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A Profile for Route Origin Authorizations (ROAs)

Abstract

This document defines a standard profile for Route Origin Authorizations (ROAs). A ROA is a digitally signed object that provides a means of verifying that an IP address block holder has authorized an Autonomous System (AS) to originate routes to one or more prefixes within the address block. This document obsoletes RFC 6482.

Status of This Memo

This is an Internet Standards Track document.

This document is a product of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). It represents the consensus of the IETF community. It has received public review and has been approved for publication by the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG). Further information on Internet Standards is available in Section 2 of RFC 7841.

Information about the current status of this document, any errata, and how to provide feedback on it may be obtained at <https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc9582>.

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1. Introduction

The primary purpose of the Resource Public Key Infrastructure (RPKI) is to improve routing security. (See [RFC6480] for more information.) As part of this system, a mechanism is needed to allow entities to verify that an Autonomous System (AS) has been given permission by an IP address block holder to advertise routes to one or more prefixes within that block. A Route Origin Authorization (ROA) provides this function.

The ROA makes use of the template for RPKI digitally signed objects [RFC6488], which defines a Cryptographic Message Syntax (CMS) wrapper [RFC5652] for the ROA content as well as a generic validation procedure for RPKI signed objects. Therefore, to complete the specification of the ROA (see Section 4 of [RFC6488]), this document defines:

- * The OID that identifies the signed object as being a ROA. (This OID appears within the eContentType in the encapContentInfo object as well as the content-type signed attribute in the signerInfo object.)
- * The ASN.1 syntax for the ROA eContent. (This is the payload that specifies the AS being authorized to originate routes as well as the prefixes to which the AS may originate routes.) The ROA eContent is ASN.1 encoded using the Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER) [X.690].
- * Additional steps required to validate ROAs (in addition to the validation steps specified in [RFC6488]).

1.1. Requirements Language

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.

1.2. Changes from RFC 6482

This section summarizes the significant changes between [RFC6482] and the profile described in this document.

- * Clarified the requirements for the IP address and AS identifier X.509 certificate extensions.
- * Strengthened the ASN.1 formal notation and definitions.
- * Incorporated errata for RFC 6482.
- * Added an example ROA eContent payload, and a complete ROA (Appendix A).
- * Specified a canonicalization procedure for the content of ipAddrBlocks.

2. Related Work

It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the terms and concepts described in "Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Profile" [RFC5280] and "X.509 Extensions for IP Addresses and AS Identifiers" [RFC3779].

Additionally, this document makes use of the RPKI signed object profile [RFC6488]; thus, familiarity with that document is assumed. Note that the RPKI signed object profile makes use of certificates adhering to the RPKI resource certificate profile [RFC6487]; thus, familiarity with that profile is also assumed.

3. The ROA Content Type

The content-type for a ROA is defined as id-ct-routeOriginAuthz and has the numerical value 1.2.840.113549.1.9.16.1.24.

This OID MUST appear within both the eContentType in the encapContentInfo object and the content-type signed attribute in the signerInfo object (see [RFC6488]).

4. The ROA eContent

The content of a ROA identifies a single AS that has been authorized by the address space holder to originate routes and a list of one or more IP address prefixes that will be advertised. If the address space holder needs to authorize multiple ASes to advertise the same set of address prefixes, the holder issues multiple ROAs, one per AS number. A ROA is formally defined as:

RPKI-ROA-2023

```
{ iso(1) member-body(2) us(840) rsadsi(113549)
pkcs(1) pkcs9(9) smime(16) mod(0)
id-mod-rpkiROA-2023(75) }
```

