ScreenView Protocol

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Abstract

ScreenView is suite of cryptographical and application level networking protocols culminating to create a zero configuration end to end encrypted remote screen viewing and controlling software. ScreenView aims to replace TeamViewer, RDP, and VNC for many use cases while being more performant and more secure. ScreenView requires little setup an is just as easy or easier than other solutions. ScreenView defines four different layers of protocols, each encapsulating all the layers below it. Cryptography for communication between peers and the server is based upon TLS 1.3 and Wireguard. End-to-end cryptography used for ALL communication between peers is based upon TLS-SRP. ScreenView end-to-end cryptography prevents man-in-the-middle attacks even if the intermediary server is compromised, unlike TeamViewer. Screen data is sent over UDP to achieve superior performance than TCP based solutions such as VNC. All UDP packets must be authenticated with keys established over TCP before a response is made by the server preventing amplification attacks. A congestion control mechanism is used to handle low bandwidth and poor networking conditions. Finally, ScreenView supports advanced use cases including file transfer, multiple displays, sharing specific windows, shared whiteboards, and clipboard transfer.

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1 Definitions

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119.

2 Introduction

This section describes the high level overview of ScreenView. Terms used in this section are defined in other sections.

2.1 Application Layers

The table belows is an abstract diagram of the different layers of ScreenView. Each layer encapsulates all the below layers.

```
Transport Layer
| Server Encryption Layer
|| Server Communication Layer
|| E2EE (Peer \leftrightarrow Peer) Encryption Layer
||| Host \leftrightarrow Client Communication Layer
```

The Transport Layer is the OSI Transport Layer level protocol for networking (TCP or UDP). The Server Encryption Layer provides security between the Server and a Peer. The Server Communication Layer facilities communication between Peers and the Client. The E2EE (Peer \leftrightarrow Peer) Encryption Layer provides end-to-end encryption between Peers and other Peers. The Host \leftrightarrow Client Communication Layer facilities communication between Peers.

2.2 Overview

To begin, a Peer connects to the server over TCP and commences the Server Encryption Layer protocol for TCP defined. Next the Server Communication Layer is used. All Server Communication Layer messages are encrypted, authenticated, and encapsulated in messages defined in the Server Encryption Layer. Once a session is established between two peers, the E2EE (Peer \leftrightarrow Peer) Encryption Layer commences. All E2EE (Peer \leftrightarrow Peer) Encryption messages are encapsulated in Server Communication Layer messages. Finally, the Host \leftrightarrow Client Communication Layer messages are encrypted, authenticated, and encapsulated in E2EE (Peer \leftrightarrow Peer) Encryption Layer messages.

2.3 Transport Messages Total Header Sizes

3 Server Encryption Layer

The Server Encryption Layer provides security for communication between Peers and the Server. TCP and UDP have different security methods.

3.1 TCP

The TCP Server Encryption Layer is heavily based on a simplification of TLS 1.3 as defined in.

3.1.1 PeerHello

| $\mathrm{Peer} \to \mathrm{Server}$ | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|-------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | | |
| 1 | type | 1 | | |
| 16 | public-key | | | |

$$\begin{split} (E^{pub}_{peer},\,E^{priv}_{peer}) &:= \text{DH-Generate}() \\ \text{public-key} &:= E^{pub}_{peer} \end{split}$$

3.1.2 ServerHello

| Server 	o Peer | | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|-------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | |
| 1 | type | 2 | |
| 3 | certificates-length | | |
| certificates- $length$ | certificate_list | | |
| 16 | public-key | | |
| variable | certificate-verify | | |

certificate_list is defined in RFC8446 Section-4.4.2.

$$\begin{split} &(E^{pub}_{serv},\,E^{priv}_{serv}) := \text{DH-Generate}() \\ &\text{public-key} := E^{pub}_{serv} \end{split}$$

certificate-verify is defined in RFC8445 Section-4.4.3 with the following modification. The content that is signed is:

$${\tt content} := {\tt ``SreenViewServerVerify''} \mid\mid 0 \mid\mid E^{pub}_{serv}$$

The Client MUST validate all signatures in accordance with the TLS spec.

