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YANG Network Instances
draft-ietf-rtgwg-ni-model-09

Abstract

This document defines a network instance module. This module can be used to manage the virtual resource partitioning that may be present on a network device. Examples of common industry terms for virtual resource partitioning are Virtual Routing and Forwarding (VRF) instances and Virtual Switch Instances (VSIs).

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1. Introduction

This document defines the second of two new modules that are defined to support the configuration and operation of network-devices that allow for the partitioning of resources from both, or either, management and networking perspectives. Both leverage the YANG functionality enabled by YANG Schema Mount [[I-D.ietf-netmod-schema-mount](#)].

The first form of resource partitioning provides a logical partitioning of a network device where each partition is separately managed as essentially an independent network element which is 'hosted' by the base network device. These hosted network elements are referred to as logical network elements, or LNEs, and are supported by the logical-network-element module defined in [[I-D.ietf-rtgwg-lne-model](#)]. That module is used to identify LNEs and

associate resources from the network-device with each LNE. LNEs themselves are represented in YANG as independent network devices; each accessed independently. Examples of vendor terminology for an LNE include logical system or logical router, and virtual switch, chassis, or fabric.

The second form, which is defined in this document, provides support for what is commonly referred to as Virtual Routing and Forwarding (VRF) instances as well as Virtual Switch Instances (VSI), see [\[RFC4026\]](#) and [\[RFC4664\]](#). In this form of resource partitioning, multiple control plane and forwarding/bridging instances are provided by and managed via a single (physical or logical) network device. This form of resource partitioning is referred to as a Network Instance and is supported by the network-instance module defined below. Configuration and operation of each network-instance is always via the network device and the network-instance module.

One notable difference between the LNE model and the NI model is that the NI model provides a framework for VRF and VSI management. This document envisions the separate definition of VRF and VSI, i.e., L3 and L2 VPN, technology specific models. An example of such can be found in the emerging L3VPN model defined in [\[I-D.ietf-bess-l3vpn-yang\]](#) and the examples discussed below.

1.1. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [BCP 14](#) [\[RFC2119\]](#) [\[RFC8174\]](#) when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

Readers are expected to be familiar with terms and concepts of YANG [\[RFC7950\]](#) and YANG Schema Mount [\[I-D.ietf-netmod-schema-mount\]](#).

This document uses the graphical representation of data models defined in [\[I-D.ietf-netmod-yang-tree-diagrams\]](#).

2. Overview

In this document, we consider network devices that support protocols and functions defined within the IETF, e.g, routers, firewalls, and hosts. Such devices may be physical or virtual, e.g., a classic router with custom hardware or one residing within a server-based virtual machine implementing a virtual network function (VNF). Each device may sub-divide their resources into logical network elements (LNEs) each of which provides a managed logical device. Examples of vendor terminology for an LNE include logical system or logical

mounting appropriate modules under the mount point. Well known mount points are defined for L3VPN, L2VPN, and L2+L3VPN NI types.

3. Network Instances

The network instance container is used to represent virtual routing and forwarding instances (VRFs) and virtual switching instances (VSIs). VRFs and VSIs are commonly used to isolate routing and switching domains, for example to create virtual private networks, each with their own active protocols and routing/switching policies. The model supports both core/provider and virtual instances. Core/provider instance information is accessible at the top level of the server, while virtual instance information is accessible under the root schema mount points.

The NI model can be represented using the tree format defined in [\[I-D.ietf-netmod-yang-tree-diagrams\]](#) as:


```

module: ietf-network-instance
  +--rw network-instances
    +--rw network-instance* [name]
      +--rw name                string
      +--rw enabled?            boolean
      +--rw description?       string
      +--rw (ni-type)?
      +--rw (root-type)
        +--:(vrf-root)
          | +--mp vrf-root
        +--:(vsi-root)
          | +--mp vsi-root
        +--:(vv-root)
          +--mp vv-root
  augment /if:interfaces/if:interface:
    +--rw bind-ni-name?  -> /network-instances/network-instance/name
  augment /if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv4:
    +--rw bind-ni-name?  -> /network-instances/network-instance/name
  augment /if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv6:
    +--rw bind-ni-name?  -> /network-instances/network-instance/name

notifications:
  +---n bind-ni-name-failed
    +--ro name                -> /if:interfaces/interface/name
    +--ro interface
      | +--ro bind-ni-name?
      | |
      | -> /if:interfaces/interface/ni:bind-ni-name
    +--ro ipv4
      | +--ro bind-ni-name?
      | |
      | -> /if:interfaces/interface/ip:ipv4/ni:bind-ni-name
    +--ro ipv6
      | +--ro bind-ni-name?
      | |
      | -> /if:interfaces/interface/ip:ipv6/ni:bind-ni-name
    +--ro error-info?        string

