

[MS-RTASPF]:

RTP for Application Sharing Payload Format Extensions

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Revision Summary

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3/13/2009	1.02	Minor	Revised and edited the technical content
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8/20/2024	9.0	Major	Significantly changed the technical content.

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1 Introduction

The RTP for Application Sharing Payload Format Extensions protocol specifies a set of proprietary extensions for [\[MS-RTP\]](#). This protocol is designed to transfer application sharing data over the Real-Time Transport Protocol.

Sections 1.5, 1.8, 1.9, 2, and 3 of this specification are normative. All other sections and examples in this specification are informative.

1.1 Glossary

This document uses the following terms:

Application Sharing Multipoint Control Unit (ASMCU): A **Multipoint Control Unit (MCU)** that supports application sharing conferencing.

encryption: In cryptography, the process of obscuring information to make it unreadable without special knowledge.

Multipoint Control Unit (MCU): A server endpoint that offers mixing services for multiparty, multiuser conferencing. An MCU typically supports one or more media types, such as audio, video, and data.

participant: A user who is participating in a conference or peer-to-peer call, or the object that is used to represent that user.

peer: An additional endpoint that is associated with an endpoint in a session. An example of a peer is the callee endpoint for a caller endpoint.

Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP): A network transport protocol that provides end-to-end transport functions that are suitable for applications that transmit real-time data, such as audio and video, as described in [\[RFC3550\]](#).

Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP): A multi-channel protocol that allows a user to connect to a computer running Microsoft Terminal Services (TS). RDP enables the exchange of client and server settings and also enables negotiation of common settings to use for the duration of the connection, so that input, graphics, and other data can be exchanged and processed between client and server.

RTP packet: A data packet consisting of the fixed RTP header, a possibly empty list of contributing sources, and the payload data. Some underlying protocols could require an encapsulation of the RTP packet to be defined. Typically one packet of the underlying protocol contains a single RTP packet, but several RTP packets can be contained if permitted by the encapsulation method. See [\[RFC3550\]](#) section 3.

RTP payload: The data transported by **RTP** in a packet, for example audio samples or compressed video data. For more information, see [\[RFC3550\]](#) section 3.

Session Description Protocol (SDP): A protocol that is used for session announcement, session invitation, and other forms of multimedia session initiation. For more information see [\[MS-SDP\]](#) and [\[RFC3264\]](#).

Session Initiation Protocol (SIP): An application-layer control (signaling) protocol for creating, modifying, and terminating sessions with one or more participants. **SIP** is defined in [\[RFC3261\]](#).

Transmission Control Protocol (TCP): A protocol used with the Internet Protocol (IP) to send data in the form of message units between computers over the Internet. TCP handles keeping track of the individual units of data (called packets) that a message is divided into for efficient routing through the Internet.

Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): A string that identifies a resource. The URI is an addressing mechanism defined in Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax [\[RFC3986\]](#).

MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT: These terms (in all caps) are used as defined in [\[RFC2119\]](#). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

1.2 References

Links to a document in the Microsoft Open Specifications library point to the correct section in the most recently published version of the referenced document. However, because individual documents in the library are not updated at the same time, the section numbers in the documents may not match. You can confirm the correct section numbering by checking the [Errata](#).

1.2.1 Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com. We will assist you in finding the relevant information.

[MS-CONFAS] Microsoft Corporation, "[Centralized Conference Control Protocol: Application Sharing Extensions](#)".

[MS-RDPBCGR] Microsoft Corporation, "[Remote Desktop Protocol: Basic Connectivity and Graphics Remoting](#)".

[MS-RDPEMC] Microsoft Corporation, "[Remote Desktop Protocol: Multiparty Virtual Channel Extension](#)".

[MS-RTP] Microsoft Corporation, "[Real-time Transport Protocol \(RTP\) Extensions](#)".

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, <https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc2119>

[RFC3550] Schulzrinne, H., Casner, S., Frederick, R., and Jacobson, V., "RTP: A Transport Protocol for Real-Time Applications", STD 64, RFC 3550, July 2003, <https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc3550>

1.2.2 Informative References

[MS-ICE2] Microsoft Corporation, "[Interactive Connectivity Establishment \(ICE\) Extensions 2.0](#)".

[MS-SRTP] Microsoft Corporation, "[Secure Real-time Transport Protocol \(SRTP\) Profile](#)".

