

**CDNI Control Interface / Triggers**  
**draft-ietf-cdni-control-triggers-13**

Abstract

This document describes the part of the CDN Interconnection Control Interface that allows a CDN to trigger activity in an interconnected CDN that is configured to deliver content on its behalf. The upstream CDN can use this mechanism to request that the downstream CDN pre-positions metadata or content, or that it invalidates or purges metadata or content. The upstream CDN can monitor the status of activity that it has triggered in the downstream CDN.

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 [RFC 2119](#) [[RFC2119](#)].

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## 1. Introduction

[RFC6707] introduces the problem scope for CDN Interconnection (CDNI) and lists the four categories of interfaces that may be used to compose a CDNI solution (Control, Metadata, Request Routing, Logging).

[RFC7336] expands on the information provided in [RFC6707] and describes each of the interfaces and the relationships between them in more detail.

This document describes the "CI/T" interface, "CDNI Control interface / Triggers". It does not consider those parts of the control interface that relate to configuration, bootstrapping or authentication of CDN Interconnect interfaces. [Section 4 of \[RFC7337\]](#) identifies the requirements specific to the CI interface, requirements applicable to the CI/T interface are CI-1 to CI-6.

- o [Section 2](#) outlines the model for the CI/T Interface at a high level.
- o [Section 3](#) describes collections of Trigger Status Resources.
- o [Section 4](#) defines the web service provided by the dCDN.
- o [Section 5](#) lists properties of CI/T Commands and Status Resources.



- o [Section 6](#) contains example messages.

### **[1.1.](#) Terminology**

This document reuses the terminology defined in [[RFC6707](#)] and uses "uCDN" and "dCDN" as shorthand for "Upstream CDN" and "Downstream CDN", respectively.

## **[2.](#) Model for CDNI Triggers**

A CI/T Command, sent from the uCDN to the dCDN, is a request for the dCDN to do some work relating to data associated with content requests originating from the uCDN.

There are two types of CI/T Command: CI/T Trigger Commands, and CI/T Cancel Commands. The CI/T Cancel Command can be used to request cancellation of an earlier CI/T Trigger Command. A CI/T Trigger Command is of one of the following types:

- o `preposition` - used to instruct the dCDN to fetch metadata from the uCDN, or content from any origin including the uCDN.
- o `invalidate` - used to instruct the dCDN to revalidate specific metadata or content before re-using it.
- o `purge` - used to instruct the dCDN to delete specific metadata or content.

The CI/T interface is a web service offered by the dCDN. It allows CI/T commands to be issued, and triggered activity to be tracked. When the dCDN accepts a CI/T Command it creates a resource describing status of the triggered activity, a Trigger Status Resource. The uCDN can poll Trigger Status Resources to monitor progress.

The dCDN maintains at least one collection of Trigger Status Resources for each uCDN. Each uCDN only has access to its own collections, the locations of which are shared when CDN interconnection is established.

To trigger activity in the dCDN, the uCDN POSTs a CI/T Command to the collection of Trigger Status Resources. If the dCDN accepts the CI/T Command, it creates a new Trigger Status Resource and returns its location to the uCDN. To monitor progress, the uCDN can GET the Trigger Status Resource. To request cancellation of a CI/T Trigger Command the uCDN can POST to the collection of Trigger Status Resources, or simply DELETE the Trigger Status Resource.



In addition to the collection of all Trigger Status Resources for the uCDN, the dCDN can maintain filtered views of that collection. These filtered views are defined in [Section 3](#) and include collections of Trigger Status Resources corresponding to active and completed CI/T Trigger Commands. These collections provide a mechanism for polling the status of multiple jobs.

Figure 1 is an example showing the basic message flow used by the uCDN to trigger activity in the dCDN, and for the uCDN to discover the status of that activity. Only successful triggering is shown. Examples of the messages are given in [Section 6](#).

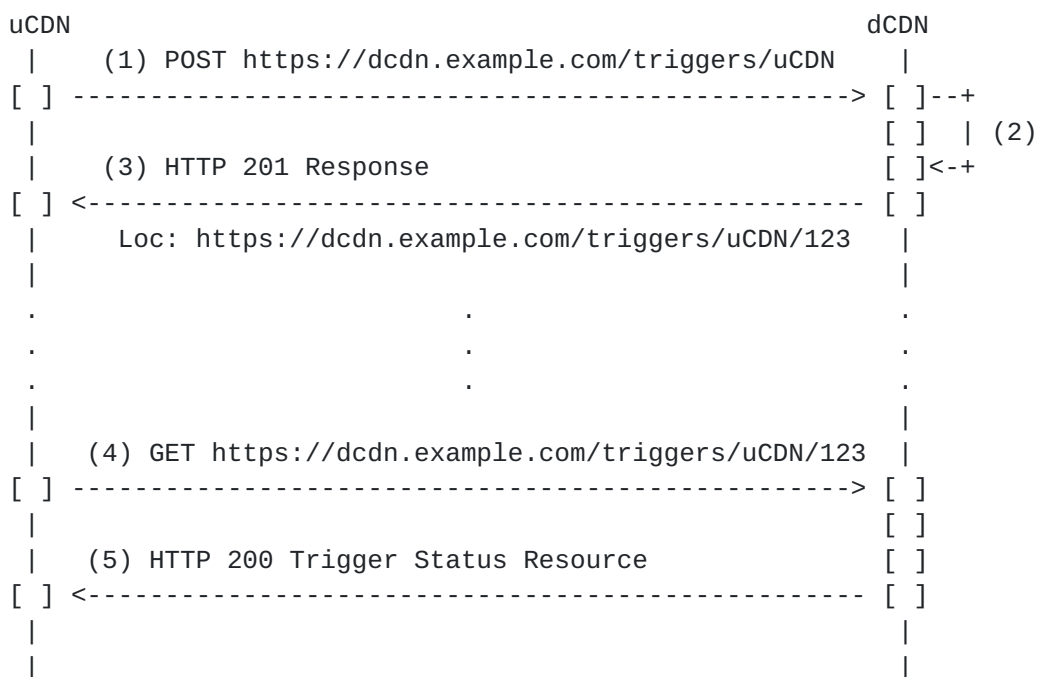


Figure 1: Basic CDNI Message Flow for Triggers

The steps in Figure 1 are:

1. The uCDN triggers action in the dCDN by posting a CI/T Command to a collection of Trigger Status Resources, "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/uCDN". The URL of this was given to the uCDN when the CI/T interface was established.
2. The dCDN authenticates the request, validates the CI/T Command and, if it accepts the request, creates a new Trigger Status Resource.
3. The dCDN responds to the uCDN with an HTTP 201 response status, and the location of the Trigger Status Resource.





