Report from the IETF38 - IPP WG Meeting in Memphis on April 8, 1997

Roster
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Chair's Summary for the Area Directors (written By Carl-Unno Manros & Steve Zilles)

The meeting was attended by a little over 30 participants, about half of which were active WG members. The agreed charter was presented and presentation and discussions were held about the five I-Ds relating to the IPP work.

1) Requirements for Internet Printing
It was made clear that this document describes some scenarios and requirements that go beyond the scope of the first version of the IPP protocol, e.g. the location of printers based on search criteria.
2) IPP Model & Semantics
It was explained that this document is the key document for IPP and will
contain all the semantics related to objects, attributes, operations, and
transfer neutral syntax. It was made clear that this will require further
work before it is complete and consistent. A number of issues are still
outstanding.

3) IPP Directory schema
It was explained that this is mainly a subset of attributes from the
modeling document suitable for inclusion in a directory, and is intended to
be neutral to the chosen directory implementation.

4) IPP Protocol
Most of the discussion was around this proposal, which outlines two
different mappings of the model to a transport, one which is browser
oriented and one which is a more direct mapping onto transport. Two levels
were described, one at which model data gets packaged into some form of
MIME (either form-data or a new application/ipp format) and one where these
MIME types get transferred using either HTTP 1.1 or a "to be defined"
subset thereof. Suggestions from the audience included selecting only one
mapping, or to make the browser mapping an extra layer on top of the other
mapping. Work will be intensified on this subject, supported by active
prototyping.

5) IPP Security
The security document at this stage describes scenarios and requirements
for generic security services. Some suggestions were given about Internet
security protocols that potentially could meet the requirements.

Meeting Minutes
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Internet Printing Protocol Working Group at the 38th IETF

These minutes were recorded by Don Wright.

The meeting was called to order by Carl-Uno Manros at 9:03
AM CST on April 8th at the Peabody Hotel in Memphis,
Tennessee.

Planned agenda:

1) Introduction of WG Charter and Internet-drafts
2) Protocol
3) Security
4) Requirements
5) Model and Semantics

CHARTER:

Carl-Uno reviewed the WG charter including the lists of:
- Advisor, Chairs, Editors
- Current Drafts

The goals and background information of the charter were
then reviewed. (Carl-Unö's charts will be available as a part of the proceedings). A question was asked as to what directory methods would be used. The current plan is to define the directory schema so as to be directory neutral and to be optional. Since the original IPP BOF at the last IETF meeting, significant security requirements have been added to the charter. A question was raised as to how the directory information would keep up to date when used in a cached environment. Since IPP is not defining the directory access method only the schema, IPP will not be addressing the area of caching of directory information. Many people felt that the directory work should be a milestone after the protocol is done; however there were others concerned that while the actual document could be done later, it needed to be considered while working on the model. The WG will produce recommendations for inter-operation between IPP clients/servers and LPD clients/servers.

Charter Milestones:

March 97: Internet Drafts: requirements, model, protocol, and directory schema
May 97: Several implemented prototypes
August: Requirements I-D to IESG as informational RFC
       Mapping IPP/LPR mapping as informational RFC
       Other documents submitted as RFCs for Proposed Standards

Contact Information:

Discussion list is: ipp@pwg.org.
To subscribe: ipp-request@pwg.org
Archive is: ftp://ftp.pwg.org/pub/pwg/ipp
Web Server is: http://www.pwg.org/ipp/

A long discussion on what should be covered within the directory schema. One of the major potential problems identified was how to include access control as a part of the information available through the directory. The scope of IPP at this time does not cover administrative functions like job accounting.

PROTOCOL:

Steve Zilles presented an outline of the general direction the group is going in the area of "protocol." (Steve's charts will be a part of the proceedings.) A concern was raised that if multiple, alternative ways are defined to do something, we will fail. This comment was directed at the current direction to perhaps support Application/IPP and Multipart/FormData as well as support both HTTP/1.1 and some new IPP TBD. The current protocol issues Steve identified are:

1) Status inquiries during data transmission
- posting all the data at once
  --- versus ---
- create job, send data

2) What must the server implement?
- full HTTP/1.1
- IPP subset of HTTP/1.1 (non-caching, origin server)
- TBD protocol

Questions:
- Can we really subset HTTP/1.1?
- Work level difference between creating a new protocol versus subsetting?
- Harald Alvestrand. presented a concept of layering and a HTTP/HTML presentation of data to be send via or received from an IPP protocol.

Interoperability issues with potentially two protocols and syntaxes are:

1) One protocol, two syntaxes
   - server must implement both
2) Two separate protocol
   - formdata over HTTP
   - application/ipp over tbd
   - server may implement either
3) Does the request format determine the response format?
4) How are the operations coded?
   - in the formatted data
   - in the protocol header
   - in the URL that is the target.

SECURITY:

Carl-Uno presented the work being done on security for IPP. (These charts will be available in the proceedings.) The type of attacks that could be deployed against IPP were described including masquerading, eavesdropping, tampering, replaying, denial of service, document malicious content code (embedded programs in the print job), liability and provability of service. All these were mapped against security services like client authentication, server authentication, data confidentiality, data integrity, non-repudiation and timestamping/nonces. There were some areas of the chart that need to be updated with additional "yes"es. "Signing" was identified as something that has been very useful as a combination of authentication and integrity.

The group has looked at a number of security services being investigated including HTTP/1.1 (Digest Authentication -- RFC 2069), SSL(V2), SSL(V3) and LDAP. Additional security service suggested to be examined include sHTTP, SMIME and PGP.
Simple security service (like LPD user name) would probably not be appropriate for a standards track document (Keith Moore.) Adequate security must be defined but the security level may be negotiated between the client and the server.

Harald A: Decisions on security should be made by the working group not by the Area Directors but having no security will probably be a problem.

MODEL DOCUMENT:

Harald A. expressed his opinion that while the model document is very large, it seems incomplete. He had several comments and will document them in detail to the distribution list.

Due to a lack of time, the Requirements document was not discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35AM CST.