

A new Request for Comments is now available in online RFC libraries.

[BCP 60](#)

[RFC 3360](#)

Title: Inappropriate TCP Resets Considered Harmful
Author(s): S. Floyd
Status: Best Current Practice
Date: August 2002
Mailbox: floyd@icir.org
Pages: 19
Characters: 46748
SeeAlso: [BCP 60](#)

I-D Tag: [draft-floyd-tcp-reset-04.txt](#)

URL: <ftp://ftp.rfc-editor.org/in-notes/rfc3360.txt>

This document is being written because there are a number of firewalls in the Internet that inappropriately reset a TCP connection upon receiving certain TCP SYN packets, in particular, packets with flags set in the Reserved field of the TCP header. In this document we argue that this practice is not conformant with TCP standards, and is an inappropriate overloading of the semantics of the TCP reset. We also consider the longer-term consequences of this and similar actions as obstacles to the evolution of the Internet infrastructure.

This document specifies an Internet Best Current Practices for the Internet Community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

This announcement is sent to the IETF list and the RFC-DIST list. Requests to be added to or deleted from the IETF distribution list should be sent to IETF-REQUEST@IETF.ORG. Requests to be added to or deleted from the RFC-DIST distribution list should be sent to RFC-DIST-REQUEST@RFC-EDITOR.ORG.

Details on obtaining RFCs via FTP or EMAIL may be obtained by sending an EMAIL message to rfc-info@RFC-EDITOR.ORG with the message body help: ways_to_get_rfcs. For example:

To: rfc-info@RFC-EDITOR.ORG
Subject: getting rfcs

help: ways_to_get_rfcs

Requests for special distribution should be addressed to either the author of the RFC in question, or to RFC-Manager@RFC-EDITOR.ORG. Unless

specifically noted otherwise on the RFC itself, all RFCs are for unlimited distribution.echo

Submissions for Requests for Comments should be sent to RFC-EDITOR@RFC-EDITOR.ORG. Please consult [RFC 2223](#), Instructions to RFC Authors, for further information.