# SAML:The Cross-Domain SSO Use Case

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Identity-Based Security Solutions

# Railroad Industry

**"It is a very sad thing unquestionably that railways, which mechanically have succeeded beyond anticipation and are quite wonderful for their general utility and convenience, should have failed commercially."**

**The Economist, 1857**

# The Golden Spike

**The Central Pacific and Union Pacific meet at Promontory Summit, Utah**

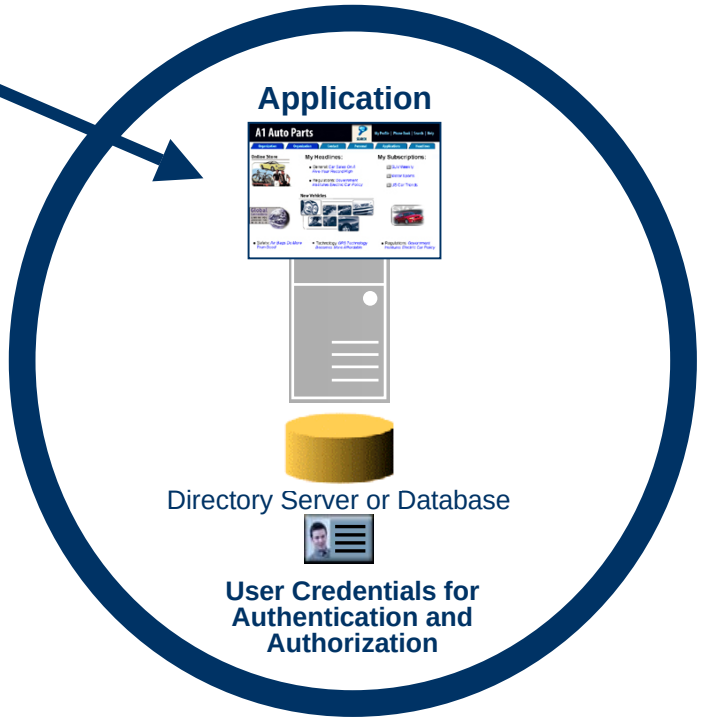
**May 10th, 1869**

# Agenda


- Web Security Primer
- Security and Interoperability
- SAML Background
- Airline Industry Case Study
- Lessons Learned
- SAML and Identity Management
- Business Drivers
- SAML Readiness

# Web Security Primer – User Access

User provides credentials to authenticate and generate session.

