

# [MS-OXORSS]: RSS Object Protocol Specification

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## Revision Summary

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
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04/25/2008	0.2		Revised and updated property names and other technical content.
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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.
02/10/2010	4.1.0	Minor	Updated the technical content.
05/05/2010	5.0.0	Major	Updated and revised the technical content.
08/04/2010	5.1	Minor	Clarified the meaning of the technical content.

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# 1 Introduction

This document specifies the RSS Object protocol, which defines **properties** of an object that model an item transmitted in a news feed format.

## 1.1 Glossary

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

**Attachment object**  
**Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)**  
**feed**  
**flags**  
**Folder object**  
**handle**  
**Mail User Agent (MUA)**  
**message**  
**Message object**  
**named property**  
**property (1)**  
**property ID**  
**recipient (1)**  
**remote operation (ROP)**  
**restrictions**  
**search criteria**  
**Uniform Resource Locator (URL)**  
**XML**

The following terms are specific to this document:

**Atom:** The Atom Syndication Format, an **XML** format for Web **feeds**, as described in [\[RFC4287\]](#).

**enclosure:** An **XML** element in a **feed** that contains information, including a **URL**, about a file (usually a media file) that is associated with an **RSS** item or **Atom** entry (for example, a podcast).

**RSS:** An **XML** format for Web **feeds**, as described in [\[RSS2.0\]](#).

**RSS object:** A **Message object** that represents an entry from an **RSS** item or **Atom feed** and that adheres to the property descriptions in this document.

**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](mailto: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-OXCDATA] Microsoft Corporation, "[Data Structures](#)", April 2008.

[MS-OXCFOOLD] Microsoft Corporation, "[Folder Object Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

[MS-OXCMSG] Microsoft Corporation, "[Message and Attachment Object Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

[MS-OXCPRPT] Microsoft Corporation, "[Property and Stream Object Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

[MS-OXCSPAM] Microsoft Corporation, "[Spam Confidence Level Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

[MS-OXOMSG] Microsoft Corporation, "[E-Mail Object Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

[MS-OXPROPS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Exchange Server Protocols Master Property List](#)", April 2008.

[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>

[RFC4287] Nottingham, M., and Sayre, R., Eds., "The Atom Syndication Format", RFC 4287, December 2005, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4287.txt>

[RSS2.0] Winer, D., "RSS 2.0 Specification", July 2003, <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/rss/rss.html>

### 1.2.2 Informative References

[MS-OXBBODY] Microsoft Corporation, "[Best Body Retrieval Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

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

## 1.3 Overview

The RSS Object protocol allows the representation of entries from **RSS** and **Atomfeeds**. The RSS Object protocol extends the Message and Attachment Object protocol in that it defines new properties and adds **restrictions** to the properties that are defined in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

The properties that are specific to an **RSS object** allow conversion from the **XML** of an RSS item ([\[RSS2.0\]](#)) or Atom entry ([\[RFC4287\]](#)), including metadata about the feed from which the item or entry came, to properties on a **Message object**. In addition to mapping XML entities from the two formats to shared properties, the XML of the entire RSS item or Atom entry is saved on the Message object.

## 1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

The RSS object protocol has the same dependencies as the Message and Attachment Object protocol, which it extends. For details about the Message and Attachment Object protocol, see [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

The RSS object protocol is a peer of the E-Mail Object protocol, and uses a subset of the properties specified in [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#).

## 1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

The RSS Object protocol has the same prerequisites and preconditions as the Message and Attachment Object protocol, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

## **1.6 Applicability Statement**

None.

## **1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation**

None.

## **1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields**

This protocol provides no extensibility beyond what is already specified in [\[MS-OXCMMSG\]](#).

## **1.9 Standards Assignments**

None.

## 2 Messages

### 2.1 Transport

The RSS Object protocol uses the protocols specified in [\[MS-OXCPRPT\]](#) and [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#) as its primary transport mechanism.

### 2.2 Message Syntax

An RSS object can be created and modified by clients and servers. Except where noted below, this section defines constraints under which both clients and servers operate.

Clients operate on RSS objects by using the Message and Attachment Object protocol, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#). How a server operates on RSS objects is implementation-dependent. The results of any such operation are exposed to clients in a manner that is consistent with the RSS Object protocol.

Unless otherwise specified, an RSS object adheres to all property constraints, as specified in [\[MS-OXPROPS\]](#), and all property constraints, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#). An RSS object can also contain other properties, which are specified in [\[MS-OXPROPS\]](#), but these properties have no impact on the RSS Object protocol.

RSS feeds can be represented by using either the RSS or Atom protocols. Protocol clients **MUST** be capable of parsing Atom version 0.3, Atom version 1.0, RSS version 1.0, and RSS version 2.0, and creating RSS protocol objects based on those protocols.

