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An Update to YANG Module Names Registration

Abstract

This document amends the IANA guidance on the uniqueness of YANG module and submodule names.

The document updates RFC 6020 to clarify how modules and their revisions are handled by IANA.

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/rfc9890>.

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Acknowledgments

Authors' Addresses

1. Introduction

[RFC6020] defines a registry for YANG module and submodule names, called "YANG Module Names" [IANA-MOD-NAMES].

Specifically, IANA considerations to register YANG module and submodule names are specified in Section 14 of [RFC6020]. These considerations require that all module and submodule names in the registry must be unique. However, the practice followed by IANA is not consistent with that guidance.

This document amends the guidance on the uniqueness of names (Section 14 of [RFC6020]) to comply with the IANA practices for registering modules and their revisions.

2. Requirements Notation

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.

3. IANA Considerations

3.1. Update YANG Parameters Registry

IANA has updated the "YANG Module Names" registry under the "YANG Parameters" registry group [IANA-MOD-NAMES] to list this document as an additional reference. This update is needed because the procedure in this document is authoritative for assigning names in that registry.

3.2. Revisions of Published Modules

This document amends the guidance on the uniqueness of names, initially defined in Section 14 of [RFC6020], as follows:

OLD:

- | All module and submodule names in the registry MUST be unique.
- | All XML namespaces in the registry MUST be unique.

NEW:

- | Modules and their revisions are maintained in the registry.
- | All initial version module and submodule names in the registry MUST be unique.
- | All XML namespaces of initial version modules in the registry MUST be unique.
- | All module and submodule revisions MUST have the same name as the one in the initial version of the module and submodule.
- | All module revisions MUST have the same XML namespace as the initial version of the module.

4. Operational Considerations

This document aligns an IANA policy with the practice for handling YANG module names (Section 3.2). As such, there are no new operations or manageability requirements introduced by this document.

5. Security Considerations

This document defines a new IANA action (Section 3.1) and an update (Section 3.2) to an IANA registration procedure defined in [RFC6020]. It does not introduce any new or increased security risks that need to be discussed.

6. References

6.1. Normative References

- [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>>.
- [RFC6020] Bjorklund, M., Ed., "YANG - A Data Modeling Language for the Network Configuration Protocol (NETCONF)", RFC 6020, DOI 10.17487/RFC6020, October 2010, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc6020>>.
- [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>>.

6.2. Informative References

- [IANA-MOD-NAMES]
IANA, "YANG Module Names", <<https://www.iana.org/assignments/yang-parameters/>>.
- [YANG-GUIDE]
Bierman, A., Boucadair, M., Ed., and Q. Wu, "Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers of Documents Containing YANG Data Models", Work in Progress, Internet-Draft, draft-ietf-netmod-rfc8407bis-28, 5 June 2025, <<https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/html/draft-ietf-netmod-rfc8407bis-28>>.

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