

# SAMP Status

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IVOA Interop Meeting  
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# Topics

- Web Profile
  - Status of standard
  - Client deployment
  - Hub policy (security)
  - Hub deployment
- Namespace extension (x-samp)
- SAMP v1.3 next steps

# Web Profile

# Web Profile Standard

## ● Basic Mechanisms

- Defined in SAMP 1.3 PR
- Implemented in JSAMP and SAMPy + javascript clients ([working examples](#) available)
- No known issues

## ● Security

- Summary of policy in 1.3 PR; details left to implementations
- Anything more to say?

## ● Web profile clients have trouble transmitting client-generated data (can't host URLs)

- Various solutions proposed:
  - ▷ Hub provides resource hosting (HTTP POST resource → 201 Created)?
  - ▷ Allow content params as alternative to url params? ...
  - ▷ ... possibly automatically cached by hub?
  - ▷ SAMP 2.0?
- No clear winner
- Leave for now?

# Web Profile Client Deployment

- Current status

- Web Profile web application deployment:

- ▷ A few experimental examples (CDS, Bristol, JMMC)
    - ▷ Some development intended for eventual science use (VAO, ESO, ESA)
    - ▷ Interest from elsewhere

- Client-side implementations/toolkits:

- ▷ MBT's javascript toolkit (working, but scrappy ... any offers?)
    - ▷ Any more (javascript or others)?
    - ▷ Is what we have adequate?

- Is there demand for this to be usable now/soon?

- If so, need to ensure deployed hubs are suitably capable and configured

# Web Profile Hub Policy

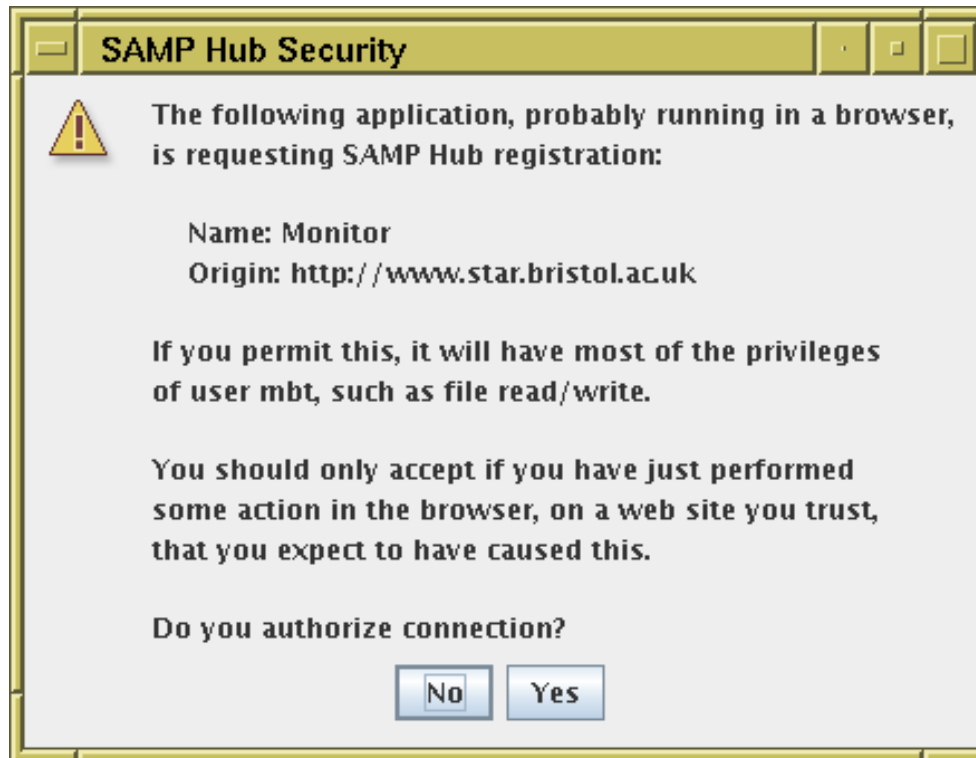
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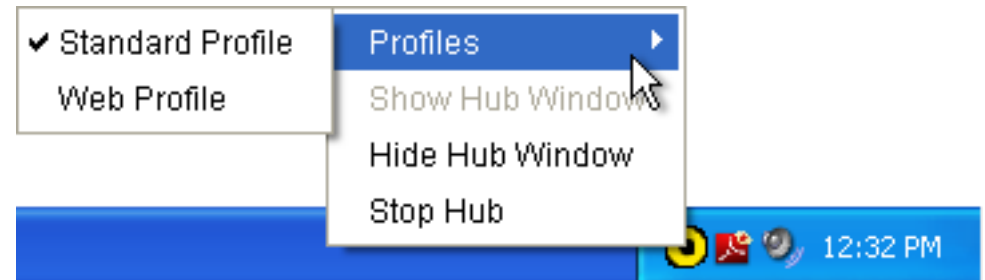
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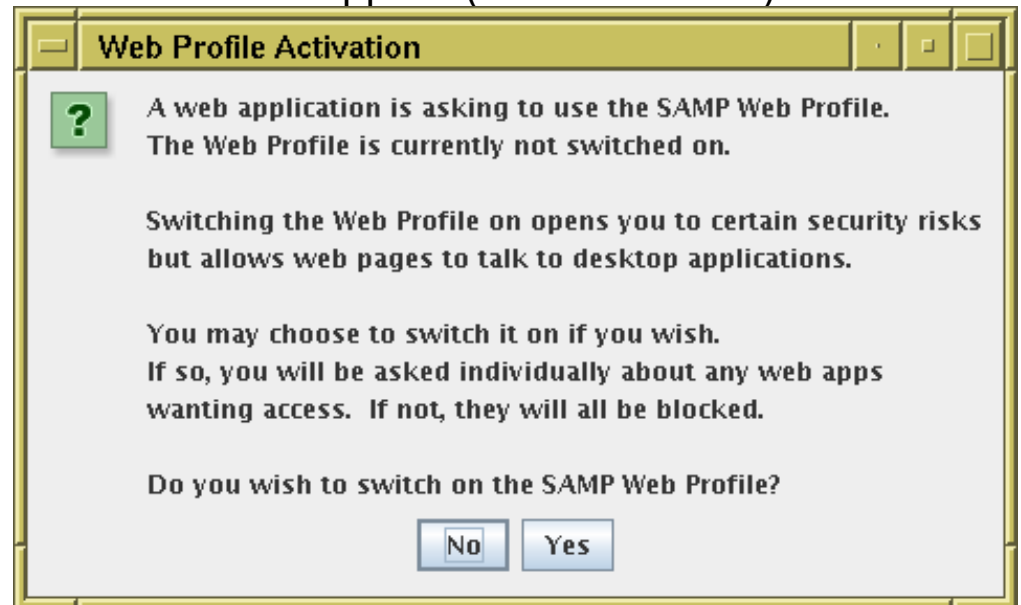