DEFINITIONS EXPLICIT TAGS ::=
BEGIN

IMPORTS

CONTENT-TYPE

FROM CryptographicMessageSyntax-2010 -- in [RFC6268]

```
{ iso(1) member-body(2) us(840) rsadsi(113549) pkcs(1)
pkcs-9(9) smime(16) modules(0) id-mod-cms-2009(58) } ;
```

ct-routeOriginAttestation CONTENT-TYPE ::=

```
{ TYPE RouteOriginAttestation
IDENTIFIED BY id-ct-routeOriginAuthz }
```

id-ct-routeOriginAuthz OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::=

```
{ iso(1) member-body(2) us(840) rsadsi(113549) pkcs(1)
pkcs-9(9) id-smime(16) id-ct(1) routeOriginAuthz(24) }
```

```

RouteOriginAttestation ::= SEQUENCE {
    version [0]    INTEGER DEFAULT 0,
    asID           ASID,
    ipAddrBlocks   SEQUENCE (SIZE(1..2)) OF ROAIPAddressFamily }

ASID ::= INTEGER (0..4294967295)

ROAIPAddressFamily ::= SEQUENCE {
    addressFamily ADDRESS-FAMILY.&afi ({AddressFamilySet}),
    addresses      ADDRESS-FAMILY.&Addresses
                    ({AddressFamilySet}{@addressFamily}) }

ADDRESS-FAMILY ::= CLASS {
    &afi           OCTET STRING (SIZE(2)) UNIQUE,
    &Addresses
} WITH SYNTAX { AFI &afi ADDRESSES &Addresses }

AddressFamilySet ADDRESS-FAMILY ::=
    { addressFamilyIPv4 | addressFamilyIPv6 }

addressFamilyIPv4 ADDRESS-FAMILY ::=
    { AFI afi-IPv4 ADDRESSES ROAAddressesIPv4 }
addressFamilyIPv6 ADDRESS-FAMILY ::=
    { AFI afi-IPv6 ADDRESSES ROAAddressesIPv6 }

afi-IPv4 OCTET STRING ::= '0001'H
afi-IPv6 OCTET STRING ::= '0002'H

ROAAddressesIPv4 ::= SEQUENCE (SIZE(1..MAX)) OF ROAIPAddress{ub-IPv4}
ROAAddressesIPv6 ::= SEQUENCE (SIZE(1..MAX)) OF ROAIPAddress{ub-IPv6}

ub-IPv4 INTEGER ::= 32
ub-IPv6 INTEGER ::= 128

ROAIPAddress {INTEGER: ub} ::= SEQUENCE {
    address      BIT STRING (SIZE(0..ub)),
    maxLength    INTEGER (0..ub) OPTIONAL }

END

```

4.1. The version Element

The version number of the RouteOriginAttestation entry MUST be 0.

4.2. The asID Element

The asID element contains the AS number that is authorized to originate routes to the given IP address prefixes.

4.3. The ipAddrBlocks Element

The ipAddrBlocks element encodes the set of IP address prefixes to which the AS is authorized to originate routes. Note that the syntax here is more restrictive than that used in the IP address delegation extension defined in [RFC3779]. That extension can represent arbitrary address ranges, whereas ROAs need to represent only IP prefixes.

4.3.1. Type ROAIPAddressFamily

Within the ROAIPAddressFamily structure, the addressFamily element contains the Address Family Identifier (AFI) of an IP address family. This specification only supports IPv4 and IPv6; therefore, addressFamily MUST be either 0001 or 0002. IPv4 prefixes MUST NOT appear as IPv4-mapped IPv6 addresses (Section 2.5.5.2 of [RFC4291]).

There MUST be only one instance of ROAIPAddressFamily per unique AFI in the ROA. Thus, the ROAIPAddressFamily structure MUST NOT appear more than twice.

The addresses field contains IP prefixes as a sequence of type ROAIPAddress.

4.3.2. Type ROAIPAddress

A ROAIPAddress structure is a sequence containing an address element of type BIT STRING and an optional maxLength element of type INTEGER.

4.3.2.1. The address Element

The address element is of type BIT STRING and represents a single IP address prefix. This field uses the same representation of an IP address prefix as a BIT STRING as the IPAddress type defined in Section 2.2.3.8 of [RFC3779].

4.3.2.2. The maxLength Element

When present, the maxLength element specifies the maximum length of the IP address prefix that the AS is authorized to advertise. The maxLength element SHOULD NOT be encoded if the maximum length is equal to the prefix length. Certification Authorities SHOULD anticipate that future Relying Parties will become increasingly stringent in considering the presence of superfluous maxLength elements an encoding error.

