

Pseudowire Emulation Edge to Edge  
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ICCP extension for the MSP application  
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Abstract

This document presents some extensions on the Inter-Chassis Communication Protocol (ICCP) to support the application of multiplex section protection (MSP) that is described in the G.841. Linear multiplex section protection (MSP) is used to protect the Synchronous Digital Hierarchy (SDH) network. In the case of inter-chassis linear MSP, it needs a mechanism to synchronize the state and configuration data between the two chassis. The ICCP is appropriate for that.

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## 1. Introduction

Linear multiplex section protection switching can be a dedicated or shared protection mechanism. It protects the multiplex section layer, and applies to point-to-point physical networks. One protection multiplex section can be used to protect the normal traffic from a number(N) of working multiplex sections. It can operate in a unidirectional or bidirectional manner, and it can carry extra traffic on the protection multiplex section in bidirectional operation. It is used widely in the SDH networks.

MSP has been extended to support inter-chassis linear MSP. It means that the MSP can be used for point-to-multipoint physical networks. The two chassis form a inter-chassis protect group. They runs the protocol to protect the work link and protect link as a chassis running. So the state and configuration data need to be synchronized between the two chassis.

As defined in the [I-D:ietf-pwe3-iccp], it specifies an inter-chassis communication protocol that enables Provider Edge (PE) device redundancy for Virtual Private Wire Service (VPWS) and Virtual Private LAN Service (VPLS) applications. The protocol runs within a set of two or more PEs, forming a redundancy group(RG), for the purpose of synchronizing data amongst the systems. In the ICCP draft, it specifies the ICCP's TLVs for the Pseudowire Redundancy application and the multi-chassis LACP(mLACP) application.

### 1.1. Conventions used in this document

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 [RFC2119].

## 2. Terminology

- o ICCP: Inter-Chassis Communication Protocol
- o MSP: Multiplex Section Protection
- o SDH: Synchronous Digital Hierarchy
- o RG: redundancy group
- o PW: Pseudowire
- o LACP: Link Aggregation Control Protocol

### 3. ICCP extension requirements

#### 3.1. Multi-chassis MSP Protection Model

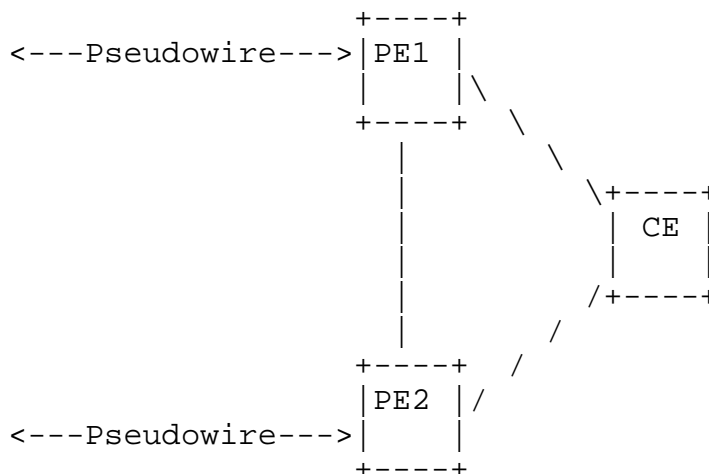


Figure 1: Generic Multi-chassis MSP Protection Model

Figure 1 describes the multi-chassis MSP reference model. The node PE1 and PE2 form an inter-chassis linear multiplex section protection group A. The node CE established a multiplex section protection group B. The links between PE1 and CE, PE2 and CE are SDH links. The link PE1-CE is called work link and the link PE2-CE is called protect link. When the node PE1 finds the link to CE is failed, the node PE1 should transfer the state of link to the PE2 by the synchronize link (PE1 to PE2) for running the protocol of MSP. The node PE2 receives the link fault message, and then it will switch the services to the protect link and notify the result to the group B by K value defined in G.841. After that, it send the result to the node PE1 to synchronize the state of group A by the synchronize link. When the node PE1 is configured the switch command, it also transfer the command to the PE2 by the synchronize link for running the protocol of MSP. Therefore a mechanism is required to insure the synchronization between the members of the protect group A.

