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Session Peering Provisioning Framework (SPPF)  
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Abstract

This document specifies the data model and the overall structure for a framework to provision session establishment data into Session Data Registries and SIP Service Provider data stores. The framework is called the Session Peering Provisioning Framework (SPPF). The provisioned data is typically used by network elements for session establishment.

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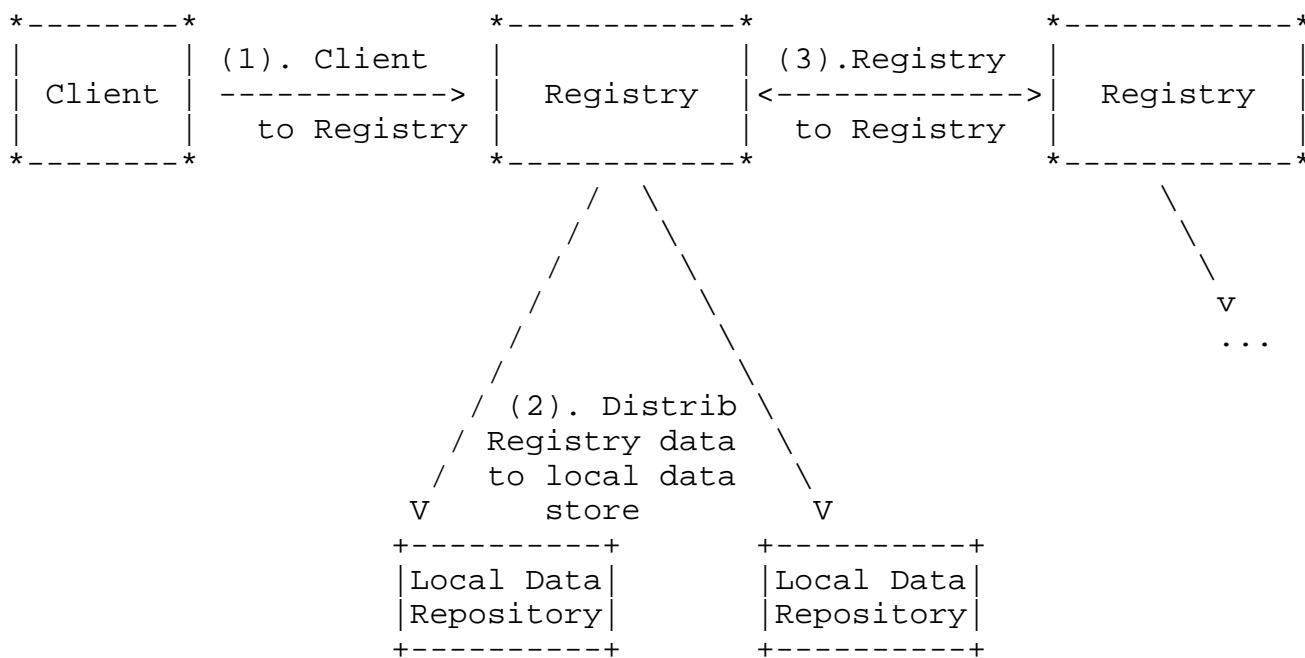
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## 1. Introduction

Service providers and enterprises use routing databases known as registries to make session routing decisions for Voice over IP, SMS and MMS traffic exchanges. This document is narrowly focused on the provisioning framework for these registries. This framework prescribes a way for an entity to provision session-related data into a Registry. The data being provisioned can be optionally shared with other participating peering entities. The requirements and use cases driving this framework have been documented in [RFC6461].

Three types of provisioning flows have been described in the use case document: client to Registry, Registry to local data repository and Registry to Registry. This document addresses client to Registry flow enabling the need to provision Session Establishment Data (SED). The framework that supports flow of messages to facilitate client to Registry provisioning is referred to as Session Peering Provisioning Framework (SPPF).

The role of the "client" and the "server" only applies to the connection, and those roles are not related in any way to the type of entity that participates in a protocol exchange. For example, a Registry might also include a "client" when such a Registry initiates a connection (for example, for data distribution to SSP).