4. The uCDN can poll, possibly repeatedly, the Trigger Status Resource in the dCDN.
5. The dCDN responds with the Trigger Status Resource, describing progress or results of the CI/T Trigger Command.

The remainder of this document describes the messages, Trigger Status Resources, and collections of Trigger Status Resources in more detail.

### **2.1. Timing of Triggered Activity**

Timing of the execution of CI/T Commands is under the dCDN's control, including its start-time and pacing of the activity in the network.

CI/T invalidate and purge commands MUST be applied to all data acquired before the command was accepted by the dCDN. The dCDN SHOULD NOT apply CI/T invalidate and purge commands to data acquired after the CI/T Command was accepted, but this may not always be achievable so the uCDN cannot count on that.

If the uCDN wishes to invalidate or purge content then immediately pre-position replacement content at the same URLs, it SHOULD ensure the dCDN has completed the invalidate/purge before initiating the prepositioning. Otherwise, there is a risk that the dCDN pre-positions the new content, then immediately invalidates or purges it (as a result of the two uCDN requests running in parallel).

Because the CI/T Command timing is under the dCDN's control, the dCDN implementation can choose whether to apply CI/T invalidate and purge commands to content acquisition that has already started when the command is received.

### **2.2. Scope of Triggered Activity**

Each CI/T Command can operate on multiple metadata and content URLs.

Multiple representations of an HTTP resource may share the same URL. CI/T Trigger Commands that invalidate or purge metadata or content apply to all resource representations with matching URLs.

#### **2.2.1. Multiple Interconnected CDNs**

In a network of interconnected CDNs a single uCDN will originate a given item of metadata and associated content, it may distribute that metadata and content to more than one dCDN, which may in-turn distribute that metadata and content to further-downstream CDNs.



An intermediate CDN is a dCDN that passes on CDNI metadata and content to further-downstream dCDNs.

A diamond configuration is one where a dCDN can acquire metadata and content originated in one uCDN from that uCDN itself and an intermediate CDN, or via more than one intermediate CDN.

CI/T commands originating in the single source uCDN affect metadata and content in all dCDNs but, in a diamond configuration, it may not be possible for the dCDN to determine which uCDN it acquired content from. In this case a dCDN MUST allow each uCDN from which it may have acquired the content to act upon that content using CI/T Commands.

In all other cases, a dCDN MUST reject CI/T Commands from a uCDN that act on another uCDN's data using, for example, HTTP "403 Forbidden".

Security considerations are discussed further in [Section 8](#).

The diamond configuration may lead to inefficient interactions, but the interactions are otherwise harmless. For example:

- o When the uCDN issues an invalidate CI/T command, a dCDN will receive that command from multiple directly connected uCDNs. The dCDN may schedule multiple those commands separately, and the last may affect content already revalidated following execution of the invalidate command scheduled first.
- o If one of a dCDN's directly-connected uCDNs loses its rights to distribute content, it may issue a CI/T purge command. That purge may affect content the dCDN could retain because it's distributed by another directly-connected uCDN. But, that content can be re-acquired by the dCDN from the remaining uCDN.
- o When the uCDN originating an item of content issues a CI/T purge followed by a preposition - two directly connected uCDNs will pass those commands to a dCDN. That dCDN implementation need not merge those operations, or notice the repetition. In which case the purge issued by one uCDN will complete before the other. The first uCDN to finish its purge may then forward the preposition trigger, and content pre-positioned as a result might be affected by the still-running purge issued by the other uCDN. However, the dCDN will re-acquire that content as needed, or when it's asked to pre-position the content by the second uCDN. A dCDN implementation could avoid this interaction by knowing which uCDN it acquired the content from, or it could minimize the consequences by recording the time at which the invalidate/purge



command was received and not applying it to content acquired after that time.

### **2.3. Trigger Results**

Possible states for a Trigger Status Resource are defined in section [Section 5.2.3](#).

The CI/T Trigger Command MUST NOT be reported as 'complete' until all actions have been completed successfully. The reasons for failure, and URLs or Patterns affected, SHOULD be enumerated in the Trigger Status Resource. For more detail, see section [Section 4.7](#).

If a dCDN is also acting as a uCDN in a cascade, it MUST forward CI/T Commands to any downstream CDNs that may be affected. The CI/T Trigger Command MUST NOT be reported as 'complete' in a CDN until it is 'complete' in all of its downstream CDNs. If a CI/T Trigger Command is reported as 'processed' in any dCDN, intermediate CDNs MUST NOT report 'complete', instead they MUST also report 'processed'. A CI/T Command MAY be reported as 'failed' as soon as it fails in a CDN or in any of its downstream CDNs. A cancelled CI/T Trigger Command MUST be reported as 'cancelling' until it has been reported as 'cancelled', 'complete', or 'failed' by all dCDNs in a cascade.

## **3. Collections of Trigger Status Resources**

As described in [Section 2](#), Trigger Status Resources exist in the dCDN to report the status of activity triggered by each uCDN.

A collection of Trigger Status Resources is a resource that contains a reference to each Trigger Status Resource in that collection.

The dCDN MUST make a collection of a uCDN's Trigger Status Resources available to that uCDN. This collection includes all of the Trigger Status Resources created for CI/T Commands from the uCDN that have been accepted by the dCDN, and have not yet been deleted by the uCDN, or expired and removed by the dCDN (as described in section [Section 4.4](#)). Trigger Status Resources belonging to a uCDN MUST NOT be visible to any other CDN. The dCDN could, for example, achieve this by offering different collection URLs to each uCDN, and by filtering the response based on the uCDN with which the HTTP client is associated.

To trigger activity in a dCDN, or to cancel triggered activity, the uCDN POSTs a CI/T Command to the dCDN's collection of the uCDN's Trigger Status Resources.



In order to allow the uCDN to check the status of multiple jobs in a single request, the dCDN MAY also maintain collections representing filtered views of the collection of all Trigger Status Resources. These filtered collections are optional-to-implement but, if implemented, the dCDN MUST include links to them in the collection of all Trigger Status Resources. The filtered collections are:

- o Pending - Trigger Status Resources for CI/T Trigger Commands that have been accepted, but not yet acted upon.
- o Active - Trigger Status Resources for CI/T Trigger Commands that are currently being processed in the dCDN.
- o Complete - Trigger Status Resources representing activity that completed successfully, and 'processed' CI/T Trigger Commands for which no further status updates will be made by the dCDN.
- o Failed - Trigger Status Resources representing CI/T Commands that failed or were cancelled by the uCDN.

#### **4. CDNI Trigger Interface**

This section describes an interface to enable an upstream CDN to trigger activity in a downstream CDN.

