IPv6 Node Requirements and Flow Label RFC

Should Node Requirements BIS be updated to include new Flow Label Specification

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Background

- Flow Label Specification RFCs Published
  - RFC6437, RFC6436, RFC6438

- Node Requirements BIS document is currently in RFC Editor state AUTH48
  - Currently on hold until this issue is resolved

- Working group last call on issue started on 10 November 2011
**Proposed Change**

- All nodes SHOULD support RFC 6437, “IPv6 Flow Label Specification”, defines the IPv6 Flow Label. Specifically:
  - Forwarding nodes such as routers and load distributors MUST NOT depend only on Flow Label values being uniformly distributed.
  - It is therefore RECOMMENDED that source hosts support the flow label by setting the flow label field for all packets of a given flow to the same value chosen from an approximation to a discrete uniform distribution.
Revised Proposed Text

- Brian Haberman proposed new text be added to section 5.1:

  All nodes SHOULD support the setting and use of the IPv6 Flow Label field as defined in the IPv6 Flow Label specification [RFC6437]. Forwarding nodes such as routers and load distributors MUST NOT depend only on Flow Label values being uniformly distributed. It is RECOMMENDED that source hosts support the flow label by setting the Flow Label field for all packets of a given flow to the same value chosen from an approximation to a discrete uniform distribution.
Question for Working Group

- Support for updating Node Requirements BIS to include new Flow Label Specification text and reference?

- Comments?