```

A network instance is identified by a 'name' string. This string is used both as an index within the network-instance module and to associate resources with a network instance as shown above in the interface augmentation. The ni-type and root-type choice statements are used to support different types of L2 and L3 VPN technologies. The bind-ni-name-failed notification is used in certain failure cases.

[3.1.](#) NI Types and Mount Points

The network-instance module is structured to facilitate the definition of information models for specific types of VRFs and VSIs using augmentations. For example, the information needed to support

VPLS, VxLAN and EVPN based L2VPNs are likely to be quite different. Example models under development that could be restructured to take advantage on NIs include, for L3VPNs [[I-D.ietf-bess-l3vpn-yang](#)] and for L2VPNs [[I-D.ietf-bess-l2vpn-yang](#)].

Documents defining new YANG models for the support of specific types of network instances should augment the network instance module. The basic structure that should be used for such augmentations include a case statement, with containers for configuration and state data and finally, when needed, a type specific mount point. Generally ni types, are expected to not need to define type specific mount points, but rather reuse one of the well known mount point, as defined in the next section. The following is an example type specific augmentation:

```
augment "/ni:network-instances/ni:network-instance/ni:ni-type" {  
  case l3vpn {  
    container l3vpn {  
      ...  
    }  
    container l3vpn-state {  
      ...  
    }  
  }  
}
```

[3.1.1.](#) Well Known Mount Points

YANG Schema Mount, [[I-D.ietf-netmod-schema-mount](#)], identifies mount points by name within a module. This definition allows for the definition of mount points whose schema can be shared across ni-types. As discussed above, ni-types largely differ in the configuration information needed in the core/top level instance to support the NI, rather than in the information represented within an NI. This allows the use of shared mount points across certain NI types.

The expectation is that there are actually very few different schema that need to be defined to support NIs on an implementation. In particular, it is expected that the following three forms of NI schema are needed, and each can be defined with a well known mount point that can be reused by future modules defining ni-types.

The three well known mount points are:

vrf-root

vrf-root is intended for use with L3VPN type ni-types.

vsi-root

vsi-root is intended for use with L2VPN type ni-types.

vv-root

vv-root is intended for use with ni-types that simultaneously support L2VPN bridging and L3VPN routing capabilities.

Future model definitions should use the above mount points whenever possible. When a well known mount point isn't appropriate, a model may define a type specific mount point via augmentation.

3.1.2. NI Type Example

The following is an example of an L3VPN VRF using a hypothetical augmentation to the networking instance schema defined in [\[I-D.ietf-bess-l3vpn-yang\]](#). More detailed examples can be found in [Appendix B](#).

```

module: ietf-network-instance
  +--rw network-instances
    +--rw network-instance* [name]
      +--rw name string
      +--rw enabled? boolean
      +--rw description? string
      +--rw (ni-type)?
        | +--:(l3vpn)
        |   +--rw l3vpn:l3vpn
        |   |   ... // config data
        |   +--ro l3vpn:l3vpn-state
        |   |   ... // state data
      +--rw (root-type)
        +--:(vrf-root)
          +--mp vrf-root
            +--rw rt:routing/
              | +--rw router-id? yang:dotted-quad
              | +--rw control-plane-protocols
              |   +--rw control-plane-protocol* [type name]
              |   +--rw ospf:ospf/
              |     +--rw instance* [af]
              |     +--rw areas
              |       +--rw area* [area-id]
              |       +--rw interfaces
              |         +--rw interface* [name]
              |         +--rw name if:interface-ref
              |         +--rw cost? uint16
            +--ro if:interfaces@
              | ...