Three Registry Provisioning Flows

Figure 1

A "terminating" SIP Service Provider (SSP) provisions Session Establishment Data or SED into the Registry to be selectively shared with other peer SSPs.

SED is typically used by various downstream SIP signaling systems to route a call to the next hop associated with the called domain. These systems typically use a local data store ("Local Data Repository") as their source of session routing information. More specifically, the SED data is the set of parameters that the outgoing signaling path border elements (SBEs) need to initiate the session. See [RFC5486] for more details.

A Registry may distribute the provisioned data into local data repositories or may additionally offer a central query resolution service (not shown in the above figure) for query purposes.

A key requirement for the SPPF is to be able to accommodate two basic deployment scenarios:

1. A resolution system returns a Look-Up Function (LUF) that comprises the target domain to assist in call routing (as described in [RFC5486]). In this case, the querying entity may use other means to perform the Location Routing Function (LRF)

which in turn helps determine the actual location of the Signaling Function in that domain.

2. A resolution system returns a Location Routing Function (LRF) that comprises the location (address) of the signaling function in the target domain (as described in [RFC5486]).

In terms of framework design, SPPF is agnostic to the transport protocol. This document includes the specification of the data model and identifies, but does not specify, the means to enable protocol operations within a request and response structure. That aspect of the specification has been delegated to the "protocol" specification for the framework. To encourage interoperability, the framework supports extensibility aspects.

In this document, XML schema is used to describe the building blocks of the SPPF and to express the data types, the semantic relationships between the various data types, and the various constraints as a binding construct. However, the "protocol" specification is free to choose any data representation format as long as it meets the requirements laid out in the SPPF XML schema definition. As an example, XML and JSON are two widely used data representation formats.

This document is organized as follows:

- o Section 2 provides the terminology
- o Section 3 provides an overview of SPPF, including functional entities and data model
- o Section 4 specifies requirements for SPPF transport protocols
- o Section 5 describes the base framework data structures, the generic response types that MUST be supported by a conforming transport "protocol" specification, and the basic object type most first class objects extend from
- o Section 6 provides a detailed description of the data model object specifications
- o Section 7 describes the operations that are supported by the data model
- o Section 8 defines XML considerations XML parsers must meet to conform to this specification

- o Sections 9 - 11 discuss security, internationalization and IANA considerations
- o Section 12 normatively defines the SPPF using its XML Schema Definition.

## 2. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC2119].

This document reuses terms from [RFC3261], [RFC5486], use cases and requirements documented in [RFC6461] and the ENUM Validation Architecture [RFC4725].

In addition, this document specifies the following additional terms:

**SPPF:** Session Peering Provisioning Framework, the framework used by a transport protocol to provision data into a Registry (see arrow labeled "1." in Figure 1 of [RFC6461]). It is the primary scope of this document.

**Client:** In the context of SPPF, this is an application that initiates a provisioning request. It is sometimes referred to as a "Registry client".

**Server:** In the context of SPPF, this is an application that receives a provisioning request and responds accordingly. It is sometimes referred to as a Registry.

**Registry:** The Registry operates a master database of Session Establishment Data for one or more Registrants.

**Registrant:** The definition of a Registrant is based on [RFC4725]. It is the end-user, the person or organization that is the "holder" of the Session Establishment Data being provisioned into the Registry by a Registrar. For example, in [RFC6461], a Registrant is pictured as a SIP Service Provider in Figure 2.

Within the confines of a Registry, a Registrant is uniquely identified by a well-known ID.

**Registrar:** The definition of a Registrar is based on [RFC4725]. It is an entity that performs provisioning operations on behalf of a Registrant by interacting with the Registry via SPPF operations. In other words the Registrar is the SPPF Client. The Registrar and Registrant roles are logically separate to allow, but not require, a single Registrar to perform provisioning operations on behalf of more than one Registrant.

**Peering Organization:** A Peering Organization is an entity to which a Registrant's SED Groups are made visible using the operations of SPPF.

### 3. Framework High Level Design

This section introduces the structure of the data model and provides the information framework for the SPPF. The data model is defined along with all the objects manipulated by a conforming transport protocol and their relationships.

