08/06/2008	1.01		Updated references to reflect date of initial release.
09/03/2008	1.02		Revised and edited technical content.
10/01/2008	1.03		Revised and edited technical content.
12/03/2008	1.04		Revised and edited technical content.
04/10/2009	2.0		Updated technical content and applicable product releases.
07/15/2009	3.0	Major	Revised and edited for technical content.
11/04/2009	4.0.0	Major	Updated and revised the technical content.

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1 Introduction

The Autodiscover HTTP Service Protocol extends the **domain name system (DNS)** and directory services to make the location and settings of mail servers available to clients in order to use the functionality specified in the Autodiscover Publishing and Lookup Protocol [\[MS-OXDCLI\]](#).

1.1 Glossary

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

Active Directory
Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)
Autodiscover client
Autodiscover server
common name (CN)
distinguished name (DN)
domain
Domain Name System (DNS)
GUID
Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)
Hypertext Transfer Protocol over Secure Sockets Layer (HTTPS)
LDAP server
Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)
port
Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)
Service Connection Point (SCP)
Uniform Resource Identifier (URI)
XML

The following terms are specific to this document:

Autodiscover directory service map GUID: The GUID value 67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68, which identifies SCP objects that identify other directory service forests that can contain Autodiscover server information.

Autodiscover URI map GUID: The GUID value 77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596, which identifies SCP objects that identify Autodiscover server URIs.

LDAP Data Interchange Format (LDIF): An Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) standard that defines how to import and export directory data between directory servers that use LDAP service providers. For more details, see [\[RFC2849\]](#).

service binding information: The URI needed to bind to a service.

SRV record: A DNS resource record that is used to identify computers that host specific services.

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

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.

[MS-OXDSCLI] Microsoft Corporation, "[Autodiscover Publishing and Lookup Protocol Specification](#)", June 2008.

[MS-OXGLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange Server Protocols Master Glossary](#)", June 2008.

[RFC1034] Mockapetris, P., "DOMAIN NAMES – CONCEPTS AND FACILITIES", RFC 1034, November 1987, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1034.txt>.

[RFC1558] Howes, T., "A String Representation of LDAP Search Filters", RFC 1558, December 1993, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1558.txt>.

[RFC1823] Howes, T. and Smith, M., "The LDAP Application Program Interface", RFC 1823, August 1995, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1823.txt>.

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

[RFC2396] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., and Masinter, L., "Uniform Resource Identifiers (URI): Generic Syntax", RFC 2396, August 1998, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2396.txt>.

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

[RFC2782] Gulbrandsen, A., P. Vixie, A., and Esibov, L., "A DNS RR for specifying the location of services (DNS SRV)", RFC 2782, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2782.txt>.

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

[RFC2822] Resnick, P., Ed., "Internet Message Format", RFC 2822, April 2001, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2822.txt>.

[RFC2849] Good, G., "The LDAP Data Interchange Format (LDIF) – Technical Specification", RFC 2849, June 2000, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2849.txt>.

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

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

[RFC814] Clark, David D., "NAME, ADDRESSES, PORTS, AND ROUTES", RFC 814, July 1982, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0814.txt>.

1.2.2 Informative References

[MS-ADTS] Microsoft Corporation, "Active Directory Technical Specification", July 2006, <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=112149>.

[RFC4210] Adams, C., "Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate Management Protocol (CMP)", RFC 4210, September 2005, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4210.txt>.

1.3 Protocol Overview

The Autodiscover HTTP Service Protocol allows a managed network (**domain**) to expose **Autodiscover servers** to clients that are configured with an e-mail address.

Uniform Resource Identifiers (URI) for Autodiscover server locations can be published using the following methods:

- **Service Connection Point (SCP)** objects which can be queried by using the **Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP)**
- Direct DNS configuration
- DNS service (**SRV**) record configuration
- **Hypertext Transfer Protocol over Secure Sockets Layer (HTTPS)** 302 redirection

1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

This specification requires an Autodiscover server and an **Autodiscover client** that implement the Autodiscover Publishing and Lookup Protocol, as specified in [\[MS-OXDSCLI\]](#). This protocol relies on HTTPS, as specified in [\[RFC2818\]](#), for data protection services and it relies on [\[RFC1034\]](#) for DNS services. It also relies on [\[MS-ADTS\]](#) and [\[RFC1823\]](#) for the SCP object and LDAP, respectively.

