

[MS-OXOSMIME]: S/MIME E-Mail Object Protocol Specification

Intellectual Property Rights Notice for Open Specifications Documentation

- **Technical Documentation.** Microsoft publishes Open Specifications documentation for protocols, file formats, languages, standards as well as overviews of the interaction among each of these technologies.
- **Copyrights.** This documentation is covered by Microsoft copyrights. Regardless of any other terms that are contained in the terms of use for the Microsoft website that hosts this documentation, you may make copies of it in order to develop implementations of the technologies described in the Open Specifications and may distribute portions of it in your implementations using these technologies or your documentation as necessary to properly document the implementation. You may also distribute in your implementation, with or without modification, any schema, IDL's, or code samples that are included in the documentation. This permission also applies to any documents that are referenced in the Open Specifications.
- **No Trade Secrets.** Microsoft does not claim any trade secret rights in this documentation.
- **Patents.** Microsoft has patents that may cover your implementations of the technologies described in the Open Specifications. Neither this notice nor Microsoft's delivery of the documentation grants any licenses under those or any other Microsoft patents. However, a given Open Specification may be covered by Microsoft's Open Specification Promise (available here: <http://www.microsoft.com/interop/osp>) or the Community Promise (available here: <http://www.microsoft.com/interop/cp/default.mspx>). If you would prefer a written license, or if the technologies described in the Open Specifications are not covered by the Open Specifications Promise or Community Promise, as applicable, patent licenses are available by contacting iplg@microsoft.com.
- **Trademarks.** The names of companies and products contained in this documentation may be covered by trademarks or similar intellectual property rights. This notice does not grant any licenses under those rights.
- **Fictitious Names.** The example companies, organizations, products, domain names, e-mail addresses, logos, people, places, and events depicted in this documentation are fictitious. No association with any real company, organization, product, domain name, email address, logo, person, place, or event is intended or should be inferred.

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

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

Revision Summary

Date	Revision History	Revision Class	Comments
04/04/2008	0.1		Initial Availability.
04/25/2008	0.2		Revised and updated property names and other technical content.
06/27/2008	1.0		Initial Release.
08/06/2008	1.01		Revised and edited technical content.
09/03/2008	1.02		Updated references.
12/03/2008	1.03		Minor editorial fixes.
03/04/2009	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	3.0.1	Editorial	Revised and edited the technical content.
02/10/2010	3.0.1	None	Version 3.0.1 release
05/05/2010	3.1.0	Minor	Updated the technical content.
08/04/2010	3.1.0	No change	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.
11/03/2010	3.1.0	No change	No changes to the meaning, language, or formatting of the technical content.

Contents

1 Introduction	5
1.1 Glossary	5
1.2 References.....	6
1.2.1 Normative References.....	6
1.2.2 Informative References	7
1.3 Overview	7
1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols.....	8
1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions	8
1.6 Applicability Statement.....	8
1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation.....	8
1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields.....	8
1.9 Standards Assignments	8
2 Messages	9
2.1 Transport.....	9
2.2 Message Syntax	9
2.2.1 Clear-Signed Message.....	9
2.2.2 Opaque-Signed and Encrypted S/MIME Message	10
3 Protocol Details	11
3.1 Common Details	11
3.1.1 Abstract Data Model	11
3.1.2 Timers	11
3.1.3 Initialization	11
3.1.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events.....	11
3.1.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules.....	11
3.1.5.1 Clear-Signed Message Details.....	11
3.1.5.1.1 Recognizing a Clear-Signed Message in Internet Format.....	11
3.1.5.1.2 Converting a Clear-Signed Message in Internet Format into a Message Object.....	11
3.1.5.1.3 Recognizing a Message Object that Represents a Clear-Signed Message.....	11
3.1.5.1.4 Reconstructing an Internet Format Message from a Clear-Signed Message Object.....	12
3.1.5.1.5 Reading and Interpreting a Message Object that Represents a Clear-Signed Message	12
3.1.5.1.6 Composing a New Message Object that Represents a Clear-Signed Message.....	12
3.1.5.2 Opaque-Signed and Encrypted S/MIME Message Details	12
3.1.5.2.1 Recognizing an S/MIME Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message in Internet Format	12
3.1.5.2.2 Converting an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message in Internet Format into a Message Object.....	13
3.1.5.2.3 Recognizing a Message Object that Represents an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message	13
3.1.5.2.4 Reconstructing an Internet Format Message from an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message Object.....	13
3.1.5.2.5 Reading and Interpreting a Message Object that Represents an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message.....	14
3.1.5.2.6 Composing a New Message Object that Represents an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message	14

