

User-Managed Access (UMA)

Kantara UMA Work Group
<http://tinyurl.com/umawg>



This presentation aims to whet your appetite for solving truly interesting and challenging problems of privacy-enabled data-sharing, by introducing you to the new User-Managed Access technology.

Privacy is not about secrecy

“

The goal of a flexible, user-centric identity management infrastructure must be to allow the user to quickly determine what information will be revealed to which parties and for what purposes, how trustworthy those parties are and how they will handle the information, and what the consequences of sharing their information will be”

– Ann Cavoukian, Information and Privacy Commissioner of Ontario,
Privacy in the Clouds paper

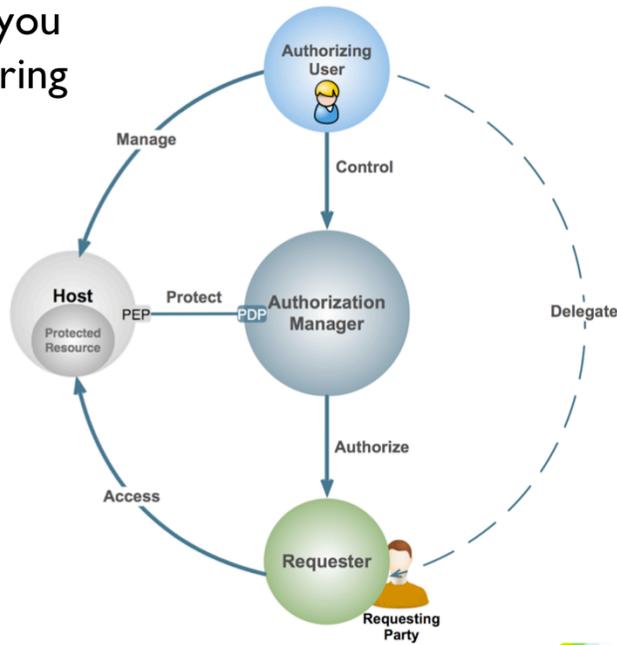


It's about context, control, choice, and respect

This quote from Ann Cavoukian perfectly captures the aspirations of many of us who have been working at the nexus of self-determination, identity, privacy, online data-sharing, and trust. What many people mean when they say “quickly determine” is to “quickly find out” – to “be disclosed to”. With our work on User-Managed Access, we’re trying to expand it to mean to “quickly control” –to “have an effect on”. This is a big leap. It’s not easy, but we’ve made a lot of progress.

UMA enables you to manage sharing and protect access from a single hub

Think of it as a digital footprint dashboard



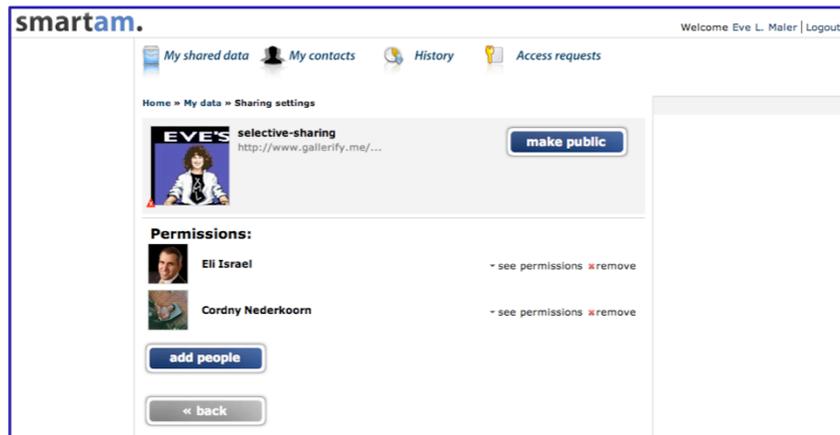
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Today we see individuals sharing data with themselves, so to speak, by connecting two applications that operate on the same person's behalf. For example, Twitter enables this when you allow third-party applications like Backupify or Tweetizen to do things with your Twitter stream. It uses OAuth to accomplish this.

We also see people sharing things like calendars and photo albums selectively with friends by having the web app email so-called private URLs to these people. This is effective, but not very secure.

We need a unified way to **securely and meaningfully control**, and get a **global view** on, sharing in all these cases – and more, including sharing with organizations such as health care providers and e-commerce companies. UMA does this by building on top of the OAuth technology already in wide use.

SMARTAM.net is a real running authorization manager



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A team at Newcastle University has deployed a beta version of an UMA-compliant authorization manager at SMARTAM.net. It works with a corresponding set of UMA-compliant host and requester applications. You can store photos at a site called gallerify.me but control their access over at SMARTAM.net. You can require that requesting parties prove who they are, and you can also require them to agree to your photo licensing terms before they get access. The Newcastle University team has begun to open-source their UMA implementation.

In a nutshell, UMA is...

- A web protocol that lets you control authorization of data sharing and service access
- A [Work Group](#) of the [Kantara Initiative](#) that is free for anyone to [join](#) and contribute to
- A [set](#) of draft specifications that is free for anyone to implement
- Undergoing multiple [implementation](#) efforts
- Slated to be contributed to the IETF shortly
- [Striving](#) to be simple, [OAuth](#)-based, identifier-agnostic, RESTful, modular, generative, and developed rapidly

Thank you

Become an UMANitarian today!

<http://tinyurl.com/umawg>



If you have any questions, feel free to get in touch with the group chair, Eve Maler, at eve@xmlgrrl.com.