Network Working Group
Request for Comments: 5249
BCP: 139
Category: Best Current Practice

D. Harrington, Ed.
Huawei Technologies (USA)

July 2008

Templates for Internet-Drafts Containing MIB Modules

Status of This Memo

This document specifies an Internet Best Current Practices for the Internet Community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

Abstract

This memo references three annotated templates for IETF documents that contain the definition of MIB modules. It is intended to reduce the work of the editors of such documents, making these documents more uniform and easier to read and review, thus furthering the quality of such documents and expediting their publication.

Table of Contents

1. Introduction 2
2. Overview 2
3. Security Considerations 3
4. Contributors 3
5. Normative References 3

1. Introduction

This memo references three annotated templates for IETF documents that contain the definition of MIB modules. It is intended to reduce the work of the editors of such documents, making these more uniform and easier to read and review, thus furthering the quality of such documents and expediting their publication.

2. Overview

The MIB Doctors directorate has produced three templates specifically aimed at Internet-Drafts containing MIB modules. The templates are available at the IETF Tools web site, listed as "Templates for MIB Documents".

- The first is an XML template for editors that use XML2RFC. Some advice echoing guidelines from RFC 4181 is embedded in comments.
- A second template is a text template for MIB documents with advice embedded in the document.
- A third template is a plain text template with no advice included.

The templates were developed to make IETF documents that contain MIB modules more consistent. This makes it easier for a MIB Doctor and other IETF participants to review the document. There are a number of MUSTs in the templates, especially in the advice; these usually refer to IESG requirements for Internet-Drafts, and MIB Doctors are likely to check for these requirements.

The templates contain boilerplates that are required for IETF MIB module documents. It has been common practice for editors to use existing MIB module documents as templates. This approach has problems because boilerplates and other required elements change over time. The templates referenced by this document will be made available on the IETF Tools web site, and occasionally updated to reflect the latest requirements. The most up-to-date revisions of the templates are available at http://www.tools.ietf.org.

The templates contain sections that describe the purpose and organization of the MIB module, and the relationship between this MIB module and other MIB modules. This makes it easier for MIB Doctors to understand the MIB module, which speeds the review process.

Editors should read RFC 4181 "Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers of MIB Documents" [RFC4181], which describes best current practices for MIB module document editing.

The document templates do not include a template for the MIB module itself. Tools to validate MIB modules typically require that the MIB module be separated from the surrounding document. The MIB Doctors feel that the simplest approach is to develop the MIB module outside the document that contains the surrounding text, and then include the MIB module into the surrounding document written using the templates.

3. Security Considerations

This memo recommends templates for editing; it has no direct impact on network security. The templates include boilerplates and associated advice for writing the Security Considerations section of an Internet-Draft that documents a MIB module.

4. Contributors

These templates are based on contributions from the MIB Doctors, especially Juergen Schoenwaelder, Dave Perkins, C.M. Heard, and Randy Presuhn.

5. Normative References

[RFC4181] Heard, C., "Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers of MIB Documents", BCP 111, RFC 4181, September 2005.

Author's Address

David Harrington (editor)
Huawei Technologies (USA)
1700 Alma Drive, Suite 100
Plano, TX 75075
USA

Phone: +1 603 436 8634
EMail: dharrington@huawei.com

Full Copyright Statement

Copyright (C) The IETF Trust (2008).

This document is subject to the rights, licenses and restrictions contained in BCP 78, and except as set forth therein, the authors retain all their rights.

This document and the information contained herein are provided on an "AS IS" basis and THE CONTRIBUTOR, THE ORGANIZATION HE/SHE REPRESENTS OR IS SPONSORED BY (IF ANY), THE INTERNET SOCIETY, THE IETF TRUST AND THE INTERNET ENGINEERING TASK FORCE DISCLAIM ALL WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY WARRANTY THAT THE USE OF THE INFORMATION HEREIN WILL NOT INFRINGE ANY RIGHTS OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

Intellectual Property

The IETF takes no position regarding the validity or scope of any Intellectual Property Rights or other rights that might be claimed to pertain to the implementation or use of the technology described in this document or the extent to which any license under such rights might or might not be available; nor does it represent that it has made any independent effort to identify any such rights. Information on the procedures with respect to rights in RFC documents can be found in BCP 78 and BCP 79.

Copies of IPR disclosures made to the IETF Secretariat and any assurances of licenses to be made available, or the result of an attempt made to obtain a general license or permission for the use of such proprietary rights by implementers or users of this specification can be obtained from the IETF on-line IPR repository at http://www.ietf.org/ipr.

The IETF invites any interested party to bring to its attention any copyrights, patents or patent applications, or other proprietary rights that may cover technology that may be required to implement this standard. Please address the information to the IETF at ietf-ipr@ietf.org.