

Service Location Working Group
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The Networked Removable Storage Media Abstract Service Type
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Abstract

This document describes the Abstract Service Type for removable networked storage media. These include CD-ROMs, DVDs, DAT tapes, optical disks and other media types. Through the use of this template and the Service Location Protocol [1] networked removable storage devices can advertise the currently available media and client systems can discover them.

1. Introduction

It is increasingly common to find networked storage devices which are available using a range of access protocols. One common class of storage devices allow removable storage (such as CD-ROMs, tapes and optical disks) to be made available to the network simply by inserting the media to the networked storage device.

This presents a problem: How are clients to discover which media is currently available, or becomes available over time? By using SLP [[1](#)] and advertising the attributes of the removable storage media, the data on the storage media becomes accessible without any prior client configuration.

Abstract Service templates are defined in [[2](#)].

2. Definitions

This document defines the Networked Removable Storage Media abstract service type and two concrete types for the CIFS and NCP file sharing protocols.

2.1. CIFS

The Common Internet File System (CIFS) protocol [[3](#)] is based on the standard Server Message Block (SMB) protocol widely in use by personal computers and workstations running a wide variety of operating systems.

2.2. NCP

The NetWare Core Protocol (NCP) is one of the core protocols of the NetWare (TM) operating system. No known public specification of this protocol exists. Clients with access to a NCP client implementation may still use the information available in a Networked Removable Storage Media service: URL of the NCP concrete type to access the media.

2.3. UNC

Networked Removable Storage Media service: URLs of the CIFS or NCP concrete type uses a Uniform Naming Convention (UNC) [[3](#)] path string as part of the url-path to describe the network path to the media.

Client implementations of the CIFS and NCP protocols usually accepts UNC path strings for accessing shared network storage resources.

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3. Networked Removable Storage Media Service Template

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Language of service template: en

Security Considerations:

The attributes included in the template, especially those concerning access control, are to be used to provide clients with configuration information regarding server features, not security per se. Authentication of and access control must be performed by the data access protocols themselves.

Template Text:

-----template begins here-----

template-type = nrsm

template-version = 0.0

template-description =

This is an abstract service type defining Networked Removable Storage Media.

template-url-syntax =

url-path = ; Depends on the concrete service type.
; See these templates.

media-name = STRING

; This is the human readable name for this media. The name may be
; given by the media itself or user defined.

capacity = INTEGER 0

; This is the memory capacity of the storage media, in units of
; kilobyte.

writeable = BOOLEAN

; If this is TRUE, then the media is read/write. If it is FALSE

; the media is read-only. Note that stating that media is read/
; write does not indicate that *anyone* may write to it. Access
; control may be in place preventing unauthorized writing to the
; media.

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media-type = STRING L
; This is the media type of the removable media. This can take
; one of the following values:
;
; CDROM The removable media is a CD with data content.
; DVD The media is a DVD.
; JAZ The media is a JAZ diskette.
; DAT The media is a DAT tape.
; OPTICAL The media is an optical disk.
; TAPE The media is a tape.
CDROM, DVD, JAZ, DAT, OPTICAL, TAPE

volume-description = STRING
; This string describes the contents of the removable storage
; media. This string will be supplied to users in user interfaces
; to provide them with information to determine whether this
; particular storage media is of interest.

access-control = BOOLEAN 0
; This indicates that access control is being used to limit the
; availability of the storage media. No attempt is made to define
; *what* access control is in place if the value of this attribute
; is TRUE.

used-space=INTEGER 0
; The amount of used space of the storage media,
; in units of kilobytes.

file-system = STRING 0
; The file system present on the networked storage media. For
; example "ISO 9660 with Rock Ridge Extensions"

worm = BOOLEAN 0
; If this is TRUE, the media supports Write Once Read Many: Thus

```

; data can be appended but not deleted or altered on the media.

contact-person = STRING 0
; The name of a contact person who is the operator of the removable
; storage media device. This is the person to contact to
; unload or load particular media if the storage device is in a
; remote location. It is suggested that this string include
; information that would enable other humans to reach the contact
; person, such as a phone number or an email address.

location = STRING 0
; The physical location of the removable storage media device.
; This should be a descriptive human readable text.

-----template ends here-----

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3.1. Concrete 'nrsm' Service Template for CIFS

```

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```

Language of service template: en

Security Considerations:

See the security considerations of the nrsm template.

Template Text:

```

-----template begins here-----
template-type = nrsm:cifs

template-version = 0.0

template-description =
  This is the concrete service template for CIFS access to Networked
  Removable Storage Media.

template-url-syntax =
  url-path = "/" unc-path
  ; "unc-path" is a UNC path string as defined in [3] and escaped
  ; according to the rules in [2].

-----template ends here-----

```

3.2. Concrete 'nrsm' Service Template for NCP

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Language of service template: en

Security Considerations:

See the security considerations of the nrsm template.

Template Text:

```
-----template begins here-----  
template-type = nrsm:ncp  
  
template-version = 0.0  
  
template-description =  
  This is the concrete service template for NCP access to Networked  
  Removable Storage Media.
```

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```
template-url-syntax =  
  url-path = "/" unc-path  
  ; "unc-path" is a UNC path string as defined in [3] escaped  
  ; according to the rules in [2].
```

```
-----template ends here-----
```

4. Security Considerations

The attributes included in the nrsm service template, especially those concerning access control, are to be used to provide clients with configuration information regarding server features, not security per se. Authentication of and access control must be performed by the data access protocols themselves.

SLP [1] provides authentication features which allow clients to verify the authenticity of URLs and service attributes. If the attributes present in this service template are obtained in a different manner (than SLP) they may be supplied by a malicious source attempting to misdirect clients or hide available resources.

5. References

- [1] Guttman, E., Perkins, C., Veizades, J. and M. Day, "Service Location Protocol Version 2", [RFC 2608](#), June 1999.
- [2] Guttman, E., Perkins, C. and J. Kempf, "Service Templates and service: Schemes", [RFC 2609](#), June 1999.
- [3] Leach, P. and D. Naik, "A Common Internet File System (CIFS/1.0) Protocol", [draft-leach-cifs-v1-spec-01.txt](#), December 1997 (work in progress)

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