1.3 Overview

This protocol extends the **Real-Time Transport Protocol (RTP)** Extensions protocol, a set of proprietary extensions to the base RTP, as described in [\[RFC3550\]](#), to transfer the application sharing payload encoded in the graphics format described by [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#).

1.4 Relationship to Other Protocols

This protocol uses the Real-time Transport Protocol (RTP) Extensions protocol described in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) and the **Transmission Control Protocol (TCP)** described in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) as its local transport protocol. This protocol is the transport protocol for the Remote Desktop Protocol: Basic Connectivity and Graphics Remoting Specification described in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) and the Remote Desktop Protocol: Multiparty Virtual Channel Extension described in [\[MS-RDPEMC\]](#). **Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP)** is a stream protocol with no boundaries, which means that RDP defines the packet length inside the

RDP packet ([MS-RDPBCGR] section 2) and the next RDP packet can immediately follow the previous RDP packet.

RTP is required to use TCP as its transport protocol when transporting payloads for this protocol. For details, see [MS-RTP] section 1.4 for other dependent protocols.

1.5 Prerequisites/Preconditions

This protocol requires all the prerequisites and preconditions of **RTP**, as described in [MS-RTP] section 1.5.

The **RDP** protocol is required to turn off **encryption** by setting the encryption level to "None" as described in [MS-RDPBCGR] section 5.3.6.

The RDP protocol is required to turn off Bulk Data Compression for the data between the Viewer and the **Multipoint Control Unit (MCU)**, and also to turn on Bulk Data Compression for the data between the Sharer and the MCU as described in [MS-RDPBCGR] section 3.1.8.

1.6 Applicability Statement

This protocol is used when the **RDP** payload is transferred over the **RTP** protocol. The protocol described in [MS-SRTP] is required to provide **encryption** for the transferred data.

1.7 Versioning and Capability Negotiation

This document covers versioning issues in the following areas:

- **Supported Transports:** This protocol only supports [MS-RTP] as its transport, as discussed in section 2.1 and [MS-ICE2] in **TCP** mode only.
- **Protocol Versions:** This protocol, as a payload format of **RTP**, does not provide versioning information within the scope of the protocol itself. However, as a part of the RTP payload, any versioning information about the RTP level applies.

The current version is 0x00080004. The current **RDP** version number can be obtained as described in [MS-RDPBCGR] section 1.3.1.1.

- **Capability Negotiation:** Capability negotiation is done by non-RTP means, usually through a higher level application layer protocol such as **Session Initiation Protocol (SIP)** and **Session Description Protocol (SDP)**.

1.8 Vendor-Extensible Fields

None.

1.9 Standards Assignments

None.

2 Messages

2.1 Transport

This protocol is a payload for the [\[MS-RTP\]](#) transport protocol and therefore relies on **RTP** and TCP for providing means to transport its payload over the network.

2.2 Message Syntax

[\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 2.2.1 defines the **RTP packet** format and [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section [2](#) defines one **RTP payload** format for application sharing.

The total RTP packet size including the transport header, network header, link layer header, RTP header, and RTP payload **MUST NOT** exceed 1500 bytes, as specified in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 2.1; otherwise, the RTP connection will be disconnected. The RTP packets **MUST** be split so that this limit is not exceeded.

3 Protocol Details

3.1 Peer to Peer Details

The **peer** to peer scenario means that there are two **participants** in the application sharing session: one sharer and one viewer. As defined in [\[MS-RDPEMC\]](#) section [2.2.4.1](#), the **FriendlyName** that is sent on the Participant-Created PDU MUST be their local **SIP Uniform Resource Identifier (URI)**.

3.1.1 Abstract Data Model

None.

3.1.2 Timers

None.

3.1.3 Initialization

None.

3.1.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

None.

3.1.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The RTP parameters for packet sequence number, RTP marker bit, CSRCCount, and SSRC MUST be set as specified in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 2.2.1 and [\[RFC3550\]](#) section 5.1. The RTP marker bit MUST be set to 0 for the message.

The RTP parameter for Payload Type MUST be set to 127 (0x7F) to denote an RDP payload.

When the RTP packets are received on the receiver side, the payload for each RTP packet MUST be assembled in order by the RTP sequence number, and the payload or assembled payloads are interpreted as specified in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section [2](#).

