Guidelines for Choosing RTCP CNAMEs

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**RTCP CNAMEs**

- CNAMEs are persistent identifiers for RTP endpoints
  - SSRC may change during an RTP session
  - CNAME is supposed to be sticky

- CNAMEs should be unique within the session participants

- RFC 3550 recommends to use user@host (or host) as CNAME
  - FQDNs (e.g., home.comcast.net) are not necessarily unique
  - IPv4 addresses are not necessarily unique, either

- This draft updates guidelines for choosing CNAMEs
Persistent vs. Per-Session CNAMEs

- A persistent CNAME
  - Does not change from session to session
  - Assists correlation by network management tools
  - Synchronizes multiple related streams

- A per-Session CNAME
  - Is unique from session to session
  - Cannot be used for traffic analysis

Both persistent and per-session CNAMEs should still be unique for each RTP endpoint
Generating a CNAME

Persistent CNAMEs

- Pick one method:
  - Use IPv6 address for the “host” part
  - Use MAC address for the “host” part
  - Use UUID for the “host” part

Per-session CNAMEs

- Steps:
  1. Concatenate values of RTP endpoint's initial SSRC Src/dst IP addresses/ports A random value
  2. Perform SHA1-HMAC
  3. Truncate the 160-bit output to 96 bits
  4. Convert the 96 bits to ASCII using Base64 encoding
Next Steps

- WGLC?