3.1.3 Transport Data Key Derivation

$$\begin{split} C_{peer} &= \mathrm{DH}(E_{serv}^{pub},\ E_{peer}^{priv}) \\ C_{serv} &= \mathrm{DH}(E_{peer}^{pub},\ E_{serv}^{priv}) \\ (T_{seerd}^{send} &= T_{serv}^{recv},\ T_{peer}^{recv} = T_{serv}^{send}) := \mathrm{KDF}_2(C_{peer} = C_{serv},\ \epsilon) \\ N_{peer}^{send} &= N_{serv}^{recv} = N_{peer}^{recv} = N_{serv}^{send} := 0 \end{split}$$

3.1.4 Subsequent Messages: Transport Data Messages

 $\begin{array}{c|ccc} \operatorname{Peer} \leftrightarrow \operatorname{Server} \\ \hline \textbf{Bytes} & \textbf{Name} & \textbf{Value} \\ \hline 1 & \operatorname{type} & 3 \\ \hline 2 & \operatorname{data-length} \\ \hline \textit{data-length} & \operatorname{data} \\ \hline \end{array}$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{data} := \text{AEAD}(T_m^{send}, N_m^{send}, P, \epsilon) \\ & N_m^{send} := N_m^{send} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

 N_m is an 64 bit counter that MUST NOT wrap. After a transport message is sent, if N_m equals $(2^{64}-1)$ the TCP connection MUST be dropped. Subsequent TCP messages MUST NOT be sent.

Where P is the payload to be transported

3.2 UDP

UDP encryption and authentication rely on the *session-id*, *peer-id* and *peer-key* values established in a session (described in 5.4). The Server MUST NOT process or reply to any messages that don't pass authentication. This prevents an amplification attack.

3.2.1 Transport Data Key Derivation

$$\begin{split} G := & \text{session-id} \\ H := & \text{peer-id} \\ J := & \text{peer-key} \\ (V_{peer}^{send} = V_{serv}^{recv}, V_{peer}^{recv} = V_{serv}^{send}) := & \text{KDF}_2(\text{HASH}(G \mid\mid H \mid\mid J), \epsilon) \\ M_{peer}^{send} = & M_{serv}^{recv} = M_{peer}^{recv} = M_{serv}^{send} := 0 \end{split}$$

3.2.2 Transport Data Messages

| $Peer \rightarrow Server$ | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | |
| 1 | type | 4 | |
| 16 | peer-id | | |
| 8 | counter | | |
| UDP length -8 bytes | data | | |

Server \rightarrow Peer

| Bytes | Name | Value |
|-----------------------|---------|-------|
| 1 | type | 5 |
| 8 | counter | |
| UDP length -8 bytes | data | |

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{data} := \text{AEAD}(V_m^{send}, M_m^{send}, P, \epsilon) \\ & \text{counter} := M_m^{send} \\ & M_m^{send} := M_m^{send} + 1 \end{aligned}$$

 M_m is an 64 bit counter that MUST NOT wrap. After a transport message is sent, if M_m equals $(2^{64}-1)$ the TCP connection MUST be dropped. Subsequent UDP messages MUST NOT be sent.

Where P is the payload to be transported

4 ScreenView Server Communication (SVSC) Protocol

The SVSC protocol is the Server Communication Layer protocol used for Peers to interact with the relay server, Server. Peers can lease an ID as well as begin a session with another Peer. Once a session is established, Peers can forward messages to another Peer. Unless otherwise noted, all messages MUST occur over TCP.

With the exception of the *Handshake* messages. All SVSC messages' first byte contain a number to indicate the message type.

4.1 Definitions

The following definitions are used globally throughout the document:

- Peer denotes a client in classical server/client environment
- $\bullet\,$ Server The intermediary server used for routing and proxying data between

4.2 Handshake

4.2.1 ProtocolVersion

Handshaking begins by the Server sending the Peer a *ProtocolVersion* message. This lets the server know the version supported by the Host.

