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Multicast Considerations for Gateway-Initiated Dual-Stack Lite
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Abstract

This document discusses multicast deployment aspects for networks which leverage Gateway-Initiated Dual-Stack lite.

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1. Introduction and Overview

This draft discusses the deployment aspects for IPv4-Multicast in networks using Gateway-Initiated Dual-Stack lite (GI-DS-lite) [I-D.ietf-softwire-gateway-init-ds-lite]. GI-DS-lite is a modified approach to the original Dual-Stack lite (DS-lite) [I-D.ietf-softwire-dual-stack-lite] applicable to certain tunnel-based access architectures. Figure 1 shows an example. GI-DS-lite extends existing access tunnels beyond the Gateway to an IPv4-IPv4 NAT device (as shown in Figure 2) using softwires with an embedded context identifier, that uniquely identifies the end-system the tunneled packets belong to. The Gateway determines which portion of the traffic requires NAT using local policies and sends/receives this portion to/from this softwire tunnel.

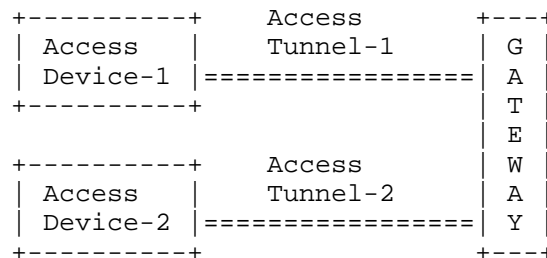


Figure 1: Tunnel based access architecture

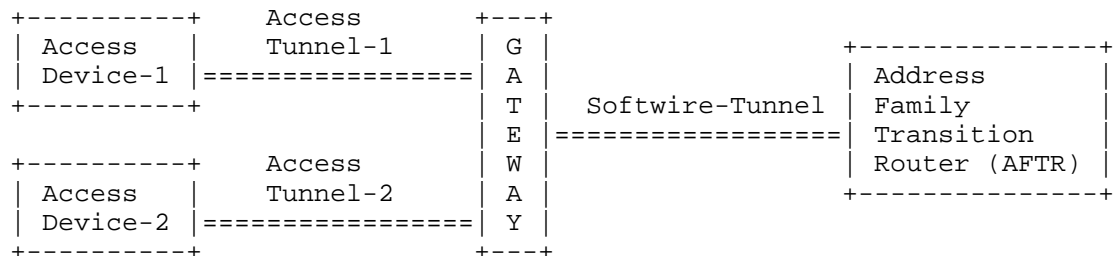


Figure 2: Gateway-initiated dual-stack lite reference architecture

Some applications require multicast to deliver services to the access devices. For example: Live sport event and IP-TV broadcast could use multicast to deliver video streams to the access devices. During IPv4-IPv6 transitioning, the multicast traffic could continue to be transported over IPv4, access devices behind GI-DS-lite require an architecture to subscribe to IPv4-Multicast groups and receive IPv4-

Multicast traffic. Currently, most IPv4-Multicast deployments require the access devices to receive multicast traffic but not to source multicast traffic. This memo considers the scenario where the access device subscribes an IPv4-Multicast group and recommends how the multicast routing could be done. The following cases are out of scope in this memo:

- o IPv4-Multicast sourced by Access Devices.
- o Network Address Translation (NAT) for IPv4-Multicast traffic.

2. Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used within this document:

AFTR: Address Family Transition Router (also known as "Large Scale NAT (LSN)" or "Dual-Stack lite Tunnel Concentrator", or "Carrier Grade NAT (CGN)"). An AFTR combines IP-in-IPv6 tunnel termination and IPv4-IPv4 NAT.

DS-lite: Dual-stack lite

GI-DS-lite: Gateway-initiated DS-lite

NAT: Network Address Translation

3. Multicast Deployment Considerations

This section details the IPv4-Multicast deployment considerations for GI-DS-lite. Several networks which follow the architecture shown in Figure 1 above deploy IPv4-Multicast. If GI-DS-lite is introduced, the Gateway continues to perform the role of the first hop IPv4-Multicast router and the overall multicast distribution architecture is left unchanged. Deployment dependent, the introduction of GI-DS-lite could go hand in hand with the Gateway no longer having native IPv4-Multicast connectivity. If the Gateway does not have native IPv4-Multicast connectivity it should create a tunnel (e.g. IP-in-IPv6 or IP-over-GRE6) to an IPv4-Multicast router (e.g. the closest). The Gateway peers with that IPv4-Multicast router via the tunnel to join the IPv4-Multicast routing domain.