The following data flow diagram shows a client querying the directory and the DNS for an Autodiscover server, and the server publishing its location in the directory and DNS.

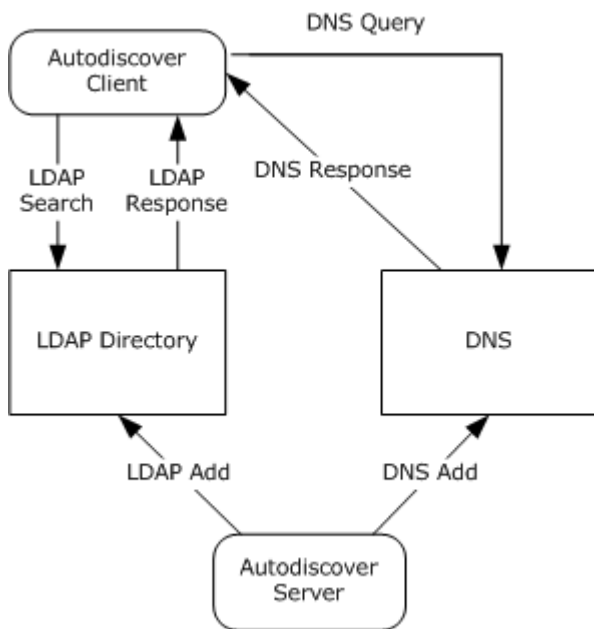


Figure 1: Autodiscover client and server interactions

1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

The Autodiscover client needs to be configured with an LDAP directory and base **distinguished name (DN)** that is well-known to the Autodiscover server administrator.

The Autodiscover server needs to be configured to provide its services over HTTP secured with TLS, as specified in [\[RFC2818\]](#).

1.6 Applicability Statement

This protocol is applicable in scenarios where an e-mail client wants to discover e-mail server settings and e-mail servers that want to publish their locations and settings.

1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation

None.

1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

1.9 Standards Assignments

None.

2 Messages

2.1 Transport

For the purposes of this protocol an Autodiscover client and an Autodiscover server do not communicate directly. Instead the Autodiscover client communicates with common well-known data sources that the Autodiscover server administrator has preconfigured. <1>

The following transports and data sources are used:

- LDAP and LDAP directories. For more details, see [\[RFC1823\]](#).
- The DNS and DNS SRV records. For more details, see [\[RFC1034\]](#) and [\[RFC2782\]](#).
- **Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)** and HTTP 302 redirection. For more details, see [\[RFC2616\]](#).

2.2 Message Syntax

2.2.1 SCP Publication Service Objects

2.2.1.1 LDIF Format

Using the formal syntax definition of the **LDAP Data Interchange Format (LDIF)** as specified in [\[RFC2849\]](#), an SCP object can be expressed as the following:

```
DN: <distinguishedName>
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
Keywords: <KeywordsValue>
[Keywords: <KeywordsValue>]
serviceBindingInformation: <serviceBindingInformationValue>
```

That is, an SCP object MUST have a <distinguishedName>, one or more <KeywordsValue>, and one <serviceBindingInformationValue>.

2.2.1.2 Searching for SCP Objects

The following LDAP elements and operations are used to search for an SCP object.

- The hostname parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.1, hereafter referred as <host>. <host> is a server running LDAP. This value SHOULD be well-known to the Autodiscover client and the Autodiscover server administrator.
- The portno parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.1, hereafter referred as <port>. <port> is the port of the LDAP service on the <host>. This value is commonly 389. This value SHOULD be well-known to the Autodiscover client and Autodiscover server administrator.
- The base parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.4, hereafter referred as <base>. <base> is the distinguished name (DN) to base the search on. This value SHOULD be well-known to the Autodiscover server and the Autodiscover client.
- The scope parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.4, hereafter referred as <scope>. <scope> is the search scope. For Autodiscover clients, the value MUST be LDAP_SCOPE_SUBTREE. This is a constant specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.4.

