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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).

#### LDP Survey Highlights 1.2.

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:

```
Ord Cntl, Lib reten
8t 2y 2n
              DU,
7t 1y 4n
              DU,
                    Ind Cntl, Lib reten
              DoD Ord Cntl, Cons reten
DoD, Ind Cntl, Cons reten
DU, Ord Cntl, Cons reten
7t 1y 4n
6t 1y 5n
6t 1y 5n
              DŨ,
                    Ind Cntl, Cons reten
6t 0y 6n
              DU,
              DoĎ, Ord Cntl, Lib reten
4t 3y 5n
4t 2y 6n
              DoD, Ind Cntl, Lib reten
```

- Platform and Interface Label Spaces were both widely supported.

```
12t Oy On
          Per platform
7t 1v 4n Per interface
```

- LDP Basic and Targeted Sessions were both widely supported.

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

```
LDP Sessions
   12t 0y 0n
                      Directly Connected
   11t 1y 0n
                      Targeted
LDP Modes
   7t 1y 4n
                      DU, Ind Cntl, Lib reten
                     DU, Ord Cntl, Lib reten
DU, Ind Cntl, Cons reten
DU, Ord Cntl Cons reten
   8t 2y 2n
   6t 0y 6n
6t 1y 5n
4t 2y 6n
                      DoĎ, Ind Cntl, Lib reten
                      DoD, Ord Cntl, Lib reten
DoD, Ind Cntl, Cons reten
   4t 3y 5n
   6t 1y 5n
                      DoD, Ord Cntl, Cons reten
   7t 1y 4n
Loop Detection
   9t 2y 1n
TCP MD5 Option
   3t 1y 8n
LDP TLVs
                     U-bit
   7t 4y 0n
                     F-bit
   7t 4y 0n
   12t 0y 0n
6t 5y 1n
12t 0y 0n
                     FEC TLV
                     Wildcard
                        Prefix
   10t 0y 2n
                       Host
   12t 0y 0n
                   Address List TLV
Hop Count TLV
   10t 1ý 1n
9+ 2v 1n
   9t 2y 1n
                    Path Vector TLV
   12t Óy On
6t 2y 4n
                     Generic Label TLV
                     ATM Label TLV
   2t 3y 7n
                     Frame Relay Label TLV
   12t Óy 0n
                     Status TLV
   9t 3y 0n
                     Extended Status TLV
                Returned PDU TLV
Returned Message TLV
Common Hello Param TI
   6t 4y 2n
   6t 4y 2n
   12t Oy On
12t Oy On
                     Common Hello Param TLV
                        T-bit
   11t 0y 1n
                        R-bit
                     Hold Time
                  Hold Time
IPv4 Transport Addr TLV
Config Sequence Num TLV
IPv6 Transport Addr TLV
   11t 1y 0n
   12t 0y 0n
   7t 2y 3n
1t 1y 1n
   12t Óy On
                     Common Session Param TLV
   12t 0ý 0n
                      KeepAlive Time
   11t 0y 1n
                        PVLim
   11t 1y 0n
                        PDU Max Length
                    ATM Session Param TLV
   6t 2y 2n
                      M values
   5t 3y 4n
3t 3y 6n
                        0 No Merge
                           1 VP Merge
```

```
5t 3y 4n
3t 3y 6n
6t 2y 4n
                       2 VC Merge
                       3 VP & VC Merge
                     D-bit
   6t 2y 4n
                     ATM Label Range Component
   2t 3y 7n
                   FR Session Param TLV
                    M values
   2t 3y 7n
2t 3y 7n
                       0 No Merge
                       1 Merge
   2t 3y 7n
                     D-bit
   2t 3y 7n
                     FR Label Range Component
                Label Request Msg ID TLV
Vendor-Private TLV
   10t Oy 2n
   2t 5y 5n
   1t 5y 6n
                  Experimental TLV
LDP Messages
   12t 0y 0n
                   Notification Msg
   12t 0y 0n
                   Hello Msg
   12t 0y 0n
                   Initialization Msq
   12t Oy On
                   KeepAlive Msg
   12t Oy On
                   Address Msg
   12t 0y 0n
12t 0y 0n
10t 0y 2n
                  Address Withdraw Msg
                   Label Mapping Msg
                  Label Request Msg Id TLV
   10t 0y 2n
   10t 1y 1n
                     Hop Count TLV
   10t 1y 1n
                    Path Vect TLV
                Label Request Msg
   9t 0y 3n
   9t 0y 3n
                  Hop Count TLV
   9t 0y 3n
                     Path Vect TLV
   12t Ōy On
                  Label Withdraw Msg
   12t 0y 0n
                    Label TLV
   11t 0y 1n
                  Label Release Msg
   10t 1y 1n
                     Label TLV
   9t 2y 1n
                   Label Abort Req Msg
   2t 5y 5n
                   Vendor-Private Msg
   1t 5y 6n
                   Experimental Msg
LDP Status Codes
   9t 3y 0n
                   Success
   8t 4y 0n
                   Bad LDP Id
   7t 5y 0n
                   Bad Ptcl Version
   7t 5ý 0n
                   Bad PDU Length
   7t 5y 0n
                 Unknown Message Type
   7t 5y 0n
7t 4y 0n
                   Bad Message Length
                  Unknown TĽV
Bad TLV length
   7t 5y 0n
   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
```