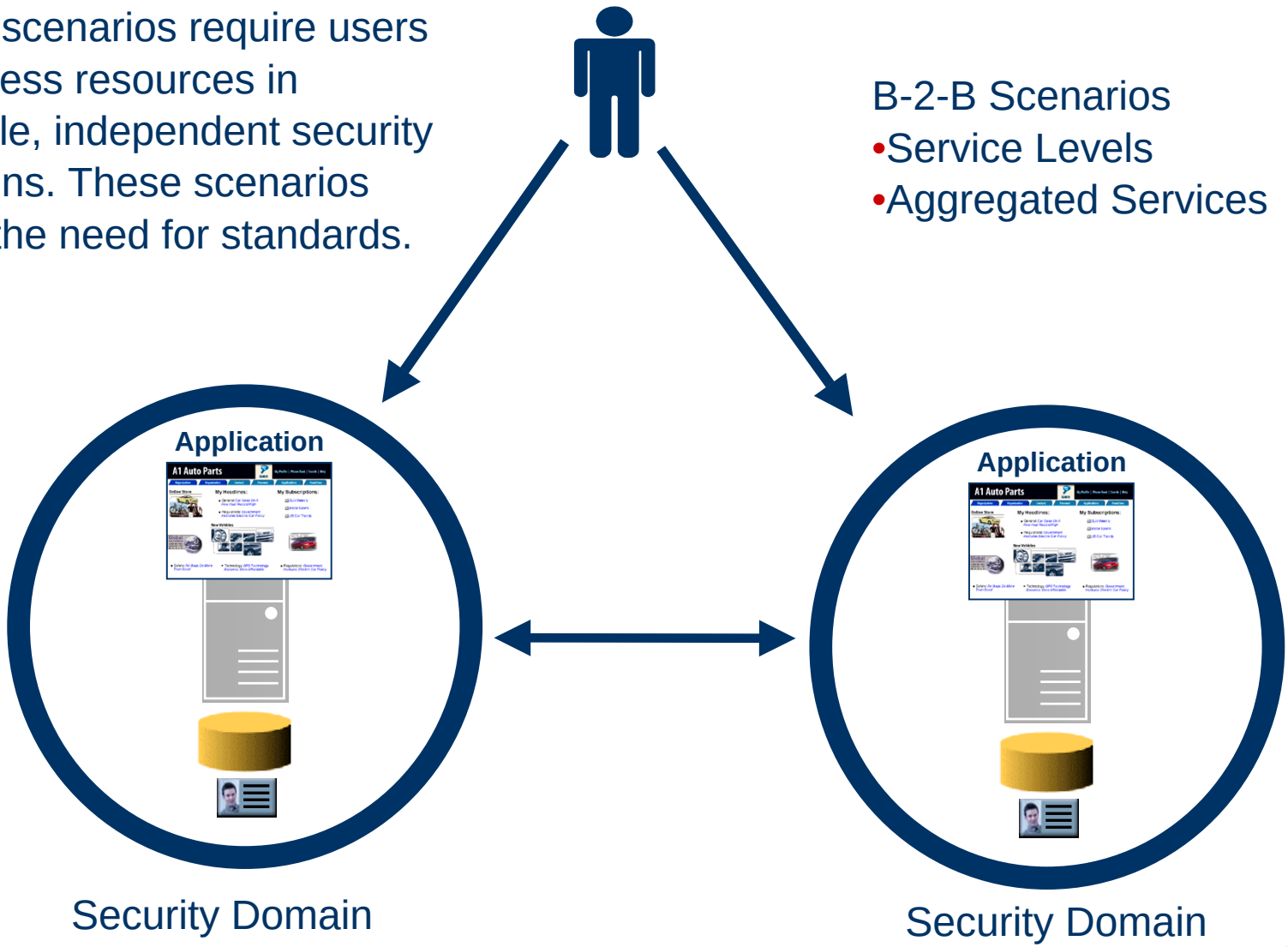



Security Domain

- Policy Enforcement Point (PEP)
- Policy Decision Point (PDP)

# Web Security and Interoperability

Many scenarios require users to access resources in multiple, independent security domains. These scenarios drive the need for standards.




