

Identity and Access Management using Social Networking Tech.

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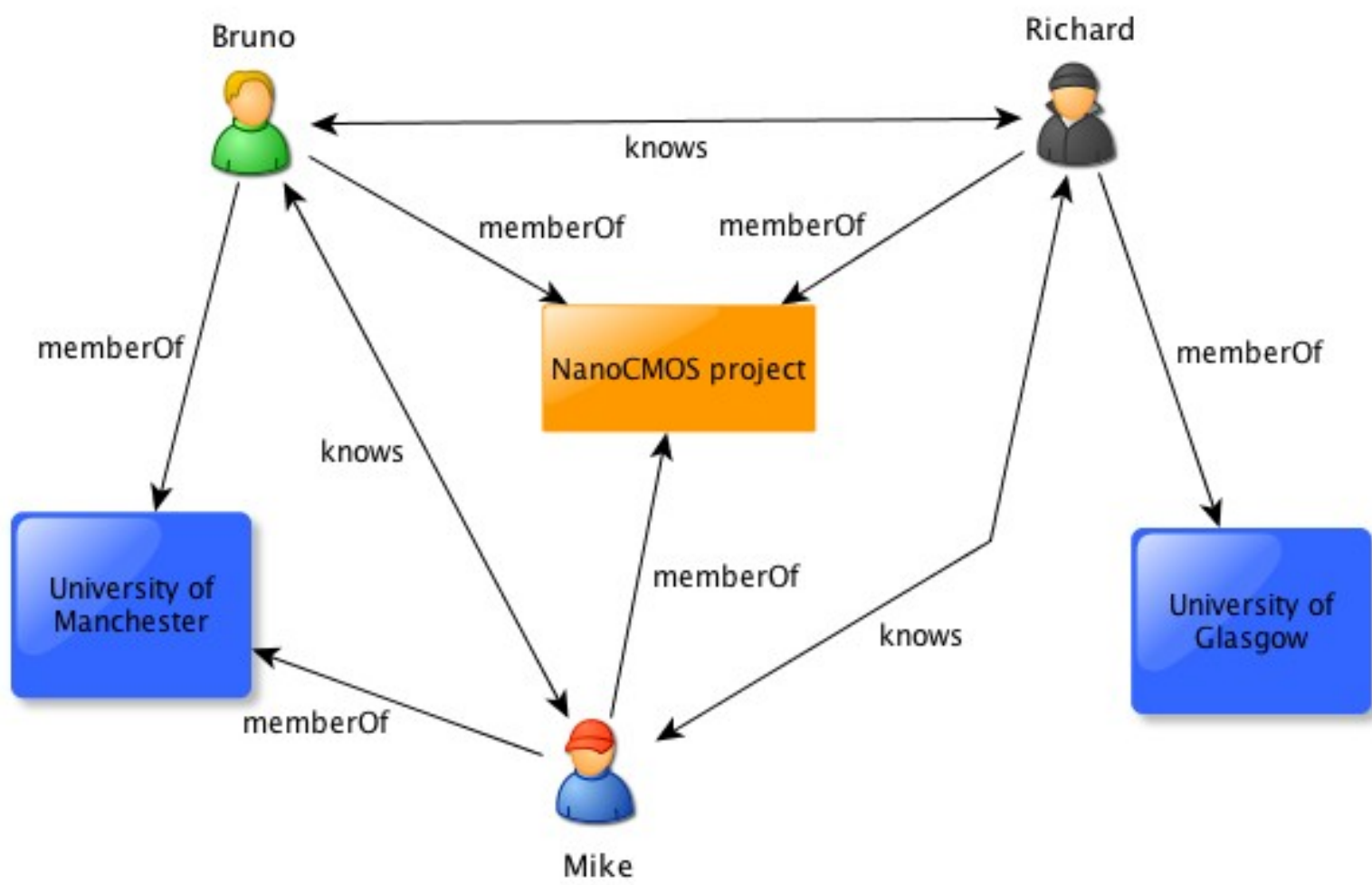
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FOAF: Friend of a friend

- FOAF is an RDF (Resource Description Framework) vocabulary mainly aimed at describing people and social networks, in particular using foaf:Agent (e.g. foaf:Person), foaf:knows, and foaf:Group/Organization.