The CI/T interface builds on top of HTTP, so dCDNs may make use of any HTTP feature when implementing the CI/T interface. For example, a dCDN SHOULD make use of HTTP's caching mechanisms to indicate that a requested response/representation has not been modified, reducing the uCDN's processing needed to determine whether the status of triggered activity has changed.

All dCDNs implementing CI/T MUST support the HTTP GET, HEAD, POST and DELETE methods as defined in [[RFC7231](#)].

The only representation specified in this document is JSON, [[RFC7159](#)]. It MUST be supported by the uCDN and by the dCDN.

The URL of the dCDN's collection of all Trigger Status Resources needs to be either discovered by, or configured in, the uCDN. The mechanism for discovery of that URL is outside the scope of this document.

CI/T Commands are POSTed to the dCDN's collection of all Trigger Status Resources. If a CI/T Trigger Command is accepted by the dCDN, the dCDN creates a new Trigger Status Resource and returns its URI to the uCDN in an HTTP 201 response. The triggered activity can then be





monitored by the uCDN using that resource and the collections described in [Section 3](#).

The URI of each Trigger Status Resource is returned to the uCDN when it is created, and URIs of all Trigger Status Resources are listed in the dCDN's collection of all Trigger Status Resources. This means all Trigger Status Resources can be discovered by the uCDN, so dCDNs are free to assign whatever structure they desire to the URIs for CI/T resources. Therefore uCDNs MUST NOT make any assumptions regarding the structure of CI/T URIs or the mapping between CI/T objects and their associated URIs. URIs present in the examples in this document are purely illustrative and are not intended to impose a definitive structure on CI/T interface implementations.

#### **[4.1. Creating Triggers](#)**

To issue a CI/T Command, the uCDN makes an HTTP POST to the dCDN's collection of all of the uCDN's Trigger Status Resources. The request body of that POST is a CI/T Command, as described in [Section 5.1.1](#).

The dCDN validates the CI/T Command. If the command is malformed or the uCDN does not have sufficient access rights, the dCDN MUST either respond with an appropriate 4xx HTTP error code and not create a Trigger Status Resource, or create a 'failed' Trigger Status Resource containing an appropriate error description.

When a CI/T Trigger Command is accepted, the uCDN MUST create a new Trigger Status Resource which will convey a specification of the CI/T Command and its current status. The HTTP response to the dCDN MUST have status code 201 and MUST convey the URI of the Trigger Status Resource in the Location header field. The HTTP response SHOULD include the content of the newly created Trigger Status Resource. This is particularly important in cases where the CI/T Trigger Command has completed immediately.

Once a Trigger Status Resource has been created the dCDN MUST NOT re-use its URI, even after that Trigger Status Resource has been removed.

The dCDN SHOULD track and report on progress of CI/T Trigger Commands. If the dCDN is not able to do that, it MUST indicate that it has accepted the request but will not be providing further status updates. To do this, it sets the status of the Trigger Status Resource to "processed". In this case, CI/T processing should continue as for a "complete" request, so the Trigger Status Resource MUST be added to the dCDN's collection of Complete Trigger Status Resources. The dCDN SHOULD also provide an estimated completion time



for the request, by using the "etime" property of the Trigger Status Resource. This will allow the uCDN to schedule prepositioning after an earlier delete of the same URLs is expected to have finished.

If the dCDN is able to track the execution of CI/T Commands and a CI/T Command is queued by the dCDN for later action, the status property of the Trigger Status Resource MUST be "pending". Once processing has started the "status" MUST be "active". Finally, once the CI/T Command is complete, the status MUST be set to "complete" or "failed".

A CI/T Trigger Command may result in no activity in the dCDN if, for example, it is an invalidate or purge request for data the dCDN has not yet acquired, or a pre-position request for data it has already acquired and which is still valid. In this case, the "status" of the Trigger Status Resource MUST be "processed" or "complete", and the Trigger Status Resource MUST be added to the dCDN's collection of Complete Trigger Status Resources.

Once created, Trigger Status Resources can be cancelled or deleted by the uCDN, but not modified. The dCDN MUST reject PUT and POST requests from the uCDN to Trigger Status Resources by responding with an appropriate HTTP status code, for example 405 "Method Not Allowed".

## **4.2. Checking Status**

The uCDN has two ways to check progress of CI/T Commands it has issued to the dCDN, described in sections [Section 4.2.1](#) and [Section 4.2.2](#).

To allow the uCDN to check for change in status of a Trigger Status Resource or collection of Trigger Status Resources without re-fetching the whole Resource or Collection, the dCDN SHOULD include Entity Tags for the uCDN to use as cache validators, as defined in [\[RFC7232\]](#).

The dCDN SHOULD use the cache control headers for responses to GETs for Trigger Status Resources and Collections to indicate the frequency at which it recommends the uCDN should poll for change.

### **4.2.1. Polling Trigger Status Resource collections**

The uCDN can fetch the collection of its Trigger Status Resources, or filtered views of that collection.

This makes it possible to poll status of all CI/T Trigger Commands in a single request. If the dCDN moves a Trigger Status Resource from



the Active to the Completed collection, the uCDN can fetch the result of that activity.

When polling in this way, the uCDN SHOULD use HTTP Entity Tags to monitor for change, rather than repeatedly fetching the whole collection. An example of this is given in section [Section 6.2.4](#).

#### **[4.2.2](#). Polling Trigger Status Resources**

The uCDN has a URI provided by the dCDN for each Trigger Status Resource it has created, it may fetch that Trigger Status Resource at any time.

This can be used to retrieve progress information, and to fetch the result of the CI/T Command.

When polling in this way, the uCDN SHOULD use HTTP Entity Tags to monitor for change, rather than repeatedly fetching the Trigger Status Resource.

#### **[4.3](#). Cancelling Triggers**

The uCDN can request cancellation of a CI/T Trigger Command by POSTing a CI/T Cancel Command to the collection of all Trigger Status Resources.

The dCDN is required to accept and respond to the CI/T Cancel Command, but the actual cancellation of a CI/T Trigger Command is optional-to-implement.

The dCDN MUST respond to the CI/T Cancel Command appropriately, for example with HTTP status code 200 "OK" if the cancellation has been processed and the CI/T Command is inactive, 202 "Accepted" if the command has been accepted but the CI/T Command remains active, or 501 "Not Implemented" if cancellation is not supported by the dCDN.

If cancellation of a "pending" Trigger Status Resource is accepted by the dCDN, the dCDN SHOULD NOT start processing of that activity. Issuing a CI/T Cancel Command for a "pending" Trigger Status Resource does not however guarantee that the corresponding activity will not be started, because the uCDN cannot control the timing of that activity. Processing could, for example, start after the POST is sent by the uCDN but before that request is processed by the dCDN.

