

# **Real Estate Data Interchange Standard: Real Estate Transaction Specification Version 1.7d6**

**April 5, 2005**

**DRAFT 6**

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# INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Purpose

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The Real EstateTransaction Standard (RETS) is a specification for a standard communication method between computer systems exchanging real estate information. It defines a standard interface for use by applications such as agent desktop software, IDX (Internet Data Exchange) systems, data aggregation systems, and many other systems that store, display or operate on real estate listing, sales and other data.

This specification describes the Real Estate Transaction Standard communication protocol. Together with the companion XML DTDs (Document Type Definitions) listed in Appendix A, it constitutes the specification for the standard.

## 1.2 Scope

---

This specification is intended to define only the minimum a product or service must do in order to be considered “compliant”. This specification is extensible and nothing in the specification precludes a vendor from adding data or functionality over and above that detailed here. However, when a function is provided or a data element is stored by a compliant system, it must offer access to the function or mechanism in a way that complies with the specification in order to be considered compliant.

## 1.3 Requirements

---

### 1.3.1 Required Features

This specification uses the same words as RFC 1123 [1] for defining the significance of each particular requirement. These words are:

MUST	This word or the adjective "required" means that the item is an absolute requirement of the specification. A feature that the specification states MUST be implemented is required in an implementation in order to be considered compliant.
SHOULD	This word or the adjective “recommended” means that there may exist valid reasons in particular circumstances to ignore this item, but the full implications should be understood and the case

carefully weighed before choosing a different course. A feature that the specification states SHOULD be implemented is treated for compliance purposes as a feature that may be implemented.

## MAY

This word or the adjective “optional” means that this item is truly optional. A feature that the specification states MAY be implemented need not be implemented in order to be considered compliant. However, if it is implemented, the feature MUST be implemented in accordance with the specification.

An implementation is not compliant if it fails to satisfy one or more of the MUST requirements for the protocols it implements. An implementation that satisfies all the MUST and all the SHOULD requirements for its protocols is said to be “unconditionally compliant”; one that satisfies all the MUST requirements but not all the SHOULD requirements for its protocols is said to be “conditionally compliant.”

Client and server implementations should generally follow the Internet protocol convention of being strict in what they generate, but tolerant in what they accept. However, in cases where tolerance of deviations from the specification could result in an incorrect interpretation of user data or intentions, implementors are urged to reject transactions rather than supplying possibly-incorrect defaults.

### 1.3.2 Compatibility with Prior Versions

The RETS 1.7 specification supersedes previous versions of the RETS specification. There is no *requirement* for a client or server that advertises itself as “compliant with RETS 1.7” to interoperate with earlier versions. However, client and server implementors are urged to support the prior version, RETS 1.5, in order to insure a smooth transition.

## 1.4 Terminology

Arguments	Tag / value pairs passed to a transaction as part of the Argument-List.
Class	A subset of data elements within a Resource that share common metadata elements.
Client	The system requesting data. This may well be a server seeking to update itself from another server. The specification does not assume any particular kind of client.
Endpoint	Either a server or client.
Metadata	The set of data that describes data fields in detail.
Metadata Dictionary	The set of data that describes the available metadata. It is used to determine the different classes of accessible data on the server and does not describe the fields within the those classes. It also defines what different types of searches are available (tax, open house, etc.).
Object	For purposes of RETS and its GetObject transaction, a collection of octets treated as a unit and associated with a unique resource element.

Optional	A field or feature described by this specification but not required for an endpoint to be considered compliant. The specification states the action to be taken by a compliant system in the absence of an optional field. The fact that the specification designates a field as optional does not mean that the recipient of a transaction that is missing optional fields is required to provide all services that could be required if the field were present.
Required	A compliant server or client MUST include any field designated as required. A transaction that does not include every required field MUST be rejected by the recipient.
Resource	A collection of data having the external appearance of belonging to a single database and being accessible for search or update via RETS transactions.
Resource Element	An individual record from a resource identified by a Resource Key.
Resource Key	The unique key that identifies a resource element.
Server	The system providing data (also referred to as the “host”).
Request ID	A client-provided character string of up to 64 printable characters which uniquely identifies a request to a client. The contents are implementation-defined. Defined in Section 3.4, “Optional Client Request Header Fields”.
Standard-Name	The name of a data field as it is known in the Real Estate Transaction Standard Data Dictionary.
System-Name	The name of a data field as it is known in the metadata.



## NOTATIONAL CONVENTIONS

### 2.1 Augmented BNF

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This document expresses message layouts and character sequences in an augmented Backus-Naur Form (BNF) similar to that used by RFC 2822 [4].

### 2.2 Typographic Conventions

---

Parsing constructs and examples are set in a monospaced font:

Server: Microsoft-IIS/4.0

In parsing constructs, textual elements that are required exactly as shown are indicated by **boldface** type., while textual elements that represent placeholders for actual data are indicated by a *slanted font*:

**Server:** *server identifier*

Entities designated by a textual definition contain that definition enclosed in angle brackets:

<any 8-bit sequence of data>

Atoms and primitive entities are indicated by *ITALIC CAPS*:

*1\*64ALPHANUM*

Three nonprinting characters also have significance in some RETS constructs. These may be represented by special printing graphics:

- Tab character, ASCII HT, an octet with a value of 9
- Space character, ASCII SP, an octet with a value of 32. The symbol is used where needed for clarity.

### 2.3 Rules

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The following rules are used throughout this specification to describe basic parsing constructs. The US-ASCII coded character set is defined by ANSI X3.4-1986 [5].

Parsed entities are constructed combinations of atoms or other entities as defined below. Atoms may be combined and repeated to form longer constructs. When there are

constraints on the repetition of atoms, the constraints are expressed by a notation of the form:

$$m * n$$

where both *m* and *n* are integers. *m* represents the minimum allowed number of repetitions, and *n* represents the maximum. If *m* is omitted, it is presumed to be zero; if *n* is omitted, it is presumed to be infinite. For example, the syntactic construct

$$1 * 64 \text{ALPHANUM}$$

means a string of *ALPHANUM*s containing at least 1 and at most 64.

When a parsing construct is represented by a string of entities, some of which are optional, the optional entities are enclosed in square brackets. For example, in the string

$$\text{error-number} [\text{error-code}]$$

the *error-number* entity is required, while the *error-code* entity is optional.

Alternation is indicated by the vertical bar. The entity description

$$\text{ALPHA} \mid \text{DIGIT}$$

means “either an *ALPHA* or a *DIGIT*”.

## 2.4 Atoms and Primitive Entities

<i>OCTET</i>	::= <any 8-bit sequence of data>
<i>CHAR</i>	::= <any US-ASCII character (octets 0 - 127)>
<i>UPALPHA</i>	::= <any US-ASCII uppercase letter "A".. "Z">
<i>LOALPHA</i>	::= <any US-ASCII lowercase letter "a".. "z">
<i>ALPHA</i>	::= <i>UPALPHA</i> $\mid$ <i>LOALPHA</i>
<i>DIGIT</i>	::= <any US-ASCII digit "0".. "9">
<i>ALPHANUM</i>	::= <i>ALPHA</i> $\mid$ <i>DIGIT</i>
<i>SQLFIELDNAME</i>	::= <i>ALPHA</i> *31 <i>ALPHANUM</i> <except ANSI SQL 92 reserved words>
<i>IDALPHA</i>	::= <i>ALPHA</i> $\mid$ <i>_</i>
<i>CTL</i>	::= <any US-ASCII control character (octets 0 - 31) and DEL (127)>
<i>CR</i>	::= <US-ASCII CR, carriage return (13)>
<i>LF</i>	::= <US-ASCII LF, linefeed (10)>
<i>SP</i>	::= <US-ASCII SP, space (32)>
<i>HT</i>	::= <US-ASCII HT, horizontal-tab (9)>
<"> or "	::= <US-ASCII double-quote mark (34)>
<i>NULL</i>	::= <no character>
<i>CRLF</i> or ␣	::= <i>CR</i> <i>LF</i>
<i>LWS</i>	::= [ <i>CRLF</i> ] 1*( <i>SP</i> $\mid$ <i>HT</i> )
<i>HEX</i>	::= "A" $\mid$ "B" $\mid$ "C" $\mid$ "D" $\mid$ "E" $\mid$ "F" $\mid$ "a" $\mid$ "b" $\mid$ "c" $\mid$ "d" $\mid$ "e" $\mid$ "f" $\mid$ DIGIT



<i>LHEX</i>	::= "a"   "b"   "c"   "d"   "e"   "f"   <i>DIGIT</i>
<i>TEXT</i>	::= <any <i>OCTET</i> except <i>CTLs</i> , but including <i>LWS</i> >
<i>PLAINTEXT</i>	::= <any <i>OCTET</i> except <i>CTLs</i> >
<i>TSPECIALS</i>	::= "("   ")"   "<"   ">"   "@"   ","   ";"   ":"   "\"   "<"   "/"   "["   "]"   "?"   "="   "{"   "}"   <i>SP</i>   <i>HT</i>
<i>TOKENCHAR</i>	::= <any <i>CHAR</i> except <i>CTLs</i> or <i>TSPECIALS</i> >
<i>TOKEN</i>	::= 1* <i>TOKENCHAR</i>
<i>QUOTED-STRING</i>	::= ( "<" *( <i>QDTEXT</i> ) "<" )
<i>QDTEXT</i>	::= <any <i>TEXT</i> except "<">
<i>DATE</i>	::= Date using the format defined in RFC 1123.
<i>RETSNAME</i>	::= 1*321 <i>DALPHA</i>



## MESSAGE FORMAT

RETS uses HTTP version 1.1 [2] for sending messages between clients and servers. It defines three additional HTTP headers, and some RETS transactions constrain the values of certain headers defined by HTTP 1.1 and/or make certain headers designated as optional in HTTP 1.1 mandatory when used for RETS. In addition, RETS requests use HTML 4.01 [16] form encoding to encapsulate request parameters. In addition, a compliant RETS client MUST implement cookie handling as specified in RFC 2109 [15].

The information below summarizes some of the requirements of HTTP 1.1 and HTML 4.01 for ease of reference. However, in all cases, the underlying standards are the normative references for message formats.

### 3.1 General Message Format

#### 3.1.1 RETS HTTP/1.1 Encapsulation

RETS messages are encapsulated as the bodies of HTTP/1.1 requests and responses. The request body may be null, depending on the request. The response body is never null

Note that, per RFC 2822, keywords in header key-value pairs are not case-sensitive. The values, however, may be case-sensitive depending on context.

#### 3.1.2 Request Arguments

RETS requests are HTML 4.01-compliant form submissions, following all of the specifications in the HTML 4.01 recommendation. Note that the HTML 4.01 specification provides that:

- Key names in key/value pairs are not case-sensitive.
- Both key names and key values MUST be encoded as specified in HTML 4.01 section 17.13.4, with + characters replacing spaces, and then reserved characters being escaped per RFC 2396 [13], unless the client uses a content-type of multipart/form-data.

#### 3.1.3 Response Bodies

The body of a response to most RETS requests is a well-formed XML document; the exceptions are the Get transaction (section 8) and the GetObject transaction (section 5).

This means that servers must construct the body in accordance with the XML specification [17], and that clients must parse the body in accordance with that specification.

## 3.2 Request Format

A RETS request is either an HTTP GET request or an HTTP POST request. In the case of the GET-request the Argument-List is appended to the Request-URI after a delimiting question mark ("?"). For the post-request the Argument-List is sent as the first entity body for the POST method.

```
get-request      ::= GET · Request-URI [ ? Argument-List ] · HTTP-Version CRLF
                  *message-header
                  CRLF

post-request     ::= POST · Request-URI · HTTP-Version CRLF
                  *message-header
                  CRLF
                  [Argument-List]
```

The *Request-URI*, *HTTP-Version* and *message-header* are defined in RFC 2616. The detailed construction of the *Argument-List* is defined in HTML 4.01.

## 3.3 Required Client Request Header Fields

The HTTP header of any messages sent from the client MUST contain the following header fields:

**User-Agent**                      This header field contains information about the user agent originating the request. This is for statistical purposes, the tracing of protocol violations, and automated recognition of user agents for the sake of tailoring responses to avoid particular user agent limitations, as well as providing enhanced capabilities to some user-agents. All client requests MUST include this field. This is a standard HTTP header field as defined in RFC 2616.

```
User-Agent      ::= User-Agent: 1* product
product         ::= TOKEN [ / product-version ]
product-version ::= TOKEN
```

Example:      User-Agent: CMAZi l l a/4.00

Product tokens should be short and to the point: use of them for advertising or other non-essential information is explicitly forbidden. Although any token character may appear in a product-version, this token SHOULD only be used for a version identifier (i.e., successive versions of the same product SHOULD only differ in the product-version portion of the product value). For more information about User-Agent see RFC 2616.

A server MAY advertise additional capabilities based on the client's User-Agent, and MAY refuse to proceed with the authorization if an acceptable User-Agent has not been supplied. A server MAY also choose to authenticate the client's identity cryptographically using the RETS-UA-Authorization header; see section 3.4 for additional information.

**RETS-Version**                      The client MUST send the RETS-Version. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>" numbering scheme similar to the HTTP

	Version in Section 3.1 of RFC 2616. The version of a RETS message is indicated by a RETS-Version field in the header of the message.
Cookie	The client MUST implement cookie handling as specified in RFC 2109. If any server response has included a valid Set-Cookie header, and the cookie in that header has not expired, the client MUST return the corresponding Cookie header. See RFC 2109 for the full specification.

### 3.4 Optional Client Request Header Fields

Authorization	Authorization header field as defined in RFC 2617. See 4.1, “Security”, as well as RFC 2617, for additional information.
RETS-Request-ID	A character string of printable characters which the client can use to identify this request. The contents are implementation-defined. If this field is included in a request from the client then the server MUST return it in the response.

*RETS-Request-ID ::= 1\*64ALPHNUM*

Accept-Encoding	A comma-separated list of MIME types indicating the content encoding schemes that the client is willing to accept. This is intended to support the use of compression in data returns; see section 3.8 for additional information.
-----------------	--

*Accept-Encoding ::= 1\*64ALPHNUM/1\*64ALPHNUM \*[, 1\*64ALPHNUM/1\*64ALPHNUM...]*

RETS-UA-Authorization	A client MAY support authentication of its User-Agent value by including the RETS-UA-Authorization header. Servers MAY require this header with a valid value before providing services.
-----------------------	--

*RETS-UA-Authorization ::= ua-method ua-digest-response*

*ua-method ::= Digest*

*ua-digest-response ::= "LHEX "*

See section 3.10 for the method of computing the ua-digest-response value.

The client MAY send this header under any circumstances. It need not send this header if the server has not indicated that it requires user-agent authentication by responding to a transaction with a RETS error code of 20037.

In addition to the header fields listed here, the client may send any header compliant with HTTP 1.1.

### 3.5 Response Format

The general server response to a request is either a well-formed XML document returning RETS-encapsulated data or error information, or, for the Get transaction and for

successful GetObject transactions, the content of the requested object in the format given in the response's HTTP Content-Type header. Note that this is an ordinary HTTP response per RFC 2616.

The more common HTTP *Status-Codes* are provided in Section 3.9, though any status code defined in RFC 2616 is permissible. Servers MUST use appropriate predefined status codes when communicating with the client.

The *Status-Code* is intended to provide HTTP level errors to the client (Authorization, URI, etc.). Software level errors (search queries, invalid argument values, etc.) should be returned in the reply-code. If the server is unable to determine that a particular request is in fact a RETS request, it MUST return an HTTP status code indicating the type of error.

Except in those transactions specifically stating otherwise, a RETS response body is a well-formed XML document with the following general form:

```
response-body ::= RETS-response
RETS-response ::= body-start-line
                  response
                  [rets-status]
                  body-end-line ]

body-start-line ::= <RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP
                  ReplyText= quoted-string *SP>

response ::= {key-value-body | data}
key-value-body ::= <RETS-RESPONSE>CRLF
                  *(key = value CRLF)
                  </RETS-RESPONSE>

rets-status ::= <RETS-STATUS [ 1*SP ReplyCode=quoted-end-reply-code
                  1*SP ReplyText=quoted-string *SP]/>
```

The *rets-status* MAY be included in the response if the ReplyCode or ReplyText given in the *body-start-line* becomes invalid during the creation of the response. If the server includes a *rets-status* in its reply, the client MUST use the ReplyCode and ReplyText from the *rets-status* rather than from the *body-start-line*.

```
body-end-line ::= </RETS>
```

If a *body-start-line* is returned in the response then the *body-end-line* MUST also be returned.

```
quoted-reply-code ::= "1*5DIGITS"
```

The reply-code is included to provide a mechanism to pass additional information to the client in the event that the request is processed OK (Status-Code = 200) but some condition still exist that may require an action by the client. A value of '0' indicates success. Applicable reply-codes can be found under specific transactions.

```
quoted-end-reply-code ::= "1*5DIGITS"
```

The *end-reply-code* is included to provide a mechanism to pass additional information to the client in the event that the request being processed by the server errors before the request has been completed. This allows the server to start streaming out data before it has completed processing the request. A value of 0 indicates success, however the server SHOULD only send an *end-reply-code* if there is an error.

The valid `<key>`, `<value>` and `<data>` elements are defined in the Response Arguments section for each transaction.

NOTE

RETS 1.7 requires all server responses to be well-formed XML. In addition, this specification requires that clients parse RETS responses as XML, not as simple text streams. The response formats shown here are normative with respect to content, but not normative with respect to form. That is, servers are free to produce response XML in any format that complies with the W3C XML 1.0 recommendation. XML escaping of content is implied, as is XML processing of line endings and whitespace. See the W3C XML Recommendation 1.0, Third Edition, for full information on XML.

