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NAME

SSL - OpenSSL SSL/TLS library

SYNOPSIS

DESCRIPTION

The OpenSSL **ssl** library implements the Secure Sockets Layer (SSL v2/v3) and Transport Layer Security (TLS v1) protocols. It provides a rich API which is documented here.

At first the library must be initialized; see [SSL_library_init](#).

Then an **SSL_CTX** object is created as a framework to establish TLS/SSL enabled connections (see [SSL_CTX_new](#)). Various options regarding certificates, algorithms etc. can be set in this object.

When a network connection has been created, it can be assigned to an **SSL** object. After the **SSL** object has been created using [SSL_new](#), [SSL_set_fd](#) or [SSL_set_bio](#) can be used to associate the network connection with the object.

Then the TLS/SSL handshake is performed using [SSL_accept](#) or [SSL_connect](#) respectively. [SSL_read](#) and [SSL_write](#) are used to read and write data on the TLS/SSL connection. [SSL_shutdown](#) can be used to shut down the TLS/SSL connection.

DATA STRUCTURES

Currently the OpenSSL **ssl** library functions deals with the following data structures:

SSL_METHOD (SSL Method)

That's a dispatch structure describing the internal **ssl** library methods/functions which implement the various protocol versions (SSLv3 TLSv1, ...). It's needed to create an **SSL_CTX**.

SSL_CIPHER (SSL Cipher)

This structure holds the algorithm information for a particular cipher which are a core part of the SSL/TLS protocol. The available ciphers are configured on a **SSL_CTX** basis and the actually used ones are then part of the **SSL_SESSION**.

SSL_CTX (SSL Context)

That's the global context structure which is created by a server or client once per program life-time and which holds mainly default values for the **SSL** structures which are later created for the connections.

SSL_SESSION (SSL Session)

This is a structure containing the current TLS/SSL session details for a connection: **SSL_CIPHER**s, client and server certificates, keys, etc.

SSL (SSL Connection)

That's the main SSL/TLS structure which is created by a server or client per established connection. This actually is the core structure in the SSL API. Under run-time the application usually deals with this structure which has links to mostly all other structures.

HEADER FILES

Currently the OpenSSL **ssl** library provides the following C header files containing the prototypes for the data structures and and functions:

ssl.h

That's the common header file for the SSL/TLS API. Include it into your program to make the API of the **ssl** library available. It internally includes both more private SSL headers and headers from the **crypto** library. Whenever you need hard-core details on the internals of the SSL API, look inside this header file.

ssl2.h

That's the sub header file dealing with the SSLv2 protocol only. *Usually you don't have to include it explicitly because it's already included by ssl.h.*

ssl3.h

That's the sub header file dealing with the SSLv3 protocol only. *Usually you don't have to include it explicitly because it's already included by ssl.h.*

tls1.h

That's the sub header file dealing with the TLSv1 protocol only. *Usually you don't have to include it explicitly because it's already included by ssl.h.*

API FUNCTIONS

Currently the OpenSSL **ssl** library exports 214 API functions. They are documented in the following:

DEALING WITH PROTOCOL METHODS

Here we document the various API functions which deal with the SSL/TLS protocol methods defined in **SSL_METHOD** structures.

const SSL_METHOD ***SSLv3_client_method**(void);

Constructor for the SSLv3 SSL_METHOD structure for a dedicated client.

const SSL_METHOD ***SSLv3_server_method**(void);

Constructor for the SSLv3 SSL_METHOD structure for a dedicated server.

const SSL_METHOD ***SSLv3_method**(void);

Constructor for the SSLv3 SSL_METHOD structure for combined client and server.

const SSL_METHOD ***TLSv1_client_method**(void);

Constructor for the TLSv1 SSL_METHOD structure for a dedicated client.

const SSL_METHOD ***TLSv1_server_method**(void);

Constructor for the TLSv1 SSL_METHOD structure for a dedicated server.

const SSL_METHOD ***TLSv1_method**(void);

Constructor for the TLSv1 SSL_METHOD structure for combined client and server.