The *ProtocolVersion* message consists of 12 bytes interpreted as a string of ASCII characters in the format "SVSC xxx.yyy" where xxx and yyy are the major and minor version numbers, padded with zeros.

| $Server \rightarrow Peer$ | | | |
|---------------------------|---------|----------------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | |
| 11 | version | "SVSC 001.000" | |

The Peer replies back either 0 to indicate the version is not acceptable and that the handshake has failed or 1 if the version is acceptable to the Peer and the handshake as succeeded. If 0 is sent, all communication MUST cease and the TCP connection MUST be terminated.

| $Peer \rightarrow Server$ | | | |
|---------------------------|------|--------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | |
| 1 | ok | 0 or 1 | |

4.3 Leasing

A lease is a temporary assignment of an ID to a Peer. The ID format and generation is discussed in 4.2.5. A maximum of 1 ID can be leased per TCP connection. ID generation MUST be rate limited to prevent ID exhaustion. Rate limiting rules are out of scope for this protocol, however some suggestions are listed in 4.2.6.

4.3.1 LeaseRequest

A LeaseRequest message requests a lease of an ID.

| $\mathrm{Peer} \to \mathrm{Server}$ | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|--------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | | |
| 1 | type | 1 | | |
| 1 | has-cookie | 0 or 1 | | |
| Below only if has-cookie is | | | | |
| 24 | cookie | | | |

If a Peer would like to request an ID it had previously been issued after expiration, it may include the cookie value it received in the *LeaseResponse*.

4.3.2 LeaseResponse

A LeaseResponse message is a response to a LeaseRequest. If has-cookie is 1, a Server MAY consider the cookie value in LeaseRequest or completely ignore it.

| | $Server \rightarrow Pe$ | er | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | | |
| 1 | type | 2 | | |
| 1 | accepted | 0 or 1 | | |
| Below only if accepted is 1 | | | | |
| 4 | id | | | |
| 24 | cookie | | | |
| 8 | expiration | | | |

expiration is a 64 bit Unix timestamp representing the expiry of lease. Disconnection of a Peer (e.g, the TCP connection is dropped) does not end a lease.

cookie a 128 bit value. The generation of this value is discussed in 4.2 .7.

Consideration of the *cookie* value MUST have no effect on the the value of *accepted*. That is, if the request is for a specific ID (implied by the presence of a cookie value and a *has-cookie* value equal to 1 in the *LeaseRequest*) and the ID requested is not available, the Server SHOULD respond with a different available ID and an *accepted* value of 1 (assuming an ID is available).

accepted SHOULD only be 0 if no IDs are left or for rate limiting reasons.

4.3.3 LeaseExtensionRequest

A LeaseExtensionRequest message is used to extend a lease. Before a lease has expired, the Peer can request a lease extension. The server can accept or deny this request.

| $\operatorname{Peer} \to \operatorname{Server}$ | | | |
|---|--------|-------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | |
| 1 | type | 3 | |
| 24 | cookie | | |

4.3.4 LeaseExtensionResponse

A LeaseExtensionResponse message is a response to a LeaseExtensionRequest.

| $Server \rightarrow Peer$ | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|--------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | | |
| 1 | $_{ m type}$ | 4 | | |
| 1 | extended | 0 or 1 | | |
| Below only if extended is 1 | | | | |
| 8 | new-expiration | | | |

new-expiration is a 64 bit Unix timestamp representing the expiry of lease.

4.3.5 ID Generation

An ID is a 26 to 33 bit decimal number. This comes out to about up to 8 to 10 decimal digits, respectively. The Server may scale the keyspace depending on current usage. For optimal user experience while maintaining efficiency, the Server MUST only use keyspaces between 26 bits and 33 bits for ID generation. ID generation must also be uniformly random. All active IDs must be stored on the server. ID generation MAY occur using the below algorithm:

Let S represents a set of all active IDs, B be a number of bits between 26 and 33, and generate(x) be a functions that returns a x uniformly random bits.

