



Cirrus Identity News



Cirrus User Group Virtual Meeting!

Cirrus will be hosting a virtual meeting on May 25th

The focus of the event will be bringing customers together to learn some valuable insights from each other on implementing Cirrus solutions to solve many IAM challenges. We will highlight use cases like Researcher access to RedCap and HPCs, simplified access to shared applications for higher ed systems of campuses, external login solutions for alumni, continuing ed and applicants, and the most seamless Bridge implementations to retire Shibboleth and/or CAS! Cirrus will also brief you on new and upcoming product enhancements and share the customer input we received at TechEx in December.

Share Your Highlights: Please let us know if you can share the highlights of your Cirrus implementation — 5-10 minutes of what went well and what you learned. It's a safe and friendly crowd - low pressure! Email karen@cirrusidentity.com now!

Save the Date: Thursday, May 25th, 11-1pm Pacific, 2-4pm Eastern

Meet the New Cirrus Team Members!

Cirrus Identity is excited to welcome our newest member to our awesome team!



Gary Windham joined Cirrus full-time in March as a Senior Identity Developer!

Gary has 30 years of experience in software development, enterprise systems architecture, identity management, and cloud technologies. He loves trying to find elegant solutions to challenging technical problems.

Higher Education Experience: Gary recently retired from The University of Arizona following a career spanning nearly 3 decades. He led the university's central IAM team for 13 years — spearheading the implementation and campus adoption of many key IAM components (e.g., SSO, person and group registries, MFA) — and advanced technology innovation in his role as Principal Systems Architect.

Personal Interests: Gary enjoys hiking scenic trails in Tucson, Arizona, reading/watching Sci-Fi, and spending time with his family and dogs.

You can learn more about our team on the Cirrus website - See the Cirrus Team

Cirrus SOC2 Update!

Cirrus is excited to announce that we now have completed our SOC2 Type2 audit. This builds on the work done last June where Cirrus completed the SOC2 Type 1 review. With the diligence of Mark Rank, Candie Cortez, and the rest of the Cirrus team, we will have the 2023 report available once delivered by our auditors. Please email support@cirrusidentity.com to request a copy. Note that we provide a full copy for customers and prospects who have signed an NDA. For others, we can provide a copy of the "Independent Service Auditor's Report" section.

Cirrus Identity Customer Highlights

Welcome to New and Expanding Customers!

We are happy to announce that we will be working with the following new and expanding institutions to streamline access:

- California State University, Bakersfield
Carnegie Mellon University
Okanagan College
Sheridan College
SLAC at Stanford
SUNY Geneseo
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
University of Arkansas, System
University of Florida
Visual Zen Customers: St. Louis University



Use Cirrus to Enable Researchers at Other Institutions to Access REDCap!

What is REDCap?

REDCap is a secure web application for building and managing online surveys and databases and commonly used by researchers. Researchers from many institutions, especially if there is a shared grant or collaboration, require access to REDCap.

How Does Cirrus Help?

Cirrus has been working with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to deploy the Cirrus Proxy to enable access to REDCap for collaborators at other InCommon institutions. This allows those collaborators to use their own institution's username and password for access. It also eliminates the need to set up separate accounts for researchers which streamlines access, maintains secure access for critical systems and greatly reduces the support burden from forgotten usernames and/or passwords!

If you're interested in hearing more about this integration, feel free to reach out to sales@cirrusidentity.com.

Cirrus Identity in the Community

FedCM Contributions!

Why is Higher Ed concerned about FedCM?

The Federated Credential Management API (or FedCM) is an emerging standard for supporting federated authentication without reliance on technologies being phased out, such as third-party cookies.

FedCM aims to ensure continued support for "sign in with <your organization>" authentication through mediated browser dialogues, but current functionality does not address patterns unique and common to higher education, such as multilateral federation.

What is Being Done?

Heather Flanagan, from Spherical Cow Consulting, gave a presentation on significant upcoming changes to browser support that garnered significant attention at the Internet2 Technology Exchange in December, leading to a dedicated meeting with subject matter experts from major browser providers and R&E federation technologies this February.

Mary McKee and Gary Windham represented Cirrus Identity at the February meeting, where the group developed two proposals for adapting FedCM to accommodate multilateral federations such as InCommon. Upcoming meetings will also include Cirrus CTO Patrick Radke, and Director of Product, Mark Rank.

Interested in learning more or getting involved? Check out the W3C Community Group's FedCM repository!

Verified Credential Proof of Concept - with Microsoft Entra Verified Credentials and SimpleSAMLphp

Verified Credentials stored via user "wallets" on smartphones offer the promise of greater user control when releasing data. Most campuses have implemented SSO via the SAML protocol, with some OIDC and CAS as well. Until applications are able to integrate directly with Verified Credential user verification flows., campuses may wish to allow students, faculty and staff to use wallet-based identifiers to access SAML, OIDC, or CAS-protected applications.

Cirrus Identity developed a new authentication module in SimpleSAMLphp to enable users to verify their identity using a Microsoft Entra Verified ID, and then convert that into a SAML authentication response. We then implemented a Proof of Concept workflow to demonstrate this application of Verified Credentials to "authenticate" to an application via SAML.

See: Full Demo

Cirrus Identity Product Highlights

Behind the Scenes!

Cirrus has been busy making improvements - some that you may not see, but help us provide the most robust and sustainable services to you!

Metadata Manager - Rob Urquhart has been hard at work on enhancement to Cirrus' metadata management infrastructure, streamlining updates and promoting continued scale of Cirrus services.

SSP 2.0 Upgrade - Cirrus prides itself on staying current with upgrades, patches and prepared for new standards. The underlying SimpleSAMLphp open source project has a new release and Patrick Radtke and John Schrader are systematically upgrading all the Cirrus modules to the latest version!

Executive Letter from Dedra Chamberlin, CEO

It's a great time of year to get outside!

We'll be hitting the road and hope to see many of you in person this year. We'll have staff at the RTM event in San Diego, BCNet in Vancouver, and the EDUCAUSE CPPC in Bellevue.

Whether at a conference or on a zoom call, we'd love to show you how Cirrus can help reduce your IAM workload! We can automate workflows and provide a better user experience with fewer service desk tickets.

We are always standing by to help.

Happy Spring!



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