RPA 1.2 Update

Remote Patron Authentication

This document describes the enhancements and bug fixes in Remote Patron Authentication version 1.2. This document also explains the details on some enhancements and documentation improvements.

This document supplements the documentation for the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide* for version 1.0 and the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide Update* for version 1.1.

About RPA 1.2

Welcome to Remote Patron Authentication (RPA) 1.2. This release contains many new enhancements and bug fixes. Here are some of the most beneficial new features:

- **Improved Referring URL for the Redirect method.** RPA is now delivered with a proxy page from which all authenticated users can be launched. This may let you communicate as few as one Referring URL to your database vendors. (For more information, see "Improved Referring URL for the Redirect Method" on page 9 of this release 1.2 update.)
- **New variable for shorter and easier URL entry.** RPA now has a variable that you can use in redirected URLs on existing web pages in the 856 tag. This new variable appends its URL information to the *end* of the Success URL in the Resource record. This is especially useful if you use ejournals and ebooks cataloged in the MARC 856 tag, since the URL for those resources can be long and repetitious. (For more information, see "New Variable for Shorter URLs" on page 16 of this release 1.2 update.)

This document explains how to set up these new features, and briefly explains the other new enhancements and bug fixes in version 1.2. It also includes new information that clarifies some features included with previous versions of RPA.

This document includes these sections:

- Enhancements.
- Bug Fixes.
- Improved Referring URL for the Redirect Method.
- New Variable for Shorter URLs.
- RPA Variables for Better Understanding.

Enhancements

This section explains the enhancements for RPA 1.2.

Improved Referring URL for the Redirect Method

RPA can now route all redirect URLs through a single gateway page. This may make it possible for you to have only one Referring URL.

(For more information, see "Improved Referring URL for the Redirect Method" on page 9 of this release 1.2 update.)

New Variable

You can now use a new variable in redirected URLs on existing web pages in the 856 tag. The new variable (op) appends the information in the variable to the *end* of the Success URL found in the Resource record. This is especially useful with ejournals and ebooks, cataloged in the MARC 856 tag. This makes the entire URL for each ejournal or ebook simpler because you do not have to always enter the repeated information in each bibliographic record.

(For more information, see "New Variable for Shorter URLs" on page 16 of this release 1.2 update.)

Patron Name in RSS

RPA now loads the patron name and passes it, unchanged, to Resource Sharing System (RSS). This change was made so that RSS can pass the name as it is found in the library database on to OCLC's Direct Request, and the library staff may be able to reference OCLC ILL transactions by a patron's last name.

Patron Name Matching

RPA can now find a patron's last name even though a patron may enter only a portion of the name. (For example, if the user's name is Jorge de los Santos, and the user enters "Santos," RPA can find the complete last name.)

Authentication Cookie Session Timeout

If you are using the Microsoft IIS web server or if you are using the Redirect method for your web pages, you can now set an authentication cookie for an RPA session timeout. You can do this only if you are using the new "gateway.htm" page for your redirected URLs.

(For more information on using the "gateway.htm" page, see "Improved Referring URL for the Redirect Method" on page 9 of this release 1.2 update.)

Improved Navigation

RPA now uses the browser's Back button for improved navigation, rather than RPA's Cancel button. RPA now delivers the templates for Library selection ("libselect.htm"), primary identification ("newauth.htm"), and subsequent identification ("moreauth.htm") *without* Cancel buttons.

Resource Record's Valid IP List

This text box has been widened to accommodate IP addresses that span a range.

Frames Method Session Expiration

In the Frames method, if the list of Resources (or links list) is empty or the authentication cookie has expired, RPA forces the patron to log out and log in again for authentication.

New Delete Button on Library Exceptions Page

If you want to delete all exceptions for a library, you can now click the Delete button. You are then prompted to confirm the deletion. If you proceed, all exceptions for the library are deleted and you are returned to the Administration splash screen. It is important to realize that you cannot expect to go back into the Exceptions screen and see that it is all blank because if no exceptions exist for a library when you click the Exceptions button, the fields are filled in with the values from the corresponding fields in the Patron Data Source that is linked to the library. (Remember that if you create library exceptions and click OK to save the exceptions, then this overrides whatever you have entered in the PDS.)

Bug Fixes

This section explains the bug fixes for RPA 1.2.

GEAC Authentication Client

At times, RPA was truncating fields in the GEAC client. (The method RPA uses to access patron data in GEAC systems is Z39.50. Earlier versions of RPA were truncating the data returned in a Z39.50 data stream.) This problem has been fixed.

Authentication Cookie Problem

RPA would sometimes route a user to a page with no resources without reauthenticating the user, even if the authentication cookie was still active. This problem was especially apparent and crucial to those libraries using both the Frames and Redirect methods. This problem has been fixed.