If cancellation of an "active" or "processed" Trigger Status Resource is accepted by the dCDN, the dCDN SHOULD stop processing the CI/T Command. However, as with cancellation of a "pending" CI/T Command, the dCDN does not guarantee this.



If the CI/T Command cannot be stopped immediately, the status in the corresponding Trigger Status Resource MUST be set to "cancelling", and the Trigger Status Resource MUST remain in the collection of Trigger Status Resources for active CI/T Commands. If processing is stopped before normal completion, the status value in the Trigger Status Resource MUST be set to "cancelled", and the Trigger Status Resource MUST be included in the collection of failed CT/T Trigger Commands.

Cancellation of a "complete" or "failed" Trigger Status Resource requires no processing in the dCDN. Its status MUST NOT be changed to "cancelled".

#### **4.4. Deleting Triggers**

The uCDN can delete Trigger Status Resources at any time, using the HTTP DELETE method. The effect is similar to cancellation, but no Trigger Status Resource remains afterwards.

Once deleted, the references to a Trigger Status Resource MUST be removed from all Trigger Status Resource collections. Subsequent requests to GET the deleted Trigger Status Resource SHOULD be rejected by the dCDN with an HTTP error.

If a "pending" Trigger Status Resource is deleted, the dCDN SHOULD NOT start processing of that activity. Deleting a "pending" Trigger Status Resource does not however guarantee that it has not started because the uCDN cannot control the timing of that activity. Processing may, for example, start after the DELETE is sent by the uCDN but before that request is processed by the dCDN.

If an "active" or "processed" Trigger Status Resource is deleted, the dCDN SHOULD stop processing the CI/T Command. However, as with deletion of a "pending" Trigger Status Resource, the dCDN does not guarantee this.

Deletion of a "complete" or "failed" Trigger Status Resource requires no processing in the dCDN other than deletion of the Trigger Status Resource.

#### **4.5. Expiry of Trigger Status Resources**

The dCDN can choose to automatically delete Trigger Status Resources some time after they become "complete", "processed", "failed" or "cancelled". In this case, the dCDN will remove the Trigger Status Resource and respond to subsequent requests for it with an HTTP error.





If the dCDN does remove Trigger Status Resources automatically, it MUST report the length of time after which it will do so, using a property of the collection of all Trigger Status Resources. It is RECOMMENDED that Trigger Status Resources are not automatically deleted by the dCDN for at least 24 hours after they become "complete", "processed", "failed" or "cancelled".

To ensure it is able to get the status of its Trigger Status Resources for completed and failed CI/T Commands, it is RECOMMENDED that the uCDN polling interval is less than the time after which records for completed activity will be deleted.

#### **[4.6.](#) Loop Detection and Prevention**

Given three CDNs, A, B and C, if CDNs B and C delegate delivery of CDN A's content to each other, CDN A's CI/T Commands could be passed between CDNs B and C in a loop. More complex networks of CDNs could contain similar loops involving more hops.

In order to prevent and detect such CI/T loops, each CDN uses a CDN Provider ID to uniquely identify itself. In every CI/T Command it originates or cascades, each CDN MUST append an array element containing its CDN Provider ID to a JSON array under an entry named "cdn-path". When receiving CI/T Commands a dCDN MUST check the cdn-path and reject any CI/T Command which already contains its own CDN Provider ID in the cdn-path. Transit CDNs MUST check the cdn-path and not cascade the CI/T Command to dCDNs that are already listed in cdn-path.

The CDN Provider Id consists of the two characters "AS" followed by the CDN Provider's Autonomous System number, then a colon (':') and an additional qualifier that is used to guarantee uniqueness in case a particular AS has multiple independent CDNs deployed. For example "AS64496:0".

If the CDN provider has multiple Autonomous Systems, the same AS number SHOULD be used in all messages from that CDN provider, unless there are multiple distinct CDNs.

If the RI interface described in [[I-D.ietf-cdni-redirection](#)] is implemented by the dCDN, the CI/T and RI interfaces SHOULD use the same CDN Provider Id.

#### **[4.7.](#) Error Handling**

A dCDN can signal rejection of a CI/T Command using HTTP status codes. For example, 400 if the request is malformed, or 403 or 404



if the uCDN does not have permission to issue CI/T Commands or it is trying to act on another CDN's data.

If any part of the CI/T Trigger Command fails, the trigger SHOULD be reported as "failed" once its activity is complete or if no further errors will be reported. The "errors" property in the Trigger Status Resource will be used to enumerate which actions failed and the reasons for failure, and can be present while the Trigger Status Resource is still "pending" or "active", if the CI/T Trigger Command is still running for some URLs or Patterns in the Trigger Specification.

Once a request has been accepted, processing errors are reported in the Trigger Status Resource using a list of Error Descriptions. Each Error Description is used to report errors against one or more of the URLs or Patterns in the Trigger Specification.

If a surrogate affected by a CI/T Trigger Command is offline in the dCDN, or the dCDN is unable to pass a CI/T Command on to any of its cascaded dCDNs:

- o If the CI/T Command is abandoned by the dCDN, the dCDN SHOULD report an error.
- o A CI/T "invalidate" command may be reported as "complete" when surrogates that may have the data are offline. In this case, surrogates MUST NOT use the affected data without first revalidating it when they are back online.
- o CI/T "preposition" and "purge" commands can be reported as "processed" if affected caches are offline and the activity will complete when they return to service.
- o Otherwise, the dCDN SHOULD keep the Trigger Status Resource in state "pending" or "active" until the CI/T Command is acted upon, or the uCDN chooses to cancel it.

#### **4.8. Content URLs**

If content URLs are transformed by an intermediate CDN in a cascade, that intermediate CDN MUST similarly transform URLs in CI/T Commands it passes to its dCDN.

When processing Trigger Specifications, CDNs MUST ignore the URL scheme (http or https) in comparing URLs. For example, for a CI/T invalidate or purge command, content MUST be invalidated or purged regardless of the protocol clients use to request it.



## **5. CI/T Object Properties and Encoding**

CI/T Commands, Trigger Status Resources and Trigger Collections and their properties are encoded using JSON, as defined in sections [Section 5.1.1](#), [Section 5.2.1](#), and [Section 5.1.2](#). They MUST use the MIME Media Type 'application/cdni', with parameter 'ptype' values as defined below and in [Section 7.1](#).

Names in JSON are case sensitive. The names and literal values specified in the present document MUST always use lower-case.

JSON types, including 'object', 'array', 'number' and 'string' are defined in [[RFC7159](#)].

Unrecognised name/value pairs in JSON objects SHOULD NOT be treated as an error by either the uCDN or dCDN. They SHOULD be ignored in the processing, and passed on by dCDN to any further dCDNs in a cascade.

### **5.1. CI/T Objects**

The top-level objects defined by the CI/T interface are described in this section.