DEALING WITH CIPHERS

Here we document the various API functions which deal with the SSL/TLS ciphers defined in **SSL_CIPHER** structures.

char ***SSL_CIPHER_description**(SSL_CIPHER *cipher, char *buf, int len);

Write a string to *buf* (with a maximum size of *len*) containing a human readable description of *cipher*. Returns *buf*.

int **SSL_CIPHER_get_bits**(SSL_CIPHER *cipher, int *alg_bits);

Determine the number of bits in *cipher*. Because of export crippled ciphers there are two bits: The bits the algorithm supports in general (stored to *alg_bits*) and the bits which are actually used (the return value).

const char ***SSL_CIPHER_get_name**(SSL_CIPHER *cipher);

Return the internal name of *cipher* as a string. These are the various strings defined by the *SSL3_TXT_xxx* and *TLS1_TXT_xxx* definitions in the header files.

char ***SSL_CIPHER_get_version**(SSL_CIPHER *cipher);

Returns a string like "TLSv1/SSLv3" or "SSLv2" which indicates the SSL/TLS protocol version to which *cipher* belongs (i.e. where it was defined in the specification the first time).

DEALING WITH PROTOCOL CONTEXTS

Here we document the various API functions which deal with the SSL/TLS protocol context defined in the **SSL_CTX** structure.

int **SSL_CTX_add_client_CA**(SSL_CTX *ctx, X509 *x);

long **SSL_CTX_add_extra_chain_cert**(SSL_CTX *ctx, X509 *x509);

int **SSL_CTX_add_session**(SSL_CTX *ctx, SSL_SESSION *c);

int **SSL_CTX_check_private_key**(const SSL_CTX *ctx);

long **SSL_CTX_ctrl**(SSL_CTX *ctx, int cmd, long larg, char *parg);

