

OPSAWG  
Internet-Draft  
Intended status: Standards Track  
Expires: 18 December 2025

T. Graf  
Swisscom  
H. Zheng  
Huawei Technologies  
16 June 2025

Export of Gigabit Passive Optical Network Encapsulation Mode in IP Flow  
Information Export (IPFIX)  
draft-netana-opsawg-ipfix-gpon-gem-01

## Abstract

This document introduces new IP Flow Information Export (IPFIX) Information Elements to identify a set of G-PON Encapsulation Method entities in the Passive Optical Transport of the Optical Distribution Network.

## Status of This Memo

This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

Internet-Drafts are working documents of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). Note that other groups may also distribute working documents as Internet-Drafts. The list of current Internet-Drafts is at <https://datatracker.ietf.org/drafts/current/>.

Internet-Drafts are draft documents valid for a maximum of six months and may be updated, replaced, or obsoleted by other documents at any time. It is inappropriate to use Internet-Drafts as reference material or to cite them other than as "work in progress."

This Internet-Draft will expire on 18 December 2025.

## Copyright Notice

Copyright (c) 2025 IETF Trust and the persons identified as the document authors. All rights reserved.

This document is subject to BCP 78 and the IETF Trust's Legal Provisions Relating to IETF Documents (<https://trustee.ietf.org/license-info>) in effect on the date of publication of this document. Please review these documents carefully, as they describe your rights and restrictions with respect to this document. Code Components extracted from this document must include Revised BSD License text as described in Section 4.e of the Trust Legal Provisions and are provided without warranty as described in the Revised BSD License.

## Table of Contents

1. Introduction . . . . .	2
2. Terminology . . . . .	3
3. New IPFIX G-PON GEM Elements . . . . .	4
4. Sample Use Cases . . . . .	4
5. IANA Considerations . . . . .	5
5.1. New IPFIX G-PON GEM Information Elements . . . . .	5
5.1.1. gponGemPti . . . . .	5
5.1.2. gponGemPortId . . . . .	6
6. Acknowledgements . . . . .	7
7. Implementation Status . . . . .	7
7.1. Huawei MA5800T-X17 . . . . .	7
8. Security Considerations . . . . .	7
9. References . . . . .	8
9.1. Normative References . . . . .	8
9.2. Informative References . . . . .	8
Appendix A. IPFIX Encoding Examples . . . . .	9
Authors' Addresses . . . . .	9

## 1. Introduction

The G-PON Encapsulation Method (GEM) data plane header defined in Section 8.3.1 of [itu-g984-3] facilitates the framing, error control, payload type identification and payload separation in the Optical Distribution Network. It is being used in the Optical Distribution Network between the Optical Line Termination (OLT) at the network operator and the Optical Network Unit (ONU), Optical Network Terminal (ONT) at the end user in the passive optical transport within the broadband access domain.

IPFIX is widely applied in the broadband access domain to gain visibility into the forwarding and data plane. However, that visibility is today constraint to the ethernet, IP and application transport properties of the data plane.

This document specifies two IPFIX Information Elements (IEs) to facilitate visibility in the GEM data plane.

Figure 1 shows the GEM frame, the GEM header and its properties.

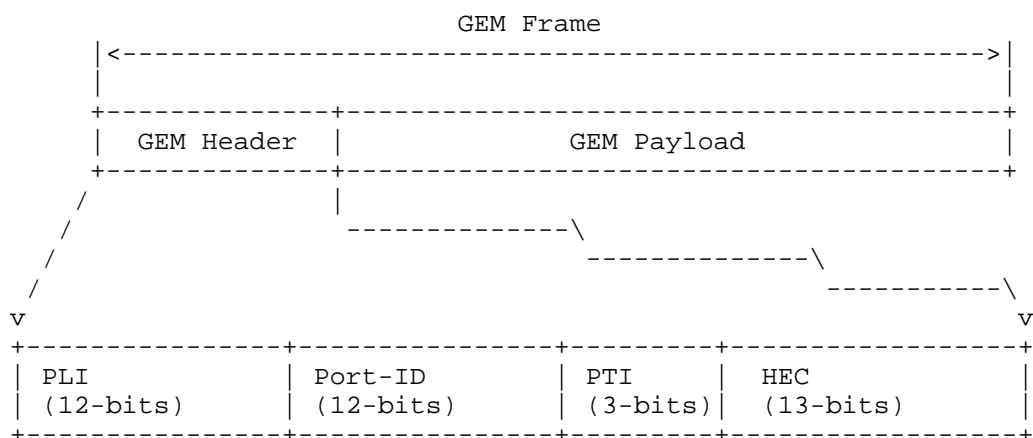


Figure 1: G.984.3 GEM header and frame structure

These IEs are used to export the GEM Port-ID and PTI to enable the distinction between user service and user and OAM application frames.