#### 3.1. Framework Data Model

The data model illustrated and described in Figure 2 defines the logical objects and the relationships between these objects supported by SPPF. SPPF defines protocol operations through which an SPPF client populates a Registry with these logical objects. SPPF clients belonging to different Registrars may provision data into the Registry using a conforming transport protocol that implements these operations

The logical structure presented below is consistent with the terminology and requirements defined in [RFC6461].

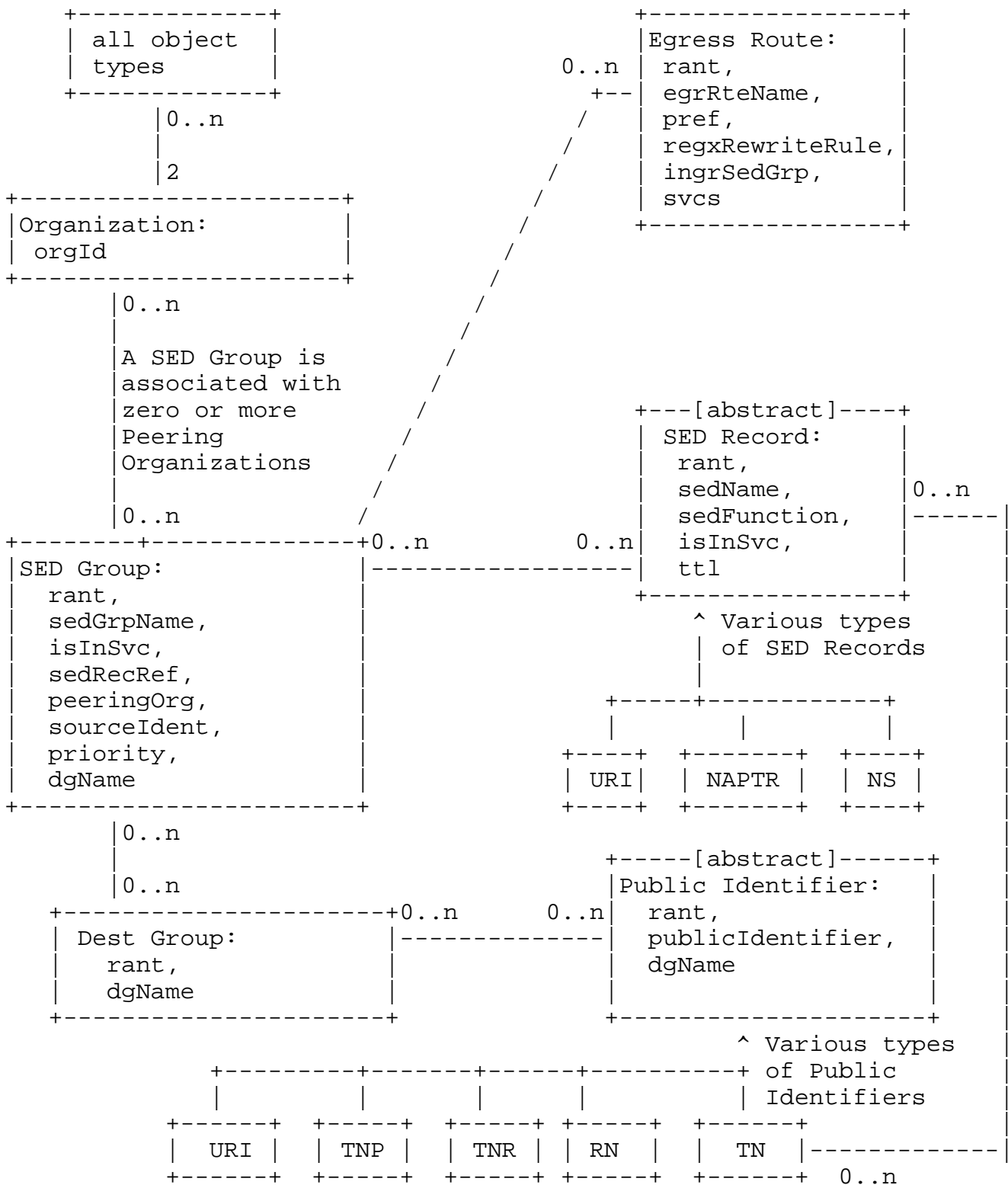


Figure 2



The objects and attributes that comprise the data model can be described as follows (objects listed from the bottom up):

- o Public Identifier:

From a broad perspective a public identifier is a well-known attribute that is used as the key to perform resolution lookups. Within the context of SPPF, a public identifier object can be a Telephone Number (TN), a range of Telephone Numbers, a PSTN Routing Number (RN), a TN prefix, or a URI.

