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Message Tracking MIB

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Abstract

This document defines a message tracking Management Information Base (MIB) for electronic messaging management. Message tracking is the ability to find out, after the fact, the path that a particular message took through the messaging system and the current status of that message.

1. The SNMP Network Management Framework.

The major components of the SNMP Network Management framework are described in the documents listed below.

- o [RFC 1902](#) [[1](#)] defines the Structure of Management Information (SMI), the mechanisms used for describing and naming objects for the purpose of management.
- o STD 17, [RFC 1213](#) [[2](#)] defines MIB-II, the core set of managed objects (MO) for the Internet suite of protocols.
- o [RFC 1905](#) [[3](#)] defines the protocol used for network access to managed objects.

The framework is adaptable/extensible by defining new MIBs to suit the requirements of specific applications/protocols/situations.

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, the MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the subset of Abstract Syntax Notation One (ASN.1) defined in the SMI. In particular, each object type is named by an OBJECT IDENTIFIER, which is an administratively assigned name. The object type together with an object instance serves to uniquely identify a specific instantiation of the object. For human convenience, often a textual string, termed the descriptor, is used to refer to the object type.

2. Message Tracking

Message tracking refers, in its simplest form, to determining the path a message has taken and it's current location. This capability is analogous to the service provided by carriers of conventional paper mail - the ability to quickly locate where a package is, and to determine whether or not the package has been delivered to its destination. This document discusses a specific SNMP-based per-message mechanism to query the messaging system to perform message tracking. For a detailed definition of message tracking, and the need for message tracking, refer to [[MODEL](#)].

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3. MIB Data to Support Message Tracking

This MIB contains the syntax for message tracking via SNMP. The attributes defined are identical to those defined for message tracking via e-mail, except for those attributes that are required purely to enable SNMP-specific semantics.

When making use of SNMP, it is expected that the following mode of operation will be used. The entity acting in the manager role issues one or more "SET" operations filling in a row in a request table. The variables set in the request table together comprise a message tracking query. The entity acting in the agent role reads the values set in the request table, queries the local message store (or usage logs), and returns information regarding messages that satisfy the query criteria in a response table. The entity acting as the manager then reads the response table and notifies an administrator or performs additional queries as required.

In the message tracking MIB that follows, there are three tables:

- 1. the mtaInformationTable**
- 2. the msgTrackRequestTable**
- 3. the msgTrackResponseTable**

The mtaInformationTable contains one entry for each MTA that is monitored by this agent. The table contains information about the MTA as a whole, such as: the name of the MTA and the length of time that the MTA has been recording information. This last item is important to know, since if the MTA indicates that it only has information about messages that have passed through it in the last two days, and the administrator wishes to track a message that was sent four days ago, then there will be no need to attempt to track the message through this MTA.

The msgTrackRequestTable is used by a manager to specify a query to be made of the agent. It is not required that the manager have any knowledge of a unique message identifier, but knowledge of some information pertaining to the message in question is recommended. Since the query information may be matched by a number of potential matches, it is possible to find out information about several different messages.

The msgTrackResponseTable is a parallel to the msgTrackRequestTable in that it holds the response(s) to the queries posed in the msgTrackRequestTable. The manager reads this table to retrieve information about the messages that match the input query information. The two tables share a common index to facilitate navigation between them.

MESSAGE-TRACKING-MIB DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN

IMPORTS

OBJECT-TYPE, MODULE-IDENTITY, Counter32

FROM SNMPv2-SMI

DisplayString, TimeInterval, DateAndTime

FROM SNMPv2-TC;

-- Note that in SNMPv1 the IMPORTS section should look like the following:

-- IMPORTS

-- OBJECT-TYPE, enterprises, Counter, Gauge, TimeTicks

-- FROM [RFC1155](#)-SMI

-- DisplayString

-- FROM [RFC1213](#)-MIB;

-- OBJECT IDENTIFIERS

MsgTracking OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { experimental 73 2 }

-- MODULE IDENTIFICATION use in V2 version only

mta-message-track MODULE-IDENTITY

LAST-UPDATED "9704110000Z"

ORGANIZATION "IETF"

CONTACT-INFO

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DESCRIPTION

"The MIB module describing message tracking"

::= { MsgTracking 1 }

-- Note that the MODULE-IDENTITY macro does not exist in SNMP version 1,
-- for a V1 implementation, replace the above macro with the following
line :

-- mta-message-track OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {MsgTracking 1 }

-- Note that the textual conventions DateAndTime and TimeInterval
-- do not exist in SNMPv1, for a V1 implementation include the following
-- 2 lines:

-- DateAndTime ::= DisplayString

-- TimeInterval ::= INTEGER (0..2147483647)

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```
-- Define the NameForm textual convention for originator and recipient
-- names in this MIB
NameForm ::= INTEGER {
    freeForm(1),
    x400(2),
    smtp(3)
}
```

```
-- Define the DispositionStatus textual convention which indicates the
-- disposition of a message by the MTA for a particular recipient.
```

Values

-- are:

```
-- unknown    - The disposition of the message could not be determined
-- transferred - The message was forwarded to another MTA for
-- delivery without name or content transformation.
-- delivered   - The message was delivered to the intended recipient.
-- non-delivered - The message could not be delivered to the intended
-- recipient.
-- redirected  - The message was forwarded to another MTA for
-- delivery. The recipient name and/or messageId
-- may have changed as a result of this process.
-- dlist-expanded - The intended recipient was a distribution list
-- which was expanded by the MTA.
-- in-queue    - The message for this recipient is currently being
-- processed by the MTA.
```

```
DispositionStatus ::= INTEGER {
    unknown(1),
    transferred(2),
    delivered(3),
    non-delivered(4),
    redirected(5),
    dlist-expanded(6),
    in-queue(7)
}
```

```
-- Define the MsgType textual convention. Values are:
```

--

```
-- data
-- status
-- probe
```

```
MsgType ::= INTEGER {
    any(1),
    data(2),
    status(3),
    probe(4)
}
```


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```
-- How this mib works :
-- Most message tracking MIBs operate on the presupposition that the
manager
-- entering a query knows the unique message ID for the message being
tracked.
-- In practice, this is often not the case. This MIB allows for a
2-step
-- query process - find the appropriate message, then track it.
```

```
--      +=====+
--      | Manager      | = 1 => +=====+
--      +=====+ = 6 => | msgTrackRequestTable      |
--      ^               +=====+
--      |               |
--      |               | 2   +=====+
--      |               | + => | Agent      |
--      |               | +=====+
--      5               |
--      +=====+
--      |               + 3 => | Message
Store  |
--      |               += 4 =====
--      +=====+
--      |               |
--      |               v
--      |               +=====+
--      =====> | msgTrackResponseTable      |
--      +=====+
--
```

```
-- STEP 1:
-- Using the index obtained from 'msgTrackNextRequestIndex', a manager
-- creates a conceptual row in the 'msgTrackRequestTable', filling in
-- as many message attributes as are known. The manager also specifies
-- in 'reqMaxResponses', the maximim number of possible 'hits' for an
-- underspecified query.
-- STEP 2:
-- When the agent detects a new conceptual row in
'msgTrackRequestTable',
-- it forms a query to be executed against the message store(s).
-- STEP 3:
-- The agent issues the query against the message store and receives
some
-- response(s).
-- STEP 4:
-- The agent then transfers up to 'reqMaxResponses' possible responses
-- to newly created conceptual rows in the 'msgTrackResponseTable'. The
agent
```

```
-- then sets the value of 'reqResponseStatus' in the
'msgTrackRequestTable'
-- to notify the manager of the results of the query.
-- STEP 5:
-- The manager, having detected a change in 'reqResponseStatus', knows
that
-- the query is complete. It reads the potential responses from the
-- 'msgTrackResponseTable' and presents them to the end-user.
```

```
-- STEP 6:
-- The manager then instructs the agent to destroy the conceptual row
-- created in the 'msgTrackRequestTable', which causes the agent to
-- destroy the corresponding entries in the 'msgTrackResponseTable'.
-- STEP 7: (optional, not illustrated)
-- If the original query did not produce an adequate response, a new
entry
-- is created in the 'msgTrackRequestTable'. Entries in this table are
-- never reused!
--
--
```

```
-- MESSAGE TRACKING REQUEST TABLE:
```

```
mtaInformationTable OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF mtaInformationEntry
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The table holding information about the MTA being queried. A table
        is used because there may be multiple MTAs at a single host."
        ::= { mta-message-track 1 }
```

```
mtaInformationEntry OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX mtaInformationEntry
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "One entry in the table holding information about the MTA being
        queried"
    INDEX { mtaIndex }
        ::= { mtaInformationTable 1 }
```

```
mtaInformationEntry ::= SEQUENCE {
    mtaIndex
        INTEGER,
    mtaName
        DisplayString,
    mtaMessagingType
        DisplayString,
    startTimeforRecordedInformation
        DateAndTime,
    alternativeAgent
        DisplayString
}
```

