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October 2007

The Label Distribution Protocol (LDP) Implementation Survey Results

Status of This Memo

This memo provides information for the Internet community. It does not specify an Internet standard of any kind. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

Abstract

Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS), described in RFC 3031, is a method for forwarding packets that uses short, fixed-length values carried by packets, called labels, to determine packet next hops. A fundamental concept in MPLS is that two Label Switching Routers (LSRs) must agree on the meaning of the labels used to forward traffic between and through them. This common understanding is achieved by using a set of procedures, called a Label Distribution Protocol (as described in RFC 3036), by which one LSR informs another of label bindings it has made. One such protocol, called LDP, is used by LSRs to distribute labels to support MPLS forwarding along normally routed paths. This document reports on a survey of LDP implementations conducted in August 2002 as part of the process of advancing LDP from Proposed to Draft Standard.

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1. Introduction

Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS) is a method for forwarding packets that uses short fixed-length values carried by packets, called labels, to determine packet next hops [RFC3031]. A fundamental MPLS concept is that two Label Switching Routers (LSRs) must agree on the meaning of the labels used to forward traffic between and through them. This common understanding is achieved by using a set of procedures by which one LSR informs another of label bindings it has made.

Label Distribution Protocol (LDP) specifies a set of procedures LSRs use to distribute labels to support MPLS forwarding along normally routed paths. LDP was specified originally by [RFC3036]. The current LDP specification is [RFC5036], which obsoletes [RFC3036]. [RFC3037] describes the applicability of LDP.

This document reports on a survey of LDP implementations conducted in August 2002 as part of the process of advancing LDP from Proposed to Draft standard.

This section highlights some of the survey results. Section 2 presents the survey results for LDP features, and Appendix A presents the survey results in full. Appendix B contains a copy of the survey form.

1.1. The LDP Survey Form

The LDP implementation survey requested the following information about LDP implementation:

- Responding organization. Provisions were made to accommodate organizations that wished to respond anonymously.
- The status, availability, and origin of the LDP implementation.
- The LDP features implemented and for each whether it was tested against an independent implementation. The survey form listed each LDP feature defined by [RFC3036] and requested one of the following as the status of the feature:
 - t: Tested against another independent implementation
 - y: Implemented but not tested against independent implementation
 - n: Not implemented
 - x: Not applicable to this type of implementation

In addition, for the 'n' status, the responder could optionally provide the following additional information:

- s: RFC specification inadequate, unclear, or confusing
- u: Utility of feature unclear
- r: Feature not required for feature set implemented

This document uses the following conventions for reporting survey results for a feature:

At By Cn indicates:

- A responders implemented the feature and tested it against another independent implementation (t)
- B responders implemented the feature but have not tested it against an independent implemented (y)
- C responders did not implement the feature (n)

(Ds Eu Fr) indicates optional responses:

- D responders thought the RFC 3036 specification of the feature inadequate, unclear, or confusing (s).
- E responders thought the utility of the feature unclear (u).
- F responders considered the feature not required for the feature set implemented (combines x and r).

1.2. LDP Survey Highlights

This section presents some highlights from the implementation survey.

- There were 12 responses to the survey, 2 of which were anonymous. At the time of the survey, 10 of the implementation were available as products and 2 were in beta test. Eleven of the implementations were available for sale; the remaining implementation had been done by a company no longer in business.
- Seven implementations were independently written from the RFC 3036 specification. Four implementations combined purchased or free code with code written by the responder.

One of the implementations was fully purchased code ported to the vendor's platform.

- Every LDP feature in the survey questionnaire was implemented by at least 2 respondents.

- Each of the 8 LDP Label Distribution Modes implemented and tested:

```
8t 2y 2n DU, Ord Cntl, Lib reten
7t ly 4n DU, Ind Cntl, Lib reten
7t ly 4n DoD Ord Cntl, Cons reten
6t ly 5n DoD, Ind Cntl, Cons reten
6t ly 5n DU, Ord Cntl, Cons reten 6t 0y 6n DU, Ind Cntl, Cons reten
4t 3y 5n DoD, Ord Cntl, Lib reten
4t 2y 6n DoD, Ind Cntl, Lib reten
```

- Platform and Interface Label Spaces were both widely supported.

```
12t Oy On Per platform
7t ly 4n Per interface
```

- LDP Basic and Targeted Sessions were both widely supported.

```
12t Oy On Basic/Directly Connected
11t ly On Targeted
```

- The TCP MD5 Option for LDP session TCP connections was not widely implemented.

```
3t 1y 8n
```

2. Survey Results for LDP Features

This section presents the survey results for LDP features using the notational convention described in Section 1.2. It omits the optional status responses (s, u, r); complete results may be found in Appendix A.