The encoding of values used by these objects is described in [Section 5.2](#).

#### **5.1.1. CI/T Commands**

CI/T Commands MUST use a MIME Media Type of 'application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-command'.

A CI/T Command is encoded as a JSON object containing the following name/value pairs.

Name: trigger

Description: A specification of the trigger type, and a set of data to act upon.

Value: A Trigger Specification, as defined in [Section 5.2.1](#).

Mandatory: No, but exactly one of "trigger" or "cancel" MUST be present in a CI/T Command.

Name: cancel



Description: The URLs of Trigger Status Resources for CI/T Trigger Commands that the uCDN wants to cancel.

Value: A non-empty JSON array of URLs represented as JSON strings.

Mandatory: No, but exactly one of "trigger" or "cancel" MUST be present in a CI/T Command.

Name: cdn-path

Description: The CDN Provider Identifiers of CDNs that have already issued the CI/T Command to their dCDNs.

Value: A non-empty JSON array of JSON strings, where each string is a CDN Provider Identifier as defined in [Section 4.6](#).

Mandatory: Yes.

#### **[5.1.2](#). Trigger Status Resource**

Trigger Status Resources MUST use a MIME Media Type of 'application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status'.

A Trigger Status Resource is encoded as a JSON object containing the following name/value pairs.

Name: trigger

Description: The Trigger Specification posted in the body of the CI/T Command. Note that this need not be a byte-for-byte copy. For example, in the JSON representation the dCDN may re-serialise the information differently.

Value: A Trigger Specification, as defined in [Section 5.2.1](#).

Mandatory: Yes

Name: ctime

Description: Time at which the CI/T Command was received by the dCDN. Time is determined by the dCDN, there is no requirement to synchronise clocks between interconnected CDNs.

Value: Absolute Time, as defined in [Section 5.2.5](#).

Mandatory: Yes





Name: mtime

Description: Time at which the Trigger Status Resource was last modified. Time is determined by the dCDN, there is no requirement to synchronise clocks between interconnected CDNs.

Value: Absolute Time, as defined in [Section 5.2.5](#).

Mandatory: Yes

Name: etime

Description: Estimate of the time at which the dCDN expects to complete the activity. Time is determined by the dCDN, there is no requirement to synchronise clocks between interconnected CDNs.

Value: Absolute Time, as defined in [Section 5.2.5](#).

Mandatory: No

Name: status

Description: Current status of the triggered activity.

Value: Trigger Status, as defined in [Section 5.2.3](#).

Mandatory: Yes

Name: errors

Description: Descriptions of errors that have occurred while processing a Trigger Command.

Value: An array of Error Description, as defined in [Section 5.2.6](#). An empty array is allowed, and equivalent to omitting "errors" from the object.

Mandatory: No.

### [5.1.3](#). Trigger Collection

Trigger Collections MUST use a MIME Media Type of 'application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection'.

A Trigger Collection is encoded as a JSON object containing the following name/value pairs.



Name: triggers

Description: Links to Trigger Status Resources in the collection.

Value: A JSON array of zero or more URLs, represented as JSON strings.

Mandatory: Yes

Name: staleresourcetime

Description: The length of time for which the dCDN guarantees to keep a completed Trigger Status Resource. After this time, the dCDN SHOULD delete the Trigger Status Resource and all references to it from collections.

Value: A JSON number, which must be a positive integer, representing time in seconds.

Mandatory: Yes, in the collection of all Trigger Status Resources if the dCDN deletes stale entries. If the property is present in the filtered collections, it MUST have the same value as in the collection of all Trigger Status Resources.

Names: coll-all, coll-pending, coll-active, coll-complete, coll-failed

Description: Link to a Trigger Collection.

Value: A URL represented as a JSON string.

Mandatory: Links to all of the filtered collections are mandatory in the collection of all Trigger Status Resources, if the dCDN implements the filtered collections. Otherwise, optional.

Name: cdn-id

Description: The CDN Provider Identifier of the dCDN.

Value: A JSON string, the dCDN's CDN Provider Identifier, as defined in [Section 4.6](#).

Mandatory: Only in the collection of all Trigger Status Resources, if the dCDN implements the filtered collections. Optional in the filtered collections (the uCDN can always find the dCDN's cdn-id in the collection of all Trigger Status



Resources, but the dCDN can choose to repeat that information in its implementation of filtered collections).

## 5.2. Properties of CI/T Objects

This section defines the values that can appear in the top level objects described in [Section 5.1](#), and their encodings.

### 5.2.1. Trigger Specification

A Trigger Collection is encoded as a JSON object containing the following name/value pairs.

An unrecognised name/value pair in the Trigger Specification object contained in a CI/T Command SHOULD be preserved in the Trigger Specification of any Trigger Status Resource it creates.

Name: type

Description: This property defines the type of the CI/T Trigger Command.

Value: Trigger Type, as defined in [Section 5.2.2](#).

Mandatory: Yes

Name: metadata.urls

Description: The uCDN URLs of the metadata the CI/T Trigger Command applies to.

Value: A JSON array of URLs represented as JSON strings.

Mandatory: No, but at least one of 'metadata.\*' or 'content.\*' MUST be present and non-empty.

Name: content.urls

Description: URLs of content the CI/T Trigger Command applies to, see [Section 4.8](#).

Value: A JSON array of URLs represented as JSON strings.

Mandatory: No, but at least one of 'metadata.\*' or 'content.\*' MUST be present and non-empty.

Name: content.ccid



Description: The Content Collection Identifier of content the trigger applies to. The 'ccid' is a grouping of content, as defined by [[I-D.ietf-cdni-metadata](#)].

Value: A JSON array of strings, where each string is a Content Collection Identifier.

Mandatory: No, but at least one of 'metadata.\*' or 'content.\*' MUST be present and non-empty.

Name: metadata.patterns

Description: The metadata the trigger applies to.

Value: A JSON array of Pattern Match, as defined in [Section 5.2.4](#).

Mandatory: No, but at least one of 'metadata.\*' or 'content.\*' MUST be present and non-empty, and metadata.patterns MUST NOT be present if the TriggerType is Preposition.

Name: content.patterns

Description: The content data the trigger applies to.

Value: A JSON array of Pattern Match, as defined in [Section 5.2.4](#).

Mandatory: No, but at least one of 'metadata.\*' or 'content.\*' MUST be present and non-empty, and content.patterns MUST NOT be present if the TriggerType is Preposition.

### **[5.2.2](#). Trigger Type**

Trigger Type is used in a Trigger Specification to describe trigger action. It MUST be one of the JSON strings in the following table:





JSON String	Description
preposition	A request for the dCDN to acquire metadata or content.
invalidate	A request for the dCDN to invalidate metadata or content. After servicing this request the dCDN will not use the specified data without first re-validating it using, for example, an "If-None-Match" HTTP request. The dCDN need not erase the associated data.
purge	A request for the dCDN to erase metadata or content. After servicing the request, the specified data MUST NOT be held on the dCDN (the dCDN should re-acquire the metadata or content from uCDN if it needs it).

