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Definition of Managed Objects for IPv6 over Low-Power Wireless Personal  
Area Networks (6LoWPANs)  
[draft-schoenw-6lowpan-mib-01](#)

## Abstract

This memo defines a portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it defines objects for managing IPv6 over Low-Power Wireless Personal Area Networks (6LoWPANs).

## Status of This Memo

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## **1. Introduction**

This memo defines a portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols. In particular it defines objects for managing IPv6 over Low-Power Wireless Personal Area Networks (6LoWPANs) [[RFC4944](#)].

## **2. The Internet-Standard Management Framework**

For a detailed overview of the documents that describe the current Internet-Standard Management Framework, please refer to [section 7 of RFC 3410](#) [[RFC3410](#)].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. MIB objects are generally accessed through the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP). Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the Structure of Management Information (SMI). This memo specifies a MIB module that is compliant to the SMIV2, which is described in STD 58, [RFC 2578](#) [[RFC2578](#)], STD 58, [RFC 2579](#) [[RFC2579](#)] and STD 58, [RFC 2580](#) [[RFC2580](#)].

## **3. Conventions**

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](#) [[RFC2119](#)].

## **4. Overview**

The MIB module is organized into groups of scalars and tables.



```
# LOWPAN-MIB registration tree (generated by smidump 0.4.8)
```

```
--lowpanMIB(1.3.6.1.2.1.XXX)
  +--lowpanNotifications(0)
  +--lowpanObjects(1)
    | +--lowpanGeneral(1)
    | | +-- rwn Unsigned32 lowpanReasmTimeout(1)
    | +--lowpanStats(2)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsInReceives(1)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsInHdrErrors(2)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsReasmReqds(3)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsReasmOKs(4)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsReasmFails(5)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsInDiscards(6)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsInDelivers(7)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutRequests(8)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutDiscards(9)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutFragReqds(10)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutFragOKs(11)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutFragFails(12)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutFragCreates(13)
    |   +-- r-n Counter32 lowpanStatsOutTransmits(14)
  +--lowpanConformance(2)
    +--lowpanGroups(1)
    | +--lowpanGeneralGroup(1)
    | +--lowpanStatsGroup(2)
    +--lowpanCompliances(2)
    | +--lowpanFullCompliance(1)
    | +--lowpanReadOnlyCompliance(2)
```

## 5. Relationship to Other MIB Modules

The MIB module IMPORTS definitions from SNMPv2-SMI [[RFC2578](#)] and SNMPv2-CONF [[RFC2580](#)].

## 6. Definitions

```
LOWPAN-MIB DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN
```

```
IMPORTS
```

```
  MODULE-IDENTITY, OBJECT-TYPE, Unsigned32, Counter32, mib-2
    FROM SNMPv2-SMI -- RFC 2578
  OBJECT-GROUP, MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    FROM SNMPv2-CONF; -- RFC 2580
```

```
lowpanMIB      MODULE-IDENTITY
  LAST-UPDATED  "201210180000Z"
  ORGANIZATION
```



"Jacobs University Bremen"

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DESCRIPTION

"The MIB module for monitoring nodes implementing the IPv6 over Low-Power Wireless Personal Area Networks (6LoWPAN) protocol.

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REVISION "201210180000Z"

DESCRIPTION

"Initial version, published as RFC XXXX."

-- RFC Ed.: replace XXXX with actual RFC number & remove this note

::= { mib-2 XXXX }

-- object definitions

lowpanNotifications        OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanMIB 0 }  
lowpanObjects              OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanMIB 1 }  
lowpanConformance         OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanMIB 2 }

lowpanGeneral OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanObjects 1 }  
lowpanStats    OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanObjects 2 }





**lowpanReasmTimeout OBJECT-TYPE**

SYNTAX Unsigned32

UNITS "seconds"

MAX-ACCESS read-write

STATUS current

**DESCRIPTION**

"The maximum number of seconds that received fragments are held while they are awaiting reassembly at this entity."

::= { lowpanGeneral 1 }

**lowpanStatsInReceives OBJECT-TYPE**

SYNTAX Counter32

MAX-ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

**DESCRIPTION**

"The total number of datagrams received, including those received in error."

::= { lowpanStats 1 }

**lowpanStatsInHdrErrors OBJECT-TYPE**

SYNTAX Counter32

MAX-ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

**DESCRIPTION**

"The number of received datagrams discarded due to errors in their headers, including unknown dispatch values, errors discovered during any decompression attempts, etc."

::= { lowpanStats 2 }

**lowpanStatsReasmReqds OBJECT-TYPE**

SYNTAX Counter32

MAX-ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

**DESCRIPTION**

"The number of received datagrams that needed to be reassembled."

::= { lowpanStats 3 }

**lowpanStatsReasmOKs OBJECT-TYPE**

SYNTAX Counter32

MAX-ACCESS read-only

STATUS current

**DESCRIPTION**

"The number of received datagrams successfully reassembled."

