

**Delegation Information (Referrals) Signer for DNSSEC  
draft-fujiwara-dnsop-delegation-information-signer-00**

Abstract

DNSSEC does not protect delegation information, it contains NS RRSets on the parent side and glue records. This document defines delegation information signer (DiS) resource record for protecting the delegation information, by inserting on the parent side of zone cut to hold a hash of delegation information. The DiS resource record reuses the type code and wire format of DS resource record, and distinguishes it from existing DS RRSets by using a new digest type. This document also describes the usage of DiS resource record and shows the implications on security-aware resolvers. The definition and usage are compatible with current DNSSEC.

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## [1.](#) Introduction

The current DNSSEC specifications [[RFC4033](#)], [[RFC4034](#)], [[RFC4035](#)] do not protect the parent side NS RRSets and glue contained in the delegation information.

Recently, the word "in-domain" is defined by [[RFC8499](#)]. The in-domain glue is necessary and sufficient glue information for name resolution. [[I-D.ietf-dnsop-glue-is-not-optional](#)] proposes that Glue records are expected to be returned as part of a referral and if they cannot be fitted into the UDP response, TC=1 MUST be set to inform the client that the response is incomplete and that TCP SHOULD be used to retrieve the full response.

Then, we can define complete delegation information set that contains the parent side NS RRSets and all in-domain glue. We can generate a hash of the parent side NS RRSets and in-domain glue, and put it in DNS as a parent side information.

The delegation information signer (DiS) resource record (RR) is inserted at a zone cut (i.e., a delegation point) to hold a hash of delegation information (parent side NS RRSets) and required glue. The DiS resource record reuses DS resource record and distinguishes it from DS RRSets by using a new digest type and a new algorithm number.



Recent DNSSEC validators ignore DS resource records whose algorithm and digest type are unknown. Therefore, DiS resource record does not affect current DNSSEC validation.

DNSSEC validators that support DiS resource record can verify NS RRSets and in-domain glue.

This document defines new DS RR usage, gives examples of how it is used and describes the implications on resolvers. This change is compatible with current DNSSEC.

The meaning and processing the delegation information (parent side NS RRSets and glue) are not changed. The delegation information is used for name resolution process, and not used as the result of the name resolution.

## 2. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [BCP14](#) [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

Many of the specialized terms used in this document are defined in DNS Terminology [[RFC8499](#)].

## 3. Specification of the Delegation information Signer

This section defines a new usage of the Delegation Signer (DS) RR type.

### 3.1. New DS RR Usage: Delegation information signer (DiS)

This document specifies that the new DNSSEC Digest Type XX (it will be assigned by IANA) to the Delegation information Signer with SHA-256 (DISSHA256) for another DS usage.

The key tag and algorithm field may require further discussion.

The digest field is calculated over the parent side NS RRSets corresponding to the owner name of the DiS resource record and whole in-domain glue for its delegation.

digest = SHA-256 hash( NS RRSets | in-domain glue RRSets)

NS RRSets and in-domain glue RRSets are ordered as [[I-D.ietf-dnsop-dns-zone-digest](#)].



Sibling glue and out-of-bailiwick glue are not the data to be signed.

Wire format and Presentation format are the same as DS Resource Record.

### **3.2. DiS resource record in a Zone**

The DiS resource record enables delegation information (parent side NS RRSets and in-domain glue records) signature validation in a validating resolver.

A DiS RRSets is present at all delegation point even if there is no DS RRSets. Since DiS RRSets has the same type code as DS RRSets except for digest type and hash data, details of DiS resource record is the same as DS resource record defined in [\[RFC4035\]](#).

When DNSSEC signer signs a zone, DNSSEC signer

- o Remove all DiS resource records
- o for all delegation points, generate new DiS resource record
- o sign all DS RRSets

### **3.3. Change of Authoritative servers**

Authoritative servers need to support [\[I-D.ietf-dnsop-glue-is-not-optional\]](#). Then, referral responses MUST contain parent side NS RRSets and whole in-domain glue.

### **3.4. Change of validating resolvers**

When a validating resolver receives a referral response with DS RRSets and the DS RRSets contains a DS resource record that have DISSHA256 digest type, the validating resolver SHOULD validate referral NS RRSets and in-domain glue. First, calculate digest from NS RRSets and in-domain glue from the referral response. Compare the digest and the digest field from the DiS resource record. If the digests differ, the referral is compromised or modified. The validating resolver can drop the referral.

## **4. Compatibility with the current DNSSEC**

Current DNSSEC validators do not know DS resource records with digest type DISSHA256 and these DS records should be ignored. (See [Section 5.2 of \[RFC4035\]](#)).



## **5. Signing Priming Responses**

Another use case for DiS resource record is the protection of priming responses.

The priming response is not a referral. However, it is similar to the referral and the priming response is deterministic.

Then we can put DiS resource record in the root and it can be signed.

The root DiS resource record contains digest consist of the root NS RRSet and all root servers' A and AAAA resource records.

Currently, TTL value of root servers' A/AAAA differ between root servers. Before considering DiS resource record in root, the TTL value of each root server A/AAAA for the root zone and root-servers.net zone must match.

## **6. IANA Considerations**

IANA is requested to allocate new digest type code for DS resource record.

## **7. Security Considerations**

## **8. Acknowledgments**

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