

RFP Q&A IMAP Server 23 Jun 14

Questions and Answers to the IMAP Server RFP 27 June 2014.

Q1. 3. A test suite exercising the server verifying the requirements in RFC 7017. These tests will include (but are not limited to):

Are you expecting an automated test suite that works over the wire?
Can such a test suite be provided by a third party (e.g. an open source test suite, possibly modified)?

A1. Yes & yes.

Q2. a. Retrieving messages
i. With and without attachments
ii. With and without logging in

There are very few servers that would let users do anything without authentication. Almost no user clients would let users configure accounts with no authentication information. Some clients/server support SASL ANONYMOUS (RFC 4505) or LOGIN using a special username, where the password is ignored. Did you mean one of these mechanisms when you wrote "without logging in"?

A2. Yes, we meant anonymous access. The specific requirement is at the end of section 2 of RFC7017. Unauthenticated users are not allowed to make annotations such as read and unread.

Q3. e. Verifying that per-user quotas for annotation data are enforced
Is support for IMAP ANNOTATE [RFC5257] and METADATA [RFC5464] mandatory? RFC 7017 listed them as desired, but not required features. I am not aware of any email client that supports these extension, so testing compliance is going to be interesting.

A3. The requirement is that users that have provided credentials be able to mark messages as read or unread. Allowing other annotations is desirable, but not required. The suggested methods are only suggestions - other designs meeting the requirement will be acceptable.

Q4. The directories will contain subdirectories used for the web-based archive access tool and archive management tasks. This project will ignore all

subdirectories below the list directory level.

Is IMAP server allowed to create and manage its own subdirectories below the list directory level?

A4. The server will be able to create directories and files. A solution that does so must identify the subdirectory names that are used to ensure that there are no conflicts.

Q5. What are available APIs and protocol interfaces for user authentication?

A5. If the implementation is in python, you can use the django authentication interfaces directly. We can provide a custom wrapper for those interfaces.

Q6. Is there any expectation that the company that delivers the IMAP server for IETF archive browsing/searching also runs it as a service for IETF?

A6. No, the service will be run by the IETF Secretariat.