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mtaIndex OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX INTEGER (1..2147483647)
ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
"The integer index into this table."
::= { mtaInformationEntry 1 }

mtaName OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX DisplayString
ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
"The name of the MTA described in this row of the table."
::= { mtaInformationEntry 2 }

mtaMessagingType OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX DisplayString
ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
" Common name of the messaging system of this MTA (e.g. X.400,
SMTP)."
::= { mtaInformationEntry 3 }

mtaStartTimeforRecordedInformation OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX DateAndTime
ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
" The date/time of the oldest message tracking information
available from this MTA."
::= { mtaInformationEntry 4 }

mtaAlternativeAgent OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX DisplayString
ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
"The name (or address) of another agent that may have message
tracking information concerning this MTA."
::= { mtaInformationEntry 5 }

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msgTrackNextRequestIndex OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX Counter32 -- Note that in SNMPv1, the syntax is simply
'Counter'
ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
"The index that may be used by a manager (requestor) on a
'set-request' PDU
to create a new conceptual row in the msgTrackRequestTable table
(and
thereby issue a message tracking query)."
::= { mta-message-track 2 }

msgTrackRequestTable OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF MsgTrackRequestEntry
ACCESS not-accessible
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
"The table holding all active message tracking requests."
::= { mta-message-track 3 }

msgTrackRequestEntry OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX MsgTrackRequestEntry
ACCESS not-accessible
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
"The entry associated with each request for message information."
INDEX { reqEntryIndex }
::= { msgTrackRequestTable 1 }

MsgTrackRequestEntry ::= SEQUENCE {
reqEntryIndex
INTEGER,
reqRowStatus
INTEGER,
reqResponseStatus
INTEGER,
reqMaxResponses
INTEGER,
reqUniqueMsgId
DisplayString,
reqInboundMsgId
DisplayString,
reqOutboundMsgId
DisplayString,
reqInboundOriginator
DisplayString,

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```
reqOutboundOriginator
    DisplayString,
reqOriginatorNameForm
    NameForm,
reqInboundRecipient
    DisplayString,
reqOutboundRecipient
    DisplayString,
reqRecipientNameForm
    NameForm,
reqSubject
    DisplayString,
reqMinMsgSize
    INTEGER,
reqMaxMsgSize
    INTEGER,
reqEarliestArrivalTime
    DateAndTime,
reqLatestArrivalTime
    DateAndTime,
reqDispositionStatus
    DispositionStatus,
reqFailureReason
    DisplayString,
reqMsgType
    MsgType,
reqCollapseRecipients
    INTEGER
}
```

```
reqEntryIndex  OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX      INTEGER (1..2147483647)
ACCESS      read-only
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
    "The integer index into the msgTrackRequestTable table."
    ::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 1 }
```

```
reqRowStatus  OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX      INTEGER {
    active(1),
    notInService(2),
    notReady(3),
```

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```

        createAndGo(4),
        createAndWait(5),
        destroy(6)
    }
ACCESS      read-write
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
    "The status of the conceptual row. These are mapped to the same
values as
    the RowStatus textual conversion in SNMPv2 and carry the same
semantics
    with one exception: the exception is that when a manager
(requestor) sets the
    value to destroy(6), this also has the added semantics of deleting
all
    conceptual rows in the msgTrackResponseTable table whose
respEntryIndex
    matches the reqEntryIndex of this conceptual row."
    ::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 2 }

reqResponseStatus OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX      INTEGER {
    unknown(1),
    inProgress(2),
    failedNoMatches(3),
    failedInvalidQuery(4),
    failedError(5),
    successUnderqualified(6),
    success(7)
    }
ACCESS      read-only
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
    "Indicates the status of this query and its responses in the
msgTrackResponseTable. Values are:
    unknown - The status of this query is not known.
    inProgress - The agent(responder) is still processing the request.
    failedNoMatches - The query has been processed and has produced
no
    matches.
    failedInvalidQuery - The query could not be processed due to
invalid or
    missing data in the original query.
    FailedError - The query could not be processed due to an error in
the
    agent(responder).
    successUnderqualified - The query was successfully processed, but
the query

```

was found to be underqualified. That is, more responses were found than were specified in reqMaxResponses. reqMaxResponses entries were returned in the msgTrackResponseTable.

success - The query succeeded, returning from 1 to reqMaxResponse entries in the msgTrackResponseTable."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 3 }

reqMaxResponses OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX INTEGER (1..100)

