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**GMPLS RSVP-TE Extensions for Ethernet OAM Configuration  
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**Abstract**

The GMPLS controlled Ethernet Label Switching (GELS) work extended GMPLS RSVP-TE to support the establishment of Ethernet LSPs. IEEE Ethernet Connectivity Fault Management (CFM) specifies an adjunct OAM flow to check connectivity in Ethernet networks. CFM can be also used with Ethernet LSPs for fault detection and triggering recovery mechanisms. The ITU-T Y.1731 specification builds on CFM and specifies additional OAM mechanisms, including Performance Monitoring, for Ethernet networks. This document specifies extensions of GMPLS RSVP-TE protocol to support the setup of the associated Ethernet OAM entities of Ethernet LSPs, and defines the Ethernet technology specific TLVs based on the GMPLS OAM Configuration Framework. This document supports, but does not modify, the IEEE and ITU-T OAM mechanisms.

**Requirements Language**

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [[RFC2119](#)].

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## [1.](#) Background

Provider Backbone Bridging - Traffic Engineering (PBB-TE) [[IEEE.802.1Q-2011](#)] decouples the Ethernet data and control planes, and allows external control and management mechanisms to create



explicitly routed Ethernet connections. In addition, PBB-TE defines mechanisms for protection switching of bidirectional Ethernet connections. Ethernet Connectivity Fault Management (CFM) defines an adjunct connectivity monitoring OAM flow to check the liveness of Ethernet networks [[IEEE.802.1Q-2011](#)], including the monitoring of specific explicitly routed Ethernet connections. The ITU-T Recommendation Y.1731 [[ITU-T.Y.1731-2011](#)] extended CFM and specified additional OAM functionality.

In IETF, the GMPLS controlled Ethernet Label Switching (GELS) work extended the GMPLS control plane to support the establishment of explicitly routed Ethernet connections [[RFC5828](#)][RFC6060]. We refer to GMPLS established Ethernet connections as Ethernet LSPs. GELS enables the application of MPLS-TE and GMPLS provisioning and recovery features in Ethernet networks.

The use of GMPLS RSVP-TE to support the establishment and configuration of OAM entities with LSP signaling is defined in a technology agnostic way in [[RFC7260](#)]. The purpose of this document is to specify the additional technology specific OAM entities to support Ethernet connections.

## **2. Overview of Ethernet OAM operation**

For the purposes of this document, we only discuss Ethernet OAM aspects that are relevant for proactive connectivity monitoring of Ethernet LSPs. On-demand OAM functions for the purposes of this document will be supported by Management Plane operations.

PBB-TE defines point-to-point Ethernet Switched Paths (ESPs) as a provisioned traffic engineered unidirectional connectivity, identified by the 3-tuple [ESP-MAC DA, ESP-MAC SA, ESP-VID], where the ESP-MAC DA is the destination address of the ESP, the ESP-MAC SA is the source address of the ESP, and the ESP-VID is a VLAN identifier allocated for explicitly routed connections. To form a bidirectional PBB-TE connection, two co-routed point-to-point ESPs are combined. The combined ESPs must have the same ESP-MAC addresses but may have different ESP-VIDs. The formed co-routed bidirectional path is a path where the forward and backward directions follow the same route (links and nodes) across the network.

Note that although it would be possible to use GMPLS to setup a single unidirectional ESP, the Ethernet OAM mechanisms are only fully functional when bidirectional connections are established with co-routed ESPs. Therefore, the scope of this document only covers bidirectional point-to-point PBB-TE connections.



At both ends of the bidirectional point-to-point PBB-TE connection, one Maintenance Endpoint (MEP) is configured. The MEPs monitoring a PBB-TE connection must be configured with the same Maintenance Domain Level (MD Level) and Maintenance Association Identifier (MAID). Each MEP has a unique identifier, the MEP ID. Besides these identifiers, a MEP monitoring a PBB-TE connection must be provisioned with the 3-tuples [ESP-MAC DA, ESP-MAC SA, ESP-VID] of the two ESPs.