B-2-B Scenarios
- Service Levels
- Aggregated Services

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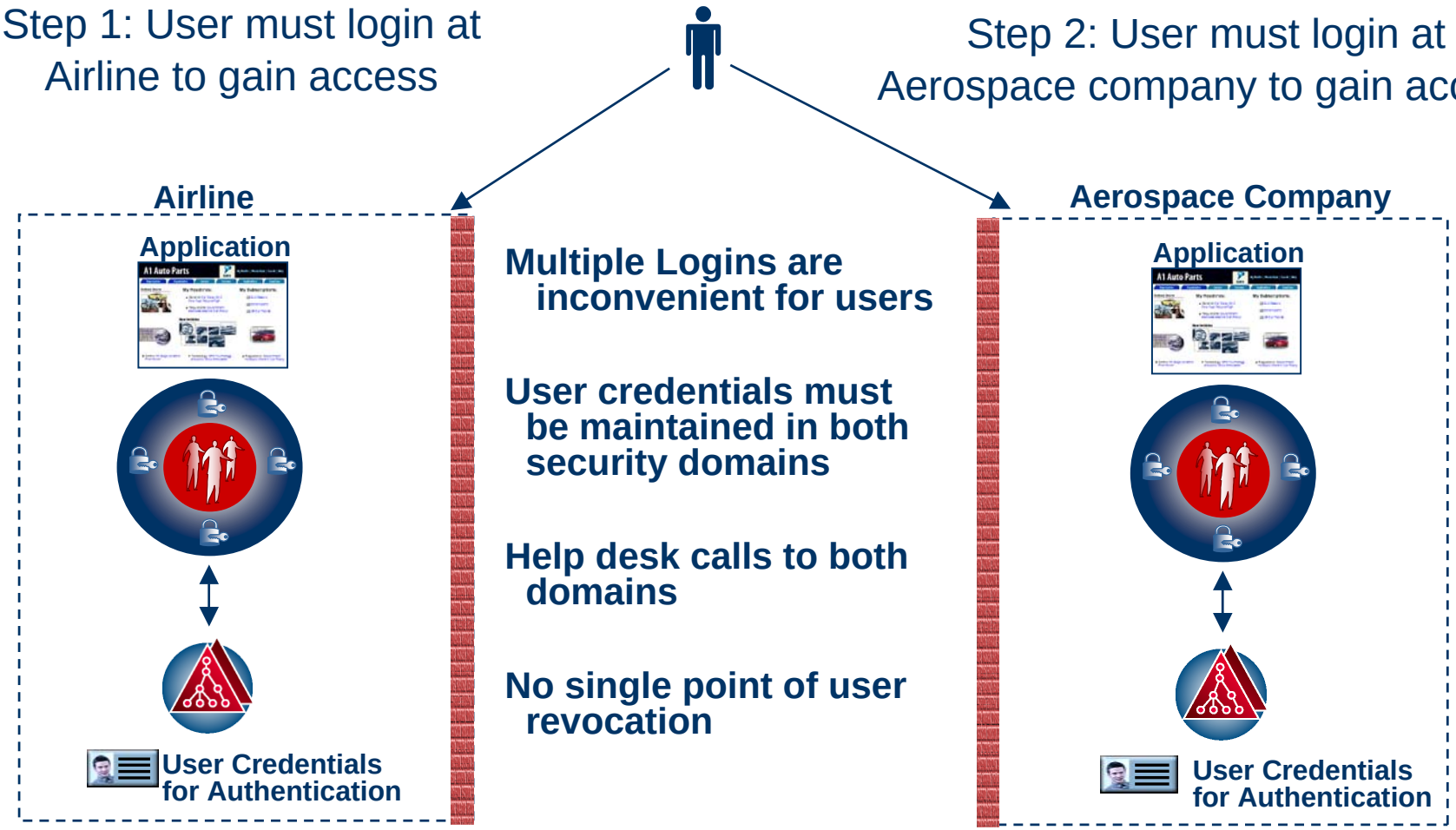
# SAML Background

- Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML)
  - Defines XML schema for security assertions and protocol.
  - Became an official OASIS standard in November, 2002.
- SAML Assertions
  - Authentication
  - Authorization
  - Attribute
- SAML and Cross Domain SSO
- Related Web Services Standards
  - Liberty Alliance
  - WS-Security
  - XACML
  - SPML