### 5.2.3. Trigger Status

This describes the current status of a Trigger. It MUST be one of the JSON strings in the following table:

JSON String	Description
pending	The CI/T Trigger Command has not yet been acted upon.
active	The CI/T Trigger Command is currently being acted upon.
complete	The CI/T Trigger Command completed successfully.
processed	The CI/T Trigger Command has been accepted and no further status update will be made (can be used in cases where completion cannot be confirmed).
failed	The CI/T Trigger Command could not be completed.
cancelling	Processing of the CI/T Trigger Command is still in progress, but the CI/T Trigger Command has been cancelled by the uCDN.
cancelled	The CI/T Trigger Command was cancelled by the uCDN.

### 5.2.4. PatternMatch

A Pattern Match consists of a string pattern to match against a URI, and flags describing the type of match.

It is encoded as a JSON object with the following name/value pairs:



Name: pattern

Description: A pattern for URI matching.

Value: A JSON string representing the pattern. The pattern may contain the wildcards \* and ?, where \* matches any sequence of characters (including the empty string) and ? matches exactly one character. The three literals "\", "\*" and "?" MUST be escaped as "\\\"", "\\\*" and "\\?".

Mandatory: Yes.

Name: case-sensitive

Description: Flag indicating whether or not case-sensitive matching should be used.

Value: One of the JSON values 'true' (the matching is case-sensitive) or 'false' (the matching is case-insensitive).

Mandatory: No, default is case-insensitive match.

Name: match-query-string

Description: Flag indicating whether or not the query part of the URI should be included in the pattern match.

Value: One of the JSON values 'true' (the full URI including the query part should be compared against the given pattern), or 'false' (the query part of the URI should be dropped before comparison with the given pattern).

Mandatory: No, default is 'false', the query part of the URI should be dropped before comparison with the given pattern.

Example of case-sensitive prefix match against  
"https://www.example.com/trailers/":

```
{  
  "pattern": "https://www.example.com/trailers/*",  
  "case-sensitive": true  
}
```

#### **5.2.5. Absolute Time**

A JSON number, seconds since the UNIX epoch, 00:00:00 UTC on 1 January 1970.



#### **5.2.6. Error Description**

An Error Description is used to report failure of a CI/T Command, or in the activity it triggered. It is encoded as a JSON object with the following name/value pairs:

Name: error

Value: Error Code, as defined in [Section 5.2.7](#).

Mandatory: Yes.

Names: metadata.urls, content.urls, metadata.patterns, content.patterns

Description: Metadata and content references copied from the Trigger Specification. Only those URLs and patterns to which the error applies are included in each property, but those URLs and patterns MUST be exactly as they appear in the request, the dCDN MUST NOT generalise the URLs. (For example, if the uCDN requests prepositioning of URLs "https://content.example.com/a" and "https://content.example.com/b", the dCDN must not generalise its error report to Pattern "https://content.example.com/\*.")

Value: A JSON array of JSON strings, where each string is copied from a 'content.\*' or 'metadata.\*' value in the corresponding Trigger Specification.

Mandatory: At least one of these name/value pairs is mandatory in each Error Description object.

Name: description

Description: A human-readable description of the error.

Value: A JSON string, the human-readable description.

Mandatory: No.

#### **5.2.7. Error Code**

This type is used by the dCDN to report failures in trigger processing.



Error Code	Description
emeta	The dCDN was unable to acquire metadata required to fulfil the request.
econtent	The dCDN was unable to acquire content (CT/T preposition commands only).
eperm	The uCDN does not have permission to issue the CI/T Command (for example, the data is owned by another CDN).
ereject	The dCDN is not willing to fulfil the CI/T Command (for example, a preposition request for content at a time when the dCDN would not accept Request Routing requests from the uCDN).
ecdn	An internal error in the dCDN or one of its downstream CDNs.
ecancelled	The uCDN cancelled the request.

## 6. Examples

The following sections provide examples of different CI/T objects encoded as JSON.

Discovery of the triggers interface is out of scope of this document. In an implementation, all CI/T URLs are under the control of the dCDN. The uCDN MUST NOT attempt to ascribe any meaning to individual elements of the path.

In examples in this section, the URL 'https://dcdn.example.com/triggers' is used as the location of the collection of all Trigger Status Resources, and the CDN Provider Id of uCDN is "AS64496:1".

### 6.1. Creating Triggers

Examples of the uCDN triggering activity in the dCDN:

#### 6.1.1. Preposition

An example of a CI/T preposition command, a POST to the collection of all Trigger Status Resources.

Note that "metadata.patterns" and "content.patterns" are not allowed in a preposition Trigger Specification.

REQUEST:

```
POST /triggers HTTP/1.1
```





```
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-command
Content-Length: 352

{
  "trigger" : {
    "type": "preposition",

    "metadata.urls" : [ "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/c" ],
    "content.urls" : [
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/1",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/2",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/3",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/4"
    ]
  },
  "cdn-path" : [ "AS64496:1" ]
}
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 201 Created
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:38 GMT
Content-Length: 467
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status
Location: https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/0
Server: example-server/0.1

{
  "ctime": 1458240998,
  "etime": 1458241006,
  "mtime": 1458240998,
  "status": "pending",
  "trigger": {
    "content.urls": [
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/1",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/2",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/3",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/4"
    ],
    "metadata.urls": [
      "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/c"
    ],
    "type": "preposition"
  }
}
```



### **6.1.2. Invalidate**

An example of a CI/T invalidate command, another POST to the collection of all Trigger Status Resources. This instructs the dCDN to re-validate the content at "https://www.example.com/a/index.html", as well as any metadata and content whose URLs are prefixed by "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/" using case-insensitive matching, and "https://www.example.com/a/b/" respectively, using case-sensitive matching.

#### **REQUEST:**

```
POST /triggers HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-command
Content-Length: 387

{
  "trigger" : {
    "type": "invalidate",

    "metadata.patterns" : [
      { "pattern" : "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/*" }
    ],

    "content.urls" : [ "https://www.example.com/a/index.html" ],
    "content.patterns" : [
      { "pattern" : "https://www.example.com/a/b/*",
        "case-sensitive" : true
      }
    ]
  },
  "cdn-path" : [ "AS64496:1" ]
}
```

#### **RESPONSE:**

```
HTTP/1.1 201 Created
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Length: 545
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status
Location: https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/1
Server: example-server/0.1

{
  "ctime": 1458240999,
```



```
"etime": 1458241007,
"mtime": 1458240999,
"status": "pending",
"trigger": {
  "content.patterns": [
    {
      "case-sensitive": true,
      "pattern": "https://www.example.com/a/b/*"
    }
  ],
  "content.urls": [
    "https://www.example.com/a/index.html"
  ],
  "metadata.patterns": [
    {
      "pattern": "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/*"
    }
  ],
  "type": "invalidate"
}
```

## **[6.2.](#) Examining Trigger Status**

Once Trigger Status Resources have been created, the uCDN can check their status as shown in these examples.

