

# [MS-WSSHP]: HTTP Windows SharePoint Services Headers Protocol Specification

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# 1 Introduction

This document specifies the HTTP Windows SharePoint Services Headers Protocol, which extends the HTTP mechanisms to include new headers and messages that enable previously undefined behaviors, such as authenticating client connections, communicating error conditions, sending complex data, and interacting with Information Rights Management (IRM) systems, antivirus systems, and Web crawlers.

Sections 1.8, 2, and 3 of this specification are normative and can contain the terms MAY, SHOULD, MUST, MUST NOT, and SHOULD NOT as defined in RFC 2119. Sections 1.5 and 1.9 are also normative but cannot contain those terms. All other sections and examples in this specification are informative.

## 1.1 Glossary

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

**Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)  
authentication mode  
Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)  
Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)**

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

**absolute URL  
crawl  
crawler  
document library  
form digest  
forms authentication  
front-end web server  
Information Rights Management (IRM)  
IRM protector  
leaf name  
MIME Encapsulation of Aggregate HTML Documents (MHTML)  
permission  
site-relative URL  
thicket  
thicket supporting file  
Transport Layer Security (TLS)  
Uniform Resource Locator (URL)  
User-Agent header  
virus scanner  
web crawler  
WebDAV client**

The following terms are specific to this document:

**antivirus status page:** A page that is presented to a protocol client and displays antivirus information for the requested resource.

**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

References to Microsoft Open Specifications documentation do not include a publishing year because links are to the latest version of the technical documents, which are updated frequently. References to other documents include a publishing year when one is available.

### 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-WDV] Microsoft Corporation, "[Web Distributed Authoring and Versioning \(WebDAV\) Protocol: Client Extensions](#)".

[MS-WSSFO2] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows SharePoint Services: File Operations Database Communications Version 2 Protocol Specification](#)".

[RFC2046] Freed, N., and Borenstein, N., "Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) Part Two: Media Types", RFC 2046, November 1996, <http://ietf.org/rfc/rfc2046.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>

[RFC2183] Troost, R., Dorner, S., and Moore, K., Ed., "Communicating Presentation Information in Internet Messages: The Content-Disposition Header Field", RFC 2183, August 1997, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2183.txt>

[RFC2246] Dierks, T., and Allen, C., "The TLS Protocol Version 1.0", RFC 2246, January 1999, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2246.txt>

[RFC2518] Goland, Y., Whitehead, E., Faizi, A., et al., "HTTP Extensions for Distributed Authoring - WebDAV", RFC 2518, February 1999, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2518.txt>

[RFC2557] Palme, J., Hopmann, A., and Shelness, N., "MIME Encapsulation of Aggregate Documents, such as HTML (MHTML)", RFC 2557, March 1999, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2557.txt>

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

[SOAP1.1] Box, D., Ehnebuske, D., Kakivaya, G., et al., "Simple Object Access Protocol (SOAP) 1.1", May 2000, <http://www.w3.org/TR/2000/NOTE-SOAP-20000508/>

### 1.2.2 Informative References

[MC-FPSEWM] Microsoft Corporation, "[FrontPage Server Extensions: Website Management Protocol Specification](#)".

[MS-GLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Protocols Master Glossary](#)".

[MS-OFCGLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Microsoft Office Master Glossary](#)".

### 1.3 Protocol Overview (Synopsis)

This protocol is used by protocol client and protocol server applications to communicate specific application behaviors, such as authenticating connections, communicating error conditions, sending complex data, and interacting with **Information Rights Management (IRM)** systems, antivirus systems, and **Web crawlers**. The modifications specified by this protocol affect a number of other base protocols.

This protocol specifies the following extensions to the base **HTTP**, as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#):

- An unused **Exires** [*sic*] header specified in **Exires Header** (section [2.2.1](#)).
- An extension to the **Content-Disposition** header to support **thickets**. The extended **Content-Disposition** header is specified in **Content-Disposition Header** (section [2.2.2](#)).
- A header to indicate the presence of a virus in documents. The **x-virus-infected** header is specified in **x-virus-infected Header** (section [2.2.3](#)).
- A header to indicate Information Rights Management (IRM) decryption problems. The **x-irm-cantdecrypt** header is specified in **x-irm-cantdecrypt** (section [2.2.4](#)).
- A header to indicate an IRM rejection. The **x-irm-rejected** header is specified in **x-irm-rejected Header** (section [2.2.5](#)).
- A header to indicate conflicts for IRM ownership. The **x-irm-notowner** header is specified in **x-irm-notowner Header** (section [2.2.6](#)).
- A header to indicate an IRM time out. The **x-irm-timeout** header is specified in **x-irm-timeout Header** (section [2.2.7](#)).
- A header to indicate an IRM software failure. The **x-irm-crashed** header is specified in **x-irm-crashed Header** (section [2.2.8](#)).
- A header to indicate an unidentified IRM failure. The **x-irm-unknown-failure** header is specified in **x-irm-unknown-failure Header** (section [2.2.9](#)).
- A header to indicate **front-end Web server** errors. The **SharePointError** header is specified in **SharePointError Header** (section [2.2.10](#)).
- A header that contains the **form digest**. The **X-RequestDigest** header is specified in **X-RequestDigest Header** (section [2.2.11](#)).
- A header that indicates form authentication is required for the request to succeed. The **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Required** header is specified in **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Required Header** (section [2.2.12](#)).
- A header that specifies the URL to which the protocol client is redirected after a successful authentication. The **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Return\_Url** header is specified in **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Return\_Url Header** (section [2.2.13](#)).
- A header that indicates that a file is checked out after being uploaded to the protocol server. The **X-MS-File-Checked-Out** header is specified in **X-MS-File-Checked-Out Header** (section [2.2.14](#)).
- A header that enables a protocol client or a third-party application to make a request on behalf of a user. This header is specified in section [2.2.15](#).



