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Rajiv Asati
Cisco Systems

Pradosh Mohapatra
Cisco Systems

Bob Thomas
Cisco Systems

Emily Chen
Huawei Technologies

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LDP End-of-LIB
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[draft-ietf-mpls-ldp-end-of-lib](#)

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Abstract

There are situations following LDP session establishment where it would be useful for an LDP speaker to know when its peer has advertised all of its labels. These include session establishment when LDP-IGP sync is in use, as well as session re-establishment following loss of an LDP session when LDP graceful restart is in use. The LDP specification [[RFC5036](#)] provides no mechanism for an LDP speaker to notify a peer when it has completed its initial label advertisements to that peer. This document specifies means for an LDP speaker to signal completion of its initial label advertisements following session establishment.

Conventions used in this document

In examples, "C:" and "S:" indicate lines sent by the client and server respectively.

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](#). Introduction

There are situations following LDP session establishment where it would be useful for an LDP speaker to know when its peer has advertised all of its labels. For example, when an LDP speaker is using LDP-IGP synchronization procedures [[LDPSync](#)], it would be useful for the speaker to know when its peer has completed advertisement of its IP label bindings. Similarly, after an LDP session is re-established when LDP Graceful Restart [[RFC3478](#)] is in effect, it would be helpful for each peer to signal the other after it has advertised all its label bindings.

The LDP specification [[RFC5036](#)] provides no mechanism for an LDP speaker to notify a peer when it has completed its initial label advertisements to that peer.

This document specifies use of a Notification message with the "End-of-LIB" Status Code for an LDP speaker to signal completion of its label advertisements following session establishment.

[RFC5036](#) implicitly assumes that new Status Codes will be defined over the course of time. However, it does not explicitly define the behavior of an LDP speaker which does not understand the Status Code in a Notification message. To avoid backward compatibility issues this document specifies use of the LDP capability mechanism [[LDPCap](#)] at session establishment time for informing a peer that an LDP speaker is capable of handling a Notification message that carries an unrecognized Status Code.

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[2](#). Specification 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](#)].

3. Unrecognized Notification Capability

An LDP speaker MAY include a Capability Parameter [[LDPCap](#)] in the Initialization message to inform a peer that it ignores Notification Messages that carry a Status TLV with a non-fatal Status Code unknown to it.

The Capability Parameter for the Unrecognized Notification capability is a TLV with the following format:

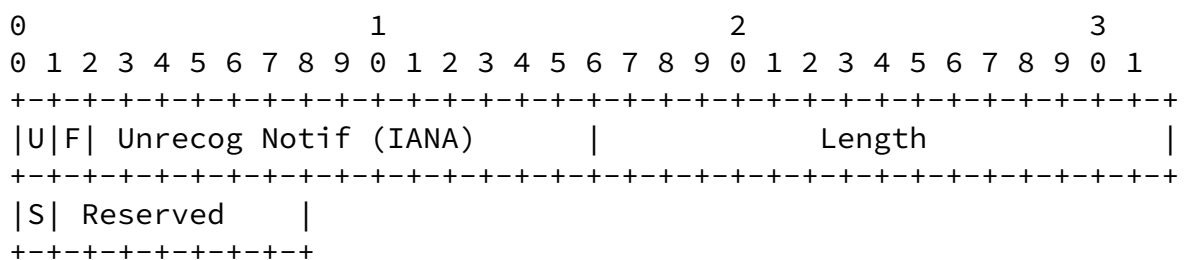


Figure 1 Unrecognized Notification Capability format

Where:

U and F bits: Should be set 1 and 0 respectively as per [section 4](#) of LDP Capabilities [[LDPCap](#)].

Unrecog Notif: TLV code point to be assigned by IANA.

S-bit: Must be 1 (indicates that capability is being advertised).

Upon receiving a Notification with an unrecognized Status Code an LDP speaker MAY generate a console or system log message for trouble shooting purposes.

[4.](#) Signaling Completion of Label Advertisement

An LDP speaker MAY signal completion of its label advertisements to a peer by means of a Notification message, if its peer had advertised the Unrecognized Notification capability during session establishment. The LDP speaker MAY send the Notification message (per FEC Type) to a peer even if the LDP speaker had no Label bindings to advertise.

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Such a Notification message MUST carry:

- A status TLV with TLV E- and F-bits set to zero that carries an "End-of-LIB" Status Code.
- A FEC TLV with the Typed Wildcard FEC Element [[TypedWC](#)] that identifies the FEC type for which initial label advertisements have been completed. In terms of [Section 3.5.1 of RFC5036](#), this TLV is an "Optional Parameter" of the Notification message.

An LDP speaker MUST NOT send a Notification which carries a Status TLV with the End-of-LIB Status Code to a peer unless the peer had advertised the Unrecognized Notification capability during session establishment.

This applies to both non-directed and directed LDP peers.