#### 3.2. ICCP extension precondition

ICCP is specified in the [I-D:ietf-pwe3-iccp]. It allows synchronization of state and configuration data between a set of two or more PEs forming a RG. ICCP provides reliable message transport and in-order delivery between nodes in a RG with secure authentication mechanisms built into the protocol. Furthermore, it provides a common set of procedures by which applications on one PE can connect to their counterparts on another PE, for purpose of inter-chassis communication in the context of a given RG. The

prerequisite for establishing an application connection is to have an operational ICCP RG connection between the two endpoints. When an application has information to transfer over ICCP, it triggers the transmission of an Application Data message. For the moment, the draft has specified the ICCP's TLVs for the Pseudowire Redundancy application and the multi-chassis LACP(mLACP) application.

The PEs in an RG offer multi-homed connectivity to either individual devices or entire networks. The generic multi-chassis redundancy model is depicted in the [I-D:ietf-pwe3-iccp]. When the access network is SDH network, it is just the applied field of inter-chassis linear MSP. But the ICCP draft does not specify ICCP's TLVs for the MSP application.

As mentioned in the preceding part of this document, the ICCP is appropriate for the inter-chassis linear MSP. The ICCP just need to extend its TLVs for the MSP application. Then it will be achieved the synchronization between the members of the protect group.

#### 4. ICCP TLV extensions for MSP

The ICCP can achieve the synchronization of state and configuration data between the members of the inter-chassis linear MSP group by extending the TLVs. Now we will expatiate the detail of MSP application TLV's format.

##### 4.1. MSP connect TLV

This TLV is included in the RG Connect message to signal the establishment of MSP application connection.

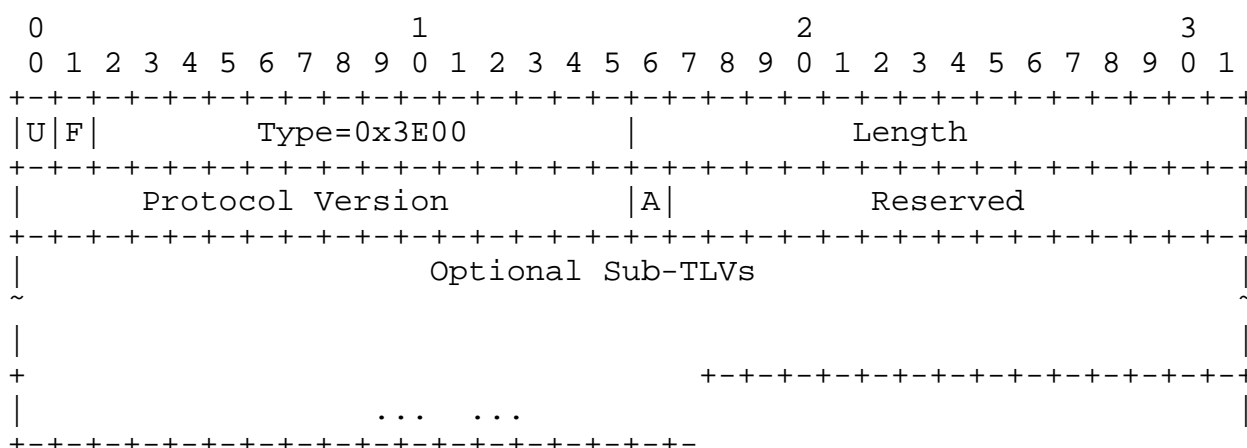


Figure 2: MSP connect TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E00 for "MSP connect TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit,F-bit,Type,and Length fields.

- Protocol Version

The version of this particular protocol for the purposes of ICCP. This is set to 0x0001.

- A Bit

Acknowledgement Bit. Set to 1 if the sender has received a MSP Connect TLV from the recipient. Otherwise, set to 0.

- Reserved

Reserved for future use.

- Optional Sub-TLVs

There are no optional Sub-TLVs defined for this version of the Protocol.

4.2. MSP disconnect TLV

This TLV is used in an RG Disconnect Message to indicate that the connection for the MSP application is to be terminated.