- A header that enables a protocol client to obtain log information from the protocol server. This header is specified in section [2.2.16](#).
- A header that causes the protocol server to use the primary culture information associated with a site when retrieving information sensitive to culture settings. This header is specified in section [2.2.17](#)
- A header that causes the protocol server to return a 401 error code if the protocol client is not authenticated by the protocol server, even when the client does have permission to the requested resource. This header is specified in section [2.2.18](#).
- A header that the protocol server uses to return a server health status to the client. This header is specified in section [2.2.19](#).

This protocol specifies the following extensions to the base WebDAV Protocol, as described in [\[RFC2518\]](#).

- A behavior change for the **DELETE** verb.

#### 1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

This protocol is an extension of the HTTP protocol as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#). It also includes aspects of the following protocols:

- MIME Part Two as described in [\[RFC2046\]](#).
- WebDAV as described in [\[RFC2518\]](#).
- SOAP 1.1 as described in [\[SOAP1.1\]](#).
- The FrontPage Server Extensions: Web Management Specification as described in [\[MC-FPSEWM\]](#).
- Web Distributed Authoring and Versioning (WebDAV) Protocol: Server Extensions as described in [\[MS-WDV\]](#).

#### 1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

This protocol requires a protocol server that supports the HTTP protocol as described in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

Portions of this protocol require a protocol server that supports the WebDAV protocol as described in [\[RFC2518\]](#).

#### 1.6 Applicability Statement

This protocol applies in the following scenarios:

- A browser protocol client interacts with a front-end Web server.
- A protocol client implements file operations through WebDAV as described in [\[RFC2518\]](#).
- An IRM client interacts with a front-end Web server.
- An antivirus system interacts with a front-end Web server.
- A crawler needs to **crawl** content sources.

## **1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation**

None.

## **1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields**

None.

## **1.9 Standards Assignments**

None.

## 2 Messages

### 2.1 Transport

Messages are transported using HTTP, as specified in [\[RFC2518\]](#) and [\[RFC2616\]](#).

This protocol MAY<1> be used with **Secure Sockets Layer (SSL)/Transport Layer Security (TLS)**, as specified in [\[RFC2246\]](#).

Port 80 is the standard port assignment for HTTP, and port 443 is the standard port assignment for HTTP over SSL/TLS. Implementations MAY<2> support other ports.

### 2.2 Message Syntax

This section specifies the protocol syntax and the data types that are used when protocol clients post messages to the protocol server. It also specifies the syntax that is used by the protocol server to respond to protocol client requests. The syntax and data types are defined by using **Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF)** as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 2.1.

#### 2.2.1 Expires Header

This protocol uses the Expires [*sic*] header. This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.<3>

```
expires-header = "Expires" ":" expires-value
expires-value = *TEXT
```

The **Expires** [*sic*] header and its value have no meaning. The protocol server SHOULD use the **Expires** header instead as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 14.21.<4>

#### 2.2.2 Content-Disposition Header

This protocol uses the **Content-Disposition** header as specified in [\[RFC2183\]](#) and [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 19.5.1.

This protocol also extends the **Content-Disposition** header with the *thicket* and *name* parameters as follows:

- The *thicket* parameter indicates whether the content is part of a **thicket supporting file**. If the **thicket-value** element is set to 1, the content is part of a thicket supporting file. If the **thicket-value** element is set to zero, the content is not part of a thicket supporting file.
- The *name* parameter indicates the name of the field with which the content is associated.

