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Network Services Monitoring MIB

Status of this Memo

This document specifies an Internet standards track protocol for the Internet community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Please refer to the current edition of the "Internet Official Protocol Standards" (STD 1) for the standardization state and status of this protocol. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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Introduction

A networked application is a realization of some well-defined service on one or more host computers that is accessible via some network, uses some network for its internal operations, or both.

There are a wide range of networked applications for which it is appropriate to provide SNMP monitoring of their network usage. This includes applications using both TCP/IP and OSI networking. This document defines a MIB which contains the elements common to the monitoring of any network service application. This information includes a table of all monitorable network service applications, a count of the associations (connections) to each application, and basic information about the parameters and status of each application-related association.

This MIB may be used on its own for any application, and for most simple applications this will suffice. This MIB is also designed to serve as a building block which can be used in conjunction with application-specific monitoring and management. Two examples of this are MIBs defining additional variables for monitoring a Message Transfer Agent (MTA) service or a Directory Service Agent (DSA) service. It is expected that further MIBs of this nature will be specified.

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This MIB does not attempt to provide facilities for management of the host or hosts the network service application runs on, nor does it provide facilities for monitoring applications that provide something other than a network service. Host resource and general application monitoring is handled by either the Host Resources MIB [1] or the application MIB [2].

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1. The SNMP Network Management Framework

The SNMP Management Framework presently consists of five major components:

- o An overall architecture, described in RFC 2571 [3].
- Mechanisms for describing and naming objects and events for the purpose of management. The first version of this Structure of Management Information (SMI) is called SMIv1 and described in STD 16, RFC 1155 [4], STD 16, RFC 1212 [5] and RFC 1215 [6]. The second version, called SMIv2, is described in STD 58, RFC 2578 [7], STD 58, RFC 2579 [8] and STD 58, RFC 2580 [9].
- Message protocols for transferring management information. The first version of the SNMP message protocol is called SNMPv1 and described in STD 15, RFC 1157 [10]. A second version of the SNMP message protocol, which is not an Internet standards track protocol, is called SNMPv2c and described in RFC 1901 [11] and RFC 1906 [12]. The third version of the message protocol is called SNMPv3 and described in RFC 1906 [12], RFC 2572 [13] and RFC 2574 [14].

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- o Protocol operations for accessing management information. The first set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in STD 15, RFC 1157 [10]. A second set of protocol operations and associated PDU formats is described in RFC 1905 [15].
- o A set of fundamental applications described in RFC 2573 [16] and the view-based access control mechanism described in RFC 2575 [17].

Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the SMI.

This memo specifies a MIB module that is compliant to the SMIv2. A MIB conforming to the SMIv1 can be produced through the appropriate translations. The resulting translated MIB must be semantically equivalent, except where objects or events are omitted because no translation is possible (use of Counter64). Some machine readable information in SMIv2 will be converted into textual descriptions in SMIv1 during the translation process. However, this loss of machine readable information is not considered to change the semantics of the MIB.

2. Rationale for having a Network Services Monitoring MIB

Much effort has been expended in developing tools to manage lower layer network facilities. However, relatively little work has been done on managing application layer entities. It is neither efficient nor reasonable to manage all aspects of application layer entities using only lower layer information. Moreover, the difficulty of managing application entities in this way increases dramatically as application entities become more complex.

This leads to a substantial need to monitor applications which provide network services, particularly distributed components such as MTAs and DSAs, by monitoring specific aspects of the application itself. Reasons to monitor such components include but are not limited to measuring load, detecting broken connectivity, isolating system failures, and locating congestion.

In order to manage network service applications effectively two requirements must be met:

(1) It must be possible to monitor a large number of components (typical for a large organization).

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(2) Application monitoring must be integrated into general network management.

This specification defines simple read-only access; this is sufficient to determine up/down status and provide an indication of a broad class of operational problems.