Some examples are provided in Appendix A.

## 2. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [RFC2119] [RFC8174] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

This document makes use of the terms defined in [RFC7011], [itu-g984-1] and [itu-g984-3].

The following terms are used as defined in [RFC7011]:

- \* IPFIX
- \* IPFIX Information Elements
- \* Template
- \* Template Record
- \* Options Template
- \* Options Template Record

- \* Data Record

- \* Data Set

The following terms are used as defined in [itu-g984-1]:

- \* Optical Access Network (OAN)

- \* Optical Distribution Network (ODN)

- \* Optical Line Termination (OLT)

- \* Optical Network Termination (ONT)

- \* Optical Network Unit (ONU)

The following terms are used as defined in [itu-g984-3]:

- \* G-PON Encapsulation Method (GEM)

- \* GEM Port

- \* Gigabit-capable Passive Optical Network (G-PON)

### 3. New IPFIX G-PON GEM Elements

This section specifies the new IPFIX G-PON GEM IEs.

gponGemPti

3-bit GEM PTI content type field defined in Section 8.3.1 of [itu-g984-3]. The values are encoded in the 3 least significant bits of the IE.

gponGemPortId

12-bit GEM Port-ID field defined in Section 8.3.1 of [itu-g984-3].

### 4. Sample Use Cases

The IPFIX IEs gponGemPti (TBD1) or gponGemPortId (TBD2), sourceMacAddress (56), destinationMacAddress (80), ingressInterface (10), egressInterface (14) and forwardingStatus (89)[RFC5102][RFC7270][IANA-IPFIX], and some existing counter informations [IANA-IPFIX] providing answers to the following questions (amongst others):

- \* How many user or OAM frames are forwarded or dropped to which ONU on which egress interface and GEM Port-ID?

- \* If dropped, for which reasons?

The received ONU frames on an OLT are mapped and forwarded depending on GEM Port-ID to a dot1qVlanId (243) and dot1qPriority (244) upstream to the provider network.

## 5. IANA Considerations

Note to the RFC-Editor:

- \* Please replace TBD1 - TBD2 with the values allocated by IANA
- \* Please replace the [RFC-to-be] with the RFC number assigned to this document

### 5.1. New IPFIX G-PON GEM Information Elements

This document requests IANA to add new IEs (Section 5.1) to the "IPFIX Information Elements" registry [RFC7012] available at [IANA-IPFIX].

Table 1 lists the new G-PON GEM IEs:

Element ID	Name
TBD1	gponGemPti
TBD2	gponGemPortId

Table 1: New G-PON GEM IEs in the "IPFIX Information Elements" Registry

#### 5.1.1. gponGemPti

Name: gponGemPti

ElementID: TBD1

Description: Values for this Information Element are listed in the "G-PON Encapsulation Method PTI" subregistry, see [IANA-IPFIX].

Abstract Data Type: unsigned8

Data Type Semantics: flags

Range: The valid range is 0-7.

Additional Information: See the assigned types in [IPFIX G-PON Encapsulation Method PTI Subregistry]. The values are encoded in the 3 least significant bits of the IE.

Note to IANA: Please replace [IPFIX G-PON Encapsulation Method PTI Subregistry] with the URL of the IANA subregistry.

Reference: [RFC-to-be]

#### 5.1.2. gponGemPortId

Name: gponGemPortId

ElementID: TBD2

Description: The 12-bit GEM Port-ID field defined in Section 8.3.1 of [itu-g984-3].

Abstract Data Type: unsigned16

Data Type Semantics: identifier

Reference: [RFC-to-be]

##### 5.1.2.1. G-PON Encapsulation Method PTI Subregistry

This document requests IANA to create a new subregistry called "IPFIX G-PON Encapsulation Method PTI" under the "IPFIX Information Elements" registry [RFC7012] available at [IANA-IPFIX].

The allocation policy of this new subregistry is Expert Review (Section 4.5 of [RFC8126]).