These parameters are specified in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
thicket-parameter = "thicket" "=" thicket-value
thicket-value = "0" | "1"
name-parameter = "name" "=" name-value
name-value = 1*TEXT
```

### 2.2.3 x-virus-infected Header

This protocol uses the **x-virus-infected** response header to indicate that the requested resource cannot be returned because it has been infected by a virus.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
virus-infected-header = "x-virus-infected" ":" virus-information-value
virus-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **virus-information-value** element is a text string that specifies the virus information of the requested resource. This string is not significant to protocol operation and is intended only for display and logging purposes.

### 2.2.4 x-irm-cantdecrypt Header

This protocol uses the **x-irm-cantdecrypt** response header to indicate that the requested resource cannot be returned because the **IRM protector** is unable to decrypt the requested resource.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows. [<5>](#)

```
irm-cantdecrypt-header = "x-irm-cantdecrypt" ":" irm-information-value
irm-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **irm-information-value** element is a text string that specifies the IRM information of the requested resource. This string is not significant to protocol operation and is intended only for display and logging purposes.

### 2.2.5 x-irm-rejected Header

This protocol uses the **x-irm-rejected** response header to indicate that the requested resource cannot be returned because the IRM system does not accept files of the requested type.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
irm-rejected-header = "x-irm-rejected" ":" irm-information-value
irm-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **irm-information-value** element is a text string that specifies the IRM information of the requested resource. This string is not significant to protocol operation and is intended only for display and logging purposes.

### 2.2.6 x-irm-notowner Header

The **x-irm-notowner** header is reserved and the protocol client MUST ignore it. [<6>](#)

This **x-irm-notowner** header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
irm-notowner-header = "x-irm-notowner" ":" irm-information-value
irm-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **irm-information-value** element is a text string.

## 2.2.7 x-irm-timeout Header

This protocol uses the **x-irm-timeout** response header to signal that the requested resource cannot be returned because the IRM system has timed out.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
irm-timeout-header = "x-irm-timeout" ":" irm-information-value
irm-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **irm-information-value** element is a text string that specifies the IRM information of the requested resource. This string is not significant to protocol operation and is intended only for display and logging purposes.

## 2.2.8 x-irm-crashed Header

This protocol uses the **x-irm-crashed** response header to indicate that the requested resource cannot be returned because the IRM system has crashed.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
irm-crashed-header = "x-irm-crashed" ":" irm-information-value
irm-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **irm-information-value** element is a text string that specifies the IRM information of the requested resource. This string is not significant to protocol operation and is intended only for display and logging purposes.

## 2.2.9 x-irm-unknown-failure Header

This protocol uses the **x-irm-unknown-failure** response header to indicate that the requested resource cannot be returned because of an unknown failure in the IRM system.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
irm-unknown-failure-header = "x-irm-unknown-failure" ":" irm-information-value
irm-information-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **irm-information-value** element is a text string that specifies the IRM information of the requested resource. This string is not significant to protocol operation and is intended only for display and logging purposes.

## 2.2.10 SharePointError Header

This protocol uses the **SharePointError** header to indicate that a protocol server error has occurred.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
sharepointerror-header = "SharePointError" ":" "0"/"2"
```

### 2.2.11 X-RequestDigest Header

This protocol uses the **X-RequestDigest** header as an alternative to the `__REQUESTDIGEST` form parameter on an HTTP POST request.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
requestdigest-header = "X-RequestDigest" ":" requestdigest-value
requestdigest-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **requestdigest-value** element is the form digest.

### 2.2.12 X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Required Header

This protocol uses the **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Required** header for handling requests that have not been previously authenticated.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
x-forms_based_auth_required-header = "X-Forms_Based_Auth_Required" ":" x-
forms_based_auth_required-value
x-forms_based_auth_required-value = 1*TEXT
```

The **x-forms\_based\_auth\_required-value** element is the **URL** of a form authentication logon page.

### 2.2.13 X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Return\_Url Header

The **x-forms\_based\_auth\_return\_url-value** element is a URL to which the client is redirected after a successful **forms authentication**.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
x-forms_based_auth_return_url-header = "X-Forms_Based_Auth_Return_Url" ":" x-
forms_based_auth_return_url-value
x-forms_based_auth_return_url-value = 1*TEXT
```

If this header is missing, it is equivalent to the header being specified with the value of the URL of the original request.

### 2.2.14 X-MS-File-Checked-Out Header

This protocol uses the **X-MS-File-Checked-Out** header for handling files that have been checked out after being uploaded to the protocol server.

This header is specified in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
X-MS-File-Checked-Out-header = "X-MS-File-Checked-Out" : X-MS-File-Checked-Out-value
X-MS-File-Checked-Out-value = "1"
```

### 2.2.15 X-RequestToken Header

This protocol uses the **X-RequestToken** value to enable the protocol client or a third-party application to make requests on behalf of the current user. The **X-RequestToken** value is an opaque string.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
requesttoken-header = "X-RequestToken" ":" requestdigest-value  
requesttoken-value = 1*TEXT
```

### 2.2.16 SPRequestGuid Header

This protocol uses the **SPRequestGuid** header for communicating diagnostic information about server problems. This header **MUST** be a GUID. The GUID provides diagnostic information to users.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
sprequestguid-header = "SPRequestGuid" ":" sprequestguid-value  
sprequestguid-value = 1*TEXT
```