- The `attrs` parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.4. This value is the list of attributes to query. For the purposes of this protocol, the list MUST contain "serviceBindingInformation", and "Keywords".
- The `filter` parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.4, hereafter referred as `<filter>`. `<filter>` is an LDAP search filter, as specified in [\[RFC1558\]](#). For the purposes of this protocol, `<filter>` is


```
( &(objectcategory=serviceConnectionPoint) ( | (keywords=67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68) ( keywords=77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596) ) )
```

The search can be performed using the LDAP API specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.4.

2.2.1.3 Creating SCP Objects

SCP objects can be created in an LDAP directory. To do so, the administrator needs the following data elements:

- `<host>`: This value SHOULD be well-known to the Autodiscover client and Autodiscover server administrator.
- `<port>`: This value is typically 389. This value SHOULD be well-known to the Autodiscover client and Autodiscover server administrator.
- The `dn` parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.9. This value is a DN of the SCP object to create. This value SHOULD be well-known to the Autodiscover server administrator and the Autodiscover client.
- The `attrs` parameter specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.9. This value is the list of attributes to write. For the purposes of this protocol, the list MUST contain "Objectcategory", "serviceBindingInformation", and "Keywords"; and value of "Objectcategory" MUST be "serviceConnectionPoint". For more information, see sections [3.1.5.1](#) and [3.2.3.1](#).

An SCP object can be created using the LDAP API specified in [\[RFC1823\]](#) section 4.9.

2.2.2 DNS SRV Queries

To query for Autodiscover servers, the Autodiscover client SHOULD use the following data elements specified by the usage rules in [\[RFC2782\]](#):

- `_service` is "_Autodiscover"
- `_protocol` is "_tcp"
- The target is supplied by the Autodiscover client.

The query produces an ordered list of hosts. If no valid entries are found, then the query will return an empty list.

2.2.3 HTTP 302 Redirection

The following section uses **Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)** notation. For more details, see [\[RFC5234\]](#).

The Autodiscover client can send an HTTP GET request to retrieve the Autodiscover server URI. The request URI has the following format:

```
<RequestUri> = HTTP COLON SLASH SLASH AUTODISCOVERDOT <target> AUTODISCOVERSUFFIX

HTTP = "http"
COLON = ":"
SLASH = %2f ; forward slash or "/"
AUTODISCOVERDOT = "Autodiscover."
AUTODISCOVERSUFFIX = SLASH "Autodiscover" SLASH "Autodiscover.xml"
<target> = targetDomain ; The e-mail domain that the Autodiscover client wishes to query.
```

The above strings are not case sensitive.

The <RequestUri> can be processed as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 9.3. If the response is a 302 redirection (as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.3.3), the Autodiscover client uses the value of the redirection **URL**. Note that if the response is not a 302 redirection, then the expected response is an Autodiscover server URI.

2.2.4 E-mail Addresses

All e-mail addresses are assumed to be in the format specified in [\[RFC2822\]](#) section 3.4.1. That is, they follow the format <local-part> "@" <domain>.

2.2.5 Autodiscover Server URI Results

The result of an **Autodiscover** query is a list of possible Autodiscover server URIs. URIs are specified in [\[RFC3986\]](#).

3 Protocol Details

This protocol specifies a way for Autodiscover clients to find Autodiscover servers. The client starts with an e-mail address of the form <local-part>@<domain> and expands it to a list of URIs any of which can be Autodiscover servers.

3.1 Client 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. 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.

The main data elements required by any implementation are:

- **E-mail address:** An e-mail address of the form <local-part> @ <domain>. This is the e-mail address for which the corresponding Autodiscover server URI is being located.
- **LDAP directories and SCP objects:** LDAP directories contain published server locations in SCP objects. The SCP object can be used to identify Autodiscover server URIs.
- **DNS & DNS SRV records:** DNS can contain SRV records for the Autodiscover service. The SRV records can then be used to find the Autodiscover server URI.

3.1.2 Timers

None.

3.1.3 Initialization

The client requires an e-mail address of the form <local-part> "@" <domain>.