The designated experts for this registry should be familiar with the G-PON Encapsulation Method. The guidelines that are being followed by the designated experts for the IPFIX registry should be followed for this subregistry. In particular, criteria that should be applied by the designated experts include to monitor the G-PON Encapsulation Method related activities at ITU-T and mirror the GEM PTI content type fields into this registry. Hence, keeping both registries in sync.

Initial values in the registry are defined in Table 2 and reflect the 3-bit GEM PTI content type field defined in Section 8.3.1 of [itu-g984-3].

Value	GEM PTI Content Type Meaning	Additional Information
000	User data fragment, not the end of a frame	[RFC-to-be]
001	User data fragment, end of a frame	[RFC-to-be]
010	Reserved	[RFC-to-be]
011	Reserved	[RFC-to-be]
100	GEM OAM, not the end of a frame	[RFC-to-be]
101	GEM OAM, end of a frame	[RFC-to-be]
110	Reserved	[RFC-to-be]
111	Reserved	[RFC-to-be]

Table 2: "IPFIX G-PON Encapsulation Method PTI" Subregistry

## 6. Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Paul Aitken for their review and valuable comments, and xxx for the implementation and validation.

## 7. Implementation Status

Note to the RFC-Editor: Please remove this section before publishing.

### 7.1. Huawei MA5800T-X17

Huawei plans to implement the following IEs as part of a production implementation in the VRP based MA5800T-X17 OLT platform:

- \* gponGemPortId

The implementation will be validated in an upcoming IETF hackathon.

## 8. Security Considerations

There exists no extra security considerations regarding allocation of these new IPFIX IEs compared to [RFC7012].

The IEs described in this document export provider plane data metrics on how frames are being forwarded within an Optical Access Network. Applications and operators using the IEs described in this document must evaluate the sensitivity of this information in their implementation context, and apply the data-at-rest storage guidance in Section 11.8 of [RFC7011] as appropriate.

## 9. References

### 9.1. Normative References

- [itu-g984-1] "G.984.1", ITU-T, International Telecommunication Union, March 2008, <<https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-G.984.1>>.
- [itu-g984-3] "G.984.3", ITU-T, International Telecommunication Union, January 2024, <<https://www.itu.int/rec/T-REC-G.984.3>>.
- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, DOI 10.17487/RFC2119, March 1997, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc2119>>.
- [RFC7011] Claise, B., Ed., Trammell, B., Ed., and P. Aitken, "Specification of the IP Flow Information Export (IPFIX) Protocol for the Exchange of Flow Information", STD 77, RFC 7011, DOI 10.17487/RFC7011, September 2013, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc7011>>.
- [RFC7012] Claise, B., Ed. and B. Trammell, Ed., "Information Model for IP Flow Information Export (IPFIX)", RFC 7012, DOI 10.17487/RFC7012, September 2013, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc7012>>.
- [RFC8126] Cotton, M., Leiba, B., and T. Narten, "Guidelines for Writing an IANA Considerations Section in RFCs", BCP 26, RFC 8126, DOI 10.17487/RFC8126, June 2017, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8126>>.
- [RFC8174] Leiba, B., "Ambiguity of Uppercase vs Lowercase in RFC 2119 Key Words", BCP 14, RFC 8174, DOI 10.17487/RFC8174, May 2017, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc8174>>.

### 9.2. Informative References

## [IANA-IPFIX]

"IANA, "IP Flow Information Export (IPFIX) Entities",  
<<https://www.iana.org/assignments/ipfix/ipfix.xhtml>>.

[RFC5102] Quittek, J., Bryant, S., Claise, B., Aitken, P., and J. Meyer, "Information Model for IP Flow Information Export", RFC 5102, DOI 10.17487/RFC5102, January 2008, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc5102>>.

[RFC7270] Yourtchenko, A., Aitken, P., and B. Claise, "Cisco-Specific Information Elements Reused in IP Flow Information Export (IPFIX)", RFC 7270, DOI 10.17487/RFC7270, June 2014, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc7270>>.

## Appendix A. IPFIX Encoding Examples

TBD.

## Authors' Addresses

Thomas Graf  
Swisscom  
Binzring 17  
CH-8045 Zurich  
Switzerland  
Email: [thomas.graf@swisscom.com](mailto:thomas.graf@swisscom.com)

Haomian Zheng  
Huawei Technologies  
H1, Huawei Xiliu Beipo Village, Songshan Lake  
Dongguan  
Guangdong, 523808  
China  
Email: [zhenghaomian@huawei.com](mailto:zhenghaomian@huawei.com)