### 2.2.17 X-UseWebLanguage Header

This protocol uses the **X-UseWebLanguage** header [<7>](#) to provide the primary culture information.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
x-useweblanguage-header = "X-UseWebLanguage" ":" x-useweblanguage-value  
x-useweblanguage-value = "true"
```

### 2.2.18 X-RequestForceAuthentication Header

This protocol uses the **X-RequestForceAuthentication** header [<8>](#) to force authentication by the server.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
x-requestforceauthentication-header = "X-RequestForceAuthentication" ":" x-  
requestforceauthentication-value  
x-requestforceauthentication-value = "true"
```

### 2.2.19 X-SharePointHealthScore

This protocol uses the **X-SharePointHealthScore** header to indicate the current server health status. The header **MUST** be an integer in the range from 0 to 10.

This header is defined in ABNF syntax as follows.

```
x-sharepointhealthscore-header = "X-SharePointHealthScore" ":"  
"0"/"1"/"2"/"3"/"4"/"5"/"6"/"7"/"8"/"9"/"10"
```

## 2.2.20 Distinguishing Clients with HTTP Headers

This protocol covers multiple application scenarios. To distinguish behaviors among protocol clients, the HTTP headers in the following sections **MUST** be sent by protocol clients and be recognized by front-end Web servers.

### 2.2.20.1 Browser Client

A protocol client **MUST** include "Mozilla" (case-sensitive) in the **User-Agent header** of its requests to be considered a browser client.

A protocol client **MUST NOT** include "FrontPage" (case-sensitive), "Office" (case-sensitive), or "non-browser" (case-sensitive) in the **User-Agent** header of its requests to be considered a browser client.

### 2.2.20.2 Crawler

A protocol client **MUST** include both "MS Search" (case-sensitive) and "Robot" (case-sensitive) in that order in the User-Agent header of its requests to be considered a **crawler**.

A crawler client **MUST** also be considered a browser client as specified in section [2.2.20.1](#).

### 2.2.20.3 Publishing Client

A protocol client **MUST** include "Microsoft Data Access Internet Publishing Provider" (case-sensitive) in the value of the **User-Agent** header of its requests to be considered a publishing client.

### 2.2.20.4 WebDAV Client

A protocol client **MUST** include a **Translate** header as specified in [\[MS-WDV\]](#) section 2.2.2, with a value beginning with "F" in its requests to be considered a WebDAV client as specified in [\[RFC2518\]](#).

### 2.2.20.5 SOAP Client

A protocol client **MUST** include the **SOAPAction** header as specified in [\[SOAP1.1\]](#) section 6.1.1 or a Content-Type header with a value beginning with "application/soap+xml" to be considered a SOAP client as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 14.17.



## 3 Protocol Details

### 3.1 Server Details

This protocol specifies communication between front-end Web server and protocol client applications. Protocol clients **MUST** distinguish their requests as specified in Distinguishing Clients with HTTP Headers (section [2.2.20](#)).

#### 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 the behavior described in this document.

No abstract data models are required except those specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#).

#### 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

##### 3.1.5.1 Expires Header

The protocol server **SHOULD NOT** include the **Expires** [*sic*] header in any response. [<9>](#)

The protocol client **MUST** ignore the **Expires** [*sic*] header.

##### 3.1.5.2 SharePointError Header

If the protocol server rejects the request because the current processing load on the server exceeds its capacity, the protocol server **SHOULD** include a **SharePointError** header set to 2 in the response. If the protocol server renders an error page to the client for any other reason, the protocol server **MUST** include a **SharePointError** header set to zero in the response.

##### 3.1.5.3 X-RequestDigest Header

When an HTTP POST request is received, if the form digest is to be checked and the `__REQUESTDIGEST` form parameter does not exist, the server **MUST** check for the **X-RequestDigest** header value and use that value as the form digest.

### 3.1.5.4 Server Handling of the SOAPAction Header

When an HTTP POST request is received, if the protocol client is considered to be a SOAP client, the protocol server MUST check for the **UseRemoteAPIs permission** as specified in [\[MS-WSSFO2\]](#) section 2.2.2.14.

### 3.1.5.5 Server Handling of the DELETE Verb

When a **DELETE** request is received, the protocol server SHOULD handle the request as specified in [\[RFC2518\]](#) section 8.6 and [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 9.7.<10>

### 3.1.5.6 Handling Access Denied Scenarios on Different Clients

For protocol clients that do not have permission to a requested resource, front-end Web servers provide protocol clients with responses as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4. The correct response varies based on the following factors:

- Whether the protocol client is a browser.
- The **authentication mode** used during the exchange.
- The authentication state of the protocol client.
- Whether the request is a SOAP request.

