

# Proposal for LDAP Brands

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# The Open Group's Role

- Create interoperability testing and conformance evaluations
- Provide and manage certification marks for
  - directories
  - directory-enabled applications
- Allow one-stop shopping because there are multiple marks and existing vendor ISV programs
- Provide a level playing field for branding

# The LDAP Brand Program

- Develop a LDAP test suite(s) to test interoperability between clients and servers
- The branding program is designed by the Directory Program Group and reviewed/approved by Open Group Members
  - program & procedures
  - product standard (definition & tests)
- To be branded, a LDAP vendor would need to
  - pass the test suite(s)
  - contractually commit to maintain compliance to the product standard
  - agree to mediation should two LDAP-branded products not interoperate
- LDAP vendor runs the test suites; gives results to Open Group to audit
- Subsequent product versions from a branded vendor, for the same product standard release, do not necessarily have to be re-tested
  - assumes vendor has not changed any code that affects interoperability
  - vendor submits letter and Open Group normally approves within two working days

# The Technical Details

- Test objective is to verify that directory implementation conforms to the
  - protocol
  - APIs
  - semantics
- Tests are client-server and server-server
  - use/extend BLITS tests as basis for test development
  - cover spec functionality plus extensions and controls that are widely used
  - not for performance benchmarks
  - use existing / define new profiles as necessary, e.g. r/o server, r/w server
- Tests are multi-level (levels of LDAP), for example
  - LDAPv2 (perhaps remove since no longer on IETF standards track?)
  - LDAPv3 MUSTs
  - mandatory authentication methods
  - LDAPv3 SHOULDs (may need to be more granular than all SHOULDs)
- Conformance questionnaires developed per level
- Tests for application programming interfaces
  - LDAP C-API (IETF spec)
  - JAVA API (IETF spec)
  - JNDI
  - other extension APIs for the above set as defined

# The LDAP ISV Application Program

- Develop a LDAP directory-enabled application brand program
- Approved branded vendors and approved third parties can administer and audit results of the directory-enabled certification procedures
  - Open Group with the Directory Program Group will determine the approval criteria
- ISVs can self-administer the certification procedures or have an approved third party do it for them
- Results are:
  - audited (by testing party or optionally by Open Group)
  - administrative checking by Open Group
  - final approval by Open Group normally given within two working days
- ISVs (to maintain brand) must agree to:
  - pass certification procedure
  - maintain their products so certification can be proven at any time
  - if not maintained, only loss is not being able to claim the brand
- In addition to each vendor's own brand / ISV program

# The Technical Details

- Test objective is to verify that applications work as intended against any directory which is Open Group branded
- Tests
  - import/export (LDIF) [could also be part of directory mark]
  - use existing / define new profiles as necessary, e.g. white pages application, certification application
  - include widely-used functionality plus extensions and controls
  - exclude use of unspecified extensions and controls, nonstandard features, or bugs of directory servers

# A Temporary Brand?

- Some level of testing has already occurred
  - directory client-server via DirConnect sessions
  - directory-enabled applications using several directory servers
- Can we provide some temporary label to claim (make visible) that work until the LDAP Brand and LDAP ISV Application Programs are in place?

# Back-up Slides

# What Are Profiles?

- Profiles
  - define what directory functions must be supported by the directory client and server for a given class of application
  - may require use of additional authentication methods, controls, extensions, or plug-ins in addition to base directory functionality
- Profiles currently defined
  - read-only directory server
  - read/write directory server
  - white pages application
  - certification application
- Examples of new profiles
  - pkix (proposal in IETF)
  - web application servers
  - management application