

[MS-SPRSS]: RSS 2.0 Format Extensions

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06/27/2008	1.0	Major	Revised and edited the technical content
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1 Introduction

This document specifies extensions to the Really Simple Syndication (RSS) 2.0 format. It assumes familiarity with the concepts and requirements that are described in the RSS 2.0 specification.

1.1 Glossary

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

Internationalized Resource Identifier (IRI)
RSS channel
RSS item
URL (Uniform Resource Locator)
XML namespace
XML namespace prefix
XML Path Language (XPath)

The following terms are specific to this document:

MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT: These terms (in all caps) are used as described in [\[RFC2119\]](#). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

1.2 References

1.2.1 Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com. 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.

[RFC1738] Berners-Lee, T., Masinter, L., and McCahill, M., "Uniform Resource Locators (URL)", RFC 1738, December 1994, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1738.txt>

[RFC1766] Alvestrand, H., "Tags for the Identification of Languages", RFC 1766, March 1995, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc1766.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>

[RFC3987] Duerst, M., and Suignard, M., "Internationalized Resource Identifiers (IRIs)," RFC 3987, January 2005, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3987.txt>

[RFC4646] A. Phillips, Ed., and M. Davis, Ed., "Tags for Identifying Languages", BCP 47, RFC 4646, September 2006, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc4646.txt>

[RFC822] Crocker, D.H., "Standard for ARPA Internet Text Messages", STD 11, RFC 822, August 1982, <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc0822.txt>

[RSS 2.0] Winer, D., "RSS 2.0 Specification", Fall 2002, version 2.0.1: July 2003, <http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/rss/rss.html>

[XMLNS] World Wide Web Consortium, "Namespaces in XML 1.0 (Third Edition)", W3C Recommendation 8 December 2009, <http://www.w3.org/TR/REC-xml-names/>

[XPATH] Clark, J. and DeRose, S., "XML Path Language (XPath), Version 1.0", W3C Recommendation, November 1999, <http://www.w3.org/TR/xpath>

1.2.2 Informative References

[MSFT-SHORTDATE] Microsoft Corporation, "Standard Date and Time Format Strings", <http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/az4se3k1.aspx>

[MS-OFCGLOS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Microsoft Office Master Glossary](#)", June 2008.

1.3 Structure Overview (Synopsis)

This structure extends the semantics of specific elements of the RSS 2.0 syndication format for Web content. The RSS 2.0 format is a syndication format that can be used to serialize data from a Web site. A typical usage scenario for this structure is to serialize updates to a list of site content or search results.

1.4 Relationship to Protocols and Other Structures

This structure extends the Really Simple Syndication (RSS) 2.0 format, as described in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#).

1.5 Applicability Statement

This structure is designed to serialize fewer than 1,000 item elements and fewer than 50 megabytes of content.

1.6 Versioning and Localization

None.

1.7 Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

2 Structures

The following sections specify the extensions to the RSS 2.0 format, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#). This document uses **XML Path Language (XPath)** expressions, as specified in [\[XPath\]](#), to refer to elements that are specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#).

2.1 Namespaces

This specification defines and references various **XML namespaces** using the mechanisms specified in [\[XMLNS\]](#). Although this specification associates a specific **XML namespace prefix** for each XML namespace that is used, the choice of any particular XML namespace prefix is implementation-specific and not significant for interoperability.

Prefix	Namespace	Reference
media	http://search.yahoo.com/mrss/	[MEDIA RSS 1.1.2]
search	http://schemas.microsoft.com/SharePoint/Search/RSS	
srrt	http://schemas.microsoft.com/WebParts/v3/srchrss/runtime	

2.2 Author element

The author of an **RSS item**.

```
/rss/channel/item/author
```

The **author** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires an e-mail address. The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **author** element such that it can contain the display name of the author.

2.3 Url element

The **URL** of the image for an **RSS channel**.

```
/rss/channel/image/url
```

The **url** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires that the image URL targets an image that is stored in one of the following formats: Graphics Interchange Format (GIF), Portable Network Graphics (PNG), or Joint Photographic Experts Group (JPEG). The RSS 2.0 format extensions extends the **url** element such that it SHOULD contain the URL of an image in any format but can contain a user-supplied string value that contains less than 255 characters.

2.4 managingEditor element

The person who is responsible for the editorial content of an RSS channel.

```
/rss/channel/managingEditor
```

The **managingEditor** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires an e-mail address. The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **managingEditor** element such that the element can contain a user-supplied string value. The string value MUST contain fewer than 255 characters.