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies the largest number of responses to be returned in the msgTrackResponseTable on an underspecified query (i.e. the maximum value of respMsgIndex in the msgTrackResponseTable conceptual row whose respEntryIndex matches the reqEntryIndex of this conceptual row)."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 4 }

reqUniqueMsgId OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies a unique message id used internally by the MTA for identification of a message. This form of the message id may or may not be identical to the inbound and/or outbound forms of the message id. If specified, this may be the only search criteria required. If the entire unique message id is not specified, prefix matching is assumed. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 5 }

reqInboundMsgId OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies a unique message id as received by the MTA for identification of a message. This form of the message id may or may not be identical to the internal and/or outbound forms of the message id. If specified, this may be the only search criteria required. If the entire inbound message id is not specified, prefix matching is assumed. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

```
::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 6 }
```

```
reqOutboundMsgId  OBJECT-TYPE  
SYNTAX            DisplayString  
ACCESS            read-write  
STATUS            current  
DESCRIPTION
```

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"Specifies a unique message id as transmitted by the MTA for identification of a message. This form of the message id may or may not be identical to the internal and/or inbound forms of the message id. If specified, this may be the only search criteria required. If the entire outbound message id is not specified, prefix matching is assumed. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 7 }

reqInboundOriginator OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies the originator of the message in its received form, expressed in string format. The style and format of this identifier varies according to a specific messaging technology. As a result of potentially disparate messaging technologies, this identifier is only guaranteed to be the name known to the end-user on the first MTA in the delivery sequence. If reqOriginatorNameForm is set to 'x.400(2)' or 'smtp(3)', the supplied attributes will be considered in the match. Any attributes not supplied will be wildcarded. If reqOriginatorNameForm is set to 'freeForm(1)', this value is assumed to be a substring of the originator name. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 8 }

reqOutboundOriginator OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies the originator of the message in its transmitted form, expressed in string format. The style and format of this identifier varies according to a

specific messaging technology. As a result of potentially disparate messaging

technologies this identifier is only guaranteed to be the name known to the

end-user on the last MTA in the delivery sequence. If

reqOriginatorNameForm is set to 'x.400(2)' or 'smtp(3)', the supplied attributes

will be considered in the match. Any attributes not supplied will be

wildcarded. If reqOriginatorNameForm is set to 'freeForm(1)', this value is

assumed to be a substring of the originator name. Set to an empty (zero

length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 9 }

reqOriginatorNameForm OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX NameForm

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies the name form of originator strings supplied in the reqInboundOriginator and/or reqOutboundOriginator values. This value is

used by the agent to perform name form dependant parsing of these values.

If neither of these strings are supplied, this name form value is irrelevant to

the query. A value of 'any(1)' implies that no special parsing should be

performed on the originator names supplied."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 10 }

reqInboundRecipient OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies one of the recipients (the one to be tracked) of the message in

its received form, expressed in string format. The style and format of this

identifier varies according to a specific messaging technology. As a result

of potentially disparate messaging technologies, this identifier is only

guaranteed to be the name an end-user knows the recipient by on the first

MTA in the delivery sequence. If reqRecipientNameForm is set to 'x.400(2)'

or 'smtp(3)', the supplied attributes will be considered in the match. Any

attributes not supplied will be wildcarded. If reqRecipientNameForm is set to

'freeForm(1)', this value is assumed to be a substring of the recipient name.

Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 11 }

reqOutboundRecipient OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies one of the recipients (the one to be tracked) of the message in its transmitted form, expressed in string format. The style and format of this identifier varies according to a specific messaging technology. As a result of potentially disparate messaging technologies, this identifier is only guaranteed to be the name an end-user knows the recipient by on the last MTA in the delivery sequence. If reqRecipientNameForm is set to 'x.400(2)' or 'smtp(3)', the supplied attributes will be considered in the match. Any attributes not supplied will be wildcarded. If reqRecipientNameForm is set to 'freeForm(1)', this value is assumed to be a substring of the recipient name. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to query."
 ::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 12 }

reqRecipientNameForm OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX NameForm

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies the name form of recipient strings supplied in the reqInboundRecipient and/or reqOutboundRecipient values. This value is

used by the agent to perform name form dependant parsing of these values.

If neither of these strings are supplied, this name form value is irrelevant to

the query. A value of 'any(1)' implies that no special parsing should be

performed on the recipient names supplied."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 13 }

reqSubject OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Identifies a substring of the text of the 'Subject' attribute of the message.