2.1. General Relationship to Other MIBs

This MIB is intended to only provide facilities common to the monitoring of any network service application. It does not provide all the facilities necessary to monitor any specific application. Each specific type of network service application is expected to have a MIB of its own that makes use of these common facilities.

2.2. Restriction of Scope

The framework provided here is very minimal; there is a lot more that could be done. For example:

- (1) General network service application configuration monitoring and control.
- (2) Detailed examination and modification of individual entries in service-specific request queues.
- (3) Probing to determine the status of a specific request (e.g., the location of a mail message with a specific message-id).
- (4) Requesting that certain actions be performed (e.g., forcing an immediate connection and transfer of pending messages to some specific system).

All these capabilities are both impressive and useful. However, these capabilities would require provisions for strict security checking. These capabilities would also mandate a much more complex design, with many characteristics likely to be fairly implementation-specific. As a result such facilities are likely to be both contentious and difficult to implement.

This document religiously keeps things simple and focuses on the basic monitoring aspect of managing applications providing network services. The goal here is to provide a framework which is simple, useful, and widely implementable.

2.3. Configuration Information

This MIB attempts to provide information about the operational aspects of an application. Further information about the actual configuration of a given application may be kept in other places; the applDirectoryName or applURL may be used to point to places where such information is kept.

3. Application Objects

This MIB defines a set of general purpose attributes which would be appropriate for a range of applications that provide network services. Both OSI and non-OSI services can be accommodated. Additional tables defined in extensions to this MIB provide attributes specific to specific network services.

A table is defined which will have one row for each operational network service application on the system. The only static information held on the application is its name. All other static information should be obtained from various directory services. The applDirectoryName is an external key, which allows an SNMP MIB entry to be cleanly related to the X.500 Directory. In SNMP terms, the applications are grouped in a table called applTable, which is indexed by an integer key applIndex.

The type of the application will be determined by one or both of:

- (1) Additional MIB variables specific to the applications.
- (2) An association to the application of a specific protocol.

4. Definitions

NETWORK-SERVICES-MIB DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN

IMPORTS

OBJECT-TYPE, Counter32, Gauge32, MODULE-IDENTITY, mib-2
FROM SNMPv2-SMI
TimeStamp, TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
FROM SNMPv2-TC
MODULE-COMPLIANCE, OBJECT-GROUP
FROM SNMPv2-CONF
SnmpAdminString
FROM SNMP-FRAMEWORK-MIB;

application MODULE-IDENTITY

LAST-UPDATED "200003030000Z"

ORGANIZATION "IETF Mail and Directory Management Working Group"

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DESCRIPTION

"The MIB module describing network service applications" REVISION "200003030000Z" DESCRIPTION

"This revision, published in RFC 2788, changes a number of DisplayStrings to SnmpAdminStrings. Note that this change is not strictly supported by SMIv2. However, the alternative of deprecating the old objects and defining new objects would have a more adverse impact on backward compatibility and interoperability, given the particular semantics of these objects. The defining reference for distinguished names has also been updated from RFC 1779 to RFC 2253."

REVISION "199905120000Z"

DESCRIPTION

"This revision fixes a few small technical problems found in previous versions, mostly in regards to the conformance groups for different versions of this MIB. No changes have been made to the objects this MIB defines since RFC 2248."

REVISION "199708170000Z"

DESCRIPTION

"This revision, published in RFC 2248, adds the applDescription and applURL objects, adds the quiescing state to the applOperStatus object and renames the MIB from the APPLICATION-MIB to the NETWORK-SERVICE-MIB."

REVISION "199311280000Z"

DESCRIPTION

"The original version of this MIB was published in RFC 1565" $::= \{mib-2\ 27\}$

- -- Textual conventions
- -- DistinguishedName is used to refer to objects in the
- -- directory.