An SPPF Public Identifier may be a member of zero or more Destination Groups to create logical groupings of Public Identifiers that share a common set of Session Establishment Data (e.g. routes).

A TN Public Identifier may optionally be associated with zero or more individual SED Records. This ability for a Public Identifier to be directly associated with a SED Record, as opposed to forcing membership in one or more Destination Groups, supports use cases where the SED Record contains data specifically tailored to an individual TN Public Identifier.

- o Destination Group:

A named logical grouping of zero or more Public Identifiers that can be associated with one or more SED Groups for the purpose of facilitating the management of their common session establishment information.

- o SED Group:

A SED Group contains a set of SED Record references, a set of Destination Group references, and a set of peering organization identifiers. This is used to establish a three part relationships between a set of Public Identifiers, the session establishment information (SED) shared across these Public Identifiers, and the list of peering organizations whose query responses from the resolution system may include the session establishment information contained in a given SED group. In addition, the sourceIdent element within a SED Group, in concert with the set of peering organization identifiers, enables fine-grained source based routing. For further details about the SED Group and source based routing, refer to the definitions and descriptions in Section 6.1.

- o SED Record:

A SED Record contains the data that a resolution system returns in response to a successful query for a Public Identifier. SED Records are generally associated with a SED Group when the SED within is not specific to a Public Identifier.

To support the use cases defined in [RFC6461], SPPF framework defines three type of SED Records: URIType, NAPTRType, and NSType. These SED Records extend the abstract type SedRecType and inherit the common attribute 'priority' that is meant for setting precedence across the SED records defined within a SED Group in a protocol agnostic fashion.

- o Egress Route:

In a high-availability environment, the originating SSP likely has more than one egress paths to the ingress SBE of the target SSP. The Egress Route allows the originating SSP to choose a specific egress SBE to be associated with the target ingress SBE. the 'svcs' element specifies ENUM services ((e.g.,E2U+pstn:sip+sip) that are used to identify the SED records associated with the SED Group that will be modified by the originating SSP.

- o Organization:

An Organization is an entity that may fulfill any combination of three roles: Registrant, Registrar, and Peering Organization. All objects in SPPF are associated with two organization identifiers to identify each object's Registrant and Registrar. A SED Group object is also associated with a set of zero or more organization identifiers that identify the peering organization(s) whose resolution query responses may include the session establishment information (SED) defined in the SED Records within that SED Group. A peering organization is an entity that the Registrant intends to share the SED data with.

### 3.2. Time Value

Some request and response messages in SPPF include time value(s) defined as type xs:dateTime, a built-in W3C XML Schema Datatype. Use of unqualified local time value is disallowed as it can lead to interoperability issues. The value of time attribute MUST be expressed in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC) format without the timezone digits.

"2010-05-30T09:30:10Z" is an example of an acceptable time value for use in SPPF messages. "2010-05-30T06:30:10+3:00" is a valid UTC time, but it is not approved for use in SPPF messages.

### 3.3. Extensibility

The framework contains various points of extensibility in form of the "ext" elements. Extensions used beyond the scope of private SPPF installations MUST be documented in an RFC level document, and the first such extension SHOULD define an IANA registry, holding a list of documented extensions.

## 4. Transport Protocol Requirements

This section provides requirements for transport protocols suitable for SPPF. More specifically, this section specifies the services, features, and assumptions that SPPF framework delegates to the chosen transport and envelope technologies.

### 4.1. Connection Oriented

The SPPF follows a model where a client establishes a connection to a server in order to further exchange SPPF messages over such point-to-point connection. A transport protocol for SPPF **MUST** therefore be connection oriented.