RSS object properties can be of several different data types. The following data types used by RSS object properties are specified in [\[MS-OXCDATA\]](#) section 2.11.1:

- **PtypBinary**
- **PtypInteger32**
- **PtypString**
- **PtypString8**
- **PtypTime**

#### 2.2.1 RSS Item Properties

The following properties that are specific to RSS objects are defined in this specification.

##### 2.2.1.1 PidLidPostRssChannelLink

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the **URL** of the RSS or Atom feed that the XML file came from.

##### 2.2.1.2 PidLidPostRssItemLink

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the URL of the link from the item. For an RSS item, this is the contents of the <link> sub-element. For an Atom entry, the following applies:



- If the rel attribute is not present, or if it is present and set to "alternate", then [PidLidPostRssItemLink](#) contains the value of the href attribute.
- If the rel attribute is present and set to anything besides "alternate", then [PidLidPostRssItemLink](#) is not set.

### 2.2.1.3 PidLidPostRssItemHash

Type: **PtypInteger32**.

Contains a hash of the feed XML computed by using an implementation-dependent algorithm; used to quickly determine whether two items are different.

### 2.2.1.4 PidLidPostRssItemGuid

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains a unique identifier for the object, copied from one of the elements listed in the following table.

RSS items	Atom entries
<GUID>	<id>
<link>	<link>

**Note** The href attribute of the <link> element is used for Atom entries if the <id> element is not present.

### 2.2.1.5 PidLidPostRssChannel

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the contents of the <title> field from the XML of the Atom <feed> or RSS <channel>.

### 2.2.1.6 PidLidPostRssItemXml

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the <item> element and all its sub-elements from an RSS feed, or the <entry> element and all its sub-elements from an Atom feed.

### 2.2.1.7 PidLidPostRssSubscription

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the user's preferred name for the subscription.

### 2.2.1.8 PidTagMessageDeliveryTime

Type: **PtypTime**, in **UTC**.

An optional element that specifies the posting date of the item or entry, copied from one of the elements listed in the following table.

RSS items	Atom entries
<date>	<modified>
<pubDate>	<issued>
	<updated>
	<published>

If neither <date> nor <pubDate> is defined in the RSS item, then use the <lastBuildDate> element.

The Atom elements are defined as children of the <entry> element. The <modified> and <updated> elements are also defined as children of the <feed> element. If the <modified>, <issued>, <updated> or <published> elements are not defined under the <entry> element, then use the <modified> or <updated> elements under the <feed> element.

If no such element exists, then set to the current time.

## 2.2.2 Additional Property Constraints

This protocol specifies additional constraints on the following properties beyond what is specified in [\[MS-OXCMMSG\]](#), [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#), and [\[MS-OXCSPAM\]](#).

### 2.2.2.1 Attachment Objects

#### 2.2.2.1.1 Full Article Attachment Objects

A full article **Attachment object** contains the contents of the linked document. Its [PidTagAttachMethod](#) MUST be 0x00000001: afByValue (see [\[MS-OXCMMSG\]](#)). The [PidLidPostRssItemLink](#) **property** MUST be set to the URL from which the document was downloaded.

An RSS object MUST NOT have more than one full article Attachment object.

#### 2.2.2.1.2 Enclosure Attachment Objects

An **enclosure** Attachment object contains the contents of an enclosure, which is a file referenced in the **href** attribute of a <link> tag where the **rel** attribute is "enclosure" for an Atom entry, or the <enclosure> element of an RSS item.

An enclosure Attachment object MUST have a [PidTagAttachMethod](#) of 0x00000001: afByValue (see [\[MS-OXCMMSG\]](#)). [PidLidPostRssItemLink](#) MUST be set to the URL from which the enclosure was downloaded.

#### 2.2.2.1.3 Other Attachment Objects

An RSS object MUST NOT have Attachment objects other than full article Attachment objects and enclosure Attachment objects.

### 2.2.2.2 PidNameExchangeJunkEmailMoveStamp

As specified in [\[MS-OXCSPAM\]](#), but MUST be set on all RSS objects.

### 2.2.2.3 PidTagMessageClass

Type: **PtypString**, case-insensitive.

Specifies the type of the **message** item. The value MUST be "IPM.Post.RSS" or begin with "IPM.Post.RSS", in addition to meeting the criteria specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

### 2.2.2.4 PidTagSenderName

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains origination information about the RSS object, copied from one of the elements in the following table. If no such element exists, set to an empty string.

RSS items	Atom entries
<author>	<name>
<publisher>*	<title>*
<title>*	

**Note** \*The element is from the metadata rather than the individual item or feed.

This property is further specified in [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#).

### 2.2.2.5 PidTagSenderEmailAddress

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the contents of the <email> element of the <author> element in an Atom entry if it exists. Does not apply to an RSS item.

This property is further specified in [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#).