Algorithm 1 ID generation

```
id
repeat
id \leftarrow generate(B)
until id \notin S
S \leftarrow S \cup \{id\}
return id
```

4.3.6 Rate Limits

To prevent ID exhaustion, rate limits SHOULD be in place. TCP is used for LeaseRequests so IP addresses can not be spoofed. However, using proxy services such as Tor, simple IP based rate limits are likely not entirely sufficient. Servers MAY want to block all known proxy IP addresses. Additionally, a Server MAY only want to allow one active ID per Peer.

4.3.7 Cookie Value

A cookie value is a 128 bit value used for authentication in LeaseExtensionRequest and LeaseRequest messages. Specific generation of a cookie is out of scope, however care must be taken to ensure it is not predictable or exploitable. This value MAY be simply a random 24 byte key, HMAC-SHA1 $(id, key) \mid\mid id$, or something else entirely.

4.4 Sessions

A session is a connection between two Peers. At least one Peer must have an ID. A Peer can have a maximum of one session at any time. Immediately after receiving a *EstablishSessionResponse* message with a *status* of 0 or a *EstablishSessionNotification* message a Peer MUST establish UDP connection by sending a *Keepalive* message as defined in 5.5. Failure to do so MAY result in dropped *SessionData** packets.

4.4.1 EstablishSessionRequest

An *EstablishSessionRequest* message is a Peer request to establish a connection to a Peer.

| Poor | _ \ | Sorvor |
|------|---------------|--------|
| Peer | \rightarrow | Server |

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description |
|-------|----------|-------|--|
| 1 | type | 5 | |
| 4 | lease-id | | The ID of the Peer to establish this connection with |

4.4.2 EstablishSessionResponse

An EstablishSessionResponse message is a response to EstablishSessionRequest.

 $\mathrm{Server} \to \mathrm{Peer}$

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--|--|
| 1 | type | 6 | | |
| 4 | lease-id | | the ID of the Peer attempted to connect to | |
| 1 | status | 0-5 | described below | |
| | Below only if status is 0 | | | |
| 16 session-id described below | | described below | | |
| 16 | peer-id | | described below | |
| 16 | peer-key | | described below | |

status can have the following values:

| Value | Description |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 0 | session establishment was successful |
| 1 | ID not found |
| 2 | Peer is offline |
| 3 | Peer is busy |
| 4 | You are busy |
| 5 | Other error |

A Peer may be considered offline if, for example, an unexpired ID has been assigned to them and then the TCP connection is dropped. Keepalive messages and timeouts are discussed in .

session-id is a 128 bit random value used for session identification

peer-id is a 128 bit random value used to authentication a peer for a given session.

4.4.3 EstablishSessionNotification

A EstablishSessionNotification notifies a Peer that a session has been established with them.

Server o Host

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description |
|-------|------------|-------|--------------------|
| 1 | type | 7 | |
| 16 | session-id | | described in 4.3.2 |
| 16 | peer-id | | described in 4.3.2 |
| 16 | peer-key | | described in 4.3.2 |

4.4.4 SessionEnd

A SessionEnd message is used to terminate a session. Once a Server receives a SessionEnd message,

| $\mathrm{Peer} \to \mathrm{Server}$ | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|-------------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | | |
| 1 | type | 8 | | | |

4.4.5 SessionEndNotification

A SessionEndNotification notifies a Peer that a session has ended. If a Client sends a SessionEnd message, the Server MUST send a SessionEndNotification message to a Host.

| Server 	o Peer | | | | | | |
|----------------|------|-------|-------------|--|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | | | |
| 1 | type | 9 | | | | |

4.4.6 SessionDataSend - TCP/UDP

A SessionDataSend is a message from a Peer intended to be forwarded to the Peer on the other side of the session. If a connection is not available (e.g. UDP was dropped or never established) for SessionDataReceive message to be sent to the other Peer, the SessionDataSend message is silently dropped.