In the case of point-to-point VLAN connections, the connection may be identified with a single VLAN, or with two VLANs, one for each direction. Therefore, instead of the 3-tuples of the PBB-TE ESPs, MEPs must be provisioned with the proper VLAN identifiers.

MEPs exchange Connectivity Check Messages (CCMs) periodically with fixed intervals. Eight distinct intervals are defined in [\[IEEE.802.1Q-2011\]](#):

#	CCM Interval (CCI)	3 bit encoding
0	Reserved	000
1	3 1/3 ms	001
2	10 ms	010
3	100 ms	011
4	1 s	100
5	10 s	101
6	1 min	110
7	10 min	111

Table 1: CCM Interval encoding

If 3 consecutive CCM messages are lost; connectivity failure is declared. The MEP detecting the failure will signal the defect to the remote MEP in the subsequent CCM messages it emits, by setting the Remote Defect Indicator (RDI) bit in the CCM message. If a MEP receives a CCM message with RDI bit set it immediately declares failure. The detection of a failure may trigger protection switching mechanisms or may be signaled to a management system.



At each transit node, Maintenance Intermediate Points (MIPs) may be established to help failure localization, e.g., using link trace and loop back functions. MIPs need to be provisioned with a subset of the MEP identification parameters described above.

### **3. GMPLS RSVP-TE Extensions**

#### **3.1. Operation overview**

To simplify the configuration of connectivity monitoring, when an Ethernet LSP is signaled, the associated MEPs should be automatically established. To monitor an Ethernet LSP, a set of parameters must be provided to setup a Maintenance Association and related MEPs.

Optionally, MIPs may be created at the transit nodes of the Ethernet LSP. The LSP Attribute Flags: "OAM MEP entities desired" and "OAM MIP entities desired", as described in [RFC7260], are used to signal that the respective OAM entities must be established. An OAM Configuration TLV, as described in [RFC7260], is added to the LSP\_ATTRIBUTES or LSP\_REQUIRED\_ATTRIBUTES Objects specifying that Ethernet OAM is to be setup for the LSP. Ethernet OAM specific information, as described below, is carried in the new Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV (see [Section 3.3](#)) within the OAM Configuration TLV.

- o A unique MAID must be allocated for the PBB-TE connection and both MEPs must be configured with the same information. The MAID consists of an optional Maintenance Domain Name (MD Name) and a mandatory Short Maintenance Association Name (Short MA Name). Various formatting rules for these names have been defined in [IEEE.802.1Q-2011]. Since this information is also carried in all CCM messages, the combined length of the Names is limited to 44 bytes, see [IEEE.802.1Q-2011] for the details of the message format. How these parameters are determined is out of scope of this document.
- o Each MEP must be provisioned with a MEP ID. The MEP ID uniquely identifies a given MEP within a Maintenance Association. That is, the combination of MAID and MEP ID must uniquely identify a MEP. How the value of the MEP ID is determined is out of scope of this document.
- o The Maintenance Domain Level (MD Level) allows hierarchical separation of monitoring entities. [IEEE.802.1Q-2011] allows differentiation of 8 levels. How the value of the MD Level is determined is out of scope of this document. Note that probably for all Ethernet LSPs a single (default) MD Level will be used within a network domain.



- o The desired CCM Interval must be specified by the management system based on service requirements or operator policy. The same CCM Interval must be set in each of the MEPs monitoring a given Ethernet LSP. How the value of the CCM Interval is determined is out of scope of this document.
- o The desired forwarding priority to be set by MEPs for the CCM frames may be specified. The same CCM priority must be set in each of the MEPs monitoring a given Ethernet LSP. How CCM priority is determined is out of scope of this document. Note that the highest priority should be used as the default CCM priority.
- o MEPs must be aware of the reachability parameters of their own and that of the remote MEP. In the case of bidirectional point-to-point PBB-TE connections, this requires that the 3-tuples [ESP-MAC A, ESP-MAC B, ESP-VID1] and [ESP-MAC B, ESP-MAC A, ESP-VID2] are configured in each MEP, where the ESP-MAC A is the same as the local MEP's MAC address and ESP-MAC B is the same as remote MEP's MAC address. The GMPLS Ethernet Label format, as defined in [RFC6060], consists of the ESP-MAC DA and ESP-VID. Hence the necessary reachability parameters for the MEPs can be obtained from the Ethernet Labels (i.e., carried in the downstream and upstream labels). In the case of point-to-point VLAN connections, MEPs need to be provisioned with the VLAN identifiers only, which can be derived similarly from the Ethernet Labels.