If present, the maxLength element MUST be:

- * an integer greater than or equal to the length of the accompanying prefix, and
- * less than or equal to the maximum length (in bits) of an IP address in the applicable address family: 32 in the case of IPv4 and 128 in the case of IPv6.

For example, if the IP address prefix is 203.0.113.0/24 and maxLength is 26, the AS is authorized to advertise any more-specific prefix with a maximum length of 26. In this example, the AS would be authorized to advertise 203.0.113.0/24, 203.0.113.128/25, or 203.0.113.192/26, but not 203.0.113.0/27. See [RFC9319] for more information on the use of maxLength.

When the maxLength element is not present, the AS is only authorized to advertise the exact prefix specified in the ROAIPAddress structure's address element.

4.3.2.3. Note on Overlapping or Superfluous Information Encoding

Note that a valid ROA may contain an IP address prefix (within a ROAIPAddress element) that is encompassed by another IP address prefix (within a separate ROAIPAddress element). For example, a ROA may contain the prefix 203.0.113.0/24 with maxLength 26, as well as the prefix 203.0.113.0/28 with maxLength 28. This ROA would authorize the indicated AS to advertise any prefix beginning with 203.0.113 with a minimum length of 24 and a maximum length of 26, as well as the specific prefix 203.0.113.0/28.

Additionally, a ROA MAY contain two ROAIPAddress elements, where the IP address prefix is identical in both cases. However, this is NOT RECOMMENDED, because in such a case, the ROAIPAddress element with the shorter maxLength grants no additional privileges to the indicated AS and thus can be omitted without changing the meaning of the ROA.

4.3.3. Canonical Form for ipAddrBlocks

As the data structure described by the ROA ASN.1 module allows for many different ways to represent the same set of IP address information, a canonical form is defined such that every set of IP address information has a unique representation. In order to produce and verify this canonical form, the process described in this section SHOULD be used to ensure that information elements are unique with respect to one another and sorted in ascending order. Certification Authorities SHOULD anticipate that future Relying Parties will impose a strict requirement for the ipAddrBlocks field to be in this canonical form. This canonicalization procedure builds upon the canonicalization procedure specified in Section 2.2.3.6 of [RFC3779].

In order to semantically compare, sort, and deduplicate the contents of the ipAddrBlocks field, each ROAIPAddress element is mapped to an abstract data element composed of four integer values:

afi The AFI value appearing in the addressFamily field of the containing ROAIPAddressFamily as an integer.

addr The first IP address of the IP prefix appearing in the ROAIPAddress address field, as a 32-bit (IPv4) or 128-bit (IPv6) integer value.

plen The length of the IP prefix appearing in the ROAIPAddress address field as an integer value.

mLEN The value appearing in the maxLength field of the ROAIPAddress element, if present; otherwise, the above prefix length value.

Thus, the equality or relative order of two ROAIPAddress elements can be tested by comparing their abstract representations.

4.3.3.1. Comparator

The set of ipAddrBlocks is totally ordered. The order of two ipAddrBlocks is determined by the first non-equal comparison in the following list.

1. Data elements with a lower afi value precede data elements with a higher afi value.
2. Data elements with a lower addr value precede data elements with a higher addr value.
3. Data elements with a lower plen value precede data elements with a higher plen value.
4. Data elements with a lower mLEN value precede data elements with a higher mLEN value.

Data elements for which all four values compare equal are duplicates of one another.

4.3.3.2. Example Implementations

- * A sorting implementation [roasort-c] in ISO/IEC 9899:1999 ("ANSI C99").

- * A sorting implementation [roasort-rs] in the Rust 2021 Edition.