| $\operatorname{Peer} \to \operatorname{Server}$ | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Bytes Name Value D | | Description | |
| 1 | type | 10 | |
| 3 | data-length | | length of the content in bytes |
| data-length | data | | data to be forwarded |

4.4.7 SessionDataReceive - TCP/UDP

A SessionDataReceive is a message being forwarded to a Peer from the Peer on the other side of the session. The Server SHOULD forward the message along the same transport as it was received.

| Server 	o Peer | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-------|--------------------------------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | |
| 1 | type | 11 | | |
| 3 | data-length | | length of the content in bytes | |
| data-length | data | | data to be forwarded | |

4.5 Keepalive - TCP/UDP

For each transport (TCP and UDP), if no message has been sent in *Keepalive-Timeout* a Server sends a keepalive message over the respective transport. The Peer MUST respond with another Keepalive message.

For TCP, if a *KeepaliveTimeout* response is not received by the Server in double *KeepaliveTimeout* seconds the TCP connection is considered dropped.

For UDP, if a *KeepaliveTimeout* response is not received by the Server in half *KeepaliveTimeout* seconds another *Keepalive* message is sent. If a response is not received in an additional half *KeepaliveTimeout* seconds, the UDP connection is considered dropped.

| $Server \leftrightarrow Peer$ | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---|--|
| Bytes | Value | | |
| 1 | type | 0 | |

5 Weak Pre Shared Key, Key Authentication (WPSKKA) Protocol

The WPSKKA protocol is the E2EE Encryption layer protocol used to communicate between peers. All WPSKKA messages' first byte contain a number to indicate the message type.

WPSKKA relies on SRP as defined in https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/rfc5054 to establish a shared key used to authenticate DH keys. The Host will serve as the SRP server, the client will serve as the SRP client.

| $Host \rightarrow Client$ | | | |
|---------------------------|------------|-------|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | |
| 1 | type | 1 | |
| 16 | username | | |
| 16 | salt | | |
| 256 | srp-B | | |
| 16 | public-key | | |

$$\begin{split} & \text{SRP-HOST-INIT}() \\ & (D^{pub}_{host}, D^{priv}_{host}) := \text{DH-Generate}() \\ & I := RAND(128) \\ & s := RAND(128) \\ & B := \text{SRP-B}() \\ & username := I \\ & salt := s \\ & srp - B := B \\ & \text{public-key} := C^{pub}_{serv} \end{split}$$

Client \rightarrow Host

| Bytes | Name | Value |
|-------|------------|-------|
| 1 | type | 2 |
| 256 | srp-A | |
| 16 | public-key | |
| 32 | mac | |

SRP-CLIENT-INIT()

$$(D^{pub}_{client}, D^{priv}_{client}) := \text{DH-Generate}()$$

$$A := SRP-A()$$

$$L_{client} = L_{host} := SRP-PREMASTER()$$

$$\text{public-key} := \text{HMAC}(\text{KDF}_1(D^{pub}_{client}, L_{client}))$$

 $\begin{array}{c|cc} \text{Host} \rightarrow \text{Client} \\ \hline \textbf{Bytes} & \textbf{Name} & \textbf{Value} \\ \hline 1 & \text{type} & 3 \\ \hline 32 & \text{mac} \\ \hline \end{array}$

 $\mathsf{mac} := \mathsf{HMAC}(\mathsf{KDF}_1(C^{pub}_{host}, L_{host}))$

5.1 Transport Data Key Derivation

$$\begin{split} D_{host} &= \mathrm{DH}(D^{pub}_{client},\ D^{priv}_{host}) \\ D_{client} &= \mathrm{DH}(D^{pub}_{host},\ D^{priv}_{client}) \\ (U^{send}_{peer} &= U^{recv}_{serv},\ U^{recv}_{peer} = U^{send}_{serv}) := \mathrm{KDF}_2(D_{host} = D_{client},\ \epsilon) \\ O^{send}_{host} &= O^{recv}_{client} = O^{recv}_{host} = O^{send}_{client} := 0 \end{split}$$