# Airline Industry Case Study

Step 1: User must login at Airline to gain access

Step 2: User must login at Aerospace company to gain access




**Multiple Logins are inconvenient for users**

**User credentials must be maintained in both security domains**

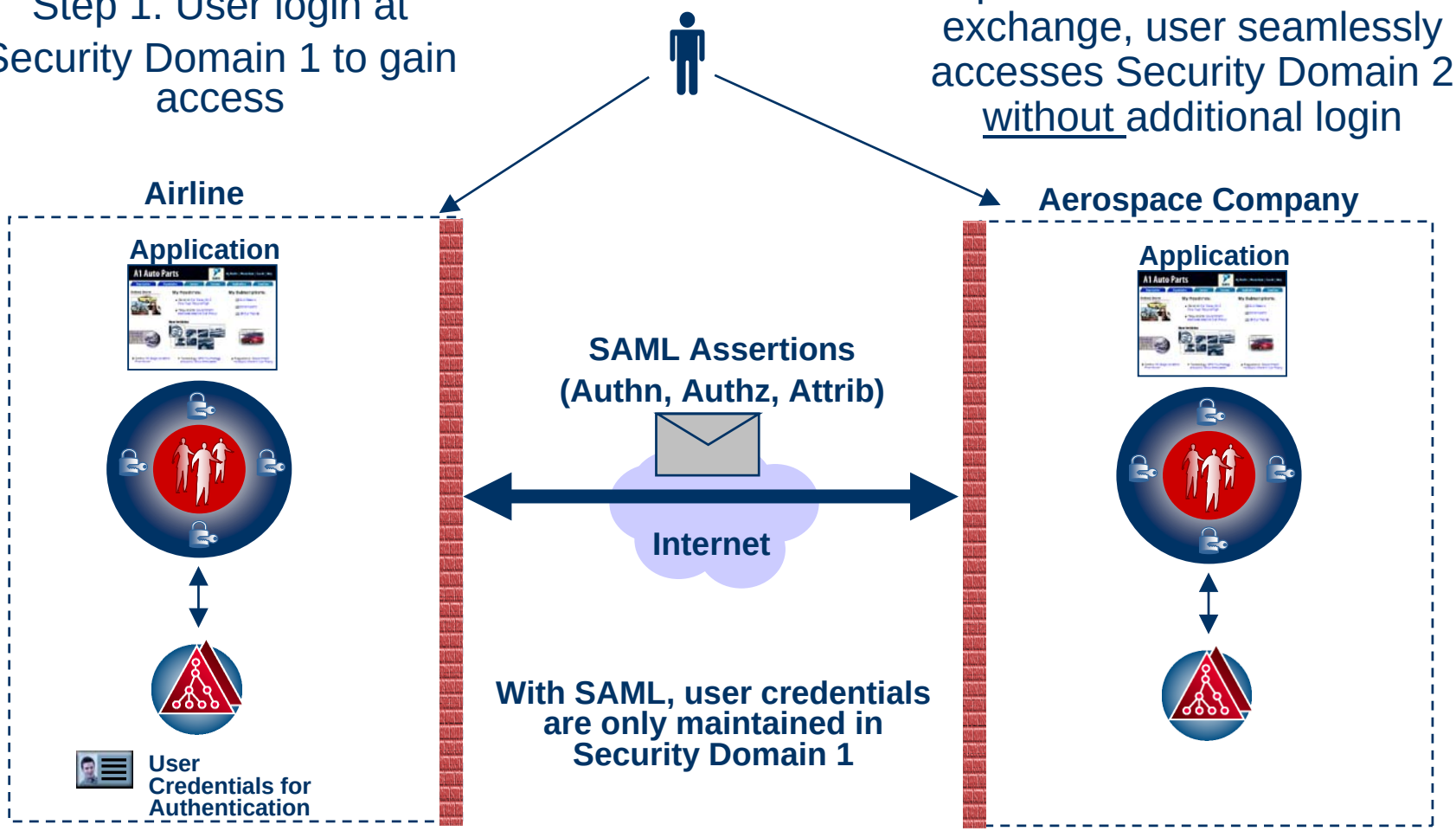
**Help desk calls to both domains**

**No single point of user revocation**

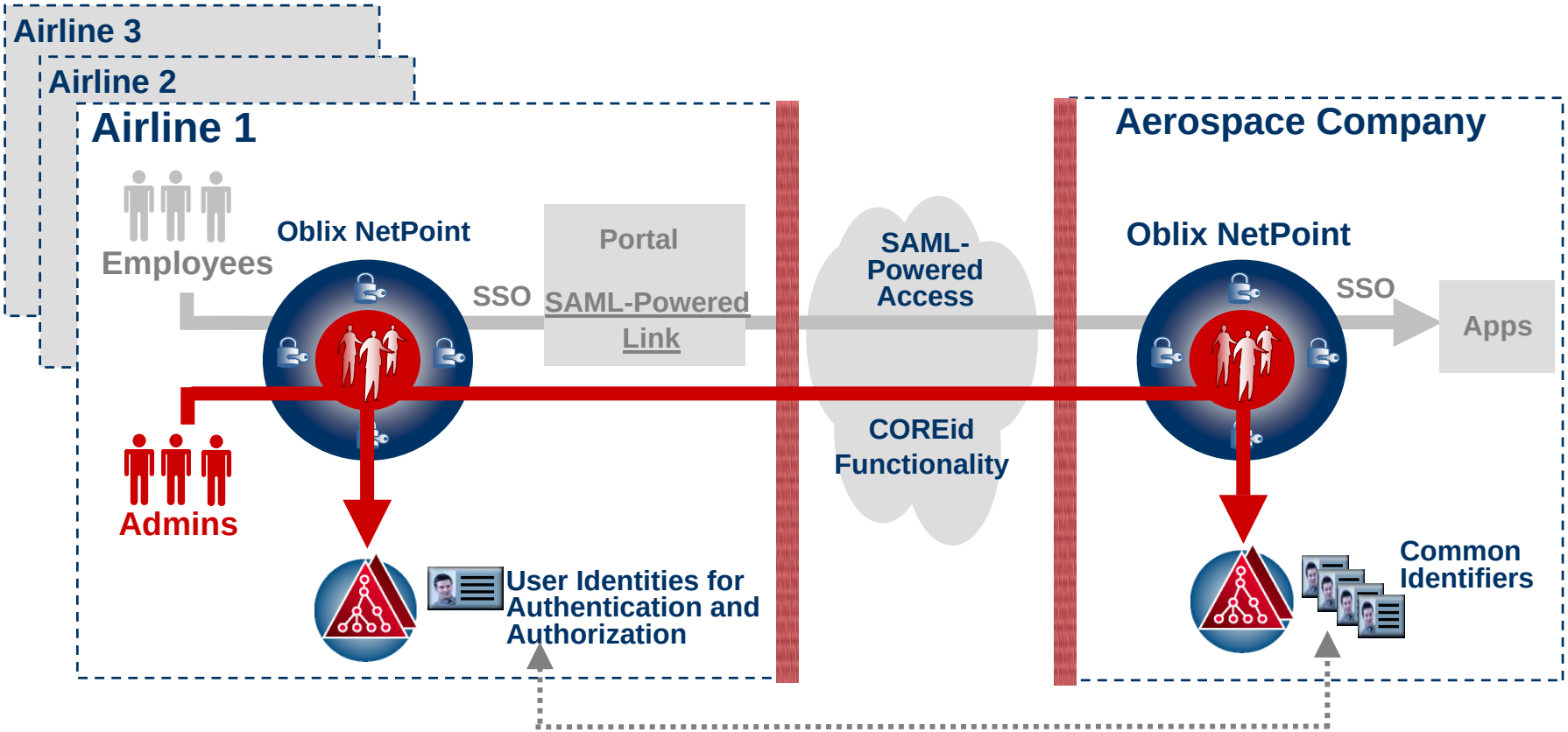
# Airline Industry Case Study

Step 1. User login at Security Domain 1 to gain access

Step 2. After SAML assertion exchange, user seamlessly accesses Security Domain 2 without additional login



# Airline Industry Case Study



# Lessons Learned

- **Project Plan Should Include "Out of Band" Considerations:**
  - **Coordination**
    - **Intra Company Processes**
  - **Technical Integration**
    - **PKI**
  - **Attention to Detail**
    - **Shared Support**
    - **Common Identifiers**
  - **Ongoing Administration**
    - **Identity Management**

# SAML and Cross Domain Identities

- Users in Common Model
- Ongoing Identity Administration
  - User Lifecycle
  - Entitlements
- Delegated Administration
- Workflow
- Self-Service
- Identity Web Services

# SAML Business Drivers

- **Significant Business Impact**
  - **Cost Avoidance/Reduction**
  - **Improved User Experience**
  - **Embedded Services**

  - **Opportunity for IT/Business Partnership**

# SAML Readiness Assessment

- Survey Existing B2B Relationships
  - User Experience
  - Administration Structure
    - Help Desk
    - Password Reset
  - Existing Security Model

# NetPoint SAML Services

- In Production
- Support for Inbound and Outbound SAML
- Tightly Integrated With COREid
  - Leading solution for delegated admin, self-service, self-registration
  - Identity Web Services (IdentityXML)
- Support for Bookmarked URL's
- Support for Domain Verification
- Domain Aware Error Messages

# Discussion

For More Information:

- Oblix Web Site
  - http://www.oblix.com
- OASIS SAML Information
  - http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/wss/