```


This shows YANG Routing Management [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc8022bis](#)] and YANG OSPF [[I-D.ietf-ospf-yang](#)] as mounted modules. The mounted modules can reference interface information via a parent-reference to the containers defined in [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc7223bis](#)].

3.2. NIs and Interfaces

Interfaces are a crucial part of any network device's configuration and operational state. They generally include a combination of raw physical interfaces, link-layer interfaces, addressing configuration, and logical interfaces that may not be tied to any physical interface. Several system services, and layer 2 and layer 3 protocols may also associate configuration or operational state data with different types of interfaces (these relationships are not shown for simplicity). The interface management model is defined by [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc7223bis](#)].

As shown below, the network-instance module augments the existing interface management model by adding a name which is used on interface or sub-interface types to identify an associated network instance. Similarly, this name is also added for IPv4 and IPv6 types, as defined in [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc7277bis](#)].

The following is an example of envisioned usage. The interfaces container includes a number of commonly used components as examples:

```
module: ietf-interfaces
  +--rw interfaces
  |   +--rw interface* [name]
  |       +--rw name string
  |       +--rw ip:ipv4!
  |           +--rw ip:enabled? boolean
  |           +--rw ip:forwarding? boolean
  |           +--rw ip:mtu? uint16
  |           +--rw ip:address* [ip]
  |               +--rw ip:ip inet:ipv4-address-no-zone
  |               +--rw (ip:subnet)
  |                   +--:(ip:prefix-length)
  |                       +--rw ip:prefix-length? uint8
  |                       +--:(ip:netmask)
  |                           +--rw ip:netmask? yang:dotted-quad
  |           +--rw ip:neighbor* [ip]
  |               +--rw ip:ip inet:ipv4-address-no-zone
  |               +--rw ip:link-layer-address yang:phys-address
  |           +--rw ni:bind-network-instance-name? string
  |       +--rw ni:bind-network-instance-name? string
```


The [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc7223bis](#)] defined interface model is structured to include all interfaces in a flat list, without regard to virtual instances (e.g., VRFs) supported on the device. The `bind-network-instance-name` leaf provides the association between an interface and its associated NI (e.g., VRF or VSI). Note that as currently defined, to assign an interface to both an LNE and NI, the interface would first be assigned to the LNE using the mechanisms defined in [[I-D.ietf-rtgwg-lne-model](#)] and then within that LNE's interface module, the LNE's representation of that interface would be assigned to an NI.

3.3. Network Instance Management

Modules that may be used to represent network instance information will be available under the ni-type specific 'root' mount point. The use-schema mechanism defined as part of the Schema Mount module [[I-D.ietf-netmod-schema-mount](#)] MUST be used with the module defined in this document to identify accessible modules. A future version of this document could relax this requirement. Mounted modules in the non-inline case SHOULD be defined with access, via the appropriate schema mount parent-references [[I-D.ietf-netmod-schema-mount](#)], to device resources such as interfaces. An implementation MAY choose to restrict parent referenced information to information related to a specific instance, e.g., only allowing references to interfaces that have a `"bind-network-instance-name"` which is identical to the instance's `"name"`.

All modules that represent control-plane and data-plane information may be present at the 'root' mount point, and be accessible via paths modified per [[I-D.ietf-netmod-schema-mount](#)]. The list of available modules is expected to be implementation dependent, as is the method used by an implementation to support NIs.

For example, the following could be used to define the data organization of the example NI shown in [Section 3.1.2](#):


```
"ietf-yang-schema-mount:schema-mounts": {
  "mount-point": [
    {
      "module": "ietf-network-instance",
      "label": "vrf-root",
      "use-schema": [
        {
          "name": "ni-schema",
          "parent-reference": [
            "/*[namespace-uri() = 'urn:ietf:...:ietf-interfaces']"
          ]
        }
      ]
    }
  ],
  "schema": [
    {
      "name": "ni-schema",
      "module": [
        {
          "name": "ietf-routing",
          "revision": "2018-01-25",
          "namespace":
            "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-routing",
          "conformance-type": "implement"
        },
        {
          "name": "ietf-ospf",
          "revision": "2017-10-30",
          "namespace":
            "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-ospf",
          "conformance-type": "implement"
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
```

Module data identified under "schema" will be instantiated under the mount point identified under "mount-point". These modules will be able to reference information for nodes belonging to top-level modules that are identified under "parent-reference". Parent referenced information is available to clients via their top level paths only, and not under the associated mount point.