3.1.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

The Autodiscover publishing and lookup services are triggered by a user action, or optionally a timer.

3.1.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The Autodiscover client expands the e-mail address provided during initialization into a list of URIs as specified in [\[RFC2396\]](#). Since Autodiscover server URIs can be acquired in different ways, to create a fully-populated list, the Autodiscover client SHOULD do all of the following:

- Query a well-known **LDAP server** for SCP objects, as described in section [3.1.5.1](#).
- Perform text manipulations on the domain of the email address, as described in section [3.1.5.2](#).
- Search the DNS for Autodiscover SRV records, as described in section [3.1.5.3](#).
- Perform an HTTP GET request to determine whether there are redirects to other Autodiscover servers, as described in section [3.1.5.4](#).

Note that a client can acquire the URI of an Autodiscover server without a fully-populated list of Autodiscover server URIs.

3.1.5.1 Query a Well-Known LDAP Server for SCP objects

Autodiscover server locations can be published in LDAP directories via SCP objects.

To discover these servers, Autodiscover clients execute a client search as outlined in section [2.2.1.2](#).

For each of the entries returned, if the **serviceBindingInformation** attribute is an LDAP URI (a text string of the form "LDAP://"<host>[:<port>]) and the **Keywords** attribute contains a string of the form "domain="<domain>, then the client repeats the search as outlined in section [2.2.1.2](#) with the new <host> and <port> values.

If the **serviceBindingInformation** attribute is an LDAP URI (a text string of the form "LDAP://"<host>[:<port>]), but the **Keywords** attribute does not contain a string of the form "domain="<domain>, then the client repeats the search as outlined in section [2.2.1.2](#) with the new <host> and <port> values after all other entries have been evaluated.

If the **serviceBindingInformation** attribute is an "http://" or "https://" URI then the client has found a URI that is possibly an Autodiscover server and the client SHOULD add this to the list of possible Autodiscover servers.

If the **Autodiscover directory service map GUID** is found in the Keywords, then the **serviceBindingInformation** is an LDAP URI.

If the **Autodiscover URI map GUID** is found in the Keywords, then the **serviceBindingInformation** is an HTTP URI.

3.1.5.2 Locations Found Directly From the E-mail Domain

The following two URIs MUST be added to the list of possible Autodiscover server URIs

```
"http://" <Domain> "/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml"  
"https://" "Autodiscover." <Domain> "/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml"
```

If an HTTP POST to either of the above URIs results in an HTTP 302 redirect, then the redirect as found in the location field of the response is added to the list of possible Autodiscover server URIs. For more details, see section [2.2.3](#). For more details about Autodiscover client requests, see [\[MS-OXDSCLI\]](#) section 3.1.8.2.

3.1.5.3 Locations Found from SRV DNS Records.

An Autodiscover client can query DNS for SRV records for the Autodiscover service using the following query. For more information, see section [2.2.2](#).

```
_autodiscover._tcp.<domain>
```

If the result is <host> then add "HTTPS://"<host>"/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.XML" to the list of possible Autodiscover URIs.

3.1.5.4 Locations Found by an HTTP Redirect.

An Autodiscover client can also issue an HTTP GET method with the URI set to "http://Autodiscover." <domain> "/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml".

If this URI results in an HTTP 302 redirect, then prompt the user warning them of the redirection. If the user accepts, then the new location is added to the list of possible Autodiscover server URIs.

3.1.6 Timer Events

None.

3.1.7 Other Local Events

None.

3.2 Server Details

3.2.1 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.

The main data elements required by any implementation are:

- **Published** Autodiscover server URIs: Servers MUST have published locations in order for clients to find them using the Autodiscover service.

3.2.2 Timers

None.

3.2.3 Initialization

Autodiscover servers do not automatically publish all their locations. Administrators can manually publish Autodiscover server locations.