Since some messaging technologies make it difficult for an MTA to preserve

this data, it may not be supported by all agents. Set to an empty (zero length)

string if unknown or irrelevant to query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 14 }

reqMinMsgSize OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX INTEGER (1..2147483647)

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies the minimum size of a message to be tracked (content, excluding

envelope), expressed in kilo-octets. Set both reqMinMsgSize and

reqMaxMsgSize to zero if message size is irrelevant to the query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 15 }

reqMaxMsgSize OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX INTEGER (1..2147483647)

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies the maximum size of a message to be tracked (content, excluding envelope), expressed in kilo-octets. Set both reqMinMsgSize and reqMaxMsgSize to zero if message size is irrelevant to the query."
 ::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 16 }

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reqEarliestArrivalTime OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DateAndTime

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies the earliest arrival time, at this MTA, for a message to be

tracked. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to

query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 17 }

reqLatestArrivalTime OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DateAndTime

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies the latest arrival time, at this MTA, for a message to be tracked. Set to an empty (zero length) string if unknown or irrelevant to

query."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 18 }

reqDispositionStatus OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DispositionStatus

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Specifies the disposition status of the message for a particular recipient. Set to 'unknown(1)' if unknown or irrelevant to the

query."

::= {msgTrackRequestEntry 19 }

reqMsgType OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX MsgType

ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The type of message to be tracked.

Set to 'any(1)' if message type is unknown or irrelevant to the query."

::= {msgTrackRequestEntry 20 }

reqCollapseRecipients OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX INTEGER {
false(1),
true(2)}

```
ACCESS      read-write  
STATUS      current  
}
```

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DESCRIPTION

"If a value of 'true(2)' is specified, a single msgTrackResponseEntry will be created for each matching message regardless of the number of recipients. If not specified or set to 'false(1)', a msgTrackResponseEntry will be created for each matching message and/or recipient. This variable may be used in the case of a distribution list or a message with a large number of recipients."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 21 }

reqFailureReason OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"A textual description of why a message tracking request failed. This variable may be set by an agent when the reqResponseStatus is set to either 'failedInvalidQuery(4)', or 'failedError(5)'."

::= { msgTrackRequestEntry 22 }

-- MESSAGE RESPONSE TABLE (QUERY RESULTS)

msgTrackResponseTable OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF MsgTrackResponseEntry

ACCESS not-accessible

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The table holding the response to all active message tracking requests."

::= { mta-message-track 4 }

msgTrackResponseEntry OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX MsgTrackResponseEntry

ACCESS not-accessible

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The entry associated with each response to a request for message information."

INDEX { respEntryIndex, respMsgIndex }

::= { msgTrackResponseTable 1 }

MsgTrackResponseEntry ::= SEQUENCE {

respEntryIndex

INTEGER,

respMsgIndex

INTEGER,

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```
respDispositionStatus
    DispositionStatus,
respDispositionTime
    INTEGER,
respNextHopMta
    DisplayString,
respPrevHopMta
    DisplayString,
respNonDeliveryReason
    DisplayString,
respMsgArrivalTime
    DateAndTime,
respMsgSize
    INTEGER,
respMsgPriority
    DisplayString,
respUniqueMsgId
    DisplayString,
respInboundMsgId
    DisplayString,
respOutboundMsgId
    DisplayString,
respInboundOriginator
    DisplayString,
respOutboundOriginator
    DisplayString,
respInboundRecipient
    DisplayString,
respOutboundRecipient
    DisplayString,
respSupplementalInformation
    DisplayString,
respSubject
    DisplayString,
respMsgType
    MessageType
}
```

```
respEntryIndex  OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX          INTEGER (1..2147483647)
ACCESS          read-only
STATUS          current
DESCRIPTION
```

"The primary integer index into the msgTrackResponseTable table. It matches

the value of reqEntryIndex for the original request. "