[5.](#) Usage Guidelines

The FECs known to an LDP speaker and the labels the speaker has bound to those FECs may change over the course of time. This makes determining when an LDP speaker has advertised "all" of its label bindings for a given FEC type an issue. Ultimately, this determination is a judgement call the LDP speaker makes. The following guidelines may be useful.

An LDP speaker is assumed to "know" a set of FECs. Depending on a variety of criteria, such as:

- The label distribution control mode in use (Independent or Ordered);
- The set of FEC's to which the speaker has bound local labels;
- Configuration settings which may constrain which label bindings the speaker may advertise to peers;

the speaker can determine the set of bindings for a given FEC type that it is permitted to advertise to a given peer.

IGP-Sync, LDP Graceful Restart, and the response to a Wildcard Label Request [[TypedWC](#)] are situations that would benefit from End-of-LIB Notification. In these situations, after an LDP speaker completes its label binding advertisements to a peer, it should send the peer

an End-of-LIB Notification. The following subsections cover each of these situations in turn.

[5.1](#). IGP-Sync

LDP-IGP Sync is a mechanism directly connected LDP speakers may use to delay using the link connecting them for IP traffic until the labels required to support IP over MPLS traffic on the link have been learned.

Without an End-of-LIB Notification the speaker must rely on some heuristic to determine when it has received all of its peer's label bindings. The heuristic chosen could cause LDP to signal the IGP too soon in which case the likelihood that traffic will be dropped increases, or too late in which case traffic is kept on sub-optimal paths longer than necessary.

Following session establishment with a directly connected peer that has advertised the Unrecognized Notification capability, an LDP speaker using LDP-IGP Sync may send the peer an End-of-LIB Notification after it completes advertisement of its IP label

bindings to the peer. Similarly, the LDP speaker may use the End-of-LIB Notification received from a directly connected peer to determine when the peer has completed advertisement of its label bindings for IP prefixes. After receiving the notification, the speaker should consider LDP to be fully operational for the link and signal the IGP to start advertising the link with normal cost.

[5.2.](#) LDP Graceful Restart

LDP Graceful Restart helps reduce the loss of MPLS traffic caused by the restart of a router's LDP component. It defines procedures that allow routers capable of preserving MPLS forwarding state across the restart to continue forwarding MPLS traffic for a pre-agreed upon period using forwarding state installed prior to the restart.

During that period the restarting router and its peers consider the preserved forwarding state to be usable but stale until it is refreshed by receipt of new label advertisements following re-establishment of new LDP sessions. When the period elapses any remaining stale forwarding state is removed by the router.

Receipt of the End-of-LIB Notification from a peer in an LDP Graceful Restart scenario enables an LDP speaker to stop using stale forwarding information learned from that peer and to recover the resources it requires without having to wait until the timeout occurs.

[5.3.](#) Wildcard Label Request

When an LDP speaker receives a Label Request message for a Typed Wildcard FEC (e.g. a particular FEC element type) from a peer it determines the set of bindings, it is permitted to advertise the peer for the FEC type specified by the request. Assuming the peer had advertised the Unrecognized Notification capability at session initialization time, the speaker should send the peer an End-of-LIB Notification for the FEC type when it completes advertisement of the permitted bindings.

As in the previous applications, receipt of the Notification eliminates uncertainty as to when the peer has completed its advertisements of label bindings for the requested Wildcard FEC Element Type.

[5.4](#). Missing Expected End-of-LIB Notifications

There is no guarantee that an LDP speaker will receive End-of-LIB Notifications from a peer even if the LDP speaker has signaled its capability. Therefore, an implementation SHOULD NOT depend on the receipt of such a Notification.

To deal with the possibility of missing notifications, an LDP speaker may time out receipt of an expected End-of-LIB Notification, and if the timeout occurs, it may behave as if it had received the notification. If the End-of-LIB Notification message is received after the time-out occurs, then the message should be ignored.

[6](#). Security Considerations

No security considerations beyond those that apply to the base LDP specification and described in [[RFC5036](#)] apply to signaling the End-of-LIB condition as described in this document.

[7](#). IANA Considerations

This draft introduces a new LDP Status Code and a new LDP Capability both of which require IANA assignment.

[8](#). Acknowledgments

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9.1. Normative References

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Cisco Systems,
7025-6 Kit Creek Rd, RTP, NC, 27709-4987
Email: rajiva@cisco.com

Pradosh Mohapatra
Cisco Systems,
3750 Cisco Way, San Jose, CA, 95134
Email: pmohapat@cisco.com

Bob Thomas
Cisco Systems,
1414 Massachusetts Ave, Boxborough, MA, 01719
Email: rhthomas@cisco.com

Emily Chen
Huawei Technologies
No.5 Street, Shangdi Information, Haidian, Beijing, China
Email: chenying220@huawei.com

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