An example server-reply where the reply body consists of key-value pairs:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: Microsoft-IIS/4.0
Date: Sun, 20 Mar 2005 12:03:38 GMT
Content-Type: text/xml
Cache-Control: private
RETS-Version: RETS/1.7

<RETS ReplyCode="0" ReplyText="SUCCESS">
<RETS-RESPONSE>
Key1=Value1
Key2=Value2
</RETS-RESPONSE>
</RETS>
```

### 3.6 Required Server Response Header Fields

The HTTP header of any messages sent from the server MUST contain the following header fields:

**Date** The server MUST send the date using the format defined in RFC 1123. This is a standard HTTP header field as defined in RFC 2616.

*Example:* Date: Sun, 20 Mar 2005 12:03:38 GMT

The date/time stamp MUST be represented in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT), without exception.

**Cache-Control** The RFC 2616 standard general-header field is used to specify directives that MUST be obeyed by all caching mechanisms along the request/response chain. The directives specify behavior intended to prevent caches from adversely interfering with the request or response. This field SHOULD be set to "private" for all transaction in this specification.

*Example:* Cache-Control: private

**Content-Type** This is a standard HTTP header field as defined in RFC 2616. It specifies the media type of the underlying data. The server MUST return this field in all replies. For most replies this will be set to "text/xml". See Section 5.5 in the GetObject Transaction for exceptions and more information on this field.

*Example:* Content-Type: text/xml

**RETS-Version**            The server MUST send the RETS-Version. The convention used is a “<major>.<minor>” numbering scheme similar to the HTTP Version in Section 3.1 of RFC 2616. The version of a RETS message is indicated by a RETS-Version field in header of the message.

*RETS-Version* ::= **RETS-Version:** *version-info*

*version-info* ::= **RETS/** 1\*DIGIT . 1\*DIGIT

*Example:*    RETS-Version: RETS/1.7

Applications sending request or response messages, as defined by this specification, MUST include a RETS-Version of "RETS/1.7". Use of this version number indicates that the sending application is compliant with this specification.

### 3.7 Optional Server Response Header Fields

**Content-Length**            The Content-Length entity-header field indicates the size of the message-body, in decimal number of octets. This is a standard header field defined in RFC 2616 and is required for all requests containing a message-body not using Chunked transfer encoding.

**Transfer-Encoding**        The Transfer-Encoding entity-header field when set to the Chunked value, indicates the size of the message-body is in the chunk stream. This is a standard header field defined in RFC 2616 and is required for all responses with a body not using Content-Length or a Content-Type: Mul ti part response.

**Content-Encoding**        The Content Encoding entity-header field MAY be returned by the server if the client has included an AcceptEncoding header in its request () indicating that it can accept one or more compression types supported by the server. It is recommended that servers accept at least **appl i cati on/gzi p** (see 3.8, “Data Compression in RETS Transactions”).

*Content-Encoding*::= 1\*64ALPHANUM / 1\*64ALPHANUM

**RETS-Request-ID**            The contents of the RETS-Request-ID header, if any, sent by the client in the request. If a RETS-Request-ID is included in a request from the client then the server MUST return it in the response.

*RETS-Request-ID*::= 1\*64ALPHNUM

**Server**                      The server standard response-header field contains information about the software used to handle the request. The format of this field specified in RFC 2616 Section 3.8.

*Example:*    Server: Mi cros oft-I I S/4.0

**RETS-Server**                The RETS server vendor and server-controlled version number. This is not necessarily the same as the Server response-header field; it will be different if the HTTP server is separate from the



RETS server. The format of this field is specified in RFC 2616 Section 3.8.

*Example:* RETS-Server: AcmeRETS/1.0

**Set-Cookie** The server MAY use HTTP cookies to maintain state information. See RFC 2109 for the format of the Set-Cookie header.

A cookie having a name of RETS-Session-ID defines the RETS session ID, which is used in calculating the RETS User-Agent Authentication (section 3.10). Cookies with other names have no special meaning in RETS but MAY be used when necessary.

In addition to the header fields listed here, the server may send any header compliant with HTTP 1.1.

## 3.8 Data Compression in RETS Transactions

Clients and servers may choose to support data compression in data returned from the server. To indicate its willingness to accept compressed data, a client includes an Accept-Encoding header in its request. If the server supports one of the compression methods accepted by the client, it can include a Content-Encoding header in its response indicating the compression method it has chosen.

Clients and servers choosing to implement compression SHOULD at least support GZip compression. This method is implemented by freely-available source code in a number of languages, as well as in several proprietary software development environments. A second freely-available alternative is BZIP. Clients and servers are free to choose other encoding methods as well.

## 3.9 General Status Codes

Any of the following status codes (in addition to the others provided in RFC 2616) may be returned by a server in response to any request:

**Table 3-1** General Status Codes

Status	Meaning
200	Operation successful.
400	Bad Request The request could not be understood by the server due to malformed syntax.
401	Not Authorized Either the header did not contain an acceptable Authorization or the username/password was invalid. The server response MUST include a WWW-Authenticate header field.
402	Payment Required The requested transaction requires a payment which could not be authorized.
403	Forbidden The server understood the request, but is refusing to fulfill it.
404	Not Found The server has not found anything matching the Request-URI.

**Table 3-1** General Status Codes

Status	Meaning
405	Method Not Allowed The method specified in the Request-Line is not allowed for the resource identified by the Request-URI.
406	Not Acceptable The resource identified by the request is only capable of generating response entities which have content characteristics not acceptable according to the accept headers sent in the request.
408	Request Timeout The client did not produce a request within the time that the server was prepared to wait.
411	Length Required The server refuses to accept the request without a defined Content-Length.
412	Precondition Failed Transaction not permitted at this point in the session
413	Request Entity Too Large The server is refusing to process a request because the request entity is larger than the server is willing or able to process.
414	Request-URI Too Long The server is refusing to service the request because the Request-URI is longer than the server is willing to interpret. This error usually only occurs for a GET method.
500	Internal server error. The server encountered an unexpected condition which prevented it from fulfilling the request.
501	Not Implemented The server does not support the functionality required to fulfill the request.
503	Service Unavailable The server is currently unable to handle the request due to a temporary overloading or maintenance of the server.
505	HTTP Version Not Supported The server does not support, or refuses to support, the HTTP protocol version that was used in the request message.

HTTP error status returns are only to be used for system level, transport syntax, and invalid transaction errors. RETS error status codes are used to indicate errors in the request arguments or the transaction processing.

### 3.10 Computation of the RETS User Agent Authorization value

The RETS User Agent Authorization digest response value is used in the RETS-UA-Authorization header specified in section 3.4. It is computed as follows:

$$a1 ::= MD5(\textit{product} : \textit{UserAgent-Password})$$

$$\textit{ua-digest-response} ::= \text{HEX}(\text{MD5}(\text{HEX}(a1) : \textit{RETS-Request-ID} : \textit{session-id} : \textit{version-info}))$$

where:

*product*                      The first *product* value taken from the User-Agent header (section 3.3). Note that the *product* value consists of both the product token and version.

UserAgent-Password::= *TOKEN*

This value is a secret shared between the client and server.

RETS-Request-ID ::= *RETS-Request-ID*

This value MUST be the same as that sent with the RETS-Request-ID header. If the client does not use the RETS-Request-ID header, this token is empty in the calculation.

sessi on-i d ::= If the server has sent a Set-Cooki e header with a cookie name of RETS-Sessi on-ID, sessi on-i d is the value of that cookie. If the server has not sent a cookie with that name, or if the cookie by that name has expired, this token is empty in the calculation.

versi on-i nfo ::= The value of the RETS-Versi on header sent by the client with this transaction.

Each individual value in the concatenated string is included with whitespace removed from the beginning and end of that element, that is, there is no whitespace on either side of the delimiting colon characters.

The method of performing the MD5 calculation is given in RFC 1321.



## LOGIN TRANSACTION

A client **MUST** issue a login request prior to proceeding with any other request. The Login transaction verifies all login information provided by the user and begins a RETS session. Subsequent session control may be mediated by HTTP cookies or any other method, though clients are required to support at least session control via HTTP cookies. Section 14 describes the session protocol in detail.

The server's response to the Login transaction contains the information necessary for a client to issue other requests. It includes URLs that may be used for other RETS requests, and may also contain identity and parameter information if required by the functions supported by the server.

### 4.1 Security

---

#### 4.1.1 User Authentication

While this specification does not require the use of security — it is permissible, for example, to operate a publicly-accessible RETS server — most operators of RETS servers will wish to authenticate users. A server that requires that users be authenticated **MAY** implement RFC 2617, HTTP Authentication. The use of at least digest authentication is strongly recommended.

#### 4.1.2 Client Authentication

Client authentication may be performed through the use of the optional RETS-UA-Authorization header (section 3.4). Prior versions of this specification used a specially-calculated cnonce value in the Authorization header to implement this function. A server implementing this version of the RETS specification **MUST** accept the RETS-UA-Authorization header for client authentication. It **MAY** accept RFC 2617-style authentication as in prior versions of the RETS specification.

#### 4.1.3 Data Security

Needs for secure HTTP transactions cannot be met by authentication schemes. For those needs, HTTP-over-TLS (commonly known as HTTPS) is a more appropriate protocol. A

compliant server MAY support only HTTP-over-SSL. In this case, the server SHOULD listen on port 12109 rather than the standard RETS port, 6103.

## 4.2 Authorization Example

---

The following example assumes that a client application is trying to access the Login URI on the server using the POST method, and without using client authentication. The URI is "http://www.example.com/login". Both client and server know that the username is "joesmith", and the password is "SuperAgent". The example also assumes the use of authentication using RFC 2617.

The first time the client requests the document, no Authorization header is sent, so the server responds with:

```
HTTP/1.1 401 Unauthorized
WWW-Authenticate: Digest realm="Users@example.com",
  nonce="dcd98b7102dd2f0e8b11d0f600bfb0c0",
  opaque="5ccdef346870ab04ddfe0412367fccba"
```

The client may prompt the user for the username and password, after which it will respond with a new request, including the following Authorization header:

```
Authorization: Digest username="joesmith",
  realm="Users@example.com",
  nonce="dcd98b7102dd2f0e8b11d0f600bfb0c0",
  opaque="5ccdef346870ab04ddfe0412367fccba",
  uri="/login",
  response="13258d9b0bc217c9502b47e32dff8ee9"
```

## 4.3 Required Request Arguments

---

There are no required request arguments.

## 4.4 Optional Request Arguments

---

### 4.4.1 BrokerCode Argument

*brokerCodeArgument* ::= **BrokerCode** = broker-code [, broker-branch ]

Some servers may support the scenario where a user belongs to multiple brokerages. If this is the case then the broker information (broker-code and broker-branch) must be input during login. If they are not included then the list of broker codes/branches is passed back to the client application through the response along with a "20012 Broker Code Required" reply-code.

*broker-code* ::= 1\*24ALPHANUM

*broker-branch* ::= 1\*24ALPHANUM

### 4.4.2 SavedMetadataTimestamp Argument

*savedMetadataTimestamp* ::= **SavedMetadataTimestamp** = saved-timestamp

The client MAY inform the server of the timestamp associated with the version of metadata that it has currently saved. The server MAY use this to adapt to an earlier

version of metadata than it chooses to advertise, or simply log the value to note out-of-date client metadata, or ignore the value entirely. In particular, the server is not required to alter its behavior in any way based on the value of this argument.

*saved-timestamp* ::= DATE

## 4.5 Optional Response Header Fields

---

There are no additional optional response header fields.

## 4.6 Login Response Body Format

---

The body of the login response has three basic formats when replying to a request. The simplest form is when there is an error:

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP  
ReplyText= quoted-string *SP />
```

The second case is where the user belongs to more than one broker and they have not provided broker information as part of the login. The reply contains a list of all brokerages the user belongs to.

```
<RETS ReplyCode = "20012" 1*SP ReplyText = quoted-string *SP >  
<RETS-RESPONSE>CRLF  
2*( Broker = broker-code [ , broker-branch ] CRLF )  
</RETS-RESPONSE>  
</RETS>
```

The third case is the normal "OK" response. In this case several arguments are passed back to the client in the response.

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP  
ReplyText= quoted-string *SP >  
<RETS-RESPONSE>  
member-name-key  
user-info-key  
broker-key  
metadata-ver-key  
metadata-timestamp-key  
min-metadata-timestamp-key  
[ office-list-key ]  
[ balance-key ]  
[ timeout-key ]  
[ pwd-expire-key ]  
capability-url-list  
</RETS-RESPONSE>  
[<RETS-STATUS [1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-end-reply-code 1*SP ReplyText=  
quoted-string *SP]/>  
</RETS> CRLF
```

## 4.7 Required Response Arguments

---

### 4.7.1 Broker

*broker-key* ::= **Broker** = broker-code [ , broker-branch ] CRLF

Broker information for the logged in user is returned to the client.

*broker-code* ::= 1\*24ALPHANUM

*broker-branch* ::= 1\*24ALPHANUM

These parameters are used in the validation routines of the Update transaction (see Section 10 for more information).

## 4.7.2 Member Name

*member-name-key* ::= **MemberName** = member-name CRLF

The member's full name (display name) as it is to appear on any printed output, for example "Jane T. Row".

*member-name* ::= 1\*48TEXT

## 4.7.3 Metadata Version Information

The metadata version and timestamp keys indicate the current and minimum-acceptable versions of metadata.

*metadata-ver-key* ::= **MetadataVersion** = metadata-version CRLF

This is the most current version of the metadata that is available on the server.

*metadata-version* ::= 1\*2DIGITS . 1\*2DIGITS [ . 1\*5DIGITS ]

It uses a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version is advisory and is not used by the metadata currency scheme.

*metadata-timestamp-key* ::= **MetadataTimestamp** = DATE CRLF

This is the timestamp associated with the current version of metadata on the host. If the client has cached an earlier version of metadata, it SHOULD take whatever action is necessary to load the current version of metadata.

*min-metadata-timestamp-key* ::= **MinMetadataTimestamp** = DATE CRLF

This is the earliest version of the metadata that the host will support. If the version of the metadata being used by the client has a timestamp earlier than this time the client SHOULD retrieve the newer metadata from the host. In any case, the client MUST NOT send transactions using metadata older than MinMetadataTimestamp.

The definition of the minimum version of the metadata is to permit clients to ignore non-essential changes to components such as help text and user-readable descriptions.

## 4.7.4 User information

*user-info-key* ::= **User** = user-id , user-level , user-class , agent-code CRLF

This key contains basic information about the user that is stored on the server. If a server does not support one of these fields then it MUST set the returned value to empty (a zero-length string).

*user-id* ::= 1\*30ALPHANUM

*user-class* ::= 1\*30ALPHANUM

*user-level* ::= 1\*5DIGIT

*agent-code* ::= 1\*30ALPHANUM



The agent-code is the code that is stored in the property records for the listing agent, selling agent, etc. In some implementations this may be the same as the user-id. The fields user-class and user-level are implementation dependent and may not exist on some systems, in which case, an empty string should be returned. These parameters are used in the validation routines of the Update transaction (see Section 10 for more information).

## 4.7.5 Capability URL List

*capability-url-list* ::= see Section 4.10 for format information

The server MUST return a capability list that includes at least Search, Login and GetMetadata. The server MAY in addition return any of the other types in Section 4.10. If the server supports any of the additional functions (and the client is entitled to access the function by virtue of the supplied login information), it MUST provide URLs for those functions. The server MAY supply URLs in addition to those in Section 4.10 based on the user-agent. If it does, it MUST follow the format specified in Section 4.10.

## 4.8 Optional Response Arguments

### 4.8.1 Accounting Information

*balance-key* ::= **Balance** = *balance* CRLF

If the server supports an active billing account then this value SHOULD represent a user-readable indication of the money balance in the account.

*balance* ::= 1\*32ALPHANUM

### 4.8.2 Access Control Information

*timeout-key* ::= **TimeoutSeconds** = 1\*5DIGIT CRLF

The number of seconds after a transaction that a session will remain alive, after which the server will terminate the session automatically (e.g. invalidate the session-id). This is commonly referred to as the inactivity timeout. A server need not provide this capability; however, if it does use session timeouts in order to prevent monopolization of resources, it MUST inform the client of the timeout interval by returning this response field.

*pwd-expire-key* ::= **Expr** = *pwd-expr* , *expr-warn-per* CRLF

Indicates when a users password will expire. The parameter *pwd-expr* is a date in RFC 1123 format. And *expr-warn-per* is the number of days (1\*3DIGIT) prior to expiration that the user should be warned of the upcoming password expiration. A *expr-warn-per* value of (-1) indicates that the password expiration is disabled.

### 4.8.3 Office List Information

*office-list-key* ::= **OfficeList** = *broker-code* [ ; *broker-branch* ]  
\*( , *broker-code* [ ; *broker-branch* ]) CRLF

If the logged in user is a company owner or manager they may have rights to login to multiple offices. The *office-list-key* is an enumeration of the offices to which the server will permit login.

*broker-code* ::= 1\*24ALPHANUM

*broker-branch* ::= 1\*24ALPHANUM

## 4.9 Well-Known Names

Some fields returned from the login are considered “Well-Known” and are used in the validation routines of the Update transaction. Those fields are as follows:

**Table 4-1** Well-Known Names for Input Fields

Well-Known name	Input Return Field
. USERID.	user-id
. USERCLASS.	user-class
. USERLEVEL.	user-level
. AGENTCODE.	agent-code
. BROKERCODE.	broker-code
. BROKERBRANCH.	broker-branch

The client MUST assume a blank value for any well-known name for which the server does not supply an input field.

These values are used in Table 11-34, “Validation Expression Special Operand Tokens”.

## 4.10 Capability URL List

The capability-url-list is the set of functions or URLs to which the login grants access. A capability consists of a key and a URL. The list returned from the server in the login reply has the following format:

```
[Action = action-URL CRLF]
[ChangePassword = change-password-URL CRLF]
[GetObject = get-object-URL CRLF]
>Login = login-URL CRLF
[LoginComplete = login-complete-URL CRLF]
[Logout = logout-URL CRLF]
Search = search-URL CRLF
GetMetadata = get-metadata-URL CRLF
[ServerInformation = server-information-URL CRLF]
[Update = update-URL CRLF]
```

**Table 4-2** Capability URL Descriptions

Parameter	Purpose
<i>action-URL</i>	A URL on which the client MUST perform a GET immediately after login. This might include a bulletin or the notification of email. The client application SHOULD provide a means for the user to view the retrieved document. A server is not required to supply an Action URL.
<i>change-password-URL</i>	A URL for the ChangePassword transaction.
<i>get-metadata-URL</i>	A URL for the Get Metadata transaction.
<i>get-object-URL</i>	A URL for the Get Object transaction.
<i>login-URL</i>	A URL for the Login Transaction. The client software should use this URL the next time it performs a Login. If this URL is different from the one currently stored by the client the client, MUST update the stored one to the new one. This provides a mechanism to move the Login server.
<i>login-complete-URL</i>	RESERVED
<i>logout-URL</i>	A URL for the Logout transaction.

**Table 4-2** Capability URL Descriptions

Parameter	Purpose
<i>search-URL</i>	A URL for the Search transaction.
<i>update-URL</i>	A URL for the Update transaction.
<i>server-information-URL</i>	A URL for the System Information transaction

The URLs in the capability-url-list may be specified in any order. In addition, the table is extensible; servers may define additional transactions for clients to access. If a transaction is offered only to particular user agents, the keys for those additional transactions **MUST** begin with the user-agent token, followed by a dash "-", followed by an implementation-defined function name.

*additional-transaction* ::= *user-agent-token* - *function-name* CRLF

*user-agent-token* ::= token portion of the user-agent (Section 3.3)

*function-name* ::= 1\*ALPHA

*Example:*    MLSWindows-special = /special\_function

A compliant client need not recognize any transaction that is not included in this specification. If some extended transactions are offered to any user-agent, the keys for those transactions **MUST** begin with an "X" followed by a dash, followed by an implementation-defined function name. Server implementors who implement potentially-unrestricted extension transactions are urged to register their keys and service descriptions on the RETS web site to encourage wider adoption.

URLs other than the Login URL may be relative URLs. The Login URL **MUST** be an absolute URL. If a URL is not absolute, the client application should canonicalize it according to the rules in RFC 2396, section 5. The "base URL" (as defined in RFC 2396, section 5.1.1) for this operation is the URL used for the *current* login transaction, not the new Login URL.

URLs **MUST** be URL-encoded per RFC 2396.

## 4.11 Reply Codes

**Table 4-3** Valid Reply Codes for Login Transaction

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful
20003	Zero Balance The user has zero balance left in their account.
20004 thru 20011	RESERVED
20012	Broker Code Required The user belongs to multiple broker codes and one must be supplied as part of the login. The broker list is sent back to the client as part of the login response (see section 4.6).
20013	Broker Code Invalid The Broker Code sent by the client is not valid or not valid for the user
20014 thru 20019	RESERVED

Note: RETS does not require that a server maintain user accounts.

**Table 4-3** Valid Reply Codes for Login Transaction (continued)

Reply Code	Meaning
20022	Additional login not permitted There is already a user logged in with this user name, and this server does not permit multiple logins.
20036	Miscellaneous server login error The quoted-string of the body-start-line contains text that SHOULD be displayed to the user
20037	Client authentication failed. The server requires the use of a client password (section 4.1.2), and the client either did not supply the correct client password or did not properly compute its challenge response value.
20050	Server Temporarily Disabled The server is temporarily offline. The user should try again later

# GETOBJECT TRANSACTION

The GetObject transaction is used to retrieve structured information related to known system entities. It can be used to retrieve multimedia files and other key-related information. Objects requested and returned from this transaction are requested and returned as MIME media types. The message body for successful retrievals contains only the objects in the specified MIME media type. Error responses follow the normal response format (section 3.9).

## 5.1 Required Client Request Header Fields

In addition to the Required Client Request Header Fields specified in Section 3.3, the header of any messages sent from the client MUST contain the following header fields:

**Accept** The client MUST request a media type using the standard HTTP Accept header field. Media-type formats (subtypes) are registered with the Internet Assigned Number Authority (IANA) and use a format outlined in RFC 2045 [8]. When submitting a request the client MUST specify the desired type and format. If the server is unable to provide the desired format it SHOULD return a "406 Not Acceptable" status. However, if there are no objects of any subtype available for the requested object the server SHOULD return "404 Not Found." The format of the Accept field is as follows:

*Accept* ::= **Accept:** *type / subtype* [ ; *parameter* ]  
\*( , *SP type / subtype* [ ; *parameter* ])

*type* ::= \* | <a publicly-defined type>

*subtype* ::= \* | <A publicly-defined extension token that has been registered with IANA>

*parameter* ::= **q** = <qvalue scale from 0 to 1 >

A complete list of media types and subtypes is available at:

<http://www.iana.org/assignments/media-types/>

The qvalue is used to specify the desirability of a given media type/subtype, with “1” being the most desirable, “0” being the least desirable, and a range in between. The default qvalue is “1”.

Example:     Accept: image/jpeg, image/tiff; q=0.5,  
                  image/gif; q=0.1

Verbally, this would be interpreted as “image/jpeg is the preferred media type, but if that does not exist, then send the image/tiff entity, and if that does not exist, send the image/gif entity.”

The types supported by the server are defined in the Metadata Dictionary as defined in section 11.4.1.

## 5.2 Optional Client Request Header Fields

The GetObject transaction has no optional request header fields.

## 5.3 Required Request Arguments

**Resource**                      A resource defined in the metadata dictionary (see Section 11.2.2)

The resource from which the object should be retrieved is specified by this entry. For more information see 5.9. The resource **MUST** be a resource defined in the metadata (section 11.4.1).

**Type**                              The object type as defined in the metadata (see Section 11.4.1)

The grouping category to which the object belongs. Type **MUST** be an ObjectType defined in the Object metadata for this Resource. For more information see section 11.4.1.

**ID**                                      A string identifying the object or objects being requested:

*ID*                                      ::=    resource-set\*( , resource-set)

*resource-set*                        ::=    resource-ent i ty [ : obj ect-i d-l i s t ]

*resource-ent i ty* ::=    1\*ALPHANUM

*obj ect-i d-l i s t*    ::=    \* | obj ect-i d \*( : obj ect-i d)

*obj ect-i d*                            ::=    1\*D I G I T

For objects, the *resource-ent i ty* is a value (e.g., MLS number, AgentID) from the KeyF i e l d of the Resource for which the object is to be retrieved.

The *obj ect-i d* is the particular object to be retrieved. Objects are assumed to be stored sequentially on the host beginning with an *obj ect-i d* of “1”. If the object-id is 0 (zero or not provided), the designated preferred object of the given type is returned. If the object-id is set to “\*” then all objects corresponding to the *resource-ent i ty* are returned. This parameter can be used to specify the photo number, e.g. a value of “3” would indicate photo number 3.

If multiple *resource-ent i ty* or *obj ect-i d* values are sent, or if any object-id-list is “\*”, then the host **MUST** respond with a multipart MIME [8] response. See 5.11, “Multipart Responses”, for more detail.

## 5.4 Optional Request Arguments

---

### 5.4.1 Location

Locati on 0 | 1

This parameter indicates whether the object or a URL to the object should be returned. This is used to provide access to the semi-permanent storage location of information for access outside of the transaction (e.g. for use in email to a customer). The lifetime of this semi-permanent storage is not defined by this specification.

If Locati on is set to “1” the server MAY return a URL to the given object. The default is “0”. The server MAY support this functionality (Locati on=“1”) but MUST support Locati on=“0”. In other words, some servers may store the objects in a database or generate them dynamically. Therefore, it may not be possible for those servers to return a URL to the requested object. In these cases the server MAY choose not to support Locati on=“1”. However, all servers MUST support a method to get the object and therefore, MUST support the case where Locati on=“0”.

## 5.5 Required Server Response Header Fields

---

In addition to the other Required Server Header Fields specified in Section 3.6 the following response header fields are required.

**Content-Type** The media type of the underlying data. The server MUST return this field in all replies. Additionally, this field MUST be returned as part of the header for each body part. This field MUST be set to the type of media returned. See Section 5.1 for more information on *<type>* and *<subtype>*.

*Content-Type* ::= **Content-Type:** *type / subtype*

*Example:* Content-Type: image/jpeg

If the client has requested multiple IDs, the server MUST return a multipart message. If it does, it MUST return a Content-Type of “multipart/parallel” along with a boundary delimiter in the response header. See Section 5.11 for more information on multipart responses.

*Example:* Content-Type: multipart/parallel; boundary=AAABBBCCC

**Content-ID** An ID for the object. This field MUST be returned as part of the header for each body part in a multipart response.

*Content-ID* ::= **Content-ID:** *\*64<TEXT, EXCLUDING CR/LF>*

*Example:* Content-ID: 123456

**Object-ID** The object number being returned. This field MUST be returned as part of the header for each body part in a multipart response.

*Object-ID* ::= **Object-ID:** *1\*5DIGIT*

*Example:* Object-ID: 2

**MIME-Version** All responses MUST include a MIME-Version of “1.0” in the response header.

Example:   MIME-Version: 1.0

## 5.6 Optional Server Response Header Fields

---

In addition to the other Optional Server Header Fields specified in Section 3.7 the following response header fields are also optional.

### 5.6.1 Location

**Location**                      If the client has submitted a request with “Locati on=1” the header of the response MUST contain the Location header field. If the server does not support this functionality then “Locati on: ” without a URI MUST be returned.

*Locati on*                      ::=   **Locati on:** *URL*

Example:   Locati on: http://www. exampl e. com/pi c/123456. j pg

If the server is returning a multipart response, then this header MUST be included in the MIME part headers for each object successfully requested.

### 5.6.2 Description

**Description**                      A text description of the object.

*Descripti on*                      ::=   **Content-Descripti on:** \*64<TEXT, EXCLUDING CR/LF>

Example:   Content-Descripti on: Front Vi ew

If the server is returning a multipart response, then this header should be included in the MIME part headers for each object successfully requested.

## 5.7 Required Response Arguments

---

There are no required response arguments.

## 5.8 Optional Response Arguments

---

There are no optional response arguments.

## 5.9 Metadata

---

To retrieve objects the client MAY first retrieve the metadata that describes the Resources and Objects that are available with the GetMetadata transaction described in section 12. A full description of the Metadata Dictionary is provided in Section 11.

## 5.10 Resources

---

RETS does not require that any particular type of object be made available by a server. However, a server MUST use a standard well-known name under which to make its data available if a suitable well-known name is defined in the standard.



## 5.11 Multipart Responses

In the case where the client has requested multiple IDs, the server MUST return a multipart response. In the case of multipart responses, in which one or more different sets of data are combined in a single body, a “multipart” media type field must appear in the entity's header.

### 5.11.1 General Construction

RFC 2045 describes the format of an Internet message body containing a MIME message. The body contains one or more body parts, each preceded by a boundary delimiter line, and the last one followed by a closing boundary delimiter line. After its boundary delimiter line, each body part then consists of a header area, a blank line, and a body area.

Example:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: Apache/2.0.13
Date: Fri, 22 Oct 2004 12:03:38 GMT
Cache-Control: private
RETS-Version: RETS/1.0
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: multipart/parallel; boundary="simple boundary"

--simple boundary
Content-Type: image/jpeg
Content-ID: 123456
Object-ID: 1

<binary data>
--simple boundary
Content-Type: image/jpeg
Content-ID: 123457
Object-ID: 1

<binary data>

--simple boundary--
```

### 5.11.2 Error Handling

When a client requests multiple objects in a single transaction, one or more of those objects may be unavailable. In this case, the server communicates the failure by including a RETS return message in place of the unavailable object. In this case, the Content-Type will be text/xml, and the content will be a RETS response:

Example:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Server: Apache/2.0.13
Date: Fri, 22 Oct 2004 12:03:38 GMT
Cache-Control: private
RETS-Version: RETS/1.7
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: multipart/parallel; boundary="simple boundary"

--simple boundary
Content-Type: image/jpeg
Content-ID: 123456
Object-ID: 1
```

```

<binary data>
--simple boundary
Content-Type: text/xml
Content-ID: 123457
Object-ID: 1

<RETS ReplyCode="20403" ReplyText="There is no listing with that ListingID"/>

--simple boundary--

```

If the server is supplying an error message for a wild-card object request (Object-ID of \*), the Object-ID for the error part SHOULD be \* as well.

## 5.12 Reply Codes

**Table 5-1** GetObject Reply Codes

Reply Code	Meaning
20400	Invalid Resource The request could not be understood due to an unknown resource.
20401	Invalid Type The request could not be understood due to an unknown object type for the resource.
20402	Invalid Identifier The identifier does not match the KeyField of any data in the resource.
20403	No Object Found No matching object was found to satisfy the request.
20406	Unsupported MIME type The server cannot return the object in any of the requested MIME types.
20407	Unauthorized Retrieval The object could not be retrieved because it requests an object to which the supplied login does not grant access.
20408	Resource Unavailable The requested resource is currently unavailable.
20409	Object Unavailable The requested object is currently unavailable.
20410	Request Too Large No further objects will be retrieved because a system limit was exceeded.
20411	Timeout The request timed out while executing
20412	Too many outstanding requests The user has too many outstanding requests and new requests will not be accepted at this time.
20413	Miscellaneous error The server encountered an internal error.

# LOGOUT TRANSACTION

The Logout transaction terminates a session. Except in cases where connection failure prevents it or the user has requested an immediate shutdown of the client, the client SHOULD send the Logout transaction. If the client sends a Logout transaction, the server MUST attempt to send a response before terminating the session.

The server MAY send accounting information back to the client in the response to this transaction. The client is not required to display or otherwise process the accounting information.

## 6.1 Required Request Arguments

There are no required request arguments.

## 6.2 Optional Request Arguments

There are no optional request arguments.

## 6.3 Required Response Arguments

There are no required response arguments.

## 6.4 Optional Response Arguments

ConnectTime	The amount of time that the client spent connected to the server, specified in seconds.
<i>connect-time</i>	::= <b>ConnectTime</b> =1*9DIGITS CRLF
Billing	If the server supports an active billing account, this is total amount billed for this session, specified as TEXT which is implementation-defined
<i>billing</i>	::= <b>Billing</b> =*<TEXT, EXCLUDING CR/LF> CRLF
SignOffMessage	Any text. The client MAY display this message, if the server includes it in the response. Servers should not expect, however, that users would read or see the message, since communication

failure may make it impossible for the client to receive the Logoff response.

*sign-off-message::= SignOffMessage=\*<TEXT, EXCLUDING CR/LF> CRLF*

## 6.5 Logout Response Body Format

The Logout response body is a key / value response (see section 3.5, “Response Format”).

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP
ReplyText= quoted-string *SP >
[<RETS-RESPONSE>
[connect-time]
[billing]
[sign-off-message]
</RETS-RESPONSE>]
[<RETS-STATUS [1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-end-reply-code 1*SP ReplyText=
quoted-string *SP]/>]
</RETS>
```

## 6.6 Reply Codes

Table 6-1 Logout Reply Codes

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful
20701	Not logged in The server did not detect an active login for the session in which the Logout transaction was submitted.
20702	Miscellaneous error. The transaction could not be completed. The ReplyText gives additional information.

## SEARCH TRANSACTION

The Search transaction requests that the server search one or more searchable databases and return the list of qualifying records. The body of the response contains the records matching the query, presented in the requested format. The data can be returned in one of three formats: COMPACT, COMPACT-DECODED or STANDARD-XML.

### 7.1 Search Types

The server **MUST** support at least one type of search. The types of searches supported by the server are specified in the metadata. Each of these searches may be conducted against different databases or tables depending on the server implementation.

Some resources are specified by well-known names. If a server implementation supports searches of any of these resources, it **SHOULD** use the well-known name to describe that search. The list of well-known resource names is provided in Table 11-1, "Well-Known Resource Names" on page 5; well-known classes for those resources are given in Table 11-7, "Metadata Content: Resource Class".

StandardNames for classes are given in Table 11-7, "Metadata Content: Resource Class".

**Note** RETS does not require that a server support any particular search. The user or maintainer of a server is responsible for deciding which resources should be made searchable.

### 7.2 Search Terminology

#### 7.2.1 Field Delimiter

A server may designate a particular OCTET to be used as a delimiter for separating entries in both the COLUMNS list and the DATA returned using the COMPACT and COMPACT-DECODED formats. The octet should be chosen to avoid the need to escape data within a record

*field-delimiter ::= HEX HEX*

#### 7.2.2 Field Name

A field is the keyword or code that the server uses to identify a particular column in the database table. Each field may be either a System-Name, as defined in the metadata, or a

Standard-Name, as defined in the Real Estate Transaction XML DTD. The server MUST accept either set of names interchangeably.

### 7.2.3 Record Count

This value indicates the number of records on the server matching the search criteria sent in the search query.

*record-count* ::= 1\*9DIGITS

Note that this value may be greater than the number of records returned, if the server has limited the size of the return for any reason.

### 7.2.4 Other terms

*XML-data-record* ::= <A data record as defined by the RETS Data XML DTD>.

## 7.3 Required Request Arguments

---

### 7.3.1 Search Type and Class

The SearchType and Class arguments specify the data that the server is to search.

*SearchType* ::= ResourceID

The type of search to perform as discussed in Section 7.1 and defined in the Metadata (see section 11.2.2).

*Class* ::= 1\*32ALPHANUM

This parameter is set to a value that represents the class of data within the SearchType, taken from the Class metadata (section 11.3.1). If the resource represented by the SearchType has no classes, the Class parameter will be ignored by the server and MAY be omitted by the client. If the client does include the Class parameter for a classless search, the value SHOULD be the same as the ResourceID in order to insure forward compatibility.

Note that if StandardNames (Section 7.4.7) is set to 1, then both the SearchType and Class are specified using StandardNames.

### 7.3.2 Query Specification

The specification consists of the query itself together with a designation of the query language.

*Query* ::= <The query to be executed by the server>

The query is specified in the language described in Section 7.7.

*QueryType* ::= DMQL2

An enumeration giving the language in which the query is presented. The only valid value for RETS 1.7 is "DMQL2" which indicates the query language described in Section 7.7

## 7.4 Optional Request Arguments

---

### 7.4.1 Count

The Count argument controls whether the server's response includes a count.

*Count* ::= 0 | 1 | 2

If this argument is set to one ("1"), then a record-count is returned in the response in addition to the data. Note that on some servers this will cause the search to take longer since the count must be returned before any records are received. If this entry is set to two ("2") then only a record-count is returned; no data is returned, but all matches are counted regardless of any Offset or Limit parameter. If the Count argument is not present or set to zero ("0") there is no record count returned.

*Example:* Count=2

Instructs the server to return only a count of the records matching the query.

### 7.4.2 Format

The Format argument selects one of the three supported data return formats for the query response.

*Format* ::= COMPACT | COMPACT-DECODED | STANDARD-XML |  
STANDARD-XML: dtd-version

"COMPACT" means a field list <COLUMNS> followed by a delimited set of the data fields. "COMPACT-DECODED" is the same as COMPACT except the data is returned in a fully-decoded (people-readable) format. See Section 13 for more information on the COMPACT formats. "STANDARD-XML" means an XML presentation of the data in the format defined by the RETS Data XML DTD. Servers MUST support all formats. If the format is not specified, the server MUST return STANDARD-XML.

*Example:* Format=COMPACT-DECODED

If the client has requests STANDARD-XML, it may also append a preferred DTD version. The server SHOULD support at least the current version and the prior one.

*Example:* Format=STANDARD-XML: 1.0

### 7.4.3 Limit

The Limit argument requests the server to apply or suspend a limit on the number of records returned in the search.

*Limit* ::= NONE | 1\*9DIGIT

If this entry is set to ("NONE") or is not present, the server SHOULD treat this as a request to suspend enforcement of the standard download limit. The use of "NONE" MAY disable both the <MAXROWS> tag and return-code "20208 Maximum Records Exceeded". Client implementors should be aware that some server implementations might not honor the request to disable the limit; the server operator's business rules take precedence over the request to waive the system download limit.

Alternatively, if the entry is set to a number greater than zero, the server MUST not return more than the specified number of records. If the server did not return all matching records then the <MAXROWS> tag MUST be sent at the end of the data stream.

#### 7.4.4 Offset

The client may specify that a retrieval start at other than the first record in the set of records matching the query by specifying the Offset argument.

*Offset* ::= 1\*9DIGIT

This argument indicates to the server that it SHOULD start sending the data to the client beginning with the record number indicated, with a value of "1" indicating to start with the first record. This can be useful when requesting records in batches, however, client implementors should be aware that data on the server MAY change as they iterate through the batches and it is possible that some records may be missed or added. In other words, the server is not required to maintain a cursor to the data.

#### 7.4.5 Select

By default, the server MUST return all fields accessible to the client. The client may select a subset of those fields by specifying the Select argument.

*Select* ::= field\*(, field)

This parameter is used to set the fields that are returned by the query. If this entry is not present then all allowable fields for the search/class are returned. The server MAY return an error when there are unknown fields in the select list. The server MUST NOT return more fields than are specified in the Select argument when the client requests COMPACT or COMPACT-DECODED data. It MAY return fewer if some of the field names are invalid or if a requested field is unavailable to the user based on security or other restrictions.

#### 7.4.6 Restricted Indicator

In some instances, the server may withhold the values of selected fields on selected records. In this case, the server SHOULD send back a null value, unless the client has specified a RestrictedIndicator.

*RestrictedIndicator* ::= 1\*9TOKENCHAR

This entry indicates to the server that it should set the restriction indicator to the value specified by this tag. The default is that the server returns no restriction indicator.

*Example:* RestrictedIndicator = ####

This would mean that all fields that the user is not allowed to see within a record (e.g. ExpirationDate) are returned with a value of ####.

Note that if the client requests fields that the server would withhold for every record, the server MAY choose to omit the field from the list returned rather than use the RestrictedIndicator for every record.



## 7.4.7 StandardNames

Queries may use either standard names or system names in the query (Section 7.7). If the client chooses to use standard names, it **MUST** indicate this using the StandardNames argument.

*StandardNames ::= 0 | 1*

If this entry is set to ("0") or is not present the field names passed in the search are the SystemNames, as defined in the metadata. If this entry is set to ("1") then the StandardNames are used for the field names passed in the search. The StandardName designation applies to all names used in the query: SearchType, Class, Query and Select.

## 7.5 Required Response Arguments

There are no required response arguments.

## 7.6 Search Response Body Format

### NOTE

RETS 1.7 requires all server responses to be well-formed XML, and additionally requires search transaction responses to be valid XML. In addition, RETS requires that clients parse server responses as XML, not as simple text streams. The response formats shown here are normative with respect to content, but not normative with respect to form. That is, servers are free to produce response XML in any format that complies with the W3C XML 1.0 recommendation, so long as it is valid with respect to the appropriate DTD. So, for example, when the response format below calls out an empty XML tag, either the abbreviated tag format (<MAXROWS/>) or the full format (<MAXROWS></MAXROWS>) may be sent by the server and should be interpreted appropriately by the client. In addition, XML escaping of content is implied. See the W3C XML Recommendation 1.0, Third Edition, for full information on XML.

The body of the search response has the following format when replying to a request with the format set to "COMPACT" or "COMPACT-DECODED":

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP
  ReplyText= quoted-string *SP >
[ count-tag ]
[ delimiter-tag ]
[ column-tag ]
*( compact-data )
[ max-row-tag ]
[ next-key-tag ]
[<RETS-STATUS [1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-end-reply-code 1*SP
  ReplyText= quoted-string *SP]/>]
</RETS> CRLF
```

The body of the search response has the following format when replying to a format request of "STANDARD-XML" data:

```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
[doctype]
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP
  ReplyText= quoted-string *SP >
[ count-tag ]
*( XML-data-record )
[ max-row-tag ]
[ next-key-tag ]
[<RETS-STATUS [1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-end-reply-code 1*SP
```

```

ReplyText= quoted-string *SP]/>]
</RETS> CRLF
doctype ::= <!DOCTYPE RETS PUBLIC "-//RETS//DTD RETS DATA 1.7//
EN">"http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-data-
1_7.dtd">

```

*dtd-version* ::= <Name of the RETS DTD used to produce this document>

When the client requests the STANDARD-XML representation, it may also specify a DTD version. The server SHOULD be prepared to support at least the current version and the prior version. Data DTD versions are of the form

RETS-yyyymmdd.dtd

where yyyymmdd is the release date of the DTD.

