

Internet Draft: Network Address to support OSI over IPv6
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A revised version of this draft document will be submitted to the RFC editor as a Proposed Standard for the Internet Community. Discussion and suggestions for improvement are requested, and should be sent directly to the authors. Distribution of this draft is unlimited.

Abstract

This document defines a format for OSI NSAP Addresses for use where TCP or UDP is used to provide the OSI Network Service over IPv6, as in [RFC 2126](#) (ISO Transport Service on top of TCP (ITOT)). This requires encoding of an IPv6 address and a port number in the NSAP. [RFC 1277](#) defines an NSAP format for use with IPv4 addresses, and this document updates [RFC 1277](#) to allow for IPv6 addresses.

1. Introduction

1.1. Conventions Used in this Document

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](#) [[KEYWORDS](#)].

Editorial comments/questions or missing paragraphs are marked in the text with << and >>.

1.2. Rationale

[ITOT] defines a mechanism for the OSI upper layers to use Transport Classes 0 and 2 using TCP as the Network Service. In this case the Network Service Access Point (NSAP) address is effectively defined by the IP address and TCP port number.

It would be possible to have a local mechanism to map from arbitrary network addresses to the required TCP/IP information. However, this is not practical for wide-area connections. Therefore, a mechanism which encodes the TCP/IP addressing information with the NSAP address is to be preferred. [[RFC1277](#)] provides such an embedding mechanism. However, it only supports IPv4 addresses.

There are places where NSAP addresses are carried in protocol. The preferred concrete syntax for NSAP addresses uses 20 octets. IPv6 addresses are 16 octets long, and TCP port numbers require 2 octets. Therefore there are only two octets free to define the address ([[IS08348](#)]).

[RFC1888] defines a format for embedding IPv6 addresses into NSAP addresses. However, this format defines a IDI of two octets, leaving one octet for the network selector. So there is insufficient space in the network selector for the TCP port number. To use the domain identifier for part of the TCP port number does not seem an elegant solution.

However, this NSAP address format could be used if the default port for the service is implied. Implementations of ITOT SHOULD interpret NSAP addresses in this format as implying the use of IPv6 with the default port.

The only other defined Authority and Format Indicator (AFI) which leaves sufficient space for both an IPv6 address and TCP port number is the binary local AFI (49). However, using this format may conflict with other uses of this AFI on some systems, if they support multiple network services and the local AFI is use on one of these.

The following IDI should be registered under this AFI:

| IDI Value | Address Encoding | Format Definition |
|-----------|------------------|--|
| '0' | IPv6 | <this document>, section 2 |

<<This needs some communication with ITU-T to allocate a new AFI and delegate it to IANA.>>

Remaining decimal values '1' through '99'<<?>> MUST be assigned on an IETF consensus basis [[RFC2434](#)].

5. Acknowledgments

This document borrows some text from [RFC 1277](#) [[RFC1277](#)] and [RFC 1888](#) [[RFC1888](#)].

6. References

6.1. Normative references

[KEYWORDS] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [RFC 2119](#), March 1997.

[RFC1277] Kille, S., "Encoding Network Addresses to support operation over non-OSI lower layers", [RFC 1277](#), November 1991.

[IPV6] Deering, S., and R. Hinden, "Internet Protocol, Version 6 (IPv6) Specification", [RFC 2460](#), December 1998.

Hinden,, R., and S. Deeing, "IP Version 6 Addressing Architecture", [RFC 2373](#), April 2003.

[ITOT] Pouffary, Y. and A. Young, "ISO Transport Service on top of TCP (ITOT)", [RFC 2126](#), March 1997.

[RFC2401] Kent, S. and R. Atkinson, "Security Architecture for the Internet Protocol", [RFC 2401](#), November 1998.

[RFC2434] [RFC 2434](#), "Guidelines for Writing an IANA Considerations Section in RFCs", Thomas Narten and Harald Alvestrand, October 1998.

6.2. Informative references

[RFC1888] Bound, J., Carpenter, B., Harrington, D., Houldsworth, J. and A. Lloyd, "OSI NSAPs and IPv6", [RFC 1888](#), August 1996.

[IS08348] ISO. "International Standard 8348. Information Processing Systems - Open Systems Interconnection: Network Service Definition." [ITU Recommendation X.213]

7. Author's Addresses

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