

# INCOMMON UPDATE

News from InCommon for the 2011 Internet2 Fall Member Meeting

## InCommon®

### FALL 2011

#### Assurance Program Moving to Deployment



The InCommon Assurance program is rapidly moving towards certifying campuses for Bronze and Silver Identity Assurance Profiles.

Here are some of the activities underway: 1) the first Silver services are being identified and pilot plans developed; 2) a group of InCommon staff, identity managers and auditors developed a charter for, and detailed procedures for, the community committee to review the applications; 3) interoperability testing has begun between CI Logon and several campuses; 4) implementation toolkits are being developed for identity providers and their auditors, as well as service providers; and 5) InCommon is in touch with several

groups of schools working together to apply for certification in 2012. For more information, visit [www.incommon.org/assurance](http://www.incommon.org/assurance)

#### AdmitMe Project Aims at Simplifying Admissions, Pre-Admissions Processes

InCommon and PESC are partnering on a new endeavor, called AdmitMe, to provide streamlined access for high school students applying to college. The goals include providing identity-proofed, single sign-on access across corporate, government, and higher education sites during the admissions process. Participants include the College Board, ACT, Common Application, and several individual institutions.

<https://spaces.internet2.edu/x/L6SKAQ>

#### Remote Proofing Topic of Survey

The InCommon Student Services collaboration group completed a survey concerning remote identity proofing practices at campuses, in

the face of the growth of distance learning programs that serve students who may never set foot on campus. The survey uncovered a wide variation in the way remote identity proofing takes place – and none are very rigorous. The results will be published in College & University magazine.

#### State Consortia Provide Template Agreements

Higher education consortia in Maryland (MEEC) and Pennsylvania (PASSHE) have become the latest statewide organizations to negotiate a template participation agreement with InCommon. The goal is to review and revise (as necessary) the agreement once, which then allows all members of the consortium to sign an agreement that has already been vetted.

#### Research Organizations—New Participant Category



Several U.S. energy labs, along with other research labs and virtual organizations, have joined InCommon under a new participant category: research organizations. Like the “higher

education” category, research organizations have the ability to deploy an identity provider and service providers, as well as sponsor partners into InCommon. To date, InCommon has 12 research organization participants. [www.incommon.org/participants](http://www.incommon.org/participants)

#### Certificate Service at 126; Client, Code Signing Certificates Rolled Out

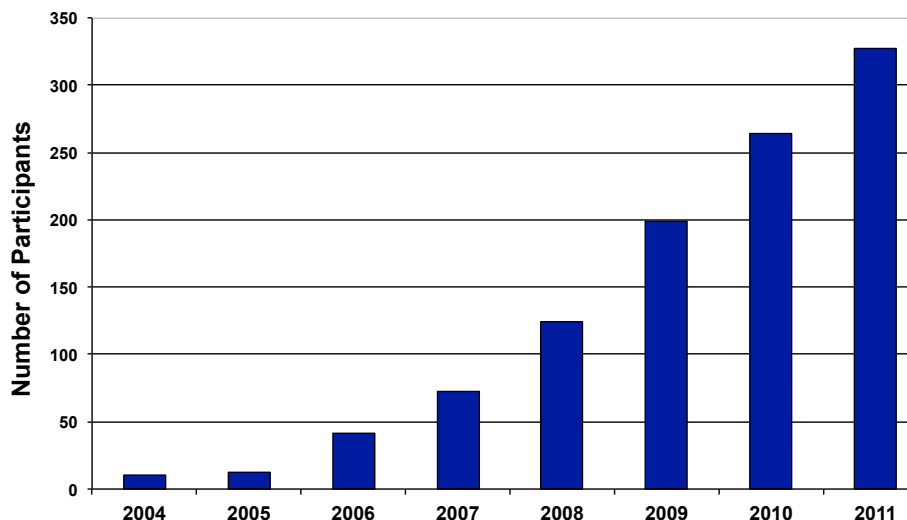


The InCommon Certificate Service, now in its second year, rolled out client (personal) and code signing certificates during the summer of 2011. The Certificate Service, now with more than 125 subscribers, provides unlimited SSL (including extended validation) certificates, client (personal) certificates, and code signing certificates for one fixed annual fee. Colleges and universities in the U.S. can obtain certificates for all domains they own (including .edu, .net, .org, .com, and others). [www.incommon.org/cert](http://www.incommon.org/cert)

#### InCommon Participation Growth

InCommon continues to grow and now includes 327 participants (higher ed, research organizations, and sponsored partners). The InCommon Certificate Service has 126 subscribers.

