

Directory Certification

Certified Products

Computer Associates International

eTrust Web Access Control 1.0
eTrust PKI 2.0
eTrust Admin 2.01
eTrust Directory 4.1

IBM Corporation

IBM Tivoli Directory Server 5.x

Nexor Limited

Nexor Directory 4.1

Novell, Inc.

Novell eDirectory 8.7.x

Oracle Corporation

Oracle Internet Directory
Version 10g (9.0.4)

Sun Microsystems, Inc.

Sun ONE Directory Server 5.2

Enterprises store and use information about people for many reasons, including internal communications (telephone and email), staff management (HR), and customer management. Directories are acknowledged as the most effective type of data store for this information.

Ideally, an enterprise should have a single directory that is used by all its directory-enabled applications. This avoids data duplication, and makes it easy to update the information base when people join, leave, or change roles. In reality, a typical enterprise has a number of directories and a number of applications that use them.

When applications and directories are designed with a standard interface, an enterprise can more easily:

- Integrate new applications with existing systems – “Plug-and-Play Infrastructure”
- Implement organizational changes
- Make systems interwork with business partners’ systems
- Achieve “One Directory, Many Uses”

The current *de facto* standard interface between directories and applications is the Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP). The Open Group LDAP Certified and LDAP Ready certifications underpin this standard, and enable enterprises to identify and procure interoperable products.

The vendor of an LDAP Certified directory warrants that it conforms to the IETF LDAP Version 3 specifications. The Open Group VSLDAP Test Suite will test this conformance.

The vendor of an LDAP Ready application promises that it will work with any LDAP Certified directory, when it is set up and configured with appropriate schema, security environment, etc. These conditions will be publicly documented, as will the tests carried out to verify interworking.

Insisting on LDAP Certified and LDAP Ready products gives an enterprise:

1. Confidence of interoperability
2. Ability to handle change
3. Lower total cost of ownership

Directory Certification

Advantages of Certification for Application Vendors

Applications must interface to directories because directories are what customers use to store information that they need. This means that the products work in the environment that the customer already has. A standard interface between applications and directories means that an application vendor:

- Has a larger market
- Has lower development costs
- Can sell products more easily, and therefore:
- Has higher sales

By joining the Directory Interoperability Forum and certifying their applications as LDAP Ready, application vendors:

- Can participate in Plugfests and do real-life testing at lower cost
- Give their customers confidence that their products will interwork
- Simplify their sales process
- Increase sales

Advantages of Certification for Server Vendors

The LDAP server market has moved from an early adopter technology to wider market appeal. Delivering a reliable, high performance product that conforms to standards, rather than functional differentiation, is the key to increasing sales. Directories are only one of many types of data store that enterprises can use to house information about the people within their organizations. To sell directories, it is important to establish that directory is the appropriate solution to meet a customer's requirements for ease-of-management and low total cost of ownership. Directory interoperability is crucial to delivering these benefits to customers.

By joining the Directory Interoperability Forum and obtaining the LDAP Certified mark for their products, server vendors will:

- Demonstrate commitment to and compliance with open standards
- Give customers confidence that their products will work with directory-enabled applications, and deliver the benefits that they expect from LDAP solutions
- Promote the concept of directory interoperability through LDAP, growing the overall market for directory products

The Open Brand

Open Brand certification provides the means by which you as a vendor guarantee to buyers that your products do conform to required specifications. Buyers have mandated more than \$65 billion worth of branded products in their procurements. The full Open Brand program currently includes 25 suppliers registering over 1,500 products. The Open Brand program is built around the right to use certain trademarks, on and in connection with certified products. Once you have executed the Open Brand Trademark License Agreement, complied with the relevant specifications, and successfully registered the product, you are entitled to use the trademark in relation to the registered product.

For More Information

Tonya Henderson

US

+1 415 374 8280

+1 408 410 4413 (M)

t.henderson@opengroup.org

Chris Parnell

Europe

+44 (0)118 902 3038

+44 (0)7740 162947 (M)

c.parnell@opengroup.org

Jack Fujieda

Japan

+81 44 221 2180

j.fujieda@opengroup.org

Paul Hickey

Rest-of-World

+1 512 343 0927

+1 512 658 8357 (M)

p.hickey@opengroup.org