Feature

Survey Result

```
Interface types
  12t Oy On Packet
              Frame Relay
  2t 3y 7n
  6t 2y 4n
               ATM
Label Spaces
  12t 0y 0n
             Per platform
               Per interface
  7t 1y 4n
LDP Discovery
  12t Oy On
               Basic
  11t ly 0n
               Targeted
```

```
LDP Sessions
      12t Oy On Directly Connected
        11t 1y 0n
                                               Targeted
LDP Modes
       7t 1y 4n

8t 2y 2n

6t 0y 6n

6t 1y 5n

4t 2y 6n

9DU, Ord Cntl, Lib reten

9DU, Ord Cntl, Cons reten

9DU, Ord Cntl Cons reten

9DU, Ord Cntl Cons reten

9DU, Ord Cntl, Lib reten

9DU, Ord Cntl, Cons reten
Loop Detection
        9t 2y 1n
TCP MD5 Option
        3t ly 8n
LDP TLVs
        7t 4y 0n
                                                 U-bit
        7t 4y 0n
                                                F-bit
        12t Oy On
                                               FEC TLV
      6t 5y 1n Wildcard

12t 0y 0n Prefix

10t 0y 2n Host

12t 0y 0n Address List TLV

10t 1y 1n Hop Count TLV

9t 2y 1n Path Vector TLV

12t 0y 0n Generic Label TLV

2t 3y 7n Frame Relay Label TLV

2t 3y 7n Frame Relay Label TLV

9t 3y 0n Extended Status TLV

6t 4y 2n Returned PDU TLV

6t 4y 2n Returned Message TLV

12t 0y 0n T-bit

11t 0y 1n R-bit

11t 1y 0n Hold Time

12t 0y 0n IPv4 Transport Addr TLV

7t 2y 3n Config Sequence Num TLV

12t 0y 0n Common Session Param TLV

12t 0y 0n KeepAlive Time

12t 0y 0n KeepAlive Time

11t 0y 1n KeepAlive Time
                                                  Wildcard
         6t 5y 1n
                                               KeepAlive Time
PVLim
PDU Max Length
         12t 0y 0n
        11t Oy 1n
         11t ly 0n
         6t 2y 2n
                                                ATM Session Param TLV
                                                      M values
        5t 3y 4n
                                                              0 No Merge
         3t 3y 6n
                                                              1 VP Merge
```

```
2 VC Merge
              5t 3y 4n
3t 3y 6n
3 VP & VC Meige
6t 2y 4n
6t 2v 4n
ATM Label Range Component
Cossion Param TLV
                5t 3y 4n
                                                                                               M values
              2t 3y 7n 0 No Merge
2t 3y 7n 1 Merge
2t 3y 7n D-bit
2t 3y 7n D-bit
2t 3y 7n FR Label Range Component
10t 0y 2n Label Request Msg ID TLV
2t 5y 5n Vendor-Private TLV
1t 5y 6n Experimental TLV
            P Messages

12t 0y 0n Notification Msg

12t 0y 0n Hello Msg

12t 0y 0n Initialization Msg

12t 0y 0n KeepAlive Msg

12t 0y 0n Address Msg

12t 0y 0n Address Withdraw Msg

12t 0y 0n Label Mapping Msg

10t 0y 2n Label Request Msg Id TLV

10t 1y 1n Hop Count TLV

10t 1y 1n Path Vect TLV

9t 0y 3n Hop Count TLV

9t 0y 3n Path Vect TLV

12t 0y 0n Label Withdraw Msg

12t 0y 0n Label Withdraw Msg

12t 0y 0n Label Withdraw Msg

12t 0y 1n Label TLV

12t 0y 1n Label Release Msg

10t 1y 1n Label TLV

9t 2y 1n Label Abort Req Msg

1t 5y 6n Experimental Msg

P Status Codes
LDP Messages
LDP Status Codes
            P Status Codes
9t 3y 0n Success
8t 4y 0n Bad LDP Id
7t 5y 0n Bad Ptcl Version
7t 5y 0n Bad PDU Length
7t 5y 0n Unknown Message Type
7t 5y 0n Bad Message Length
7t 4y 0n Unknown TLV
7t 5y 0n Bad TLV length
7t 5y 0n Malformed TLV Value
11t 1y 0n Hold Timer Expired
11t 1y 0n Shutdown
10t 1y 1n Loop Detected
7t 5y 0n Unknown FEC
```