3.1.6	Timer Events	14
3.1.7	Other Local Events	14
4	Protocol Examples	15
5	Security	16
5.1	Security Considerations for Implementers	16
5.2	Index of Security Parameters	16
6	Appendix A: Product Behavior	17
7	Change Tracking.....	19
8	Index	20

1 Introduction

This document specifies the details of the internal format of a **message** and describes the mapping between internal format and Internet e-mail format for two specific classes of Internet e-mail messages: messages signed or encrypted according to **S/MIME** standard, and arbitrary **clear-signed messages** that use the "multipart/signed" **MIME** format.

When the server receives an Internet e-mail message, it maps the message to an internal format known as the **Message object schema**. Similarly, when the client submits an e-mail message via the server, the server maps the message from its internal format to Internet format for sending. Also, in cases where protocols supported by the server allow saving or reading e-mail messages in Internet format, similar mapping is required to and/or from internal format. For more information about the mapping between internal format and Internet format, see [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).

1.1 Glossary

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

ASCII
attachment
Attachment object
base64 encoding
body part
encrypted S/MIME message
GUID
header
header field
message
message body
message class
Message object
Message object schema
MIME
MIME entity
MIME message
named property
parameter
property (1)
S/MIME
top-level message

The following terms are specific to this document:

clear-signed message: An Internet e-mail **message** in the format described by [\[RFC1847\]](#) and identified with the **media type** "multipart/signed", or the **Message object** representing such a **message**. One important class of clear-signed message, based on a "multipart/signed" format, is **S/MIME** clear-signed message, as described in [\[RFC5751\]](#) and [\[RFC3852\]](#).

Content-Disposition header field: A **MIME header field** described by [\[RFC2045\]](#).

Content-Transfer-Encoding header field: A **MIME header field** described by [\[RFC2045\]](#).

Content-Type header field: A **MIME header field** described by [\[RFC2045\]](#).

header field parameter: A name-value pair that provides additional structured information for a **header field**, as described by [\[RFC2045\]](#).

media type: A value in a **Content-Type header field**, as described by [\[RFC2045\]](#).

message signature: The signature described by [\[RFC5751\]](#).

MIME entity header: A type of **header** described by [\[RFC2045\]](#).

opaque-signed S/MIME message: An Internet e-mail **message** in the format described by [\[RFC5751\]](#) that uses the SignedData CMS content type [\[RFC3852\]](#), or the **Message object** that represents such a **message**.

RFC2822 message: A **message** in the format described by [\[RFC2822\]](#).

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-OXCMAIL] Microsoft Corporation, "[RFC2822 and MIME to E-Mail Object Conversion Protocol Specification](#)", April 2008.

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

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

[RFC1847] Galvin, J., Murphy, S., Crocker, S., and Freed, N., "Security Multiparts for MIME: Multipart/Signed and Multipart/Encrypted", RFC 1847, October 1995, <ftp://ftp.rfc-editor.org/in-notes/rfc1847.txt>

[RFC2045] Freed, N., and Borenstein, N., "Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) Part One: Format of Internet Message Bodies", RFC 2045, November 1996, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2045.txt>

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

[RFC2047] Moore, K., "MIME (Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions) Part Three: Message Header Extensions for Non-ASCII Text", RFC 2047, November 1996, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2047.txt>

