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Ethernet in the First Mile Copper (EFMCu) Interfaces MIB

Abstract

This document updates RFC 5066. It amends that specification by informing the Internet community about the transition of the EFM-CU-MIB module from the concluded IETF Ethernet Interfaces and Hub MIB Working Group to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 802.3 working group.

Status of This Memo

This is an Internet Standards Track document.

This document is a product of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). It represents the consensus of the IETF community. It has received public review and has been approved for publication by the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG). Further information on Internet Standards is available in Section 2 of RFC 5741.

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1. Introduction

RFC 5066 [RFC5066] defines two MIB modules:

EFM-CU-MIB, with a set of objects for managing 10PASS-TS and 2BASE-TL Ethernet in the First Mile Copper (EFMCu) interfaces;

IF-CAP-STACK-MIB, with a set of objects describing cross-connect capability of a managed device with multi-layer (stacked) interfaces, extending the stack management objects in the Interfaces Group MIB and the Inverted Stack Table MIB modules.

With the conclusion of the [HUBMIB] working group, the responsibility for the maintenance and further development of a MIB module for managing 2BASE-TL and 10PASS-TS interfaces has been transferred to the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) 802.3 [IEEE802.3] working group. In 2011, the IEEE developed the IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB module, based on the original EFM-CU-MIB module [RFC5066]. The current revision of IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB is defined in IEEE Std 802.3.1-2013 [IEEE802.3.1].

The IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB and EFM-CU-MIB MIB modules can coexist. Existing deployments of the EFM-CU-MIB need not be upgraded, but operators using the MIB should expect that new equipment will use the IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB.

Please note that the IF-CAP-STACK-MIB module was not transferred to IEEE and remains as defined in RFC 5066. This memo provides an updated security considerations section for that module, since the original RFC did not list any security considerations for IF-CAP-STACK-MIB.

2. The Internet-Standard Management Framework

For a detailed overview of the documents that describe the current Internet-Standard Management Framework, please refer to section 7 of RFC 3410 [RFC3410].

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 RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

3. Mapping between EFM-CU-MIB and IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB

The current version of IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB, defined in IEEE Std 802.3.1-2013, has MODULE-IDENTITY of ieee8023efmCuMIB with an object identifier allocated under the { iso(1) iso-identified-organization(3) ieee(111) standards-association-numbered-series-standards(2) lan-man-stds(802) ieee802dot3(3) ieee802dot3dot1mibs(1) } sub-tree.

The EFM-CU-MIB has MODULE-IDENTITY of efmCuMIB with an object identifier allocated under the mib-2 sub-tree.

The names of the objects in the first version of the IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB are identical to those in the EFM-CU-MIB. However, since both MIB modules have different OID values, they can coexist, allowing the management of the newer IEEE MIB-based devices alongside the legacy IETF MIB-based devices.

4. Updating the MIB Modules

With the transfer of the responsibility for maintenance and further development of the EFM-CU-MIB module to the IEEE 802.3 working group, the EFM-CU-MIB defined in RFC 5066 becomes the last version of that MIB module.

All further development of the EFM Copper Interfaces MIB will be done by the IEEE 802.3 working group in the IEEE8023-EFM-CU-MIB module. Requests and comments pertaining to EFM Copper Interfaces MIB should be sent to the IEEE 802.3.1 task force, currently chartered with MIB development, via its mailing list [LIST802.3.1].

The IF-CAP-STACK-MIB remains under IETF control and is currently maintained by the [OPSAWG] working group.

5. Security Considerations

There are no managed objects defined in the IF-CAP-STACK-MIB module with a MAX-ACCESS clause of read-write and/or read-create. So, if this MIB module is implemented correctly, then there is no risk that an intruder can alter or create any management objects of this MIB module via direct SNMP SET operations.

Some of the readable objects in this MIB module (i.e., objects with a MAX-ACCESS other than not-accessible) may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments.

In particular, ifCapStackStatus and ifInvCapStackStatus can identify cross-connect capability of multi-layer (stacked) network interfaces, potentially revealing the underlying hardware architecture of the managed device.

It is thus important to control even GET and/or NOTIFY access to these objects and possibly to even encrypt the values of these objects when sending them over the network via SNMP.

SNMP versions prior to SNMPv3 did not include adequate security. Even if the network itself is secure (for example by using IPsec), there is no control as to who on the secure network is allowed to access and GET/SET (read/change/create/delete) the objects in this MIB module.

Implementations SHOULD provide the security features described by the SNMPv3 framework (see [RFC3410]), and implementations claiming compliance to the SNMPv3 standard MUST include full support for authentication and privacy via the User-based Security Model (USM) [RFC3414] with the AES cipher algorithm [RFC3826]. Implementations MAY also provide support for the Transport Security Model (TSM) [RFC5591] in combination with a secure transport such as SSH [RFC5592] or TLS/DTLS [RFC6353].

Further, deployment of SNMP versions prior to SNMPv3 is NOT RECOMMENDED. Instead, it is RECOMMENDED to deploy SNMPv3 and to enable cryptographic security. It is then a customer/operator responsibility to ensure that the SNMP entity giving access to an instance of this MIB module is properly configured to give access to the objects only to those principals (users) that have legitimate rights to indeed GET or SET (change/create/delete) them.

6. Acknowledgments

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David Harrington

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Tom Petch

This document updates RFC 5066, authored by Edward Beili of Actelis Networks, and produced by the now-concluded HUBMIB working group.

7. References

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