5.1.1 Subsequent Messages: Transport Data Messages

 $\begin{array}{c|ccc} \text{Host} \leftrightarrow \text{Client} \\ \hline \textbf{Bytes} & \textbf{Name} & \textbf{Value} \\ \hline 1 & \text{type} & 4 \\ \hline 8 & \text{counter} \\ \hline 2 & \text{data-length} \\ \hline \textit{data-length} & \text{data} \\ \hline \end{array}$

$$\begin{split} \text{data} &:= \text{AEAD}(U_m^{send}, O_m^{send}, P, \epsilon) \\ \text{counter} &:= O_m^{send} \\ O_m^{send} &:= O_m^{send} + 1 \end{split}$$

 O_m is an 64 bit counter that MUST NOT wrap. After a transport message is sent, if O_m equals $(2^{64}-1)$ the TCP connection MUST be dropped. Subsequent messages MUST NOT be sent.

Where P is the payload to be transported

6 Remote Visual Display (RVD) Protocol

The RVD protocol is used to communicate mouse input, keyboard input, frame data, and clipboard data between the Host and the Client.

All messages MUST occur over the transport listed.

With the exception of the *Handshake* messages, all RVD messages' first byte contain a number to indicate the message type.

A sequence-number is an incrementing 32-bit counter each UDP message sent, separate for Host and Client. All messages sent over UDP MUST begin with a 4 bytes sequence-number. sequence-number is initialized to 0 and increments once for every UDP message sent by the respective Peer. Therefore each RVD UDP message looks like:

| Bytes | Name | |
|----------|-----------------|--|
| 4 | sequence-number | |
| variable | RVD message | |

6.1 Combining Messages

In some situations, such as when a large screen change occurs or when the screen is first sent to the client, large amounts of FrameData's may need to be sent in quick succession. Often individual FrameData's will be much smaller than the MTU. Similar to TCP's Nagle algorithm, multiple UDP messages can be combined into a single UDP packet as long as the total size is remains less than the MTU. Each message directly follows the previous message with the first message directly following the sequence number. Only one sequence-number is used:

| Bytes | Name | |
|----------|-----------------|--|
| 4 | sequence-number | |
| variable | RVD message 1 | |
| variable | RVD message 2 | |
| variable | etc. | |

6.2 Definitions

Host - A peer with an ID that wants to share their screen to the Client

- Client A peer that wants to view and maybe control the Host's screen
- Display A rectangular visual region that is shared by a Host to a Client. May or may not be
- Controllable.
- Controllable A Display that accepts keyboard and mouse input.

6.3 Handshake

6.3.1 ProtocolVersion - TCP

Handshaking begins by the Host sending the client a *ProtocolVersion* message. This lets the Client know the verison supported by the Host.

The *ProtocolVersion* message consists of 11 bytes interpreted as a string of ASCII characters in the format "RVD xxx.yyy" where xxx and yyy are the major and minor version numbers, padded with zeros.

| $\mathrm{Host} \to \mathrm{Client}$ | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | | |
| 11 | version | "RVD 001.000" | | |

The Client replies back either 0 to indicate the version is not acceptable and that the handshake has failed or 1 if the version is acceptable to the Client and the handshake as succeeded. If 0 is sent, all communication MUST cease and an error SHOULD be displayed to user. A <code>SessionEnd</code> message should be sent by the Client.

| $\text{Client} \to \text{Host}$ | | | | |
|---------------------------------|----|--------|--|--|
| Bytes Name Value | | | | |
| 1 | ok | 0 or 1 | | |

6.3.2 Initialization

Once the handshake has succeeded the Host responds with a *DisplayChange* message.

6.4 Control messages

Control messages are messages that instruct client about changes regarding the Host.

6.4.1 DisplayChange - TCP

A DisplayChange message informs the client about the available Displays. RVD supports up to 255 displays.