[RFC2048] Freed, N., Klensin, J., and Postel, J., "Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) Part Four: Registration Procedures", RFC 2048, November 1996, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2048.txt>

[RFC2049] Freed, N., and Borenstein, N., "Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) Part Five: Conformance Criteria and Examples", RFC 2049, November 1996, <ftp://ftp.rfc-editor.org/in-notes/rfc2049.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>

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

[RFC5751] Ramsdell, B., and Turner, S., "Secure/Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (S/MIME) Version 3.2 Message Specification", RFC 5751, January 2010, <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc5751.txt>

1.2.2 Informative References

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

[RFC3852] Housley, R., "Cryptographic Message Syntax (CMS)", RFC 3852, July 2004, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3852.txt>

1.3 Overview

The client and the server process and represent e-mail messages as **Message objects** structured according to the Message object schema. For an overview of the Message object schema, the Message object, the **Attachment object**, and other details of internal format, see [\[MS-OXCMSG\]](#).

A conversion between the Internet e-mail format and the Message object schema might be necessary when an incoming message arrives or, in the reverse, when an outgoing message has to be sent in Internet format as specified by [\[RFC2822\]](#), [\[RFC2045\]](#), [\[RFC2046\]](#), [\[RFC2047\]](#), [\[RFC2048\]](#), [\[RFC2049\]](#), [\[RFC1847\]](#), or [\[RFC5751\]](#). Such a conversion maps **MIME entities** to Attachment objects or the **message body**, and maps message **header fields** and **MIME entity header** fields to **properties** of the Message object or Attachment object. For more details about the entire conversion process, see [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#) section 1.3.

This document specifies the special case of such conversion for two specific classes of Internet e-mail messages: arbitrary clear-signed messages, and **S/MIME opaque-signed** and encrypted messages. This document only specifies the special handling necessary for these two classes of messages; for more information about the general conversion process (for example, steps that are not unique to just clear-signed messages and/or opaque-signed and encrypted messages), see [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).

Ordinarily, when an **RFC2822 message** or a **MIME message** is mapped to a Message object, it is completely deconstructed into a form suitable for direct consumption via a wire protocol, and mappable to a typical client's message presentation. This manner of message deconstruction is not feasible for S/MIME messages for the following reasons:

1. Encrypted message content and even the entire message structure are not accessible without a proper decryption key, which is typically not available at delivery time.
2. Signed message content has to be preserved in its entirety, in exactly the form in which was signed, in order for the **message signature** to be verifiable at a later date.

These two points impose restrictions on how the server and the client map an S/MIME message to a Message object; general mapping [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#) cannot be used without modifications.

A set of mapping conventions exists to resolve this problem and to enable the handling of S/MIME messages as Message objects. According to these conventions:

- Unprotected **top-level message** header fields and MIME entity header fields are mapped to properties of a Message object or Attachment object in accordance with the general mapping specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).

- The Message object is identified as an S/MIME message by having its **message class** property ([PidTagMessageClass](#)) set to one of the reserved values specified in section [2.2.1](#) and section [2.2.2](#).
- The entire protected content of the S/MIME message is mapped to a single Attachment object of a corresponding Message object.

The following entities can participate in this protocol:

1. Any server or client that wants to represent S/MIME messages through a Message object schema.
2. Any client that wants to send or receive S/MIME messages by using a server that implements a Message object schema.

The S/MIME E-mail Object protocol is limited to top-level clear-signed or S/MIME wrapping only; a message classified as clear-signed, opaque-signed, or encrypted can contain other (nested) S/MIME wrapping layers.

This protocol does not distinguish opaque-signed S/MIME messages from **encrypted S/MIME messages**.

This document specifies the interpretation and rendering of clear-signed messages or S/MIME opaque-signed and encrypted messages based on the assumption that the client or server that wants to interpret or render such messages can parse and interpret the corresponding Internet format defined elsewhere [\[RFC2822\]](#), [\[RFC2045\]](#), [\[RFC2046\]](#), [\[RFC2047\]](#), [\[RFC2048\]](#), [\[RFC2049\]](#), [\[RFC1847\]](#), [\[RFC5751\]](#), [\[RFC3852\]](#).