### **[6.2.1.](#) Collection of All Triggers**

The uCDN can fetch the collection of all Trigger Status Resources it has created that have not yet been deleted or removed as expired. After creation of the "preposition" and "invalidate" triggers shown above, this collection might look as follows:



## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 341
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:39 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "-936094426920308378"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection
```

```
{
  "cdn-id": "AS64496:0",
  "coll-active": "/triggers/active",
  "coll-complete": "/triggers/complete",
  "coll-failed": "/triggers/failed",
  "coll-pending": "/triggers/pending",
  "staleresourcetime": 86400,
  "triggers": [
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/0",
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/1"
  ]
}
```

### **6.2.2. Filtered Collections of Trigger Status Resources**

The filtered collections are also available to the uCDN. Before the dCDN starts processing the two CI/T Trigger Commands shown above, both will appear in the collection of Pending Triggers, for example:





## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/pending HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 152
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:39 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "4331492443626270781"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection
```

```
{
  "staleresourcetime": 86400,
  "triggers": [
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/0",
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/1"
  ]
}
```

At this point, if no other Trigger Status Resources had been created, the other filtered views would be empty. For example:



## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/complete HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 54
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:39 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "7958041393922269003"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection

{
  "staleresourcetime": 86400,
  "triggers": []
}
```

### **6.2.3. Individual Trigger Status Resources**

The Trigger Status Resources can also be examined for detail about individual CI/T Trigger Commands. For example, for the CI/T "preposition" and "invalidate" commands from previous examples:



## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/0 HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 467
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:38 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "-4577812884843999747"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:38 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status
```

```
{
  "ctime": 1458240998,
  "etime": 1458241006,
  "mtime": 1458240998,
  "status": "pending",
  "trigger": {
    "content.urls": [
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/1",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/2",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/3",
      "https://www.example.com/a/b/c/4"
    ],
    "metadata.urls": [
      "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/c"
    ],
    "type": "preposition"
  }
}
```



## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/1 HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 545
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:39 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "7076408296782046945"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status
```

```
{
  "ctime": 1458240999,
  "etime": 1458241007,
  "mtime": 1458240999,
  "status": "pending",
  "trigger": {
    "content.patterns": [
      {
        "case-sensitive": true,
        "pattern": "https://www.example.com/a/b/*"
      }
    ],
    "content.urls": [
      "https://www.example.com/a/index.html"
    ],
    "metadata.patterns": [
      {
        "pattern": "https://metadata.example.com/a/b/*"
      }
    ],
    "type": "invalidate"
  }
}
```

#### **6.2.4. Polling for Change**

The uCDN SHOULD use the Entity Tags of collections or Trigger Status Resources when polling for change in status, as shown in the following examples:





## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/pending HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
If-None-Match: "4331492443626270781"
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified
Content-Length: 0
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:39 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "4331492443626270781"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection
```

## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/0 HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
If-None-Match: "-4577812884843999747"
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 304 Not Modified
Content-Length: 0
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:38 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "-4577812884843999747"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:38 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status
```

When the CI/T Trigger Command is complete, the contents of the filtered collections will be updated along with their Entity Tags. For example, when the two example CI/T Trigger Commands are complete, the collections of pending and complete Trigger Status Resources might look like:



## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/complete HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 54
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:39 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "7958041393922269003"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:39 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection
```

```
{
  "staleresourcetime": 86400,
  "triggers": []
}
```



## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/complete HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 152
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:50 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "4481489539378529796"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:50 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection

{
  "staleresourcetime": 86400,
  "triggers": [
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/0",
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/1"
  ]
}
```

#### [6.2.5.](#) Deleting Trigger Status Resources

The uCDN can delete completed and failed Trigger Status Resources to reduce the size of the collections. For example, to delete the "preposition" request from earlier examples:

## REQUEST:

```
DELETE /triggers/0 HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 204 No Content
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:50 GMT
Content-Length: 0
Content-Type: text/html; charset=UTF-8
Server: example-server/0.1
```



This would, for example, cause the collection of completed Trigger Status Resources shown in the example above to be updated to:

REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/complete HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 105
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:50 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "-6938620031669085677"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:50 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection
```

```
{
  "staleresourcetime": 86400,
  "triggers": [
    "https://dcdn.example.com/triggers/1"
  ]
}
```

#### **6.2.6. Error Reporting**

In this example the uCDN has requested prepositioning of "https://newsite.example.com/index.html", but the dCDN was unable to locate metadata for that site:





## REQUEST:

```
GET /triggers/2 HTTP/1.1
User-Agent: example-user-agent/0.1
Host: dcdn.example.com
Accept: */*
```

## RESPONSE:

```
HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 486
Expires: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:57:54 GMT
Server: example-server/0.1
ETag: "-1916002386108948179"
Cache-Control: max-age=60
Date: Thu, 17 Mar 2016 18:56:54 GMT
Content-Type: application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status
```

```
{
  "ctime": 1458241010,
  "errors": [
    {
      "content.urls": [
        "https://newsite.example.com/index.html"
      ],
      "description": "newsite.example.com not in HostIndex",
      "error": "emeta"
    }
  ],
  "etime": 1458241018,
  "mtime": 1458241014,
  "status": "active",
  "trigger": {
    "content.urls": [
      "https://newsite.example.com/index.html"
    ],
    "type": "preposition"
  }
}
```

## **7. IANA Considerations**

### **7.1. CDNI Payload Type Parameter Registrations**

The IANA is requested to register the following new Payload Types in the CDNI Payload Type Parameter registry defined by [\[RFC7736\]](#), for use with the 'application/cdni' MIME media type.



RFC Editor Note: Please replace references to [RFCthis] below with this document's RFC number before publication.

+-----+	
Payload Type	Specification
+-----+	
ci-trigger-command	[RFCthis]
ci-trigger-status	[RFCthis]
ci-trigger-collection	[RFCthis]
+-----+	

## 8. Security Considerations

The CI/T interface provides a mechanism to allow a uCDN to generate requests into the dCDN and to inspect its own CI/T requests and their current state. The CI/T interface does not allow access to or modification of the uCDN or dCDN metadata relating to content delivery, or to the content itself. It can only control the presence of that metadata in the dCDN, and the processing work and network utilisation involved in ensuring that presence.