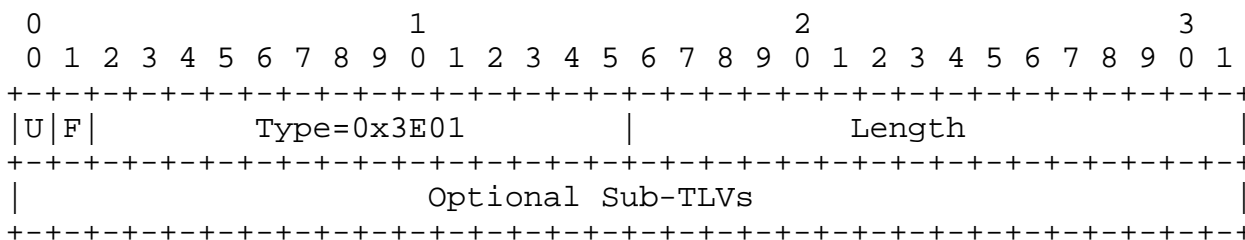


Figure 3: MSP disconnect TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E01 for "MSP disconnect TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit,F-bit,Type,and Length fields.

- Optional Sub-TLVs

There are no optional Sub-TLVs defined for this version of the Protocol.

4.2.1. MSP disconnect cause TLV

This TLV is used in an RG Disconnect Message to indicate the cause of disconnect.

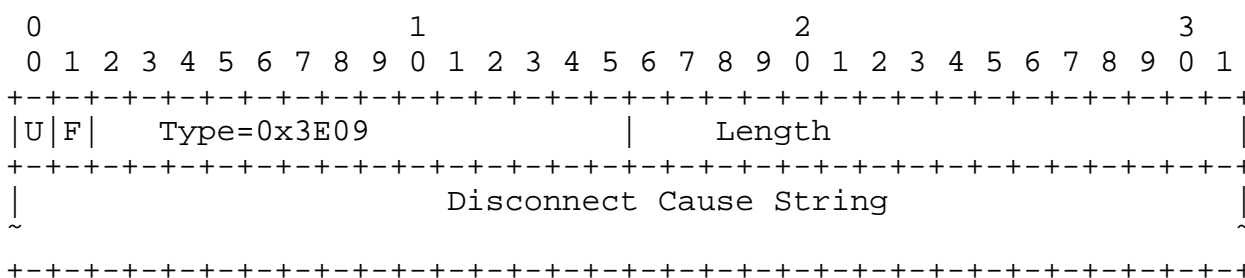


Figure 4: MSP disconnect TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E09 for "MSP disconnect cause TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit,F-bit,Type,and Length fields.

- Disconnect Cause String

Variable length string specifying the reason for the disconnect. Used for network management.

4.3. MSP group config TLV

The MSP configuration TLV is sent in the RG application data message. This TLV is used to notify RG peers about the local configuration of protect group.

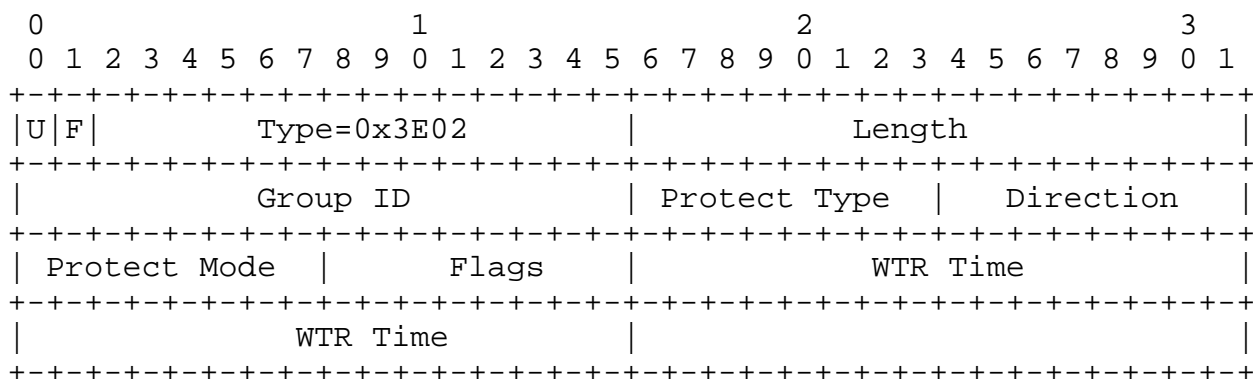


Figure 5: MSP group config TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E02 for "MSP group config TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Group ID

Two octets. Unsigned integer uniquely identifying the protect group.

- Protect Type

One octet encoding the protect type of the MSP protect group as follows:

0x00 1+1

0x01 1:1

0x02-0xFF reserved

- Direction

One octet encoding the architecture of the network as follows:

0x00 unidirectional

0x01 bidirectional

- Protect Mode

One octet encoding the mode of operation as follows:

0x00 non-revertive operation

0x01 revertive operation

- Flags

One octet. Valid values are:

-i Synchronized (0x01)



Indicates that the sender has concluded transmitting all group configuration information.