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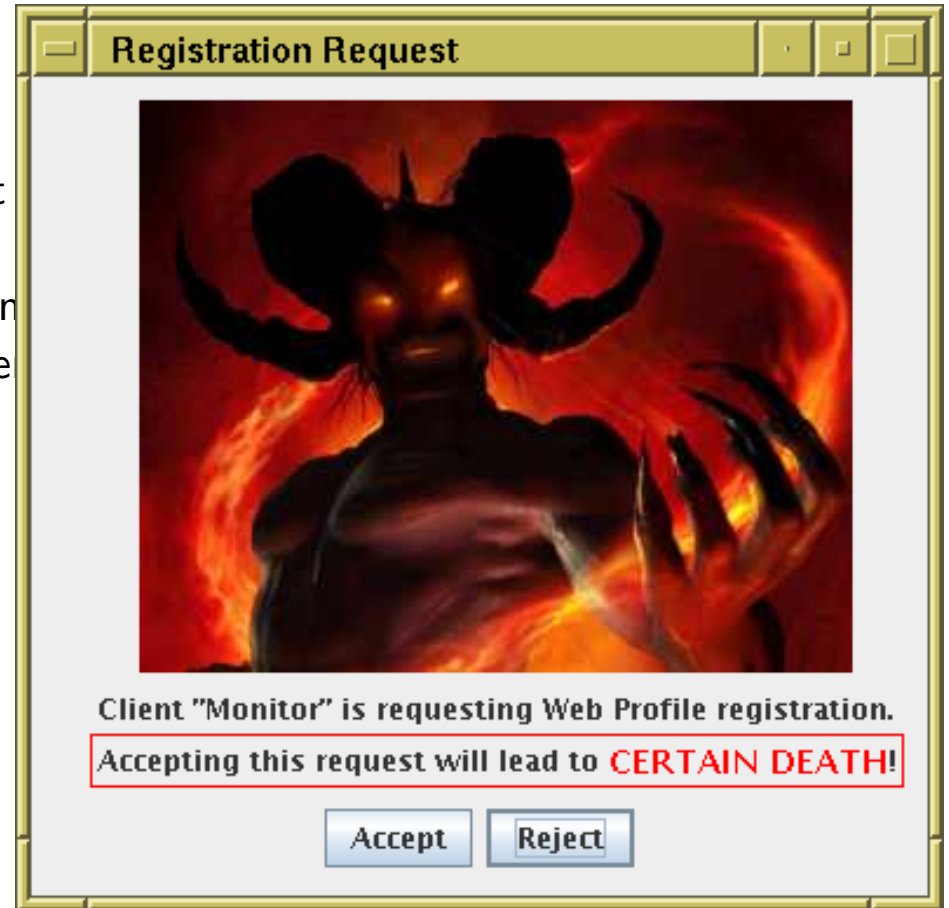