### 2.2.2.6 PidTagSentRepresentingName

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains origination information about the RSS object, copied from one of the elements in the following table. If no such element exists, set to an empty string.

RSS items	Atom entries
<author>	<name> of <author>
<publisher>*	<title>*
<title>*	

**Note** \*The element is from the metadata, rather than the individual item or feed.

This property is further specified in [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#).

#### 2.2.2.7 PidTagSentRepresentingEmailAddress

Type: **PtypString**.

Contains the contents of the <email> element of the <author> element in an Atom entry, if it exists. Does not apply to an RSS item.

This property is further specified in [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#).

#### 2.2.2.8 Recipients

An RSS object MUST NOT have **recipients**.

## 3 Protocol Details

General protocol details, as specified in [\[MS-OXPROPS\]](#) and [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#), apply to RSS objects.

### 3.1 Common Details

The client and server roles are to create and manipulate RSS objects, and otherwise operate in their respective roles, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

#### 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.

##### 3.1.1.1 RSS Objects

An RSS object extends the Message object, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

##### 3.1.1.2 Folder Objects

RSS objects are created in **Folder objects** that have a container class of "IPF.Note.OutlookHomepage" unless the **Mail User Agent (MUA)** explicitly specifies otherwise.

#### 3.1.2 Timers

None.

#### 3.1.3 Initialization

None.

#### 3.1.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

##### 3.1.4.1 Creation of an RSS Object

To create an RSS object, the server or client creates a Message object, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#), sets properties in accordance with the requirements specified in [\[MS-OXCPRPT\]](#) section 2, and saves the resulting Message object as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#). In particular, the [PidNameExchangeJunkEmailMoveStamp](#) property MUST be set before the RSS object is saved the first time.

##### 3.1.4.2 Modification of an RSS Object

When modifying an RSS object, the server or client opens a Message object, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#), modifies any properties in accordance with the requirements specified in [\[MS-OXCPRPT\]](#) section 2, and saves the resulting Message object as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

##### 3.1.4.3 Deletion of an RSS Object

RSS objects have no special semantics in relation to deletion beyond what is specified in [\[MS-OXCFOLD\]](#).

### **3.1.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules**

None.

### **3.1.6 Timer Events**

None.

### **3.1.7 Other Local Events**

None.

## 4 Protocol Examples

Joe subscribes to an RSS feed. The client polls the feed and finds a new item. The following is a description of what a client might do to accomplish Joe's intentions and describes the responses a server might return. For information about **remote operations (ROPs)**, see [\[MS-OXCPRPT\]](#) and [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

Before manipulating RSS objects, the client needs to ask the server to perform a mapping from **named properties** to **property IDs**, by using [RopGetPropertyIDsFromNames](#).

Property	Property set GUID	NameID
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssChannel</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8904
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssChannelLink</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8900
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemGuid</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8903
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemHash</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8902
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemLink</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8901
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemXml</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8905
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssSubscription</a>	{00020041-0000-0000-C000-000000000004 6}	0x8906
<a href="#">PidLidSideEffects</a>	{00062008-0000-0000-C000-000000000004}	0x81f8

Property	Property set GUID	NameID
	6}	
<a href="#">PidNameExchangeJunkEmailMoveStamp</a>	{00020329-0000-0000-C000-0000000000046}	HTTP://schemas.microsoft.com/exchange/junkemailm ovestamp

The server might respond with the following identifiers, which will be used in the example that follows. (The actual identifiers are at the discretion of the server.)

Property	Property ID
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssChannel</a>	0x8318
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssChannelLink</a>	0x8314
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemGuid</a>	0x8317
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemHash</a>	0x8316
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemLink</a>	0x8315
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemXml</a>	0x8319
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssSubscription</a>	0x831a
<a href="#">PidLidSideEffects</a>	0x81f8
<a href="#">PidNameExchangeJunkEmailMoveStamp</a>	0x8415

To create an RSS object, the client uses [RopCreateMessage](#). The server returns a success code and a **handle** to the object.

After processing the contents of the RSS item, the client uses [RopSetProperties](#) to transmit its data to the server.

Property	Property ID	Data Type	Value
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssChannel</a>	0x8318	0x001f (PtypString)	Help and How-To for Contoso
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssChannelLink</a>	0x8314	0x001f (PtypString)	HTTP://www.contoso.com
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemGuid</a>	0x8317	0x001f (PtypString)	HTTP://www.contoso.com
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemHash</a>	0x8316	0x0003 (PtypInteger32)	0xCD0E93CF
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemLink</a>	0x8315	0x001f (PtypString)	HTTP://www.contoso.com