InCommon Participants Year-by-Year



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## InCommon Federation Operations Updates

### New Metadata Elements Deployed

InCommon has rolled out new metadata elements aimed at delivering additional information about identity providers and service providers. These are also a precursor to supporting user consent. By early 2012, these metadata elements will be used to populate web pages to display a service name and description, links to additional information and privacy statements, logos, and requested attributes. Both identity providers and service providers are encouraged to deploy these elements, which are described at <https://spaces.internet2.edu/x/2YGKAQ>

### Recommended Federating Practices Published

The InCommon Federation has presented a draft of recommended practices for

participants, with the goal of making it easier to federate and to take full advantage of federation services. Examples include providing certain information in metadata, improving the user experience, and maintaining supported software. The practices were released during the 2011 CAMP (June 2011 in Columbus, Ohio) and continue to be refined. <https://spaces.internet2.edu/x/Z4AXAQ>

### Simplifying SP Onboarding

The InCommon Technical Advisory Committee is working on streamlining access to a set of service providers, particularly when the attribute requirements go beyond an opaque identifier. The first case will involve categorizing a set of service providers as “research and scholarship,” and defining a set of attributes that are automatically requested (by SPs) and released (by IdPs) in this category.

## Upcoming Events

### IAM Online: Governance and Identity Management

Please join us for the next IAM Online webinar, “Governance of Identity and Access Management at Institutions of Higher Education,” Weds., Oct. 12, at 3 p.m. (EDT). Brendan Bellina, Matthew Dalton, and Keith Hazelton will explore a variety of governance approaches and offer advice on getting started, gaining momentum, and sustaining efforts. IAM Online is a monthly series delivering interactive education, produced by InCommon, in cooperation with Internet2 and the EDUCAUSE Identity and Access Management Working Group. [www.incommon.org/iamonline](http://www.incommon.org/iamonline)

### EDUCAUSE Annual Meeting, October 18-20

If you are going to the EDUCAUSE Annual Conference in Philadelphia (October 18-21)—or participating online—you’ll find a strong federation and IAM presence. Sessions include a pre-conference Day CAMP: Getting Started with Identity Management and an InCommon Update with Steering chair Jack Suss. Other sessions will cover the assurance program, the new federal NSTIC program, and a market research night focused on federations. [www.educause.edu/E2011](http://www.educause.edu/E2011)

### Shibboleth Installation Workshops, Nov. 7-8

The next Shibboleth Workshop Series will take place Nov. 7-8, 2011, at the California State University Chancellor’s Office in Long Beach, California. Attendees leave the sessions with installed instances of Shibboleth for either the identity provider, service provider, or both. Details and registration are available at [www.incommon.org/educate/shibboleth](http://www.incommon.org/educate/shibboleth)

## ABOUT InCOMMON

### Benefits—Federation

- ★ InCommon supports web-based distributed authentication and authorization services, such as controlled access to protected content resources.
- ★ Participants exchange information in a standardized format, reducing or removing the need to repeat integration work for each new resource.
- ★ Access decisions and user privacy controls are decided on a case-by-case basis for each resource, providing higher security and more granular control.
- ★ Reduced account management overhead by eliminating the need for separate accounts
- ★ Campus and company IT professionals provide protected content to multiple organizations using a single authentication framework.
- ★ The home institution controls when an identity is disclosed, and how much information is revealed.

### Benefits—Certificate Service

- ★ Unlimited certificates for a fixed annual fee; takes the guesswork out of budgeting.
- ★ Includes all of your domains (.edu and non-edu alike)
- ★ With Comodo’s certificate manager, certificates are easy to order and install.
- ★ More than 125 subscribers have generated tens of thousands of certificates.

### Who Can Join InCommon?

Any accredited two- or four-year higher education institution can join InCommon. Higher education and research organization participants can sponsor their online service providers.

InCommon is operated by Internet2. Participation is separate and distinct from membership in Internet2.

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[www.incommon.org](http://www.incommon.org)