1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

This protocol defines a special case of mapping between e-mail messages in Internet formats [\[RFC2822\]](#), [\[RFC2045\]](#), [\[RFC2046\]](#), [\[RFC2047\]](#), [\[RFC2048\]](#), [\[RFC2049\]](#), [\[RFC1847\]](#), [\[RFC5751\]](#) and a Message object. General mapping is specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).

1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

None.

1.6 Applicability Statement

This protocol can be used by any server or client that wants to represent S/MIME messages by using a Message object schema. It can also be used by any client that wants to send or receive S/MIME messages by using a server that implements a Message object schema.

1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation

None.

1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

1.9 Standards Assignments

None.

2 Messages

2.1 Transport

None.

2.2 Message Syntax

None.

2.2.1 Clear-Signed Message

A clear-signed message in Internet format is a message in which the message's MIME entity has the **media type** "multipart/signed" as specified in [\[RFC1847\]](#). Such a MIME entity has two **body parts**: the first part represents signed message content; the second part contains a message signature. For more details about multi-part/signed, see [\[RFC1847\]](#).

A clear-signed message in Internet format is mapped to a Message object with the following structure:

1. Message class SHOULD [<1><2><3>](#) be set as "IPM.Note.SMIME.MultipartSigned".
2. Message body SHOULD be set by promoting a primary message body MIME entity to appropriate properties of a Message object, as specified by [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#). The method of identifying and promoting a message body is the following:
 1. Consider the first body part of a multipart/signed message MIME entity as a complete Internet message.
 2. Apply the heuristics specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#) to identify a nested MIME entity as a message body and promote its content according to [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).
3. Message object properties other than message class or message body SHOULD be set as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#) and [\[MS-OXOMSG\]](#).
4. The Message object MUST contain exactly one Attachment object.
 1. **Attachment** content, stored in the [PidTagAttachDataBinary](#) property, MUST be set as the entire outer content of a multipart/signed message MIME entity, including a **Content-Type header field** with the value "multipart/signed" and any original **parameters**. All other message entity header fields SHOULD be excluded. It is especially important to preserve the entire original outer content of the first body part within a multipart/signed MIME entity unmodified, as it is protected by a message signature in its original form, and any modification will invalidate the message signature. Note that all message header fields that are excluded are normally processed to populate Message object properties, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).
 2. Other Attachment object properties are to be set as follows:
 1. [PidTagAttachMethod](#) MUST be set to a value of "0x00000001" (file attachment).
 2. [PidTagAttachMimeTag](#) MUST be set to a value of "multipart/signed".
 3. [PidTagAttachFilename](#) SHOULD [<4>](#) be set to a value of "SMIME.txt".
 4. [PidTagAttachLongFilename](#) SHOULD be set to a value of "SMIME.txt".

5. [PidTagDisplayName](#) SHOULD be set to a value of "SMIME.txt".
6. Other Attachment object properties can be set as appropriate.

2.2.2 Opaque-Signed and Encrypted S/MIME Message

An opaque-signed or encrypted S/MIME message in Internet format is identified as a MIME message that consists of exactly one MIME entity. The MIME entity usually has the media type "application/pkcs7-mime" or "application/x-pkcs7-mime", but can alternatively have the media type "application/octet-stream" if a file name, specified by Content-Type or **Content-Disposition header field** parameters, has a file extension ".p7m". The content of the entity body is a Cryptographic Message Syntax (CMS) encapsulation of protected message content, together with all necessary cryptographic metadata. For more details about CMS, see [\[RFC3852\]](#). For the purposes of this protocol, the content is treated as opaque binary data. Message types specified in [\[RFC5751\]](#) other than opaque-signed or encrypted messages are not supported.