Library Exceptions Page

RPA can now more effectively use the base barcode and patron index fields on the Library Exceptions page.

Long Strings in "Webauth.htm"

RPA was having problems handling long strings in "webauth.htm". A couple of libraries had problems when the Success URL was longer than 100 characters. This problem has been fixed.

IP Addresses

The "webauth.htm" page would crash if the list of internal IP addresses contained a single carriage return, but no IP addresses. This problem has been fixed.

UNIX Restart Server

When you would restart your UNIX RPA server, the system sometimes would not clean up the terminated child processes. This problem has been fixed.

Statistical Update Stopping

After a patron with a PSTAT code on their record was authenticated, the system would stop its statistical updates. This problem has been fixed.

Administration Resources

At times, the administration of resources would be suspended (or would "hang") for periods of time. This problem has been fixed.

Patron Name Not Being Passed to RSS

At times, RPA would not add the patron name to the ILL reply string. This problem has been fixed.

Cookie Expiration Time on Netscape Browsers

At times when a patron was accessing resources on a Netscape browser, the value of the cookie expiration time was affected when the client and server times were not in sync. This problem has been fixed.

SIP Patron Data Sources (PDS) and Patron IDs

RPA was not sending on the patron ID for SIP Patron Data Sources (particularly for RSS). This problem has been fixed.

Flat File Improvement

The indexing tool for Flat File Patron Data Sources was interpreting a hyphen as a delimiter. This problem has been fixed.

Endeavor Improvement

ESIP needed to be activated for Endeavor sites. This has been done.

Patron Card Expiration Date

When checking for valid patrons, RPA would assume a patron's card was no longer valid if there was no card expiration date found in the Patron Data Source (PDS). Now, RPA assumes the patron is valid when there is no card expiration date.

Authentication Problem

At times, RPA would overwrite the authentication fields that you set up in the Patron Data Source (PDS). This problem has been fixed.

OrigName Variable

The "OrigName" variable in the URL encoding was blank. This problem has been fixed.

Patron Qualification

RPA was using only the first patron statistical code for qualification. This problem has been fixed.

Improved Referring URL for the Redirect Method

You can now use the new "gateway.htm" page from which to launch authenticated patrons to another web page or service. This may make it possible for you to have only one Referring URL when you use the Redirect method for authentication.

For more information on some of these topics, see these chapters in the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0:

For this topic	See this section	In this chapter
Referring URLs	"About the Methods of Vendor Certification"	"RPA Setup"
The Redirect method	"Overview of Setting Up Existing URLs to Authenticate"	"Web Page and URL Setup"

To help you understand this improved Referring URL for the Redirect method, this section gives you a brief overview of Referring URLs in previous RPA releases. This section also explains how the improved Referring URL works in version 1.2, and explains how to set up the improved URL.

This section explains these topics:

- The Referring URL with RPA 1.0 and 1.1.
- The improved Referring URL with RPA 1.2.
- Setting up the improved Referring URL.

The Referring URL with RPA 1.0 and 1.1

Most database vendors accommodate the Referring or Referrer URL as their certification method to access their web site. This method tells the vendor that a patron is coming from an authenticated web page. This Referring URL is the URL for the web page from which the patron is launched to the vendor's web site. In the Frames method, there is only one Referring URL. But previous to RPA 1.2 in the Redirect method, there were at least two referring URLs for each different vendor:

- The URL for the actual HTML link to RPA with the database-specific parameters ("rs", "lb", and perhaps "ur" variables that specified the parameters).
- The URL for the actual library web page that launches the patron into the database vendor's web site.

In previous releases of RPA, if the patron was launching from a MARC 856 tag in iPac, WebPAC, or PAC for Windows, the Referring URL variations were unmanageable for an ejournal or ebook vendor.

Now, you can choose to launch your patrons from fewer, and possibly even one, Referring URL. (For more information, see "The Improved Referring URL with RPA 1.2" on page 11 of this release 1.2 update.)

The Improved Referring URL with RPA 1.2

If you have URLs in 856 tags or on existing web pages that you need to redirect to use RPA, you can now choose to use the improved Referring URL for your Redirect method. This improved Referring URL may make it possible for you to have a single Referring URL for all your database vendors, and eliminate all the other possible URLs of web pages from which a patron may be launched.

This section explains these topics:

- How the improved Referring URL works.
- The exception to the single Referring URL.

How the Improved Referring URL Works

If you set up RPA to use this improved Referring URL, RPA looks for the URL in a template file called "gateway.htm" from which to launch all authenticated patrons into a database vendor's web site. RPA launches all users from "gateway.htm", including those users who accessed the vendor's web site from these places:

- Different web pages or services.
- The HTML redirect page listing all the resources.
- The RPA authentication template.
- iPac.
- WebPAC.
- PAC for Windows.