 $Host \rightarrow Client$ Bytes Value Name 1 type 1 clipboard-readable 1 0 or 1 1 - 255 1 number-of-displays variable displays-information DisplayInformation

Each Display has an associated DisplayInformation. displays-information contains number-of-displays DisplayInformation's. A DisplayInformation is defined below:

| Bytes | Name | Description | |
|-------------|--------------|--|--|
| 1 | display-id | | |
| 2 | width | number of pixels of the width of this display | |
| 2 | height | number of pixels of the width of this display | |
| 2 | cell-width | number of pixels of the height of a cell in the grid | |
| 2 | cell-height | number of pixels of the height of a cell in the grid | |
| 1 | access | defined below | |
| 1 | name-length | length of the display-name in bytes | |
| name-length | display-name | the display name (UTF-8) | |

Restrictions:

- cell-width MUST be less than width. cell-height must be less than height.
- The *access* byte defines what type of access is available for the display. The bits of the *access* byte are described below in little endian.

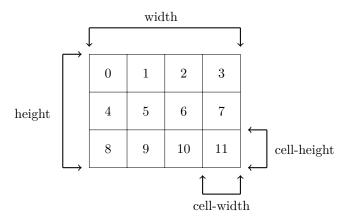
| Bit | Name | | |
|-----|---------------------|--|--|
| 0 | Flush | | |
| 1 | Controllable | | |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 4 | Reserved for future | | |
| 5 | use | | |
| 6 | | | |
| 7 | | | |

If the *Controllable* bit is 1 and the *clipboard-readable* byte is set to 1, then the clipboard is writable. The *Controllable* bit SHOULD be consistent throughout

all displays.

The Flush bit indicates whether this display has changed, specifically if this display-id refers to a different Display than the same display-id did in the previous DisplayChange message. In initialization, this MUST always be 1 (as there is no previous DisplayChange). If the display hasn't changed (0) then the frame data may be maintained. If Flush is 0, width, height MUST remain the same as the previous DisplayChange specified for the display-id.

Display cell numbering is right to left, up to down, 0 indexed as seen below. If cell-width % width > 0 the right column's width will be width % cell-width. If height % cell-height > 0 the bottom row's height will be height % cell-height.



6.4.2 DisplayChangeReceived - TCP

The DisplayChangeReceived message is sent in reply after receiving a Display-Change message. It indicates to the Host they may start sending FrameData referencing the new DisplayInformation in the most recent DisplayChange.

| $\text{Client} \to \text{Host}$ | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|---|--|--|
| Bytes Name Value | | | | |
| 1 | type | 2 | | |

6.4.3 MouseLocation - TCP/UDP

The *MouseLocation* message send information about where the mouse is currently on the screen. The Host sends this information periodically throughout the session. The Host SHOULD send a *MouseLocation* update when mouse input is received from the Host's system or in reply when it receives a *MouseInput*.

$$\mathrm{Host} \to \mathrm{Client}$$

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description |
|-------|------------|-------|---------------------------|
| 3 | type | 3 | |
| 1 | display-id | 0-255 | |
| 2 | x-location | | x coordinate of the mouse |
| 2 | y-location | | y coordinate of the mouse |

6.5 Input

Input messages (including *MouseLocation*) may be sent over TCP or UDP. TCP is preferred in most situations. However, in situations where speed is prioritized over the guarantees TCP provides (such as gaming), UDP can be used.

6.5.1 MouseInput - TCP/UDP

1

| Client \rightarrow Host | | | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|-------|---------------------------|--|--|
| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | | |
| 1 | $_{ m type}$ | 4 | | | |
| 1 | display-id | 0-255 | | | |
| 2 | x-position | | x coordinate of the mouse | | |
| 2 | y-position | | y coordinate of the mouse | | |

Indicates either pointer movement or a pointer button press or release. The pointer is now at (x-position, y-position), and the current state of buttons 1 to 8 are represented by bits 0 to 7 of button-mask respectively, 0 meaning up, 1 meaning down (pressed).

described below

On a conventional mouse, buttons 1, 2 and 3 correspond to the left, middle and right buttons on the mouse. On a wheel mouse, each step of the wheel is represented by a press and release of a certain button. Button 4 means up, button 5 means down, button 6 means left and button 7 means right.