Based on the procedures described in [RFC6060] for bidirectional PBB-TE Ethernet LSP establishment, the Ethernet OAM configuration procedures are as follows:

When the RSVP-TE signaling is initiated for the bidirectional Ethernet LSP the local node generates a Path message and:

- o Allocates an Upstream Label formed by combining its MAC address (ESP-MAC A) and locally selected VID (ESP-VID1), which will be used to receive traffic;
- o MUST include the OAM Configuration TLV with OAM Type set to Ethernet OAM in the LSP\_ATTRIBUTES or LSP\_REQUIRED\_ATTRIBUTES Object;
- o MUST include the OAM Function Flags Sub-TLV in the OAM Configuration TLV and set the OAM function flags as needed;
- o MUST include an Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV in the OAM Configuration TLV that specifies the CCM Interval and MD Level;



- o MAY add an MD Name Sub-TLV (optional) and MUST add a Short MA Name Sub-TLV (required) to the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV, that will unambiguously identify a Maintenance Association for this specific PBB-TE connection. Note that values for these parameters may be derived from the GMPLS LSP identification parameters;
- o MUST include a MEP ID Sub-TLV in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV and select two distinct integer values to identify the local and remote MEPs within the Maintenance Association created for monitoring of the point-to-point PBB-TE connection.

Once the remote node receives the Path message, it can use the UPSTREAM\_LABEL to extract the reachability information of the initiator. Then it allocates a Label by selecting a local MAC address (ESP-MAC B) and VID (ESP-VID2) that will be used to receive traffic. These parameters determine the reachability information of the local MEP. That is, the 3-tuples [ESP-MAC A, ESP-MAC B, ESP-VID1] and [ESP-MAC B, ESP-MAC A, ESP-VID2] are derived from the Ethernet Labels. In addition, the information received in the Ethernet OAM Configuration TLV is used to configure the local MEP.

Once the Resv message successfully arrives to the initiator, this end can extract the remote side's reachability information from the Label Object and therefore it has all the information needed to properly configure its local MEP.

### **3.2. OAM Configuration TLV**

This TLV is specified in [[RFC7260](#)] and is used to select which OAM technology/method should be used for the LSP. In this document, a new OAM Type: Ethernet OAM is defined. IANA is requested to allocate OAM Type 1 for Ethernet OAM in the RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry.

#### RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry

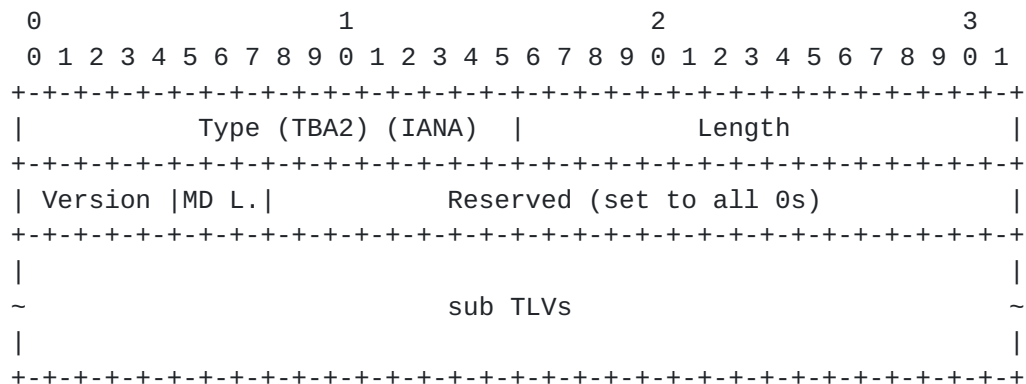
OAM Type	Description
-----	-----
TBA1	Ethernet OAM

The receiving node, when the Ethernet OAM Type is requested, should look for the corresponding technology specific Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV.



