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Definitions of Textual Conventions for Multiprotocol Label
Switching (MPLS) Management

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Abstract

This memo describes Textual Conventions for use in definitions of management information for Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) networks.

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1. Introduction

This document defines a MIB which contains Textual Conventions for use in definitions of management information for Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) networks.

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](#) [21].

For an introduction to the concepts of MPLS, see [[RFC3031](#)].

2. The SNMP Management Framework

The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:

- o An overall architecture, described in [RFC 2571](#) [[RFC2571](#)].
- o Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIV1 and described in STD 16, [RFC 1155](#) [[RFC1155](#)], STD 16, [RFC 1212](#) [[RFC1212](#)] and [RFC 1215](#) [[RFC1215](#)]. The second version, called SMIV2, is described in STD 58, [RFC 2578](#) [[RFC2578](#)], STD 58, [RFC 2579](#) [[RFC2579](#)] and STD 58, [RFC 2580](#) [[RFC2580](#)].
- o Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and described in STD 15, [RFC 1157](#) [[RFC1157](#)]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and described in [RFC 1901](#) [[RFC1901](#)] and [RFC 1906](#) [[RFC1906](#)]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and described in [RFC 1906](#) [[RFC1906](#)], [RFC 2572](#) [[RFC2572](#)] and [RFC 2574](#) [[RFC2574](#)].
- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in STD 15, [RFC 1157](#) [[RFC1157](#)]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in [RFC 1905](#) [[RFC1905](#)].
- o A set of fundamental applications described in [RFC 2573](#) [[RFC2573](#)] and the view-based access control mechanism described in [RFC 2575](#) [[RFC2575](#)].

A more detailed introduction to the current SNMP Management Framework can be found in [RFC 2570](#) [[RFC2570](#)].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo specifies a MIB module that is compliant to the SMIV2. A MIB conforming to the SMIV1 can be produced through the appropriate translations. The resulting translated MIB must be semantically equivalent, except where objects or events are omitted because no translation is possible. Some machine readable information in SMIV2 will be converted into textual descriptions in SMIV1 during the translation process. However, this loss of machine readable information is not considered to change the semantics of the MIB.

3. MPLS Textual Conventions MIB Definitions

```
MPLS-TC-MIB DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN
```

```
IMPORTS
```

```
    MODULE-IDENTITY, Unsigned32, Integer32, transmission  
        FROM SNMPv2-SMI
```

```
    TEXTUAL-CONVENTION  
        FROM SNMPv2-TC;
```

```
mplsTCMIB MODULE-IDENTITY
```

```
    LAST-UPDATED "200210091200Z" -- 9 October 2002 12:00:00 GMT  
    ORGANIZATION
```

```
        "IETF Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) Working  
        Group."
```

```
    CONTACT-INFO
```

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Email comments to the MPLS WG Mailing List at
mpls@uu.net."

DESCRIPTION

"This MIB module defines Textual Conventions
for use in definitions of management
information for Multi-Protocol Label Switching
(MPLS) networks."

REVISION "200210091200Z" -- 9 October 2002 12:00:00 GMT

DESCRIPTION

"Initial version published as part of RFC XXXX."

::= { mplsMIB 1 }

- This object identifier needs to be assigned by IANA.
- Since mpls has been assigned an ifType of 166 we recommend
- that this OID be 166 as well.

mplsMIB OBJECT IDENTIFIER

::= { transmission XXX }

- Textual Conventions are in alphabetical order.

MplsAtmVcIdentifier ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

DISPLAY-HINT "d"

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"A Label Switching Router (LSR) that
creates LDP sessions on ATM interfaces
uses the VCI or VPI/VCI field to hold the
LDP Label.

VCI values MUST NOT be in the 0-31 range.
The values 0 to 31 are reserved for other uses
by the ITU and ATM Forum. The value
of 32 can only be used for the Control VC,
although values greater than 32 could be
configured for the Control VC.