To allow a client to understand the previously mentioned instance restrictions on parent referenced information, an implementation MAY

represent such restrictions in the "parent-reference" leaf-list. For example:

```
"namespace": [
  {
    "prefix": "if",
    "uri": "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces"
  },
  {
    "prefix": "ni",
    "uri": "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-network-instance"
  }
],
"mount-point": [
  {
    "parent-reference": [
      "/if:interfaces/if:interface
        [ni:bind-network-instance-name = current()/../ni:name]",
      "/if:interfaces-state/if:interface
        [if:name = /if:interfaces/if:interface
          [ni:bind-ni-name = current()/../ni:name]/if:name]",
      "/if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv4
        [ni:bind-network-instance-name = current()/../ni:name]",
      "/if:interfaces-state/if:interface/ip:ipv4
        [if:name = /if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv4
          [ni:bind-ni-name = current()/../ni:name]/if:name]",
      "/if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv6
        [ni:bind-network-instance-name = current()/../ni:name]",
      "/if:interfaces-state/if:interface/ip:ipv6
        [if:name = /if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv4
          [ni:bind-ni-name = current()/../ni:name]/if:name]",
    ]
  }
],
```

3.4. Network Instance Instantiation

Network instances may be controlled by clients using existing list operations. When a list entry is created, a new instance is instantiated. The models mounted under an NI root are expected to be dependent on the server implementation. When a list entry is deleted, an existing network instance is destroyed. For more information, see [\[RFC7950\] Section 7.8.6](#).

Once instantiated, host network device resources can be associated with the new NI. As previously mentioned, this document augments ietf-interfaces with the bind-ni-name leaf to support such associations for interfaces. When a bind-ni-name is set to a valid

NI name, an implementation MUST take whatever steps are internally necessary to assign the interface to the NI or provide an error message (defined below) with an indication of why the assignment failed. It is possible for the assignment to fail while processing the set operation, or after asynchronous processing. Error notification in the latter case is supported via a notification.

4. Security Considerations

The YANG modules specified in this document define a schema for data that is designed to be accessed via network management protocols such as NETCONF [[RFC6241](#)] or RESTCONF [[RFC8040](#)]. The lowest NETCONF layer is the secure transport layer, and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is Secure Shell (SSH) [[RFC6242](#)]. The lowest RESTCONF layer is HTTPS, and the mandatory-to-implement secure transport is TLS [[RFC5246](#)].

The NETCONF access control model [[RFC6536](#)] provides the means to restrict access for particular NETCONF or RESTCONF users to a preconfigured subset of all available NETCONF or RESTCONF protocol operations and content.

There are two different sets of security considerations to consider in the context of this document. One set is security related to information contained within mounted modules. The security considerations for mounted modules are not substantively changed based on the information being accessible within the context of an NI. For example, when considering the modules defined in [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc8022bis](#)], the security considerations identified in that document are equally applicable, whether those modules are accessed at a server's root or under an NI instance's root node.

The second area for consideration is information contained in the NI module itself. NI information represents network configuration and route distribution policy information. As such, the security of this information is important, but it is fundamentally no different than any other interface or routing configuration information that has already been covered in [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc7223bis](#)] and [[I-D.ietf-netmod-rfc8022bis](#)].

The vulnerable "config true" parameters and subtrees are the following:

/network-instances/network-instance: This list specifies the network instances and the related control plane protocols configured on a device.

/if:interfaces/if:interface/*/bind-network-instance-name: This leaf indicates the NI instance to which an interface is assigned.

Unauthorized access to any of these lists can adversely affect the routing subsystem of both the local device and the network. This may lead to network malfunctions, delivery of packets to inappropriate destinations and other problems.