void **SSL_CTX_flush_sessions**(SSL_CTX *s, long t);

```
void SSL_CTX_free(SSL_CTX *a);

char *SSL_CTX_get_app_data(SSL_CTX *ctx);

X509_STORE *SSL_CTX_get_cert_store(SSL_CTX *ctx);

STACK *SSL_CTX_get_client_CA_list(const SSL_CTX *ctx);

int (*SSL_CTX_get_client_cert_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx))(SSL *ssl, X509 **x509, EVP_PKEY **pkey);

void SSL_CTX_get_default_read_ahead(SSL_CTX *ctx);

char *SSL_CTX_get_ex_data(const SSL_CTX *s, int idx);

int SSL_CTX_get_ex_new_index(long argl, char *argp, int (*new_func)(void), int (*dup_func)(void), void (*free_func)(void))

void (*SSL_CTX_get_info_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx))(SSL *ssl, int cb, int ret);

int SSL_CTX_get_quiet_shutdown(const SSL_CTX *ctx);

void SSL_CTX_get_read_ahead(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_get_session_cache_mode(SSL_CTX *ctx);

long SSL_CTX_get_timeout(const SSL_CTX *ctx);

int (*SSL_CTX_get_verify_callback(const SSL_CTX *ctx))(int ok, X509_STORE_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_get_verify_mode(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_load_verify_locations(SSL_CTX *ctx, char *CAfile, char *CApath);

long SSL_CTX_need_tmp_RSA(SSL_CTX *ctx);

SSL_CTX *SSL_CTX_new(const SSL_METHOD *meth);

int SSL_CTX_remove_session(SSL_CTX *ctx, SSL_SESSION *c);

int SSL_CTX_sess_accept(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_accept_good(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_accept_renegotiate(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_cache_full(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_cb_hits(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_connect(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_connect_good(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_connect_renegotiate(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_get_cache_size(SSL_CTX *ctx);

SSL_SESSION *(*SSL_CTX_sess_get_get_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx))(SSL *ssl, unsigned char *data, int len, int *copy);

int (*SSL_CTX_sess_get_new_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx))(SSL *ssl, SSL_SESSION *sess);

void (*SSL_CTX_sess_get_remove_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx))(SSL_CTX *ctx, SSL_SESSION *sess);

int SSL_CTX_sess_hits(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_misses(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_sess_number(SSL_CTX *ctx);

void SSL_CTX_sess_set_cache_size(SSL_CTX *ctx,t);

void SSL_CTX_sess_set_get_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx, SSL_SESSION *(*cb)(SSL *ssl, unsigned char *data, int len, int *copy));

void SSL_CTX_sess_set_new_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx, int (*cb)(SSL *ssl, SSL_SESSION *sess));

void SSL_CTX_sess_set_remove_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx, void (*cb)(SSL_CTX *ctx, SSL_SESSION *sess));

int SSL_CTX_sess_timeouts(SSL_CTX *ctx);

LHASH *SSL_CTX_sessions(SSL_CTX *ctx);

void SSL_CTX_set_app_data(SSL_CTX *ctx, void *arg);

void SSL_CTX_set_cert_store(SSL_CTX *ctx, X509_STORE *cs);

void SSL_CTX_set_cert_verify_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx, int (*cb)(), char *arg)
```

```

int SSL_CTX_set_cipher_list(SSL_CTX *ctx, char *str);

void SSL_CTX_set_client_CA_list(SSL_CTX *ctx, STACK *list);

void SSL_CTX_set_client_cert_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx, int (*cb)(SSL *ssl, X509 **x509, EVP_PKEY **pkey));

void SSL_CTX_set_default_passwd_cb(SSL_CTX *ctx, int (*cb)(void));

void SSL_CTX_set_default_read_ahead(SSL_CTX *ctx, int m);

int SSL_CTX_set_default_verify_paths(SSL_CTX *ctx);

int SSL_CTX_set_ex_data(SSL_CTX *s, int idx, char *arg);

void SSL_CTX_set_info_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx, void (*cb)(SSL *ssl, int cb, int ret));

void SSL_CTX_set_msg_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx, void (*cb)(int write_p, int version, int content_type, const void *buf, size_t len, SSL *ssl, void *arg));

void SSL_CTX_set_msg_callback_arg(SSL_CTX *ctx, void *arg);

void SSL_CTX_set_options(SSL_CTX *ctx, unsigned long op);

void SSL_CTX_set_quiet_shutdown(SSL_CTX *ctx, int mode);

void SSL_CTX_set_read_ahead(SSL_CTX *ctx, int m);

void SSL_CTX_set_session_cache_mode(SSL_CTX *ctx, int mode);

int SSL_CTX_set_ssl_version(SSL_CTX *ctx, const SSL_METHOD *meth);

void SSL_CTX_set_timeout(SSL_CTX *ctx, long t);

long SSL_CTX_set_tmp_dh(SSL_CTX *ctx, DH *dh);

long SSL_CTX_set_tmp_dh_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx, DH *(*cb)(void));

long SSL_CTX_set_tmp_rsa(SSL_CTX *ctx, RSA *rsa);

SSL_CTX_set_tmp_rsa_callback

    long SSL_CTX_set_tmp_rsa_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx, RSA *(*cb)(SSL *ssl, int export, int keylength));

    Sets the callback which will be called when a temporary private key is required. The export flag will be set if the reason for needing a temp key is that
    an export ciphersuite is in use, in which case, keylength will contain the required keylength in bits. Generate a key of appropriate size (using ???) and
    return it.

SSL_set_tmp_rsa_callback

    long SSL_set_tmp_rsa_callback(SSL *ssl, RSA *(*cb)(SSL *ssl, int export, int keylength));

    The same as SSL_CTX_set_tmp_rsa_callback, except it operates on an SSL session instead of a context.

void SSL_CTX_set_verify(SSL_CTX *ctx, int mode, int (*cb)(void));

int SSL_CTX_use_PrivateKey(SSL_CTX *ctx, EVP_PKEY *pkey);

int SSL_CTX_use_PrivateKey_ASN1(int type, SSL_CTX *ctx, unsigned char *d, long len);

int SSL_CTX_use_PrivateKey_file(SSL_CTX *ctx, char *file, int type);

int SSL_CTX_use_RSAPrivateKey(SSL_CTX *ctx, RSA *rsa);

int SSL_CTX_use_RSAPrivateKey_ASN1(SSL_CTX *ctx, unsigned char *d, long len);

int SSL_CTX_use_RSAPrivateKey_file(SSL_CTX *ctx, char *file, int type);

int SSL_CTX_use_certificate(SSL_CTX *ctx, X509 *x);

int SSL_CTX_use_certificate_ASN1(SSL_CTX *ctx, int len, unsigned char *d);

int SSL_CTX_use_certificate_file(SSL_CTX *ctx, char *file, int type);

X509 *SSL_CTX_get0_certificate(const SSL_CTX *ctx);

EVP_PKEY *SSL_CTX_get0_privatekey(const SSL_CTX *ctx);

void SSL_CTX_set_psk_client_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx, unsigned int (*callback)(SSL *ssl, const char *hint, char *identity, unsigned int max_identity_len,
unsigned char *psk, unsigned int max_psk_len));

int SSL_CTX_use_psk_identity_hint(SSL_CTX *ctx, const char *hint);

void SSL_CTX_set_psk_server_callback(SSL_CTX *ctx, unsigned int (*callback)(SSL *ssl, const char *identity, unsigned char *psk, int max_psk_len));