::= { lowpanStats 4 }

**lowpanStatsReasmFails OBJECT-TYPE**

SYNTAX Counter32



MAX-ACCESS read-only  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION  
    "The number of failures detected by the re-assembly algorithm  
    (e.g., timeouts)."  
::= { lowpanStats 5 }

lowpanStatsInDiscards OBJECT-TYPE  
SYNTAX Counter32  
MAX-ACCESS read-only  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION  
    "The number of received datagrams for which no problems were  
    encountered to prevent their continued processing, but  
    were discarded (e.g., for lack of buffer space). Note that  
    this counter does not include any datagrams discarded while  
    awaiting re-assembly."  
::= { lowpanStats 6 }

lowpanStatsInDelivers OBJECT-TYPE  
SYNTAX Counter32  
MAX-ACCESS read-only  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION  
    "The total number of datagrams successfully delivered to the  
    IPv6 layer."  
::= { lowpanStats 7 }

lowpanStatsOutRequests OBJECT-TYPE  
SYNTAX Counter32  
MAX-ACCESS read-only  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION  
    "The total number of datagrams supplied by the IPv6 layer."  
::= { lowpanStats 8 }

lowpanStatsOutDiscards OBJECT-TYPE  
SYNTAX Counter32  
MAX-ACCESS read-only  
STATUS current  
DESCRIPTION  
    "The number of datagrams for which no problem was  
    encountered to prevent their transmission to their  
    destination, but were discarded (e.g., for lack of  
    buffer space)."  
::= { lowpanStats 9 }

lowpanStatsOutFragReqds OBJECT-TYPE



```
SYNTAX      Counter32
MAX-ACCESS  read-only
STATUS      current
DESCRIPTION
    "The number of datagrams that would require fragmentation
    in order to be transmitted."
 ::= { lowpanStats 10 }

lowpanStatsOutFragOKs OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      Counter32
    MAX-ACCESS  read-only
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The number of IP datagrams that have been successfully
        fragmented."
    ::= { lowpanStats 11 }

lowpanStatsOutFragFails OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      Counter32
    MAX-ACCESS  read-only
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The number of IP datagrams that have been discarded because
        they needed to be fragmented but could not be."
    ::= { lowpanStats 12 }

lowpanStatsOutFragCreates OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      Counter32
    MAX-ACCESS  read-only
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The number of datagram fragments that have been
        generated as a result of fragmentation."
    ::= { lowpanStats 13 }

lowpanStatsOutTransmits OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX      Counter32
    MAX-ACCESS  read-only
    STATUS      current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The total number of datagram fragments that this entity
        supplied to the lower layers for transmission."
    ::= { lowpanStats 14 }

-- conformance definitions

lowpanGroups          OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanConformance 1 }
lowpanCompliances     OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { lowpanConformance 2 }
```



## lowpanFullCompliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE

STATUS current

## DESCRIPTION

"Compliance statement for implementations supporting  
read/write access, according to the object definitions."

MODULE -- this module

## MANDATORY-GROUPS {

lowpanGeneralGroup,  
lowpanStatsGroup

}

::= { lowpanCompliances 1 }

## lowpanReadOnlyCompliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE

STATUS current

## DESCRIPTION

"Compliance statement for implementations supporting  
only readonly access."

MODULE -- this module

## MANDATORY-GROUPS {

lowpanGeneralGroup,  
lowpanStatsGroup

}

OBJECT lowpanReasmTimeout

MIN-ACCESS read-only

## DESCRIPTION

"Write access is not required."

::= { lowpanCompliances 2 }

## lowpanGeneralGroup OBJECT-GROUP

## OBJECTS {

lowpanReasmTimeout

}

STATUS current

## DESCRIPTION

"A collection of objects providing general information about  
the 6LoWPAN implementation."

::= { lowpanGroups 1 }

## lowpanStatsGroup OBJECT-GROUP

## OBJECTS {

lowpanStatsInReceives,  
lowpanStatsInHdrErrors,  
lowpanStatsReasmReqds,  
lowpanStatsReasmOKs,  
lowpanStatsReasmFails,  
lowpanStatsInDiscards,





```
        lowpanStatsInDelivers,
        lowpanStatsOutRequests,
        lowpanStatsOutDiscards,
        lowpanStatsOutFragReqds,
        lowpanStatsOutFragOKs,
        lowpanStatsOutFragFails,
        lowpanStatsOutFragCreates,
        lowpanStatsOutTransmits
    }
    STATUS          current
    DESCRIPTION
        "A collection of objects providing statistics about
         the 6LoWPAN implementation."
    ::= { lowpanGroups 2 }

END
```

## 7. Security Considerations

There are a number of management objects defined in this MIB module with a MAX-ACCESS clause of read-write and/or read-create. Such objects may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments. The support for SET operations in a non-secure environment without proper protection can have a negative effect on network operations. These are the tables and objects and their sensitivity/vulnerability:

- o lowpanReasmTimeout: This object controls how long received fragments are kept in memory awaiting reassembly. An attacker might set this object to a very small value in order to prevent successful reassembly of fragmented IPv6 packets. An attacker might as well set this object to a very large value in order to reserve memory for a long time as part of a denial of service attack.