5. ROA Validation

Before a Relying Party can use a ROA to validate a routing

announcement, the Relying Party MUST first validate the ROA. To validate a ROA, the Relying Party MUST perform all the validation checks specified in [RFC6488] as well as the following additional ROA-specific validation steps:

- * The IP address delegation extension [RFC3779] is present in the end-entity (EE) certificate (contained within the ROA), and every IP address prefix in the ROA payload is contained within the set of IP addresses specified by the EE certificate's IP address delegation extension.
- * The EE certificate's IP address delegation extension MUST NOT contain "inherit" elements as described in [RFC3779].
- * The Autonomous System identifier delegation extension described in [RFC3779] is not used in ROAs and MUST NOT be present in the EE certificate.
- * The ROA content fully conforms with all requirements specified in Sections 3 and 4.

If any of the above checks fail, the ROA in its entirety MUST be considered invalid and an error SHOULD be logged.

6. Security Considerations

There is no assumption of confidentiality for the data in a ROA; it is anticipated that ROAs will be stored in repositories that are accessible to all ISPs, and perhaps to all Internet users. There is no explicit authentication associated with a ROA, since the PKI used for ROA validation provides authorization but not authentication. Although the ROA is a signed, application-layer object, there is no intent to convey non-repudiation via a ROA.

The purpose of a ROA is to convey authorization for an AS to originate a route to the prefix or prefixes in the ROA. Thus, the integrity of a ROA MUST be established. This ROA specification makes use of the RPKI signed object format; thus, all security considerations discussed in [RFC6488] also apply to ROAs. Additionally, the signed object profile uses the CMS signed message format for integrity; thus, ROAs inherit all security considerations associated with that data structure.

The right of the ROA signer to authorize the target AS to originate routes to the prefix or prefixes is established through the use of the address space and AS number PKI as described in [RFC6480]. Specifically, one MUST verify the signature on the ROA using an X.509 certificate issued under this PKI and check that the prefix or prefixes in the ROA are contained within those in the certificate's IP address delegation extension.

7. IANA Considerations

7.1. SMI Security for S/MIME CMS Content Type (1.2.840.113549.1.9.16.1)

IANA has updated the id-ct-routeOriginAuthz entry in the "SMI Security for S/MIME CMS Content Type (1.2.840.113549.1.9.16.1)" registry as follows:

Decimal	Description	References
24	id-ct-routeOriginAuthz	RFC 9582

Table 1

7.2. RPKI Signed Objects Registry

IANA has updated the Route Origination Authorization entry in the "RPKI Signed Objects" registry created by [RFC6488] as follows:

Name	OID	Reference
Route Origination Authorization	1.2.840.113549.1.9.16.1.24	RFC 9582

Table 2

7.3. File Extension

IANA has updated the entry for the ROA file extension in the "RPKI Repository Name Schemes" registry created by [RFC6481] as follows:

Filename Extension	RPKI Object	Reference
.roa	Route Origination Authorization	RFC 9582

Table 3

7.4. SMI Security for S/MIME Module Identifier (1.2.840.113549.1.9.16.0)

IANA has allocated the following entry in the "SMI Security for S/MIME Module Identifier (1.2.840.113549.1.9.16.0)" registry:

Decimal	Description	References
75	id-mod-rpkiROA-2023	RFC 9582

Table 4

7.5. Media Type

IANA has updated the media type application/rpki-roa in the "Media Types" registry as follows:

Type name: application

Subtype name: rpki-roa

Required parameters: N/A

Optional parameters: N/A

Encoding considerations: binary

Security considerations: Carries an RPKI ROA (RFC 9582). This media type contains no active content. See Section 6 of RFC 9582 for further information.

Interoperability considerations: None

Published specification: RFC 9582

Applications that use this media type: RPKI operators

Additional information:

Content: This media type is a signed object, as defined in [RFC6488], which contains a payload of a list of prefixes and an AS identifier as defined in RFC 9582.

Magic number(s): None

File extension(s): .roa

Macintosh file type code(s): None

Person & email address to contact for further information:

Job Snijders <job@fastly.com>

Intended usage: COMMON

Restrictions on usage: None

Change controller: IETF

8. References

8.1. Normative References

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- [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>>.
- [X.690] ITU-T, "Information Technology - ASN.1 encoding rules: Specification of Basic Encoding Rules (BER), Canonical Encoding Rules (CER) and Distinguished Encoding Rules (DER)", ITU-T Recommendation X.690, February 2021.