-ii Purge Configuration (0x02)

Indicates that the group is no longer configured for MSP operation.

- WTR Time

Four octets. The time of waiting to restore, is used in the revertive mode of operation.

#### 4.4. MSP port config TLV

The MSP port configuration TLV is sent in the RG application data message. This TLV is used to notify RG peers about the local port configuration.

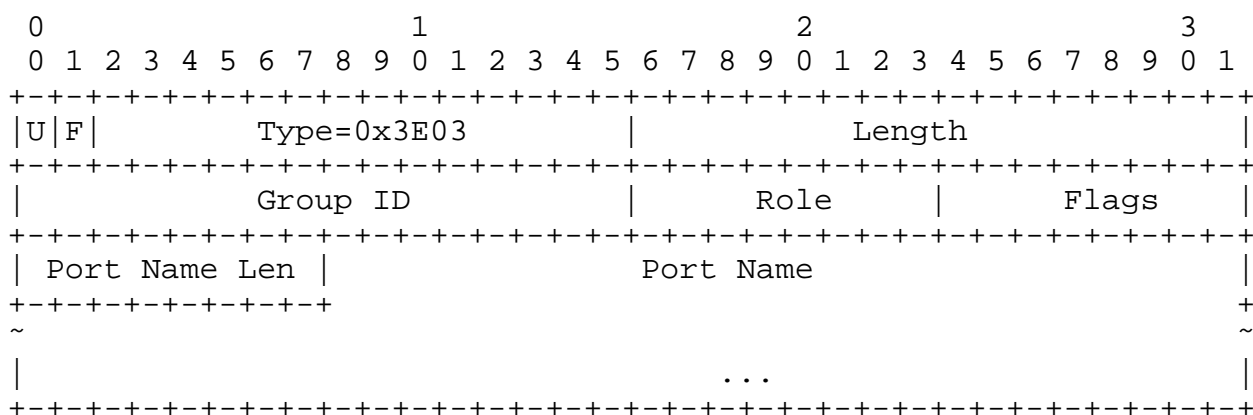


Figure 6: MSP port config TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E03 for "MSP group config TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Group ID

Two octets. Unsigned integer uniquely identifying the protect group.

- Role

One octet encoding the role of the node as follows:

0x00 master

0x01 backup

- Flags

One octet. Valid values are:

-i Synchronized (0x01)

Indicates that the sender has concluded transmitting all group configuration information.

-ii Purge Configuration (0x02)

Indicates that the group is no longer configured for MSP operation.

- Port Name Len

One octet, length of the "Port Name" field in octets.

- Port Name

Port name encoded in UTF-8 format, up to a maximum of 32 characters.

4.5. MSP link state TLV

The MSP link state TLV is sent in the RG application data message. This TLV announces the local node's link state to the RG peers.

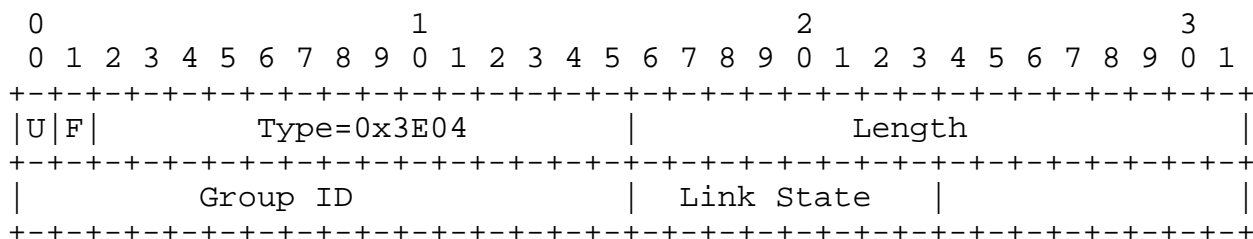


Figure 7: MSP link state TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E04 for "MSP link state TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Group ID

Two octets. Unsigned integer uniquely identifying the protect group.

- Link State

One octet encoding the link state as follows:

0x00 the signal is ok  
 0x01 signal failure(SF)  
 0x02 signal degradation(SD)

#### 4.6. MSP switch command TLV

The MSP configuration TLV is sent in the RG application data message. This TLV is used to notify RG peers about the local configuration of protect group.