RPA includes two different "gateway.htm" files for you to choose from:

- **"gateway1.htm".** This lets the patron access the vendor's web site in the same web browser window from which the patron accessed the vendor's web site.
- **"gateway2.htm".** This lets the patron access the vendor's web site in a new web browser window.

IMPORTANT

If you do not rename one of the "gateway" templates to "gateway.htm", then RPA will continue to use the old method of multiple Referring URLs.

Here are the advantages of using the improved Referring URL:

- You can find the Referring URL very easily and quickly and have a better understanding of what it is and how it works.
- Your database vendor may need only the single Referring URL, so it is much easier to let your database vendor know what your Referring URL is. The single Referring URL may be as simple as a variation of this URL format:

Table 1: New Referring URL Format

Server Type	Referring URL Format
Windows NT	`http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth.exe`
Sun Solaris	`http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth`

- *epixtech* support can more easily help you set up and troubleshoot your Redirect method and Referring URL.
- Microsoft IIS now works with the Redirect pages and saves the patron's identity. Since the authentication cookie is set at a different point from the Redirect, RPA retains authentication until the cookie times out. The patron no longer needs to re-enter his or her identification for each redirected resource.

The Exception to the Single Referring URL

The only exception to being able to use a single Referring URL with this improved Referring URL is for those database vendors who choose to require an exactly matching URL every time a patron accesses their web site. These are database vendors that cannot truncate the extra parameters or variables appended to the improved Referring URL you give them.

For example, a library may give all its database vendors this Referring URL:

```
http://205.10.10.10:88/webauth.exe
```

However, if the database vendor has chosen to require an exactly matching URL, then the library will have to provide all the URLs that have variables attached.

For example, the library may have to give a database vendor all of these Referring URLs:

```
http://205.10.10.10:88/webauth.exe?lb=main
```

```
http://205.10.10.10:88/webauth.exe?lb=main&rs=ebsco
```

However, using the "gateway.htm" page still reduces the number of Referring URLs you may have to give a database vendor. This is because all patrons are still launched through the "gateway.htm" page, which always has the same basic Referring URL format.

Setting Up the Improved Referring URL

To set up the improved Referring URL, you must choose the right "gateway" template for your library's needs. Which template you choose is a preference of browser navigation.

To set up the improved Referring URL

1. Choose one of these "gateway" templates to rename:
   - **"gateway1.htm".** Choose this template if you do *not* want RPA to open a new browser window when the patron is launched from this page. This option requires the patron to use the browser's Back button to return to the list of resources.
   - **"gateway2.htm".** Choose this template if you want RPA to open a new browser window when the patron is launched from this page. As the patron accesses a new resource, RPA opens an additional browser window. This option requires the patron to click the Close button on each browser window to return to the list of resources.
2. Find the RPA directory in which the "gateway" files are located.

   The default directory is "epixtech/rpa/default".
3. Copy the "gateway" file you chose to the same folder and rename it to "gateway.htm".
4. Gather the information on your new Referring URL.

   This URL will most likely be a variation of this format:

Table 2: New Referring URL Format

Server Type	Referring URL Format
Windows NT	`http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth.exe`
Sun Solaris	`http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth`

5 Check with the database vendor to see if they need an exactly matching Referring URL or if they ignore extra parameters attached to a Referring URL.

6 Do one of these options:

- If the database vendor ignores extra parameters attached to a Referring URL, then communicate the single Referring URL in step 4 to your database vendors as the Referring URL.
- If the database vendor has chosen to require an exactly matching Referring URL, then you must discover all the exact Referring URLs that come through when a patron is launched from "gateway.htm".

  These will most likely be URLs in the new URL format that have variables attached. (For examples on the new URL format with variables, see "The Exception to the Single Referring URL" on page 13 of this release 1.2 update.)

New Variable for Shorter URLs

You can now use the new "op" (options) variable to make redirected URLs shorter and simpler. You can use this new variable in both HTML pages and 856 tags.

To understand how to use the new variable, you may need an overview of how redirecting URLs worked in previous RPA releases. This table briefly compares the Redirect method from previous versions of RPA and the Redirect method using the new "op" variable:

In previous versions of RPA	**In RPA version 1.2**
Used the "ur" (destination URL) variable.	Uses the "op" (options) variable.
With the "ur" variable, you included the entire URL for a specific item (such as the long and repetitious URL for an ejournal or ebook).	With the "op" variable, you include only the *significantly different* parts of the URL for the specific item. These parts are the ending sections of the URL that are different from the Success URL in the Resource record (such as the different ending parts for the specific ejournal or ebook).
To redirect the patron, RPA completely replaced the Success URL in the Resource record with the information in the "ur" variable. Here is an example of the longer URL in the "ur" variable: `http://250.10.10.10/webauth.exe?lb=main&rs=vendor&ur=http://www.vendor.com/serials/ejournals/monthly/stc/2000/4335`	To redirect the patron, RPA appends the information in the "op" variable to the Success URL in the Resources record. Here is an example of the shorter URL in the "op" variable: `http://250.10.10.10/webauth.exe?lb=main&rs=vendor&op=/4335`