```
::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 1 }
```

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respMsgIndex OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX INTEGER (1..2147483647)

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The secondary integer index into the msgTrackResponseTable table.

For each

value of respEntryIndex in the table, there may be multiple conceptual rows

indexed by respMsgIndex, each denoting a possible response to the tracking

query. The maximum number of entries should have an upper bound of the

value of reqMaxResponses in the conceptual row of msgTrackRequestTable

that represents the original query request. "

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 2 }

respDispositionStatus OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DispositionStatus

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Indicates the disposition of this message by this MTA for this recipient."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 3 }

respDispositionTime OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DateAndTime

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Time at which this MTA disposed of this message for this recipient."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 4 }

respNextHopMta OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Name of the MTA to which this message was sent. MADMAN-compliant MTA's should be addressed in the form '(<host-id>::<mtaName>)'. "

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 5 }

respPrevHopMta OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS	current
DESCRIPTION	

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"Name of the MTA from which this message was received. MADMAN-compliant MTA's should be addressed in the form

'(<host-id>::<mtaName>)'."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 6 }

respNonDeliveryReason OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"A textual representation representing the reason for non-delivery to this recipient. No attempt is made to normalize these non-delivered reasons across systems, since this indicates a terminal condition."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 7 }

respMsgArrivalTime OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DateAndTime

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Represents the time at which this message for this recipient arrived at this MTA."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 8 }

respMsgSize OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX INTEGER(1..2147483647)

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Size of the message in kilo-octets."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 9 }

respMsgPriority OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Textual representation of the priority of the message. No attempt is made to normalize these values across disparate messaging technologies."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 10 }

respUniqueMsgId OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

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DESCRIPTION

"The unique message identifier that the MTA assigned internally to the message."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 11 }

respInboundMsgId OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The unique message identifier that the 'previous hop' MTA assigned to the message. If the 'previous' MTA uses a different messaging technology

or identifier scheme, this identifier serves to correlate the message from

MTA to MTA. If the 'previous' MTA uses the same technology, this value

is generally superfluous. If this is the first MTA in the delivery sequence, or if the previous message id is unknown, this variable is null-

valued."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 12 }

respOutboundMsgId OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The unique message identifier that the 'next hop' MTA assigned to the message. If the 'next' MTA uses a different messaging technology

or identifier scheme, this identifier serves to correlate the message from

MTA to MTA. If the 'next' MTA uses the same technology, this value is generally superfluous. If this is the last MTA in the delivery sequence,

or if the next hop message id is unknown, this variable is null-valued."

::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 13 }

respInboundOriginator OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Textual representation identifying the originator of the message as it was

received from the 'previous hop' MTA. The style of this variable varies according to a specific messaging technology."
 ::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 14 }

respOutboundOriginator OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

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DESCRIPTION

"Textual representation identifying the originator of the message as it was (or will be) presented to the 'next hop' MTA. The style of this variable varies according to a specific messaging technology."
::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 15 }

respInboundRecipient OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Textual representation identifying the recipient of the message as it was received from the 'previous hop' MTA. The style of this variable varies according to a specific messaging technology..
::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 16 }

respOutboundRecipient OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Textual representation identifying the recipient of the message as it was (or will be) presented to the 'next hop' MTA. The style of this variable varies according to a specific messaging technology."
::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 17 }

respSupplementalInformation OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Contains information provided by the agent to the manager that may be of use in identifying or tracking this message. No formal structure for this information is specified. Knowledge of the contents of this field is by bilateral agreement."
::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 18 }

respSubject OBJECT-TYPE

SYNTAX DisplayString

ACCESS read-only
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "The full text of the subject of the tracked message"
 ::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 19 }

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```
respMsgType OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      MessageType
    ACCESS      read-only
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The type of the tracked message"
    ::= { msgTrackResponseEntry 20 }

-- CONFORMANCE INFORMATION
-- Used ONLY in V2 MIBs
messageTrackingConformance OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {
    mta-message-track 5 }
messageTrackingGroups          OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {
    messageTrackingConformance 1 }
messageTrackingCompliances OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {
    messageTrackingConformance 2 }

-- COMPLIANCE STATEMENTS
-- Used ONLY in V2 MIBs
limitedCompliance          MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The basic levels of compliance for SNMPv2 entities that implement
this MIB
        for message tracking requiring the knowledge of a message Id."
    MODULE      -- this module
    MANDATORY-GROUPS { msgIdGroup }
    ::= { messageTrackingCompliances 1 }

basicCompliance          MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The basic levels of compliance for SNMPv2 entities that implement
this MIB
        for message tracking without requiring the knowledge of a message
Id."
    MODULE      -- this module
    MANDATORY-GROUPS { msgIdGroup, basicGroup }
    ::= { messageTrackingCompliances 2 }

enhancedCompliance          MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The basic levels of compliance for SNMPv2 entities that implement
this MIB
        for message tracking without requiring the knowledge of a message
```

```
Id and
    allowing an enhanced level of query capabilities."
MODULE      -- this module
```