DistinguishedName ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION DISPLAY-HINT "255a"

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```
STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "A Distinguished Name represented in accordance with
         RFC 2253, presented in the UTF-8 charset defined in
         RFC 2279."
    SYNTAX OCTET STRING (SIZE (0..255))
-- Uniform Resource Locators are stored in URLStrings.
URLString ::= TEXTUAL-CONVENTION
   DISPLAY-HINT "255a"
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
        "A Uniform Resource Locator represented in accordance
         with RFCs 1738 and 2368, presented in the NVT ASCII
         charset defined in RFC 854."
    SYNTAX OCTET STRING (SIZE (0..255))
-- The basic applTable contains a list of the application
-- entities.
applTable OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF Applentry
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
        "The table holding objects which apply to all different
         kinds of applications providing network services.
         Each network service application capable of being
         monitored should have a single entry in this table."
    ::= {application 1}
applEntry OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX ApplEntry
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "An entry associated with a single network service
      application."
    INDEX {applIndex}
    ::= {applTable 1}
ApplEntry ::= SEQUENCE {
   applIndex
        INTEGER,
   applName
       SnmpAdminString,
    applDirectoryName
```

```
DistinguishedName,
    applVersion
       SnmpAdminString,
    applUptime
       TimeStamp,
   applOperStatus
       INTEGER,
   applLastChange
       TimeStamp,
   applInboundAssociations
       Gauge32,
   applOutboundAssociations
       Gauge32,
   applAccumulatedInboundAssociations
        Counter32,
   applAccumulatedOutboundAssociations
       Counter32,
   applLastInboundActivity
       TimeStamp,
   applLastOutboundActivity
        TimeStamp,
   applRejectedInboundAssociations
       Counter32,
   applFailedOutboundAssociations
       Counter32,
   applDescription
        SnmpAdminString,
   applURL
       URLString
}
applIndex OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX INTEGER (1..2147483647)
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "An index to uniquely identify the network service
      application. This attribute is the index used for
      lexicographic ordering of the table."
    ::= {applEntry 1}
applName OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX SnmpAdminString
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The name the network service application chooses to be
      known by."
```