5. IANA Considerations

This document registers a URI in the IETF XML registry [[RFC3688](#)]. Following the format in [RFC 3688](#), the following registration is requested to be made.

URI: urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-network-instance

Registrant Contact: The IESG.

XML: N/A, the requested URI is an XML namespace.

This document registers a YANG module in the YANG Module Names registry [[RFC6020](#)].

name: ietf-network-instance
namespace: urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-network-instance
prefix: ni
reference: RFC XXXX

6. Network Instance Model

The structure of the model defined in this document is described by the YANG module below.

```
<CODE BEGINS> file "ietf-network-instance@2018-02-03.yang"
module ietf-network-instance {
  yang-version 1.1;
  namespace "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-network-instance";
  prefix ni;

  // import some basic types

  import ietf-interfaces {
    prefix if;
    reference "draft-ietf-netmod-rfc7223bis: A YANG Data Model
              for Interface Management";
  }
  import ietf-ip {
    prefix ip;
```



```
reference "draft-ietf-netmod-rfc7277bis: A YANG Data Model
    for IP Management";
}
import ietf-yang-schema-mount {
    prefix yangmnt;
    reference "draft-ietf-netmod-schema-mount: YANG Schema Mount";
    // RFC Ed.: Please replace this draft name with the
    // corresponding RFC number
}

organization
    "IETF Routing Area (rtgwg) Working Group";
contact
    "WG Web:   <http://tools.ietf.org/wg/rtgwg/>
    WG List:  <mailto:rtgwg@ietf.org>

    Author:   Lou Berger
              <mailto:lberger@labn.net>
    Author:   Christan Hopps
              <mailto:chopps@chopps.org>
    Author:   Acee Lindem
              <mailto:acee@cisco.com>
    Author:   Dean Bogdanovic
              <mailto:ivandean@gmail.com>";

description
    "This module is used to support multiple network instances
    within a single physical or virtual device.  Network
    instances are commonly known as VRFs (virtual routing
    and forwarding) and VSIs (virtual switching instances).

    Copyright (c) 2017 IETF Trust and the persons
    identified as authors of the code.  All rights reserved.

    Redistribution and use in source and binary forms, with or
    without modification, is permitted pursuant to, and subject
    to the license terms contained in, the Simplified BSD License
    set forth in Section 4.c of the IETF Trust's Legal Provisions
    Relating to IETF Documents
    (http://trustee.ietf.org/license-info).

    This version of this YANG module is part of RFC XXXX; see
    the RFC itself for full legal notices.";

// RFC Ed.: replace XXXX with actual RFC number and remove
// this note
// RFC Ed.: please update TBD

revision 2018-02-03 {
```



```
    description
      "Initial revision.";
    reference "RFC TBD";
  }

  // top level device definition statements

  container network-instances {
    description
      "Network instances each of which consists of a
       VRFs (virtual routing and forwarding) and/or
       VSIs (virtual switching instances).";
    reference "draft-ietf-rtgwg-rfc8022bis - A YANG Data Model
      for Routing Management";
    list network-instance {
      key "name";
      description
        "List of network-instances.";
      leaf name {
        type string;
        mandatory true;
        description
          "device scoped identifier for the network
           instance.";
      }
      leaf enabled {
        type boolean;
        default "true";
        description
          "Flag indicating whether or not the network
           instance is enabled.";
      }
      leaf description {
        type string;
        description
          "Description of the network instance
           and its intended purpose.";
      }
    }
    choice ni-type {
      description
        "This node serves as an anchor point for different types
         of network instances. Each 'case' is expected to
         differ in terms of the information needed in the
         parent/core to support the NI, and may differ in their
         mounted schema definition. When the mounted schema is
         not expected to be the same for a specific type of NI
         a mount point should be defined.";
    }
  }
```



```
choice root-type {
  mandatory true;
  description
    "Well known mount points.";
  container vrf-root {
    description
      "Container for mount point.";
    yangmnt:mount-point "vrf-root" {
      description
        "Root for L3VPN type models. This will typically
        not be an inline type mount point.";
    }
  }
  container vsi-root {
    description
      "Container for mount point.";
    yangmnt:mount-point "vsi-root" {
      description
        "Root for L2VPN type models. This will typically
        not be an inline type mount point.";
    }
  }
  container vv-root {
    description
      "Container for mount point.";
    yangmnt:mount-point "vv-root" {
      description
        "Root models that support both L2VPN type bridging
        and L3VPN type routing. This will typically
        not be an inline type mount point.";
    }
  }
}
```

```
// augment statements
```

```
augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface" {
  description
    "Add a node for the identification of the network
    instance associated with the information configured
    on a interface.
```