Property	Property ID	Data Type	Value
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssItemXml</a>	0x8319	0x001f (PtypString)	See Note 1.
<a href="#">PidLidPostRssSubscription</a>	0x831a	0x001f (PtypString)	Help and How-To for Contoso
<a href="#">PidLidSideEffects</a>	0x81f8	0x0003 (PtypInteger32)	0x00000100
<a href="#">PidTagHtml</a>	0x1013	0x0102 (PtypBinary)	See Note 2.
<a href="#">PidTagClientSubmitTime</a>	0x0039	0x0040 (PtypTime)	High: 0x01C87A36 Low: 0xD74C8CC0 (2008/02/28 18:22:13.900)
<a href="#">PidTagConversationTopic</a>	0x0070	0x001f (PtypString)	Learn to narrow your <b>search criteria</b> for better searches in Contoso
<a href="#">PidTagInternetCodepage</a>	0x3fde	0x0003 (PtypInteger32)	0x0000FDE9
<a href="#">PidTagMessageClass</a>	0x001a	0x001f (PtypString)	"IPM.Post.RSS"
<a href="#">PidTagMessageFlags</a>	0x0e07	0x0003 (PtypInteger32)	<b>Flags:</b> 0x00000000 <none>
<a href="#">PidTagNormalizedSubject</a>	0x0e1d	0x001f (PtypString)	Learn to narrow your search criteria for better searches in Contoso
<a href="#">PidTagSenderName</a>	0x0c1a	0x001f (PtypString)	Help and How-To for Contoso
<a href="#">PidTagSentRepresentingName</a>	0x0042	0x001f (PtypString)	Help and How-To for Contoso
<a href="#">PidTagSubjectPrefix</a>	0x003d	0x001f (PtypString)	(null)
<a href="#">PidNameExchangeJunkEmailMoveStamp</a>	0x8415	0x0003 (PtypInteger32)	0x802454D1

When the client has made all its changes to the item, it uses [RopSaveChangesMessage](#) to commit the properties to the server, and then [RopRelease](#) to release the RSS object. The values of some properties will change during the execution of [RopSaveChangesMessage](#), but the properties specified in this document will not change.

**Note 1:** [PidLidPostRssItemXml](#) contains the following text:

```
<?xml version="1.0"?>
<item>
<title>Learn to narrow your search criteria for better searches in Contoso</title>
<description>Instant Search can help you find information in a flash.</description>
```

```
<link>http://www.contoso.com</link>
</item>
```

**Note 2:** [PidTagHtml](#) contains the following text, encoded into binary as specified in [\[MS-OXBBODY\]](#):

```
<html>
  <body>
    <table>
      <tr>
        <td>Instant Search can help you find information in a flash.</td>
      </tr>
    </table>
    <p><BR/><A HREF="http://www.contoso.com">View article...</A></p>
  </body>
</html>
```

## 5 Security

### 5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

There are no special security considerations specific to this protocol. General security considerations that pertain to the underlying transport apply as specified in [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#) and [\[MS-OXCPRPT\]](#).

### 5.2 Index of Security Parameters

None.

## 6 Appendix A: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products:

- 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. 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 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.

## 7 Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to the [MS-OXORSS] protocol document between the May 2010 and August 2010 releases. Changes are classified as New, Major, Minor, Editorial, or No change.

The revision class **New** means that a new document is being released.

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 or functionality.
- An extensive rewrite, addition, or deletion of major portions of content.
- The removal of a document from the documentation set.
- Changes made for template compliance.

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 **Editorial** means that the language and formatting in the technical content was changed. Editorial changes apply to grammatical, formatting, and style issues.

The revision class **No change** means that no new technical or language changes were introduced. The technical content of the document is identical to the last released version, but minor editorial and formatting changes, as well as updates to the header and footer information, and to the revision summary, may have been made.

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

- New content added.
- Content updated.
- 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 are always classified with the change type "Editorially updated."

Some important terms used in the change 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.

The changes made to this document are listed in the following table. For more information, please contact [protocol@microsoft.com](mailto:protocol@microsoft.com).

Section	Tracking number (if applicable) and description	Major change (Y or N)	Change type
<a href="#">1.1 Glossary</a>	56368 Added the following to the list of terms that are defined in [MS-OXGLOS]: flags, message, restriction, and search criteria.	N	Content update.
<a href="#">1.1 Glossary</a>	56702 Removed normative language from local glossary term definition.	N	Editorially updated.
<a href="#">1.2.1 Normative References</a>	55751 Moved [MS-OXGLOS] from Normative References section to Informative References section.	N	Content update.
<a href="#">1.2.1 Normative References</a>	57667 Added reference to [MS-OXCADATA].	N	Content update.
<a href="#">3.1.1 Abstract Data Model</a>	57108 Merged two paragraphs into a single paragraph.	N	Content update.
<a href="#">5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers</a>	57667 Removed explicit self-reference to this document.	N	Content update.
Global	55921 Changed reference name from "[RSS20]" to "[RSS2.0]".	N	Content update.

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