

# OpenID Tech Summit

Challenges faced implementing OpenID in RPX

# Some things RPs are looking for

- Easy sign-in and registration
- Quick engagement
- Simple developer tools
- Solution, not technology

# What is RPX?

- Widgets and API to add 3rd party authentication & more
- Implement in an hour, with no prior knowledge
- OpenID: Google, Yahoo!, AOL, MySpace, Verisign...
- Also: Twitter, Facebook, Windows Live, LinkedIn

Challenge!

# Provider Interoperability & Policy

- Not all providers support the same things.
- Implementations change (mostly additive).
- There **are many** provider quirks.
- Developers end up managing lots of provider specific code.

**Challenge!**

**... most RPs don't have the resources to track and implement features and policy from N providers.**

Challenge!

# Non-protocol workflow is hard

- Simplifying workflow instead of complicating.
- Avoiding just bolting on 3rd party.
- Linking/merging accounts
- Account recovery

Challenge!

# Discovery

- Most complicated part of OpenID libraries
- Important for decentralization, but slow
- Already have custom code for each OpenID provider, and most traffic comes from top ~5 providers (caching, hard-coding for speed)

Challenge!

# OpenID & Single Sign-On

- Many people expect single sign-on like functionality from OpenID.
- Example: Sign in to Vevo, also get signed in to UserVoice, Disqus, and affiliate sites on other domains.



Challenge!

# Hybrid: context of consent

- Asking for full access to social, and contacts at authentication time could lead to user being surprised later.
- Also, coding OpenID + OAuth is a pain for most people.

Challenge!

# Other issues

- Giant AX payloads introduce need for the POST-Redirect, which is slow
- Realm-specific identifiers complicate things

# Talking with potential RPs

- Few care about the technology
- Just know that they want providers X, Y, Z
- Want to be told exactly how to integrate, with a step by step guide, code samples, and best practices.