For more information on the Redirect method and variables, see these sections in the "Web Page and URL Setup" chapter in the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0:

For this topic	**See this section**
The Redirect method	"Overview of Setting Up Existing URLs to Authenticate"
Variables in the Redirect method	"Variable Codes You Can Use"
Steps for using the Redirect method and the variables	"Setting Up a URL for the Redirect Method"

To help you understand the new "op" variable for the Redirect method, this section gives you a brief overview of redirecting URLs in previous RPA releases. This section also explains how redirecting a URL works in version 1.2 using the new "op" variable.

This section explains these topics:

- Redirecting URLs with RPA 1.0 and 1.1.
- Redirecting URLs with RPA 1.2.

Redirecting URLs with RPA 1.0 and 1.1

Previous to RPA 1.2, if your library wanted to redirect a URL, you would use the "ur" (destination resource) variable in the redirected URL.

To redirect a URL using the "ur" variable

1. In the HTML page or in the 856 tag that needs the URLs redirected, set up the RPA URL as the first part of the URL for the HTML link.

   The URL will most likely be in one of these formats:

Table 3: Redirected URL Formats

Server Type	What to Enter
Windows NT	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth.exe?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`
Sun Solaris	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth?variable code=variable &variable code=variable ...`

2. At the end of the RPA URL, enter "lb" (library) variable and the library code
3. Enter the "rs" (resource) variable and the resource code.
4. Enter "ur" (destination URL) variable and the *entire* URL for the specific item (such as an ejournal or ebook).

   Your redirected URL is complete.

5 Click on the link for that URL.

When you or a patron click on the link and are successfully authenticated, RPA completely replaces the URL in the Success URL field in the Resource record with the information in the "ur" variable. The patron's browser displays the web site.

Here is an example of one redirected URL in this format:

```
http://250.10.10.10/webauth.exe?lb=main&rs=vendor&ur=http:/
/www.vendor.com/serials/ejournals/monthly/stc/2000/4335
```

Redirecting URLs with RPA 1.2

With RPA 1.2, each redirected URL is a little bit shorter and simpler than the URL used in previous releases. RPA now has a variable (op) that you can use that appends its URL information to the *end* of the Success URL in the Resource record. This is especially useful if you use ejournals and ebooks cataloged in the MARC 856 tag, since the URL can be long and repetitious. If you use the new "op" (options) variable in your redirected URLs, RPA appends the information in the variable to the Success URL in the Resource record.

If you want to use this new variable for your ejournals and ebooks or for accessing other database vendors and you already have redirected URLs set up using the longer URL (with the "ur" variable), then you have two options:

- You can leave the redirected URLs as they are and start any new redirected URLs using the "op" variable.
- You can edit the "ur" variables to use the "op" variable. This may take some time to compare the Success URL and the URL in the "ur" variables and then change the "ur" variables to the "op" variable.

To redirect a URL using the "op" variable

1. In the HTML page or in the 856 tag that needs the URLs redirected to authenticate, set up the RPA URL as the first part of the URL for the HTML link.

   The URL will most likely be in one of these formats:

Table 4: Redirected URL Formats

Server Type	What to Enter
Windows NT	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth.exe?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`
Sun Solaris	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`

2. In addition to the RPA URL, enter "lb" (library) variable and the library code.
3. Enter the "rs" (resource) variable and the resource code.
4. Enter "op" (options) variable and *only the significantly different parts of the URL from the Success URL in the Resource record for the specific item* (such as an ejournal or ebook).

   (For example, you might just enter "/4335" because it is the only different part from the Success URL in the Resource record.) Your redirected URL is complete, but with a shorter URL and less data entry on your part.
5. Click on the link for that URL to test it.

   When you or a patron click on the link for that URL and are successfully authenticated, RPA appends the information in the "op" variable to the Success URL in the Resource record. The patron's browser displays the web site.

   Here is an example of the new redirected URL using the new "op" variable:

   `http://250.10.10.10/webauth.exe?lb=main&rs=vendor&op=/4335`

RPA Variables for Better Understanding

RPA uses variables in these ways:

- **To pass information into RPA when using a redirected URL or HTML link.** (For example, you use the "lb" [library] variable to pass the library code of the Library record into RPA from a redirected URL or HTML link.)
- **To customize the RPA templates.** (For example, you may use the "PatronName" variable to personalize an RPA template with the authenticated patron's name.)
- **To pass information out of RPA in the Success URL for a particular resource.** (For example, you may use the "FullName" variable to pass a patron's name to other web pages or services.)

