



# Update on Sun's OpenID Program

**Gerald Beuchelt**  
Web Services Architect  
Sun Microsystems Inc.



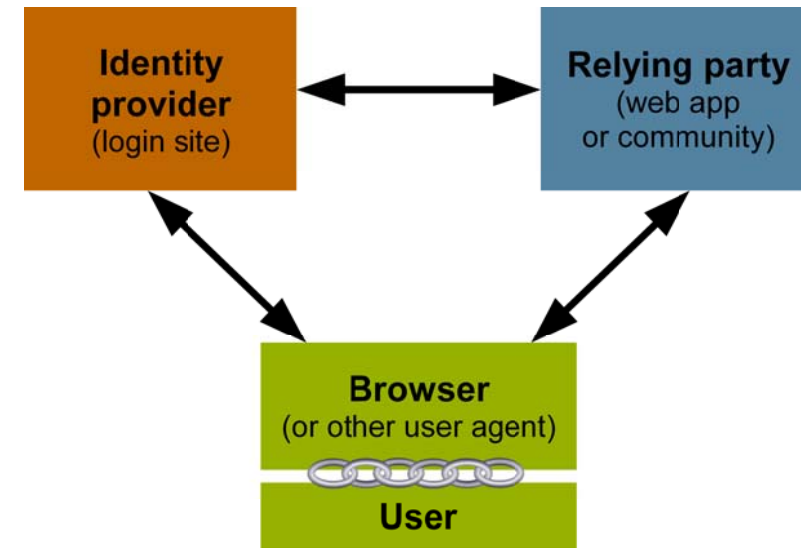
# The login explosion

The image displays a collage of various login forms, illustrating the 'login explosion':

- WordPress:** A blue login form with a 'W' logo, fields for 'Username: admin' and 'Password: \*\*\*\*\*', a 'Remember me' checkbox, and a 'Login »' button.
- TypeKey:** A white login form with a key icon, fields for 'Member name:' and 'Password:', a 'Sign In' button, and a 'Create a FREE TypeKey Account' section with a list of benefits and a 'Create a Free Account' button.
- Amazon:** A search bar with 'Amazon.com' and a 'Sign In' button.
- Amazon Sign In:** A form asking 'What is your e-mail address?' and 'Do you have an Amazon.com password?' with radio buttons for 'No, I am a new customer.' and 'Yes, I have a password:'. It includes a 'Sign in using our secure server' button and links for 'Forgot your password?' and 'Has your e-mail address changed since your last order?'.
- Blogger:** A blue and white login form with the Blogger logo, a 'Blogger Sign In' heading, and fields for 'Username', 'Password', and 'Remember Me'. It features a 'Sign In' button and a 'Forgot your password?' link.
- NetAdmin:** A yellow login form with the 'NetAdmin' logo, fields for 'User ID: nnnnnnn' and 'Password: \*\*\*\*\*', and a 'Log In' button.

# The single sign-on value proposition

- The **user** gets to reuse the “same login” (username and authentication session) with multiple sites
  - > And, often, manage a common profile in one place
- The **relying party** gets to attract more users, delegate authentication tasks, and, often, greatly simplify user record management
  - > While still offering personalization and access control
- The **identity provider** gets to specialize around authentication methods and profile management UIs



# What happened on May 7, 2007?

- Sun announced an *exploratory* program around OpenID
  - > Driven by Sun's Chief Technologist's Office
  - > Supported by product groups and the community
- A Sun employee OpenID IdP
  - > Only full Sun employees will be able to get a `openid.sun.com` OpenID
  - > Employees can use this or delegate from their own web properties
  - > This identifies the holder as Sun employee to 3<sup>rd</sup> parties, e.g. for employee discounts

# OpenID – what is it?

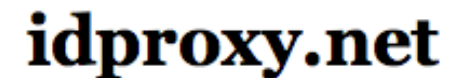
(according to its designers)



*“An open, decentralized, free framework for user-centric digital identity”*

- **open** – open process, open specifications, free from patent encumbrances
- **decentralized** – chose who authenticates you
- **user-centric** - focused around the user, not a directory
- **digital identity** – how the web sees you

# Who's supporting OpenID (or promising to)?



# How does OpenID work?

- An OpenID is simultaneously:
  - > A **unique publicly known identifier** string by which a person's online activities can be correlated
  - > A URL for a **web page about that person** that other people can view
  - > A URL for a page with code that **redirects** an “OpenID consumer” site to the person's “OpenID provider” site – the user can host their own or delegate to a chosen provider
- The provider does **authentication** and may also mediate the exchange of a small set of **attributes**
  - > Time zone, email, date of birth...

# So what about Liberty and SAML?

- OpenID is a very simple and lightweight protocol
  - > In its current form only useful for low-value transactions
  - > Many issues around privacy, phishing, security, etc.
- SAML and Liberty are the underlying technologies for Sun's Identity Management solutions
  - > OpenID cannot replace either technology
  - > But: OpenID can be integrated and address complementary problems

# What will happen next?

- The [openid.sun.com](http://openid.sun.com) IdP will go live within the next few days
  - > Opt-in for employees
- We are working on solutions for easy OpenID relying party enablement
- There are some ideas on how OpenIDs can be used in conjunction with various Liberty services such as the People Service for secure and privacy-enabled attribute exchange

# Resources and Call to Action

- Get the OpenSSO extension for OpenID
  - > <https://opensso.dev.java.net/public/extensions/openid/>
  - > This also deploys to JEE containers with OpenDS backing
- Get ready to accept `openid.sun.com` credentials (and give discounts :-))
- Keep an eye on `developers.sun.com/identity` and `openid.sun.com` for updates

# Blogs & Wikis

- Blogs to watch:

  - <http://www.xmlgrri.com/blog/>

  - <http://blogs.sun.com/hubertsblog/>

  - <http://blog.beuchelt.com>

  - <http://blogs.sun.com/superpat/>

  - <http://www.laurenwood.org/anyway/>

  - <http://blogs.sun.com/treydrake/>

- Wiki

  - > Liberty Concordia

  - <http://wiki.projectliberty.org/index.php/Concordia>

# Q&A



**Gerald Beuchelt**

<http://blog.beuchelt.com>