

Re: How to set Http Request Header?

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.programmer/2004-09/3054.html>

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Mark Marcus wrote:

[I'm leaving most of this unsnipped since the original messages may well have expired]

> > > *Microsoft IE no longer accepts user:pw@.... formats anymore (as a
> > > default). A user has to use REGEDIT to allow this format. It's yet
> > > another example of how Microsoft doesn't know how to fix code, so they
> > > break standards.*

> >

> > *While I'm no more impressed than anyone by MS's dismal record of
> > security holes badly patched with security hacks, you are being overly
> > harsh here. MS's standards-breaking error was that they accepted the
> > user:pw@ notation in the first place, not that they later removed it.*

> >

> > *If you check RFC2616, section 3.2.2 you'll find that it does /not/
> > allow the @ notation in an HTTP URL, specifically it gives the grammar
> > as:*

> >

> > *http_URL = "http:" "/" host [":" port] [abs_path ["?" query
> >]]*

> >

> > *It references RFC2396 (which does mention the @ syntax, but that's a
> > much more general document than RFC2616) for the meaning of 'host',
> > 'port' etc. If it were intended to allow the @ syntax, then it would
> > use different terms from RFC2396; and might read:*

> >

> > *http_URL = "http:" "/" server [abs_path ["?" query]]*

> >

> > *where (from 2396):*

> >

> > *server = [[userinfo "@"] hostport]*

> > *hostport = host [":" port]*

> >

>

> *Yes, it does reference 2396, it didn't obsolete it. 2396 _is_ the
> standard for the URI.*

No, I agree that it doesn't obsolete it. However 2396 is the standard for URI /in general/, and it doesn't take precedence over specific RFCs.

- > Section 3 of 2396 states that the syntax for a
- > URI is:
- >
- > 3. <scheme>://<authority><path>?<query>
- > 3.2 authority = server | reg_name
- > 3.2.2 server = [[userinfo "@"] hostport]

Again, that's the syntax for /general/ URI (with server addresses). There is nothing to mandate that any given url scheme /must/ follow that pattern.

RFC 2616 is quite explicit that it doesn't allow userinfo, since it gives its own syntax for http_URL that /does not/ follow the general pattern in 2396.

— chris