3.2.3.1 Locations Published in LDAP via SCP Objects with an HTTP URI

An administrator can publish an SCP object using the following values:

```
DN:<AdministratorChosenDN>
Changetype: add
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
serviceBindingInformation: <AutodiscoverServerURI>
Keywords: "77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596"
    <Extensions>

<Extensions> := NULL |
    Extension | Extensions

Extension := "Domain=" <AuthoritativeDomain> |
```

```
"Site=" <ADSite>
```

<AuthoritativeDomain> is a domain that the Autodiscover server can provide information about.

<ADSite> is the AD Site as specified in [\[MS-ADTS\]](#).

3.2.3.2 Locations Published in LDAP via SCP objects with an LDAP URI

If the administrator of the Autodiscover server knows that Autodiscover clients prefer a different LDAP server than the Autodiscover server, then the administrator can manually publish an SCP object in the client's preferred LDAP server. A client querying for SCP objects can then learn about the Autodiscover server's preferred LDAP server.

```
DN: <AdministratorChosenDN>
Changetype: add
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
serviceBindingInformation: <LDAPURI>
Keywords: "67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68"
<Extensions>

<Extensions> := NULL |
               Extension | Extensions

Extension := "Domain=" <AuthoritativeDomain>
```

<AuthoritativeDomain> is a domain that the Autodiscover server can provide information about.

3.2.3.3 Locations Published in DNS as Autodiscover.<Domain> and <Domain>

An administrator wanting to publish an Autodiscover server for <Domain> can configure DNS and **SSL** such that:

"https://Autodiscover." <Domain> "/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" and "https://" <Domain> "/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" are URIs serviced by Autodiscover servers.

This is configured manually.

3.2.3.4 Locations Published in DNS using SRV Records

If "https://Server/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" can serve Autodiscover clients for the given <domain>, then an administrator can publish the following SRV record.

```
SRV _autodiscover._tcp.<DOMAIN> = <AutodiscoverServer>
```

This is configured manually. See section [2.2.2](#).

3.2.3.5 Locations Published through an HTTP GET

If "https://Server/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" can serve Autodiscover clients for <domain>, then an administrator can configure the following HTTP Redirect:

"http://Autodiscover." <Domain> "/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml"

to 302 redirect to

"https://Server/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml"

Non secure HTTP URIs SHOULD NOT be used to query settings as specified in [\[MS-OXDCLI\]](#). They SHOULD only be used for redirections.

This is configured manually. For more details, see [\[RFC2616\]](#).

3.2.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

None.

3.2.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

None.

3.2.6 Timer Events

None.

3.2.7 Other Local Events

None.

4 Protocol Examples

4.1 Publishing an Autodiscover Server Location

Assume the following topology:

- The DNS name of the mail server is Mail.Contoso.com
- The DNS name of the Web Service computer is WebService.Contoso.Com. It has a valid SSL certificate
- Autodiscover Web services are available at:
"https://WebService.Contoso.Com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml"
- The mailbox server and Web services server are configured to use MailLdap.Contoso.com as their LDAP server.
- Clients are configured to use ClientLdap.Contoso.Com

The following figure illustrates the topology.