### 4.2. Request and Response Model

Provisioning operations in SPPF follow the request-response model, where a client sends a request message to initiate a transaction and the server responds with a response. Multiple subsequent request-response exchanges **MAY** be performed over a single persistent connection.

Therefore, a transport protocol for SPPF **MUST** follow the request-response model by allowing a response to be sent to the request initiator.

### 4.3. Connection Lifetime

Some use cases involve provisioning a single request to a network element. Connections supporting such provisioning requests might be short-lived, and may be established only on demand. Other use cases involve either provisioning a large dataset, or a constant stream of small updates, either of which would likely require long-lived connections.

Therefore, a protocol suitable for SPPF **SHOULD** be able to support both short-lived as well as long-lived connections.

### 4.4. Authentication

All SPPF objects are associated with a Registrant identifier. An SPPF Client provisions SPPF objects on behalf of Registrants. An authenticated SPP Client is a Registrar. Therefore, the SPPF transport protocol **MUST** provide means for an SPPF server to authenticate an SPPF Client.

#### 4.5. Authorization

After successful authentication of the SPPF client as a Registrar the Registry performs authorization checks to determine if the Registrar is authorized to act on behalf of the Registrant whose identifier is included in the SPPF request. Refer to the Security Considerations section for further guidance.

#### 4.6. Confidentiality and Integrity

SPPF objects that the Registry manages can be private in nature. Therefore, the transport protocol MUST provide means for end-to-end encryption between the SPPF client and Registry.

If the data is compromised in-flight between the SPPF client and Registry, it will seriously affect the stability and integrity of the system. Therefore, the transport protocol MUST provide means for data integrity protection.

#### 4.7. Near Real Time

Many use cases require near real-time responses from the server. Therefore, a DRINKS transport protocol MUST support near real-time response to requests submitted by the client.

#### 4.8. Request and Response Sizes

Use of SPPF may involve simple updates that may consist of small number of bytes, such as, update of a single public identifier. Other provisioning operations may constitute large number of dataset as in adding millions records to a Registry. As a result, a suitable transport protocol for SPPF SHOULD accommodate dataset of various sizes.

#### 4.9. Request and Response Correlation

A transport protocol suitable for SPPF MUST allow responses to be correlated with requests.

#### 4.10. Request Acknowledgement

Data transported in the SPPF is likely crucial for the operation of the communication network that is being provisioned. A SPPF client responsible for provisioning SED to the Registry has a need to know if the submitted requests have been processed correctly.

Failed transactions can lead to situations where a subset of public identifiers or even SSPs might not be reachable, or the provisioning state of the network is inconsistent.

Therefore, a transport protocol for SPPF MUST provide a response for each request, so that a client can identify whether a request succeeded or failed.

#### 4.11. Mandatory Transport

At the time of this writing, a choice of transport protocol has been provided in SPP Protocol over SOAP document. To encourage interoperability, the SPPF server MUST provide support for this transport protocol. With time, it is possible that other transport layer choices may surface that agree with the requirements discussed above.

### 5. Base Framework Data Structures and Response Codes

SPPF contains some common data structures for most of the supported object types. This section describes these common data structures.

#### 5.1. Basic Object Type and Organization Identifiers

All first class objects extend the type BasicObjType. It consists of the Registrant organization, the Registrar organization, the date and time of object creation, and the last date and time the object was updated. The Registry MUST store the date and time of the object creation and update, if applicable, for all Get operations (see Section 7). If the client passed in either date and time values, the Registry MUST ignore it. The Registrar performs the SPPF operations on behalf of the Registrant, the organization that owns the object.

```
<complexType name="BasicObjType" abstract="true">
  <sequence>
    <element name="rant" type="sppfb:OrgIdType"/>
    <element name="rar" type="sppfb:OrgIdType"/>
    <element name="cDate" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="mDate" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
```

The identifiers used for Registrants (rant) and Registrars (rar) are instances of OrgIdType. The OrgIdType is defined as a string and all OrgIdType instances MUST follow the textual convention: "namespace:value" (for example "iana-en:32473"). See the IANA Consideration section for more details.

## 5.2. Various Object Key Types

The SPPF data model contains various object relationships. In some cases, these object relationships are established by embedding the unique identity of the related object inside the relating object. Note that an object's unique identity is required to Delete or Get the details of an object. The following sub-sections normatively define the various object keys in SPPF and the attributes of those keys.