3.1. Architectural Attributes

Deployment details for IP-Multicast are defined for several architectures which leverage tunnel-based access, such as [TR101] for DSL-Broadband, 3GPP TS 23.246 for mobile Multimedia Broadcast Service

(MBMS) [TS23246], or [I-D.ietf-multimob-pmipv6-base-solution] for multicast in Proxy Mobile-IP deployments). Multicast in mobile or broadband deployments with tunnel based access architectures share a set of common architectural attributes:

- o Subscribers are able to receive IP multicast, but are not assumed to send IP multicast (inline with the scope of this document).
- o The Gateway is an IP-Multicast router, which is attached to the IP-Multicast distribution network of the service provider.
- o Architectures often include devices which perform IGMP/MLD snooping and proxy reporting between the access device and the Gateway. Proxy Mobile IPv6 deployments [I-D.ietf-multimob-pmipv6-base-solution] are an example: Mobile devices (i.e. the Access Devices) are connected via a Mobile Access Gateway (MAG) implementing an IGMP proxy function to the Local Mobility Anchor (LMA) which performs the role of the Gateway.
- o In several broadband multicast deployments IP-Multicast traffic is not forwarded over the access tunnels used for unicast traffic, but uses an alternate vehicle, which allows for traffic replication between access devices and Gateway. DSL-broadband networks with Ethernet aggregation are an example: While unicast traffic is forwarded between the access devices and the Broadband Network Gateway (BNG) over dedicated point to point VLANs, a separate VLAN is used to forward multicast traffic. This allows taking advantage of the multicast replication capabilities of Ethernet within the aggregation network.

3.2. Overlapping private IPv4 addresses

GI-DS-lite supports deployments with (potentially overlapping) IPv4 addresses assigned to the access devices. This could present challenges from a theoretical point of view for the following scenarios:

1. The network deploys Source Specific Multicast (SSM) and IP-multicast is sourced from an access device: Per the note above, this scenario is out of the scope of this document.
2. The network deploys IGMPv3 and leverages explicit tracking (see appendix 2 of [RFC3376], or appendix 2 of [RFC3810]) only based on the source IP address of the IGMP messages: Explicit tracking is in use by several networks today, though one often does not rely (only) on the source IP-address to identify different hosts. Several multicast networks deploy devices performing IGMP

snooping with proxy reporting between the multicast host and the first hop IP-Multicast router. In those deployments, the source IP address of the IGMP join messages does no longer represent the multicast host. The Broadband Forum, for example, requires the source IP address of IGMP packets sent by the proxy reporting function to be 0.0.0.0 [TR101]. If explicit tracking is still desired in those environments, identifiers other than the source IP address need to be considered. Depending on the deployment and architecture, those could for example be the interface (as recommended for proxy Mobile-IP multicast deployments [I-D.ietf-multimob-pmipv6-base-solution]) or the MAC-address (see [TR101]), an access tunnel identifier etc.).

3.3. Considerations for the Gateway and AFTR

The Gateway's role with regards to IPv4-Multicast traffic forwarding and routing does not change if GI-DS-lite is deployed within the network and multicast traffic bypasses the AFTR. For deployments which require explicit tracking and the use of overlapping IPv4 address ranges at a Gateway, this Gateway needs to support explicit tracking based on identifiers other than the source IP-address of IGMP messages. The Gateway functions as IPv4-Multicast first hop router for the access devices. The Gateway is a multicast replication point for multicast flows towards receivers on or attached to the access devices. IPv4-Multicast traffic will be forwarded according to the group/source-specific forwarding states. If there are multiple receivers within the scope of the Gateway, its still a single flow which the Gateway receives. IPv4-Multicast forwarding at the Gateway is also not impacted in case IGMP-proxies exist between the access devices and the Gateway. This can be the case in broadband architectures (see [TR101]) as well as in mobile architectures (e.g., with PMIP, the MAG acts as MLD proxy, see [I-D.ietf-multimob-pmipv6-base-solution]).

4. Acknowledgements

The authors would like to acknowledge their discussions on this topic with Wojciech Dec and Sri Gundavelli.

5. IANA Considerations

This document includes no request to IANA.

6. Security Considerations

This draft does not introduce additional messages or novel protocol operations. Consequently, no new threats are introduced by this document in addition to those identified as security concerns for IP-Multicast deployments.

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