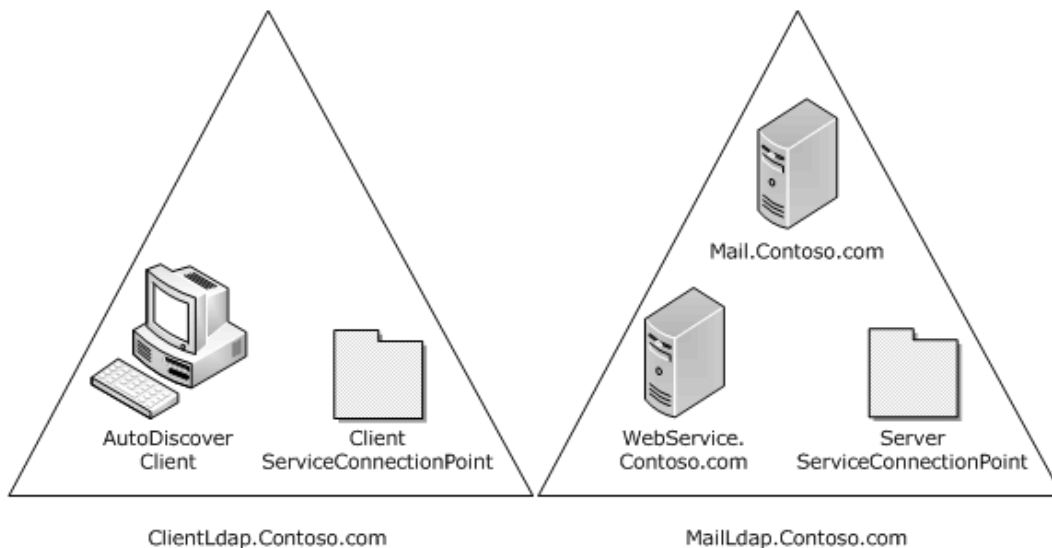


Figure 2: Topology of Autodiscover client and server

An administrator wants to publish Autodiscover services for mailboxes on Mail.Contoso.com. For various reasons, the administrator is unable to configure "https://contoso.com/Autodiscover.Autodiscover.xml" to respond to Autodiscover requests. Instead, the administrator uses [RFC1034](#) and [RFC4210](#) to create SSL certificates that allow the Autodiscover server to HTTP 302 redirect: "https://Autodiscover.Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" to "https://WebService.Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml".

Also, the administrator creates and publishes two LDAP objects to help clients find the Autodiscover server.

For MailLdap.Contoso.Com, the administrator publishes the following:

```
DN: CN=WebServices,CN=Autodiscover,CN=Protocols,CN=WebServices,CN=Servers,CN=Exchange
Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT),CN=Administrative Groups,CN=Contoso,CN=Microsoft
Exchange,CN=Services,CN=Configuration,DC=Contoso,DC=com
Changetype: add
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
serviceBindingInformation: https://WebService.Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml
Keywords: "77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596"
```

On the client LDAP server, the administrator publishes the following:

```
DN: CN=mail.contoso.com,CN=Microsoft Exchange
Autodiscover,CN=Services,CN=Configuration,DC=Users,DC=Contoso,DC=com
Changetype: add
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
serviceBindingInformation: LDAP://MailLdap.Contoso.com
Keywords: "67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68"
```

4.2 An Autodiscover Client Querying for Autodiscover Servers

Assume the following configuration:

- A mail client is configured to use the e-mail address User@Contoso.com.
- The mail client is configured to use ClientLdap.Contoso.Com as its LDAP server.
- Servers are configured as specified in section [3.2](#) of this document.

The client wants to construct a list of URIs of possible Autodiscover server locations. First the client executes the steps specified in section [3.1.5.1](#). The client searches its LDAP server on ClientLdap.Contoso.Com for an SCP object bearing the following **GUIDs**: 67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68 or 77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596.

The client performs the search by constructing the following URI:

```
ldap://ClientLdap.Contoso.Com
"/?cn,serviceBindingInformation,Keywords?sub?(&(objectcategory=serviceConnectionPoint)(|(keyw
ords=67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68)( keywords=77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596))"
```

After evaluating that query, the following SCP object is returned to the client:

```
DN: CN=mail.contoso.com,CN=Microsoft Exchange
Autodiscover,CN=Services,CN=Configuration,DC=Users,DC=Contoso,DC=com
Changetype: add
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
serviceBindingInformation: LDAP://MailLdap.Contoso.com
Keywords: "67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68"
```

Seeing that the **service binding information** is provided in an LDAP URI, the Autodiscover client then proceeds to construct the following:

```
ldap://MailLdap.Contoso.Com
"/?cn,serviceBindingInformation,Keywords?sub?(&(objectcategory=serviceConnectionPoint)(|(keywords=67661D7F-8FC4-4fa7-BFAC-E1D7794C1F68)(keywords=77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596)))"
```

This query returns the following object:

```
DN: CN=WebServices,CN=Autodiscover,CN=Protocols,CN=WebServices,CN=Servers,CN=Exchange
Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT),CN=Administrative Groups,CN=Contoso,CN=Microsoft
Exchange,CN=Services,CN=Configuration,DC=Contoso,DC=com
Changetype: add
Objectcategory: serviceConnectionPoint
serviceBindingInformation: https://WebService.Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml
Keywords: "77378F46-2C66-4aa9-A6A6-3E7A48B19596"
```

From this, the client adds "https://WebService.Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" to the list of possible Autodiscover Web services.