By examining pre-positioning requests to a dCDN, and correctly interpreting content and metadata URLs, an attacker could learn the uCDN or content owner's predictions for future content popularity. By examining invalidate or purge requests, an attacker could learn about changes in the content owner's catalogue.

By injecting CI/T commands an attacker, or a misbehaving uCDN, would generate work in the dCDN and uCDN as they process those requests. And so would a man in the middle attacker modifying valid CI/T commands generated by the uCDN. In both cases, that would decrease the dCDN caching efficiency by causing it to unnecessarily acquire or re-acquire content metadata and/or content.

A dCDN implementation of CI/T MUST restrict the actions of a uCDN to the data corresponding to that uCDN. Failure to do so would allow uCDNs to detrimentally affect each other's efficiency by generating unnecessary acquisition or re-acquisition load.

An origin that chooses to delegate its delivery to a CDN is trusting that CDN to deliver content on its behalf, CDN-interconnection is an extension of that trust to downstream CDNs. That trust relationship is a commercial arrangement, outside the scope of the CDNi protocols. So, while a malicious CDN could deliberately generate load on a dCDN using the CI/T, the protocol does not otherwise attempt to address malicious behaviour between interconnected CDNs.



### **8.1. Authentication, Authorization, Confidentiality, Integrity Protection**

A CI/T implementation MUST support TLS transport for HTTP (https) as per [[RFC2818](#)] and [[RFC7230](#)].

TLS MUST be used by the server-side (dCDN) and the client-side (uCDN) of the CI/T interface, including authentication of the remote end, unless alternate methods are used for ensuring the security of the information in the CI/T interface requests and responses (such as setting up an IPsec tunnel between the two CDNs or using a physically secured internal network between two CDNs that are owned by the same corporate entity).

The use of TLS for transport of the CI/T interface allows:

- o The dCDN and the uCDN to authenticate each other using TLS client auth and TLS server auth.

And, once they have mutually authenticated each other, it allows:

- o The dCDN and the uCDN to authorize each other (to ensure they are receiving CI/T Commands from, or reporting status to, an authorized CDN).
- o CDNI commands and responses to be transmitted with confidentiality.
- o Protection of the integrity of CDNI commands and responses.

When TLS is used, the general TLS usage guidance in [[RFC7525](#)] MUST be followed.

The mechanisms for access control are dCDN-specific, not standardised as part of this CI/T specification.

HTTP requests that attempt to access or operate on CI/T data belonging to another CDN MUST be rejected using, for example, HTTP "403 Forbidden" or "404 Not Found". This is intended to prevent unauthorised users from generating unnecessary load in dCDN or uCDN due to revalidation, reacquisition, or unnecessary acquisition.

When deploying a network of interconnected CDNs, the possible inefficiencies related to the "diamond" configuration discussed in [Section 2.2.1](#) should be considered.



## **8.2. Denial of Service**

This document does not define a specific mechanism to protect against Denial of Service (DoS) attacks on the CI/T. However, CI/T endpoints can be protected against DoS attacks through the use of TLS transport and/or via mechanisms outside the scope of the CI/T interface, such as firewalling or use of Virtual Private Networks (VPNs).

Depending on the implementation, triggered activity may consume significant processing and bandwidth in the dCDN. A malicious or faulty uCDN could use this to generate unnecessary load in the dCDN. The dCDN should consider mechanisms to avoid overload, for example by rate-limiting acceptance or processing of CI/T Commands, or batching up its processing.

## **8.3. Privacy**

The CI/T protocol does not carry any information about individual End Users of a CDN, there are no privacy concerns for End Users.

The CI/T protocol does carry information which could be considered commercially sensitive by CDN operators and content owners. The use of mutually authenticated TLS to establish a secure session for the transport of CI/T data, as discussed in [Section 8.1](#), provides confidentiality while the CI/T data is in transit, and prevents parties other than the authorised dCDN from gaining access to that data. The dCDN MUST ensure that it only exposes CI/T data related to a uCDN to clients it has authenticated as belonging to that uCDN.

## **9. Acknowledgements**

The authors thank Kevin Ma for his input, and Carsten Bormann for his review and formalization of the JSON data.

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## **10.2. Informative References**

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## [Appendix A](#). Formalization of the JSON Data

This appendix is non-normative.

The JSON data described in this document has been formalised using CDDL [[I-D.greevenbosch-appsawg-cbor-cddl](#)] as follows:

CIT-object = CIT-command / Trigger-Status-Resource / Trigger-Collection

CIT-command ; use media type application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-command

```
= {  
  ? trigger: Triggerspec  
  ? cancel: [* URI]  
  cdn-path: [* Cdn-PID]  
}
```

Trigger-Status-Resource ; application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-status

```
= {  
  trigger: Triggerspec  
  ctime: Absolute-Time  
  mtime: Absolute-Time  
  ? etime: Absolute-Time  
  status: Trigger-Status  
  ? errors: [* Error-Description]  
}
```

Trigger-Collection ; application/cdni; ptype=ci-trigger-collection

```
= {  
  triggers: [* URI]  
  ? staleresourcetime: int ; time in seconds  
  ? coll-all: URI  
  ? coll-pending: URI  
  ? coll-active: URI  
  ? coll-complete: URI  
  ? coll-failed: URI  
  ? cdn-id: Cdn-PID  
}
```

Triggerspec = { ; 5.2.1

```
  type: Trigger-Type  
  ? metadata.urls: [* URI]  
  ? content.urls: [* URI]  
  ? content.ccid: [* Ccid]  
  ? metadata.patterns: [* Pattern-Match]  
  ? content.patterns: [* Pattern-Match]  
}
```

Trigger-Type = "preposition" / "invalidate" / "purge" ; 5.2.2



Trigger-Status = "pending" / "active" / "complete" / "processed"  
/ "failed" / "cancelling" / "cancelled" ; 5.2.3

Pattern-Match = { ; 5.2.4  
  pattern: tstr  
  ? case-sensitive: bool  
  ? match-query-string: bool  
}

Absolute-Time = number ; seconds since UNIX epoch, 5.2.5

Error-Description = { ; 5.2.6  
  error: Error-Code  
  ? metadata.urls: [\* URI]  
  ? content.urls: [\* URI]  
  ? metadata.patterns: [\* Pattern-Match]  
  ? content.patterns: [\* Pattern-Match]  
  ? description: tstr  
}

Error-Code = "emeta" / "econtent" / "eperm" / "ereject"  
/ "ecdn" / "ecancelled" ; 5.2.7

Ccid = tstr ; see I-D.ietf-cdni-metadata

Cdn-PID = tstr .regexp "AS[0-9]+:[0-9]+"

URI = tstr

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