Flow Identity Extension for HTTP-Enabled Location Delivery (HELD)

Abstract

RFC 6155 specifies an extension for the HTTP-Enabled Location Delivery (HELD) protocol, allowing the use of an IP address and port number to request a Device location based on an individual packet flow.

However, certain kinds of NAT require that identifiers for both ends of the packet flow must be specified in order to unambiguously satisfy the location request.

This document specifies an XML Schema and a URN Sub-Namespace for a Flow Identity Extension for HELD to support this requirement.

This document updates RFC 6155 by deprecating the port number elements specified therein.

Status of This Memo

This is an Internet Standards Track document.

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction .................................................. 3
2. Conventions Used in This Document ............................. 3
3. Usage ............................................................ 4
4. XML Schema ..................................................... 5
5. IANA Considerations ............................................ 6
   5.1. URN Sub-Namespace Registration for
   5.2. XML Schema Registration ................................. 7
6. Privacy Considerations .......................................... 7
7. Security Considerations ....................................... 8
8. Acknowledgements ............................................. 8
9. References .................................................... 8
   9.1. Normative References .................................. 8
   9.2. Informative References ................................ 8
1. Introduction

Work at the Emergency Location Task Group of NICC Standards Limited (the UK’s telecoms industry standards body) prompted the addition of port number identifiers in HELD Identity [RFC6155] to allow HELD [RFC5985] requests for Devices that are behind NAT devices.

Subsequent analysis has determined that in the presence of particular types of NAT devices, and in particular Carrier Grade NATs, it is necessary to know the complete tuple of (Layer 3 protocol, Layer 4 protocol, source address, source port, destination address, destination port) in order to unambiguously identify a flow, and subsequently the true Device.

This document specifies an XML Schema and a URN Sub-Namespace for a Flow Identity Extension to support this requirement and provides a more generally applicable means of identifying a Device based on the parameters of a network flow of which it is an endpoint.

Since the Location Recipient may not know in advance whether the Device is behind a NAT device, the port number elements from Section 3.3 of [RFC6155] are deprecated and MUST NOT be used in new client implementations. Note that server implementations of this specification may still encounter requests formed by clients that have implemented only [RFC6155], and those requests might contain the deprecated port element.

For implementation details not specified in this document, please refer to [RFC6155] and [RFC5985].

2. 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].

The terms "Device" and "Target" are used as defined in [RFC6280].
3. Usage

An example HELD request is shown below:

```xml
<locationRequest xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:geopriv:held"
    responseTime="8">
  <locationType exact="true">geodetic</locationType>
  <flow xmlns="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:geopriv:held:flow"
    layer4="tcp" layer3="ipv4">
    <src>
      <address>192.0.2.25</address>
      <port>1024</port>
    </src>
    <dst>
      <address>198.51.100.238</address>
      <port>80</port>
    </dst>
  </flow>
</locationRequest>
```

The `<flow>` element MUST contain:

- a "layer3" attribute with a value of "ipv4" or "ipv6".
- a "layer4" attribute with a value of "udp" [RFC0768], "tcp" [RFC0793], "sctp" [RFC4960], "dccp" [RFC4340], or a decimal integer representing any applicable protocol from the IANA Assigned Internet Protocol Numbers Registry.
- an `<src>` element and a `<dst>` element whose child elements contain the Layer 3 address (which MUST conform to the relevant "IPv4address" or "IPv6address" grammar as defined in [RFC3986]) and the Layer 4 port number of each end of the flow.

and MAY optionally contain:

- a "target" attribute with a value of "src" (default) or "dst" to indicate which end of the flow corresponds to the Target of the `<locationRequest>` with respect to the HELD protocol.
4. XML Schema

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
 xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
 xmlns:flow="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:geopriv:held:flow"
 elementFormDefault="qualified">

<xs:annotation>
    HELD Flow Identity</xs:appinfo>
  <xs:documentation source="http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc6915.txt">
    This document defines Flow Identity elements for HELD.
  </xs:documentation>
</xs:annotation>

<xs:element name="flow" type="flow:flowIdentity"/>

<xs:complexType name="flowIdentity">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="src" type="flow:flowEndpoint"/>
    <xs:element name="dst" type="flow:flowEndpoint"/>
  </xs:sequence>
  <xs:attribute name="target" default="src">
    <xs:simpleType>
      <xs:restriction base="xs:token">
        <xs:pattern value="(src|dst)"/>
      </xs:restriction>
    </xs:simpleType>
  </xs:attribute>
  <xs:attribute name="layer3" use="required">
    <xs:simpleType>
      <xs:restriction base="xs:token">
        <xs:pattern value="(ipv4|ipv6)"/>
      </xs:restriction>
    </xs:simpleType>
  </xs:attribute>
  <xs:attribute name="layer4" use="required">
    <xs:simpleType>
      <xs:restriction base="xs:token">
        <xs:pattern value="(udp|tcp|sctp|dccp|\d+)"/>
      </xs:restriction>
    </xs:simpleType>
  </xs:attribute>
</xs:complexType>
```
<xs:complexType name="flowEndpoint">
  <xs:all>
    <xs:element name="address">
      <xs:simpleType>
        <xs:restriction base="xs:token"/>
      </xs:simpleType>
    </xs:element>
    <xs:element name="port">
      <xs:simpleType>
        <xs:restriction base="xs:unsignedShort">
          <xs:minInclusive value="1"/>
        </xs:restriction>
      </xs:simpleType>
    </xs:element>
  </xs:all>
</xs:complexType>
</xs:schema>

5. IANA Considerations

5.1. URN Sub-Namespace Registration for
urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:geopriv:held:flow

This section registers a new XML namespace, "urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:geopriv:held:flow", as per the guidelines in [RFC3688].


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5.2. XML Schema Registration

This section registers an XML Schema as per the guidelines in [RFC3688].


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Schema: The XML for this schema can be found as the entirety of
Section 4 of this document.

6. Privacy Considerations

All of the considerations in [RFC6155] apply to the use of the
mechanism defined in this document. Like [RFC6155], this
specification assumes that the Location Server being queried already
has access to the internal state of the network near one end of the
flow being queried (for instance, access to the bindings in a NAT in
the path of the flow). Clients making queries using this
specification in environments where that assumption may not be true
should be aware that the request provides information about that
client’s communications that the Location Server would not otherwise
be able to discern and may represent additional privacy exposure for
that client.
7. Security Considerations

This document introduces no new security considerations beyond those in [RFC6155].

8. Acknowledgements

The author wishes to thank the members of the NICC Emergency Location Task Group, the IETF GeoPriv Working Group, and the authors of [RFC6155], from which the text for the URN and XML Schema Registrations were derived.

9. References

9.1. Normative References


9.2. Informative References


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