The communication is shown in the following figure.

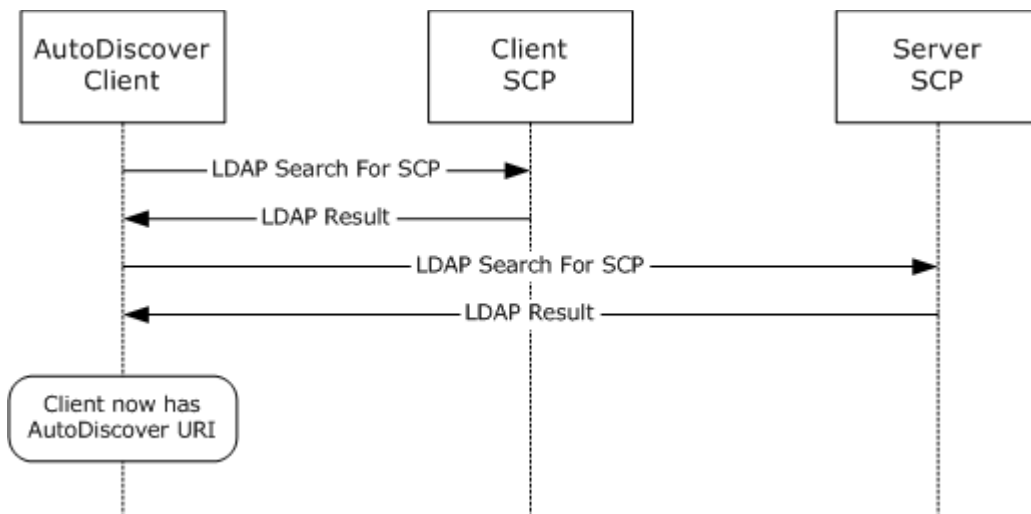


Figure 3: Communication required to find an Autodiscover server URI using SCP objects

Next, the client adds "https://Autodiscover.Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" & "https://Contoso.com/Autodiscover/Autodiscover.xml" to the list of possible email addresses based on the information specified in section [3.1.5.2](#).

As specified in section [2.2.1.2](#), the client executes a DNS search for the SRV record "_autodiscover._tcp.Contoso.com". No records are returned. This is expected behavior, as no records were created.

5 Security

5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

There are many possible DNS spoofing attacks. For this reason, clients are strongly advised against using non-SSL URIs unless they have the consent of the user. Administrators are strongly advised to provide Autodiscover data only via HTTPS.

5.2 Index of Security Parameters

None.

6 Appendix A: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following product versions. References to product versions include released service packs.

- Microsoft Office Outlook 2003
- Microsoft Exchange Server 2003
- Microsoft Office Outlook 2007
- Microsoft Exchange Server 2007
- Microsoft Outlook 2010
- Microsoft Exchange Server 2010

Exceptions, if any, are noted below. If a service pack number appears with the product version, behavior changed in that service pack. The new behavior also applies to subsequent service packs of the product unless otherwise specified.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification 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 product does not follow the prescription.

[<1> Section 2.1](#): Microsoft Windows automatically pre-configures domain joined computers with an **Active Directory (AD)** server. Outlook 2007 uses this LDAP server as the well-known LDAP server. Outlook 2007 uses the ConfigurationNamingContext of the pre-configured Active Directory server as the well-known DN for SCP objects.

7 Change Tracking

This section identifies changes made to [MS-OXDISCO] protocol documentation between July 2009 and November 2009 releases. Changes are classed as major, minor, or editorial.

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.
- A protocol is deprecated.
- The removal of a document from the documentation set.
- Changes made for template compliance.

Minor changes do not affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples are updates to fix technical accuracy or ambiguity at the sentence, paragraph, or table level.

Editorial changes apply to grammatical, formatting, and style issues.

No changes means that the document is identical to its last release.

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

- New content added.
- Content update.
- 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 always have the revision type "Editorially updated."