If a protocol client has not been authenticated, the protocol client is a browser, and the request is not a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is not Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 401 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4.

If a protocol client has not been authenticated, the protocol client is a browser, and the request is not a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST redirect the protocol client to the logon page.

If a protocol client has not been authenticated, the protocol client is not a browser or the request is a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is not Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 401 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4

If a protocol client has not been authenticated, the protocol client is not a browser or the request is a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 403 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4

If a protocol client has been authenticated, the protocol client is a browser, the request is not a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is not Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 401 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4.

If a protocol client has been authenticated, the protocol client is a browser, the request is not a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST redirect the protocol client to the login page.

If a protocol client has been authenticated, the protocol client is not a browser or the request is a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 403 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.4

If a protocol client has been authenticated, the protocol client is not a browser or the request is a SOAP request, and the authentication mode is not Forms Authentication, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 401 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.4

### 3.1.5.7 Handling Requests to Virus-Infected Resources

When an antivirus system is active and a request is received while the antivirus system is scanning incoming or outgoing documents, the front-end Web server MUST support the behavior specified in this section.

When a request is received and the requested resource is discovered to be infected by the protocol server **virus scanner**, the front-end Web server responds as follows:

- If the protocol client is a **WebDAV client** or a publishing client, as specified in section [2.2.20.3](#), and the virus status of the requested resource is not clean, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 409 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.4.10. The protocol server response MUST include an **x-virus-infected** header with a value that contains virus status information from the virus scanner.
- If the protocol client is not a WebDAV client or a publishing client as specified in section [2.2.20.3](#) and the document is infected, infected and cleanable, deleted by the virus scanner, or the virus scanner timed out, the protocol server responds as follows:
  - The protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 409 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.4.10.
  - The protocol server MUST include an **x-virus-infected** header whose value contains virus status information from the virus scanner with the response.
  - The protocol server MUST include a content-location header as specified in [\[RFC2557\]](#) section 2.4. Its value contains the URL of the **antivirus status page**.[<11>](#)
  - The body of the response MUST be an antivirus status page.
- If the protocol client is not a WebDAV client or a publishing client as specified in section [2.2.20.3](#) and the document is cleaned or clean failed, the server MUST redirect the protocol client to an antivirus status page.

### 3.1.5.8 Handling Requests to IRM-Protected Resources

When an IRM protector is active, the front-end Web server MUST support the behavior specified in this section.

When a request is received and the requested resource cannot be retrieved because of IRM, the protocol server responds as follows:

- The protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 409 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 10.4.10.
- The protocol server MUST include one of the following headers as appropriate: **x-irm-cantdecrypt**, **x-irm-rejected**, **x-irm-notowner**, **x-irm-timeout**, **x-irm-crashed**, or **x-irm-unknown-failure**.
- The value of the header MUST contain a string explaining the IRM error.

If the protocol client is not a WebDAV client or a publishing client, as specified in section [2.2.20](#), the protocol server MAY include a **Content-Location** header[<12>](#) as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 14.14 with a value that contains the **absolute URL** of the IRM report page. The body of the response MAY be the content of an IRM report page.

### 3.1.5.9 Handling Requests from Crawlers

When a request is received from a crawler, the requested resource is IRM protected, and the authenticated user has the **EnumeratePermissions** permission, as specified in [\[MS-WSSFO2\]](#) section 2.2.2.14, the protocol server MUST NOT IRM encrypt the requested resource that is returned to the protocol client.

When a request is received, if the protocol client is a crawler, the authenticated user has the **EnumeratePermissions** permission, and the front-end Web server antivirus skip search crawl setting is turned on, the protocol server MUST NOT scan the requested resource for viruses before returning the resource to the protocol client.

### 3.1.5.10 Form Digest and Headers

When an HTTP POST request is received, if the protocol client is a SOAP client, as specified in section [2.2.20.5](#), or a FrontPage Server Extensions Web Management client, as specified in section [2.2.20.4](#), the protocol server responds as follows:

- The protocol server MUST ignore the `__REQUESTDIGEST` parameter in the POST request.
- The protocol server MUST ignore the **X-RequestDigest** header.

### 3.1.5.11 Handling Multipart Content Types

When an HTTP POST request containing a **MIME Encapsulation of Aggregate HTML Documents (MHTML)**, as specified in [\[RFC2557\]](#), is received and the **Content-Type** header, as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 14.17, begins with "multipart/", the protocol server responds as follows:

- If the *boundary* parameter of the **Content-Type** header includes a comma (,), the protocol server MUST ignore all characters from the first comma to the end of the boundary parameter, including the comma.