8.2. Informative References

- ```
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[RFC5280] Cooper, D., Santesson, S., Farrell, S., Boeyen, S., Housley, R., and W. Polk, "Internet X.509 Public Key Infrastructure Certificate and Certificate Revocation List (CRL) Profile", RFC 5280, DOI 10.17487/RFC5280, May 2008, <https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc5280>.

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```

## Appendix A. Example ROA eContent Payload

An example of a DER-encoded ROA eContent is provided below, with annotation following the "#" character.

```
$ echo 16i 301802030100003011300F040200023009300703050020010DB8 P \
| dc | openssl asn1parse -inform DER -i -dump
0:d=0 hl=2 l= 24 cons: SEQUENCE # RouteOriginAttestation
2:d=1 hl=2 l= 3 prim: INTEGER :010000 # asID 65536
7:d=1 hl=2 l= 17 cons: SEQUENCE # ipAddrBlocks
9:d=2 hl=2 l= 15 cons: SEQUENCE # ROAIPAddressFamily
11:d=3 hl=2 l= 2 prim: OCTET STRING # addressFamily
0000 - 00 02 # IPv6
15:d=3 hl=2 l= 9 cons: SEQUENCE # addresses
17:d=4 hl=2 l= 7 cons: SEQUENCE # ROAIPAddress
19:d=5 hl=2 l= 5 prim: BIT STRING # 2001:db8::/32
0000 - 00 20 01 0d b8
```

Below is a complete RPKI ROA signed object, Base64 encoded per [RFC4648].

MIIGgAYJKoZIhvcNAQcCoIIGcTCCBm0CAQMxDALBgUghkgBZQMEAgEwKwYLKoZIHv  
cNAQkQARigHAQAmbGCAWEAADARMA8EAgaACMAkwBwMFACABDbigggr8RMIIEeDCC  
A2CgAwIBAgIBAZANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQsFAADAvMSc0WkwYDVQDEYQ4NjUyNWNNKS0w  
NQ3LTRRkZjktODAzOS00YTlkYzRmNmJFNDVAdHMcNMjYQNTAxMDAzeXhCNMjUw  
NTAxMDAzeXhCNMjUwNTAxMDAzeXhCNMjUwNTAxMDAzeXhCNMjUwNTAxMDAzeXhCNMjUw

YmNhZDA4MzliMTMwggeiMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBAQUAA4IBDwAwggEKAoIBAQCSPSYD  
JnGOFrSHUZuVxibx2TQfWWoPIHNKqQAwwYn1Kz88HaGgVf63GlmJd/cxBNMj5AfNQ  
m2zKSAb83UAp97DUXf+lvoKj4F+lxCCjFaBpBeehc7X0XPDpbcqolYrzIzxxqou  
GijEwZ4k+BaM2avEFYMBszqWA+ZdneBSuZ3YbHPKp2royn4pJ9a1I5fydqFQi0eo  
VZbAc8pZmwRVouedYYqQiy9CSRGsbIGlB0fKt2m/zSsuvl4Zit7+NyGL3wAZecjZ  
XEInsTtQsjQuy5PeJjLDyfiWi/ZFi0qPsNlK0M2lMsi5B7QKaagAlRbRVHZyrkWo  
2015rfklbIGMv/plAgMBAAGjggGdMIIBMTAObgNVHQ8BAf8EBAMCB4AwHQYDVR0O  
BBYEFN4UWxk/syCyWnRDVSmMi/fCUj0iMB8GA1UdIwQYMBaAFNZyCOPHDp1t1mVA  