This section describes these three different types of RPA variables in these sections:

- Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL.
- Variables Used for Display on the RPA Templates.
- Variables Passed Out of RPA in a Success URL.

IMPORTANT

You can use these variables in whatever way you find a need for them. However, *epixtech* does not support every method for which you decide to use these variables (for example, if you decide to use variables on your own library web pages).

For more information on some of these topics, see these chapters in the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0:

For this topic	See this section	In this chapter
The Redirect method	"Overview of Setting Up Existing URLs to Authenticate"	"Web Page and URL Setup"
Variables in the Redirect method	"Variable Codes You Can Use"	"Web Page and URL Setup"
Steps for using the Redirect method and the variables	"Setting Up a URL for the Redirect Method"	"Web Page and URL Setup"
HTML Templates	"Customizing RPA"	"Web Page and URL Setup"
Success URL in the Resource record	"Setting Up a Protected Resource"	"RPA Setup"

For additional information on the RPA HTML templates, see "RPA HTML Templates" in the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide Update*, version 1.1.

Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL

When you use RPA, you may have URLs in 856 tags or on an existing web page that you must redirect to authenticate a patron through RPA. When you do this, you can also pass other information to RPA using the RPA variables in this section. (For example, you use the "lb" [library] variable to pass the library code of the Library record into RPA from the redirected URL or HTML link.)

Here are two different kinds of redirected URLs from which you can pass information to RPA:

- From the 856 tag or web page's redirected URL.
- From the redirected URL of an RPA "Guest" button.

This section explains these topics:

- The variables passed into RPA from a redirected URL.
- An example 856 tag or web page's redirected URL.
- An example redirected URL of an RPA "Guest" button.

The Variables Passed In to RPA from a Redirected URL

Here are all the variables you can use to pass information to RPA from a redirected URL:

Table 5: Variable Codes

Variable	Variable Code	What to enter	Description
Library code	lb	Enter "lb=" and the library code that you set up in the Library record. For example, enter "lb=main".	You may want to enter a library code to limit access to this particular resource to patrons in only the library you enter. (For more information, see "Setting Up a Library to Use RPA" in the "RPA Setup" chapter of the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0.) If you do not enter a library code and you have more than one library set up, RPA prompts the patron to choose his or her home library.
Options	op	Enter "op=" and the significantly different parts of the URL that will be appended to the Success URL in the Resource record. For example, enter "op=/4335". The Success URL in the Resource record would contain a URL something like this: `http://www.vendor.com/periodicals/ejournals`	You use this variable to append its URL information to the end of the Success URL in the Resource record. This is especially useful if you use ejournals and ebooks cataloged in the MARC 856 tag, since the URL can be long and repetitious. (For more information, see "New Variable for Shorter URLs" on page 16 of this release 1.2 update.)

Table 5: Variable Codes

Variable	Variable Code	What to enter	Description
Destination URL	ur	Enter "ur=" and the URL for a web site. For example, enter "ur=http://www.epixtech.com".	You use this variable code if you create a Protected Resource record, but do not complete the Success URL field. (For example, you do this for a MARC record's 856 tag URL.) You use this mainly when you have multiple electronic journals cataloged on a single MARC record 856 tag (which means they have one Protected Resource record for perhaps the publisher).
Resource	rs	Enter "rs=" and the code for the Protected Resource that you set up in the Protected Resource record. For example, enter "rs=ebsco".	You should enter a Protected Resource code so RPA can find the Protected Resource's Success URL and which rules to use in authenticating a patron. (For more information, see "Setting Up a Protected Resource" in the "RPA Setup" chapter of the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0.)
Barcode	bc	Enter "bc=" and the barcode you have set up for free resources. For example, enter "bc=23124000068067".	You may want to enter a barcode from a guest patron record that you have set up on your library system. You do this if you want to set up a "Guest" button for non-patrons to access free resources via RPA. This way, you can gather statistics on the free resource without patrons needing to authenticate.

Table 5: Variable Codes

Variable	Variable Code	What to enter	Description
Last Name	ln	Enter "ln=" and the last name of a guest patron you have set up for free resources. For example, enter "ln=Smith".	Depending on what kind of identification information you are requiring through RPA and if you choose to set up a "Guest" button, you may want to enter a last name from a guest patron record that you have set up on your library system. You do this if this URL is for a free resource. This way, you can gather statistics on the free resource without patrons needing to authenticate.
PIN	pn	Enter "pn=" and the PIN you have set up for free resources. For example, enter "pn=0000".	Depending on what kind of identification information you are requiring through RPA and if you choose to set up a "Guest" button, you may want to enter a PIN from a guest patron record that you have set up on your library system. You do this if this URL is for a free resource. This way, you can gather statistics on the free resource without patrons needing to authenticate.
Social Security Number	ss	Enter "ss=" and the social security number you have set up for free resources. For example, enter "ss=100-00-1010".	Depending on what kind of identification information you are requiring through RPA and if you choose to set up a "Guest" button, you may want to enter a social security number from a guest patron record that you have set up on your library system. You do this if this URL is for a free resource. This way, you can gather statistics on the free resource without patrons needing to authenticate.