```

compact-data ::= <DATA> field-delimiter*(field-data field-delimiter)
</DATA>

```

If a "COMPACT" or "COMPACT-DECODED" format is specified in the request then a "<DATA>" tag, a delimited list of field-data and a "</DATA>" end tag are returned to the client for each record returned. The field-delimiter is determined by the delimiter-tag.

```

count-tag ::= <COUNT 1*SP Records="record-count" 1*SP />

```

When the client application specifies that a count should be returned (count-type = "1" | "2") a count-tag MUST be sent by the server in the response. The "<COUNT>" tag MUST be on the first line following the reply-code line. The record-count value indicates the number of records on the server matching the search criteria sent in the search query.

```

column-tag ::= <COLUMNS> field-delimiter1*(field field-delimiter)
</COLUMNS>

```

If a "COMPACT" format is specified in the request then a "<COLUMNS>" tag, including a delimited list of the names of all the fields of data being returned, is sent back in the response. These names are the system-names unless standard-names were used in the query.

The field-delimiter is determined by the delimiter-tag.

```

delimiter-tag ::= <DELIMITER value ="field-delimiter"/>

```

This parameter tells the client which character (OCTET) to use as a delimiter for both the COLUMNS list and the DATA returned. The server MUST send this parameter for "COMPACT" or "COMPACT-DECODED" formats. The "<DELIMITER>" tag MUST precede column-tag.

```

max-row-tag ::= <MAXROWS/> CRLF |
<MAXROWS></MAXROWS>

```

A tag that indicates the maximum number of records allowed to be returned by the server has been exceeded, or alternatively, the Limit number passed by the client in the request has been exceeded.

## 7.7 Query language

The query takes the form indicated below. This is the actual search criteria passed to the server. The server parses this query and generates a server-compatible query based on the parameters passed in the query-list.

### 7.7.1 Query language BNF

```
search-condition ::= query-clause | ( search-condition or query-clause )
query-clause    ::= boolean-element | ( query-clause and boolean-element )
boolean-element ::= [not] query-element
query-element   ::= field-criteria | ( search-condition )
or              ::= OR | |
and             ::= AND | ,
not            ::= NOT | ~
field-criteria  ::= ( field = field-value )
field-value     ::= lookup-list | string-list | range-list | period | number
                  | string-literal | .EMPTY.
lookup-list     ::= lookup-or | lookup-not | lookup-and | .ANY.
lookup-or       ::= | lookup *( , lookup )
lookup-not      ::= ~ lookup *( , lookup )
lookup-and      ::= + lookup *( , lookup )
lookup          ::= <any legal ALPHANUM value for the field as defined in the
                  metadata>
string-list     ::= 1*( string *( , string ) )
string          ::= string-eq | string-start | string-contains | string-char
string-eq       ::= 1*ALPHANUM
string-start    ::= 1*ALPHANUM *
string-contains ::= * 1*ALPHANUM *
string-char     ::= *ALPHANUM 1*? *ALPHANUM
string-literal  ::= " 1*( *( PLAINTEXT except " ) *( 2* " ) *( PLAINTEXT except " ) "
range-list      ::= range *( , range )
range           ::= between | greater | less
between         ::= ( period | number | string-eq ) - ( period | number | string-
                  eq )
greater         ::= ( period | number | string-eq ) +
less            ::= ( period | number | string-eq ) -
period          ::= ( date | datetime | time )
```

<i>number</i>	::= 1*DIGIT [ "." *DIGIT ]
<i>date</i>	::= (year - month - day)   <b>TODAY</b>
<i>datetime</i>	::= (year - month - day <b>T</b> hour : minute : second [ . <i>fraction</i> ])   <b>NOW</b>
<i>time</i>	::= (hour ":" minute ":" second [ "." fraction])
<i>fraction</i>	::= 1*3DIGIT
<i>second</i>	::= 2DIGIT
<i>minute</i>	::= 2DIGIT
<i>hour</i>	::= 2DIGIT
<i>day</i>	::= 2DIGIT
<i>month</i>	::= 2DIGIT
<i>year</i>	::= 4DIGIT

## 7.7.2 Query parameter interpretation

Query literal values are interpreted in the value space of the searched field. That is, the data type of the searched field determines the interpretation of the search literal values, which **MUST** be valid in that value space.

All datetimes submitted in queries **MUST** be in GMT. All other dates or times are interpreted in host time. The host **MUST** interpret the token **NOW** as the current date and time, and the token **TODAY** as the current date. If a DateTime is used in a Date context, the host **MUST** either reject the expression or interpret the date as a datetime with a time of 0000.

In processing a literal string, a server **MAY** substitute a *string-char* expression (**?**s) for the range of characters that contain any non-ALPHANUM not supported by that server.

In processing decimal numbers, where rounding is necessary, a server **SHOULD** round down for the bottom of ranges or values less than 0.5 and round up for the tops of ranges or values 0.5 or greater.

There are four types of field values that can be passed in the query string. They are a *lookup-list*, a *range*, a *string* and the special token **.EMPTY.**. A *lookup-list* is a field that may only contain predefined values, or the special token **.ANY.**, indicating that any value is acceptable. "Status" and "Type" are typical examples of fields with a limited range of predefined values.

The **.ANY.** token, if used, is to be interpreted exactly as if it contained all possible values for the given field. In particular, the use of **.ANY.** does not alter any limitation on the number of lookup values allowed for the field. It is merely a shorthand method of specifying all possible lookup values.

*range* fields can be searched based on a range of values. "ListPrice" and "ListDate" fall into this category. All values specified in a *range* are to be treated as inclusive (e.g. 2+ is the same as 2 or greater, inclusive of 2; 2-3 is the same as 2 to 3, inclusive of 2 and 3; 2- is the same as 2 or less, inclusive of 2). The types of the range endpoints **MUST** match the data type of the field being searched. In addition, the *range-start* value **MUST** be less

than the *range-end* value in the value space defined by the searched field, or the result is undefined.

A *string* field is any other character field not falling into the other two categories. These are usually freeform text fields. An example of this kind of field is "OwnerName".

The special value **. EMPTY** is to be interpreted as whatever the value of the field would be if no value had been entered. Note that this is implementation-defined: it may be the same as a search for a null value, or it may be blank or zero. A client should not expect to be able to distinguish unentered values from any other values using this search token.

Each *field* MUST be a SystemName, as defined in the metadata, unless the StandardName argument is set to "1", in which case the *fields* MUST be StandardNames. All values submitted for lookup-lists must be the Value in compact format, as defined in Section 13.

The data types for field values may be determined by examining the metadata for the searched field. In a query using StandardNames, the RETS Data Dictionary gives the acceptable data type for search values.

### 7.7.3 Sub-queries

This query language provides for a nesting of sub-queries. For example:

```
Query=((AREA=| 1, 2) | (CI TY=ACTON)), (LP=200000+)
```

*Example:*    Query=(ST=| ACT, SOLD),  
                  (LP=200000-350000),  
                  (STR=RI VER\*),  
                  (STYLE=RANCH),  
                  (EXT=+WTRFRNT, DOCK),  
                  (LDATE=2000-03-01+),  
                  (REM=\*FORECLOSE\*),  
                  (TYPE=~CONDO, TWNHME),  
                  (OWNER=P?LE)

Verbally, this would be interpreted as "return properties with (ST equal ACT or SOLD) and (LP between 200000 and 350000, inclusive) and (STR beginning with RI VER) and (STYLE equal RANCH) and (EXT equal WTRFRNT and DOCK) and (LDATE greater than or equal to 2000-03-01) and (REM containing FORECLOSE) and (TYPE not equal to CONDO and not equal to TWNHME) and (OWNER starting with P and having LE in the 3rd and 4th characters)."

## 7.8 Reply Codes

**Table 7-1** Search Transaction Reply Codes

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful.
20200	Unknown Query Field The query could not be understood due to an unknown field name.
20201	No Records Found No matching records were found.
20202	Invalid Select The Select statement contains field names that are not recognized by the server.
20203	Miscellaneous Search Error The quoted-string of the body-start-line contains text that MAY be displayed to the user.
20206	Invalid Query Syntax The query could not be understood due to a syntax error.
20207	Unauthorized Query The query could not be executed because it refers to a field to which the supplied login does not grant access.
20208	Maximum Records Exceeded Operation successful, but all of the records have not been returned. This reply code indicates that the maximum records allowed to be returned by the server have been exceeded. Note: reaching /exceeding the "Limit" value in the client request is not a cause for the server to generate this error.
20209	Timeout The request timed out while executing
20210	Too many outstanding queries The user has too many outstanding queries and new queries will not be accepted at this time.
20211	Query too complex The query is too complex to be processed. For example, the query contains too many nesting levels or too many values for a lookup field.
20212	Invalid key request The transaction does not meet the server's requirements for the use of the Key option.
20213	Invalid Key The transaction uses a key that is incorrect or is no longer valid. Servers are not required to detect all possible invalid key values.
20514	Requested DTD version unavailable. The client has requested the metadata in STANDARD-XML format using a DTD version that the server cannot provide.

## GET TRANSACTION

Gets an arbitrary file from the server or performs an arbitrary action, specified by URI. This is a standard HTTP GET, per RFC 2616. The file to get is passed as part of the Request-URI.

RETS servers need not support the GET transaction to any greater extent than is necessary to implement the functionality of the Action URL (see 4.10, “Capability URL List”). If a RETS server does not intend to include an Action URL in its login responses, it need not support the GET transaction.

### 8.1 Required Request Arguments

---

There are no required request arguments.

### 8.2 Optional Request Arguments

---

There are no optional request arguments.

### 8.3 Required Response Arguments

---

There are no required response arguments.

### 8.4 Optional Response Arguments

---

There are no optional response arguments.

### 8.5 Status Conditions

---

See the General Status Codes in Section 3.9 for typical Status-Codes.





## CHANGE PASSWORD TRANSACTION

The Change Password transaction provides a means for the user to change their password. The new password is appended to the username and encrypted using the Data Encryption Standard (DES), ANSI X3.92, using a hash of the old password as the key.

### 9.1 Required Request Arguments

---

PWD ::= **PWD=** <BASE64(<DES( *Password* : *UserName* )>)>

This is the Base64 representation of the DES-encrypted UserName and Password. The new Password and the UserName are appended together with a colon (":") between and the resulting string is encrypted using DES in Electronic Code Book (ECB) mode. The DES key is constructed using the procedure in Section 9.6. Base64 encoding is defined in RFC 2045 section 6.8.

### 9.2 Optional Request Arguments

---

There are no optional request arguments.

### 9.3 Required Response Arguments

---

There are no required response arguments.

### 9.4 Optional Response Arguments

---

There are no optional response arguments.

## 9.5 Reply Codes

**Table 9-1**Change Password Reply Codes

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful.
20140	Insecure password. The password does not meet the site's rules for password security.
20141	Same as Previous Password. The new password is the same as the old one.
20142	The encrypted user name was invalid.

## 9.6 Encryption Key Construction

The new password is communicated to the host as a string encrypted with the Data Encryption Standard, ANSI X3.92. DES requires a 64-bit key, which is constructed as follows:

- 1 The old password and username are converted to uppercase and concatenated together.
- 2 The resulting string is hashed using MD5.
- 3 The key is taken as the first 64 bits of the resulting hash value. Parity bits must be corrected for encoders that check parity.

## 9.7 ECB Padding

The input to the DES ECB encryption process shall be padded to a multiple of 8 octets in the following manner:

Let  $n$  be the length in octets of the input. Pad the input by appending  $8 - (n \bmod 8)$  octets to the end of the input, each having the value  $8 - (n \bmod 8)$ , the number of octets being added. In hexadecimal, the possible paddings are 0x01, 0x0202, 0x030303, 0x04040404, 0x0505050505, 0x060606060606 and 0x07070707070707 and 0x0808080808080808. All input is padded with 1 to 8 octets to produce an input string that is a multiple of 8 octets in length. The padding can be unambiguously removed after decryption.

This padding method is compatible with RFC 2315 section 10.3, note 2.

## 9.8 Effect of change

Servers that return a success status **MUST** accept the new password and reject the old password for all subsequent Login transactions and sessions. Servers that return a success status **MAY** require the use of the new password for all subsequent transactions in the current session by issuing a WWW-Authenticate challenge for transactions that do not contain the correct credentials.

If a client fails to receive a response to this transaction, it **SHOULD** retain both the old and new passwords until the effect of the Change Password transaction can be ascertained via a successful login.

# SECTION 10

## UPDATE TRANSACTION

The update transaction is used to modify data on the server. The client transmits information describing the update to perform. The information is then validated by the server. If there are errors in the data, the server returns an error reply. If there are no errors, the record as it was inserted/updated on the server will be returned. The record is returned in the same manner as a record is returned from a search.

Update requests MUST use the POST method (rather than the GET method). This allows the client to transmit characters beyond the HTTP length limit for the GET method. The request MUST use a content-type appropriate to the encoding of the request, per [16]. A content-type of `text/www-url-formencoded` is recommended, but any other method of encoding HTML form parameters may be used.

### 10.1 Required Request Arguments

The request has the following format:

```
Resource= resource-name
&ClassName= class-name
&Validate= validate-flag
&Type= update-type
&Delimiter= field-delimiter
&Record= field-name = field-value *( field-delimiter field-name =
field-value )
[&WarningResponse= warning-response *(field-delimiter warning-
response)

resource-name ::= 1*32ALPHANUM
```

The name of the resource to be updated, as specified in the metadata. This is the `SystemName` as defined in Section 11.2.2.

```
class-name ::= 1*24ALPHANUM
```

The name of the class to be updated, as defined in the metadata. This is the `ClassName` as defined in section 11.3.1.

```
validate-flag ::= 0 | 1 | 2
```

If this parameter is set to one (“1”), then the record is validated by the host. Any fields with metadata field “Attributes” set to “Autopop” in the metadata (see Section 11.3.4) will have their field values filled in by the server and returned to the client. The record in the server database is not updated. If this entry is set to zero (“0”) and there are no errors in

the record the record is updated on the server. If this entry is set to two ("2"), the server validates all fields and returns any errors found, but does *not* store the record.

*update-type* ::= 1\*24 ALPHANUM

The type of update to perform, as specified by the metadata. This is the UpdateType as defined in Section 11.3.4.

*field-name* ::= 1\*32ALPHANUM

The name of the field to be updated, as specified in the metadata. This is the SystemName as defined in Section 11.3.2.

*field-delimiter* ::= OCTET

The octet which will separate fields in the record. If this is not specified, an ASCII HT character is assumed.

*field-value* ::= <varies depending on the field>

The text representation of the field value as defined by the metadata in Section 11.3.2 subject to the business rules. The value MUST be submitted as if in COMPACT format.

*warning-response* ::= *warning-num* = *user-response*

*warning-num* ::= 1\*5DIGIT

*user-response* ::= \*256TEXT *excluding delimiter*

The *warning-num* value is the host warning number that was returned in the prior Update Response body. The *user-response* value is the text of the warning response in response to the specified warning. If a *warning-num* sent in the prior UpdateResponse body had a *response-required* value of 2, then the *user-response* value MUST NOT be null.

## 10.2 Optional Request Arguments

---

There are no optional request arguments.

## 10.3 Required Response Arguments

---

There are no required response arguments.

## 10.4 Optional Response Arguments

---

There are no optional response arguments.

## 10.5 Update Response Body Format

---

The body of the update response has the following format when there are no errors:

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP
ReplyText= quoted-string *SP > CRLF
transaction-id-tag
[ delimiter-tag ]
column-tag
compact-data
[<RETS-STATUS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-end-reply-code 1*SP
ReplyText= quoted-string *SP/>
</RETS> CRLF
```

The body of the update response has the following format when there are errors or warnings:

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode= quoted-reply-code 1*SP
      ReplyText= quoted-string *SP > CRLF
transaction-id-tag
[ delimiter-tag ]
column-tag
compact-data
[error-block]
[warning-block]
</RETS> CRLF

error-block    = <ERRORBLOCK> CRLF
                1*(<ERRORDATA>→field→error-num→error-
                offset→error-text→
                </ERRORDATA>)
                </ERRORBLOCK>