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```
MANDATORY-GROUPS { msgIdGroup, basicGroup, enhancedGroup }
::= { messageTrackingCompliances 3 }

gatewayCompliance      MODULE-COMPLIANCE
  STATUS current
  DESCRIPTION
    "The basic levels of compliance for SNMPv2 entities that implement
    this MIB
    for message tracking across mta's that perform a gateway
    function."
  MODULE      -- this module
  MANDATORY-GROUPS { msgIdGroup, basicGroup, enhancedGroup,
                    gatewayGroup }
  ::= { messageTrackingCompliances 4 }

-- UNITS OF CONFORMANCE
-- Used ONLY in V2 MIBs
msgIdGroup OBJECT-GROUP
  OBJECTS {
    msgTrackNextRequestIndex, reqRowStatus,
    reqResponseStatus, reqMaxResponses, reqUniqueMsgId,
    reqFailureReason, respDispositionStatus, respDispositionTime,
    respNonDeliveryReason, respMsgArrivalTime, respUniqueMsgId,
    respInboundOriginator, respInboundRecipient
  }
  STATUS current
  DESCRIPTION
    " A collection of objects for tracking messages where the
    messageId is
    known with responses containing basic message information."
    ::= { messageTrackingGroups 1 }

basicGroup OBJECT-GROUP
  OBJECTS {
    reqInboundOriginator, reqInboundRecipient, reqOriginatorNameForm,
    reqRecipientNameForm, reqEarliestArrivalTime,
    reqLatestArrivalTime
  }
  STATUS current
  DESCRIPTION
    " A collection of objects for tracking messages where the
    messageId is not
    known
    with responses containing basic message
    information."
    ::= { messageTrackingGroups 2 }
```

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```

enhancedGroup OBJECT-GROUP
  OBJECTS {
    reqSubject,          reqMinMsgSize,    reqMaxMsgSize,
    reqDispositionStatus, reqMsgType,      reqCollapseRecipients,
    respMsgSize,          respMsgPriority,
    respSupplementalInformation,
    respSubject,          respMsgType
  }
  STATUS current
  DESCRIPTION
    " A collection of objects for tracking messages where the messageId
is not
    known with responses containing enhanced message information as
    well as enhanced query capabilities."
    ::= { messageTrackingGroups 3}

gatewayGroup OBJECT-GROUP
  OBJECTS {
    reqInboundMsgId,      reqOutboundMsgId,
    reqOutboundOriginator,
    reqOutboundRecipient, respNextHopMta,      respPrevHopMta,
    respInboundMsgId,      respOutboundMsgId,
    respOutboundOriginator,
    respOutboundRecipient
  }
  STATUS current
  DESCRIPTION
    " A collection of object for tracking messages that have passed
through a
    gateway mta."
    ::= { messageTrackingGroups 4}

END

```

[4](#) Usages

A general model of message flow between MTAs has to be presented before a MIB can be described. Generally speaking, message flow occurs in three steps. We use the term "MTA" loosely to refer to any processing entity that is responsible for message delivery:

(1) Messages are received by the MTA from user agents, message stores, other

MTAs, and gateways.

(2) The "next hop" for the each message is determined. This is simply the destination the message is to be transmitted to; it may or may not be the final destination of the message. Next hop is established on a per-recipient basis.

Next hop may be a User Agent, a Message Store, another MTA, or a gateway.

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(3) Information about the message and the next hop are written out to a log in some format. Messages are transmitted to the appropriate destination, which may be a user agent, message store, another MTA, or another gateway.

In terms of message tracking, the key step is step number 3, the logging of information. Once information about a message is written to a log, it can be subsequently queried by any number of means. It is the intent of this specification to support the following general message tracking usages.

Tracking an Individual Message

It is often necessary for messaging operations to track down the whereabouts and/or history of an individual message managed object. This is typically in response to a particular user tracking request regarding a previously sent message. It might also be used by messaging operations to verify that one or more message paths are operating properly.

Entire Path or Current Status

For some inquiries, it is desired that the entire path taken by the message to date be discovered, including the current disposition of the message (for one or more recipients). For others, it is necessary only to discover the current disposition of the message. Note however that it may be necessary to uncover its entire path to date in order to determine its current disposition. To discover a message's entire path, it will be necessary to query the Management Agent (MA) of each MTA and/or gateway encountered by the message, beginning with the originating MTA, to discover the status of the message from that MTA or gateway's perspective. Dispositions include: Transferred-to another MTA or gateway, In-queue within an MTA or gateway, Delivered, Non-delivered, Redirected, or Dlist-expanded. If a message was relayed to another MTA or gateway, then the MA of that MTA or gateway must be queried in turn. This must be repeated

until
the MTA or gateway which currently has responsibility for the message
is
reached.