11t 1y 0n	No Route
9t 3y On	No Label Resources
8t 3y 1n	Label Resources Available
-	Session Rejected
7t 5y On	No Hello
9t 2y 1n	Param Advert Mode
9t 2y 1n	Param PDUMax Len
8t 3y 1n	Param Label Range
7t 5y 0n	Bad KA Time
11t 1y On	<b>KeepAlive Timer Expired</b>
9t 1y 2n	Label Request Aborted
6t 5y 1n	Missing Message Params
7t 5y On	Unsupported Addr Family
7t 5y 0n	Internal Error

# 3. Security Considerations

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, Januarý 2001.
- [RFC5036] Andersson, L., Ed., Minei, I., Ed., and B. Thomas, Ed.,
  "LDP Specification", RFC 5036, October 2007.

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 Beta **Product** Other (describe): **Availability:** Public and free Only to selected organizations/companies but free For internal company use only Other: Implementation based on: (check all that apply) [ 1] Purchased code (please list source if possible) Free code (please list source if possible) 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:

- tested against another independent implementation implemented but not tested against independent
- 'у' 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:

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

Feature Survey Result		RFC 3036 Section(s)
Interface types		2.2.1, 2.5.3, 2.8.2, 3.4.2
12t Oy On	Packet	_,, _,,
2t 3y 7n(3r 1x)	Frame Relay	
6t 2y 4n(3r)	ATM	
Label Spaces		2.2.1, 2.2.2
12t 0y 0n	Per platform	,
7t 1y 4n(4r)	Per interface	
LDP Discovery		2.4
12t Oy On ´	Basic	2.4.1
11t 1ý On	Targeted	2.4.2
LDP Sessions	3	2.2.3
<b>12t Oy On</b>	Directly Connected	
11t 1ý On	Targeteď	2.3
LDP Modes	J	2.6
7t 1y 4n(2u 1r)	DU, Ind cntl, Lib reten	2.6
8t 2y 2n(1r)	DU, Ord cntl, Lib reten	
6t 0y 6n(2u 2r)	DU, Ind cntl, Cons reten	
6t 1y 5n(1u 2r)	DU, Ord cntl, Cons reten	2.6
4t 2y 6n(2u 2r)	DoĎ, Ind cntĺ, Lib reten	2.6
4t 3y 5n(2r)	DoD, Ord cntl, Lib reten	2.6
6t 1y 5n(2u 2r)	DoD, Ind cntl, Cons reten	2.6
7t 1y 4n(1u 2r)	DoD, Ord cntl, Cons reten	2.6
Loop Detection		2.8
9t 2y 1n		

```
CP MD5 Option
    3t 1y 8n(1u 1r 1x)
DP TLVS
    7t 4y 0n(1 noreply)
    7t 2t 0y 0n
    7t 2t 0y 0n
    7t 2t 0y 0n
    7t 2t 0y 0n
    7t 2y 1n
    7t 2t 0y 0n
    7t 2t 0y
TCP MD5 Option
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                2.9
                                   3t 1y 8n(1u 1r 1x)
     LDP TLVs
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                3.3, 3.4, throughout
```

```
| To | Source | The | Th
```

 7t 5y 0n
 Unsupported Addr Family 3.4.1.1, 3.5.5.1

 7t 5y 0n
 Internal Error 3.5.1.2.7

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):
<pre>Product title(s):</pre>
Brief description(s):
<pre>Contact for LDP information   Name:   Title:   E-mail:   Organization/department:   Postal address:</pre>

Phone: Fax:

B IDP Tmr	olementation Status, Availability, Origin
D. 201 1111	Avactabetety, or egen
Please che	eck [x] the boxes that apply.
Status: [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]	Development Alpha Beta Product Other (describe):
Availabili [ ] [ ] [ ] [ ]	ty Public and free Only to selected organizations/companies but free On sale. For internal company use only Other:
[]	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 implemented but not tested against independent implementation
- not implemented
- not applicable to this type of implementation

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

- RFC specification inadequate, unclear, or confusing
- 'u' utility of feature unclear
- 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		
ATM		
Label Spaces	2.2.1, 2.2.2	т————————————————————————————————————
Per platform		
Per interface		
LDP Discovery	2.4	T
Basic	2.4.1	
Targeted	2.4.2	<del> </del>

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			
LDP TLVs	-=====================================		
U-bit	3.3		
F-bit	3.3		
FEC	1., 2.1, 3.4.1		

	+
Wildcard	3.4.1
Prefix	2.1, 3.4.1
Host	2.1, 3.4.1
Address List	3.4.3
Hop Count	3.4.4
Path Vector	3.4.5
Generic Label	3.4.2.1
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

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		+
KeepAlive Time	3.5.3	 
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	

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========+ LDP Messages	-=====================================
Notification	3.5.1
Hello	3.5.2
Initialization	3.5.3
KeepAlive	3.5.4
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

	·	<b>+======</b>
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	<u> </u>
No Label Resources	3.5.8.1	
Label Resources Available	3.5.8.1	
Session Rejected No Hello	2.5.3, 3.5.3	

		L
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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