### 3.3. Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV

The Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV (depicted below) is defined for Ethernet OAM specific configuration parameters. The Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV, when used, MUST be carried in the OAM Configuration TLV. This new sub-TLV accommodates Ethernet OAM information and carries sub-TLVs.



Type: indicates a new type: the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV. IANA is requested to assign a value from the "Sub-TLV" space in the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry".

Length: indicates the total length of the TLV including padding and including the Type and Length fields.

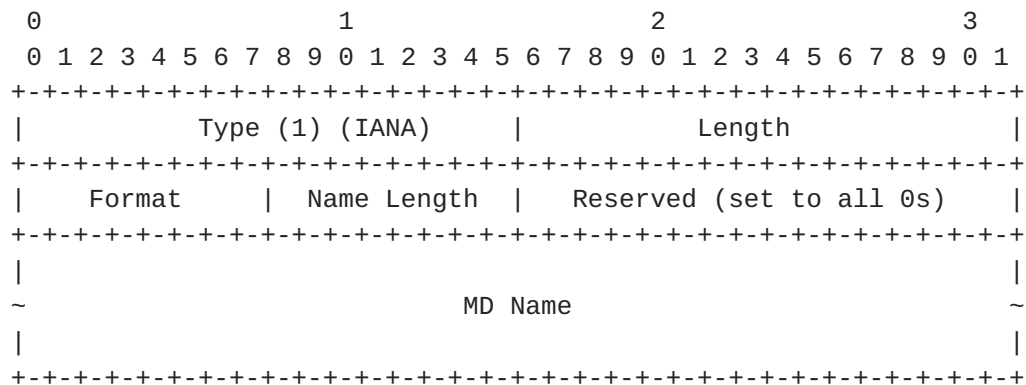
Version: identifies the CFM protocol version according to [IEEE.802.1Q-2011]. If a node does not support a specific CFM version an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unsupported OAM Version"

MD L. (MD Level): indicates the desired MD Level. Possible values are defined according to [IEEE.802.1Q-2011]. If a node does not support a specific MD Level an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unsupported MD Level".

#### 3.3.1. MD Name Sub-TLV

The optional MD Name Sub-TLV is depicted below, it MAY be used for MD naming.





Type: 1, MD Name Sub-TLV. IANA is requested to maintain an Ethernet TLV Type space in the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry" for the sub-TLV types carried in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV.

Length: indicates the total length of the TLV including padding and including the Type and Length fields.

Format: according to [[IEEE.802.1Q-2011](#)].

Name Length: the length of the MD Name field in bytes. This is necessary to allow non 4 byte padded MD Name lengths.

MD Name: variable length field, formatted according to the format specified in the Format field.

If an undefined Format is specified an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unknown MD Name Format". Also the combined length of MD Name and Short MA Name MUST be less or equal to 44bytes, if this is violated an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Name Length Problem". Note it is allowed to have no MD Name, therefore the MD Name Sub-TLV is optional. In this case the MA Name must uniquely identify a Maintenance Association.

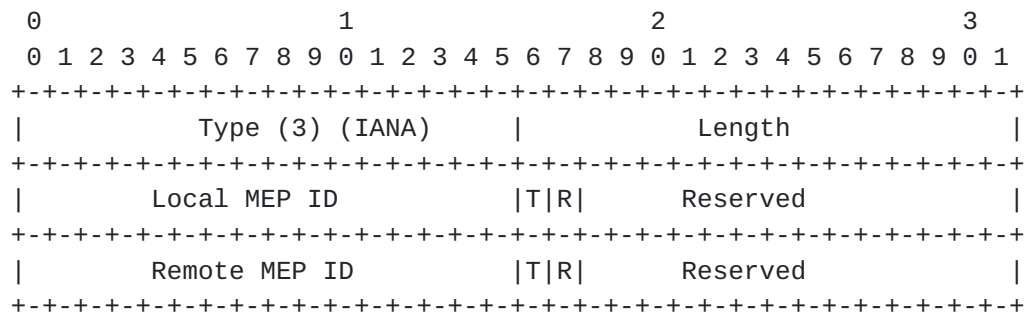
### **3.3.2. Short MA Name Sub-TLV**

The Short MA Name Sub-TLV is depicted below. This sub-TLV MUST be present in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV.









