[MS-STANXIMAP]: Exchange RFC 3501 - IMAP Standards Compliance

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Revision Summary			
Author	Date	Version	Comments
Microsoft Corporation	October 1, 2008	1.0	Initial Release.

Product: Exchange Server 2007
Version: Service Pack 1
Component: IMAP4 Service
Standard: IETF RFC 3501: Internet Message Access Protocol - Version 4rev1

1 Overview

This document specifies the level of support provided by the Internet Message Access Protocol Version 4 (IMAP4) for Microsoft Exchange Server 2007. The IMAP4 service for Exchange Server is used by clients that implement IMAP4 to access and manipulate electronic mailboxes on a server in a way that is functionally equivalent to local folders.

2 Support Details

The use of the words "Required," "Recommended," and "Optional" in the titles of the sections below are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

2.1 Required Portions

The IMAP4 service implements all required portions of [RFC3501] with the following deviations.

2.1.1 RFC Section: 6.4.5. FETCH Command

Under certain conditions, the value of the **RFC822.SIZE** attribute is a MAPI size instead of a MIME size.

2.2 Recommended Portions

The IMAP4 service implements the following recommended portions of [RFC3501] that may affect interoperability.

2.2.1 RFC Section: 2.3.1.1. Unique Identifier (UID) Message Attribute

If a message is changed by another protocol, a new message is created with a new UID.

2.2.2 RFC Section: 2.3.2. Flags Message Attribute

Exchange defines a keyword, $MDNSend, that is set on the message when Outlook sends a message delivery notification (MDN).

2.2.3 RFC Section: 6.2.2. AUTHENTICATE Command

Exchange supports the NT LAN Manager (NTLM), Kerberos, and PLAIN authentication mechanisms.

2.2.4 RFC Section: 6.3.8. LIST Command

If the mailbox name contains "\", then Exchange returns the mailbox name as a literal.

2.2.5 RFC Section: 6.3.9.LSUB Command

If the mailbox name contains "\", then Exchange returns the mailbox name as a literal.

2.3 Optional Portions

The IMAP4 service implements the following optional portions of [RFC3501] that may affect interoperability.

2.3.1 RFC Section: 5.1. Mailbox Naming

Exchange allows the characters "\" (backslash) and """ (double quotation marks) in folder names. Exchange supports the escaped format for these characters ("\\" and "\"").

2.3.2 RFC Section: 6.4.1. CHECK Command

The Exchange implementation of the **CHECK** command is equivalent to the **NOOP** command.

RFC Section: 6.4.4. SEARCH Command

Exchange supports only US-ASCII values for the **[CHARSET]** argument.

If the MIME size is known, then the values of the **SMALLER** and **LARGER** search keys are compared to the MIME size; otherwise, the values are compared to the MAPI size.

Exchange supports up to 10 levels of indirection within the argument of the **SEARCH** command.

Exchange supports only the $MDNSent keyword for the **KEYWORD** and **UNKEYWORD** search keys.

2.3.3 RFC Section: 6.5.1. X<atom> Command.

Exchange does not support the **X<atom>** command.

2.3.4 RFC Section: 7.1.ServerResponses -- Status Responses.

Exchange does not support the following status response codes: ALERT, BADCHARSET, and PARSE.

2.3.5 RFC Section: 7.1.4. PREAUTH Response.

Exchange does not support the **PREAUTH** response.

2.3.6 RFC Section: 7.2.2. LIST Response.

Exchange does not support the \Noinferiors and \Unmarked name attributes.

3 Extensions

IMAP4 service extensions to [RFC3501] are as specified in [MS-OXIMAP4].

4 Related Standards

[MS-OXIMAP4] Microsoft Corporation, "Internet Message Access Protocol Version 4 (IMAP4) Extensions Specification", June 2008.

[RFC3501] Crispin, M., "Internet Message Access Protocol – Version 4rev1", RFC 3501, March 2003, http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3501.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.