An opaque-signed or encrypted S/MIME message in Internet format is mapped to a Message object with the following structure:

1. Message class SHOULD [<5><6>](#) be set as "IPM.Note.SMIME".
2. Message body SHOULD NOT be set. Even for an opaque-signed message, where a decryption key is not required to access message content, the message body SHOULD NOT be promoted to a Message object.
3. Message object properties other than message class or message body SHOULD be set as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).
4. The Message object SHOULD have a **named property** (with **GUID** = PS_INTERNET_HEADERS ({00020386-0000-0000-C000-000000000046}) and a string name "Content-Type") that contains the raw **ASCII** string value of a message MIME entity's Content-Type MIME header field, including any parameters of such header field.
5. The message MUST contain exactly one attachment object.
 1. Attachment content, stored in the [PidTagAttachDataBinary](#) property, MUST be set as the inner content of a message MIME entity. Any Content-Transfer-Encoding applied to a MIME entity body MUST be removed before storing entity body content in an Attachment object.
 2. Attachment object properties other than content SHOULD be set according to [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#), just as they would be if the MIME entity was a normal message attachment. In particular, the [PidTagAttachMimeTag](#) property MUST be set to match the media type of a message MIME entity.

3 Protocol Details

3.1 Common Details

3.1.1 Abstract Data Model

None.

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 Clear-Signed Message Details

3.1.5.1.1 Recognizing a Clear-Signed Message in Internet Format

The media type of the message MIME entity is the value of the last Content-Type header field. If the media type of the message MIME entity is "multipart/signed", the message SHOULD be treated as a clear-signed message. Additional verification steps can be performed. For example, a client or server could choose to verify that the multipart/signed MIME entity contains exactly two MIME body parts as specified in [\[RFC1847\]](#).

3.1.5.1.2 Converting a Clear-Signed Message in Internet Format into a Message Object

To convert a clear-signed message in Internet format into a Message object, perform the following steps:

1. From the message MIME entity, promote message header fields to Message object properties, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMail\]](#).
2. Create an Attachment object.
3. Set Attachment object properties, as specified in section [2.2.1](#).
4. Remove all header fields except the Content-Type header field from the message MIME entity,
5. Save the resulting MIME entity as content of the Attachment object created in step 2 (for example, set the value of the [PidTagAttachDataBinary](#) property on the Attachment object).

3.1.5.1.3 Recognizing a Message Object that Represents a Clear-Signed Message

If a Message object has the message class "IPM.Note.SMIME.MultipartSigned" and contains exactly one Attachment object, it SHOULD be treated as a clear-signed message. Additional verification

steps can be performed to verify that the Attachment object is marked with the appropriate media type (for example, the [PidTagAttachMimeTag](#) property has a value of "multipart/signed") and represents a valid "multipart/signed" MIME entity as specified in [\[RFC1847\]](#). If the message class is not "IPM.Note.SMIME.MultipartSigned", but ends with the suffix ".SMIME.MultipartSigned", the Message object MAY [<7><8>](#) be treated as a clear-signed message.

If a Message object marked with the message class "IPM.Note.SMIME.MultipartSigned" does not have the correct structure specified in section [2.2.1](#), the behavior is undefined.

3.1.5.1.4 Reconstructing an Internet Format Message from a Clear-Signed Message Object

To reconstruct an Internet format message from a clear-signed Message object, perform the following steps:

1. Verify that the Message object contains exactly one Attachment object.
2. Read the Attachment object's [PidTagAttachDataBinary](#) binary property value and treat it as a MIME entity.
3. Remove all header fields except the last Content-Type header field from the MIME entity.
4. Add any message header fields resulting from promotion of Message object properties (as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#)) to the MIME entity.
5. The resulting MIME entity is a clear-signed message in its Internet format. A client or server can use a different approach, as long as it leads to an equivalent result.

3.1.5.1.5 Reading and Interpreting a Message Object that Represents a Clear-Signed Message

For details about how to recognize a Message object that represents a clear-signed message, see section [3.1.5.1.3](#).

