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Title: Forward Error Correction Building Block  
Author(s): M. Luby, L. Vicisano, J. Gemmell, L. Rizzo,  
M. Handley, J. Crowcroft  
Status: Experimental  
Date: December 2002  
Mailbox: luby@digitalfountain.com, lorenzo@cisco.com,  
jgemmell@microsoft.com, luigi@iet.unipi.it,  
mjh@aciri.org, Jon.Crowcroft@cl.cam.ac.uk  
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This document generally describes how to use Forward Error Correction (FEC) codes to efficiently provide and/or augment reliability for data transport. The primary focus of this document is the application of FEC codes to one-to-many reliable data transport using IP multicast. This document describes what information is needed to identify a specific FEC code, what information needs to be communicated out-of-band to use the FEC code, and what information is needed in data packets to identify the encoding symbols they carry. The procedures for specifying FEC codes and registering them with the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) are also described. This document should be read in conjunction with and uses the terminology of the companion document titled, "The Use of Forward Error Correction (FEC) in Reliable Multicast".

This document is a product of the Reliable Multicast Transport Working Group of the IETF.

This memo defines an Experimental Protocol for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Discussion and suggestions for improvement are requested. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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