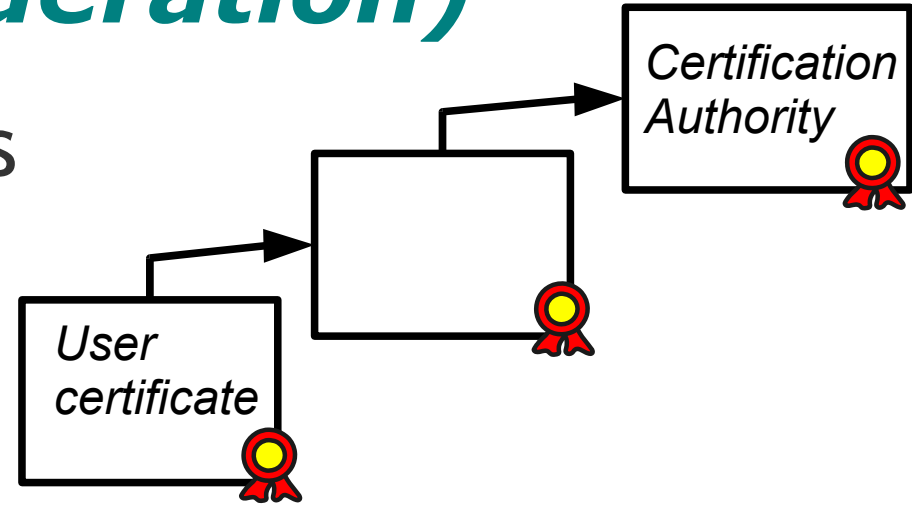
```
<http://www.harbulot.com/foaf/bruno#me> rdf:type foaf:Person ;  
  foaf:name "Bruno Harbulot" ;  
  foaf:workplaceHomepage <http://www.manchester.ac.uk/> ;  
  foaf:knows <http://bblfish.net/people/henry/card#me> .  
  
<http://bblfish.net/people/henry/card#me> rdf:type foaf:Person ;  
  foaf:name "Henry Story" .
```

FOAF to describe links between people and memberships



Identity & Access Mechanism (PKI and Federation)

- Public Key Infrastructures (certificates)



- Registration is difficult
- Collaboration (ad-hoc or bespoke, outside existing federation) is difficult
- Identifier doesn't enable discovery of information about the user

FOAF+SSL

- WebID: URI of a foaf:Person (or Agent/Org.)
- Public key in the FOAF document at the WebID
- Certificate: WebID + public key
- Immediate issuing of certificate (instant one-click process)
- Decouples handles from assertions about entities
- Semantic web to discover and describe handle and entities the SP knows about

Objectives and Deliverables

- Try out this system in the context of:
 - The UK Access Management Federation, via Shibboleth (implementing an IdP)
 - Grid resources, via GSI

Evaluation

- We need to know it can work (in particular with respect to the release of appropriate attributes)
- We're convinced we can produce the tech.
- User adoption
- SP to accept these assertions

Benefits for UK Access Management Federation

- Easy to derive membership of a project or (virtual) organisation based on the FOAF relations.
- Contrast with federated IdPs: good for ID, but don't know about groups/collaborations a priori.
- Easier ad-hoc collaborations (potentially with people outside the federation too).

Questions?

References

- JISC project page: <http://bit.ly/cs1flS>
- FOAF+SSL on W3C ESW wiki: <http://esw.w3.org/topic/foaf+ssl>
- RCS pages:
<http://www.rcs.manchester.ac.uk/research/FoafSslShib>
<http://wiki.rcs.manchester.ac.uk/community/FoafSslShib>
- My blog: <http://blog.distributedmatter.net/>
- Henry Story's blog: <http://blogs.sun.com/bblfish/>
- Foaf-protocols list:
<http://lists.foaf-project.org/mailman/listinfo/foaf-protocols>