"Name" attributes that are used as components of object key types MUST be treated case insensitive, more specifically, comparison operations MUST use the toCasefold() function, as specified in Section 3.13 of [Unicode6.1].

### 5.2.1. Generic Object Key Type

Most objects in SPPF are uniquely identified by an object key that has the object's name, object's type and its Registrant's organization ID as its attributes. The abstract type called ObjKeyType is where this unique identity is housed. Any concrete representation of the ObjKeyType MUST contain the following:

Object Name: The name of the object.

Registrant Id: The unique organization ID that identifies the Registrant.

Type: The value that represents the type of SPPF object that. This is required as different types of objects in SPPF, that belong to the same Registrant, can have the same name.

The structure of abstract ObjKeyType is as follows:

```
<complexType name="ObjKeyType" abstract="true">
  <annotation>
    <documentation>
      ---- Generic type that represents the
           key for various objects in SPPF. ----
    </documentation>
  </annotation>
</complexType>
```

### 5.2.2. Derived Object Key Types

The SPPF data model contains certain objects that are uniquely identified by attributes, different from or in addition to, the attributes in the generic object key described in previous section. These kind of object keys are derived from the abstract ObjKeyType and defined in their own abstract key types. Because these object key types are abstract, they MUST be specified in a concrete form in any SPPF conforming transport protocol specification. These are used in Delete and Get operations, and may also be used in Accept and Reject operations.

Following are the derived object keys in SPPF data model:

- o SedGrpOfferKeyType: This uniquely identifies a SED Group object offer. This key type extends from ObjKeyType and MUST also have the organization ID of the Registrant to whom the object is being offered, as one of its attributes. In addition to the Delete and Get operations, these key types are used in Accept and Reject operations on a SED Group Offer object. The structure of abstract SedGrpOfferKeyType is as follows:

```
<complexType name="SedGrpOfferKeyType"
abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:ObjKeyType">
      <annotation>
        <documentation>
          ---- Generic type that represents
            the key for a object offer. ----
        </documentation>
      </annotation>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

A SED Group Offer object MUST use SedGrpOfferKeyType. Refer the "Framework Data Model Objects" section of this document for description of SED Group Offer object.

- o PubIdKeyType: This uniquely identifies a Public Identity object. This key type extends from abstract ObjKeyType. Any concrete definition of PubIdKeyType MUST contain the elements that identify the value and type of Public Identity and also contain the organization ID of the Registrant that is the owner of the Public Identity object. A Public Identity object in SPPF is uniquely identified by the Registrant's organization ID, the value of the public identity, and the type of the public identity object.

Consequently, any concrete representation of the PubIdKeyType MUST contain the following attributes:

- \* Registrant Id: The unique organization ID that identifies the Registrant.
- \* Value: The value of the Public Identity.
- \* Type: The type of the Public Identity Object.

The PubIdKeyType is used in Delete and Get operations on a Public Identifier object.

- o The structure of abstract PubIdKeyType is as follows:

```
<complexType name="PubIdKeyType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:ObjKeyType">
      <annotation>
        <documentation>
          ---- Generic type that represents the key for a Pub Id. ----
        </documentation>
      </annotation>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

A Public Identity object MUST use attributes of PubIdKeyType for its unique identification . Refer to Section 6 for a description of Public Identity object.

### 5.3. Response Message Types

This section contains the listing of response types that MUST be defined by the SPPF conforming transport protocol specification and implemented by a conforming SPPF server.

Response Type	Description
Request Succeeded	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that a given request succeeded.
Request syntax invalid	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that a syntax of a given request was found invalid.



