

Controlling the Assertion Consumer Service URLs

Introduction

The `web.xml` now supports a number of `context-param[s]` which allow you to control the value of the `AssertionConsumerService` URLs used by `atac-ama-java`.

Typical examples of situations where you might wish to use this is where you are using a load balancer to receive the request, or the service is behind some form of proxy. This would result in problems with requests being re-written to the web server (rather than the load balancer) unless you set context parameters shown below. There is an example at the end of the page.

Context parameters

Use canonical hostname

Directive: `OA_USE_CANONICAL_HOSTNAME`

Value: `True|False`

Default: `True`

Description: When set to `true` the `ServerModule` will attempt to obtain the canonical hostname via DNS. When set to `false` the hostname will be obtained from the `HOST` header value contained in the client request.

(Will be overridden by `OA_OVERRIDE_HOSTNAME` if set)

E.g:

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>OA_USE_CANONICAL_HOSTNAME</param-name>
  <param-value>>false</param-value>
</context-param>
```

Override hostname

Directive: `OA_OVERRIDE_HOSTNAME`

Value: text, e.g: `overridden.com`

Default: `none`

Description: When specified this value will be used as the hostname.

E.g:

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>OA_OVERRIDE_HOSTNAME</param-name>
  <param-value>overridden.com</param-value>
</context-param>
```

Override schema

Directive: `OA_OVERRIDE_SCHEME`

Value: `http|https`

Default: `none`

Description: When specified this value will be used as the schema.

(The default port for the given schema will be applied unless the `OA_OVERRIDE_PORT` has been specified)

E.g:

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>OA_OVERRIDE_SCHEME</param-name>
  <param-value>http</param-value>
</context-param>
```

Override port

Directive: OA_OVERRIDE_PORT

Value: An integer between 1 and 65535

Default: none

Description: When specified this value will be used as the port.

E.g:

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>OA_OVERRIDE_PORT</param-name>
  <param-value>8080</param-value>
</context-param>
```

Example use case

These directives are useful when Service Providers wish to run atacama-java behind a load balancer or proxy.

1. The user makes a request to <https://sp.example.com/oa/auth/rcv>
2. This request is handled by the load balancer which passes the request to one of the back end servers. This will normally result in the request being rewritten to the web server (e.g. <http://10.0.0.1:8080/oa/auth/rcv>). The change of host, port and schema will cause the response obtained from the users identity provider to be discarded.

This can be fixed by adding the following to the web.xml:

```
<context-param>
  <param-name>OA_OVERRIDE_HOSTNAME</param-name>
  <param-value>sp.example.com</param-value>
</context-param>

<context-param>
  <param-name>OA_OVERRIDE_SCHEME</param-name>
  <param-value>https</param-value>
</context-param>
```

We don't need to override the port in this case because the default https port (443) will be assumed based on the schema override.