

# Epoch Markers

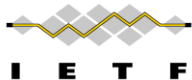
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# Epoch IDs Recap

- Epoch IDs are a message type introduced in the RATS Architecture.
- Epoch IDs initiate new periods of freshness (hence 'epoch') when received by other RATS roles in a given domain and can be used as content in fresh conceptual messages, accordingly.

# CBOR Messages for Epoch ID Types

- Epoch Markers are a CBOR serialization of Epoch IDs.
- Epoch Markers allow for various types of payload types, e.g., "nonce-like" values, signed timestamps, etc.
- Epoch Markers are distributed by a new RATS Role called the Epoch Bell.
- Conveyance of Epoch Bells to other RATS roles can follow various interaction model, e.g., models illustrated in I-D.ietf-rats-reference-interaction-models.

# Current Status

- <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/draft-birkholz-rats-epoch-markers/04/>
- Seven types of Epoch Marker payload are now included in the I-D.
  - Including content description and CDDL where applicable
  - Naming the payload types might require some WG work
- Bell Veracity Proofs are stubs currently.
  - Either waiting on AR4SI or may become an extension point

# Next Steps

- Request for WG adoption call (WGAC)