Note that a standard error will be returned if the identified leafref isn't present. If an interfaces cannot be assigned for any other reason, the operation SHALL fail with an error-tag of 'operation-failed' and an


```
    error-app-tag of 'ni-assignment-failed'. A meaningful
    error-info that indicates the source of the assignment
    failure SHOULD also be provided.";
  leaf bind-ni-name {
    type leafref {
      path "/network-instances/network-instance/name";
    }
    description
      "Network Instance to which an interface is bound.";
  }
}
augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv4" {
  description
    "Add a node for the identification of the network
    instance associated with the information configured
    on an IPv4 interface.

    Note that a standard error will be returned if the
    identified leafref isn't present. If an interfaces cannot
    be assigned for any other reason, the operation SHALL fail
    with an error-tag of 'operation-failed' and an
    error-app-tag of 'ni-assignment-failed'. A meaningful
    error-info that indicates the source of the assignment
    failure SHOULD also be provided.";
  leaf bind-ni-name {
    type leafref {
      path "/network-instances/network-instance/name";
    }
    description
      "Network Instance to which IPv4 interface is bound.";
  }
}
augment "/if:interfaces/if:interface/ip:ipv6" {
  description
    "Add a node for the identification of the network
    instance associated with the information configured
    on an IPv6 interface.

    Note that a standard error will be returned if the
    identified leafref isn't present. If an interfaces cannot
    be assigned for any other reason, the operation SHALL fail
    with an error-tag of 'operation-failed' and an
    error-app-tag of 'ni-assignment-failed'. A meaningful
    error-info that indicates the source of the assignment
    failure SHOULD also be provided.";
  leaf bind-ni-name {
    type leafref {
      path "/network-instances/network-instance/name";
```



```
    }
    description
      "Network Instance to which IPv6 interface is bound.";
  }
}

// notification statements

notification bind-ni-name-failed {
  description
    "Indicates an error in the association of an interface to an
    NI. Only generated after success is initially returned when
    bind-ni-name is set.

    Note: some errors may need to be reported for multiple
    associations, e.g., a single error may need to be reported
    for an IPv4 and an IPv6 bind-ni-name.

    At least one container with a bind-ni-name leaf MUST be
    included in this notification.";
  leaf name {
    type leafref {
      path "/if:interfaces/if:interface/if:name";
    }
    mandatory true;
    description
      "Contains the interface name associated with the
      failure.";
  }
  container interface {
    description
      "Generic interface type.";
    leaf bind-ni-name {
      type leafref {
        path "/if:interfaces/if:interface/ni:bind-ni-name";
      }
      description
        "Contains the bind-ni-name associated with the
        failure.";
    }
  }
}
container ipv4 {
  description
    "IPv4 interface type.";
  leaf bind-ni-name {
    type leafref {
      path "/if:interfaces/if:interface"
        + "/ip:ipv4/ni:bind-ni-name";
    }
  }
}
```



```
    }
    description
      "Contains the bind-ni-name associated with the
        failure.";
  }
}
container ipv6 {
  description
    "IPv6 interface type.";
  leaf bind-ni-name {
    type leafref {
      path "/if:interfaces/if:interface"
        + "/ip:ipv6/ni:bind-ni-name";
    }
    description
      "Contains the bind-ni-name associated with the
        failure.";
  }
}
leaf error-info {
  type string;
  description
    "Optionally, indicates the source of the assignment
      failure.";
}
}
}
<CODE ENDS>
```

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Appendix A. Acknowledgments

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The RFC text was produced using Marshall Rose's xml2rfc tool.

Appendix B. Example NI usage

The following subsections provide example uses of NIs.