Table 5: Variable Codes

Variable	Variable Code	What to enter	Description
Phone (last 4 digits)	ph	Enter "ph=" and the last four digits of the phone number on a guest patron record you have set up for free resources. For example, enter "ph=5555".	Depending on what kind of identification information you are requiring through RPA and if you choose to set up a "Guest" button, you may want to enter the last four digits of the phone number from a guest patron record that you have set up on your library system. You do this if this URL is for a free resource. This way, you can gather statistics on the free resource without patrons needing to authenticate.
Patron Record ID	rc	Enter "rc=" and the patron record ID you have set up for free resources. For example, enter "rc=GENERIC".	Depending on what kind of identification information you are requiring through RPA and if you choose to set up a "Guest" button, you may want to enter a patron record ID from a guest patron record that you have set up on your library system. You do this if this URL is for a free resource. This way, you can gather statistics on the free resource without patrons needing to authenticate.
Library Choice HTML Template	tm	Enter "tm=" and the name of the HTML template you want. For example, enter "tm=RPAlib.html".	You may want to enter this if you have an HTML template you would like to point to which offers patrons the selection for RPA libraries.
Horizon Field 1	h1	Enter "h1=" and the Horizon field you want.	For more information on this variable, call *epixtech*'s Customer Support.
Horizon Field 2	h2	Enter "h2=" and the Horizon field you want.	For more information on this variable, call *epixtech*'s Customer Support.

Table 5: Variable Codes

Variable	Variable Code	What to enter	Description
Session Key for non-Cookied Browsers	sk	Enter "sk=" and the number of minutes that can pass before a patron must reauthenticate to access the existing Protected Resource or other protected resources. For example, enter "sk=30".	You may want to enter this for those browsers that do not allow cookie placement on a PC. This way, you can specify when to reset authentication.

An Example 856 Tag or Web Page's Redirected URL

When you use RPA, you may have URLs in 856 tags or on an existing web page that you must redirect to authenticate through RPA. When you do this, you can also pass information to RPA using the RPA variables.

Here is the format you would use to enter the redirected URL:

Table 6: Redirected URL Formats

Server Type	What to Enter
Windows NT	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth.exe?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`
Sun Solaris	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`

Here is an example of a redirected URL with variables of information you want passed to RPA for an 856 tag or on an existing web page:

If you had this information	Then this would be the redirected URL
• Library code = "utopia" • Destination URL for the Journal of Anonymous Anteaters = "http://www.acadpress.com/jaa/home" • RPA's server address = "205.10.10.10" • Resource code for Academic Press = "ap"	http://205.10.10.10/webauth.exe?lb=utopia&ur=http://www.acadpress.com/jaa/home&rs=ap

The result of your using this type of setup in RPA would be this:

1. When a patron clicks on this URL in the 856 tag or on a web page, RPA prompts the patron to enter identification for authentication.
2. If the patron is a valid patron from the library you specified for the URL ("lb" variable), then RPA checks the Resource record for the resource code you entered ("rs" variable).

   This lets RPA check the Success URL and the rules to access this resource.
3. If there are no restrictions for this patron from the Resource record, the patron is allowed access to the destination URL you entered ("ur" variable) for the resource.

An Example Redirected URL of an RPA "Guest" Button

If you wanted to set up a "Guest" button on the RPA identification web page ("newauth.htm" and "moreauth.htm"), then you must create a link or button on that web page that would refer to a generic patron in your library database. (For specific instructions, see "Using RPA with Free Resources" in the "Web Page and URL Setup" chapter of the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0.)

Here is the format you would use to enter the redirected URL for a "Guest" button:

Table 7: Redirected URL Formats

Server Type	What to Enter
Windows NT	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth.exe?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`
Sun Solaris	Enter this URL text all on one line: `http://IP address or Domain Name of the RPA server/webauth?variable code=variable&variable code=variable ...`

Here is an example of a redirected URL for the "Guest" link or button with information you want passed to RPA:

If you had this information	Then this would be the redirected URL
• Generic Patron Name = "Ida Know" • Generic Patron ID or Barcode = "23124000009804" • Library code = "utopia" • RPA's server address = "205.10.10.10"	http://205.10.10.10/webauth.exe?lb=utopia&h1=23124000009804&ln=know

The result of your using this type of setup in RPA would be this:

1. When a patron clicks on the "Guest" link or button, RPA uses the variables you send in the redirected URL ("h1" and "ln" variables) as the patron identification.
2. If the generic patron is a valid patron from the library you specified for the URL ("lb" variable), then RPA successfully authenticates the guest patron.
3. If there are no restrictions for the generic patron from the Resource record, the patron is allowed access to the list of free resources you have created.