3. Security Considerations

RFC 5038

This document is a survey of existing LDP implementations; it does not specify any protocol behavior. Thus, security issues introduced by the document are not discussed.

4. Informative References

- [RFC3031] Rosen, E., Viswanathan, A., and R. Callon, "Multiprotocol Label Switching Architecture", RFC 3031, January 2001.
- [RFC3036] Andersson, L., Doolan, P., Feldman, N., Fredette, A., and B. Thomas, "LDP Specification", RFC 3036, January 2001.
- [RFC3037] Thomas, B. and E. Gray, "LDP Applicability", RFC 3037, January 2001.

Appendix A. Full LDP Survey Results

LDP Implementation Survey Form (V 1.0)

A. General Information

Responders:

Anonymous: 2 Public: 10

> Agilent Technologies Celox Networks, Inc. Cisco Systems, Inc. Data Connection Ltd. NetPlane Systems, Inc Redback Networks Riverstone Networks Trillium, An Intel Company Vivace Networks, Inc. Wipro Technologies

______ B. LDP Implementation Status, Availability, Origin Status: [] Development [] Alpha [2] Beta [10] Product [] Other (describe): Availability: [] Public and free [] Only to selected organizations/companies but free [11] On sale [] For internal company use only [1] Other: Implementation based on: (check all that apply) [1] Purchased code (please list source if possible) [] Free code (please list source if possible) [7] Internal implementation (no outside code, just from specs) [4] Internal implementation on top of purchased or free code

C. LDP Feature Survey

For each feature listed, please indicate the status of the implementation using one of the following:

- 't′ tested against another independent implementation
- 'y' implemented but not tested against independent implementation
- 'n not implemented
- 'x' not applicable to this type of implementation

Optional: For 'n' status, indicate reason for not implementing using one of the following:

- 's' RFC specification inadequate, unclear, or confusing
- 'u' utility of feature unclear
- 'r' feature not required for feature set implemented

	RFC 3036 Section(s)
	2.2.1, 2.5.3, 2.8.2, 3.4.2
Packet	
Frame Relay	
ATM	
	2.2.1, 2.2.2
Per platform	
Per interface	
	2.4
Basic	2.4.1
Targeted	2.4.2
	2.2.3
Directly Connected	
Targeted	2.3
	2.6
DU, Ind cntl, Lib reten	2.6
DU, Ord cntl, Lib reten	2.6
DU, Ind cntl, Cons reten	2.6
DU, Ord cntl, Cons reten	2.6
DoD, Ind cntl, Lib reten	2.6
DoD, Ord cntl, Lib reten	2.6
DoD, Ind cntl, Cons reten	
DoD, Ord cntl, Cons reten	2.6
	2.8
	Frame Relay ATM Per platform Per interface Basic Targeted Directly Connected Targeted DU, Ind cntl, Lib reten DU, Ord cntl, Lib reten DU, Ind cntl, Cons reten DU, Ord cntl, Lib reten DU, Ord cntl, Lib reten DoD, Ind cntl, Lib reten DoD, Ind cntl, Lib reten DoD, Ord cntl, Lib reten DoD, Ind cntl, Cons reten