Type: 3, MEP ID Sub-TLV. IANA is requested to maintain an Ethernet TLV Type space in the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry" for the sub-TLV types carried in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV.

Length: indicates the total length of the TLV including padding and including the Type and Length fields.

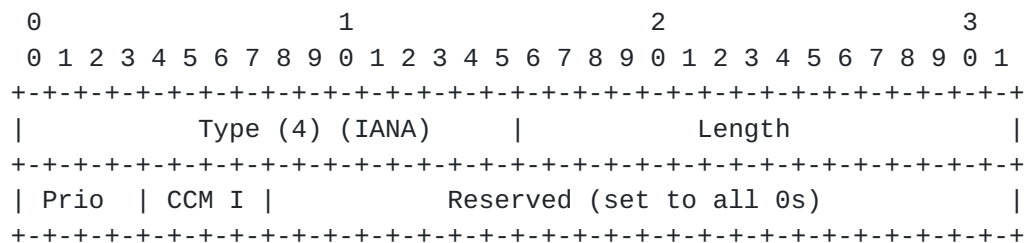
Local MEP ID: a 16 bit integer value in the range 1-8191 of the MEP ID on the initiator side.

Remote MEP ID: a 16 bit integer value in the range 1-8191 of the MEP ID to be set for the MEP established at the receiving side. This value is determined by the initiator node. This is possible, since a new MAID is assigned to each PBB-TE connection, and MEP IDs must be only unique within the scope of the MAID.

Two flags are defined Transmit (T) and Receive (R). When T is set the corresponding MEP MUST send OAM packets. When R is set the corresponding MEP MUST expect to receive OAM packets. These flags are used to configure the role of MEPs.

#### **3.3.4. Continuity Check (CC) Sub-TLV**

The Continuity Check (CC) Sub-TLV is depicted below. This sub-TLV MUST be present in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV.



Type: 4, Continuity Check (CC) Sub-TLV. IANA is requested to maintain an Ethernet TLV Type space in the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry" for the sub-TLV types carried in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV.



Length: indicates the total length of the TLV including padding and including the Type and Length fields.

Prio: Indicates the priority to be set for CCM frames. In Ethernet, 3 bits carried in VLAN TAGs identify priority information. Setting the priority is optional. If the most significant bit is set to zero, the subsequent 3 priority bits will be ignored, and priority bits of the Ethernet CCM frame will be set based on default values specified in the Ethernet nodes. If the most significant bit is set to 1, the subsequent 3 bits will be used to set the priority bits of the Ethernet CCM frame.

CCM I (CCM Interval): CCM Interval, it MUST be set according to the 3 bit encoding [[IEEE.802.1Q-2011](#)] shown in Table 1. As a consequence the most significant bit will be set to 0. Four bits are allocated to support the configuration of CCM intervals that may be specified in the future. If a node does not support the requested CCM Interval an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unsupported CC Interval".

#### **3.4. Pro-active Performance Monitoring**

Ethernet OAM functions for Performance Monitoring (PM) allow measurements of different performance parameters including Frame Loss Ratio, Frame Delay and Frame Delay variation as defined in [[ITU-T.Y.1731-2011](#)]. Only a subset of PM functions are operated in a pro-active fashion to monitor the performance of the connection continuously. Pro-active PM supports Fault Management functions, by providing an indication of decreased service performance and as such may provide triggers to initiate recovery procedures.

While on demand PM functions are, for the purposes of this document, always initiated by management commands, for pro-active PM, it may be desirable to utilize the control plane for configuration and activation together with Fault Management functions such as the Continuity Check.

[ITU-T.Y.1731-2011] defines dual-ended Loss Measurement as pro-active OAM for performance monitoring and as a PM function applicable to fault management. For dual-ended Loss Measurement each MEP piggy-backs transmitted and received frame counters on CC messages; to support and synchronize bidirectional Loss Measurements at the MEPs. Dual-ended Loss Measurement is supported by setting the Performance Monitoring/Loss OAM Function Flag and the Continuity Check Flag in the OAM Function Flags Sub-TLV [[RFC7260](#)], and configuring the Continuity Check functionality by including the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV. No additional configuration is required for this type of Loss Measurement.



