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A Process for Handling Essential Corrections to the Session Initiation
Protocol (SIP)
[draft-drage-sip-essential-correction-00](#)

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Internet-Draft

Essential Corrections to SIP

October 2006

Abstract

The Session Initial Protocol (SIP) defined in [RFC 3261](#) and a large number of extensions forms a considerable body of work, which through sheer size has a number of errors that require correction. This document explains the process for managing essential corrections to SIP.

Internet-Draft

Essential Corrections to SIP

October 2006

1. Introduction

[RFC 3261](#) [1] and its extensions have already had a number of issues identified against it, and other issues are expected. These are issues where the normative text of the already published specification is found to be either in error, or lacking, such that interoperability is endangered.

There has been a reluctance to document these issues due to updates to RFCs requiring a whole new RFC to be issued. This may be appear too complex for a one line correction, or may just overwhelm potential submitters due to the complexity of the process.

[2.](#) Objective

For SIP RFCs and RFCs specifying SIP extensions, provide clear guidelines as to when corrective RFC content is required that updates the original specification. If the work is an extension or of editorial nature, then existing rules should be followed.

3. Process

Corrections will be proposed to the SIP working group.

All changes should be essential. An essential change is one where in the absence of the correction, it will not be possible to implement the specification contained in the original RFC in a manner to ensure interoperability or correct operation. Clarifications, statements of best practice, additional informative material, and editorial revisions are in general not essential - if publication of such material is necessary, it should be published as a separate informational RFC. The working group will analyse the proposed correction and decide whether it is essential.

The correction will be processed as an internet-draft belonging to the SIP working group. For management purposes, there should be one correction or set of related corrections per internet draft - corrections relating to two different errors should be processed as two separate internet drafts. When complete the internet draft will be working group last called by the SIP working group, along with any required expert review that may be appropriate to the contents.

At an appropriate period time, an editor working on behalf of the SIP working group will compile all changes that have successfully completed working group last call into a internet draft, along with the contents of all previous documents that update the SIP RFC requiring correction.

The internet draft will be submitted to IESG as a proposed standards track RFC for approval for publication, without any further working group last call.

Further corrections after this point will repeat the process.

[4.](#) Required Contents For a Change Request Internet-Draft

In addition to the normal rules for contents of a standards track RFC, sections to the RFC should document the following:

Reason for change. Text which explains why the change is necessary.

Summary of change. Enter text which describes the most important components of the change. i.e. how the change is made.

Consequences if not approved. Enter here the consequences if this change were to be rejected. Explain the issues that implementations will have in the absence of this change, i.e. what fails to operate correctly.

The change. Clearly identify the section of the RFC to be changed, and show precisely how the text change. An implementor should be able to take the original RFC and edit the change as described to obtain the new approved text.

Drage

Expires April 19, 2007

[Page 6]

Internet-Draft

Essential Corrections to SIP

October 2006

[5.](#) Security considerations

There are no security considerations relating to this document.

Drage

Expires April 19, 2007

[Page 7]

Internet-Draft

Essential Corrections to SIP

October 2006

[6.](#) IANA considerations

This document requires no action by IANA.

[7.](#) References

- [1] Rosenberg, J., "SIP: Session Initiation Protocol", June 2002.

Internet-Draft

Essential Corrections to SIP

October 2006

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