2.5 webMaster element

The person who is responsible for technical issues for an RSS channel.

```
/rss/channel/webMaster
```

The **webMaster** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires an e-mail address. The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **webMaster** element such that the element can contain a user-supplied string value. The string value **MUST** contain fewer than 255 characters.

2.6 language element

The language in which the RSS channel is written.

```
/rss/channel/language
```

The **language** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires a language tag, as specified in [\[RFC1766\]](#). The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **language** element such that it can contain a language tag as specified in [\[RFC4646\]](#).

2.7 pubDate element

The publication date for content in the RSS channel.

```
/rss/channel/item/pubDate
```

The **pubDate** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires a date that uses the format specified in [\[RFC822\]](#) Section 5. The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **pubDate** element such that it can contain a date in an implementation-specific format, such as one of the formats described in [\[MSFT-SHORTDATE\]](#).

2.8 Link element

2.8.1 Channel link element

The URL of the source of the content for the RSS channel on the Web site.

```
/rss/channel/link
```

The **link** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires a URL, as specified in [\[RFC1738\]](#). The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **link** element such that it can contain an **Internationalized Resource Identifier (IRI)**, as specified in [\[RFC3987\]](#).

2.8.2 Item link element

The URL of the source of the content for the RSS item on the Web site.

```
/rss/channel/item/link
```


The **link** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), requires a URL, as specified in [\[RFC1738\]](#). The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **link** element such that it can contain an IRI, as specified in [\[RFC3987\]](#).

2.9 media:thumbnail element

The thumbnail image for the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/media:thumbnail
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **media:thumbnail** element, as specified in [MEDIA RSS 1.1.2].

2.10 media:content element

The media object that is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/media:content
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **media:content** element, as specified in [MEDIA RSS 1.1.2].

2.11 search:jobtitle element

The job title of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:jobtitle
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:jobtitle** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 150 characters, for example, `<search:jobtitle>Software Engineer</search:jobtitle>`.

2.12 search:workphone element

The work-related telephone number of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:workphone
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:workphone** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 100 characters, for example, `<search:workphone>421112222</search:workphone>`.

2.13 search:officenumbers element

The office number of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:officenumbers
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:officenum** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 250 characters, for example, `<search:officenum>Room 2345</search:officenum>`.

2.14 search:workemail element

The work-related e-mail address of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:workemail
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:workemail** element. This element MUST contain an e-mail address of fewer than 256 characters, for example, `<search:workemail>joe@contoso.com</search:workemail>`.

2.15 search:hithighlightedsummary element

A summary description of the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:hithighlightedsummary
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:hithighlightedsummary** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 7000 characters, for example, `<search:hithighlightedsummary>Contoso Web site</search:hithighlightedsummary>`.

2.16 search:responsibility element

The work-related responsibility of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:responsibility
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:responsibility** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 250 characters, for example, `<search:responsibility>sales;marketing</search:responsibility>`.

2.17 search:skills element

The skills of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:skills
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:skills** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 250 characters, for example, `<search:skills>C++;Java</search:skills>`.

2.18 search:schools element

The schools that were attended by the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:schools
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:schools** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 250 characters, for example, `<search:schools>University of Washington;University of Michigan</search:schools>`.

2.19 search:pastprojects element

The past projects of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:pastprojects
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:pastprojects** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 250 characters, for example, `<search:pastprojects>database system;widget system</search:pastprojects>`.

2.20 search:interests element

The interests of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:interests
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:interests** element. This element MUST contain fewer than 250 characters, for example, `<search:interests>golf;hockey</search:interests>`.

2.21 search:dotfileextension element

The file name extension of the file that is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:dotfileextension
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:dotfileextension** element. This element MUST begin with a period (.) and MUST contain fewer than 7 characters, for example, `<search:dotfileextension>.docx</search:dotfileextension>`.

2.22 search:size element

The size, in bytes, of the content that is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:size
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:size** element. This element MUST contain a non-negative number, for example, `<search:size>42</search:size>`.

2.23 search:datepicturetaken element

The date when the picture that is represented by the RSS item was taken.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:datepicturetaken
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:datepicturetaken** element. This element MUST contain a date in an implementation-specific format, such as one of the formats described in [\[MSFT-SHORTDATE\]](#).

