

NativeSPLinuxRH6

The SP is compatible with Red Hat and CentOS 6 and 7, but not if the OS-supplied version of libcurl is used. Red Hat has rebuilt many packages on top of the Netscape Security Services stack (NSS) instead of OpenSSL, including curl.

This is a breaking change because curl does not have the same feature set when used with NSS, and one of the features it loses is required by the SP for basic operation in some deployments, though this is growing more rare. Specifically, if your SP requires the use of back-channel SOAP communication with IdP (this describes most scenarios involving legacy SAML 1.1 IdPs and attribute queries, or use of the artifact profile/binding), it won't function without the workaround noted below or other alterations such as enabling message signing.

The Service Provider package set includes a curl-openssl package that installs to **/opt/shibboleth** and does not overwrite or interfere with the OS-supplied version. It is also based on a more recent version of libcurl and will be kept updated if relevant curl security updates are released.

On affected platforms (RH6+, CentOS 6+, etc.), the shibboleth packages now depend on this look-aside package and ensure its installation in the normal fashion. The **/etc/sysconfig/shibd** script in v6 and **/etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants/shibd.service** in v7 (due to the Linux distributions moving from `init` to `systemd`) installed for you will also include a `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` variable that directs the **shibd** process to load the alternative version of **libcurl.so** instead of the normal one.

The new package set should not require any special adjustments to your OS upgrade stream, and the lookaside package will not impact any other software unless you manually set the same `LD_LIBRARY_PATH` variable in your shell.

Note also that some of the utilities accompanying the SP, such as the **resolvertest** program, may not function properly without the same variable being set, but there is no shell script provided for you to set this; you'll have to do this by hand.