If a value from 0 to 31 is used for a VCI
the management entity controlling the LDP
subsystem should reject this with an
inconsistentValue error. Also, if
the value of 32 is used for a VC which is
NOT the Control VC, this should
result in an inconsistentValue error."

REFERENCE

"[[RFC3035](#)] Davie, B., Lawrence J., McCloghrie, K.,

Rosen, E., Swallow G., Rekhter, Y., and
P. Doolan, 'MPLS using LDP and ATM VC Switching',
[RFC 3035](#), January 2001."

SYNTAX Integer32 (32..65535)

MplsBitRate ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

DISPLAY-HINT "d"

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"An estimate of bandwidth in units of 1,000 bits per second. If this object reports a value of 'n' then the rate of the object is somewhere in the range of 'n-500' to 'n+499'. For objects which do not vary in bit rate, or for those where no accurate estimation can be made, this object should contain the nominal bit rate. A value of 0 indicates best effort treatment."

SYNTAX Integer32 (0|500..2147483647)

MplsBurstSize ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

DISPLAY-HINT "d"

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The number of octets of MPLS data that the stream may send back-to-back without concern for policing. The value of zero indicates that an implementation does not support Burst Size."

SYNTAX Unsigned32 (0..4294967295)

MplsExtendedTunnelId ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"A unique identifier for an MPLS Tunnel. This may represent an IPv4 address of the ingress or egress LSR for the tunnel. This value is derived from the Extended Tunnel Id in RSVP or the Ingress Router ID for CR-LDP."

REFERENCE

"[\[RFC3209\]](#) Awduche, D., et al., 'RSVP-TE: Extensions to RSVP for LSP Tunnels', [RFC 3209](#), December 2001.

[\[RFC3212\]](#) Jamoussi, B., et al., 'Constraint-Based LSP Setup using LDP', [RFC 3212](#), January 2002."

SYNTAX Unsigned32

MplsOwner ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The entity that originally created the object in question. The values of this enumeration are

defined as follows:

other(1) - This is used when an entity which has not been enumerated in this textual convention but which is known by the agent.

snmp(2) - The Simple Network Management Protocol was used to configure this object initially.

ldp(3) - The Label Distribution Protocol was used to configure this object initially.

rsvp(4) - The Resource Reservation Protocol was used to configure this object initially.

crldp(5) - The Constraint-Based Label Distribution Protocol was used to configure this object initially.

policyAgent(6) - A policy agent (perhaps in combination with one of the above protocols) was used to configure this object initially.

unknown(7) - the agent cannot discern which component created the object.

An object created by the ldp(3), rsvp(4), crldp(5) or policyAgent(6) MAY be modified through operator intervention using other(1) or snmp(2). In particular, operators may bring rows in and out of service or modify their values. In all other respects, the MplsOwner is the only source allowed to modify the status of the object.

Agents receiving requests which violate these guidelines MUST return an inconsistentValue(12) error."

```
SYNTAX  INTEGER {
    other(1),
    snmp(2),
    ldp(3),
    rsvp(4),
    crldp(5),
    policyAgent(6),
    unknown (7)
}
```

```
MplsLSPID ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS      current
```

DESCRIPTION

"A unique identifier within an MPLS network that is assigned to each LSP. This is assigned at the head end of the LSP and can be used by all LSRs to identify this LSP. This value is piggybacked by the signaling protocol when this LSP is signaled within the network. This identifier can then be used at each LSR to identify which labels are being swapped to other labels for this LSP. This object can also be used to disambiguate LSPs that share the same RSVP sessions between the same source and destination.

For LSPs established using CR-LDP, the LSPID is composed of the ingress LSR Router ID (or any of its own IPv4 addresses) and a locally unique CR-LSP ID to that LSR. The first two bytes carry the CR-LSPID, and the remaining 4 bytes carry the Router ID. The LSPID is useful in network management, in CR-LSP repair, and in using an already established CR-LSP as a hop in an ER-TLV.

