Oracle has been watching the evolution of new lightweight web services based on REST and JSON.

Recently this has lead to a set of new specifications such as OAuth 2 that are changing the identity landscape. These specifications have focused to date on the emergence of new requirements for non-browser client applications. As these new protocols evolve it is important to review the impact on browsers and whether new token formats, authentication systems, and authorization systems can improve identity in the browser as well as what new standards will be required to support the emergence of lightweight web services.

For more information, check the blog post: http://www.independentid.com/2011/03/lightweight-web-services.html