OSPF v2/3 System Name

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Overview

- Define mechanism for OSPF routers to learn about symbolic hostnames
- Much akin to IS-S dynamic hostname exchange mechanism - RFC 2763
- Presented idea at last IETF, have since submitted:
  - **draft-venkata-ospf-dynamic-hostname-02.txt**
  - Co-authors: Pignataro, Venkata & Harwani

Motivators

- Current mechanism, DNS, relies on IP connectivity - may not be able to resolve if reachability problems
- May want system name different than that in DNS, or new routers not yet in DNS
- DNS resolution introduces extra load, could be particularly problematic in times of problem resolution
- RI LSA (4970) is standardized, offers convenient place to advertise system name
- Move to IPv6 will result in more difficult human parsing of IP addresses, as 32-bit router-id is more of an opaque unique identifier than an IPv4 address.

Feedback To Date

- Little but good feedback
  - LSA Flooding scope needs defined
    - area local
    - AS-wide
  - Text encoding needs to be clarified
    - US-ASCII or UTF-8? RFC 3629 "globally/widely visible name" as defined in RFC 2277 suggests US-ASCII
    - Welcome feedback here
- Adding text to address both of the above

Document Status

- Request to become working group document
- Progress Standards Track

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