```

DEALING WITH SESSIONS

Here we document the various API functions which deal with the SSL/TLS sessions defined in the **SSL_SESSION** structures.

```
int SSL_SESSION_cmp(const SSL_SESSION *a, const SSL_SESSION *b);

void SSL_SESSION_free(SSL_SESSION *ss);

char *SSL_SESSION_get_app_data(SSL_SESSION *s);

char *SSL_SESSION_get_ex_data(const SSL_SESSION *s, int idx);

int SSL_SESSION_get_ex_new_index(long argl, char *argp, int (*new_func)(void), int (*dup_func)(void), void (*free_func)(void))

long SSL_SESSION_get_time(const SSL_SESSION *s);

long SSL_SESSION_get_timeout(const SSL_SESSION *s);

unsigned long SSL_SESSION_hash(const SSL_SESSION *a);

SSL_SESSION *SSL_SESSION_new(void);

int SSL_SESSION_print(BIO *bp, const SSL_SESSION *x);

int SSL_SESSION_print_fp(FILE *fp, const SSL_SESSION *x);

void SSL_SESSION_set_app_data(SSL_SESSION *s, char *a);

int SSL_SESSION_set_ex_data(SSL_SESSION *s, int idx, char *arg);

long SSL_SESSION_set_time(SSL_SESSION *s, long t);

long SSL_SESSION_set_timeout(SSL_SESSION *s, long t);
```