For LSPs signaled using RSVP-TE, the LSP ID is defined as a 16-bit (2 byte) identifier used in the SENDER_TEMPLATE and the FILTER_SPEC that can be changed to allow a sender to share resources with itself. The length of this object should only be 2 or 6 bytes. If the length of this octet string is 2 bytes, then it must identify an RSVP-TE LSPID, or it is 6 bytes, it must contain a CR-LDP LSPID."

REFERENCE

"See [[RFC3209](#)] for RSVP-TE LSPID and [[RFC3212](#)] for LSPID in CR-LDP."

SYNTAX OCTET STRING (SIZE (2|6))

MplsLabel ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"This value represents an MPLS label as defined in [[RFC3031](#)], [[RFC3032](#)], [[RFC3034](#)], [[RFC3035](#)] and [[CCAMP-ARCH](#)].

The label contents are specific to the label being represented, such as:

- * The label carried in an MPLS shim header (for LDP this is the Generic Label) is a 20-bit number represented by 4 octets. Bits 0-19 contain a label or a reserved label value. Bits 20-31

MUST be zero.

The following is quoted directly from [[RFC3032](#)]. There are several reserved label values:

- i. A value of 0 represents the 'IPv4 Explicit NULL Label'. This label value is only legal at the bottom of the label stack. It indicates that the label stack must be popped, and the forwarding of the packet must then be based on the IPv4 header.
- ii. A value of 1 represents the 'Router Alert Label'. This label value is legal anywhere in the label stack except at the bottom. When a received packet contains this label value at the top of the label stack, it is delivered to a local software module for processing. The actual forwarding of the packet is determined by the label beneath it in the stack. However, if the packet is forwarded further, the Router Alert Label should be pushed back onto the label stack before forwarding. The use of this label is analogous to the use of the 'Router Alert Option' in IP packets [5] [Reference to [RFC2113](#)]. Since this label cannot occur at the bottom of the stack, it is not associated with a particular network layer protocol.
- iii. A value of 2 represents the 'IPv6 Explicit NULL Label'. This label value is only legal at the bottom of the label stack. It indicates that the label stack must be popped, and the forwarding of the packet must then be based on the IPv6 header.
- iv. A value of 3 represents the 'Implicit NULL Label'. This is a label that an LSR may assign and distribute, but which never actually appears in the encapsulation. When an LSR would otherwise replace the label at the top of the stack with a new label, but the new label is 'Implicit NULL', the LSR will pop the stack instead of

doing the replacement. Although this value may never appear in the encapsulation, it needs to be specified in the Label Distribution Protocol, so a value is reserved.

v. Values 4-15 are reserved.

- * The frame relay label can be either 10-bits or 23-bits depending on the DLCI field size and the upper 22-bits or upper 9-bits must be zero, respectively.
- * For an ATM label the lower 16-bits represents the VCI, the next 12-bits represents the VPI and the remaining bits MUST be zero.
- * The Generalized-MPLS (GMPLS) label contains a value greater than $2^{24}-1$ and used in GMPLS as defined in [[CCAMP-ARCH](#)]."

REFERENCE

"[[RFC3031](#)] Multiprotocol Label Switching Architecture, Rosen et al., [RFC 3031](#), August 1999.

[RFC3032] MPLS Label Stack Encoding, Rosen et al., [RFC 3032](#), January 2001.

[RFC3034] Use of Label Switching on Frame Relay Networks, Conta et al., [RFC 3034](#), January 2001.

[RFC3035] MPLS using LDP and ATM VC Switching, Davie et al., [RFC 3035](#), January 2001.

[CCAMP-ARCH] Generalized Multi-Protocol Label Switching (GMPLS) Architecture, Mannie (Editor), [draft-ietf-ccamp-gmpls-architecture-02.txt](#), March 2002."

SYNTAX Unsigned32 (0..4294967295)

MplsLabelDistributionMethod ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The label distribution method which is also called the label advertisement mode (see LDP Specification). Each interface on an LSR is configured to operate in either Downstream Unsolicited or Downstream on Demand."

