Draft-ietf-eai-popimap-downgrade-02
Post-delivery Message Downgrading for Internationalized Email Messages

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EAI WG

-00/01 had two problems

Notes in the draft:

1: [[Note: If the original non-ASCII address is a part of a group address, this rewriting may conflict the original DISPLAY-NAME. This problem need to be fixed.]]

2: [[Note: RFC 5322 does not allow group syntax in "From:", "Resent-   From:", "Sender:", "Resent-Sender:", but proposed method uses group syntax. This problem need to be fixed.]]

Notes from Beijing meeting from Chairs (1)

- The WG concluded that there is a need to relax RFC5322 to allow group syntax, with the intention that
  - i. the message preserve the information that legacy mail client can display to end users
  - ii. the message has higher chance be parse-able by legacy mail client so it's not lost
  - iii. although the legacy client cannot reply back, there's no security concern of reply to wrong people
- The goal is to make message readable for legacy client by RFC2047 (or by MIME Extension)
- Various forms of presentation discussed, and agreed that group syntax works best for both issue 1 and issue 2 with the following details

Notes from Beijing meeting from Chairs (2)

- Issue 1 (Nested group syntax)
  - Providing nested group (or even group with long list of addresses) is complex, and fragile (easy to break, not get parse properly as expected). So the recommendation is create group only for the outermost group, any group within needed to be MIME encoded by RFC2047.

- Issue 2 (Backward Pointing Address)
  - To use group syntax. MIME encode the string (address) as group name, append :; to form an empty group list.

Notes from Beijing meeting from Chairs (3)

- Additional changes to popimap-downgrade-display:
  - Just to make it more visible, popimap-downgrade-display UPDATES RFC5322.
  - This draft allows group syntax on backward pointing addresses (From, Resent-From, Sender, Resent-Sender) where RFC5322 prohibited.
  - RFC5322 intends to make sure message reply to a legit address, where EAI intends to display the message to end users, where users can take the internationalized string/address outside legacy mail client for further use, but not allowing the legacy client to reply.
  - Legacy client has no UTF8SMTPbis capability to reply.

Changes in -02

- Issue 1 (Nested group syntax)
  - Added <group> downgrading
- Issue 2 (Backward Pointing Address)
  - Added UPDATE RFC 5322

- I missed adding 'updates="5322"' in -02 draft
  - <rfc category="std" ipr="trust200902" updates="5322" docName="draft-ietf-eai-popimap-downgrade-02.txt">

Issue 1 (Nested group syntax)

- Added <group> downgrading
  - group = display-name ":" [group-list] ";" [CFWS]
  - If the header field has any <group> elements which contain <mailbox> elements that contain non-ASCII addresses, rewrite each <group> element as
  - "Internationalized_Address_Removed" display-name ENCODED_WORD ":;" [CFWS]
  - where the <ENCODED_WORD> is the original <group-list> encoded according to [RFC2047].

Issue 2 (Backward Pointing Address)

- RFC 5322 defines From, Sender, Resent- fields as
    - from = "From:" mailbox-list CRLF
    - sender = "Sender:" mailbox CRLF
    - resent-from = "Resent-From:" mailbox-list CRLF
    - resent-sender = "Resent-Sender:" mailbox CRLF
    - # mailbox   =   name-addr / addr-spec
- Update the definitions as
    - from = "From:" address-list CRLF
    - sender = "Sender:" address CRLF
    - resent-from = "Resent-From:" address-list CRLF
    - resent-sender = "Resent-Sender:" address CRLF
    - # address   =   mailbox / group

Existing problem

- Existing MUAs cannot handle <group> syntax in From:, Sender: header fields
  - They may be treated as Malformed
- UPDATING RFC 5322 does not update existing MUA software

- Is updating RFC 5322 correct approach ?