### **3.5. Summary of Ethernet OAM configuration errors**

In addition to error values specified in [RFC7260] this document defines the following values for the "OAM Problem" Error Code.

- o If a node does not support a specific CFM version, an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unsupported OAM Version".
- o If a node does not support a specific MD Level, an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unsupported MD Level".
- o If an undefined MD name format is specified, an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unknown MD Name Format".
- o If an undefined MA name format is specified, an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unknown MA Name Format".
- o The combined length of MD Name and Short MA Name must be less or equal to 44bytes, if this is violated an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Name Length Problem".
- o If a node does not support the requested CCM Interval, an error MUST be generated: "OAM Problem/Unsupported CC Interval".

## **4. IANA Considerations**

### **4.1. RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry**

IANA maintains the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry". IANA is requested to assign an "OAM Type" from this registry as follows. Allocate the value TBA1 for "Ethernet OAM" from the "OAM Type Sub-Registry" of the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry". Allocate type TBA2 for the "Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV" from the technology-specific range of the "OAM Sub-TLVs Sub-Registry" of the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry".



## RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry

## OAM Types Sub-Registry

OAM Type Number	Description	Reference
TBA1	Ethernet OAM	[This.ID]

## OAM Sub-TLVs Sub-Registry

Sub-TLV Type	Description	Ref.
TBA2	Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV	[This.ID]

The value of 1 is suggested for TBA1. The value of 32 is suggested for TBA2.

**4.2. Ethernet Sub-TLVs Sub-Registry**

IANA is requested to maintain an Ethernet Sub-TLVs Sub-Registry in the "RSVP-TE OAM Configuration Registry" for the sub-TLV types carried in the Ethernet OAM Configuration Sub-TLV. This document defines the following types.

## Ethernet Sub-TLVs Sub-Registry

Range	Registration Procedures
0-65534	IETF Review
65535-65536	Experimental

Sub-TLV Type	Description	Ref.
0	Reserved	[This.ID]
1	MD Name Sub-TLV	[This.ID]
2	Short MA Name Sub-TLV	[This.ID]
3	MEP ID Sub-TLV	[This.ID]
4	Continuity Check Sub-TLV	[This.ID]
5-65536	Unassigned	[This.ID]

**4.3. RSVP Error Code**

IANA maintains an Error Code, "OAM Problem" in the "Error Codes and Globally-Defined Error Value Sub-Codes" sub-registry of the "Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP) Parameters" registry. [[RFC7260](#)] defines a set of Error Value sub-codes for the "OAM Problem" Error Code.



This document defines additional Error Values sub-codes for the "OAM Problem" Error Code as summarized below.

Value	Description	Reference
TBA	Unsupported OAM Version	[This.ID]
TBA	Unsupported MD Level	[This.ID]
TBA	Unknown MD Name Format	[This.ID]
TBA	Unknown MA Name Format	[This.ID]
TBA	Name Length Problem	[This.ID]
TBA	Unsupported CC Interval	[This.ID]

## 5. Security Considerations

This document does not introduce any additional security issue to those discussed in [\[RFC7260\]](#) and [\[RFC6060\]](#).

The signaling of OAM-related parameters and the automatic establishment of OAM entities based on RSVP-TE messages add a new aspect to the security considerations discussed in [\[RFC3473\]](#). In particular, a network element could be overloaded if a remote attacker targeted that element by sending frequent periodic messages requesting liveliness monitoring of a high number of LSPs. Such an attack can efficiently be prevented when mechanisms for message integrity and node authentication are deployed. Since the OAM configuration extensions rely on the hop-by-hop exchange of exiting RSVP-TE messages, procedures specified for RSVP message security in [\[RFC2747\]](#) can be used to mitigate possible attacks.

For a more comprehensive discussion of GMPLS security and attack mitigation techniques, please see the Security Framework for MPLS and GMPLS Networks [\[RFC5920\]](#).

## 6. Acknowledgements

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