Variables Used for Display on the RPA Templates

Once RPA has retrieved information from the Patron Data Source (PDS) through the authentication process, you can use many pieces of information from the Patron Data Source to display on the RPA HTML templates. (For example, your library may want to configure the RPA HTML templates with a personalized, "Welcome *Patron Name*" [such as, "Welcome, Annie Fitzgerald"].)

IMPORTANT

You may want to create a working copy of the RPA HTML templates while you make your changes, test the web pages, then actually replace the old templates. *epixtech* assumes you are familiar with HTML and designing web pages. If you change information that already exists in the RPA HTML templates, then you may disable some features in RPA. You can use these variables in whatever way you find a need for them. However, *epixtech* does not support every method for which you decide to use these variables.

Here is the list of the variables and their names that you can use on RPA's HTML templates to display information:

Table 8: RPA HTML Template Variables

Variable Code	Description
currLibrary	Use this variable so that RPA displays the first code argument, the library code (lb), and the second code argument on the RPA HTML template you choose. **NOTE** You must already have a library code set up. (For more information, see "Setting Up a Library to Use RPA" in the "RPA Setup" chapter of the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0. For more information on the library code [lb], see "Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL" on page 23 of this release 1.2 update.)
currResource	Use this variable so that RPA displays the first code argument, the resource code (rs), and the second code argument on the RPA HTML template you choose. **NOTE** You must already have a resource code set up. (For more information, see "Setting Up a Protected Resource" in the "RPA Setup" chapter of the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0. For more information on the resource code [rs], see "Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL" on page 23 of this release 1.2 update.)
currUserUrl	Use this variable so that RPA displays the first code argument, the destination URL (ur), and the second code argument on the RPA HTML template you choose. (For more information on the resource code [rs], see "Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL" on page 23 of this release 1.2 update.)

Table 8: RPA HTML Template Variables

Variable Code	Description
FieldStart	Use this variable to mark the start of a patron identifier loop that you want RPA to display on the RPA HTML template you choose.
FieldEnd	Use this variable to mark the end of a patron identifier loop that you have entered on the RPA HTML template you choose.
FieldName	Use this variable so that RPA displays the identifier (such as ??????) you choose for the current loop number on the RPA HTML template you choose.
InvalidReason	Use this variable so that RPA displays the reason the patron was not allowed access or authenticated on the RPA HTML template you choose.
libCode	Use this variable so that RPA displays the library code (lb) for the current loop number. (This is used for the library selection page in RPA ["libSelect.htm"].) **NOTE** You must already have a library code set up. (For more information, see "Setting Up a Library to Use RPA" in the "RPA Setup" chapter of the *Remote Patron Authentication System Administrator's Guide*, version 1.0. For more information on the library code [lb], see "Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL" on page 23 of this release 1.2 update.)
LibStart	Use this variable to mark the start of a library identifier loop that you want RPA to display on the RPA HTML template you choose.
LibEnd	Use this variable to mark the end of a library identifier loop that you have entered on the RPA HTML template you choose.

Table 8: RPA HTML Template Variables

Variable Code	Description
LibName	Use this variable so that RPA displays the library's name for the current loop number. This is used for the library selection page in RPA ["libSelect.htm"].)
LibraryName	Use this variable so that RPA displays the currently selected library's name on the RPA HTML template you choose.
LinkDesc	Use this variable so that RPA displays the description from the patron's authorized list of protected resources for the current loop number on the RPA HTML template you choose.
LinkStart	Use this variable to mark the start of a patron's authorized list of protected resources loop that you want RPA to display on the RPA HTML template you choose.
LinkEnd	Use this variable to mark the end of a patron's authorized list of protected resources loop that you created on the RPA HTML template you choose.
LinkRef	Use this variable so that RPA displays the URL from the patron's authorized list of protected resources for the current loop number on the RPA HTML template you choose.
PatronName	Use this variable so that RPA displays the validated patron's name on the RPA HTML template you choose.
PrmptType	Use this variable so that RPA displays the patron's password text according to whether you want to mask the current loop's identifier on the RPA HTML template you choose.
ProgName	Use this variable so that RPA displays the path and name of the cgi script on the RPA HTML template you choose.

Table 8: RPA HTML Template Variables

Variable Code	Description
Prompt	Use this variable so that RPA displays the prompt you choose for the current "FieldStart" or "FieldEnd" loop number on the RPA HTML template you choose.
sessionKey	Use this variable so that RPA displays the session key (sk) you have specified on the RPA HTML template you choose. (For more information on the session key [sk], see "Variables Passed In to RPA When Using a Redirected URL" on page 23 of this release 1.2 update.)
TheError	Use this variable so that RPA displays any server error. (This is used for the RPA error page ["errorPage.htm"].)