B.1. Configuration Data

The following shows an example where two customer specific network instances are configured:

```
{
  "ietf-network-instance:network-instances": {
    "network-instance": [
      {
        "name": "vrf-red",
        "vrf-root": {
          "ietf-routing:routing": {
            "router-id": "192.0.2.1",
            "control-plane-protocols": {
              "control-plane-protocol": [
                {
                  "type": "ietf-routing:ospf",
                  "name": "1",
                  "ietf-ospf:ospf": {
                    "instance": [
                      {
                        "af": "ipv4",
                        "areas": {
                          "area": [
                            {
```



```

        "area-id": "203.0.113.1",
        "interfaces": {
          "interface": [
            {
              "name": "eth1",
              "cost": 10
            }
          ]
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}
},
{
  "name": "vrf-blue",
  "vrf-root": {
    "ietf-routing:routing": {
      "router-id": "192.0.2.2",
      "control-plane-protocols": {
        "control-plane-protocol": [
          {
            "type": "ietf-routing:ospf",
            "name": "1",
            "ietf-ospf:ospf": {
              "instance": [
                {
                  "af": "ipv4",
                  "areas": {
                    "area": [
                      {
                        "area-id": "203.0.113.1",
                        "interfaces": {
                          "interface": [
                            {
                              "name": "eth2",
                              "cost": 10
                            }
                          ]
                        }
                      ]
                    ]
                  }
                }
              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    }
  }
}

```



```
    ]
  }
}
]
}
}
}
}
}
}
},
"ietf-interfaces:interfaces": {
  "interfaces": {
    "interface": [
      {
        "name": "eth0",
        "ip:ipv4": {
          "address": [
            {
              "ip": "192.0.2.10",
              "prefix-length": 24,
            }
          ]
        }
      },
      {
        "name": "eth1",
        "ip:ipv4": {
          "address": [
            {
              "ip": "192.0.2.11",
              "prefix-length": 24,
            }
          ]
        }
      },
      {
        "name": "eth2",
        "ip:ipv4": {
          "address": [
            {
              "ip": "192.0.2.11",
              "prefix-length": 24,
            }
          ]
        }
      }
    ],
    "ni:bind-network-instance-name": "vrf-red"
  }
}
```



```

        ]
      },
      "ni:bind-network-instance-name": "vrf-blue"
    }
  ]
}
},
"ietf-system:system": {
  "authentication": {
    "user": [
      {
        "name": "john",
        "password": "$0$password"
      }
    ]
  }
}
}
}
}

```

B.2. State Data

The following shows state data for the example above.

```

{
  "ietf-network-instance:network-instances": {
    "network-instance": [
      {
        "name": "vrf-red",
        "vrf-root": {
          "ietf-routing:routing-state": {
            "router-id": "192.0.2.1",
            "control-plane-protocols": {
              "control-plane-protocol": [
                {
                  "type": "ietf-routing:ospf",
                  "name": "1",
                  "ietf-ospf:ospf": {
                    "instance": [
                      {
                        "af": "ipv4",
                        "areas": {
                          "area": [
                            {
                              "area-id": "203.0.113.1",
                              "interfaces": {
                                "interface": [
                                  {

```



```

    "name": "eth1",
    "cost": 10
  }
]
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
}
},
{
  "name": "vrf-blue",
  "vrf-root": {
    "ietf-routing:routing-state": {
      "router-id": "192.0.2.2",
      "control-plane-protocols": {
        "control-plane-protocol": [
          {
            "type": "ietf-routing:ospf",
            "name": "1",
            "ietf-ospf:ospf": {
              "instance": [
                {
                  "af": "ipv4",
                  "areas": {
                    "area": [
                      {
                        "area-id": "203.0.113.1",
                        "interfaces": {
                          "interface": [
                            {
                              "name": "eth2",
                              "cost": 10
                            }
                          ]
                        }
                      }
                    ]
                  }
                }
              ]
            }
          ]
        }
      ]
    }
  ]
}

