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DNS Zone Version (ZONEVERSION) Extended

Abstract

The DNS Zone Version (ZONEVERSION) extended is a way to get information about the version of a DNS in the backend. For example when a DNSSEC signer for a zone generates a new SOA serial, because it has created new RRSIG records, the original data has not changed, but this is not visible to anyone looking at the zone. This document will make it possible show the zone information which is the base of the presented data.

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1. Discussion Venues

This note is to be removed before publishing as an RFC.

Source for this draft and an issue tracker can be found at <https://github.com/SIDN/ietf-zoneversion-extended.git>.

2. Introduction

The DNS Zone Version (ZONEVERSION [RFC9660]) extended is a way to get information about the version of a DNS in the backend. For example when a DNSSEC signer for a zone generates a new SOA serial, because it has created new RRSIG records, the original data has not changed, but this is not visible to anyone looking at the zone. This document will make it possible show the zone information which is the base of the presented data.

3. Terminology and Definitions

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [RFC2119][RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

4. Relation to the ZONEVERSION option

This document extends the original DNS Zone version Option [!@RFC9660] to include an extra ZONEVERSION type.

5. The backend serial in the zone

To make the backend serial available in the ZONEVERSION, it must be available in the zone itself. Because creating an out of bound solution would be to much work. This document defines a label where the backend serial will be available to be used in the ZONEVERSION.

The backend serial will be published in a `_version` label under the zone apex.

For example:

```
_version.example.nl IN TXT "2025101099"
```

There **MUST** only be one `_version` label. (??? TODO what would happen if there are multiple???)

6. The backend serial ZONEVERSION type

This document defines a new ZONEVERSION option TYPE, which can be constructed from a label in the zone.

The mnemonic for this type is "BACKEND-SERIAL".

The VERSION value for the BACKEND-SERIAL type **MUST** be a copy of the `_version` label in the zone.

7. Security and Privacy Considerations

TODO

8. IANA Considerations

This document has no IANA actions

9. Acknowledgements

Many thanks to original authors of [RFC9660](the ZONEVERSION document).

10. Normative References

- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, DOI 10.17487/RFC2119, March 1997, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc2119>>.
- [RFC8174] Leiba, B., "Ambiguity of Uppercase vs Lowercase in RFC 2119 Key Words", BCP 14, RFC 8174, DOI 10.17487/RFC8174, May 2017, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8174>>.
- [RFC9660] Salgado, H., Vergara, M., and D. Wessels, "The DNS Zone Version (ZONEVERSION) Option", RFC 9660, DOI 10.17487/RFC9660, October 2024, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc9660>>.

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