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- Variants of security configuration

- Cross-domain options

- ▷ Allow by default only CORS not Flash/Silverlight?

- reliable hostname

- certificate-based authentication of origin?

- URL translation options

- ▷ Restrict which URLs clients can read? (e.g. block `file:///etc/passwd`)

- Currently left to implementations (JSAMP does some of these)



# Web Profile Hub Deployment

## Implementation

- Ensure that Web Profile is implemented in available hubs:
  - ▷ JSAMP , SAMPy
- Identify hub deployments most often used by target users:
  - ▷ Embedded in popular tools (Aladin, TOPCAT, VOSpec, ...?)
  - ▷ Standalone hubs?
- Ensure those implementations are capable of Web Profile and configured suitably
  - ▷ Action on tool (developers) releasers?
- Are there users who should be using SAMP but are not running hubs?
  - ▷ Can/should we do something about it?

# Namespace Extension

# samp.\* Namespace: Issue

## ● Specific Motivation:

- JMMC application launcher wants to know how to launch SAMP applications
- Call for new well-known Metadata key so clients can say how to do this:
  - ▷ Pointer to registry (`samp.application.identifier` or `samp.ivo-id`)? — but ApplicationRegExt doesn't yet exist
  - ▷ `samp.jnlp.url`? But not everything has JNLP
  - ▷ Something else?
  - ▷ Experimentation desirable

## ● General Motivation:

- Extensible vocabularies with reserved (`samp.`) and unreserved (other) namespaces used often in SAMP
  - MTypes, Metadata keys, registration map, response map, lockfile keys, . . .
- Experimental introduction of well-known (`samp.*`) keys is a general problem
- Often better for client authors to experiment so see what works, rather than dictate
- `samp.*` namespace is reserved, only permitted as defined in SAMP standard
- *[Analogous problems elsewhere in the VO (Semantics)?]*

# samp.\* Namespace: Options

## Options:

- Introduce in `samp` namespace only at new versions of SAMP document
  - ▷ Heavyweight process, long delays
- Use `samp` namespace without mention in standard
  - ▷ Illegal
  - ▷ May introduce `samp.*` keys that prove ill-considered
- Introduce in unreserved namespace, promote to `samp` later
  - ▷ Applications need to change when change takes place
  - ▷ . . . unless unreserved → reserved transition is predictable

# Proposed `x-samp.*` Namespace

## ● Proposal

- Proposed new keys introduced in `x-samp` namespace
- Client authors etc can experiment with them, see what works (anyone can introduce `x-samp` keys)
- **Consumers should treat `x-samp.a.b` and `samp.a.b` exactly the same**
- In future, if everybody agrees `x-samp.a.b` is a good idea:
  - ▷ Add `samp.a.b` to standard when convenient (next standard version)
  - ▷ Producers gradually move from sending `x-samp.a.b` to `samp.a.b` when convenient (new software release)
  - ▷ Consumers which recognise both forms continue to work without changes during and after transition

## ● Benefits

- Provides orderly and painless transition from experimental to official extensions, driven by successful usage rather than committee decision
- Useful model for extensibility in other VO standards with reserved namespaces?

# Actions

# SAMP v1.3 Schedule

Has been put back a bit

- (mostly) to accommodate useful discussions

New schedule:

- Full speed ahead?
  - ▷ Revised PR shortly after this meeting
  - ▷ RFC November
  - ▷ REC near start 2012?
- Or wait for more discussion/implementation/consensus?
  - ▷ Revised WD shortly after this meeting?