When parsing an HTTP POST request to the **site-relative URL** `"/_vti_bin/shtml.dll"`, which contains a multipart content-type as specified in [\[RFC2046\]](#) section 5.1, the protocol server responds as follows:

- If the **Content-Type** header has a *charset* parameter, as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 3.4, the protocol server MUST determine the character encoding from that parameter. Otherwise, if the **Accept-Language** header exists, the protocol server MUST infer the character encoding from that **Accept-Language** header if possible. The **Accept-Language** header is specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#) section 14.4.
- If the **Content-Disposition** header, as specified in [\[RFC2183\]](#), has a *filename* parameter and the *thicket* parameter is set to 1, the request or request part is a thicket supporting file to be uploaded, and the protocol server MUST infer both the thicket folder name and the **leaf name** of the file from the *filename* parameter.
- If the **Content-Disposition** header has a *filename* parameter and the *thicket* parameter is not set to 1, the request or request part is a document to be uploaded, and the protocol server MUST infer the leaf name of the document from the *filename* parameter.
- If the **Content-Disposition** header has no *filename* parameter and starts with "form-data", the request or request part is a form field, and the protocol server MUST infer the field name from the *name* parameter of the **Content-Disposition** header.

### 3.1.5.12 Handling Requests that have not been Previously Authenticated

If the protocol server uses forms authentication and the protocol client sends a request without being authenticated first, the protocol server SHOULD [<13>](#) add the **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Required** header (see section [2.2.12](#)) to the response.

If the protocol server uses forms authentication and the protocol client sends a request without being authenticated first, the server SHOULD [<14>](#) add the **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Return\_Url** header (see section [2.2.13](#)) to the response.

### 3.1.5.13 Handling Files that have been Checked Out

The protocol server SHOULD [<15>](#) add the **X-MS-File-Checked-Out** header (see section [2.2.14](#)) to the PUT response if the file is checked out after being uploaded to the protocol server.

### 3.1.5.14 Enabling Clients or Applications to Make Requests on Behalf of the User

The protocol server can send an **X-RequestToken** value (see section [2.2.15](#)) to the protocol client or a third-party application to enable the protocol client or a third-party application to make requests on behalf of the current user. The **X-RequestToken** [<16>](#) value is generated by the protocol server and it is an opaque string to the protocol client. The content of the **X-RequestToken** value is protocol server implementation-specific. The protocol server MAY [<17>](#) include information, such as the protocol client application identifier, the current user identifier, time stamp, and their hash values in the **X-RequestToken** value and any other information necessary for the protocol server to execute the request. When the protocol client or a third-party application needs to make requests on behalf of the current user, the protocol client or a third-party application can include the **X-RequestToken** value in the **X-RequestToken** header in a new request to the protocol server. The protocol server can read the user identifier from this header and execute the request on behalf of the user specified by the user identifier. The protocol server can further use the hash value to ensure that the value of this token has not been tampered with. The protocol server could also define an expiration period and ensure that the token has not expired by checking the time stamp.

### 3.1.5.15 Providing Diagnostic Information

The protocol server can send back a GUID in a **SPRequestGuid** header (see section [2.2.16](#)) in an HTTP response to facilitate diagnosing protocol server problems. The protocol server MAY [<18>](#) log information pertinent to the request, including this GUID, in an implementation-specific way. The protocol server MUST NOT have any other dependencies on the value of this GUID. The user of this protocol could search for the GUID obtained from the HTTP response in any logs on the protocol server for more information about the request.

### 3.1.5.16 Handling Cultural Information

The protocol server MUST store primary culture information with every site. The culture information is used to determine the language to be used when the protocol server returns culture sensitive information to the protocol client, such as error strings. How such culture information is defined, stored, and used is implementation-specific.

If the **X-UseWebLanguage** header (see section [2.2.17](#)) is sent to the protocol server in a request whose request URI ends with `"/_vti_bin/client.svc"`, the protocol server MUST process the request, using the primary culture information to retrieve any culture sensitive information.

If the protocol client does not specify this header, the protocol server can use a language other than the primary culture defined on the site to return information to the protocol client.

### 3.1.5.17 Handling Authentication Requests

If the client sends the **X-RequestForceAuthentication** header (see section [2.2.18](#)) to the server in a request whose request URI ends with `"/_vti_bin/client.svc"`, or `"/_vti_bin/sites.asmx"`, and if protocol client has not been authenticated, and the anonymous user does not have permission access to the requested resource, the protocol server MUST return an HTTP response with status code 401 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4.

If this header is sent in a request whose request URI ends with `"/_vti_bin/client.svc"`, or `"/_vti_bin/sites.asmx"`, and if protocol client has not been authenticated, and the anonymous user has permission access to the requested resource, the protocol server MAY return an HTTP response with status code 401 as specified in [\[RFC2616\]](#), section 10.4.

