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R. Clayton
University of Cambridge
M. Kucherawy
Cloudmark, Inc.
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Source Ports in ARF Reports
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Abstract

This document registers an additional header field for use in Abuse Reporting Format reports to permit the identification of the source port of the connection involved in an abuse incident.

This memo updates [RFC5965](#) and [RFC6591](#).

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1. Introduction

[ARF] defined the Abuse Reporting Format, a new header message format for use in reporting incidents of email abuse. It was extended by [[AUTHFAILURE-REPORT](#)] to enable reporting of email authentication failures. Although those specifications gave the capability to include the source IP address in the report, the source port was not included. As explained in [[LOG](#)], the deployment of IP sharing techniques means it can now be essential to include source port values in reports if unambiguous identification of the origin of abuse is to be achieved.

Accordingly, this memo registers an ARF reporting field to contain this information and provides guidance for its use.

2. Keywords

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [[KEYWORDS](#)].

3. Source-Port Field Definition

A new ARF reporting field called "Source-Port" is defined. When present in a report, it MUST contain the TCP or UDP source port matching the "Source-IP" field in the same report, thereby describing completely the origin of the abuse incident.

Per, [[ABNF](#)], the formal syntax is:

```
source-port = "Source-Port:" [CFWS] 1*DIGIT [CFWS] CRLF
```

"CFWS" is imported from [[MAIL](#)].

When any report is generated that includes the "Source-IP" reporting field, this field SHOULD also be present.

4. IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to add the following entry to the Feedback Report Header Fields registry:

Field Name: Source-Port

Description: TCP or UDP source port from which the reported connection originated

Multiple Appearances: No

Related Feedback-Type: any

Reference: [this memo]

Status: current

5. Security Considerations

This extension introduces no new security considerations not already covered in [[ARF](#)].

6. References

6.1. Normative References

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| [ABNF] | Crocker, D. and P. Overell, "Augmented BNF for Syntax Specifications: ABNF", STD 68, RFC 5234 , January 2008. |
| [ARF] | Shafranovich, Y., Levine, J., and M. Kucherawy, "An Extensible Format for Email Feedback Reports", RFC 5965 , August 2010. |
| [AUTHFAILURE-REPORT] | Fontana, H., "Authentication Failure Reporting using the Abuse Report Format", RFC 6591 , April 2012. |
| [KEYWORDS] | Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14 , RFC 2119 , March 1997. |
| [MAIL] | Resnick, P., Ed., "Internet Message Format", RFC 5322 , October 2008. |

6.2. Informative References

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|-------|---|
| [LOG] | Durand, A., Gashinsky, I., Lee, D., and S. Sheppard, "Logging Recommendations for Internet-Facing Servers", RFC 6302 , June 2011. |
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Appendix A. Acknowledgements

The authors wish to acknowledge the following for their review and constructive criticism of this proposal: (names)

The idea for this work originated within the Messaging Anti-Abuse

Working Group (MAAWG).

Authors' Addresses

Richard Clayton
University of Cambridge
Computer Laboratory
JJ Thomson Avenue
Cambridge CB3 0FD
United Kingdom

Phone: +44 1223 763570
EMail: richard.clayton@cl.cam.ac.uk

Murray S. Kucherawy
Cloudmark, Inc.
128 King St., 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94107
US

Phone: +1 415 946 3800
EMail: msk@cloudmark.com