```



```

    }
  }
]
}
}
}
}
]
},

"ietf-interfaces:interfaces-state": {
  "interfaces": {
    "interface": [
      {
        "name": "eth0",
        "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
        "oper-status": "up",
        "phys-address": "00:01:02:A1:B1:C0",
        "statistics": {
          "discontinuity-time": "2017-06-26T12:34:56-05:00"
        },
        "ip:ipv4": {
          "address": [
            {
              "ip": "192.0.2.10",
              "prefix-length": 24,
            }
          ]
        }
      },
      {
        "name": "eth1",
        "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
        "oper-status": "up",
        "phys-address": "00:01:02:A1:B1:C1",
        "statistics": {
          "discontinuity-time": "2017-06-26T12:34:56-05:00"
        },
        "ip:ipv4": {
          "address": [
            {
              "ip": "192.0.2.11",
              "prefix-length": 24,
            }
          ]
        }
      },
    ]
  }
}

```



```
    "name": "eth2",
    "type": "iana-if-type:ethernetCsmacd",
    "oper-status": "up",
    "phys-address": "00:01:02:A1:B1:C2",
    "statistics": {
      "discontinuity-time": "2017-06-26T12:34:56-05:00"
    },
    "ip:ipv4": {
      "address": [
        {
          "ip": "192.0.2.11",
          "prefix-length": 24,
        }
      ]
    }
  }
}

},

"ietf-system:system-state": {
  "platform": {
    "os-name": "NetworkOS"
  }
}

"ietf-yang-library:modules-state": {
  "module-set-id": "123e4567-e89b-12d3-a456-426655440000",
  "module": [
    {
      "name": "iana-if-type",
      "revision": "2014-05-08",
      "namespace":
        "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:iana-if-type",
      "conformance-type": "import"
    },
    {
      "name": "ietf-inet-types",
      "revision": "2013-07-15",
      "namespace":
        "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-inet-types",
      "conformance-type": "import"
    },
    {
      "name": "ietf-interfaces",
      "revision": "2014-05-08",
      "feature": [
        "arbitrary-names",
```



```
    "pre-provisioning"
  ],
  "namespace":
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-interfaces",
  "conformance-type": "implement"
},
{
  "name": "ietf-ip",
  "revision": "2014-06-16",
  "namespace":
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-ip",
  "conformance-type": "implement"
},
{
  "name": "ietf-network-instance",
  "revision": "2017-03-13",
  "feature": [
    "bind-network-instance-name"
  ],
  "namespace":
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-network-instance",
  "conformance-type": "implement"
},
{
  "name": "ietf-ospf",
  "revision": "2017-03-12",
  "namespace": "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-ospf",
  "conformance-type": "implement"
},
{
  "name": "ietf-routing",
  "revision": "2016-11-04",
  "namespace":
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-routing",
  "conformance-type": "implement"
},
{
  "name": "ietf-system",
  "revision": "2014-08-06",
  "namespace":
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-system",
  "conformance-type": "implement"
},
{
  "name": "ietf-yang-library",
  "revision": "2016-06-21",
  "namespace":
    "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-yang-library",
```



```
        "conformance-type": "implement"
      },
      {
        "name": "ietf-yang-schema-mount",
        "revision": "2017-05-16",
        "namespace":
          "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-yang-schema-mount",
        "conformance-type": "implement"
      },
      {
        "name": "ietf-yang-types",
        "revision": "2013-07-15",
        "namespace":
          "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-yang-types",
        "conformance-type": "import"
      }
    ]
  },
  "ietf-yang-schema-mount:schema-mounts": {
    "mount-point": [
      {
        "module": "ietf-network-instance",
        "label": "vrf-root",
        "use-schema": [
          {
            "name": "ni-schema",
            "parent-reference": [
              "/*[namespace-uri() = 'urn:ietf:...:ietf-interfaces']"
            ]
          }
        ]
      }
    ]
  },
  "schema": [
    {
      "name": "ni-schema",
      "module": [
        {
          "name": "ietf-routing",
          "revision": "2016-11-04",
          "namespace":
            "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-routing",
          "conformance-type": "implement"
        },
        {
          "name": "ietf-ospf",
          "revision": "2017-03-12",
```



```
        "namespace":  
          "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:yang:ietf-ospf",  
        "conformance-type": "implement"  
      }  
    ]  
  }  
]  
}
```

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