Consideration on Service Descriptor Syntax

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Essential role of the SERVICE_ID parameter

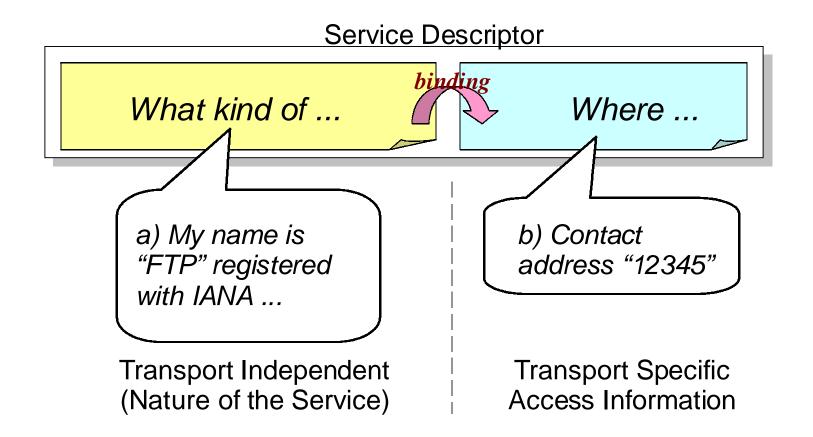
- The SERVICE_ID parameter in the SERVICE_DIRECTORY response
 - a) Inform the type (name), attributes and/or other information that describes and qualifies the service.
 - (This part will be independent of the underlying transport, and will solely describe the nature of the service.)
 - b) Inform transport specific access information (location or destination identifier) that is required to access a particular service selected by a).

- a) Transport Independent Part of the Service Description
- The use of simple service name string registered with a naming authority
 - Very restrictive information would be advertised by the service.
 - There already exist several descriptor formats that enable to describe the name with its naming authority (e.g., "service:", "urn:" URI schemes).
- Preferable to provide the way to flexibly describe whatever information the service wishes to advertise.

b) Transport Specific Access Information

- Employing the *globally* registered service name as a *local* destination identifier will make the application of the transport very restrictive. Or otherwise, the global name space will be exhausted.
- New parameter "DEST_ID" will solve the problems for this role.
 - ⇒See "DestId0799.pdf" for more detail.

Service Descriptor



Syntax of the Service Descriptor

- The service descriptor needs to describe a) and b) in pair to a particular service to be accessed.
- Avoid re-inventing yet another variant for this purpose, if there already exist well-defined ones.
- The transport independent part a) will neither be printing specific nor be PPDT/SBP-2/1394 specific, and the syntax broadly employable will be preferred.
- Examine the "Uniform Resource Identifier" syntax for the service descriptor

Uniform Resource Identifier

Syntax defined in RFC2396

- <scheme>:<scheme-specific-part>
 - The scheme (e.g., "http", "ftp", ...) is registered with IANA.
 - Extensible by defining a new scheme.
 - Widely used in the Internet.

Example

- "service:myname.naming-auth://<addr-spec>"
- "myname.naming-auth" represents transport independent service name along with the naming authority.
- "<addr-spec>" specifies transport specific access information.

Specification for the service descriptor

- The SERVICE_ID parameter shall conform to the absolute URI syntax specified in RFC2396.
- The SERVICE_ID parameter (URI) shall contain a "DEST_ID" information as an address specification.
- The syntax of the "DEST_ID" shall be a form of "1*DIGIT" where DIGIT ="0"/"1"/"2"/"3"/"4"/"5"/"6"/"7"/"8"/"9".