### 3.1.5.18 X-SharePointHealthScore Header

The server can monitor the current load and its ability to process requests. If it monitors the load, it can return the load information to the client in a **X-SharePointHealthScore** header. This header specifies a value between 0 and 10, where 0 represents a low load and a high ability to process requests and 10 represents a high load and that the server is throttling requests in order to maintain adequate throughput.

### 3.1.6 Timer Events

None.

### 3.1.7 Other Local Events

None.

## 4 Protocol Examples

### 4.1 Request Using the Content-Disposition Header for a Thicket Supporting File

A protocol client uploads a thicket supporting file to the protocol server using the **Content-Disposition** header as follows.

```
PUT /root/site/subsite/Shared%20Documents/eggplant_files/eggplant.jpg HTTP/1.1
Host: www.contoso.com
Accept: */*
Content-Type: image/jpeg
Content-Length: 32768
Content-Disposition: inline; filename=/eggplant_files/eggplant.jpg; thicket=1; name=Example
Connection: Keep-Alive
```

The body contains image data.

### 4.2 x-virus-infected Header

The eggplant.aspx file has been infected by a virus.

#### 4.2.1 Client Request

A WebDAV client requests eggplant.aspx as follows.

```
GET /root/site/subsite/Shared%20Documents/eggplant.aspx HTTP/1.1
Host: www.contoso.com
Accept: */*
User-Agent: Microsoft-WebDAV-MiniRedir
Translate: F
Connection: Keep-Alive
```

#### 4.2.2 Server Response

The resource is infected by a virus, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-virus-infected: The requested document has been infected by a virus.
```

### 4.3 IRM Headers

The eggplant.aspx file is protected by IRM.

#### 4.3.1 Client Request

A WebDAV client requests eggplant.aspx as follows.

```
GET /rootsite/subsite/Shared%20Documents/eggplant.aspx HTTP/1.1
Host: www.contoso.com
Accept: */*
User-Agent: Microsoft-WebDAV-MiniRedir
Translate: F
Connection: Keep-Alive
```

### 4.3.2 Response Using the x-irm-cantdecrypt Header

The IRM system is unable to decrypt the requested resource, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-irm-cantdecrypt: Cannot unprotect
```

### 4.3.3 Response Using the x-irm-rejected Header

The IRM system does not accept files of the requested type, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-irm-rejected: This library does not accept files of the given type.
```

### 4.3.4 Response Using the x-irm-notowner Header

The IRM system does not own the requested resource, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-irm-notowner: Wss is not the owner of this file.
```

### 4.3.5 Response Using the x-irm-timeout Header

The IRM system times out, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
```



```
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-irm-timeout: Protector timed out.
```

#### 4.3.6 Response Using the x-irm-crashed Header

The IRM system crashed, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-irm-crashed: Protector crashed.
```

#### 4.3.7 Response Using the x-irm-unknown-failure Header

The IRM system experienced an unknown failure, so the protocol server responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 409 CONFLICT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 0
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
x-irm-unknown-failure: Error in IRM
```

#### 4.4 Response Using the SharePointError Header

An error occurred while processing the protocol client request, so the protocol server responds with the error page as follows.

```
HTTP/1.1 307 TEMPORARY REDIRECT
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0
Location: http://www.contoso.com/_layouts/error.html
Last-Modified: Thu, 13 Mar 2008, 16:09:42 GMT
Content-Type: text/html
Cache-Control: private
Content-Length: 249
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
SharePointError: 0

<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Transitional//EN"
"http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-transitional.dtd">
<html>
  <head>
    <title>An error has occurred!</title>
  </head>
  <body>
    An error has occurred!
```

```
</body>  
</html>
```

## 4.5 Deleting a Resource in a Document Library Forms Folder

The AllItems.aspx file is in the Forms folder of the Shared Documents **document library**.

### 4.5.1 Client Request

A WebDAV client attempts to delete AllItems.aspx as follows.

```
DELETE /rootsite/subsite/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx HTTP/1.1  
Host: www.contoso.com  
Accept: */*  
User-Agent: Microsoft-WebDAV-MiniRedir  
Connection: Keep-Alive
```

### 4.5.2 Server Response

The protocol server does not delete AllItems.aspx, but responds with the following.

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK  
Date: Thu, 13 Mar 2008 16:09:43 GMT  
Server: Microsoft-IIS/6.0  
Cache-Control: private  
Content-Length: 0  
Public-Extension: http://schemas.microsoft.com/repl-2
```

## **5 Security**

### **5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers**

None.

### **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 released service packs:

- The 2007 Microsoft® Office system
- Microsoft® Office 2010 suites
- Microsoft® Office 2013
- Windows® SharePoint® Services 2.0
- Windows® SharePoint® Services 3.0
- Microsoft® SharePoint® Foundation 2010
- Microsoft® SharePoint® Foundation 2013

Exceptions, if any, are noted below. If a service pack or Quick Fix Engineering (QFE) number appears with the product version, behavior changed in that service pack or QFE. 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 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 2.1:](#) Client support for SSL/TLS is available only in Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008. WebDAV servers that run on Internet Information Services (IIS), or on Windows SharePoint Services 2.0, or on Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, or on SharePoint Foundation 2010 support SSL/TLS.