IvVTrcE4mrQ0MBGAlUdIAEB/wQOMAwWcGyIKwYBBQUHDgIwWgYIKwYBBQUHAQEE  
TjBMMEoGCCsGAQUFBzAchj5yc3luYzovL3Jwa2kuZXhhbXBsZS5uZXQvcmlvby8x  
bklJNmtjT25XMldaVUFpOVZPdHdUaWw0RfNnLmNlcjBRBgNVHR8ESjBIMEagRKBC  
hkByc3luYzovL3Jwa2kuZXhhbXBsZS5uZXQvcmlvby9BLzFuSUK2a2NPblczV1pV  
QWk5Vk90dlRyYXREU2cuY3JSMFwGCCsGAQUFBwELBFAwTjBMBggrBgEFBQcwC4ZA  
cnN5bmM6Ly9ycGtpLmV4YWlwbGUubmV0L3JlcG8vQS8zaFJiRlQteklMSmFkRU5W  
S1l5TDk4S1NQU0tnLnJvYTAgaBggrBgEFBQcCBWwEB/wQRMa8wDQCCAIAwBwMFACAB  
DbgwDQYJKoZIhvcNAQELBQADggEBAKFoMax1Gdxb9mvSfKE2Jo+DudqCGjWF3mGv  
rkhaG8CQYi2CBJZLrkPCRha8doBW4PbrL36waWG55A/TdLKvWzAf66/v3iL5QcXo  
Krb0+fp1pu/YVK4xFxwYJhbX4OnL4Gqh9+t4fFXhEDj2QemlgjWZyxvgx2Sra/iK  
fOt6gxUhie3oIT+FiYjqF//WIUBP/HjTf+E4IRGN8tCr3NDhMZG6c0njq2keW7w4  
wnw1+GqSyDhqu0Rsr0m3XUbiVkc+h0ZZBBS9SxPM+GfgdzEDV51VcK1SeMa3G3Ca  
j0cJA99eTM+j52tkNVupftv1Y+4Wt0XGLKMRNKw26XDaphzw3B8xggGqMIIBPgIB  
A4AU3hRbGT+zILJadENVKYyL98JSPSIwCwYJYIZIAWUDBAIBoGswGgYJKoZIhvcN  
AQkDMQ0GCyqGSIb3DQEJEAeyMBwGCSqGSIb3DQEJBTBTEPFw0yNDA1MDEwMDMTNa  
MC8GCSqGSIb3DQEJBTBDEiBCBlz4HExs5A69pxkjqTCbUvc2iTS7C4eDd3aJD4hYJS  
wjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAASCAQBa2wmuDHBcvfnMRIaOJ6m30zpCZtJVBLELoA0  
2kLb18TfFbxQhUi/jZ9g0hNYksV0n4vOJnCQ3qP6IIIfm0ZsKzRnyzZf3f2xegw2p  
Wzi9Z8QYlc//eY3+XA3bQ37h+s0r70ZkQH7+KmIwDOCYaLh/YB37wp/7giC7bpvi  
c2Fv2illQmctrK7tYDHsNGq+svULTjemUaklqfcRAAJnQTRzTz8S09wKY9SR2VVZ  
68DDITBUx8jPYEnQtvxsoVA6HuW9wyurlyQ9m/cF8CzliZVmsHgxxzjO9ifmYJj9  
YZWMLtjF7XwlfQZLYMrD5DCZzUw3nv4GyyHxckm2kLF38mze

The object in this appendix has the following properties:

Object size: 1668 octets  
Object SHA256 message digest:  
3a39e0b652e79ddf6efdd178ad5e3b29e0121b1e593b89f1e0ac18f3ba60d5e7

CMS signing time: Wed 01 May 2024 00:34:13 +0000

X.509 end-entity certificate  
Subject key id: DE145B193FB320B25A744355298C8BF7C2523D22  
Authority key id: D67208EA470E9D6DD6654022F553ADC1389AB434  
Issuer: CN=86525cd5-44d7-4df9-8079-4a9dcdf26944  
Serial: 3  
Not before: Wed 01 May 2024 00:34:13 +0000  
Not after: Thu 01 May 2025 00:34:13 +0000  
IP address delegation: 2001:db8::/32

ROA eContent  
asID: 65536  
addresses: 2001:db8::/32

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