To read and interpret a clear-signed message, the Internet format SHOULD be reconstructed from a Message object, as specified in section [3.1.5.1.4](#). The resulting clear-signed message in its Internet format SHOULD be rendered or interpreted following the guidelines specified in [\[RFC1847\]](#), and possibly [\[RFC5751\]](#), or any other similar specification. A client can use a different process, as long as it leads to the same rendering or interpretation.

3.1.5.1.6 Composing a New Message Object that Represents a Clear-Signed Message

To compose a new Message object that represents a clear-signed message, first compose a clear-signed message in its Internet format [\[RFC1847\]](#), and then convert that message to a Message object, as specified in section [3.1.5.1.2](#). A client can use a different process as long as it leads to the same resulting Message object content.

3.1.5.2 Opaque-Signed and Encrypted S/MIME Message Details

3.1.5.2.1 Recognizing an S/MIME Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message in Internet Format

The media type of the message MIME entity is the value of the last Content-Type header field. If the message MIME entity's media type is "application/pkcs7-mime" or "application/x-pkcs7-mime", the

message SHOULD be treated as an opaque-signed S/MIME message or encrypted S/MIME message. Also, if the message MIME entity's media type is "application/octet-stream", and a file extension specified by the name parameter of a Content-Type header field or the filename parameter of a Content-Disposition header field ends with ".p7m" (case-insensitive), the message SHOULD be treated as an opaque-signed or encrypted S/MIME message. Additional verification steps can be performed. For example, a client or server could choose to verify that MIME entity body content has valid syntax, as specified in [\[RFC5751\]](#).

3.1.5.2.2 Converting an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message in Internet Format into a Message Object

To convert an opaque-signed S/MIME Message or encrypted S/MIME Message in Internet format into a Message object, perform the following steps:

1. From the message MIME entity, promote message header fields to Message object properties, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#).
2. Save the raw ASCII string value of the last Content-Type header field, including any parameters of such header, as a Message object named property with GUID = PS_INTERNET_HEADERS ({00020386-0000-0000-C000-000000000046}) and the name "Content-Type".
3. Promote the message MIME entity as a new Attachment object, as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#) for a general conversion case.

3.1.5.2.3 Recognizing a Message Object that Represents an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message

If a Message object has the message class "IPM.Note.SMIME" and contains exactly one Attachment object, it SHOULD be treated as an opaque-signed S/MIME Message or encrypted S/MIME Message. Additional verification steps can be performed to verify that the Attachment object is marked with the appropriate media type (for example, [PidTagAttachMimeTag](#) is either "application/pkcs7-mime" or "application/x-pkcs7-mime", or it is "application/octet-stream" and filename, as specified by [PidTagAttachFilename](#), and has a file extension ".p7m") and represents a valid encrypted or opaque-signed message as specified in [\[RFC3852\]](#). If the message class is not "IPM.Note.SMIME", but ends with the suffix ".SMIME", then the Message object MAY [<9><10>](#) be treated as an S/MIME opaque-signed or encrypted message.

The message class "IPM.Note.SMIME" can be ambiguous. [<11>](#)

If a message object marked with the message class "IPM.Note.SMIME" does not have an appropriate structure or content as specified in section [2.2.2](#), then the behavior is undefined.

3.1.5.2.4 Reconstructing an Internet Format Message from an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message Object

To reconstruct an Internet format message from an opaque-signed or encrypted Message object, perform the following steps:

1. Verify that the Message object contains exactly one Attachment object.
2. Create an empty MIME entity.
3. Add any message header fields that result from promotion of the Message object properties [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#) to the MIME entity.
4. Add the Content-Type header field to the MIME entity:

1. If the Message object has a named property "Content-Type" with GUID PS_INTERNET_HEADERS ({00020386-0000-0000-C000-000000000046}), construct the Content-Type header field by using the value of the named property, assuming that the value can contain unparsed MIME parameters.
2. Otherwise, construct the Content-Type header field by using a media type string obtained from the value of the Attachment object's [PidTagAttachMimeTag](#) property; add a name parameter with a value obtained from the [PidTagAttachFilename](#) property of the Attachment object.
5. Add a clear-signed message with a disposition value "attachment" to the MIME entity; add a single filename parameter with a value obtained from the [PidTagAttachFilename](#) property of the Attachment object, encoded if necessary [MS-OXCMAIL].
6. Add the **Content-Transfer-Encoding header field** with a value of "base64" to the MIME entity.
7. Read the Attachment object's [PidTagAttachDataBinary](#) binary property value and encode the result using **base64 encoding**. Add the result of the encoding as a body of the MIME entity.

