DHCP Option for Internet Printing Protocol Services
<draft-ietf-ipp-dhcp-option-00.txt>

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Abstract

This document defines a new DHCP option for automatic configuration
of Internet Printing Protocol (IPP)[1] services to potential clients.
Services. This new option provides an IPP client with enough
configuration information to initiate a session with an IPP server
without manual configuration of the client, and without existing
directory services.

1. Introduction

An IPP service provides print job submission capabilities to IPP
clients in a transport-independent way. IPP servers also provide
limited job management functions, with optional security mechanisms.
The IPP working group is defining a directory schema that enables
directory-enabled clients to perform sophisticated searches of
directory services to match a client’s requirement for printing
services.

The IPP Service Name option is a 16-bit Unicode text encoded into
an octet stream using UTF-8 [5]. 7-bit ASCII text is unchanged by
the UTF-8 transformation. In network environments where IPP server
names are restricted to the range of 7-bit ASCII characters, ASCII-
only DHCP clients and servers can support these options by using the
ASCII text as the UTF-8 encoded data.

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 RFC 2119. [3]

2. IPP Server Option

This option specifies one or more IPP servers for the client to contact for access to IPP services. Servers SHOULD be listed in order of preference. An IPP server is textually encoded as a URI string.

The code for this option is XX (Pending future assignment by IANA).

Each DHCP option returned from a client query is encoded as follows:

```
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
|      Code     |     Length    |   Uniform Resource ID (var.len) |
+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+-+
```

The client will use whatever transport is indicated by the URI schema. Further semantics with regards to communication with the IPP server should be derived from the semantics associated with the particular URI scheme.

Individual DHCP options cannot exceed 255 octets. Because UTF-8 encoded URI strings are expected to exceed 255 octets, multiple occurrences of this option type in a DHCP response packet should be concatenated together to form the actual URI string to be used by a client.

3. Security Considerations

There is currently no standard authentication or security mechanisms defined for DHCP. However, numerous internet drafts have been issued that propose general security mechanisms to be applied to DHCP client/server interaction.

Section 7 of the DHCP protocol specification [4] describes any fundamental security considerations for the base DHCP protocol. Specific security considerations for this proposal involve the possibility that client requests for this DHCP option may be forged by an unauthorized DHCP server. Clients that utilize the security features of IPP can detect whether or not forgery of this DHCP option has occurred.

4. References


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5. Author’s Address

Randy Turner
Sharp Laboratories of America
5750 NW Pacific Rim Blvd
Camas, WA 98607

Phone: +1 360 817 8456

EMail: rturner@sharplabs.com

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