Network Working Group
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Encoding Network Addresses to support operation over non-OSI lower layers

Status of this Memo

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

Abstract

The OSI Directory specifies an encoding of Presentation Address, which utilises OSI Network Addresses as defined in the OSI Network Layer standards [CCI88] [ISO87a]. The OSI Directory, and any OSI application utilising the OSI Directory must be able use these Network Addresses to identify end systems. Currently, OSI applications are often run over lower layers other than the OSI Network Service. It is neither reasonable nor desirable for groups wishing to investigate and use OSI Applications in conjunction with the OSI Directory to be dependent on a global OSI Network Service. This document defines a new network address format, and rules for using some existing network address formats. The scope of this document is:

1. Any TCP/IP network supporting COTS using RFC 1006.
2. Any mapping of COTS onto X.25 (usually X.25(80)), where X.25 is not used to provide CONS (i.e., only DTE and not Network address is carried).

The approach could also be extended to use with other means of providing COTS (or CLTS). It is not appropriate for use where CONS or CLNS is used to provide COTS (or CLTS).