Some of the readable objects in this MIB module (i.e., objects with a MAX-ACCESS other than not-accessible) may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments. It is thus important to control even GET and/or NOTIFY access to these objects and possibly to even encrypt the values of these objects when sending them over the network via SNMP. These are the tables and objects and their sensitivity/vulnerability:

The read-only counters provide insights into the amount of 6LoWPAN traffic a node is receiving or transmitting. This might provide information whether a device is regularly exchanging information with other devices or whether a device is mostly not participating in any communication (e.g., the device might be "easier" to take away



unnoticed). The reassembly counters could be used to direct denial of service attacks on the reassembly mechanism.

SNMP versions prior to SNMPv3 did not include adequate security. Even if the network itself is secure (for example by using IPsec), even then, there is no control as to who on the secure network is allowed to access and GET/SET (read/change/create/delete) the objects in this MIB module.

It is RECOMMENDED that implementers consider the security features as provided by the SNMPv3 framework (see [\[RFC3410\]](#), [section 8](#)), including full support for the SNMPv3 cryptographic mechanisms (for authentication and privacy).

Further, deployment of SNMP versions prior to SNMPv3 is NOT RECOMMENDED. Instead, it is RECOMMENDED to deploy SNMPv3 and to enable cryptographic security. It is then a customer/operator responsibility to ensure that the SNMP entity giving access to an instance of this MIB module is properly configured to give access to the objects only to those principals (users) that have legitimate rights to indeed GET or SET (change/create/delete) them.

## **8. IANA Considerations**

IANA is requested to assign a value for "XXXX" under the 'mib-2' subtree and to record the assignment in the SMI Numbers registry. When the assignment has been made, the RFC Editor is asked to replace "XXXX" (here and in the MIB module) with the assigned value and to remove this note.

## **9. Acknowledgements**

This specification borrows heavily from the IP-MIB defined in [\[RFC4293\]](#).

## **10. References**

### **10.1. Normative References**

- |           |                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| [RFC2119] | Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", <a href="#">BCP 14</a> , <a href="#">RFC 2119</a> , March 1997.                                  |
| [RFC2578] | McCloghrie, K., Ed., Perkins, D., Ed., and J. Schoenwaelder, Ed., "Structure of Management Information Version 2 (SMIv2)", STD 58, <a href="#">RFC 2578</a> , April 1999. |



- [RFC2579] McCloghrie, K., Ed., Perkins, D., Ed., and J. Schoenwaelder, Ed., "Textual Conventions for SMIV2", STD 58, [RFC 2579](#), April 1999.
- [RFC2580] McCloghrie, K., Perkins, D., and J. Schoenwaelder, "Conformance Statements for SMIV2", STD 58, [RFC 2580](#), April 1999.
- [RFC4944] Montenegro, G., Kushalnagar, N., Hui, J., and D. Culler, "Transmission of IPv6 Packets over IEEE 802.15.4 Networks", [RFC 4944](#), September 2007.

## **10.2. Informative References**

- [RFC3410] Case, J., Mundy, R., Partain, D., and B. Stewart, "Introduction and Applicability Statements for Internet-Standard Management Framework", [RFC 3410](#), December 2002.
- [RFC4293] Routhier, S., "Management Information Base for the Internet Protocol (IP)", [RFC 4293](#), April 2006.
- [RFC6643] Schoenwaelder, J., "Translation of Structure of Management Information Version 2 (SMIV2) MIB Modules to YANG Modules", [RFC 6643](#), July 2012.
- [I-D.lhotka-netmod-yang-json] Lhotka, L., "Modeling JSON Text with YANG", [draft-lhotka-netmod-yang-json-00](#) (work in progress), October 2012.

## **Appendix A. JSON Representation**

Using the translation algorithm defined in [\[RFC6643\]](#), the SMIV2 module can be translated to YANG. Using the JSON representation of data modeled in YANG defined in [\[I-D.lhotka-netmod-yang-json\]](#), the objects defined in the MIB module can be represented in JSON as shown below. The compact representation without any white space uses 468 octets. (Of course, this number depends on the number of octets needed for the counter values.)



```
{
  "LOWPAN-MIB:LOWPAN-MIB": {
    "lowpanGeneral": {
      "lowpanReasmTimeout": 120
    },
    "lowpanStats": {
      "lowpanStatsInReceives": 42,
      "lowpanStatsInHdrErrors": 0,
      "lowpanStatsReasmReqds": 22,
      "lowpanStatsReasmOKs": 20,
      "lowpanStatsReasmFails": 2,
      "lowpanStatsInDiscards": 1,
      "lowpanStatsInDelivers": 12,
      "lowpanStatsOutRequests": 12,
      "lowpanStatsOutDiscards": 0,
      "lowpanStatsOutFragReqds": 5,
      "lowpanStatsOutFragOKs": 5,
      "lowpanStatsOutFragFails": 0,
      "lowpanStatsOutFragCreates": 8,
      "lowpanStatsOutTransmits": 15
    }
  }
}
```

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