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N. Kumar  
C. Pignataro  
Cisco Systems, Inc.  
N. Akiya  
Big Switch Networks  
R. Geib  
Deutsche Telekom  
G. Mirsky  
Ericsson  
S. Litkowski  
Orange  
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**OAM Requirements for Segment Routing Network  
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Abstract

This document describes a list of functional requirement for OAM in Segment Routing (SR) based network.

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Table of Contents

<a href="#">1.</a>	Introduction . . . . .	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">2.</a>	Requirements notation . . . . .	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">3.</a>	Terminology . . . . .	<a href="#">2</a>
<a href="#">4.</a>	Detailed Requirement list . . . . .	<a href="#">3</a>
<a href="#">5.</a>	IANA Considerations . . . . .	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">6.</a>	Security Considerations . . . . .	<a href="#">4</a>
<a href="#">7.</a>	Acknowledgement . . . . .	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">8.</a>	Contributing Authors . . . . .	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">9.</a>	References . . . . .	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">9.1.</a>	Normative References . . . . .	<a href="#">5</a>
<a href="#">9.2.</a>	Informative References . . . . .	<a href="#">5</a>
	Authors' Addresses . . . . .	<a href="#">6</a>

**1. Introduction**

[I-D.ietf-spring-segment-routing] introduces and explains Segment Routing architecture that leverages source routing and tunneling standards which can be applied directly to MPLS dataplane with no changes on forwarding plane and on IPv6 dataplane with new Routing Extension Header.

This document list the OAM requirements for Segment Routing based network which can further be used to produce OAM tools, either through enhancing existing OAM tools or constructing new OAM tools, for path liveliness and service validation.

**2. Requirements notation**

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. Terminology**

SR OAM Packet: OAM probe originated and processed within SR domain(s)

ECMP: Equal Cost Multipath

SR: Segment Routing



UCMP: Unequal Cost Multipath

Initiator: Centralized OAM initiator or PMS as referred in [\[I-D.geib-spring-oam-usecase\]](#)

#### **4. Detailed Requirement list**

This section list the OAM requirement for Segment Routing based network. The below listed requirement MUST be supported with both MPLS and IPv6 dataplane:

- REQ#1: SR OAM MUST support both On-demand and Continuous OAM functionality.
- REQ#2: The SR OAM packet MUST follow exactly the same path as dataplane traffic.
- REQ#3: The SR OAM packet MUST have the ability to discover and exercise equal cost multipath (ECMP) paths.
- REQ#4: The SR OAM packet MUST have the ability to discover and exercise unequal cost multipath (UCMP) paths.
- REQ#5: The SR OAM packet MUST have ability to exercise any available paths, not just best path available.
- REQ#6: The forwarding semantic of adjacency Segment ID raises a need for additional consideration to detect any failure in forwarding to the right adjacency. SR OAM MUST have the ability to detect any failure in Node SID and adjacency segment based forwarding.
- REQ#7: SR OAM SHOULD have the ability to allow the Initiator to control the return path from any transit or egress responder.
- REQ#8: SR OAM MUST have the ability to be initialized from an arbitrary node to perform connectivity verification and continuity check to any other node within SR domain.
- REQ#9: In case of any failure with continuity check, SR OAM SHOULD support rapid Connectivity Fault localization to isolate the node on which the failure occurs.
- REQ#10: SR OAM SHOULD also have the ability to be initialized from a centralized controller.



- REQ#11: When SR OAM is initialized from centralized controller, it MUST have the ability to alert any edge node in SR domain about the corresponding path or service failure. The node on receiving the alert MAY take a local protection action or pop an informational message.
- REQ#12: When SR OAM is initialized from centralized controller, it SHOULD support node redundancy. If primary Initiator fails, secondary one MUST take over the responsibility without having any impact on customer traffic.
- REQ#13: SR OAM MUST have the ability to measure Packet loss, Packet Delay or Delay variation using Active (using synthetic probe) and Passive (using data stream) mode.
- REQ#14: When a new path is instantiated, SR OAM SHOULD allow path verification without noticeable delay.
- REQ#15: The above listed requirements SHOULD be supported without any scalability limitation imposed and SHOULD be extensible to accommodate any new SR functionality.
- REQ#16: SR OAM SHOULD minimize the need to create or maintain per path state entry in any other nodes other than the Initiator.
- REQ#17: When traffic engineering is initiated by centralized controller device, and when SR OAM is performed by individual nodes, there MUST be a mechanism to communicate failure to centralized controller device.
- REQ#18: When service instruction is present in SR OAM packet header, there MUST be a method to disallow applying the service to the OAM packet to handle cases where that may result in unintended corruption of the OAM packet.

## **5. IANA Considerations**

This document does not propose any IANA consideration.

## **6. Security Considerations**

This document list the OAM requirement for Segment Routing network and does not raise any security considerations.



## **7. Acknowledgement**

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## **8. Contributing Authors**

Sriganesh Kini  
Ericsson  
Email: sriganesh.kini@ericsson.com

## **9. References**

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Internet-DraftOAM Requirements for Segment Routing Network December 2015

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Authors' Addresses

Nagendra Kumar  
Cisco Systems, Inc.  
7200 Kit Creek Road  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709  
US

Email: [naikumar@cisco.com](mailto:naikumar@cisco.com)

Carlos Pignataro  
Cisco Systems, Inc.  
7200 Kit Creek Road  
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-4987  
US

Email: [cpignata@cisco.com](mailto:cpignata@cisco.com)

Nobo Akiya  
Big Switch Networks  
Japan

Email: [nobo.akiya.dev@gmail.com](mailto:nobo.akiya.dev@gmail.com)

Ruediger Geib  
Deutsche Telekom  
Heinrich Hertz Str. 3-7  
Darmstadt 64295  
Germany

Email: [Ruediger.Geib@telekom.de](mailto:Ruediger.Geib@telekom.de)

Greg Mirsky  
Ericsson

Email: [gregory.mirsky@ericsson.com](mailto:gregory.mirsky@ericsson.com)



Stephane Litkowski  
Orange

Email: [stephane.litkowski@orange.com](mailto:stephane.litkowski@orange.com)