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Change Request #:	363
Assigned OGC Document #:	14-098
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Document Name/Version:	*Web Service Common Implementation Specification / 2.0.0
OGC Project Document:	*06-121r9

If this is a revision of a previous submission and you have a Change Request Number, then check here:

Enter the CR number here:

Enter the Revision Number that you are revising here:

Title:	* [OWS Common SWG] Recommend implicitly the use of the h
Source:	*fjlopez@unizar.es
Work item code:	
Category:	* B (Addition of feature)

Reason for change:	* Linking is at the core of the Web. OGC should provide a solution for data linking valid for REST-based services, but, at the same time, backward compatible with KVP and SOAP services. The use of the HTTP header Link defined in RFC 5899 is a transparent solution for embedding links in HTTP response headers that is transparent at the application level and thus backward compatible. In addition, the support of RFC 5899 by search engines such as Google for indexing the preferred version of a resource offers an opportunity for easing the discoverability of OWS services (KVP, SOAP, REST) in search engines.
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Summary of change:	* Add to 11.7.3 HTTP Response body, at the end of the paragraph that starts with "Response object should be accompanied by other HTTP entity headers as appropriate and to the extent possible" the following sentence: "Link headers defined in IETF RFC 5899 may be used for indicating clients that the requested entity or context has a defined relation with a resource at a target location declared in the header. A list of link relation types is maintained by IANA. For example, the relation type "canonical" designates the preferred version of a resource. The service may "canonical" for linking to a human description of the entity in HTML."
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Consequences if not approved:	I identify two consequences. If this change is no approved, OGC will keep OWS as hidden web objects. As is, this change and implicit recommendation for the use of 'canonical' will ease the discoverability in search engines such as Google. Since 2011, Google supports the use Link headers for determining the URL you want people to see when index a resource [1]. For example, this enables to tell bots that are indexing OWS GetCapabilities requests that you prefer people reach to the service metadata via an URL like that returns a
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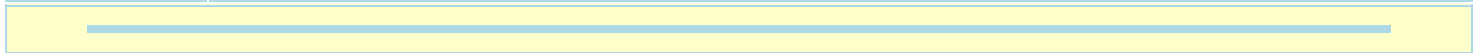
human readable response

<http://catalog.data.gov/dataset/plss-wms/resource/1bc8d80e-6124-4166-9bb0-581ce71f2c6d>

rather than URL crawled originally that returns a XML (machine readable) document:

<http://www.geocommunicator.gov/ArcGIS/services/PLSS/MapServer/WMServer?service=WMS&request=GetCapabilities>

In addition, if this change is no approved, OGC will not foster research in web link usage. The use of Web Links with OWS is seldom documented in literature. [2] proposes its use for linking OWS with ISO metadata records. [3] proposes it use for linking OWS with alternate representations in RDF.



Clauses affected: *

11.7.3

Additional Documents affected:

Supporting Documentation:

[1] Use Canonical Urls, Google, <https://support.google.com/webmasters/answer/139066?hl=en>

[2] Schade, S., Granell, C., & Diaz, L. (2010). Augmenting SDI with Linked Data. Presented at the Workshop On Linked Spatiotemporal Data, in conjunction with the 6th International Conference on Geographic Information Science (GIScience 2010).

[3] Lopez-Pellicer, F. J., & Barrera, J. (2014). D15.1 Call 2: Linked Map requirements definition and conceptual architecture. PlanetData. <http://www.planet-data.eu/sites/default/files/PD%20D15.1.pdf>

Comments: There is an existing change request named "[OWS Common] Define XML and JSON schema for a web linking structure based on RFC 5988" that proposes only new XML and JSON schema. Our change request is about the use in HTTP responses of the header Link defined in RFC 5988.

Status: Assigned

Assigned To: OWSCCommon1.2SWG

Disposition: Referred and Posted