6.5.2 KeyInput - TCP/UDP

The KeyInput event sends key presses or releases.

button-mask

 ${\rm Client} \to {\rm Host}$

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | |
|-------|-----------|--------|--|--|
| 1 | type | 5 | | |
| 1 | down-flag | 0 or 1 | indicates whether the key is now pressed or released | |
| 4 | key | | "keysym" | |

Details can be found at the RFB Spec

6.6 Clipboard

6.6.1 ClipboardTypeRequest - TCP

Used to request clipboard types the Host supports.

| $\text{Client} \to \text{Host}$ | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|---|--|--|
| Bytes Name Value | | | | |
| 1 | type | 6 | | |

6.6.2 ClipboardTypeResponse - TCP

Response to the ${\it Clipboard Type Request}$

 $\mathrm{Host} \to \mathrm{Client}$

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description |
|----------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 1 | type | 7 | |
| 1 | number-of-clipboard-types | 0-255 | |
| variable | data (variable bytes) | | described below |

number-of-clipboard-types is always 0 if clipboard-readable is 0.

 $data\ \ contains\ \ number-of-clipboard-types\ \ ClipboardTypes.\ \ ClipboardType\ is\ defined\ below.$

| | Bytes | Name | Value | Description |
|---|---------------|-------------|-------|--------------------|
| | 1 | type-length | 1-255 | |
| t | ype- $length$ | type-name | | type name in ASCII |

6.6.3 CopyRequest - TCP

This is a request for a keyboard contents. It can be made by either the Client or the Host.

Client \leftrightarrow Host

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description |
|-------------|-------------|-------|--------------------|
| 1 | type | 8 | |
| 1 | type-length | 1-255 | |
| type-length | type-name | | type name in ASCII |

6.6.4 CopyResponse - TCP

CopyResponse message is a response to a CopyRequest.

Client \leftrightarrow Host

| Bytes | Name | Value | Description | | | |
|--|-------------|---|--------------------|--|--|--|
| 1 | type | 9 | | | | |
| 1 accepted 0 or 1 | | | | | | |
| Below only if accepted is 1 | | | | | | |
| 1 | type-length | 1-255 | | | | |
| type- $length$ | type-name | | type name in ASCII | | | |
| 3 content-length the length of the content (maximum 2 ² | | the length of the content (maximum 2^{24} bytes or $16MB$) | | | | |
| content-length | data | | zlib'ed raw data | | | |

accepted indicates whether the CopyRequest was accepted. If 0, the rest of the message MUST not exist. If clipboard-readable is 0, accepted is always 0. A Client or Host may send this message without a request. If a CopyResponse is unsolicited, then accepted MUST be 1.

data is zlib compressed.

6.6.5 A note on Pasting

There is a no paste message. To paste data an unsolicited CopyResponse may be sent and then the keyboard shortcut (ctrl+v or cmd+v) should be sent via the KeyboardMessage

6.7 FrameData - UDP

The *FrameData* message contains an update of a particular cell on a particular *Display*.

| | $Host \rightarrow Client$ | |
|-------|---------------------------|-------|
| Bytes | Name | Value |
| 1 | type | 10 |
| 4 | frame-number | |
| 1 | display-id | 0-255 |
| 2 | cell-number | |
| 2 | size | |
| size | data | |

frame-number is a 32 bit counter, initialized with 0 at the begining of the protocol, and incremented once from FrameData message sent. data contains jpeg pixel data of the updated cell.

6.8 Congestion

When sending messages over a network the network may become congested to avoid congesting the network further RVD implements a congestion detection and congestion control mechanism. RVD uses Additive increase/multiplicative decrease or AIMD to control the <code>OutputMaximum</code> which is the maximum messages allowed per <code>CongestionWindow</code>.