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Multipart/Report

[<draft-ietf-notary-mime-report-00.txt>](#)

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1. Introduction

This memo defines a generic packaging mechanism for mail system reports. The Multipart/Report is a convention for interpersonal message notifications for MIME.

2. Multipart/Report

Mime type name: Multipart
Mime Sub-Type name: Report
Required Parameters: Boundary, Report-type
Optional Parameters: None
Encoding Considerations: 7bit should always be adequate.

The syntax of a Multipart/Report is identical to the Multipart\Mixed content type. The Report may contain up to three body parts. The Multipart/Report must always be the outer-most MIME content. The semantics of a Multipart/Report which is not the outermost content type such as a forwarded Multipart/Report are undefined. The report-type parameter indicates the type of Report. Expected Report types include delivery status and read receipts.

The Multipart/Report is required to be the outermost content type so that existing final delivery agents which can route messages based on [RFC 822](#) header fields may detect the multipart/report header and provide automated processing of reports.

The first body part is intended to be a single text/plain or multipart/alternative set of text/plain body parts describing the report

in

human readable form. This text may be in any character set or language as appropriate for the environment.

The second body part is a machine parseable description of the Report such as a message/delivery-report. This body part is described in a separate document and is indicated by the Report-type parameter. If the delivery

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report is to be privacy enhanced, this body part may be packaged in a multi-part security content.

Note that multipart security body parts which operate on the entirety of the multipart/report will violate the requirement that the multipart/report be the top-level content-type on the message.

The third body part may be of any content-type and contains the returned message for which the delivery report is defined. This may include Message/RFC822 but is not restricted to be such.

References 3.

[1] Crocker, D., "Standard for the Format of ARPA Internet Text Messages", STD 11, [RFC 822](#), UDEL, August 1982.

[2] Borenstein, N., Freed, N. "Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions", RFC 1341, Bellcore, Innosoft, June 1992.

[3] Moore, K., Vaudreuil, G., An Extensible Message Format for
Delivery Status Reports', Internet-Draft, Work In Progress.

[4. Security Consideration](#)

Multipart/Report introduces no security threats beyond those already present in Internet mail. Automated use of report types without authentication may present opportunities for denial-of-service attacks.

[5. Author's Address](#)

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