DEALING WITH CONNECTIONS

Here we document the various API functions which deal with the SSL/TLS connection defined in the **SSL** structure.

```
int SSL_accept(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_add_dir_cert_subjects_to_stack(STACK *stack, const char *dir);

int SSL_add_file_cert_subjects_to_stack(STACK *stack, const char *file);

int SSL_add_client_CA(SSL *ssl, X509 *x);

char *SSL_alert_desc_string(int value);

char *SSL_alert_desc_string_long(int value);

char *SSL_alert_type_string(int value);

char *SSL_alert_type_string_long(int value);

int SSL_check_private_key(const SSL *ssl);

void SSL_clear(SSL *ssl);

long SSL_clear_num_renegotiations(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_connect(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_copy_session_id(SSL *t, const SSL *f);

    Sets the session details for t to be the same as in f. Returns 1 on success or 0 on failure.

long SSL_ctrl(SSL *ssl, int cmd, long larg, char *parg);

int SSL_do_handshake(SSL *ssl);

SSL *SSL_dup(SSL *ssl);

STACK *SSL_dup_CA_list(STACK *sk);

void SSL_free(SSL *ssl);

SSL_CTX *SSL_get_SSL_CTX(const SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_get_app_data(SSL *ssl);

X509 *SSL_get_certificate(const SSL *ssl);

const char *SSL_get_cipher(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_get_cipher_bits(const SSL *ssl, int *alg_bits);

char *SSL_get_cipher_list(const SSL *ssl, int n);
```

```
char *SSL_get_cipher_name(const SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_get_cipher_version(const SSL *ssl);

STACK *SSL_get_ciphers(const SSL *ssl);

STACK *SSL_get_client_CA_list(const SSL *ssl);

SSL_CIPHER *SSL_get_current_cipher(SSL *ssl);

long SSL_get_default_timeout(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_get_error(const SSL *ssl, int i);

char *SSL_get_ex_data(const SSL *ssl, int idx);

int SSL_get_ex_data_X509_STORE_CTX_idx(void);

int SSL_get_ex_new_index(long argl, char *argp, int (*new_func)(void), int (*dup_func)(void), void (*free_func)(void))

int SSL_get_fd(const SSL *ssl);

void (*SSL_get_info_callback(const SSL *ssl);)()

STACK *SSL_get_peer_cert_chain(const SSL *ssl);

X509 *SSL_get_peer_certificate(const SSL *ssl);

EVP_PKEY *SSL_get_privatekey(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_get_quiet_shutdown(const SSL *ssl);

BIO *SSL_get_rbio(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_get_read_ahead(const SSL *ssl);

SSL_SESSION *SSL_get_session(const SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_get_shared_ciphers(const SSL *ssl, char *buf, int len);

int SSL_get_shutdown(const SSL *ssl);

const SSL_METHOD *SSL_get_ssl_method(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_get_state(const SSL *ssl);

long SSL_get_time(const SSL *ssl);

long SSL_get_timeout(const SSL *ssl);

int (*SSL_get_verify_callback(const SSL *ssl))(int,X509_STORE_CTX *)

int SSL_get_verify_mode(const SSL *ssl);

long SSL_get_verify_result(const SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_get_version(const SSL *ssl);

BIO *SSL_get_wbio(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_in_accept_init(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_in_before(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_in_connect_init(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_in_init(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_is_init_finished(SSL *ssl);

STACK *SSL_load_client_CA_file(char *file);

void SSL_load_error_strings(void);

SSL *SSL_new(SSL_CTX *ctx);

long SSL_num_renegotiations(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_peek(SSL *ssl, void *buf, int num);

int SSL_pending(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_read(SSL *ssl, void *buf, int num);

int SSL_renegotiate(SSL *ssl);
```

```
char *SSL_rstate_string(SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_rstate_string_long(SSL *ssl);

long SSL_session_reused(SSL *ssl);

void SSL_set_accept_state(SSL *ssl);

void SSL_set_app_data(SSL *ssl, char *arg);

void SSL_set_bio(SSL *ssl, BIO *rbio, BIO *wbio);

int SSL_set_cipher_list(SSL *ssl, char *str);

void SSL_set_client_CA_list(SSL *ssl, STACK *list);

void SSL_set_connect_state(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_set_ex_data(SSL *ssl, int idx, char *arg);

int SSL_set_fd(SSL *ssl, int fd);

void SSL_set_info_callback(SSL *ssl, void (*cb);(void))

void SSL_set_msg_callback(SSL *ctx, void (*cb)(int write_p, int version, int content_type, const void *buf, size_t len, SSL *ssl, void *arg));

void SSL_set_msg_callback_arg(SSL *ctx, void *arg);

void SSL_set_options(SSL *ssl, unsigned long op);

void SSL_set_quiet_shutdown(SSL *ssl, int mode);

void SSL_set_read_ahead(SSL *ssl, int yes);

int SSL_set_rfd(SSL *ssl, int fd);

int SSL_set_session(SSL *ssl, SSL_SESSION *session);

void SSL_set_shutdown(SSL *ssl, int mode);

int SSL_set_ssl_method(SSL *ssl, const SSL_METHOD *meth);

void SSL_set_time(SSL *ssl, long t);

void SSL_set_timeout(SSL *ssl, long t);

void SSL_set_verify(SSL *ssl, int mode, int (*callback);(void))

void SSL_set_verify_result(SSL *ssl, long arg);

int SSL_set_wfd(SSL *ssl, int fd);

int SSL_shutdown(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_state(const SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_state_string(const SSL *ssl);

char *SSL_state_string_long(const SSL *ssl);

long SSL_total_renegotiations(SSL *ssl);

int SSL_use_PrivateKey(SSL *ssl, EVP_PKEY *pkey);

int SSL_use_PrivateKey_ASN1(int type, SSL *ssl, unsigned char *d, long len);

int SSL_use_PrivateKey_file(SSL *ssl, char *file, int type);

int SSL_use_RSAPrivateKey(SSL *ssl, RSA *rsa);

int SSL_use_RSAPrivateKey_ASN1(SSL *ssl, unsigned char *d, long len);

int SSL_use_RSAPrivateKey_file(SSL *ssl, char *file, int type);

int SSL_use_certificate(SSL *ssl, X509 *x);

int SSL_use_certificate_ASN1(SSL *ssl, int len, unsigned char *d);

int SSL_use_certificate_file(SSL *ssl, char *file, int type);

int SSL_version(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_want(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_want_nothing(const SSL *ssl);
```

```
int SSL_want_read(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_want_write(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_want_x509_lookup(const SSL *ssl);

int SSL_write(SSL *ssl, const void *buf, int num);

void SSL_set_psk_client_callback(SSL *ssl, unsigned int (*callback)(SSL *ssl, const char *hint, char *identity, unsigned int max_identity_len, unsigned char *psk, unsigned int max_psk_len));

int SSL_use_psk_identity_hint(SSL *ssl, const char *hint);

void SSL_set_psk_server_callback(SSL *ssl, unsigned int (*callback)(SSL *ssl, const char *identity, unsigned char *psk, int max_psk_len));

const char *SSL_get_psk_identity_hint(SSL *ssl);

const char *SSL_get_psk_identity(SSL *ssl);
```

SEE ALSO

[openssl](#), [crypto](#), [SSL_accept](#), [SSL_clear](#), [SSL_connect](#), [SSL_CIPHER_get_name](#), [SSL_COMP_add_compression_method](#), [SSL_CTX_add_extra_chain_cert](#)

HISTORY

The [ssl](#) document appeared in OpenSSL 0.9.2

SSLv2_client_method, **SSLv2_server_method** and **SSLv2_method** were removed in OpenSSL 1.1.0.

The return type of **SSL_copy_session_id** was changed from void to int in OpenSSL 1.1.0.