TCP MD5 Option		2.9
3t 1y 8n(1u 1r 1x)		
LDP TLVs		3.3, 3.4, throughout
7t 4y On(1 noreply)	U-bit	3.3
7t 4y On(1 noreply)	F-bit	3.3
	FEC TLV	1, 2.1, 3.4.1
6t 5y ln(1r)	Wildcard	3.4.1
12t 0y 0n	Prefix	3.4.1
10t 0y 2n(s1 1u 1r)	Host	2.1, 3.4.1
12t 0y 0n	Address List TLV	3.4.3
10t ly 1n	Hop Count TLV	3.4.4
9t 2y 1n	Path Vector TLV	3.4.5
12t 0y 0n	Generic Label TLV	3.4.2.1
6t 2y 4n(2r)	ATM Label TLV	3.4.2.2
2t 3y 7n(1u 2r 1x)	Frame Relay Label TLV	3.4.2.3
12t 0y 0n	Status TLV	3.4.6
9t 3y On	Extended Status TLV	3.5.1
6t 4y 2n	Returned PDU TLV	3.5.1
6t 4y 2n	Returned Message TLV	3.5.1
12t 0y 0n	Common Hello Param TLV	3.5.2
12t 0y 0n	T-bit	3.5.2
11t Oy 1n	R-bit	3.5.2
11t 1y 0n	Hold Time	3.5.2
12t 0y 0n	IPv4 Transport Addr TLV	3.5.2
7t 2y 3n	Config Sequence Num TLV	3.5.2
1t 1y 1n(1u 4r 1x)	IPv6 Transport Addr TLV	3.5.2
12t Oy On	Common Session Param TLV	3.5.3
12t Oy On	KeepAlive Time	3.5.3
11t 0y 1n	PVLim	3.5.3
11t 1y 0n	PDU Max Length	3.5.3
6t 2y 2n(1r 1x)	ATM Session Param TLV	3.5.3
	M values	
5t 3y 4n(1r 1x)	0 No Merge	3.5.3
3t 3y 6n(s 1 1r 1x)	1 VP Merge	3.5.3
5t 3y 4n(1r 1x)	2 VC Merge	3.5.3
3t 3y 6n(s1 1r 1x)		3.5.3
6t 2y 4n(1r 1x)	D-bit	3.5.3
6t 2y 4n(1r 1x)	ATM Label Range	3.5.3
	Component	
2t 3y 7n(1u 1r 2x)	FR Session Param TLV	3.5.3
	M values	
2t 3y 7n(1u 1r 2x)	0 No Merge	3.5.3
2t 3y 7n		3.5.3
2t 3y 7n(1u 1r 2x)		3.5.3
2t 3y 7n(1u 1r 2x)	FR Label Range	3.5.3
	Component	
	Label Request Msg Id TLV	
2t 5y 5n(1u 1r)	Vendor-Private TLV	3.6.1.1