To discover a message's current disposition, it might in fact be
necessary to track
the message's entire path, since typically the current status can only
be
discovered by a forward traversal through the message path.
Alternatively, to
minimize expense, the MA of any MTA/gateway which is estimated to be in
the
message path can be queried; if the message is shown to have reached
this
estimated point, then previous points in the path are irrelevant. Best
estimate
may therefore be the MA of the destination MTA, if known. Other
estimates
are made based on arbitrary intelligence which may be available.

For a message with multiple recipients, a different path/ disposition may be relevant for each recipient. Thus, message tracking queries must be made to discover the path/disposition of each recipient of the message, or for each recipient explicitly identified in the tracking request. For cases in which multiple recipient message copies are transferred-to the same MTA or gateway, these queries may be combined into a single query, for convenience.

Identifying Messages to Track

In some cases, the user may have retained some sort of a unique identifier for the message of interest. This will be true, for example, because an explicit trackability service was requested for the message, or because the user logs all outgoing messages. In such cases, a message query can be made simply on the basis of providing this unique identifier to the message tracking system.

Optionally, this query can be bounded by:

- o specific recipient(s) of interest;
- o time range of interest;
- o or other bounding information.

In other cases, the user may only know some general descriptive information about the message. For example, the user may know who originated it, to whom it was sent, and roughly what time of day it was submitted. In such cases, it will be necessary to provide descriptive information to the message tracking system and allow it to respond with a list of matching messages which it knows about, along with their unique identifiers.

In either case, the query can specify or imply a list of information which it wishes the query response to return to the requester.

Query Responses

The query response must then return the requested information, or return an indication as to why it cannot return the requested information. If the returned information includes an indication that the message has been further relayed, then a subsequent query must be made to the transferred-to MTA or gateway. Specific response information must be provided/implied in order to allow for the creation of subsequent queries. For example:

- o the name of the transferred-to MTA or gateway
- o the name of the MA of the transferred-to MTA or gateway
- o the names/addresses of the recipient(s) of interest which have taken this relay path. Note that this may be a "redirected" recipient.
- o If this response comes from a gateway, the translated versions of key identification fields.

This subsequent query can optionally be formulated automatically. See next section on "Automating Follow-up Queries" for details on follow-up query creation.

Automating Follow-up Queries

In order to support a fully automated path search, it is convenient and powerful for a management agent to be able to automatically make all of the queries required to discover the full path of an individual message. The MC can accomplish this by creating an initial query, and then creating a follow-on query utilizing information returned by the initial query, and repeating this process until the current disposition of the message is discovered.

Follow-on queries will need to be generated on a per-recipient basis. For cases in which multiple recipient message copies were transferred to the same MTA or gateway, these queries may be combined into a single query, for efficiency.

In general, a follow-on query will need to:

- o Be directed at the MA which corresponds to the MTA or gateway to which the message (copy) was relayed.
- o Include the names/addresses of the recipient(s) which have taken this relay path. Note that this may be a "redirected" recipient.
- o Include the same bounding criteria as did the initial query, with the addition of the unique message identification if that information was not previously available.
- o If the just-completed query was to a gateway, then the new translated formats for the following will need to be used, if applicable:
 - Message ID
 - Recipient address
 - Originator address
 - Priority value
 - Size.

Tracking Aggregates of Messages

It is sometimes desirable for messaging operations to be able to

determine
information about the history/status of all messages which match a
given set
of characteristics that have passed through their systems.

Identifying Messages to Track

In some cases, messaging operations may have retained some sort of a
unique
identifier for the messages of interest. More probably, messaging
operations is
simply interested in the set of messages which:

- o went through its systems within a given time range, or
- o were sent through its systems by a given originator, or
- o were sent through its systems to a given recipient, or
- o were sent through its systems with a given size or priority

In such cases, it will be necessary to provide descriptive information to the message tracking system and allow it to respond with information on all of the matching messages which it knows about. The query can specify or imply a list of information which it wishes the query response to return to the requester.

Query Responses

The query response must then return the requested information, or return an indication as to why it cannot return the requested information.

[4.1 Security](#)

[TBD]

[5. Future Considerations](#)

A version of this information is also available in the Management Information Format (MIF) defined by the Desktop Management Task Force (DMTF).

As SNMP continues to evolve (e.g. SNMPv3), the mechanisms in this document will leverage those new technologies.

[6. Acknowledgements](#)

This draft also incorporates the intellectual contributions of

- Bruce Greenblatt
- Niraj Jain
- Sue Lebeck
- Roger Mizumori
- Edward Owens

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