Variables Passed Out of RPA in a Success URL

If you find a use or a need for it, you can pass information out of RPA in the Success URL on the Resource record to another web page or service. (For example, you may want to pass patron information to URSA or pass information out to populate HTML pages and other HTTP resources.)

NOTE

For Resource Sharing System (RSS), you do *not* use these variables to pass information from RPA to RSS. Instead, RSS uses a socket connection between RSS and RPA to get RPA information.

Here is the format that you must use with these variables:

```
http://IP address or domain name of the web page or service
you want?Library ariable={{Output variable}}
\&Library variable={{Output variable}}
```

Notice these criteria in using these variables:

- You must place the output variable in double brackets {{ }}.
- You must separate each variable with the back slash (\ ) and ampersand (&).
- The variable in the example above that comes before the output variable (those variables in brackets) are defined by your library.

  (For example, "pname" may not be the variable your library uses to represent the patron name.)

Here is an example Success URL containing the variable for outputting a patron name:

```
http://www.epixtech.com?pname={{FullName}}
\&email={{EmailAddr}}
```

IMPORTANT

You can use these variables in whatever way you find a need for them. However, *epixtech* does not support every method for which you decide to use these variables.

Here is the list of the variables that you can use in the Success URL to pass information from RPA to another web page or service:

Table 9: Success URL Variables

Variable Code	Description
AccessType	Use this variable so that RPA passes the Electronic Access Type code to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this code from the Dynix patron file or the Horizon borrower table.)
Address	Use this variable so that RPA passes the patron's address to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS].)
BirthDate	Use this variable so that RPA passes the patron's birth date to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
ChargedCount	Use this variable so that RPA passes the number of items charged to a patron to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
CityState	Use this variable so that RPA passes the information in a patron record's City/State field to the web page or service. This may be a city code, depending on the server. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
EmailAddr	Use this variable so that RPA passes a patron's e-mail address to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
ExpireDate	Use this variable so that RPA passes the date of a patron card's expiration to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)

Table 9: Success URL Variables

Variable Code	Description
Fines	Use this variable so that RPA passes the number of fees owed to the library by a patron to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
OrigName	Use this variable so that RPA passes the patron's name exactly as it finds it in the Patron Data Source to the web page or service.
FullName	Use this variable so that RPA passes the patron's name in "Normalized" format to the web page or service. (For example, if the patron name in the Patron Data Source is "Fitzgerald, Annie", then RPA passes the name to the web page or service as "Annie Fitzgerald".) If there is no comma delimiter in the patron's name, then RPA passes the patron name as it is entered in the patron's record. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS].)
LastName	Use this variable so that RPA passes the patron's last name to the web page or service. RPA can do this only if the last name is separated by a comma in the patron's record. If it is not separated by a comma, then RPA passes all the information in the name field. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
Lostcount	Use this variable so that RPA passes the number of unresolved lost items from the library to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
OverDueCount	Use this variable so that RPA passes the number of items overdue to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)

Table 9: Success URL Variables

Variable Code	Description
PatronType	Use this variable so that RPA passes the code of the Patron or Borrower Loan Type to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
RegLoc	Use this variable so that RPA passes the Location or Branch code to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this code from the Dynix patron file or the Horizon borrower table.)
SSN	Use this variable so that RPA passes the Social Security Number or the Student ID number to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
StatsGroup	Use this variable so that RPA passes the code of the Patron or Borrower statistical group to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
Telephone	Use this variable so that RPA passes the patron's telephone number to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
UniqueID	Use this variable so that RPA passes the key or record number of the patron record or borrower row to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)
Zip	Use this variable so that RPA passes the Postal Code to the web page or service. (RPA retrieves this information from the Patron Data Source [PDS], if it is available.)

Table 9: Success URL Variables

Variable Code	Description
FirstId	Use this variable so that RPA passes the information the patron entered for his or her first RPA identification to the web page or service. This is especially useful in passing these IDs on to URSA or other web resources, including the population of an HTML page for patron identification purposes from other libraries. NOTE If the first RPA identification is like a barcode, where the patron enters only the significant digits or parts, then RPA attaches the rest of the pertinent information (like the base barcode) to the first ID when it is sent on to another web resource.
SecondId	Use this variable so that RPA passes the information the patron entered for his or her second RPA identification to the web page or service. This is especially useful in passing these IDs on to URSA or other web resources, including the population of an HTML page for patron identification purposes from other libraries. NOTE If the second RPA identification is like a barcode, where the patron enters only the significant digits or parts, then RPA attaches the rest of the pertinent information (like the base barcode) to the second ID when it is sent on to another web resource.