1t 5y 6n(2r)	Experimental TLV	3.6.2
LDP Messages		3.5, throughout
12t 0y 0n	Notification Msg	
12t 0y 0n		3.5.2
12t Oy On	_	3.5.3
12t 0y 0n		3.5.4
12t 0y 0n		3.5.5
12t 0y 0n	Address Withdraw Msg	3.5.6
12t 0y 0n	Label Mapping Msg	3.5.7
10t 0y 2n(1r)	Label Request Msg Id TLV	3.5.7
10t 1y 1n	Hop Count TLV	3.5.7
10t 1y 1n	Path Vect TLV	3.5.7
9t 0y 3n(1x)	Label Request Msg	3.5.8
9t 0y 3n(1x)	Hop Count TLV	3.5.8
9t 0y 3n(1x)		3.5.8
12t 0y 0n	Label Withdraw Msg	3.5.10
12t 0y 0n		3.5.10
11t 0y 1n	Label Release Msg	3.5.11
10t 1y 1n		3.5.11
9t 2y 1n	Label Abort Req Msg	3.5.9
2t 5y 5n(1u 1r)	Vendor-Private Msg	3.6.1.2
1t 5y 6n(2r)	Experimental Msg	3.6.2
LDP Status Codes		3.4.6
9t 3y 0n	Success	3.4.6, 3.9
8t 4y 0n	Bad LDP Id	3.5.1.2.1
7t 5y 0n	Bad Ptcl Version	3.5.1.2.1
7t 5y 0n	Bad PDU Length	3.5.1.2.1
7t 5y 0n	Unknown Message Type Bad Message Length	3.5.1.2.1
7t 5y 0n		3.5.1.2.1
7t 4y 0n(1 noreply)		3.5.1.2.2
7t 5y 0n	Bad TLV Length	3.5.1.2.2
7t 5y 0n		3.5.1.2.2
11t ly 0n	Hold Timer Expired	3.5.1.2.3
11t ly 0n	Shutdown	3.5.1.2.4
10t ly 1n		3.4.5.1.2, 3.5.8.1
7t 5y 0n		3.4.1.1
11t ly 0n	No Route	3.5.8.1
9t 3y 0n	No Label Resources	3.5.8.1
8t 3y 1n	Label Resources Available	
	Session Rejected	2.5.3, 3.5.3
7t 5y 0n	No Hello	2.5.3, 3.5.3
9t 2y 1n	Param Advert Mode	2.5.3, 3.5.3
9t 2y 1n	Param PDU Max Len	2.5.3, 3.5.3
8t 3y 1n	Param Label Range	2.5.3, 3.5.3
7t 5y 0n	Bad KA Time	3.5.1.2.5, 3.5.3
11t 1y 0n	KeepAlive Timer Expired	2.5.6, 3.5.1.2.3
9t 1y 2n	Label Request Aborted	3.5.9.1
6t 5y 1n	Missing Message Params	3.5.1.2.1

```
Unsupported Addr Family 3.4.1.1, 3.5.5.1
   7t 5y 0n
                                        3.5.1.2.7
   7t 5y 0n
                    Internal Error
Appendix B. LDP Implementation Survey Form
LDP Implementation Survey Form (V 1.0)
The purpose of this form is to gather information about implementations
of LDP as defined by RFC 3036. The information is being requested as
part of the process of advancing LDP from Proposed to Draft Standard.
The form is patterned after the implementation report form used for
HTTP/1.1; see:
http://www.ietf.org/IESG/Implementations/http1.1-implementations.txt
______
A. General Information
Please provide the following information.
Organization:
Organization url(s):
_____
Product title(s):
Brief description(s):
_____
Contact for LDP information
  Name:
  Title:
  E-mail:
  Organization/department:
  Postal address:
  Phone:
  Fax:
```

===	====	===	
В.	LDP	Im	plementation Status, Availability, Origin
Ple	ease	ch	eck [x] the boxes that apply.
Sta	atus	:	
	[]	Development
	[]	Alpha
	[]	Beta
	[]	Product
	[]	Other (describe):
Ava	ailak	oil:	ity
	[]	Public and free
	[]	Only to selected organizations/companies but free
	[]	On sale.
	[]	For internal company use only
	[]	Other:
Imp	oleme	enta	ation based on: (check all that apply)
	[]	Purchased code
			(please list source if possible)
	[]	Free code
			(please list source if possible)
	[]	Internal implementation
			(no outside code, just from specs)
	[]	Internal implementation on top of purchased
			or free code
			List portions from external source:
			List portions developed internally:

C. LDP Feature Survey

For each feature listed, please indicate the status of the implementation using one of the following:

- tested against another independent implementation
- 'y' implemented but not tested against independent implementation
- 'n not implemented
- '-' not applicable to this type of implementation

Optional: For 'n' status, indicate reason for not implementing using one of the following:

- 's' RFC specification inadequate, unclear, or confusing
- utility of feature unclear
- 'r' feature not required for feature set implemented

Feature	 RFC 3036 Section(s)	Status (one of t, y, n, -; if n, optionally one of s, u, r)
Interface types	2.2.1, 2.5.3, 2.8.2, 3.4.2	
Packet		+ +
Frame Relay	İ	
ATM	İ	İ
Label Spaces	2.2.1, 2.2.2	+======================================
Per platform		<u></u>
Per interface		
LDP Discovery	2.4	+======================================
Basic		
Targeted	2.4.2	+

		+
LDP Sessions	2.2.3	+
Directly Connected		
Targeted	2.3	
LDP Modes	2.6	
DU, Ind cntl, Lib retention	2.6	
DU, Ord cntl, Lib retention	2.6	
DU, Ind cntl, Cons retention	2.6	
DU, Ord cntl, Cons retention	2.6	
DoD, Ind cntl, Lib retention	2.6	
DoD, Ord cntl, Lib retention	2.6	
DoD, Ind cntl, Cons retention	2.6	
DoD, Ord cntl, Cons retention	2.6	
Loop Detection	2.8	
TCP MD5 Option	2.9	+=====================================
LDP TLVs	3.3, 3.4, throughout	
U-bit	3.3	!
F-bit	3.3	
FEC	1., 2.1, 3.4.1	