REFERENCE

"[[RFC3031](#)] Multiprotocol Label Switching

Architecture, Rosen et al., [RFC 3031](#), August 1999.

[RFC3036] LDP Specification, Andersson, L., et. al.,
[RFC 3036, Section 2.6.3.](#), January 2001."

```
SYNTAX INTEGER {  
    downstreamOnDemand(1),  
    downstreamUnsolicited(2)  
}
```

MplsLspType ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Types types of Label Switch Paths (LSPs)
on an Label Switching Router (LSR) are:

unknown(1) -- if the LSP is not known
to be one of the following.

terminatingLsp(2) -- if the LSP terminates
on the LSR, then this
is an ingressing LSP
which ends on the LSR,

originatingLsp(3) -- if the LSP originates
from the LSR, then this
is an egressing LSP which is
the head-end of the LSP,

crossConnectingLsp(4) -- if the LSP ingresses
and egresses on the LSR,
then it is cross-connecting
on that LSR."

```
SYNTAX INTEGER {  
    unknown(1),  
    terminatingLsp(2),  
    originatingLsp(3),  
    crossConnectingLsp(4)  
}
```

MplsLsrIndex ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"Represents a generic index used throughout the
MPLS-LSR-MIB as a general index in the
mplsInSegmentTable, mplsOutSegmentTable
and mplsXCTable."

```
SYNTAX OCTET STRING (SIZE(1..34))
```

MplsRetentionMode ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The label retention mode which specifies whether an LSR maintains a label binding for a FEC learned from a neighbor that is not its next hop for the FEC.

If the value is conservative(1) then advertised label mappings are retained only if they will be used to forward packets, i.e. if label came from a valid next hop.

If the value is liberal(2) then all advertised label mappings are retained whether they are from a valid next hop or not."

REFERENCE

"[[RFC3031](#)] Multiprotocol Label Switching Architecture, Rosen et al., [RFC 3031](#), August 1999.

[RFC3036] LDP Specification, Andersson, L., et. al., [RFC 3036, Section 2.6.2.](#), January 2001."

SYNTAX INTEGER {
 conservative(1),
 liberal(2)
}

MplsLdpIdentifier ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The LDP identifier is a six octet quantity which is used to identify an Label Switching Router (LSR) label space.

The first four octets identify the LSR and must be a globally unique value, such as a 32-bit router ID assigned to the LSR, and the last two octets identify a specific label space within the LSR."

SYNTAX OCTET STRING (SIZE (6))

MplsLdpLabelType ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION

STATUS current

DESCRIPTION

"The Layer 2 label types which are defined for MPLS LDP and/or CR-LDP are generic(1), atm(2), or frameRelay(3)."

SYNTAX INTEGER {
 generic(1),
 atm(2),
 frameRelay(3)
}

MplsLsrIdentifier ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "The Label Switching Router (LSR) identifier is the
 first 4 bytes of the Label Distribution Protocol
 (LDP) identifier."
SYNTAX OCTET STRING (SIZE (4))

MplsPathIndex ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "A unique value to index (by Path number) an entry
 in a table."
SYNTAX Unsigned32(1..4294967295)

MplsPathIndexOrZero ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "A unique identifier used to identify a specific path
 used by a tunnel. A value of 0 (zero) means that
 no path is in use."
SYNTAX Unsigned32

MplsTunnelAffinity ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "Describes the configured 32-bit Include-any,
 include-all, or exclude-all constraint for
 constraint-based link selection."
REFERENCE
 "See [section 4.7.4 in \[RFC3209\]](#)."
SYNTAX Unsigned32

MplsTunnelIndex ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "A unique index into mplsTunnelTable.
 For tunnels signaled using RSVP, this value
 should correspond to the RSVP destination
 port used for the RSVP-TE session."
SYNTAX Integer32

MplsTunnelInstanceIndex ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
STATUS current
DESCRIPTION
 "Instance index into mplsTunnelTable. The
 tunnel entry with instance index 0 should
 refer to the configured tunnel interface
 (if one exists), and values greater an 0
 should be used to indicate signaled (or backup)

tunnel LSP instances. For tunnel LSPs signaled using
RSVP, this value should correspond to the
RSVP source port used for the RSVP-TE session."
SYNTAX Unsigned32 (0..65535)