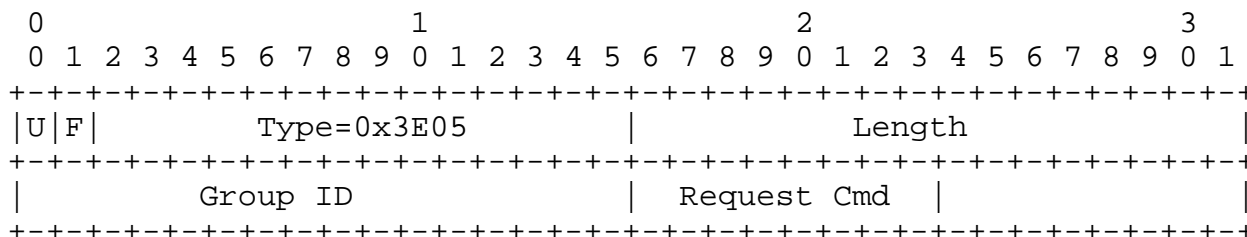


Figure 8: MSP switch command TLV

- U and F Bits  
 Both are set to 0.

- Type  
 Set temporarily to 0x3E05 for "MSP switch command TLV"

- Length  
 Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Group ID  
 Two octets. Unsigned integer uniquely identifying the protect group.

- Request Cmd  
 One octet. The switch command issued at the MSP APS controller interface. The following are the possible values, in order of priority from highest to lowest:  
 (1111) Clear  
 (1101) Lockout of protection(LP)  
 (1011) Forced switch(FS)  
 (0111) Manual switch(MS)  
 (0100) Exercise

#### 4.7. MSP group state TLV

The MSP group state TLV is sent in the RG application data message. This TLV is used to report its state of protect group to the other

members in the RG.

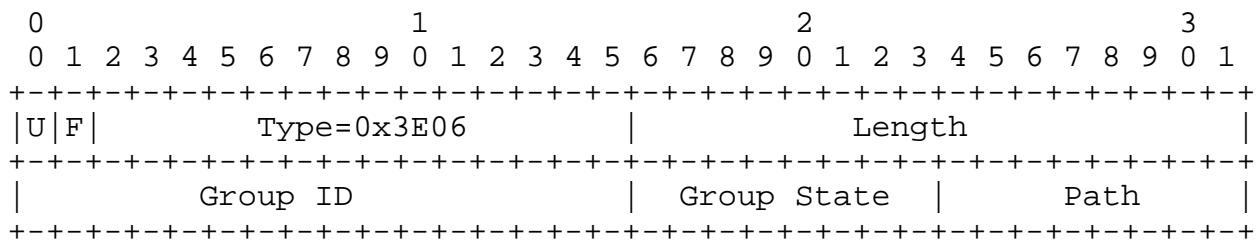


Figure 9: MSP group state TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E06 for "MSP group state TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Group ID

Two octets. Unsigned integer uniquely identifying the protect group.

- Group State

One octet encoding the current state of the MSP protect group as follows:

0x00 No request

0x01 Do not revert

0x02 Reverse request

0x03 Unused

0x04 Exercise

0x05 Unused

0x06 Wait-to restore

0x07 Unused

0x08 Manual switch

0x09 Unused

0x0A Signal degrade low priority

0x0B Signal degrade high priority

0x0C Signal fail low priority

0x0D Signal fail high priority

0x0E Forced switch

0x0F Lockout of protection

- Path

One octet encoding the active path of the MSP protect group as follows:

0x00 the active path is the working link

0x01 the active path is the protection link

#### 4.8. MSP Synchronization Request TLV

The MSP synchronization request TLV is used in the RG application data message. This TLV is used by a device to request from its peer to re-transmit configuration or operational state.