Some important terms used in revision 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.

Changes are listed in the following table. If you need further information, please contact protocol@microsoft.com.

Section	Tracking number (if applicable) and description	Major change (Y or N)	Revision Type
1.1 Glossary	52429 Added term to list.	N	Content update.
1.1 Glossary	53074 Updated terms.	N	Content update.
1.1 Glossary	48947 Updated the term "Active Directory" to match capitalization of MS-OXGLOS.	N	Content update.
1.1 Glossary	48950 Added ABNF to the glossary list.	N	Content update.
1.2.1 Normative References	48955 Added date references for RFC 2782.	N	Content update.
1.2.2 Informative References	48388 RFC 4210 obsoletes RFC 2510.	Y	Content update.
1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions	48390 Clarified description of Autodiscover server configuration requirements.	Y	Content update.
2.2.1.1 LDIF Format	51511 Clarified description and example.	Y	Content update.
2.2.1.2 Searching for SCP Objects	51512 Added LDAP operations.	N	Content update.
2.2.1.3 Creating SCP Objects	51512 Updated data elements.	N	Content update.
2.2.3 HTTP 302 Redirection	48953 Updated the use of the term	N	Content update.

Section	Tracking number (if applicable) and description	Major change (Y or N)	Revision Type
	"Request-URI".		
2.2.4 E-mail Addresses	Added section reference for RFC2822.	N	Editorially updated.
3 Protocol Details	48961 Revised e-mail address format naming from "mailbox" to "local-part".	Y	Content update.
3.1.5.1 Query a Well-Known LDAP Server for SCP objects	48960 Updated the name of the Keywords attribute.	N	Content update.
3.1.5.1 Query a Well-Known LDAP Server for SCP objects	48958 Updated URL case and added quotation marks.	N	Content update.
3.1.5.2 Locations Found Directly From the E-mail Domain	48958 Added quotations, changed case, added slashes, and changed case.	N	Content update.
3.1.5.3 Locations Found from SRV DNS Records.	48392 Clarified description.	Y	Content update.
3.1.5.4 Locations Found by an HTTP Redirect.	48958 Added quotation marks, spaces and changed case as needed.	N	Content update.
3.2.3.1 Locations Published in LDAP via SCP Objects with an HTTP URI	48393 Removed extra set of quotes.	N	Content update.
3.2.3.1 Locations Published in LDAP via SCP Objects with an HTTP URI	Moved "<Extensions>" into example from regular paragraph.	N	Editorially updated.
3.2.3.2 Locations Published in LDAP via SCP objects with an LDAP URI	48393 Removed extra set of quotes.	N	Content update.
3.2.3.2 Locations Published in LDAP via SCP objects with an LDAP URI	Removed period from title, added a space to example.	N	Editorially updated.
3.2.3.3 Locations Published in DNS as Autodiscover.<Domain> and <Domain>	Clarified example.	N	Editorially updated.
3.2.3.3 Locations Published in DNS as Autodiscover.<Domain> and <Domain>	48958 Added quotation marks and spaces as needed.	N	Content update.
3.2.3.4 Locations Published in DNS using SRV	48958 Added quotation marks as needed.	N	Content update.

Section	Tracking number (if applicable) and description	Major change (Y or N)	Revision Type
Records			
3.2.3.5 Locations Published through an HTTP GET	48958 Added quotation marks and spaces as needed.	N	Content update.
4.1 Publishing an Autodiscover Server Location	48944 Removed extra set of quotes.	N	Content update.
4.1 Publishing an Autodiscover Server Location	48388 RFC4210 obsoletes RFC2510.	Y	Content update.
4.1 Publishing an Autodiscover Server Location	48958 Added quotation marks as needed.	N	Content update.
4.2 An Autodiscover Client Querying for Autodiscover Servers	48944 Removed extra set of quotes.	N	Content update.
4.2 An Autodiscover Client Querying for Autodiscover Servers	48394 Updated ldap URIs and clarified DNS search results.	Y	Content update.
4.2 An Autodiscover Client Querying for Autodiscover Servers	48958 Added quotation marks as needed.	N	Content update.

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