The resulting MIME entity is an opaque-signed or encrypted S/MIME message in its Internet format. A client or server can use a different approach as long as it leads to an equivalent result.

3.1.5.2.5 Reading and Interpreting a Message Object that Represents an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message

For details about how to recognize a Message object that represents an opaque-signed S/MIME message or encrypted message, see section [3.1.5.2.3](#)

To read and interpret an **S/MIME** message, the Internet Format SHOULD be reconstructed from a Message object, as specified in section [3.1.5.2.4](#). The resulting S/MIME message in its Internet format SHOULD be rendered or interpreted by following guidelines specified in [\[RFC5751\]](#). A client can use a different process as long as it leads to the same rendering or interpretation.

3.1.5.2.6 Composing a New Message Object that Represents an Opaque-Signed or Encrypted S/MIME Message

To compose a new Message object that represents an S/MIME message, first compose an opaque-signed S/MIME message or encrypted S/MIME message in its Internet format [\[RFC5751\]](#), and then convert that message to a Message object, as specified in section [3.1.5.2.2](#). A client can use a different process as long as it leads to the same resulting Message object structure and content.

3.1.6 Timer Events

None.

3.1.7 Other Local Events

None.

4 Protocol Examples

None.

5 Security

5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

This protocol does not have any security implications beyond those described in [\[RFC5751\]](#). Furthermore, this protocol treats S/MIME content as opaque binary data and does not deal with any sensitive material or data such as encryption keys. Although it is best for clients or servers that render, interpret, or compose S/MIME data to do so in a secure fashion, this is beyond the scope of this specification.

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.

[<1> Section 2.2.1:](#) In some circumstances, Exchange 2003 sets the message class as "IPM.Note.SMIME".

[<2> Section 2.2.1:](#) Office Outlook 2003, Exchange 2003, Office Outlook 2007, and Outlook 2010 identify any message that has a message class suffix of "SMIME.MultipartSigned" as a clear-signed message. In general though, this is not recommended for clients or servers.

[<3> Section 2.2.1:](#) Office Outlook 2007, Exchange 2007, Outlook 2010, and Exchange 2010 recognize Office InfoPath signed or encrypted messages and, for such messages, they use a dynamically-determined message class that starts with the prefix "IPM.InfoPathForm" and ends with the suffix "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned" (as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#)). Exchange 2007 and Exchange 2010 recognize such message classes as identifying opaque-signed, encrypted, or clear-signed messages, despite the fact that, in general, it does not recognize other message classes having suffixes "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned".

[<4> Section 2.2.1:](#) Office Outlook 2003, Office Outlook 2007, Exchange 2007, and Outlook 2010 set [PidTagAttachFilename](#) to a value of "SMIME.p7m".

[<5> Section 2.2.2:](#) Office Outlook 2003, Exchange 2003, Office Outlook 2007, and Outlook 2010 set the message class to "IPM.Note.Receipt.SMIME" when they identify an S/MIME message that contains a secure receipt, as indicated by the smime-type parameter with a value of "signed-receipt" on the Content-Type header field. Office Outlook 2003, Exchange 2003, Office Outlook 2007, and Outlook 2010 identify any message that has a message class suffix of "SMIME" as an opaque-signed or encrypted message, but it is not recommended that other clients/servers do so.