[<2> Section 2.1:](#) Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 WebDAV clients support only port 80. Support for other ports is available only in Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008. The WebDAV client in Windows Vista and Windows Server 2008 uses port 80 by default for HTTP, and port 443 for HTTP over SSL/TLS. WebDAV servers that run on Internet Information Services (IIS), on Windows SharePoint Services 2.0, on Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, or on SharePoint Foundation 2010 support SSL/TLS.

[<3> Section 2.2.1:](#) This header is not used by SharePoint Foundation 2010.

[<4> Section 2.2.1:](#) In all versions of Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, the server sends an **Expires** [*sic*] header instead of an **Expires** header.

[<5> Section 2.2.4:](#) This header is not used by Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, or by SharePoint Foundation 2010.

[<6> Section 2.2.6:](#) This header is not returned by Windows SharePoint Services 2.0, Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, or SharePoint Foundation 2010.

[<7> Section 2.2.17:](#) Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement the **X-UseWebLanguage** header.

[<8> Section 2.2.18:](#) Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement the **X-RequestForceAuthentication** header.

<9> [Section 3.1.5.1](#): In all versions of Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, the protocol server sends an **Exires** [*sic*] header instead of an **Expires** header.

<10> [Section 3.1.5.5](#): In all versions of Windows SharePoint Services 3.0, when handling **DELETE** requests, if the protocol client includes a **User-Agent** header with a value that begins with "Microsoft-WebDAV-MiniRedir" (case-sensitive) and the requested URL either specifies a folder resource that is named "Forms" or if the resource is in a folder named "Forms", the protocol server sends a response with status code 200, and the resource is not deleted.

<11> [Section 3.1.5.7](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0, Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 and SharePoint Foundation 2010 do not include a new line before the **content-location** header.

<12> [Section 3.1.5.8](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0, Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 and SharePoint Foundation 2010 do not include a new line before the content-location header.

<13> [Section 3.1.5.12](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement the **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Required** header.

<14> [Section 3.1.5.12](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement the **X-Forms\_Based\_Auth\_Return\_Url** header.

<15> [Section 3.1.5.13](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement the **X-MS-File-Checked-Out** header.

<16> [Section 3.1.5.14](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement the **X-RequestToken** header.

<17> [Section 3.1.5.14](#): SharePoint Foundation 2010 server includes the protocol client application identifier, the current user identifier, time stamp and their hash values in the **X-RequestToken** header.

<18> [Section 3.1.5.15](#): Windows SharePoint Services 2.0 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 do not implement this header. SharePoint Foundation 2010 saves this GUID in several different types of logs on the server.

## 7 Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to the [MS-WSSHP] protocol document between the September 2012 and October 2012 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="#">2.2.12</a> <a href="#">X-Forms Based Auth Required Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.13</a> <a href="#">X-Forms Based Auth Return Url Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.14</a> <a href="#">X-MS-File-Checked-Out Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.15</a> <a href="#">X-RequestToken Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.16</a> <a href="#">SPRequestGuid Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.17</a> <a href="#">X-UseWebLanguage Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.17</a> <a href="#">X-UseWebLanguage Header</a>	Modified description of behavior.	Y	Product behavior note updated.
<a href="#">2.2.18</a> <a href="#">X-RequestForceAuthentication Header</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.
<a href="#">2.2.18</a> <a href="#">X-RequestForceAuthentication Header</a>	Modified description of behavior.	Y	Product behavior note updated.
<a href="#">2.2.19</a> <a href="#">X-SharePointHealthScore</a>	Refined description.	N	Content updated.

<b>Section</b>	<b>Tracking number (if applicable) and description</b>	<b>Major change (Y or N)</b>	<b>Change type</b>
<a href="#">3.1.5.7 Handling Requests to Virus-Infected Resources</a>	Added new product specific behavior.	Y	New product behavior note added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.12 Handling Requests that have not been Previously Authenticated</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.12 Handling Requests that have not been Previously Authenticated</a>	Added new product specific behavior.	Y	New product behavior note added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.13 Handling Files that have been Checked Out</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.13 Handling Files that have been Checked Out</a>	Added new product specific behavior.	Y	New product behavior note added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.14 Enabling Clients or Applications to Make Requests on Behalf of the User</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.14 Enabling Clients or Applications to Make Requests on Behalf of the User</a>	Added new product specific behavior.	Y	New product behavior note added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.15 Providing Diagnostic Information</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.16 Handling Cultural Information</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.17 Handling Authentication Requests</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.
<a href="#">3.1.5.18 X-SharePointHealthScore Header</a>	Added new message processing event.	Y	New content added.



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