The connection sequence specified in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section [1.3.1.1](#) MUST omit the Security Exchange PDU defined in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section [2.2.1.10.1](#).

3.1.6 Timer Events

None.

3.1.7 Other Local Events

When a packet loss event is detected from [\[MS-RTP\]](#), this protocol stops sending data.

The packet loss is specified in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 1.3.

3.2 Multiparty Details

The multiparty scenario means that there are more than two **participants** in the application sharing session: one sharer and multiple viewers. The sharer and viewers connect to the **Application Sharing Multipoint Control Unit (ASMCU)** using this protocol. For details, see [\[MS-CONFAS\]](#).

3.2.1 Abstract Data Model

None.

3.2.2 Timers

None.

3.2.3 Initialization

None.

3.2.4 Higher-Layer Triggered Events

None.

3.2.5 Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The RTP parameters for packet sequence number, RTP marker bit, CSRCCount, and SSRC MUST be set according to [\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 2.2.1 and [\[RFC3550\]](#) section 5.1. The RTP marker bit MUST be set to 0 for the message.

The RTP parameter for Payload Type MUST be set to 127 (0x7F) to denote an RDP payload.

When the RTP packets are received on the receiver side, the payload for each RTP packet MUST be assembled in order by the RTP sequence number, and the payload or assembled payloads are interpreted as specified in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section 2.

The connection sequence specified in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section [1.3.1.1](#) MUST omit the Security Exchange PDU specified in [\[MS-RDPBCGR\]](#) section [2.2.1.10.1](#).

3.2.6 Timer Events

None.

3.2.7 Other Local Events

When a packet loss is detected, this protocol stops sending data.

The packet loss is specified in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 1.3.

4 Protocol Examples

The following RTP Marker is the Payload Type of 127 (0x7F) which is described in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) section 2.2.1.

The following data is an example of one RTP packet that has an RDP payload:

Byte offset	Content	Comments
00	80	RTP Version: 2; Padding: 0; Extension: 0; CSRCCount: 0
01	7F	RTP Marker: 0; RTP payload type: 0x7F
02~03	49 14	RTP Sequence Number: 0x4914
04~07	6E 5D FB A0	RTP Timestamp: 0x6e5dfba0
08~0B	0F 3E 6B 58	RTP SSRC: 0x0F3E6B58
0C~	...	RTP payload (RDP packet)

5 Security

5.1 Security Considerations for Implementers

This protocol has no additional security considerations beyond what is described in [\[MS-RTP\]](#) and [\[MS-SRTP\]](#).

5.2 Index of Security Parameters

None.

6 Appendix A: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include updates to those products.

- Microsoft Office Communications Server 2007 R2
- Microsoft Office Communicator 2007 R2
- Microsoft Lync Server 2010
- Microsoft Lync 2010
- Microsoft Lync Server 2013
- Microsoft Lync Client 2013/Skype for Business
- Microsoft Skype for Business 2016
- Microsoft Skype for Business Server 2015
- Microsoft Skype for Business 2019
- Microsoft Skype for Business Server 2019
- Microsoft Skype for Business 2021
- Microsoft Skype for Business LTSC 2024

Exceptions, if any, are noted in this section. If an update version, service pack or Knowledge Base (KB) number appears with a product name, the behavior changed in that update. The new behavior also applies to subsequent updates unless otherwise specified. If a product edition appears with the product version, behavior is different in that product edition.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification that is prescribed using the terms "SHOULD" or "SHOULD NOT" implies product behavior in accordance with the SHOULD or SHOULD NOT prescription. Unless otherwise specified, the term "MAY" implies that the product does not follow the prescription.

7 Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to this document since the last release. Changes are classified as Major, Minor, or None.

The revision class **Major** means that the technical content in the document was significantly revised. Major changes affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of major changes are:

- A document revision that incorporates changes to interoperability requirements.
- A document revision that captures changes to protocol functionality.

The revision class **Minor** means that the meaning of the technical content was clarified. Minor changes do not affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of minor changes are updates to clarify ambiguity at the sentence, paragraph, or table level.

The revision class **None** means that no new technical changes were introduced. Minor editorial and formatting changes may have been made, but the relevant technical content is identical to the last released version.

The changes made to this document are listed in the following table. For more information, please contact dochelp@microsoft.com.

Section	Description	Revision class
6 Appendix A: Product Behavior	Updated list of supported products.	Major

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