



OpenLCB Standard	
Datagram Transport	
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1 Introduction (Informative)

This standard defines the protocol for transporting OpenLCB datagrams.

2 Intended Use (Informative)

The datagram transport protocol is intended to efficiently transfer small amounts (0-72 bytes) of data reliably between two OpenLCB nodes. It allows for management of overlapping independent transmissions.

The datagram transport protocol relies on the underlying OpenLCB message transport protocol for reliable sequenced communications.

This document describes the required message formats for datagram transport. Section 4 gives an overview of the message types with an abstract numeric description intended as a normative guide to the construction of concrete message types over specific physical transport media. Section 7 describes, in concrete detail, the implementation of the datagram transport message formats for the specific physical transport media that have been adopted as normative standards.

3 References and Context (Normative)

This is in the context of the following OpenLCB Standards:

- The OpenLCB Message Network Standard, which defines the basic messages and how they interact. Higher-level protocols are based on this message network, but are defined elsewhere. The Message Network Standard defines the global error codes which are referenced here.
- The OpenLCB CAN Frame Transfer Standard, which specifies the use and format of CAN frames for OpenLCB communications.

4 Message Formats (Normative)

In the following, the “Common MTI” column specifies the the MTI value to be used when communicating in OpenLCB common format. The Common MTI is an abstract numeric description intended as a normative guide to the construction of concrete message formats over specific physical transport media.

4.1 Datagram Content

Name	Simple Node	Dest ID	Event ID	Common MTI	Data Content
Datagram Content	N	Y	N	0x1C48	0-72 bytes

The first byte of the data content defines the datagram type and is designated the Datagram Content ID. The values for that byte are documented in the Standard for the protocol that defines the type.

4.2 Datagram Received OK

Name	Simple Node	Dest ID	Event ID	Common MTI	Data Content
Datagram Received OK	N	Y	N	0x0A28	Flags (1 byte)

The flag bits are defined as:

- MSB 0x80 – Reply Pending – Use is defined by higher-level protocols.
 - Low four bits 0x0F – Timeout Value – Zero indicates no timeout value. A value N of 0x01 through 0x0F indicates that the pending reply will be transmitted before 2^N seconds have elapsed; if not, an error has occurred.
 - All others are reserved, shall be sent as zero and ignored upon receipt.
- Datagram Received OK messages without a Flags byte shall be treated as if they contained a byte with a zero value.

4.3 Datagram Rejected

Name	Simple Node	Dest ID	Event ID	Common MTI	Data Content
Datagram Rejected	N	Y	N	0x0A48	Error Code, optional info

The data contents are, in order:

- Two bytes of error code.
- Any extra bytes that the node wishes to include. There can be zero or more of these, to a maximum of 64 bytes. These shall be described in the node documentation.

Nodes shall accept and process Datagram Rejected messages that do not contain the full error code. Missing error code bits are to be interpreted as zero.

4.3.1 Error Code

- The Error Code field shall be in accordance with the Message Network Standard.

5 States (Normative)

The common OpenLCB datagram protocol has no formal states.

6 Interactions (Normative)

- 55 A node that receives a valid Datagram Content message shall send either a Datagram Received OK or Datagram Rejected message in reply. A node that receives a Datagram Content message that does not comply with this Standard may, but is not required to, reply with a Datagram Rejected message.

6.1 Normal Transmission

- 60 Normal transmission consists of the transmitting node sending a Datagram Content message to the receiving node, followed by the receiving node sending a Datagram Received OK message to the transmitting node. A node shall not send a second Datagram to the same receiving node before receiving a reply from the receiving node or a timeout occurs.

6.2 Rejected Transmission

- 65 After the transmitting node sends a Datagram Content message to the receiving node, the receiving node may send a Datagram Rejected message to the transmitting node.

Upon receipt of a Datagram Rejected message with a Temporary Error, the original transmitting node may resend the same Datagram Content message, or may abandon the transmission attempt.

- 70 Upon receipt of a Datagram Rejected message with a Permanent Error, the original transmitting node shall abandon the transmission attempt and not resend the original Datagram Content message.

7 Adaptation to CAN Transport (Normative)

This section describes the CAN implementation of the datagram transport message formats.

7.1 CAN Message Formats

- 75 The OpenLCB CAN Frame Transport Standard and OpenLCB Message Network Standard define how OpenLCB messages are carried across CAN networks. Following those standards, the Datagram Transport messages used on CAN are as defined in the following table.

Name	CAN-MTI	Can Header	Data Content
Datagram Content	0xdd ¹	0x1Add,dsss ² – Single ³ 0x1Bdd,dsss – First 0x1Cdd,dsss – Middle 0x1Ddd,dsss – Last	0–8 bytes 0–8 bytes 1–8 bytes 0–8 bytes
Datagram Received OK	0xA28	0x19A2,8sss	0xfddd ⁴ , Flags
Datagram Rejected	0xA48	0x19A4,8sss	0xfddd, Error Code

7.2 CAN States

80 A node implementing the OpenLCB-CAN datagram protocol shall maintain a Datagram-started state for each datagram that it is receiving as a sequence of frames. If the node receives multiple overlapping datagrams from different source nodes, the states shall be independent.

7.3 CAN Interactions

7.3.1 Normal Transmission

85 Normal transmission of a datagram over CAN consists of the transmitting node sending the Datagram Content message using one of two sequences of Datagram frames:

- One Datagram Content Single Frame
- One Datagram Content First Frame, followed by zero or more Datagram Content Middle Frame, followed by one Datagram Content Last Frame

90 A node shall not transmit frames with lower CAN priority between the frames making up a datagram. A node may, but is not required to, transmit frames with higher CAN priority between the frames making up a datagram.

A receiving node receiving either of the above sequences shall send either a Datagram Received OK or Datagram Rejected message in reply.

7.3.2 Rejected Transmission

95 If a receiving node receives a sequence of Datagram frames other than one of

- One Datagram Content Single Frame
- One Datagram Content First Frame, followed by zero or more Datagram Content Middle Frame, followed by one Datagram Content Last Frame⁵

¹ddd – The 12-bit destination alias field

²sss – The 12-bit source alias field

³Because CAN frames are limited to 8 bytes, datagrams larger than 8 bytes must be broken up among multiple messages. Thus, four distinct message types are defined to aid in flow control.

⁴fddd — First two bytes of the data-part, representing the 4-bit flag field and 12-bit destination Alias. See the OpenLCB-CAN Frame Transport Standard.

⁵The total payload bytes sent, including any First, Middle, and Last Frames, cannot exceed 72 bytes.

100 the receiving node shall send a Datagram Rejected message with a Temporary Error, indicating a resend is allowed.

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