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**BIER BFD**  
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Abstract

Point to multipoint (P2MP) BFD is designed to verify multipoint connectivity. This document specifies the support of P2MP BFD in BIER network.

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## [1.](#) Introduction

Bit Index Explicit Replication(BIER)[[RFC8279](#)] provides optimal forwarding of multicast data packets through a multicast domain. It does so without requiring any explicit tree-building protocol and without requiring intermediate nodes to maintain any per-flow state.

[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint] defines a method of using Bidirectional Detection(BFD) to monitor and detect unicast failures between the sender (head) and one or more receivers (tails) in multipoint or multicast networks.

This document describes the procedures for using such mode of BFD protocol to verify multipoint or multicast connectivity between a multipoint sender (the "head", Bit-Forwarding Ingress Routers(BFIRs)) and a set of one or more multipoint receivers (the"tails", Bit-Forwarding Egress Routers(BFERs)). The BIER BFD only supports the unidirectional multicast. This document defines use of the point-to-multipoint BFD for BIER domain.

## [2.](#) Conventions used in this document



## 2.1. Terminology

This document uses the acronyms defined in [\[RFC8279\]](#) along with the following:

BFD: Bidirectional Forwarding Detection.

NLPID: Network Layer Protocol Identifier.

OAM: Operations, Administration, and Maintenance.

P2MP: Point to Multi-Point.

## 2.2. Requirements Language

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 [BCP 14](#) [\[RFC2119\]](#) [\[RFC8174\]](#) when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

## 3. BIER BFD Encapsulation

BIER BFD encapsulation uses the BIER OAM packet format defined in [\[I-D.ietf-bier-ping\]](#). If the Msg type field is 3(TBD, it is assigned by IANA), it indicates that the OAM packet is BIER BFD packet.

The message type of OAM packet is defined as the following:

+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
Type	Value	Reference
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+
3	BIER BFD	This document
+-----+	+-----+	+-----+

Table 1

## 4. Bootstrapping BIER BFD

### 4.1. One-hop Bootstrapping

The ISIS BFD-Enable TLV is defined in [\[RFC6213\]](#), which could be used for BIER BFD bootstrapping if the underlay routing protocol is ISIS routing protocol. When the adjacency between BIER nodes reaches the 2-Way state, ISIS Hellos will already have been exchanged. If an BIER node supports BFD, it will have learned whether the other BIER node has BFD enabled by whether or not a BFD-Enabled TLV was included in its Hellos. The BFD-Enable TLV format is defined in [\[RFC6213\]](#) and



reused in this document. The MT ID is the BIER multi-topology identify. If the BIER node only supports single ISIS topology, the MT ID is zero. The NLPIDs encoded in the TLV are defined in [\[IS09577\]](#).

#### **[4.2.](#) Multi-hop Bootstrapping**

The BIER OAM ping could be used for BIER BFD bootstrap. The multipoint header sends the BIER OAM packet with Target SI-Bitstring TLV (section 3.3.2 of [\[I-D.ietf-bier-ping\]](#)) carrying the set of BFER information (Sub-domain-id, Set ID, BS Len, Bitstring) to the multipoint tails to bootstrap the BIER BFD sessions.

#### **[5.](#) Discriminators and Packet Demultiplexing**

The tail(BFER) demultiplexes incoming BFD packets based on a combination of the source address and My discriminator as specified in [\[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint\]](#). The source address is BFIR-id and BIER MPLS Label(MPLS network) or BFIR-id and BIFT-id(Non-MPLS network)for BIER BFD.

#### **[6.](#) Security Considerations**

For BIER OAM packet procssing security considerations, see [\[I-D.ietf-bier-ping\]](#).

For general multipoint BFD security considerations, see [\[I-D.ietf-bfd-multipoint\]](#).

No additional security issues are raised in this document beyond those that exist in the referenced BFD documents.

#### **[7.](#) Acknowledgements**

Authors would like to thank the comments and suggestions from Jeffrey (Zhaohui) Zhang, Donald Eastlake 3rd.

#### **[8.](#) IANA Considerations**

IANA is requested to assign new type from the BIER OAM Message Type registry as follows:



Value	Description	Reference
TBD	BIER BFD	[this document]

Table 2

## 9. References

### 9.1. Normative References

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- [RFC8279] Wijnands, IJ., Ed., Rosen, E., Ed., Dolganow, A., Przygienda, T., and S. Aldrin, "Multicast Using Bit Index Explicit Replication (BIER)", [RFC 8279](#), DOI 10.17487/RFC8279, November 2017, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8279>>.





## **9.2. Informative References**

[ISO9577] ISO/IEC TR 9577:1999,, "International Organization for Standardization "Information technology - Telecommunications and Information exchange between systems - Protocol identification in the network layer"", 1999.

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