		I .
Wildcard	3.4.1	
Prefix	2.1, 3.4.1	
Host	2.1, 3.4.1	
Address List	3.4.3	<u> </u>
Hop Count	3.4.4	<u> </u>
Path Vector	3.4.5	
Generic Label	3.4.2.1	<u> </u>
ATM Label	3.4.2.2	
Frame Relay Label	3.4.2.3	
Status	3.4.6	
Extended Status	3.5.1	
Returned PDU	3.5.1	
Returned Message	3.5.1	
Common Hello Parameters	3.5.2	
T-bit	3.5.2	
R-bit	3.5.2	+
Hold Time	3.5.2	+
IPv4 Transport Address	3.5.2	
Configuration Sequence Number	3.5.2	
IPv6 Transport Address	3.5.2	
Common Session Parameters	3.5.3	

KeepAlive Time	3.5.3	<u> </u>
PVLim	3.5.3	
Max PDU Length	3.5.3	
ATM Session Parameters	3.5.3	
M values 0 No Merge	3.5.3	
1 VP Merge	3.5.3	
2 VC Merge	3.5.3	
3 VP & VC Merge	3.5.3	
D-bit	3.5.3	
ATM Label Range Component	3.5.3	
Frame Relay Session Parameters	3.5.3	
M values 0 No Merge	3.5.3	
1 Merge	3.5.3	
D-bit	3.5.3	
Frame Relay Label Range Component	3.5.3	
Label Request Message Id	3.5.7	
Vendor-Private	3.6.1.1	
Experimental	3.6.2	

LDP Messages	3.5, throughout	+==========
Notification	3.5.1	+
Hello	3.5.2	+
Initialization	3.5.3	+
KeepAlive	3.5.4	<u> </u>
Address	3.5.5	
Address Withdraw	3.5.6	
Label Mapping	3.5.7	
Label Request Message Id TLV	3.5.7	
Hop Count TLV	3.5.7	
Path Vect TLV	3.5.7	
Label Request	3.5.8	
Hop Count TLV	3.5.8	
Path Vect TLV	3.5.8	
Label Withdraw	3.5.10	
Label TLV	3.5.10	
Label Release	3.5.11	
Label TLV	3.5.11	
Label Abort Req	3.5.9	
Vendor-Private	3.6.1.2	
Experimental	3.6.2	

LDP Status Codes	3.4.6	+===========
Success	3.4.6, 3.9	+
Bad LDP Id	3.5.1.2.1	+
Bad Ptcl Version	3.5.1.2.1	
Bad PDU Length	3.5.1.2.1	
Unknown Message Type	3.5.1.2.1	
Bad Message Length	3.5.1.2.1	
Unknown TLV	3.5.1.2.2	
Bad TLV length	3.5.1.2.2	
Malformed TLV Value	3.5.1.2.2	
Hold Timer Expired	3.5.1.2.3	
Shutdown	3.5.1.2.4	
Loop Detected	3.4.5.1.2, 3.5.8.1	
Unknown FEC	3.4.1.1	
No Route	3.5.8.1	
No Label Resources	3.5.8.1	
Label Resources Available	3.5.8.1	
Session Rejected No Hello	2.5.3, 3.5.3	

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Session Rejected Parameters Advert Mode	2.5.3, 3.5.3	+
Session Rejected Parameters Max PDU Length	2.5.3, 3.5.3	
Session Rejected Parameters Label Range	2.5.3, 3.5.3	
KeepAlive Timer Expired	2.5.6, 3.5.1.2.3	
Label Request Aborted	3.5.9.1	
Missing Message Parameters	3.5.1.2.1	
Unsupported Address Family	3.4.1.1, 3.5.5.1	
Session Rejected Bad KeepAlive Time	3.5.1.2.5, 3.5.3	
Internal Error	3.5.1.2.7	+=====================================

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