```
::= {applEntry 2}
applDirectoryName OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX DistinguishedName
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The Distinguished Name of the directory entry where
       static information about this application is stored.
       An empty string indicates that no information about
       the application is available in the directory."
    ::= {applEntry 3}
applVersion OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX SnmpAdminString
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The version of network service application software.
      This field is usually defined by the vendor of the
      network service application software."
    ::= {applEntry 4}
applUptime OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX TimeStamp
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The value of sysUpTime at the time the network service
       application was last initialized. If the application was
       last initialized prior to the last initialization of the
      network management subsystem, then this object contains
      a zero value."
    ::= {applEntry 5}
applOperStatus OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX INTEGER {
     up(1),
     down(2),
     halted(3),
     congested(4),
     restarting(5),
     quiescing(6)
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
      "Indicates the operational status of the network service
       application. 'down' indicates that the network service is
```

not available. 'up' indicates that the network service is operational and available. 'halted' indicates that the service is operational but not available. 'congested' indicates that the service is operational but no additional inbound associations can be accommodated. 'restarting' indicates that the service is currently unavailable but is in the process of restarting and will be available soon. 'quiescing' indicates that service is currently operational but is in the process of shutting down. Additional inbound associations may be rejected by applications in the 'quiescing' state." ::= {applEntry 6} applLastChange OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX TimeStamp MAX-ACCESS read-only STATUS current DESCRIPTION "The value of sysUpTime at the time the network service application entered its current operational state. If the current state was entered prior to the last initialization of the local network management subsystem, then this object contains a zero value." ::= {applEntry 7} applInboundAssociations OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX Gauge32 MAX-ACCESS read-only STATUS current DESCRIPTION "The number of current associations to the network service application, where it is the responder. An inbound association occurs when another application successfully connects to this one." ::= {applEntry 8} applOutboundAssociations OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX Gauge32 MAX-ACCESS read-only STATUS current DESCRIPTION "The number of current associations to the network service application, where it is the initiator. An outbound association occurs when this application successfully connects to another one." ::= {applEntry 9}

applAccumulatedInboundAssociations OBJECT-TYPE

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```
SYNTAX Counter32
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The total number of associations to the application entity
      since application initialization, where it was the responder."
    ::= {applEntry 10}
applAccumulatedOutboundAssociations OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX Counter32
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The total number of associations to the application entity
      since application initialization, where it was the initiator."
    ::= {applEntry 11}
applLastInboundActivity OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX TimeStamp
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
      "The value of sysUpTime at the time this application last
      had an inbound association. If the last association
       occurred prior to the last initialization of the network
       subsystem, then this object contains a zero value."
    ::= {applEntry 12}
applLastOutboundActivity OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX TimeStamp
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The value of sysUpTime at the time this application last
      had an outbound association. If the last association
      occurred prior to the last initialization of the network
       subsystem, then this object contains a zero value."
    ::= {applEntry 13}
applRejectedInboundAssociations OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX Counter32
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The total number of inbound associations the application
       entity has rejected, since application initialization.
       Rejected associations are not counted in the accumulated
       association totals. Note that this only counts
```

```
associations the application entity has rejected itself;
       it does not count rejections that occur at lower layers
       of the network. Thus, this counter may not reflect the
       true number of failed inbound associations."
    ::= {applEntry 14}
applFailedOutboundAssociations OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX Counter32
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
      "The total number associations where the application entity
      is initiator and association establishment has failed,
       since application initialization. Failed associations are
      not counted in the accumulated association totals."
    ::= {applEntry 15}
applDescription OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX SnmpAdminString
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
      "A text description of the application. This information
       is intended to identify and briefly describe the
       application in a status display."
    ::= {applEntry 16}
applURL OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX URLString
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "A URL pointing to a description of the application.
      This information is intended to identify and describe
       the application in a status display."
    ::= {applEntry 17}
-- The assocTable augments the information in the applTable
-- with information about associations. Note that two levels
-- of compliance are specified below, depending on whether
-- association monitoring is mandated.
assocTable OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF AssocEntry
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The table holding a set of all active application
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associations."
    ::= {application 2}
assocEntry OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX AssocEntry
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
     "An entry associated with an association for a network
      service application."
    INDEX {applIndex, assocIndex}
    ::= {assocTable 1}
AssocEntry ::= SEQUENCE {
   assocIndex
       INTEGER,
   assocRemoteApplication
       SnmpAdminString,
    assocApplicationProtocol
       OBJECT IDENTIFIER,
    assocApplicationType
       INTEGER,
   assocDuration
       TimeStamp
}
assocIndex OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX INTEGER (1..2147483647)
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "An index to uniquely identify each association for a network
      service application. This attribute is the index that is
      used for lexicographic ordering of the table. Note that the
      table is also indexed by the applIndex."
    ::= {assocEntry 1}
assocRemoteApplication OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX SnmpAdminString
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The name of the system running remote network service
      application. For an IP-based application this should be
       either a domain name or IP address. For an OSI application
       it should be the string encoded distinguished name of the
      managed object. For X.400(1984) MTAs which do not have a
       Distinguished Name, the RFC 2156 syntax 'mta in
```