END

4. References

- [RFC3212] Jamoussi, B., (editor), et. al. "Constraint-Based LSP Setup using LDP", [RFC 3212](#), January 2002.
- [RFC3209] Awduche, D., Berger, L., Gan, D., Li, T., Srinivasan, V., Swallow, G., "RSVP-TE: Extensions to RSVP for LSP Tunnels", [RFC 3209](#), December 2001.
- [RFC3031] Rosen, E., Viswanathan, A., and R. Callon, "Multiprotocol Label Switching Architecture", [RFC 3031](#), January 2001.
- [RFC3032] Rosen, E., Rekhter, Y., Tappan, D., Farinacci, D., Federokow, G., Li, T., and A. Conta, "MPLS Label Stack Encoding", [RFC 3032](#), January 2001.
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- [RFC2571] Harrington, D., Presuhn, R., and B. Wijnen, "An Architecture for Describing SNMP Management Frameworks", [RFC 2571](#), April 1999.
- [RFC1155] Rose, M., and K. McCloghrie, "Structure and Identification of Management Information for TCP/IP-based Internets", STD 16, [RFC 1155](#), May 1990.
- [RFC1212] Rose, M., and K. McCloghrie, "Concise MIB Definitions", STD 16, [RFC 1212](#), March 1991.
- [RFC1215] M. Rose, "A Convention for Defining Traps for use with the SNMP", [RFC 1215](#), March 1991.
- [RFC2578] McCloghrie, K., Perkins, D., Schoenwaelder, J., Case, J., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Structure of Management Information Version 2 (SMIv2)", STD 58, [RFC 2578](#), April 1999.
- [RFC2579] McCloghrie, K., Perkins, D., Schoenwaelder, J., Case, J., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Textual Conventions for SMIv2", STD 58, [RFC 2579](#), April 1999.

- [RFC2580] McCloghrie, K., Perkins, D., Schoenwaelder, J., Case, J., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Conformance Statements for SMiv2", STD 58, [RFC 2580](#), April 1999.
- [RFC1157] Case, J., Fedor, M., Schoffstall, M., and J. Davin, "Simple Network Management Protocol", STD 15, [RFC 1157](#), May 1990.
- [RFC1901] Case, J., McCloghrie, K., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Introduction to Community-based SNMPv2", [RFC 1901](#), January 1996.
- [RFC1906] Case, J., McCloghrie, K., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Transport Mappings for Version 2 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv2)", [RFC 1906](#), January 1996.
- [RFC2572] Case, J., Harrington D., Presuhn R., and B. Wijnen, "Message Processing and Dispatching for the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)", [RFC 2572](#), April 1999.
- [RFC2574] Blumenthal, U., and B. Wijnen, "User-based Security Model (USM) for version 3 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv3)", [RFC 2574](#), April 1999.
- [RFC1905] Case, J., McCloghrie, K., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Protocol Operations for Version 2 of the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMPv2)", [RFC 1905](#), January 1996.
- [RFC2573] Levi, D., Meyer, P., and B. Stewart, "SNMPv3 Applications", [RFC 2573](#), April 1999.
- [RFC2575] Wijnen, B., Presuhn, R., and K. McCloghrie, "View-based Access Control Model (VACM) for the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP)", [RFC 2575](#), April 1999.
- [RFC2570] Case, J., Mundy, R., Partain, D., and B. Stewart, "Introduction to Version 3 of the Internet-standard Network Management Framework", [RFC 2570](#), April 1999.

5. Security Considerations

This module does not define any management objects. Instead, it defines a set of textual conventions which may be used by other MPLS MIB modules to define management objects.

Meaningful security considerations can only be written in the MIB modules that define management objects. Therefore, this document has no impact on the security of the Internet.

6. Authors' Addresses

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