2.24 search:hierarchyurl element

The URL of the page that shows the organizational hierarchy for the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:hierarchyurl
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:hierarchyurl** element. This element MUST contain an IRI, as specified in [\[RFC3987\]](#). This element MUST contain fewer than 4,064 characters, for example,

```
<search:hierarchyurl>  
http://servername/my/_layouts/OrganizationView.aspx?ProfileType=User&accountname=smith</search:hierarchyurl>.
```

2.25 search:orgnames element

The names of the organizations that are associated with the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:orgnames
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain an **search:orgnames** element. If there is more than one name in this element, each name MUST be separated by a semicolon. Each name MUST contain fewer than 65,536 characters, for example, `<search:orgnames>Florida marketing;search</search:orgnames>`.

2.26 search:orgurls element

The URLs of the pages that contain information about each of the organizations associated with the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:orgurls
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain a **search:orgurls** element. This element can contain multiple URLs. Each URL MUST correspond to a name in and MUST be in the same order as the **orgnames** (section [2.25](#)) element. Each URL in this element MUST be an IRI, as specified in [\[RFC3987\]](#). If there is more than one URL in this element, each URL MUST be separated by a semicolon (;). Each URL MUST contain fewer than 65,536 characters, for example, `<search:orgurls>`

```
http://servername/my/Organization.aspx?Id=3;http://servername/my/Organization.aspx?Id=4</search:orgurls>.
```

2.27 search:orgparentnames element

The names of the parent organizations of the organizations that are associated with the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:orgparentnames
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain an **search:orgparentnames** element. If there is more than one name in this element, each name MUST be separated by a semicolon (;). Each name in this element MUST contain fewer than 4,064 characters, for example, <search:orgparentnames>east coast marketing;office</search:orgparentnames>.

2.28 search:orgparenturls element

The URLs of the pages that contain information about each of the parent organizations of the person who is represented by the RSS item.

```
/rss/channel/item/search:orgparenturls
```

The RSS 2.0 format extensions extend the **item** element, as specified in [\[RSS 2.0\]](#), such that it SHOULD contain an **search:orgparenturls** element. This element can contain multiple URLs. Each URL in this element MUST correspond to a name in and MUST be in the same order as the **orgparentnames** (section [2.27](#)) element. Each URL in this element MUST be an IRI, as specified in [\[RFC3987\]](#). If there is more than one URL in this element, each URL MUST be separated by a semicolon (;). Each URL MUST contain fewer than 4,064 characters, for example, <search:orgparenturls>http://servername/my/Organization.aspx?Id=8;http://servername/my/Organization.aspx?Id=9</search:orgparenturls>.

3 Structure Examples

3.1 Updates to Content

An implementer might construct the following RSS structure to serialize updates to a list of announcements. This structure example contains a **url** element that contains the server-relative URL of an icon image and an **author** element that contains the display name of the author.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!--RSS generated by Microsoft SharePoint Foundation RSS Generator on 1/20/2010 1:52:30 PM-->
<?xml-stylesheet type="text/xsl" href="/sites/contoso/_layouts/RssXslt.aspx?List=6f773a82-79a2-4466-90cf-b8b9a62b8579" version="1.0"?>
<rss version="2.0">
  <channel>
    <title>Dev: Announcements</title>
    <link>http://contoso/sites/contoso/Lists/Announcements/AllItems.aspx</link>
    <description>RSS feed for the Announcements list.</description>
    <lastBuildDate>Wed, 20 Jan 2010 21:52:30 GMT</lastBuildDate>
    <generator>Microsoft SharePoint Foundation RSS Generator</generator>
    <ttl>60</ttl>
    <image>
      <title>Dev: Announcements</title>
      <url>/sites/contoso/_layouts/images/homepage.ico</url>
      <link>http://contoso/sites/contoso/Lists/Announcements/AllItems.aspx</link>
    </image>
    <item>
      <title>Get Started with Microsoft SharePoint Foundation!</title>
      <link>http://contoso/sites/contoso/Lists/Announcements/DispForm.aspx?ID=1</link>
      <description><![CDATA[<div><b>Body:</b> <div class=ExternalClass8B15BA22772143BDA2549F82584B3758>Microsoft SharePoint Foundation helps you be more effective by connecting people, information, and documents. For information about getting started, see Help.</div></div> <div><b>Expires:</b> 1/20/2010</div> ]]></description>
      <author>Terry Adams</author>
      <pubDate>Wed, 20 Jan 2010 21:41:38 GMT</pubDate>
      <guid isPermaLink="true">http://contoso/sites/contoso/Lists/Announcements/DispForm.aspx?ID=1</guid>
    </item>
  </channel>
</rss>
```

3.2 Search Results

An implementer might construct the following RSS structure to serialize a list of search results for a document search.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<?xml-stylesheet type="text/xsl" href="http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/_layouts/RssXslt.aspx" version="1.0"?>
<rss version="2.0" xmlns:srvt="http://schemas.microsoft.com/WebParts/v3/srchrss/runtime" xmlns:media="http://search.yahoo.com/mrss" xmlns:search="http://schemas.microsoft.com/SharePoint/Search/RSS">
  <channel>
    <title>Search Results: SharePoint</title>
    <link>http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/Pages/results.aspx?k=SharePoint</link>
    <description>Search RSS feed for Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007</description>
```

```

<language>en-US</language>
<lastBuildDate>Fri, 07 Mar 2008 11:05:53 GMT</lastBuildDate>
<generator> Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 RSS Generator</generator>
<ttl>60</ttl>
<image>
  <title>Search Results: SharePoint</title>
  <url>http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/_layouts/images/homepage.gif</url>
  <link>http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/Pages/results.aspx?k=SharePoint</link>
</image>
<item>
  <title>Blog</title>
  <link>http://www.contoso.com/sites/testé/blog</link>
  <description><![CDATA[<div style="margin-top:5px"><link rel="stylesheet"
type="text/css" href="http://www.contonso.com/_layouts/1033/styles/portal.css" /><span
class="srch-Icon"><a href="http://www.contoso.com/sites/testé/blog" title="Blog"></a></span><span class="psrch-Description"><b>SharePoint</b> feed sample
</span><p class="srch-Metadata"><span class="srch-URL"><a
href="http://www.contoso.com/sites/testé/blog"
title="Blog">http://www.contoso.com/sites/testé/blog</a></span></p></div>]]>
  </description>
  <author>Jane Doe</author>
  <pubDate>3/2/2008</pubDate>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>

