NVO3: Network Virtualization Thomas Narten narten@us.ibm.com

IETF 82 – Taipei November, 2011

NVO3 BOF^h^h^h Info Session

- Originally planned for a BOF, were told that proposal is already in-scope for L2VPN WG
 - Thursday, AM L2VPN Session dedicated to NVO3
- Propose to start work in area of network overlays
 - Industry has already produced NVGRE and VXLAN proposals
- Problem statement document
 - draft-narten-nvo3-overlay-problem-statement
- Discussion currently taking place on L2VPN WG list

Overlay Approach

- Layer a virtual network over the DCN infrastructure network
- Use an overlay or "shim" header for encapsulation
 - Overlay header carries a Virtual Network Identifier (VNID)
 - VNID identifies a specific VN instance
 - Analogous to VLAN ID, VPLS Instance, etc.
 - Needs to be "large enough" (e.g., 24 bits)
 - Also encapsulates original packet from VM as data
- Tunnel packet from source to destination
 - Encap/decap done by edge switch or hypervisor
 - VM itself unaware tunneling is taking place

IETF Work Area

- Need overlay/encapsulation header
 - Exact header details not important (but must meet requirements)
 - Multiple encapsulations not necessarily a problem
 - Existing, already defined encapsulations may suffice
- Control plane is where things get interesting
 - This is where IETF can provide value

Control Plane Tasks

- Mechanism to populate mapping tables used when encapsulating
 - Need to know where to tunnel packet to
- Mechanism for delivering multi destination frames within a VN instance
 - For implementing tenant broadcast or multicast
- Registration mechanism for endpoint to inform switch:
 - When it is attaching to a particular VN instance
 - When it is detaching from the network (and VN instance)
- Registration mechanism must include updating of stale information in switches

Questions?