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globalid' used in X400-Received: fields can be used. Note,
      however, that not all connections an MTA makes are
      necessarily to another MTA."
    ::= {assocEntry 2}
assocApplicationProtocol OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX OBJECT IDENTIFIER
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "An identification of the protocol being used for the
      application. For an OSI Application, this will be the
      Application Context. For Internet applications, OID
      values of the form {applTCPProtoID port} or {applUDPProtoID
      port } are used for TCP-based and UDP-based protocols,
      respectively. In either case 'port' corresponds to the
      primary port number being used by the protocol. The
      usual IANA procedures may be used to register ports for
      new protocols."
    ::= {assocEntry 3}
assocApplicationType OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX INTEGER {
       uainitiator(1),
       uaresponder(2),
       peerinitiator(3),
       peerresponder(4)}
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "This indicates whether the remote application is some type of
      client making use of this network service (e.g., a Mail User
      Agent) or a server acting as a peer. Also indicated is whether
      the remote end initiated an incoming connection to the network
      service or responded to an outgoing connection made by the
      local application. MTAs and messaging gateways are
      considered to be peers for the purposes of this variable."
    ::= {assocEntry 4}
assocDuration OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX TimeStamp
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The value of sysUpTime at the time this association was
      started. If this association started prior to the last
       initialization of the network subsystem, then this
       object contains a zero value."
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::= {assocEntry 5}
-- Conformance information
applConformance OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {application 3}
               OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {applConformance 1}
applCompliances OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {applConformance 2}
-- Compliance statements
applCompliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS obsolete
   DESCRIPTION
      "The compliance statement for RFC 1565 implementations
      which support the Network Services Monitoring MIB
       for basic monitoring of network service applications.
       This is the basic compliance statement for RFC 1565."
    MODULE
     MANDATORY-GROUPS {applRFC1565Group}
    ::= {applCompliances 1}
assocCompliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
   STATUS obsolete
    DESCRIPTION
      "The compliance statement for RFC 1565 implementations
      which support the Network Services Monitoring MIB
       for basic monitoring of network service applications
       and their associations."
    MODULE
     MANDATORY-GROUPS {applRFC1565Group, assocRFC1565Group}
    ::= {applCompliances 2}
applRFC2248Compliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS deprecated
   DESCRIPTION
      "The compliance statement for RFC 2248 implementations
       which support the Network Services Monitoring MIB
       for basic monitoring of network service applications."
    MODULE
     MANDATORY-GROUPS {applRFC2248Group}
    ::= {applCompliances 3}
assocRFC2248Compliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
    STATUS deprecated
    DESCRIPTION
      "The compliance statement for RFC 2248 implementations
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which support the Network Services Monitoring MIB for
       basic monitoring of network service applications and
       their associations."
    MODULE
     MANDATORY-GROUPS {applRFC2248Group, assocRFC2248Group}
    ::= {applCompliances 4}
applRFC2788Compliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
   STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
      "The compliance statement for RFC 2788 implementations
      which support the Network Services Monitoring MIB
       for basic monitoring of network service applications."
     MANDATORY-GROUPS {applRFC2788Group}
    ::= {applCompliances 5}
assocRFC2788Compliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
      "The compliance statement for RFC 2788 implementations
       which support the Network Services Monitoring MIB for
       basic monitoring of network service applications and
       their associations."
    MODULE
     MANDATORY-GROUPS {applRFC2788Group, assocRFC2788Group}
    ::= {applCompliances 6}
-- Units of conformance
applRFC1565Group OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS {
      applName, applVersion, applUptime, applOperStatus,
      applLastChange, applInboundAssociations,
      applOutboundAssociations, applAccumulatedInboundAssociations,
      applAccumulatedOutboundAssociations, applLastInboundActivity,
      applLastOutboundActivity, applRejectedInboundAssociations,
      applFailedOutboundAssociations}
    STATUS obsolete
    DESCRIPTION
      "A collection of objects providing basic monitoring of
      network service applications. This is the original set
       of such objects defined in RFC 1565."
    ::= {applGroups 7}
assocRFC1565Group OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS {
```