```

An implementer might construct the following RSS structure to serialize a list of search results for a people search.

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<?xml-stylesheet type="text/xsl"
href="http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/_layouts/RssXslt.aspx" version="1.0"?>
<rss version="2.0" xmlns:srvt="http://schemas.microsoft.com/WebParts/v3/srchrss/runtime"
xmlns:media="http://search.example.com/mrss"
xmlns:search="http://schemas.microsoft.com/SharePoint/Search/RSS">
  <channel>
    <title>Search Results: SharePoint</title>
    <link>http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/Pages/peoplereults.aspx?k=SharePoint</link>
    <description>Search RSS feed for Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007</description>
    <language>en-US</language>
    <lastBuildDate>Fri, 07 Mar 2008 11:05:53 GMT</lastBuildDate>
    <generator>Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 RSS Generator</generator>
    <ttl>60</ttl>
    <image>
      <title>Search Results: SharePoint</title>
      <url>http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/_layouts/images/homepage.gif</url>
    </image>
    <link>http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/Pages/peoplereults.aspx?k=SharePoint</link>
    <item>
      <title>Terry Adams</title>
      <link>http://my/person.aspx?guid=63B67957-5446-4705-9C6F-91376238361E</link>
      <description>![CDATA[<div style="margin-top:5px"><link rel="stylesheet"
type="text/css" href="http://www.contoso.com/SearchCenter/_layouts/1033/styles/search.css"
/><span class="srch-Icon"><a href="http://my/Person.aspx?guid=63B67957-5446-4705-9C6F-
91376238361E" title=""></a></span><span class="psrch-Description"><b>SharePoint</b>

```

```
2007<b>SharePoint</b><b>SharePoint</b> Server 2007<b>SharePoint</b> Products and
TechnologiesWindows <b>SharePoint</b> Services v3Windows <b>SharePoint</b> Services </span><p
class="srch-Metadata"><span class="srch-URL"><a href="http://my/Person.aspx?guid=63B67957-
5446-4705-9C6F-91376238361E" title="">http://my/Person.aspx?guid=63B67957-5446-4705-9C6F-
91376238361E</a></span></p></div>]]>
  </description>
  <search:jobtitle>Senior Software Implementer</search:jobtitle>
  <search:skills>c++;java</search:skills>
  <search:interests>soccer</search:interests>
</item>
</channel>
</rss>
```


4 Security Considerations

4.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

None.

4.2 Index of Security Parameters

None.

5 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:

- Microsoft® SharePoint® Foundation 2010
- Windows® SharePoint® Services 3.0

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.

6 Change Tracking

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

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