

An Information Model for the Monitoring of Network Security Functions (NSF)

draft-zhang-i2nsf-info-model-monitoring-03

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Mailing List Discussion (recap)

- Does I2NSF need the work of NSF monitoring part? Yes
- Is producing a information model useful? Yes
- If we produce a YANG module, do we still need to publish the information model?
Not yet decided
- What do you think of the content of the draft? Nobody dislike it, some people say it is a good start, others say it is a key part and very useful



Purpose of Monitoring

- Ultimately, enable human remediation/intervention
 - Assistance via NSF automation (tier 1)
 - Automation of decision-making (tier 2)
- What has to be monitored?
 - Acquisition of “raw data” that “may be of interest”
 - Boils down to Event and Logs (a loosely defined aggregate of events)
- Publishing data via YANG event notification is one potential acquisition method
 - Why mentioning methods in the context of an information model?
The IM handles semantics and should leverage existing models:
 - I-D.ietf-netconf-netconf-event-notifications
 - But! Semantics and orchestration of event streams are out of scope there
 - Other obvious models we should consider? E.g. Sec-Event?

Updates (I)

- Refactoring to include the updated terminology (extensive but not complete – first pass)
- Classification of NSF Monitoring Data
 - Circles back to “Purpose of Monitoring”
 - Is a classification useful?
 - Which classes/categories are distinguishable by NSF
- Current Proposal
 - “all”
 - “violates a policy”
 - “impacts operation”

Updates (II)

- Controversial proposal?
 - Feedback ranges from
 - Arbitrary distinction without meaning, to
 - This is exactly how we do things, matching our processes
- Vital question
 - Which NSF / “NSF facing direction” categorizes?
 - How could a classification be represented?
 - Stream semantic
 - Explicit categorization by annotation of payload
 - Implicit categorization by annotating a “basis for categorization”
 - Other approaches?

Logs and Events

- Question to the group
 - Are logs just an aggregate of retained events represented in a loosely defined format that requires specialized function to derive “past events” from?
 - Can logs be treated as records of past events or is there more to it?

Next Steps

- Deciding on a way to classify Information Elements in a way that supports the purpose of monitoring
- Clustering and labeling the existing set of Information Elements accordingly
- Assess Event Stream Solutions/Drafts

- Keep on improving...

Thanks!

The authors