# OpenC2 Working Group Decision Construct 05/23/2016

## **[RESOLVED]**

## **Proposed**:

The OpenC2 protocol shall embed a universal modifier for authentication purposes in all OpenC2 frames used to command an actuator.

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| **Affirmative Construct** | **Negative Construct** |
| * Given the potential harm to the system or the mission, all commands must be authenticated. * Authentication is an important of a tenet and must avoid overlooking. | * The OpenC2 design principles encourage a ‘lightweight’ protocol and to leverage preexisting standards to the greatest extent practical * Authentication can be achieved by multiple means and to define a particular means places an unnecessary (and possibly sub-optimal) constraint on the implementer |
| **Negative Rebuttal** | **Affirmative Rebuttal** |
| * Requiring an authentication field in the OpenC2 command will ensure that implementers have addressed the tenet. | * Implementers should be able to choose an optimal authentication mechanism for their specific environment. * It is acknowledge that authentication should not be overlooked and the language specification should call out authentication as an external dependency. |
| **Resolution** | |
| The language specification shall explicitly call out authentication as an external dependency and not define a required field within the OpenC2 frame. | |
| **Minority Report** | |
| No minority report provided. | |