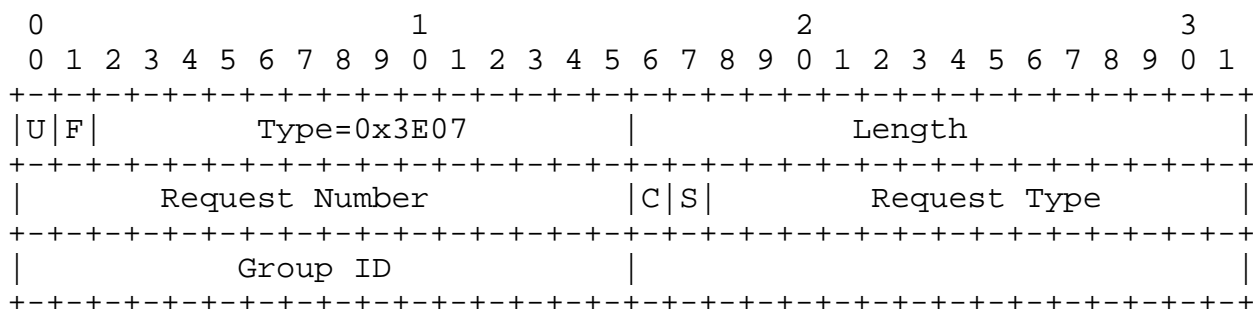


Figure 10: MSP Synchronization Request TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E07 for "MSP Synchronization Request TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Request Number

Two octets. Unsigned integer uniquely identifying the request. Be used to match the request with a response. The value of 0 is reserved for unsolicited synchronization, and MUST NOT be used in the MSP synchronization request TLV.

- C Bit

Set to 1 if request is for configuration data. Otherwise, set to 0.

- S Bit

Set to 1 if request is for running state data. Otherwise, set to 0.

- Request Type

14-bits specifying the request type, encoded as follows:  
 0x00 Request Data for specified protect group  
 0x01 Request Data for all groups in specified service(s)

- Group ID

Two octets. When Request Type field is set to (0x00), this field encodes the group ID for the requested group. When the Request Type field is set to (0x01), this field must be empty.

4.9. MSP Synchronization Data TLV

The meaning of MSP Synchronization Data TLV is similar with the PW-RED Synchronization Data TLV defined in the [I-D:ietf-pwe3-iccp]. It is used in the RG Application Data message. A pair of these TLVs is used by a device to delimit a set of TLVs that are sent in response to a MSP Synchronization Request TLV. The delimiting TLVs signal the start and end of the synchronization data, and associate the response with its corresponding request via the Request Number field.

The MSP Synchronization Data TLVs are also used for unsolicited advertisements of complete MSP configuration and operational state data. In this case, the Request Number field MUST be set to 0.

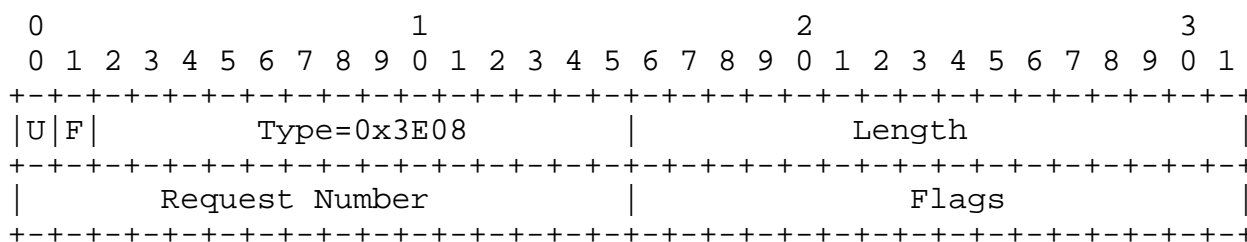


Figure 11: MSP group notify TLV

- U and F Bits

Both are set to 0.

- Type

Set temporarily to 0x3E08 for "MSP Synchronization Data TLV"

- Length

Length of the TLV in octets excluding the U-bit, F-bit, Type, and Length fields.

- Request Number

Two octets. Unsigned integer is identifying the Request Number from the "MSP Synchronization Request TLV" which solicited this

synchronization data response.

- Flags

Two octets, response flags encoded as follows:

0x00 Synchronization Data Start

0x01 Synchronization Data End

## 5. Security Considerations

The extensions of this document are based on ICCP, only some TLVs are added which will not change the security of existing network.

## 6. IANA Consideration

TBD.

## 7. References

### 7.1. Normative References

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997.

### 7.2. Informative References

[G.841] ITU-T Recommendation G.841, "Types and characteristics of SDH network protection architectures", 1998.

[I-D:ietf-pwe3-iccp]

Luca Martini, Samer Salam, Ali Sajassi, "Inter-Chassis Communication Protocol for L2VPN PE Redundancy", draft-ietf-pwe3-iccp-05 .

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