warning-block  = <WARNI NGBLOCK>
                1*(<WARNI NGDATA>→field→warni ng-num→warni ng-
                offset→warni ng-text→response-requi red→
                </WARNI NGDATA>)
                </WARNI NGBLOCK>
```

The format of the <ERRORDATA> and <WARNI NGDATA> tag content is identical to COMPACT format.

### 10.5.1 Error block

An Error Block is returned when there is a problem with one or more of the fields. The error block contains information about the fields that have errors. It contains the field name, an error number, some additional text about the error (*error-text*), and where in the field data the error occurred (*error-offset*).

*error-num* ::= 1\*5DIGIT

This is the host error number. This number along with the *error-text* MAY be displayed to the user when looking at the corresponding field in the client application.

*error-offset* ::= 1\*5DIGIT

This is the offset into the field data that was sent by the client application to the server. It indicates at what character in the field data the problem was encountered. This number is set to zero ("0") if the offset of the error is unknown.

*error-text* ::= \*64ALPHANUM

This is the error text generated by the host to assist the user in determining the problem with the field data. This text is associated with the *error-num*.

The error return format follows the COMPACT data format in all particulars. This affects primarily the quoting of special characters and the selection of the delimiter that separates the field values. In effect, the error return is a COMPACT data block without the usual COLUMNS element.

## 10.5.2 Warning block

A Warning Block is returned when there is a problem with one or more of the fields that would not prevent the record from being saved in the database. It contains a field name, a warning number, some additional text about the warning (*warning-text*), where in the field data the warning occurred (*warning-offset*) and an indicator whether an end-user response to this warning is requested or required. The delimiter is the same as the one defined for the *error-block*.

*field* ::= 1\*32ALPHANUM

The SystemName of the field to which the warning applies.

*warning-num* ::= 1\*5DIGIT

The host warning number. This number, along with the *warning-text*, MAY be displayed to an end-user in association with the corresponding field in the client application.

*warning-text* ::= TEXT

*warning-offset* ::= 1\*5DIGIT

The offset into the field data that was sent by the client application to the server. It indicates at what character in the field data the problem was encountered. This number is set to zero if the offset of the error is unknown or if an offset is inapplicable.

*response-required* ::= 0 | 1 | 2

The *response-required* value indicates whether an end-user response is requested or required:

- 0 No response is permitted.
- 1 A response is requested.
- 2 A response is mandatory.

If the *response-required* field indicates that a response is mandatory, the client MUST send the end-user response for the specific warning-num in the WarningResponse request argument in order for this record to be saved to the database.

## 10.6 Validation

Validation routines are indications of the checks the host system will perform against a field value before it is accepted for storage on the host. Some of these routines require data available only on the host system. However, others are relatively simple and could be performed by any RETS client to prevent invalid field values from being submitted. There are several different types of validation to be performed by the client.

A compliant client is not required to enforce the local validations provided in this section. However, if a client does not enforce the validations then the likelihood of the server rejecting the record is greatly increased.

### 10.6.1 Lookup

The entry is validated against a list of acceptable values. If the metadata described in Section 11.3.2 specifies the Interpretation as Lookup the only acceptable values for the

field are defined in the METADATA-LOOKUP referenced by LookupName. Alternatively, if the metadata specifies a ValidationLookup the only acceptable values for the field are defined in the METADATA-VALIDATION\_LOOKUP referenced by the ValidationLookup field.

### 10.6.2 MultiSelect Lookup

The entry is validated against a list of acceptable values. If the metadata described in Section 11.3.2 specifies the Interpretation as LookupMulti, LookupBoolean or LookupBitmask the only acceptable values for the field are defined in the METADATA-LOOKUP referenced by LookupName. The maximum number of values that can be selected is defined by MaxUpdate.

### 10.6.3 Range

The entry must be between the Minimum and Maximum values specified in the metadata (see Section 11.3.2).

### 10.6.4 Test Expression

The parameter list contains an expression evaluated by the routine. If the expression is true, the value of the field is acceptable. If the expression is false, the value is rejected. See Section 11.4.9 for more information on Test Expressions. Test expressions are always executed in the order in which they are presented in the metadata.

### 10.6.5 External

The entry may be validated by searching a server resource. The Resource is defined for searching and the parameter list includes a set of suggested input fields, a set of result fields to display and a set of result fields to populate into the fields of the resource being updated. Information for external validation is provided in Section 11.4.10.

## 10.7 Reply Codes

Table 10-1 Update Transaction Reply Codes

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful.
20301	Invalid parameter. Additional information is provided in the error block.
20302	Unable to save record on server.
20303	Miscellaneous Update Error.
20311	WarningResponse was not given for all warnings that contained a response-required value of 2.
20312	WarningResponse was given for a warning that contained a response-required value of 0.

The quoted-string of the body-start-line contains text that MAY be displayed to the user.





# SECTION 11

## METADATA FORMAT

Metadata enables a client that receives data from a compliant server to better format the data for display, and to store it efficiently for future retrieval. While use of the metadata is not necessary to retrieve data for simple display purposes, more sophisticated clients will want to use the metadata to make more intelligent use of the information retrieved. Metadata **MUST** be supplied by a compliant server.

### 11.1 Organization and Retrieval

---

#### 11.1.1 Metadata Organization

Metadata is organized by table/object, with each table having its own unique set of metadata describing the fields available in that table/object. The organization permits access to summary or detailed information about one or more resources (see Figure 11.1, “Metadata Structure”).

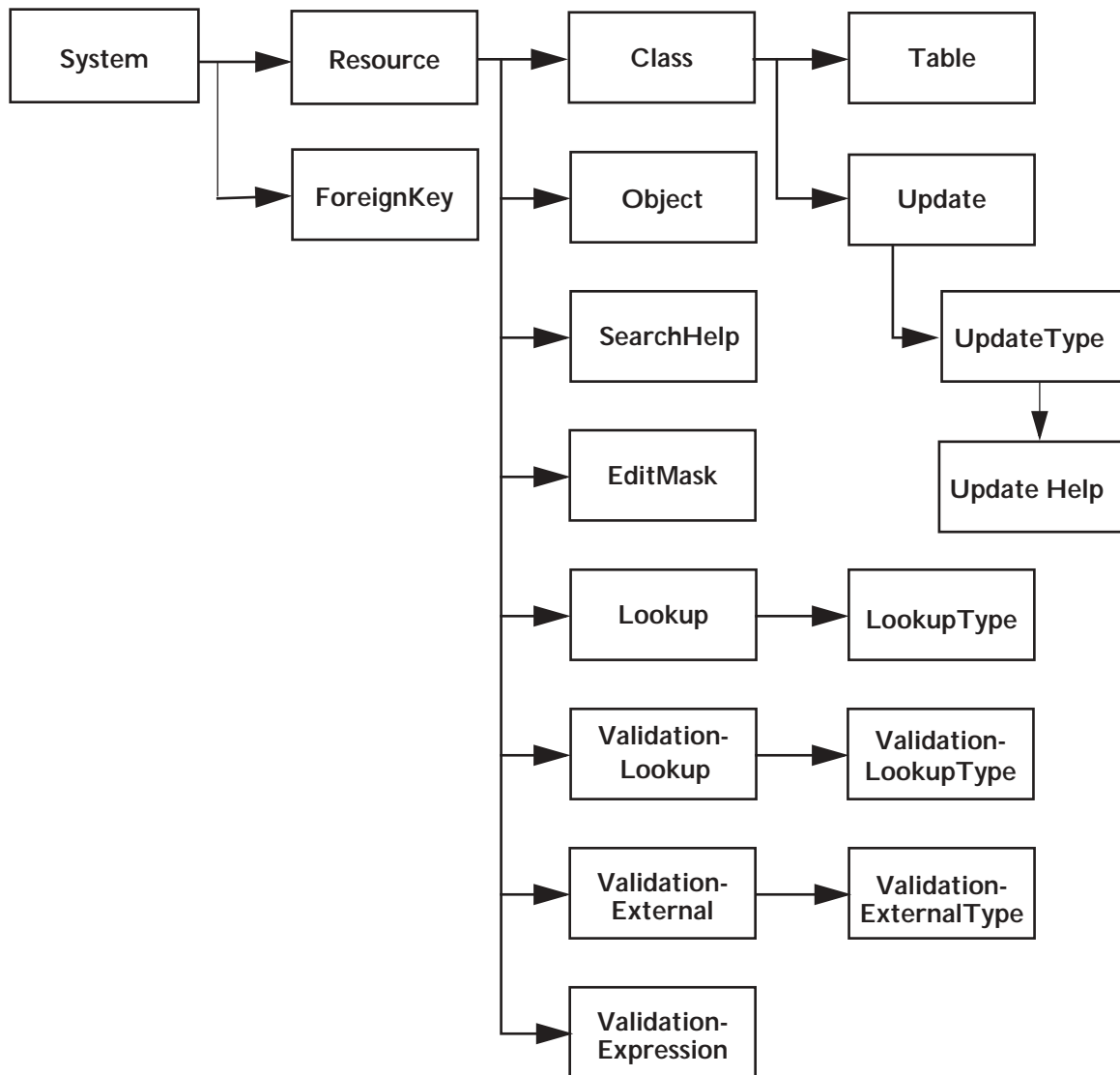
The client retrieves the metadata by using the GetMetadata Transaction specifying the METADATA table/object(s) of interest as the Type, and the specific instance in the ID (see Section 5). The server supplies the metadata as documents using the formats described in this section. The client **MUST** accept fields and attributes in the metadata that are not defined in this standard, although it is not required to process those fields in any way.

The client may cache the metadata between sessions. If it does, it **MUST** record the value of the METADATA-SYSTEM timestamp attribute from each session in which it caches retrieved metadata, and **MUST** request new metadata whenever the MetadataTimestamp Login response value changes except when previous versions are permitted by the MetadataTimestamp value. If a client continues to send transactions using outdated metadata, the server’s operation is undefined.

#### 11.1.2 General Rules for Interpretation

In general, metadata keywords defined in this standard such as field names and reserved values are not case-sensitive. However, implementors are urged to adopt the strict-generation/tolerant-acceptance rule and follow the case shown in this standard.

Servers may choose to extend the content of any metadata table by including additional keywords. Metadata field names for such extensions **SHOULD** begin with the letter “X”



**Figure 11.1** Metadata Structure

followed by a hyphen, followed by an implementation-defined token in order to insure compatibility with future versions of the standard.

Clients requesting metadata in COMPACT format MUST ignore any metadata fields which they do not understand. In addition, the servers are permitted to send columns in any order. The order shown in the examples is not normative.

Clients requesting metadata in XML format MUST ignore any <EXTENSION> or <PROPRIETARY> elements that they do not understand.

## NOTE

RETS 1.7 requires all server responses to be well-formed XML, and additionally requires GetMetadata responses to be valid XML. In addition, RETS requires that clients parse server responses as XML, not as simple text streams. The response formats shown here are normative with respect to content, but not normative with respect to form. That is, servers are free to produce response XML in any format that complies with the W3C XML 1.0 recommendation, so long as it is valid with respect to the appropriate DTD. XML escaping of content is implied, as is XML processing of whitespace and line endings. See the *W3C XML Recommendation 1.0, Third Edition*, for full information on XML.

### 11.1.3 Metadata Retrieval Hierarchy

The ID argument in the GetMetadata transaction reflects the metadata hierarchy as shown in Figure 11.1. For any metadata element, the ID argument is a list of the names of the parent elements for the desired element, separated by colons. For example, to retrieve the EditMask table for a given named Resource, the argument is simply the ResourceID:

Type: METADATA-EDI TMASK  
ID: Property

where Property is the ID of one of the Resources listed in the Metadata-Resource table.

Since Tables are children of Classes, which are in turn children of Properties, the ID parameter contains both parents:

Type: METADATA-TABLE  
ID: Property : Res

where Res is a class listed in the Metadata-Class table under the resource Property.

### 11.1.4 Metadata Format

Compliant RETS servers MUST supply metadata in either of two formats: COMPACT, described below and valid according to the RETS Compact DTD (public identifier -//RETS//DTD Compact Metadata 1.7//EN), or XML, valid according to the RETS XML Metadata DTD (public identifier -//RETS//DTD Metadata Content 1.7//EN). See Appendix A for system identifiers.

The COMPACT metadata format consists of a sequence of segments with identical structure, except for System-level metadata, which has its own structure. The general structure for non-System metadata is a tab-delimited table, XML-encapsulated with the header record contained within a <COLUMNS> element, and each successive row contained within a <DATA> element.:

```
<METADATA-HEADER header-attributes>
<COLUMNS>→fi el dname *(→fi el dname)→</COLUMNS>
*(<DATA>→fi el ddata *(→fi el ddata)→</DATA>)
</METADATA-HEADER>
```

METADATA-HEADER is the header name for the segment, given with the description of each type of metadata, as are the *header-attributes* associated with each header. Each *fi el dname* is the name of one of the metadata fields given below. Each *fi el ddata* value corresponds to the similarly-positioned *fi el dname*, first to first, second to second and so on.

## 11.2 System-Level Metadata

Clients can determine the number and type of searchable and updateable entities by referencing the Resources. A server MUST advertise its resources. It MAY advertise all of its available resources or MAY restrict the advertised list by logon or other criteria. A server's advertisement of a resource does not require that the server be able to accommodate any arbitrary search for that user; the server MAY restrict access to resources that it advertises. If the server supports multimedia objects then it MUST advertise the supported types.

All resources that can be searched or updated are defined in the metadata described in this section. There are three parts to the metadata. The first part provides system information and describes the available resources, the second part describes the class specific metadata for a resource, and the third part describes the shared metadata for a resource.

### 11.2.1 System

The System metadata starts with a <METADATA-SYSTEM> tag with Version and Date attributes. This tag is followed by a <SYSTEM> section, which contains the system identification information. An optional <COMMENTS> section completes the System metadata. The System metadata has the following format:

```
<METADATA-SYSTEM · Version="system-version" · Date="system-date" >
<SYSTEM · SystemID="code-name" · SystemDescription="long-name" />
[ <COMMENTS>
  *( comment )
</COMMENTS> ]
</METADATA-SYSTEM>
```

#### System Version

*system-version* ::= 1\*2DIGITS . 1\*2DIGITS . 1\*5DIGITS

This is the version of the document. The convention used is a “<major>.<minor>.<release>” numbering scheme. Every time any metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.

#### System Date

*system-date* ::= DATE

The System Date is latest change date of any System metadata.

#### System Description

*code-name* ::= 1\*10ALPHANUM

*long-name* ::= 1\*64PLAINTEXT

*comments* ::= TEXT

### 11.2.2 Resources

RETS does not require that any particular type of data be made available by a server. However, a server MUST use a standard well-known name under which to make its data

available if a suitable well-known name is defined in the standard. Table 11-1 contains the list of well-known resource names.

Table 11-1 Well-Known Resource Names

Resource Name	Purpose
ActiveAgent	A resource that contains information about active agents. These are agents that are currently authorized to access the server (paid-up, not retired, etc.)
Agent	A resource that contains information about agents.
History	A resource that contains information about the accumulated changes to each listing.
Office	A resource that contains information about broker offices.
OpenHouse	A resource that contains information about open-house activities.
Property	A resource that contains information about listed properties. Information in this resource is described by Real Estate Transaction XML DTD in addition to appropriate metadata.
Prospect	A resource that contains information about sales or listing prospects.
Tax	A resource that contains tax assessor information.
Tour	A resource that contains information about tour activities.

Resource Metadata Content

COMPACT header tag: METADATA-RESOURCE

Table 11-2 Resource Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Resource metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.

Table 11-3 Metadata: Resource Description Fields (Sheet 1 of 3)

Field Name	Content Type	Description
ResourceID	1*32ALPHANUM	The name which acts as a unique ID for this resource.
StandardName	1*64ALPHANUM	The name of the resource. This must be a well-known name if applicable.
VisibleName	1*64PLAINTEXT	The user-visible name of the resource.
Description	1*64PLAINTEXT	A user-visible description of the resource.
KeyField	1*32ALPHANUM	The SystemName (see 11.3.2) of the field that provides a unique ResourceKey for each element in this resource. All classes within a resource must use the same KeyField.

**Table 11-3 Metadata: Resource Description Fields (Sheet 2 of 3)**

Field Name	Content Type	Description
ClassCount	Numeric	The number of classes in this resource. There MUST be ClassCount METADATA_CLASS descriptions for the resource. There MUST be at least one Class for each Resource.
ClassVersion	1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS	The latest version of the Class metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only.
ClassDate	DATE	The date on which the Class metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management.
ObjectVersion	1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS	The version of the Object metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no Object metadata is available for this Resource.
ObjectDate	DATE	The date on which the Object metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no Object metadata is available for this Resource.
SearchHelpVersion	1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS	The version of the SearchHelp metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no SearchHelp is available for this Resource.
SearchHelpDate	DATE	The date on which the SearchHelp metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no SearchHelp is available for this Resource.
EditMaskVersion	11*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS	The version of the EditMask metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no EditMask is available for this Resource.
EditMaskDate	DATE	The date on which the EditMask metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no EditMask is available for this Resource.
LookupVersion	1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS	The version of the Lookup metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no Lookup is available for this Resource.

**Table 11-3 Metadata: Resource Description Fields (Sheet 3 of 3)**

Field Name	Content Type	Description
LookupDate	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which the Lookup metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no Lookup is available for this Resource.
UpdateHelpVersion	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The version of the UpdateHelp metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no UpdateHelp is available for this Resource.
UpdateHelpDate	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which the UpdateHelp metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no UpdateHelp is available for this Resource.
ValidationExpressionVersion	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The version of the ValidationExpression metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no ValidationExpression is available for this Resource.
ValidationExpressionDate	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which the ValidationExpression metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no ValidationExpression is available for this Resource.
ValidationLookupVersion	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The version of the ValidationLookup metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no ValidationLookup is available for this Resource.
ValidationLookupDate	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which the ValidationLookup metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no ValidationLookup is available for this Resource.
ValidationExternalVersion	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The version of the ValidationExternal metadata for this Resource. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only. A blank version indicates no ValidationExternal is available for this Resource.
ValidationExternalDate	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which the ValidationExternal metadata for this Resource was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management. A blank date indicates no ValidationExternal is available for this Resource.

## 11.2.3 Foreign Keys

The ForeignKeys metadata table allows a server to advertise relationships among its offered resources. A RETS client MAY use this information to provide a richer display of related information. The ForeignKeys metadata consists of tuples containing a parent resource type, a child resource type, and the foreign keys used to traverse the relation.

The nesting of foreign keys MUST be such that recursive searches are NOT REQUIRED to obtain data for well-known fields as defined in the RETS DTD. However, nesting of foreign keys is allowed except in these cases.

### ForeignKeys Metadata Content

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-FOREIGNKEYS**

**Table 11-4** ForeignKeys Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the ForeignKeys metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.

**Table 11-5** Metadata Content: Foreign Keys (Sheet 1 of 2)

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description
ForeignKeyID	RETSDNAME	A Unique ID that represents the foreign key combination.
ParentResourceID	RETSDNAME	The ResourceID (Table 11-3) of the resource for which this field functions as a foreign key. The name given MUST appear in the METADATA-RESOURCE table..
ParentClassID	RETSDNAME	The name of the resource class for which this field functions as a foreign key. This name MUST appear in the RESOURCE-CLASS table for the given ParentResourceID.
ParentSystemName	RETSDNAME	The SystemName of the field in the given resource class that should be searched for the value given in the this field. This name must appear as a SystemName in the METADATA-TABLE section of the metadata for the Parent-ClassID, and the named item must have its Searchable attribute set to TRUE.
ChildResourceID	RETSDNAME	The ResourceID (Table 11-3) of the resource for which this field functions as a foreign key. The name given MUST appear in the METADATA-RESOURCE table.
ChildClassID	RETSDNAME	The name of the resource class for which this field functions as a foreign key. This name MUST appear in the RESOURCE-CLASS table for the given ChildResourceID.



**Table 11-5** Metadata Content: Foreign Keys (Sheet 2 of 2)

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description
ChildSystemName	RETSDNAME	The SystemName of the field in the given resource class that should be searched for the value given in this field. This name must appear as a SystemName in the METADATA-TABLE section of the metadata for the Child-ClassID, and the named item must have its Searchable attribute set to TRUE.
ConditionalParentField	RETSDNAME	The SystemName of a field in the parent's METADATA-TABLE that should be examined to determine whether this parent-child relationship should be used. If this is blank, the relationship is unconditional. If ConditionalParentField is present and nonblank, then ConditionalParentValue MUST be present and nonblank.
ConditionalParentValue	RETSDNAME	The value of the field designated by ConditionalParentField indicating that this relation should be used. If the type of the field named in ConditionalParentField is numeric, then this value is converted to numeric type before comparison. If the type of the field named in ConditionalParentField is character, then the shorter of the two values is padded with blanks and the comparison made for equal length. If ConditionalParentField is present and nonblank, then ConditionalParentValue MUST be present and nonblank.

## 11.3 Metadata Format for Class Elements

All tables that can be searched are defined in a document with the format defined in this section. There are three parts to this section. The first part describes the searchable tables, the second part describes the lookups referenced within the table section, and the third describes the help text associated with searches and edit masks associated with updates.

### 11.3.1 Class

A given data resource may contain multiple classes of entries that can be searched or updated separately. The metadata for a resource supporting searchable classes MUST contain a class description for each class supported.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-CLASS**

**Table 11-6** Class Metadata Compact Header Attributes (Sheet 1 of 2)

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Class metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.

**Table 11-6 Class Metadata Compact Header Attributes (Sheet 2 of 2)**

Attribute	Content
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource in which this class resides.

**Table 11-7 Metadata Content: Resource Class**

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description
Class Name	<i>RETNAME</i>	The name which acts as a unique ID for the class.
Standard Name	<i>Residential Property LotsAndLand CommonInterest MultiFamily</i>	The XML standard name. This is the name from the Real Estate Transaction XML DTD.
Visible Name	<i>1*64PLAINTEXT</i>	The user-visible name of the class.
Description	<i>1*128PLAINTEXT</i>	A user-visible description of the class.
Table Version	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The version of the Table metadata that describes this Class. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only.
Table Date	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which the Table metadata for this Class was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management.
Update Version	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The latest version of any of the Update metadata for this Class. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. A blank version indicates no Update is available for this Class. The version number is advisory only.
Update Date	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which any of the Update metadata for this Class was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this data for cache management. A blank date indicates no Update is available for this Class.
Class Timestamp	<i>RETNAME</i>	The SystemName of the field in the METADATA-TABLE that acts as the last-change timestamp for this class.
Deleted Flag-Field	<i>RETNAME</i>	The SystemName of the field in the METADATA-TABLE that indicates that the record is logically deleted. If this element is specified, then DeletedFlagValue MUST be specified as well.
Deleted-FlagValue	<i>1*32ALPHANUM</i>	The value of the field designated by DeletedFlagField indicating that a record has been logically deleted. If the type of the field named by DeletedFlagField is numeric, then this value is converted to a number before comparison. If the type of the field named by DeletedFlagField is character, then the shorter of the two values is padded with blanks and the comparison made for equal length.

### 11.3.2 Table

The following table lists the minimum acceptable content for server-supplied metadata used in describing a table.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-TABLE**

**Table 11-8** Table Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Table metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource in which this table resides.
Class	The ClassName for the class in which this table resides.

**Table 11-9** Metadata Content - Tables (Sheet 1 of 4)

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that never changes as long as the semantic definition of this field remains unchanged. In particular, it should be managed so as to allow the client to detect changes to the SystemName.
SystemName	RETNAME	The name of the field as it is known to the native server. The system name MUST be unique within the Table.
StandardName	1*64IDALPHA	The name of the field as it is known in the Real Estate Transaction XML DTD.
LongName	1*256TEXT	The name of the field as it is known to the user. This is a localizable, human-readable string. Use of this field is implementation-defined; it is expected that clients will use this value as a title for this datum when it appears on a report.
DBName	1*10ALPHANUM	A short name that can be used as a database field name. This name may not start with a number nor can it be an ANSI-SQL92 reserved word. This value can be used by a client as the name of an internal database field, so servers should attempt to provide a value for this field that is unique within the table.
ShortName	1*64TEXT	An abbreviated field name that is also localizable and human-readable. Use of this field is implementation-defined. It is expected that clients will use this field in human-interface elements such as pick lists.

**Table 11-9 Metadata Content - Tables (Sheet 2 of 4)**

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MaximumLength	Numeric	The maximum length of the field, in characters. For numeric fields (small, int, long and decimal) this is the display length rather than the storage length, and includes all formatting such as the sign, decimal point, commas or other insertion edits.
DataType	Boolean	A truth-value, stored as 1 for true and 0 for false.
	Character	An arbitrary sequence of printable characters.
	Date	A date, in YYYY-MM-DD format.
	DateTime	A timestamp, in YYYY-MM-DD Thh:mm:ss[.sss] format.
	Time	A time, stored in hh:mm:ss[.sss] format.
	Tiny	A signed numeric value that can be stored in no more than 8 bits.
	Small	A signed numeric value that can be stored in no more than 16 bits.
	Int	A signed numeric value that can be stored in no more than 32 bits.
	Long	A signed numeric value that can be stored in no more than 64 bits.
	Decimal	A decimal value that contains a decimal point (see Precision).
Precision	Numeric	The number of digits to the right of the decimal point when formatted.
Searchable	Boolean	A truth-value which indicates that the field is searchable.

**Table 11-9 Metadata Content - Tables (Sheet 3 of 4)**

Field Name	Content Type	Description
Interpretation	Number	An arbitrary number.
	Currency	A number representing a currency value.
	Lookup	A value that should be looked up in the Lookup Table. This is a single selection type lookup (e.g. STATUS).  This interpretation is also valid for Boolean data types, in which case the LookupType specified by the LookupName entry MUST contain exactly two elements, one with a Value of 0, and the other with a Value of 1.
	LookupMulti	A value that should be looked up in the Lookup Table. This is a multiple-selection type lookup (e.g. FEATURES) where the character strings representing each selection are separated by commas.
	LookupBitstring	A value that should be looked up in the Lookup Table. This is a multiple-selection lookup that is stored as a bit string. The bit string is represented as a character string containing only the characters 0 and 1. The leftmost character represents the least-significant bit. The lookup value of the bitstring element is the ordinal position of each bit with the rightmost bit designated as bit 0.
	LookupBitmask	A value that should be looked up in the Lookup Table. This is a multiple-selection type lookup that is stored as a bitmask field. Fields of this type are limited to 31 choices.(e.g. VIEW). When converted to binary, each bit represents one of the possible choices. The choices are from lsb to msb. Lookup values are the numeric equivalent of each bit's binary value (i.e., the low order bit represents the first lookup and the high order bit represents the last lookup choice). $2^{(value-1)}$ is added to the total choice when querying for its applicability.
Alignment	Left	The value MAY be displayed left aligned.
	Right	The value MAY be displayed right aligned.
	Center	The value MAY be centered in its field when displayed.
	Justify	The value MAY be justified within its field when displayed.
UseSeparator	Boolean	A truth-value which indicates that the numeric value MAY be displayed with a thousands separator.
EditMaskID	RETNAME Multiple masks are separated by commas	The name of the entry in the METADATA-EDIT-MASK table (see 11.4.5, "Edit Mask").

**Table 11-9 Metadata Content - Tables (Sheet 4 of 4)**

Field Name	Content Type	Description
LookupName	<i>RETNAME</i>	The name of the METADATA-LOOKUP containing the lookup data for this field (see Section 11.4.2). Required if Interpretation is Lookup, Lookup-Multi, LookupBitstring or LookupBitmask.
MaxSelect	Numeric	This field is required if Interpretation is LookupMulti, LookupBitstring or LookupBitmask. This value indicates the maximum number of entries that may be selected in the lookup.
Units	(Feet   Meters   SqFt   SqMeters   Acres   Hectares )	Unit of measure.
Index	Numeric	An indicator that specifies this field is part of an index. The client MAY use this information to help the user create faster queries.
Minimum	Numeric	The minimum value that may be stored in a field (applies to numeric fields only).
Maximum	Numeric	The maximum value that may be stored in a field (applies to numeric fields only).
Default	Serial	The order that fields should appear in a default one-line search result. Fields that should not appear in the default one-line format should have a value of 0, Fields that should never be visible to the user should have a value of -1.
Required	Numeric	A non-zero value indicates the field is required when searching. This value should be sequential starting with one. If multiple fields share the same value, then one of the fields with the same value is required. (e.g. City = 1 & ZipCode = 1 implies that the user is required to include either City or ZipCode in their query).
SearchHelpID	<i>RETNAME</i>	The name of the entry in the METADATA-SEARCH_HELP table (see Section 11.4.4).
Unique	Boolean	A truth-value which indicates that this field is a unique identifier for the record in which it appears.
ModTimeStamp	Boolean	When true, indicates that changes to this field update the class's ModTimeStamp field.
ForeignKey	<i>RETNAME</i>	When nonblank, indicates that this field is normally populated via a foreign key. The value is the ForeignKeyID from the METADATA-ForeignKEYS table.
ForeignField	<i>RETNAME</i>	The SystemName from the child record accessed via the specified foreign key.
KeyRetrievalQuery	Boolean	When true, indicates that this field may be included in a query that uses the Key optional argument.
KeyRetrievalSelect	Boolean	When true, indicates that this field may be included in the Select list of a query that uses the Key optional argument.

### 11.3.3 Update

A given data resource may contain multiple classes of entries that can be updated separately. The metadata for a resource supporting updateable classes **MUST** contain a Class Table description for each class supported.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-UPDATE**

**Table 11-10** Update Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Update metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number <b>MUST</b> be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.
Class	The ClassName for the class to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-11** Metadata Content – Update

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description										
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that never changes so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.										
UpdateName	1*24ALPHANUM	<div>This identifies the nature of the update, such as "add" or "modify". Some update types, such as changes to a property record (e.g. "Sell", "Back on Market"), will imply a set of business rules specific to the server. However, where possible, the following standard type names should be used:</div> <table><tr><th>Update Name</th><th>Function</th></tr><tr><td>Add</td><td>Add a new record</td></tr><tr><td>Clone</td><td>Create a new record by copying an old one</td></tr><tr><td>Change</td><td>Change an existing record</td></tr><tr><td>Delete</td><td>Delete an existing record</td></tr></table>	Update Name	Function	Add	Add a new record	Clone	Create a new record by copying an old one	Change	Change an existing record	Delete	Delete an existing record
Update Name	Function											
Add	Add a new record											
Clone	Create a new record by copying an old one											
Change	Change an existing record											
Delete	Delete an existing record											
Description	1*64PLAINTEXT	A user visible description of the Update Type.										
KeyField	1*32ALPHANUM	The SystemName (see Section 11.3.2) of the field that must be used to retrieve an existing record for the update.										
Version	1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS	The latest version of this Update Type metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only.										
Date	DATE	The date on which any of the content of this Update Type was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management.										

### 11.3.4 Update Type

A given resource may contain multiple classes of entries that can be updated separately. Each of these classes may have different types of updates that can be performed. There might be different test expressions or sequences. This section describes how each of those are specified.

COMPACT header tag: **METDATA-UPDATE\_TYPE**

**Table 11-12** UpdateType Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Update Type metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.
Class	The ClassName for the class to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-13** Metadata Content – Update Type

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description																		
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that never changes as long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.																		
SystemName	RETNAME	This is the SystemName of the field as defined in Section 11.3.2.																		
Sequence	1*5DIGIT	Sequence number of the field, representing the order of entry																		
Attributes	1*(1   2   3   4   5 [, ])	Multiple entries are separated by commas. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Value</th><th>Meaning</th><th>Description</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>DisplayOnly</td><td>Field may not be changed.</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Required</td><td>Field may not be left blank.</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Autopop</td><td>Field is populated by the server.</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Interactive-Validate</td><td>When changed, the client can validate the field only by contacting the server. All fields listed as "AdditionalField" MUST also be passed.</td></tr> <tr> <td>5</td><td>ClearOn-Cloning</td><td>The field should be cleared when the containing record is cloned.</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Value	Meaning	Description	1	DisplayOnly	Field may not be changed.	2	Required	Field may not be left blank.	3	Autopop	Field is populated by the server.	4	Interactive-Validate	When changed, the client can validate the field only by contacting the server. All fields listed as "AdditionalField" MUST also be passed.	5	ClearOn-Cloning	The field should be cleared when the containing record is cloned.
Value	Meaning	Description																		
1	DisplayOnly	Field may not be changed.																		
2	Required	Field may not be left blank.																		
3	Autopop	Field is populated by the server.																		
4	Interactive-Validate	When changed, the client can validate the field only by contacting the server. All fields listed as "AdditionalField" MUST also be passed.																		
5	ClearOn-Cloning	The field should be cleared when the containing record is cloned.																		
Default	<PLAINTEXT>	Default value of field (i.e. value if not specified by user)																		
ValidationExpressions	(RETNAME ["", "])	<multiple entries are separated by commas> The names of the ValidationExpressions to use. See section 11.4.9																		
UpdateHelpID	RETNAME	The name of the entry in the METADATA-UPDATE_HELP table (see Section 11.4.6).																		
Validation-LookupName	RETNAME	The name of the ValidationLookup to use. See section 11.4.7																		
Validation-External Name	RETNAME	The name of the ValidationExternal to use. See section 11.4.10																		
MaxUpdate	1*5DIGIT	For LookupMulti fields, the maximum number of values that may be specified for the field. This value has no meaning for fields with any other interpretation.																		



## 11.4 Metadata Format for Shared Elements

### 11.4.1 Object

Object type names allow the operator of a particular server to advertise its supported multimedia types. These types are standard MIME types as registered with IANA. RETS does not require that a server make available any particular type of multimedia object. However, a server **MUST** use a standard well-known name under which to make its multimedia objects available, if a suitable well-known name is defined in the standard. Multimedia names are defined in Table 11-14.

**Table 11-14** Well-known Object Types

Object Name	Purpose
<b>Photo</b>	A representation image related to the element defined by the resource KeyField.
<b>Plat</b>	An image of the property boundaries related to the element defined by the resource KeyField
<b>Vi deo</b>	A moving image with or without sound related to the element defined by the resource KeyField.
<b>Audi o</b>	A sound clip related to the element defined by the resource KeyField.
<b>Thumbnai l</b>	A lower-resolution image related to the element defined by the resource KeyField.
<b>Map</b>	A location image related to the element defined by the resource Key-Field.
<b>VRI mage</b>	A multiple-view, possibly-interactive image related to the element defined by the resource KeyField.

COMPACT header tag: **METDATA-OBJECT**

**Table 11-15** Object Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Versi on	This is the version of the Object metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number <b>MUST</b> be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-16** Metadata Content: Resource Object (Sheet 1 of 2)

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description
MetadataEn-tryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that never changes as long as the semantic definition of this field remains unchanged.
Obj ectType	1*24ALPHANUM	The classification of the object. If one of the well-known object types in Table 11-14 applies, then it <b>MUST</b> be used.

**Table 11-16** Metadata Content: Resource Object (Sheet 2 of 2)

Metadata Field	Content Type	Description
MI METype	A MIME type per RFC 2045	The name of the object type. This is the "mime type" that a client can pass to the "Accept" parameter in the Get Object transaction (see Section 5.1).
Vi si bl eName	<i>1*64PLAINTEXT</i>	The user-visible name of the object type.
Descri ption	<i>1*128PLAINTEXT</i>	A user-visible description of the object type.
Obj ectTi meS- tamp	<i>RETNAME</i>	The SystemName of the field in a METADATA-TABLE that acts as the timestamp for objects of this type. This SystemName MUST be one that appears in every class that has objects of this type.
Obj ectCount	<i>RETNAME</i>	The SystemName of the field in a METADATA-TABLE that acts as the count for objects of this type. This SystemName MUST be one that appears in every class that has objects of this type.

## 11.4.2 Lookup

This section describes the lookup tables that are referenced by the LookupName in the Table section. There MUST be a corresponding lookup table for every "LookupName".

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-LOOKUP**

**Table 11-17** Lookup Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Versi on	This is the version of the Lookup metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource in which this table resides.

**Table 11-18** Metadata Content: Lookup

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEn- tryID	<i>1*32ALPHANUM</i>	A value that never changes as long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
LookupName	<i>RETNAME</i>	The name of Lookup Table. There MUST be an entry for each LookupName value used in the Table metadata.
Vi si bl eName	<i>1*32PLAINTEXT</i>	A description of the table that is human-readable.
Versi on	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The latest version of this Lookup Table metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only.
Date	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which any of the content of this Lookup was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management.

### 11.4.3 Lookup Type

This section describes the content of a lookup table that is referenced by the LookupName in the Table section. There MUST be a corresponding lookup table for every "Lookup", "LookupMulti", "LookupBitstring" and "LookupBitmask".

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-LOOKUP\_TYPE**

**Table 11-19** Lookup Type Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Lookup Type metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource in which this table resides.
Lookup	The LookupName for the class in which this table resides.

**Table 11-20** Metadata Content: Lookup Type

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that never changes so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
LongValue	1*128TEXT	The value of the field as it is known to the user. This is a localizable, human-readable string. Use of this field is implementation-defined; expected uses include displays on reports and other presentation contexts.
ShortValue	1*32TEXT	An abbreviated field value that is also localizable and human-readable. Use of this field is implementation-defined; expected uses include picklist values and other human interface elements.
Value	1*32ALPHANUM	The value to be sent to the server when performing a search. This field must be numeric for LookupBitmask and LookupBitstring types. For LookupBitmask fields, $2^{(value-1)}$ is used to compute this component as part of the applicable choices. For LookupBitstring fields, this is the position within the field, 1-based, at which the value contains a "1".

### 11.4.4 Search Help

This section describes the Search Help text tables that are referenced in the Table section. There MUST be a corresponding table entry for each Search HelpTextID referenced in the METADATA-TABLE.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-SEARCH\_HELP**

**Table 11-21** Search Help Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Search Help metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-22** Metadata Content: Search Help

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that never changes so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
SearchHelpID	RETSDNAME	A unique ID for the help text. This ID is referenced as the SearchHelpID in section 11.3.2
Value	1*1024TEXT	The value to be displayed to the user.

## 11.4.5 Edit Mask

This section describes the Edit Mask table that is referenced in the Table section. There MUST be a corresponding table entry for each Search EditMaskID referenced in the METADATA-TABLE.

A Regular Expression is used to define the edit mask. Table 11-25 describes the structures that make up RETS regular expressions.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-EDITMASK**

**Table 11-23** EditMask Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Edit Mask metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-24** Metadata Content: Edit Mask

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of this field remains unchanged.
EditMaskID	RETSDNAME	A unique ID for the Edit Mask. This ID is referenced as the EditMaskID in section 11.3.2
Value	1*256TEXT	The Regular Expression to be used.

## RETS Regular Expression Specification

RETS regular expressions are a subset of POSIX 1003.2 extended regular expressions [12], supporting the metacharacters in Table 11-25.

**Table 11-25** RETS Regular Expression Metacharacters

Metacharacter	Function
<code>.</code> (period)	Matches any single character
<code>*</code>	Matches zero or more of the preceding pattern
<code>+</code>	Matches one or more of the preceding pattern
<code>?</code>	Matches zero or one of the preceding pattern
<code> </code>	Alternation: used between two subpatterns, matches either the one to its left or the one to its right.
<code>( )</code> parentheses	Grouping: causes the enclosed pattern to be treated as atomic. Parentheses may not be nested; that is, only one level of grouping is required.
<code>{<i>min</i>, <i>max</i>}</code> (braces)	Quantifier: matches at least <i>min</i> and at most <i>max</i> of the preceding pattern, where <i>min</i> and <i>max</i> are both nonnegative integer values. If <i>max</i> is omitted, matches exactly <i>min</i> of the preceding pattern.
<code>[ ]</code> brackets	Character class: matches any of the characters contained in the brackets. Except for the circumflex, described below, and the closing bracket, characters within a character class are never treated as metacharacters.
<code>^</code> (circumflex)	Used as the first character of a character class, reverses the sense of the character class; for example, <code>[^0]</code> matches any character except a "0".
<code>-</code>	Operates only within brackets. Except as the first or last character, denotes a range of characters on the default host collating sequence. For example, <code>[0-9]</code> matches any digit. When <code>-</code> is the first or the last character, it is treated as a member of the character class.
<code>\</code>	Escape: treats the following character as an ordinary character rather than a metacharacter. For example, <code>\*</code> matches a single asterisk. The <code>\</code> character itself must be escaped. The escape character is not needed within character classes.

The following is a simple example:

```
[0-9]+[a-fA-F][1-8][A]?[0-9]{2}[A-C]{1,3}
```

One or more digits, followed by an upper or lower case letter A - F, followed by a digit 1 – 8, optionally followed by one letter A, followed by two digits 0 – 9, followed by between one and three of the letters A – C.

A phone number example:

```
[0-9]{3}-[0-9]{4}
```

### 11.4.6 Update Help

This section describes the Update Help Text tables that are referenced in the Update Type section of the document. There MUST be a corresponding table entry for each Update Help Text ID referenced in any of the METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPES.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-UPDATE\_HELP**

**Table 11-26** Update Help Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Update Help metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata segment belongs.

**Table 11-27** Metadata Content: Update Help

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
UpdateHelpID	RETNAME	A unique ID for the help text. This ID is referenced as the UpdateHelpID in section 11.4.6.
Value	1*1024TEXT	The value to be displayed to the user.

## 11.4.7 Validation Lookup

This section describes the Validation Lookup tables that are referenced in the Update Type section of the document. There MUST be a corresponding Validation Lookup Table for each one referenced in the METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPES.

**Table 11-28** ValidationLookup Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Table metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource in which this table resides.

**Table 11-29** Metadata Content: Validation Lookup (Sheet 1 of 2)

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
ValidationLookupName	RETNAME	The unique name of this Validation Lookup. Each Name in the Update Type ValidationLookupName field MUST have a definition.
ParentField	RETNAME	If a value is present, it is a SystemName field in the same table as defined in Section 11.3.2 and indicates a dependency on this field.

**Table 11-29** Metadata Content: Validation Lookup (Sheet 2 of 2)

Field Name	Content Type	Description
Parent2Field	<i>RET\$NAME</i>	If a value is present it is a SystemName field in the same table as defined in Section 11.3.2 and indicates an additional dependency on this field.
Version	<i>1*2DIGITS . 1*2DIGITS . 1*5DIGITS</i>	The version of this Validation Lookup metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. This version number is advisory only.
Date	<i>DATE</i>	The date on which any of the content of this Validation Lookup metadata was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management.

## 11.4.8 Validation Lookup Type

This section describes the content of the Validation Lookup tables that are referenced in the Table section of the document. There MUST be a corresponding Validation Lookup Type table for each one referenced in the METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPE.

The Validation Lookup Type provides a list of all the valid values for a field. This is different than the Lookup described in Section 11.4.2. The Validation Lookup is used for two cases: 1) the list is too long to be provided as a standard lookup (e.g. Street Name) and 2) there is a dependency on the value in another field. For example, a valid entry for a School District might depend on the Area and SubArea that is entered.

COMPACT header name: **METADATA-VALIDATION\_LOOKUP\_TYPE**

**Table 11-30** Validation Lookup Type Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Validation Lookup metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource in which this table resides.
Validation-Lookup	The ValidationLookupName for the METADATA-VALIDATION_LOOKUP entry to which this entry belongs.

**Table 11-31** Metadata Content: Validation Lookup Type

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	<i>1*32ALPHANUM</i>	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of the entry remains unchanged.
ValidText	<i>1*32ALPHANUM</i>	A valid value for the field.
Parent1Value	<i>1*32ALPHANUM</i>	If this field is present then the ValidText can be used if the data in the Parent1 field is set to this value. If Parent1 is present in the PARENTFIELDS tag then this field is required.
Parent2Value	<i>1*32ALPHANUM</i>	If this field is present then the ValidText can be used if the data in the Parent2 field is set to this value. If Parent2 is present in the PARENTFIELDS tag then this field is required.

## 11.4.9 Validation Expression

This section describes the ValidationExpression table that is referenced in Section 11.3.4. There MUST be a corresponding table entry for each ValidationExpressionID referenced in the METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPES for a Resource.

The table contains expressions that are to be evaluated when a field value is entered by the user. Expressions in the list MUST be evaluated in the order in which they appear in the list. There are three types of validation expressions, each introduced by a reserved token preceding the expression, given in Table 11-32:

**Table 11-32** Validation Expression Types

Keyword	Type	Purpose
<b>ACCEPT</b>	Boolean	If the expression is true, the field value is considered accepted without further testing. Subsequent SET expressions MUST be executed.
<b>REJECT</b>	Boolean	If the expression is true, the field value is considered rejected without further testing. Subsequent SET expressions MUST NOT be evaluated.
<b>SET</b>	Assignment	The expression MUST begin with a field name and an equal sign (“=”). The following expression is evaluated and the result stored in the designated field.

Expressions are algebraic formulas containing keywords and operators. Expressions may contain parentheses, and consist of keywords representing any of:

- The current value of any field in the input list
- The current value of any Well-Known Name field in the user’s agent record that is returned in the response to the login transaction (see 4.9, “Well-Known Names”).
- Literal values.
- A special token (Table 11-18 Metadata Content – Validation Expression Special Operand Tokens).

together with the operators in Table 11-33. Arithmetic operations MUST be carried out using IEEE-754 arithmetic with a representation of at least 64 bits. Comparison operations on strings MUST use simple binary collation. If an error or arithmetic exception occurs



during expression evaluation, field value is considered erroneous, regardless of the expression type.

**Table 11-33** Validation Expression Operators

Operator	Precedence	Operation
<code>/, *, .MOD.</code>	1	Division, multiplication, and remainder (modulo)
<code>+, -</code>	2	Addition and subtraction, applied as follows: 1. If both operands are numeric, the operation is algebraic. 2. If either operand is a string, it is converted to numeric and the operation is algebraic. If an error occurs during the conversion, the field value MUST be rejected. 3. For "+", if either operand is a date, the other must be an integer, a string that can be converted to an integer, or a string representing an interval in ISO8601 format. If no conversion is possible, the field value MUST be rejected. 4. For "-", if the left operand is a date or time, the other operand must be a date, a time, or a string representing an interval, and the result must be a string representing an interval in ISO8601 format.
<code>. CONTAINS.</code>	2	A Boolean operator taking strings as its left and right operands. The operation is TRUE if the left operand contains the right operand as a substring anywhere within it.
<code>&lt;, &gt;, &lt;=, &gt;=,</code>	3	Comparison operators with their conventional meaning. If one operand is numeric and the other is a string, the string MUST be converted to a number prior to the comparison. If an error occurs during the conversion, the field value must be rejected.
<code>=, !=</code>	4	Comparison operators with their conventional meaning. If one operand is numeric and the other is a string, the string MUST be converted to a number prior to the comparison. If an error occurs during the conversion, the field value must be rejected.
<code>. AND.</code>	5	A Boolean operator that takes two Boolean operands, and whose value is TRUE if and only if both of its operands are TRUE.
<code>. OR.</code>	6	A Boolean operator that takes two Boolean operands, and whose value is TRUE if either of its operands is TRUE.
<code>. NOT.</code>	7	A Boolean operator that takes a single Boolean operand and returns its inverse.

Literal values to be compared against dates or times are expressed in the ISO8601 format.

**Table 11-34** Validation Expression Special Operand Tokens (Sheet 1 of 2)

Token	Value
<code>. TODAY.</code>	The current date.
<code>. NOW.</code>	The current time.
<code>. ENTRY.</code>	The current field text, as a string.
<code>. EMPTY.</code>	A value that matches an empty or all-blank field. Supplies an empty (zero-length) field when used in a SET expression.
<code>. OLDVALUE.</code>	The text that was in the field as returned from the host in the search operation. If the field is new, <code>. OLDVALUE.</code> is an empty string.

**Table 11-34** Validation Expression Special Operand Tokens (Sheet 2 of 2)

Token	Value
. USERID .	The value of the user-id field returned in the Login transaction (Section 4.9).
. USERCLASS .	The value of the user-class field returned in the Login transaction (Section 4.9).
. USERLEVEL .	The value of the user-level field returned in the Login transaction (Section 4.9).
. AGENTCODE .	The value of the agent-code field returned in the Login transaction (Section 4.9).
. BROKERCODE .	The value of the broker-code field returned in the Login transaction (Section 4.9).
. BROKERBRANCH .	The value of the broker-branch field returned in the Login transaction (Section 4.9).

The Validation Expression metadata starts with a <METADATA-VALIDATION\_EXPRESSION> tag

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-VALIDATION\_EXPRESSION**

**Table 11-35** Validation Expression Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Validation Expression metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-36** Metadata Content: Validation Expression

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
ValidationExpressionID	RETNAME	A unique ID for the ValidationExpression. This ID is referenced as the ValidationExpression in Section 11.3.4.
ValidationExpressionType	1*32ALPHANUM	A validation expression type from Table 11-32.
Value	1*512TEXT	The test expression to be evaluated.

## 11.4.10 Validation External

This section describes the Validation External tables that are referenced in the Update Type section of the document. There MUST be a corresponding Validation External table for each one referenced in any of the METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPES for the Resource.

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-VALIDATION\_EXTERNAL**

**Table 11-37** Validation External Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Validation External metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.

**Table 11-38** Metadata Content: Validation External

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
ValidationExternalName	RETNAME	The unique name of this Validation External. Each Name in the Update Type ValidationExternalName field MUST have a definition.
SearchResource	RETNAME	The ResourceID of the Resource to be searched from 11.2.2.
SearchClass	RETNAME	The ClassName within the Resource to be searched from 11.3.1.
Version	1*2DIGITS ". " 1*2DIGITS ". " 1*5DIGITS	The latest version of this Validation External metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. The version number is advisory only.
Date	DATE	The date on which any of the content of this Validation External was last changed. Clients MAY rely on this date for cache management.

#### 11.4.11 Validation External Type

This section describes the content of the Validation External Type tables that are referenced in the Table section of the document. There MUST be a corresponding Validation External Type table for each one referenced in the METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPES for the Resource.

The Validation External Type provides lists of search, display, and results fields. The Validation External may be used for several cases: 1) The database involved is too large or dynamic to be provided as a standard lookup (e.g. Tax). 2) There are business rules that can only be enforced on the server (e.g. expiration dates). 3) The content of a field populates fields from another database (e.g. Sal e\_agent\_name, Sal e\_offi ce\_name, Sal e\_offi ce\_i d from Sal e\_agent\_i d).

COMPACT header tag: **METADATA-VALIDATION-EXTERNAL-TYPE**

**Table 11-39** Validation External Type Metadata Compact Header Attributes

Attribute	Content
Version	This is the version of the Validation External Type metadata. The convention used is a "<major>.<minor>.<release>" numbering scheme. Every time any contained metadata element changes the version number MUST be increased.
Date	The latest change date of any contained metadata. This is an RFC 1123 date.
Resource	The ResourceID for the resource to which this metadata table applies.
ValidationExternalName	The ValidationExternalName to which this entry type applies.

**Table 11-40** Metadata Content: Validation External Type

Field Name	Content Type	Description
MetadataEntryID	1*32ALPHANUM	A value that remains unchanged so long as the semantic definition of this entry remains unchanged.
SearchField	1*512PLAINTEXT	A comma separated list of valid fields using SystemName from Section 11.3.2.
DisplayField	1*512PLAINTEXT	A comma separated list of valid fields using SystemName from Section 11.3.2.
ResultFields	1*1024PLAINTEXT	A comma separated list of valid field pairs joined by = (equal) the first is a target field in the table being updated and the second is a source field in the table being searched. The fields use a SystemName from Section 11.3.2.

SECTION  
12

## GETMETADATA TRANSACTION

The GetMetadata transaction is used to retrieve structured information known as metadata related to the system entities. Metadata requested and returned from this transaction are requested and returned as MIME media types.

### 12.1 Required Client Request Header Fields

---

There are no additional required client header fields.

### 12.2 Required Request Arguments

---

Type ::= <A grouping of related metadata elements (see Section 11)>

The type of metadata being requested. The Type MUST begin with METADATA and MAY be one of the defined metadata types (see Section 11).

ID ::= *metadata-id*[: *metadata-id*]

*metadata-id* ::= 1\*ALPHANUM | \*

Metadata is organized hierarchically. Each level specifies in its first field an identifier for the metadata contained within that level (e.g. for the Resource level: ResourceID--Agent, Property, etc. for the Lookup level: LookupName—Status, Area, etc.). This identifier can be used to restrict requests to the Type metadata contained within specific instances of higher levels. If the last metadata-id is 0 (zero), then the request is for all Type metadata contained within that level; if the last metadata-id is "\*", then the request is for all Type metadata contained within that level and all metadata Types contained within the requested Type. This means that for a metadata-id of METADATA-SYSTEM, for example, the server is expected to return *all* metadata.

Note: The metadata-id for METADATA-SYSTEM and METADATA-RESOURCE must be 0 or \*.

### 12.3 Optional Request Arguments

---

Format = COMPACT | STANDARD-XML | STANDARD-XML: *version*

*version* ::= <RETS metadata public identifier>

“COMPACT” means a table descriptor, field list <COLUMNS> followed by a delimited set of the data fields. See Section 11 for more information on the COMPACT formats.

“STANDARD-XML” means an XML presentation of the data in the format defined by the RETS Metadata XML DTD. Servers MUST support all formats. If the format is not specified, the STANDARD-XML presentation will be returned.

When the client requests the STANDARD-XML representation, it may also specify the public identifier of the DTD that it expects. The server SHOULD be prepared to support at least the current version and the prior version.

## 12.4 Required Server Response Header Fields

---

In addition to the other Required Server Header Fields specified in Section 3.3 the following response header fields are required.

Content-Type                      The media type of the underlying data. The server MUST return this field in all replies. This field MUST be set to the type of media returned.

*Content-Type*       ::=   **Content-Type** : *type* / *subtype*

*Example:*    Content-Type: text/xml

## 12.5 Required Response Arguments

---

There are no required response arguments.

## 12.6 Optional Response Arguments

---

There are no optional response arguments.

## 12.7 Metadata Response Body Format

---

The body of the metadata response has the following format when replying to a request with the format set to “COMPACT”:

```
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode=quoted-reply-code 1*SP
ReplyText=quoted-string *SP > CRLF
[*metadata-segment]
[rets-status-tag]
</RETS> CRLF
```

*metadata-segment*::= <A metadata segment as defined in Section 11.>

The body of the metadata response has the following format when replying to a format request of "STANDARD-XML" data:

```
<?xml version="1.0" ?>
[doctype]
<RETS 1*SP ReplyCode=quoted-reply-code 1*SP
ReplyText=quoted-string *SP >
[*XML-metadata-segment]
[rets-status-tag]
</RETS> CRLF
```

*doctype*                      ::=   **<!DOCTYPE RETS PUBLIC "-//RETS//DTD Metadata Content 1.7/EN">**

*XML-metadata-segment::=*A metadata segment as defined by the RETS Metadata XML DTD.

#### NOTE

RETS 1.7 requires all server responses to be well-formed XML, and additionally requires GetMetadata responses to be valid XML. In addition, RETS requires that clients parse server responses as XML, not as simple text streams. The response formats shown here are normative with respect to content, but not normative with respect to form. That is, servers are free to produce response XML in any format that complies with the W3C XML 1.0 recommendation, so long as it is valid with respect to the appropriate DTD. XML escaping of content is implied, as is XML processing of whitespace and line endings. See the *W3C XML Recommendation 1.0, Third Edition*, for full information on XML.

## 12.8 Reply Codes

Table 12-1 GetMetadata Reply Codes (Sheet 1 of 2)

Reply Code	Meaning
20500	Invalid Resource The request could not be understood due to an unknown resource.
20501	Invalid Type The request could not be understood due to an unknown metadata type.
20502	Invalid Identifier The identifier is not known inside the specified resource.
20503	No Metadata Found No matching metadata of the type requested was found.
20506	Unsupported Mimetype The server cannot return the metadata in any of the requested MIME types.
20507	Unauthorized Retrieval The metadata could not be retrieved because it requests metadata to which the supplied login does not grant access (e.g. Update Type data).
20508	Resource Unavailable The requested resource is currently unavailable.
20509	Metadata Unavailable The requested metadata is currently unavailable.
20510	Request Too Large Metadata could not be retrieved because a system limit was exceeded.
20511	Timeout The request timed out while executing.
20512	Too many outstanding requests The user has too many outstanding requests and new requests will not be accepted at this time.

**Table 12-1** GetMetadata Reply Codes (Sheet 2 of 2)

<b>Reply Code</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
20513	Miscellaneous error The server encountered an internal error.
20514	Requested DTD version unavailable. The client has requested the metadata in STANDARD-XML format using a DTD version that the server cannot provide.



# SECTION 13

## COMPACT DATA FORMAT

Clients may choose to access data from a server in a “COMPACT” data format that does not use full XML representation. When a client requests information from a compliant server in “COMPACT” format, it will typically need to interpret the result by using the metadata that the server makes available.

### 13.1 Overall format

---

Compact-format records are sequences of fields separated by delimiter. A tab character (an octet with a binary value of 9) is the default delimiter unless another is specified as part of the transaction. The sequence of fields **MUST** be described by a <COLUMNS> tag in the body of the message that carries the compressed records. No field may be omitted from the <DATA>; if the value of a particular field for some record is undefined, the value **SHOULD** be represented by two delimiters with no intervening space.

Compact records are enclosed within a <DATA> start tag and a </DATA> end tag.

### 13.2 Decoded Format

---

Compact-decoded format requires sending data in its most people-readable form. Coded data is data that is stored as an enumeration, multivalue, boolean, abbreviation, or arbitrary string with its meaning defined elsewhere in the system. At minimum, a server **SHOULD** perform the lookup or expansion from the lookup or validation-lookup values defined in the metadata for that field but it **MAY** be a richer value provided by the system’s reporting capabilities. If the field is multivalued, commas and a space separate the decoded values.

## 13.3 Transmission standards

---

A client or server transmitting a compact record MUST encode the data according to Table 13-1.

**Table 13-1** Compact Data Format Representation

Type	Encoding Format
Numeric	An optional sign, followed by zero or more digits, followed by an optional period, followed optionally by zero or more digits. A valid number MUST contain at least one digit if it includes a decimal point or sign. The value may contain leading zeros before the period and / or trailing zeros after the decimal point and fraction, if any. Data types Tiny, Small, Int and Long (Table 11-9) may be signed but may not have nonzero digits after the decimal point. Values with the interpretation LookupBitmask must not be signed, nor may they have nonzero digits after the decimal point.
Character	The plain character sequence, except for LookupMulti, which contains multiple sequences of characters separated by commas. Values with the interpretation LookupBitstring must contain only the characters "0" and "1".
Date	Eight digits in YYYY-MM-DD order, with dashes separating the year from the month and the month from the day.
Time	Six digits in hh:mm:ss[.sss], with colons separating the hour from the minute and the minute from the second, with a three-digit optional fractions of a second format separated from the seconds with a decimal <". ">.
Date-Time	A fourteen-digit string with separators as above, and a space between the day and the hour, as YYYY-MM-DDThh: mm: ss[ . sss], with a three-digit optional fractions of a second separated from the seconds with a decimal <". ">.
MultiSelect	A string consisting of one or more substrings, comma-delimited, each of which corresponds to an entry in the field's associated Metadata-Lookup table.
Boolean	A single character, either 1 for true or 0 for false.

# SECTION 14

## SESSION PROTOCOL

A RETS session follows a well-defined timing sequence in becoming established and in terminating. In particular, the authorization sequence **MUST** be followed in order to begin using other transactions within the protocol. The protocol contains four phases: connection establishment, authorization, session and termination.

### 14.1 Connection Establishment

---

A client initiates communication with a server by beginning a TCP connection on any mutually agreed TCP port, with the default being 6103 for unencrypted connections, and port 12109 for SSL-encrypted connections. When the TCP connection has entered the Established state, the session proceeds to the start of the Authorization phase.

### 14.2 Authorization

---

Authorization begins when the client sends the server a Login transaction. The Login transaction contains the basic information that the server requires in order to start an authorization decision: the user ID and optionally, some information about the client software.

A server responds to the Login request by sending back a “401 Unauthorized” status code and a WWW-Authenticate header. This is part of an authentication challenge to the client. Part of the WWW-Authenticate header may contain a checksum (nonce) of a concatenation of the following:

- 1 The client-IP.
- 2 The server-supplied timestamp.
- 3 The server’s private-key.

Server implementers should note that because of intervening proxy servers, the client IP address may change from connection to connection.

The client concatenates the nonce to the checksum of the Request-URI; then performs an MD5 digest using a concatenation of the username, realm and password as the secret. This result is then returned to the server as part of an Authorization header. The server **MUST** then compute the equivalent function using its own stored copy of the user’s password. If the two match and the nonce is the same, the user is considered authenticated, and the

login can proceed with the server informing the client of the available capabilities. The login has been accomplished without actually sending the password. A server MAY provide an anonymous login. A client wishing an anonymous login sends an empty Authentication field in its Login transaction, after which the authorization proceeds as before.

## 14.3 Session

---

Once the Authorization phase has been completed, both endpoints enter the Session phase. During the Session phase, clients may issue any combination of requests for which they are authorized. The first of these MUST be to issue a GET requests for the “Action” URL, if any, included in the Login response (Section 4.10). After this, clients may issue other transactions.

Clients MAY issue multiple transactions without waiting for responses. However, servers are not required to process these requests in parallel, nor are servers required to complete the requests in the order in which they were issued. If a client issues a request before receiving a response to some earlier request, the client MUST be prepared to receive the responses in any order. The only way for a client to guarantee sequential execution of requests on every server is to wait for a response to any outstanding request before issuing a new request.

## 14.4 Termination

---

A client SHOULD initiate termination of the session by sending a Logoff transaction. If a server receives a Logoff transaction while other operations are pending, it SHOULD abort those pending operations. However, a server MUST NOT rely on receiving a Logoff transaction in order to terminate a session, due to the possibility of communications problems preventing the transmission of the Logoff transaction by the client.

Servers SHOULD provide a timeout mechanism, and if they do, MUST inform the client of the timeout interval during the Login transaction (Section 4.7).

## SERVERINFORMATION TRANSACTION

The ServerInformation transaction allows retrieving global information about a server, or dynamic information about resources offered by a server..

### 15.1 Required Request Arguments

There are no required request arguments. A ServerInformation transaction with no request arguments requests global information.

### 15.2 Optional Request Arguments

Resource	The name of the resource for which dynamic information is requested. This is interpreted as a SystemName unless the StandardNames argument is present and nonzero.
Class	The name of the class within the resource for which dynamic information is requested. This is interpreted as a SystemName unless the StandardNames argument is present and nonzero.
StandardNames	A numeric value which, if zero, indicates that Resource and Class are both SystemName values, and which, if equal to 1, indicates that the Resource and Class names are both StandardName values.

### 15.3 Response Format

The response to the ServerInformation transaction is a well-formed XML document:

```
<RETS ReplyCode="replycode" ReplyText="replytext">
  <ServerInformation>
    <Parameter name="parametername" [resource="resourceID"
      [class="classID"]>
      value
    </Parameter>
  </ServerInformation>
</RETS>
```

## NOTE

RETS 1.7 requires all server responses to be well-formed XML, and additionally requires ServerInformation transaction responses to be valid XML. In addition, RETS requires that clients parse server responses as XML, not as simple text streams. The response formats shown here are normative with respect to content, but not normative with respect to form. That is, servers are free to produce response XML in any format that complies with the W3C XML 1.0 recommendation, so long as it is valid with respect to the appropriate DTD. XML escaping of content is implied. See the W3C XML Recommendation 1.0, Third Edition, for full information on XML.

The server **MUST** supply the information that applies to the Class level even if the information is global to the system. That is, the client is not required to infer information from the class hierarchy.

The well-known names for parameters are given in Table 15-1.

## 15.4 Well-known names

Table 15-1 lists the well-known names for parameters defined in this specification. Servers may extend this list, but **MUST** precede their parameter names with the string “X-”.

**Table 15-1** Well-Known Parameter Names

Parameter	Level	Type	Description
CurrentTi meStamp	System	DateTime	The current system date and time, including the server time zone, in ISO 8601 format.
LastTi meStamp	ResourceClass	DateTime	The most recent modification timestamp of any record in the given resource and class, in ISO 8601 format.
Mi ni mumLi mi t	ResourceClass	Numeric/ String	The minimum Li mi t value for any search in this class. the value <b>NONE</b> may be returned if there is no minimum limit.
KeyLi mi t	ResourceClass	Numeric/ String	The minimum Li mi t for any search in this class that includes a Key optional parameter. the value <b>NONE</b> may be returned if there is no minimum limit.
Repl i cati onSup- port	Resource/Class	Character	An indication of the level of replication support available for the given resource/class:  <b>N</b> indicates that replication is not supported for this resource/class.  <b>Y</b> indicates that replication is supported, that the server supports the optional Key search argument, and that all fields are marked as to their controlling timestamp or foreign key. A blank query may be used to retrieve all records that the user is permitted to access.  <b>K</b> indicates that replications is supported, and that the server supports the optional Key search argument. A query <b>MUST</b> contain one or more of the fields marked in the metadata with the KeyQuery flag.

## 15.5 Reply Codes

---

**Table 15-2**ServerInformation Reply Codes

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful.
20601	Not supported. The transaction is not supported for the given resource and class.
20602	Miscellaneous error. The transaction could not be completed. The ReplyText gives additional information.





# SECTION 16

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# SECTION 17

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# SECTION 18

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## DTD REFERENCES

**Table A-1 DTD References**

<b>Real Estate Transaction Standard Data DTD</b>	
Description	The document returned by a search specifying STANDARD-XML format. This DTD describes the document only, not the entire response. It may be used when transmitting listing or membership data through a channel other than a RETS server (for example, FTP).
Public Identifier	-//RETS//DTD RETS Data Content 1.7//EN
System Identifier	<a href="http://www.rets.org/dtd/2002/10/REData-20040915.dtd">http://www.rets.org/dtd/2002/10/REData-20040915.dtd</a>
<b>Real Estate Transaction Standard STANDARD-XML Search Response</b>	
Description	The response returned by a search specifying STANDARD-XML format. This DTD simply encapsulates the REData DTD (above) in a standard RETS response element.
Public Identifier	-//RETS//DTD RETS XML Search Response 1.7//EN
System Identifier	<a href="http://www.rets.org/dtd/2002/10/RETS-20040915.dtd">http://www.rets.org/dtd/2002/10/RETS-20040915.dtd</a>
<b>Real Estate Transaction Standard COMPACT Search Response</b>	
Description	The response returned by a search specifying COMPACT or COMPACT-DECODED format.
Public Identifier	-//RETS//DTD RETS COMPACT Search Response 1.7//EN
System Identifier	<a href="http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-compact-search-1_7.dtd">http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-compact-search-1_7.dtd</a>
<b>RETS Metadata Content DTD</b>	
Description	This DTD describes the STANDARD-XML metadata format. It may be used when transmitting metadata through a channel other than a RETS server.
Public Identifier	-//RETS//DTD Metadata Content 1.7//EN
System Identifier	<a href="http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-metadata-content-1_7.dtd">http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-metadata-content-1_7.dtd</a>
<b>RETS Metadata STANDARD-XML Response DTD</b>	
Description	The document returned by a GetMetadata transaction specifying a format of STANDARD-XML. This encapsulates the RETS Metadata Content DTD in a standard RETS response element.
Public Identifier	-//RETS//DTD Metadata 1.7//EN
System Identifier	<a href="http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-metadata-1_7.dtd">http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-metadata-1_7.dtd</a>

Table A-1 DTD References

RETS Metadata COMPACT format response	
Description	The document returned by a GetMetadata transaction specifying a format of COMPACT.
Public Identifier	-//RETS//DTD Compact Metadata 1.7//EN
System Identifier	<a href="http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-compact-metadata-1_7.dtd">http://www.rets.org/dtd/2004/09/rets-compact-metadata-1_7.dtd</a>



## B

## SAMPLE COMPACT METADATA RESPONSES

This appendix contains examples for COMPACT metadata responses. It is NON-NORMATIVE: these examples illustrate one way of formatting COMPACT metadata, and one set of values. Section 11 describes the content and formatting rules in detail.

### B.1 System

```
<METADATA-SYSTEM Version="1.00.000" Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT">
<SYSTEM SystemID= "NTREIS" SystemDescription= "North Texas Real Estate
Information System" />
<COMMENTS>
This is a comment line
</COMMENTS>
</METADATA-SYSTEM>
```

### B.2 Resource

```
<METADATA-RESOURCE Version="1.00.000"
Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→ResourceID→StandardName→Visibl eName→Descripti on→
ClassCount→KeyFiel d→ClassVersion→ClassDate→ObjectVersion→
ObjectDate→SearchHel pVersion→SearchHel pDate→EditMaskVersion→
EditMaskDate →LookupVersion→LookupDate→UpdateHel pVersion→
UpdateHel pDate →Val i dati onExpressi onVersion→
Val i dati onExpressi onDate→Val i dati onLookupVersion →
Val i dati onLookupDate→Val i dati onExternal Version→
Val i dati onExternal Date→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→Agent→Agent→ Agent→Agent Tabl e→1→ Agenti d→1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→→→→→→→→→→→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→Property→Property→Property→Property Tabl es→5→
LN→1.00.000→ Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →1.00.000→
Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →</DATA>
<DATA>→Tax→Tax→Tax→Mul ti medi a objects→2→0→ PID→1.00.000→
```



## B.5 Table

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-TABLE

ID: Property: RES

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-TABLE Resource="Property" Class="RES" Version="1.00.000"
  Date= "Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→SystemName→StandardName→LongName→DBName→ShortName→
  MaximumLength→DataType→Precision→Searchable→Interpretation→
  Alignment→UseSeparator→EditMaskID→LookupName→MaxSelect→Units→
  Index→Minimum→Maximum→Default→Required→SearchHelpID→
  MetadataEntryID→ModTimeStamp→ForeignKey→ForeignField→KeyQuery→
  KeySelect→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→LN→ListID→ListStringID→LN→ListID→8→Int→0→1→
  Number→Left→0→→→→→1→→→1→→→→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→PTYP→PropType→Property Type→PT→Prop Type→
  2→Int→0→1→Number→Left→0→→→→→→→→→→1→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→LP→ListPrice→List Price→LP→Lst Pr→8→Int→0→1→
  Currency→Right→1→→→→→14→→→2→→→→→1→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→OWN→Owner→Owner Name→OWN→Own Name→20→Character→
  0→0→→Left→0→→→→→→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→VEW→View→View→VEW→View→10→Long→0→1→LookupBitmap→Left→
  0→→VEW→1→→→→→→→→→1→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→EF→ExtFeat→Features→EF→Ext Feat→10→Character→0→1→
  LookupMulti→Left→0→→→EFT→2→→→→→→→→→1→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→SD→SchDist→School District→SD→SchDist→10→Character→
  0→1→Lookup→Left→0→→SD→→→→→→→→→→1→→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→AR→MLSArea→MLS Area→AR→Area→4→Int→0→1→Lookup→Left→
  0→→AR→→→30→→→3→1→→→→1→→→→→</DATA>
</METADATA-TABLE>
```

## B.6 Update

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA\_UPDATE

ID: Property: RES

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-UPDATE Resource="Property" Class="RES" Version="1.00.000"
  Date= "Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→UpdateName→Description→KeyField→Version→Date→
  MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→Add→Add a new Residential Listing→→→1.00.000→
  Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→→</DATA>
<DATA>→Change→Change a Residential Listing→ListNumber→1.00.000→
  Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→→</DATA>
<DATA>→BOM→Put a Residential Listing Back on Market →ListNumber→
  1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→→</DATA>
</METADATA-UPDATE>
```

## B.7 Update Type

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-UPDATE\_TYPE  
ID: Property: RES: Add

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-UPDATE_TYPE Resource="Property" Class="RES" Update="Add"
  Version="1.00.000" Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→SystemName→Sequence→Attributes→Default→
  Val idati onExpressi onI D→UpdateHel pI D→Val idati onLookupName→
  Val idati onExternal Name→MetadataEntryI D→MaxUpdate→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→STNUM→1→2→→→StNumHel p→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→STNAME→2→2→→→StreetName→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→LD→3→2→→Li stDate→DateHel p→→→→</DATA>
<DATA>→LI STOFF→4→2, 3→→→→</DATA>
</METADATA-UPDATE_TYPE>
```

## B.8 Object

GetMetadata request:

Class: METADATA-OBJECT  
ID: 0

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-OBJECT Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→Obj ectType→StandardName→Vi si bl eName→Descri pti on→
  MetadataEntryI D→MI METype→Obj ectTi meStamp→Obj ectCount→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→Photo→i mage→Ful l Photos→High Resol uti on Property Photos→
  1→i mage/j peg→PhotoTi mestap→PhotoCount→</DATA>
<DATA>→Thumbnail I →i mage→Smal l Photos→Low Resol uti on Property Photos→
  1→i mage/j peg→PhotoTi mestap→PhotoCount→</DATA>
</METADATA-OBJECT>
```

## B.9 Lookup

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-LOOKUP  
ID: 0

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-LOOKUP Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→LookupName→Vi si bl eName→Versi on→Date→MetadataEntryI D→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→1→Status→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→</DATA>
<DATA>→2→Phone Type→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→</DATA>
</METADATA-LOOKUP>
<METADATA-LOOKUP Resource="Agent" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→LookupName→Vi si bl eName→Versi on→Date→MetadataEntryI D→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→1→Status→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT→</DATA>
</METADATA-LOOKUP>
```

## B.10 Lookup Type

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-LOOKUP\_TYPE  
ID: \*

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-LOOKUP_TYPE Resource="Property" Lookup="AR" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT">
  <<COLUMNS>→LongValue→ShortValue→Value→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
  <DATA>→Capitol Hill→Cap Hill→1→</DATA>
  <DATA>→Juani ta Hill→Juani ta→2→</DATA>
  <DATA>→Maple Valley→Mpl Valley→3→</DATA>
  <DATA>→Downtown Redmond→Dntn Rdmd<4>→</DATA>
</METADATA-LOOKUP_TYPE>
<METADATA-LOOKUP_TYPE Resource="Agent" Lookup="STAT" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT">
  <COLUMNS>→LongValue→ShortValue→Value→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
  <DATA>→Active →ACT→1→</DATA>
  <DATA>→Suspended→SUS→2→</DATA>
  <DATA>→Inactive→INA→3→</DATA>
</METADATA-LOOKUP_TYPE>
```

## B.11 Search Help

---

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-SEARCH\_HELP  
ID: Property

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-SEARCH_HELP Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
  <COLUMNS>→SearchHelpID→Value→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
  <DATA>→1→Enter the number in the following format dxd→</DATA>
  <DATA>→2→Enter the number in the following format d.dd→</DATA>
</METADATA-SEARCH_HELP>
```

## B.12 Edit Mask

---

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-EDITMASK  
ID: Property

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-EDITMASK Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000" Date="Sat, 20 Mar
2002 12:03:38 GMT">
  <COLUMNS>→EditMaskID→Value→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
  <DATA>→1→[0-9]{1,2}[x][0-9]{1,2} →</DATA>
  <DATA>→2→[0-9]{3}-[0-9]{2}-[0-9]{4} →</DATA>
</METADATA-EDITMASK>
```

## B.13 Update Help

---

GetMetadata request:

Type: UPDATE\_HELP  
ID: Property

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-UPDATE_HELP Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→UpdateHelpID→Value→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→1→Enter the number in the following format dxd→</DATA>
<DATA>→2→Enter the number in the following format d.dd→</DATA>
</METADATA-UPDATE_HELP>
```

## B.14 Validation Lookup

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-VALIDATION\_LOOKUP  
ID: Property

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-VALIDATION_LOOKUP Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→ValidationLookupName→Parent1Field→Parent2Field→
  Version→Date→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→School→Area→Subarea→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →</DATA>
<DATA>→ZipCode→Area→→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →</DATA>
<DATA>→City→→→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →</DATA>
</METADATA-VALIDATION_LOOKUP>
```

## B.15 Validation Lookup Type

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-VALIDATION\_LOOKUP\_TYPE  
ID: Property: School

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-VALIDATION_LOOKUP_TYPE Resource="Property"
  ValidationLookup="School" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→ValidText→Parent1Value→Parent2Value→MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→133→AREA1→SUBAREA1→</DATA>
<DATA>→134→AREA1→SUBAREA2→</DATA>
<DATA>→135→AREA2→→</DATA>
</METADATA-VALIDATION_LOOKUP_TYPE>
```

## B.16 Validation Expression

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-VALIDATION\_EXPRESSION  
ID: Property

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-VALIDATION_EXPRESSION Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→ValidationExpressionID→ValidationExpressionType→Value→
  MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→Office1→ACCEPT→
  LAG=. AGENTCODE. . OR. (LO=. BROKERCODE. . AND. . ENTRY. =OFFICE)→</DATA>
```

```
<DATA>→Agent1→ACCEPT→(LAG=. AGENTCODE. ) . OR. (SAG=. AGENTCODE. )→→</DATA>
<DATA>→ListDate→ACCEPT→ LD>. TODAY. - 3 .AND. LD<. TODAY. + 3→→</DATA>
</METADATA-VALIDATION_EXPRESSION>
```

## B.17 Validation External

---

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-VALIDATION\_EXTERNAL  
ID: Property

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-VALIDATION_EXTERNAL Resource="Property" Version="1.00.000"
  Date= "Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→ValidationExternal Name→SearchResource→SearchClass→Version→Date→
  MetadataEntryID→</COLUMNS>
<DATA>→1→Office→ Office→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →</DATA>
<DATA>→2→Tax→HENN→1.00.000→Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT →</DATA>
</METADATA-VALIDATION_EXTERNAL>
```

## B.18 Validation External Type

---

GetMetadata request:

Type: METADATA-VALIDATION\_EXTERNAL\_TYPE  
ID: Property: VET1

Compact reply:

```
<METADATA-VALIDATION_EXTERNAL_TYPE Resource="Property"
  ValidationExternal ="VET1" Version="1.00.000"
  Date="Sat, 20 Mar 2002 12:03:38 GMT" >
<COLUMNS>→SearchField→DisplayField→ResultsFields→MetadataEntryID→
  </COLUMNS>
<DATA>→AgentID, AgentCode→AgentName, OfficeName→SaleAgentID=AgentID,
  SaleAgentName=AgentName, SaleOfficeID=OfficeID,
  SaleOfficeName=OfficeName→→</DATA>
</METADATA-VALIDATION_EXTERNAL_TYPE>
```





## SUMMARY OF RETS REPLY CODES

**Table C-1** Consolidated list of RETS reply codes (Sheet 1 of 4)

Reply Code	Meaning
0	Operation successful
10000	System error The server has detected an error with the request that prevents it from identifying the type of request, or that prevents the server from routing the request for processing. This return code MUST NOT be used when a more specific return code can be determined.
20003	Zero Balance The user has zero balance left in their account.
20004 thru 20011	RESERVED
20012	Broker Code Required The user belongs to multiple broker codes and one must be supplied as part of the login. The broker list is sent back to the client as part of the login response (see section 4.6).
20013	Broker Code Invalid The Broker Code sent by the client is not valid or not valid for the user
20014 thru 20019	RESERVED
20022	Additional login not permitted There is already a user logged in with this user name, and this server does not permit multiple logins.
20036	Miscellaneous server login error The quoted-string of the body-start-line contains text that SHOULD be displayed to the user
20037	Client authentication failed. The server requires the use of a client password (section 4.1.2), and the client either did not supply the correct client password or did not properly compute its challenge response value.
20050	Server Temporarily Disabled The server is temporarily offline. The user should try again later
20140	Insecure password. The password does not meet the site's rules for password security.
20141	Same as Previous Password. The new password is the same as the old one.
20142	The encrypted user name was invalid.

**Table C-1** Consolidated list of RETS reply codes (Sheet 2 of 4)

Reply Code	Meaning
20200	Unknown Query Field The query could not be understood due to an unknown field name.
20201	No Records Found No matching records were found.
20202	Invalid Select The Select statement contains field names that are not recognized by the server.
20203	Miscellaneous Search Error The quoted-string of the body-start-line contains text that MAY be displayed to the user.
20206	Invalid Query Syntax The query could not be understood due to a syntax error.
20207	Unauthorized Query The query could not be executed because it refers to a field to which the supplied login does not grant access.
20208	Maximum Records Exceeded Operation successful, but all of the records have not been returned. This reply code indicates that the maximum records allowed to be returned by the server have been exceeded. Note: reaching/exceeding the "Limit" value in the client request is not a cause for the server to generate this error.
20209	Timeout The request timed out while executing
20210	Too many outstanding queries The user has too many outstanding queries and new queries will not be accepted at this time.
20211	Query too complex The query is too complex to be processed. For example, the query contains too many nesting levels or too many values for a lookup field.
20212	Invalid key request The transaction does not meet the server's requirements for the use of the Key option.
20213	Invalid Key The transaction uses a key that is incorrect or is no longer valid. Servers are not required to detect all possible invalid key values.
20301	Invalid parameter. Additional information is provided in the error block.
20302	Unable to save record on server.
20303	Miscellaneous Update Error.
20311	WarningResponse was not given for all warnings that contained a <i>response-required</i> value of 2.
20312	WarningResponse was given for a warning that contained a <i>response-required</i> value of 0.
20400	Invalid Resource The request could not be understood due to an unknown resource.
20401	Invalid Type The request could not be understood due to an unknown object type for the resource.
20402	Invalid Identifier The identifier does not match the KeyField of any data in the resource.
20403	No Object Found No matching object was found to satisfy the request.

**Table C-1** Consolidated list of RETS reply codes (Sheet 3 of 4)

Reply Code	Meaning
20406	Unsupported MIME type The server cannot return the object in any of the requested MIME types.
20407	Unauthorized Retrieval The object could not be retrieved because it requests an object to which the supplied login does not grant access.
20408	Resource Unavailable The requested resource is currently unavailable.
20409	Object Unavailable The requested object is currently unavailable.
20410	Request Too Large No further objects will be retrieved because a system limit was exceeded.
20411	Timeout The request timed out while executing
20412	Too many outstanding requests The user has too many outstanding requests and new requests will not be accepted at this time.
20413	Miscellaneous error The server encountered an internal error.
20500	Invalid Resource The request could not be understood due to an unknown resource.
20501	Invalid Type The request could not be understood due to an unknown metadata type.
20502	Invalid Identifier The identifier is not known inside the specified resource.
20503	No Metadata Found No matching metadata of the type requested was found.
20506	Unsupported Mimetype The server cannot return the metadata in any of the requested MIME types.
20507	Unauthorized Retrieval The metadata could not be retrieved because it requests metadata to which the supplied login does not grant access (e.g. Update Type data).
20508	Resource Unavailable The requested resource is currently unavailable.
20509	Metadata Unavailable The requested metadata is currently unavailable.
20510	Request Too Large Metadata could not be retrieved because a system limit was exceeded.
20511	Timeout The request timed out while executing.
20512	Too many outstanding requests The user has too many outstanding requests and new requests will not be accepted at this time.

**Table C-1** Consolidated list of RETS reply codes (Sheet 4 of 4)

Reply Code	Meaning
20513	Miscellaneous error The server encountered an internal error.
20514	Requested DTD version unavailable. The client has requested the metadata in STANDARD-XML format using a DTD version that the server cannot provide.
20701	Not logged in The server did not detect an active login for the session in which the Logout transaction was submitted.
20702	Miscellaneous error. The transaction could not be completed. The ReplyText gives additional information.

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