



RFC 5539 Update Status

draft-badra-netconf-rfc5539bis-00

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Goals of RFC5539bis

- Update RFC 4742 based on:
 - How to generate a NETCONF username and how does the document fulfill the requirements in 6241 for the format of the username?
 - How does the NETCONF transport handle the following two scenarios:
 - both peers advertise :base:1.1 capability
 - none or only one peer advertises :base:1.1 capability.
 - What are the security considerations for using the EOM frame for the <hello> message or using it if one of the peers does not support :base:1.1?
 - How to fix the EoM issues



Client/Server, Agent/Manager

- Suggestion for global terminology changes
 - Drop client/server, manager/agent terminology
 - Instead, refer to the TLS client, the TLS server, the NETCONF client and the NETCONF server throughout



NETCONF username generation: certificate case

- The document defines the `ietf-netconf-tls-username` YANG module
 - defines objects for remotely configuring the mapping of TLS certificates to NETCONF usernames.



NETCONF username generation: certificate case

- For each enumerated value listed above, the NETCONF server derives the NETCONF from the presented client certificate

```
leaf map-type {  
  type enumeration {  
    enum specified { value 1; }  
    enum rfc822Name { value 2; }  
    enum dnsName { value 3; }  
    enum ipAddress { value 4; }  
    enum rfc822Name-dnsName-ipAddress { value 5; }  
    enum rfc822Name-ipAddress-dnsName { value 6; }  
    enum dnsName-ipAddress-rfc822Name { value 7; }  
    enum dnsName-rfc822Name-ipAddress { value 8; }  
    enum ipAddress-dnsName-rfc822Name { value 9; }  
    enum ipAddress-rfc822Name-dnsName { value 10; }  
  }  
}
```



NETCONF username generation: PSK case

- Optional
- PSK-based authentication is described in RFC4279
 - During the TLS Handshake, the client indicates which key to use by including a "PSK identity" in the TLS ClientKeyExchange message
 - PSK identity is used as the NETCONF username.
 - RFC4279 provides more details on how the PSK identity MAY be encoded in UTF-8



The requirements in 6241 for the format of the username

- The username provided by the TLS implementation will be made available to the NETCONF message layer as the NETCONF user name without modification.
- If the username does not comply to the NETCONF requirements on usernames [RFC6241], i.e., the username is not representable in XML, the TLS session **MUST** be dropped.



EoM issues

- The <hello> message **MUST** be followed by the character sequence `]]>]]>`
 - If the `:base:1.1` capability is advertised by both peers, the chunked framing mechanism defined in Section 4.2 of RFC6242 is used for the remainder of the NETCONF session.
 - Otherwise, the old end-of-message-based mechanism (see Section 4.3 of RFC6242) is used.



Capability advertisement – security consideration

- When the `:base:1.1` capability is not advertised by both peers, an attacker might be able to deliberately insert the delimiter sequence `]]>]]>` in a NETCONF message to create a DoS attack.
 - If the `:base:1.1` capability is not advertised by both peers, applications and NETCONF APIs **MUST** ensure that the delimiter sequence `]]>]]>` never appears in NETCONF messages;
 - otherwise, those messages can be dropped, garbled, or misinterpreted.



Contributors

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Next Steps

- Make any agreed changes
- WG item?