[<6> Section 2.2.2:](#) Office Outlook 2007, Exchange 2007, Outlook 2010, and Exchange 2010 recognize Office InfoPath signed or encrypted messages and, for such messages, they use a dynamically-determined message class that starts with the prefix "IPM.InfoPathForm" and ends with the suffix "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned" (as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#)). Exchange 2007 and Exchange 2010 recognize such message classes as identifying opaque-signed, encrypted, or clear-

signed messages, despite the fact that, in general, it does not recognize other message classes having suffixes "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned".

<7> [Section 3.1.5.1.3](#): Office Outlook 2003, Exchange 2003, Office Outlook 2007, and Outlook 2010 identify any message that has a message class suffix of "SMIME.MultipartSigned" as a clear-signed message. In general though, this is not recommended for clients or servers.

<8> [Section 3.1.5.1.3](#): Office Outlook 2007, Exchange 2007, Outlook 2010, and Exchange 2010 recognize Office InfoPath signed or encrypted messages and, for such messages, they use a dynamically-determined message class that starts with the prefix "IPM.InfoPathForm" and ends with the suffix "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned" (as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#)). Exchange 2007 and Exchange 2010 recognize such message classes as identifying opaque-signed, encrypted, or clear-signed messages, despite the fact that, in general, it does not recognize other message classes having suffixes "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned".

<9> [Section 3.1.5.2.3](#): Office Outlook 2007, Exchange 2007, Outlook 2010, and Exchange 2010 recognize Office InfoPath signed or encrypted messages and, for such messages, they use a dynamically-determined message class that starts with the prefix "IPM.InfoPathForm" and ends with the suffix "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned" (as specified in [\[MS-OXCMAIL\]](#)). Exchange 2007 and Exchange 2010 recognize such message classes as identifying opaque-signed, encrypted, or clear-signed messages, despite the fact that, in general, it does not recognize other message classes having suffixes "SMIME" or "SMIME.MultipartSigned".

<10> [Section 3.1.5.2.3](#): Office Outlook 2003, Office Outlook 2007, Exchange 2007, and Outlook 2010 set [PidTagAttachFilename](#) to a value of "SMIME.p7m".

<11> [Section 3.1.5.2.3](#): In Exchange 2003 only, if a Message object has a message class of "IPM.Note.SMIME", it is possible that the message represents a mislabeled clear-signed message with inner opaque-signed or encrypted content. This means that, in Exchange 2003, the message class "IPM.Note.SMIME" is ambiguous with respect to defining message format. It is recommended that a client or server that wants to interoperate with Exchange 2003 disambiguate the "IPM.Note.SMIME" Message object either by analyzing the content of an attachment (for example, the value of the Attachment object property [PidTagAttachDataBinary](#)) or by inspecting the value of the Attachment object property [PidTagAttachMimeTag](#). If the value represents a valid multipart/signed MIME entity, it is recommended that the client or server identify the message as a clear-signed message and interpret it according to section [3.1.5.1](#)

7 Change Tracking

No table of changes is available. The document is either new or has had no changes since its last release.

8 Index

A

[Applicability](#) 8

C

[Capability negotiation](#) 8

[Change tracking](#) 19

Client

[overview](#) 11

E

Examples

[overview](#) 15

F

[Fields – vendor-extensible](#) 8

G

[Glossary](#) 5

I

[Implementer – security considerations](#) 16

[Index of security parameters](#) 16

[Informative references](#) 7

[Introduction](#) 5

M

Messages

[overview](#) 9

Messaging

[transport](#) 9

N

[Normative references](#) 6

O

[Overview \(synopsis\)](#) 7

P

[Parameters – security index](#) 16

[Preconditions](#) 8

[Prerequisites](#) 8

[Product behavior](#) 17

R

References

[informative](#) 7

[normative](#) 6

[Relationship to other protocols](#) 8

S

Security

[implementer considerations](#) 16

[overview](#) 16

[parameter index](#) 16

[Standards Assignments](#) 8

T

[Tracking changes](#) 19

[Transport](#) 9

V

[Vendor-extensible fields](#) 8

[Versioning](#) 8