```
assocRemoteApplication, assocApplicationProtocol,
      assocApplicationType, assocDuration}
    STATUS obsolete
    DESCRIPTION
      "A collection of objects providing basic monitoring of
      network service applications' associations. This is the
       original set of such objects defined in RFC 1565."
    ::= {applGroups 2}
applRFC2248Group OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS {
      applName, applVersion, applUptime, applOperStatus,
      applLastChange, applInboundAssociations,
      applOutboundAssociations, applAccumulatedInboundAssociations,
      applAccumulatedOutboundAssociations, applLastInboundActivity,
      applLastOutboundActivity, applRejectedInboundAssociations,
      applFailedOutboundAssociations, applDescription, applURL}
    STATUS deprecated
    DESCRIPTION
      "A collection of objects providing basic monitoring of
       network service applications. This group was originally
       defined in RFC 2248; note that applDirectoryName is
      missing."
    ::= {applGroups 3}
assocRFC2248Group OBJECT-GROUP
   OBJECTS {
     assocRemoteApplication, assocApplicationProtocol,
     assocApplicationType, assocDuration}
    STATUS deprecated
   DESCRIPTION
      "A collection of objects providing basic monitoring of
      network service applications' associations. This group
      was originally defined by RFC 2248."
    ::= {applGroups 4}
applRFC2788Group OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS {
      applName, applDirectoryName, applVersion, applUptime,
      applOperStatus, applLastChange, applInboundAssociations,
      applOutboundAssociations, applAccumulatedInboundAssociations,
      applAccumulatedOutboundAssociations, applLastInboundActivity,
      applLastOutboundActivity, applRejectedInboundAssociations,
      applFailedOutboundAssociations, applDescription, applURL}
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
      "A collection of objects providing basic monitoring of
       network service applications. This is the appropriate
```

```
group for RFC 2788 -- it adds the applDirectoryName object
      missing in RFC 2248."
    ::= {applGroups 5}
assocRFC2788Group OBJECT-GROUP
    OBJECTS {
     assocRemoteApplication, assocApplicationProtocol,
     assocApplicationType, assocDuration}
    STATUS current
      "A collection of objects providing basic monitoring of
      network service applications' associations. This is
       the appropriate group for RFC 2788."
    ::= {applGroups 6}
-- OIDs of the form {applTCPProtoID port} are intended to be used
-- for TCP-based protocols that don't have OIDs assigned by other
-- means. {applUDPProtoID port} serves the same purpose for
-- UDP-based protocols. In either case 'port' corresponds to
-- the primary port number being used by the protocol. For example,
-- assuming no other OID is assigned for SMTP, an OID of
-- {applTCPProtoID 25} could be used, since SMTP is a TCP-based
-- protocol that uses port 25 as its primary port.
applTCPProtoID OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {application 4}
applUDPProtoID OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= {application 5}
END
```

5. Changes made since RFC 2248

This revision corrects a few minor technical errors in the construction of the network services MIB in RFC 2248 [22]. In addition, the applName, applVersion, and applDescription fields have been changed from DisplayStrings to SnmpAdminStrings. The reference to RFC 1779 has also been updated to RFC 2253, which in turn adds the ability for distinguished names to be in the UTF-8 character set.

6. Acknowledgements

This document is a product of the Mail and Directory Management (MADMAN) Working Group. It is based on an earlier MIB designed by S. Kille, T. Lenggenhager, D. Partain, and W. Yeong. The Electronic Mail Association's TSC committee was instrumental in providing feedback on and suggesting enhancements to RFC 1565 [23] that have led to the present document.

9. References

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8. Security Considerations

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

However, this MIB does provide passive information about the existence, type, and configuration of applications on a given host that could potentially indicate some sort of vulnerability. Finally, the information MIB provides about network usage could be used to analyze network traffic patterns.

SNMPv1 by itself is not a secure environment. Even if the network itself is secure (for example by using IPSec), even then, 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.

It is recommended that the implementers consider the security features as provided by the SNMPv3 framework. Specifically, the use of the User-based Security Model RFC 2574 [14] and the View-based Access Control Model RFC 2575 [17] is recommended.

It is then a customer/user responsibility to ensure that the SNMP entity giving access to an instance of this MIB, 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.

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