Request too large	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the count of entities in the request is larger than the server is willing or able to process.
Version not supported	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the server does not support the version of the SPPF protocol specified in the request.
Command invalid	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the operation and/or command being requested by the client is invalid and/or not supported by the server.
System temporarily unavailable	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the SPPF server is temporarily not available to serve client request.
Unexpected internal system or server error.	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the SPPF server encountered an unexpected error that prevented the server from fulfilling the request.
Attribute value invalid	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the SPPF server encountered an attribute or property in the request that had an invalid/bad value. Optionally, the specification MAY provide a way to indicate the Attribute Name and the Attribute Value to identify the object that was found to be invalid.
Object does not exist	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that an object present in the request does not exist on the SPPF server. Optionally, the specification MAY provide a way to indicate the Attribute Name and the Attribute Value that identifies the non-existent object.
Object status or ownership does not allow for operation.	Any conforming specification MUST define a response to indicate that the operation requested on an object present in the request cannot be performed because the

	<p>object is in a status that does not allow the said operation or the user requesting the operation is not authorized to perform the said operation on the object. Optionally, the specification MAY provide a way to indicate the Attribute Name and the Attribute Value that identifies the object.</p>
--	--

Table 1: Response Types

When the response messages are "parameterized" with the Attribute Name and Attribute Value, then the use of these parameters MUST adhere to the following rules:

- o Any value provided for the Attribute Name parameter MUST be an exact XSD element name of the protocol data element that the response message is referring to. For example, valid values for "attribute name" are "dgName", "sedGrpName", "sedRec", etc.
- o The value for Attribute Value MUST be the value of the data element to which the preceding Attribute Name refers.
- o Response type "Attribute value invalid" MUST be used whenever an element value does not adhere to data validation rules.
- o Response types "Attribute value invalid" and "Object does not exist" MUST not be used interchangeably. Response type "Object does not exist" MUST be returned by an Update/Del/Accept/Reject operation when the data element(s) used to uniquely identify a pre-existing object do not exist. If the data elements used to uniquely identify an object are malformed, then response type "Attribute value invalid" MUST be returned.

## 6. Framework Data Model Objects

This section provides a description of the specification of each supported data model object (the nouns) and identifies the commands (the verbs) that MUST be supported for each data model object. However, the specification of the data structures necessary to support each command is delegated to an SPPF conforming transport protocol specification.

### 6.1. Destination Group

Destination Group represents a logical grouping of Public Identifiers with common session establishment information. The transport protocol MUST support the ability to Create, Modify, Get, and Delete

Destination Groups (refer the "Framework Operations" section of this document for a generic description of various operations).

A Destination Group object MUST be uniquely identified by attributes as defined in the description of "ObjKeyType" in the section "Generic Object Key Type" of this document.

The DestGrpType object structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="DestGrpType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="dgName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

The DestGrpType object is composed of the following elements:

- o base: All first class objects extend BasicObjType (see Section 5.1).
- o dgName: The character string that contains the name of the Destination Group.
- o ext: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

## 6.2. Public Identifier

A Public Identifier is the search key used for locating the session establishment data (SED). In many cases, a Public Identifier is attributed to the end user who has a retail relationship with the service provider or Registrant organization. SPPF supports the notion of the carrier-of-record as defined in [RFC5067]. Therefore, the Registrant under whom the Public Identity is being created can optionally claim to be a carrier-of-record.

SPPF identifies three types of Public Identifiers: telephone numbers (TN), routing numbers (RN), and URI. SPPF provides structures to manage a single TN, a contiguous range of TNs, and a TN prefix. The transport protocol MUST support the ability to Create, Modify, Get, and Delete Public Identifiers (refer the "Framework Operations" section of this document for a generic description of various operations).

A Public Identity object MUST be uniquely identified by attributes as defined in the description of "PubIdKeyType" in the section Section 5.2.2.

The abstract XML schema type definition PubIdType is a generalization for the concrete Public Identifier schema types. PubIdType element 'dgName' represents the name of a destination group that a given Public Identifier may be a member of. Note that this element may be present multiple times so that a given Public Identifier may be a member of multiple destination groups. The PubIdType object structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="PubIdType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="dgName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

A Public Identifier may be a member of zero or more Destination Groups. When a Public Identifier is member of a Destination Group, it is intended to be associated with SED(s) through the SED Group(s) that are associated with the Destination Group. When a Public Identifier is not member of any Destination Group, it is intended to be associated with SED through the SED Records that are directly associated with the Public Identifier.

A telephone number is provisioned using the TNType, an extension of PubIdType. Each TNType object is uniquely identified by the combination of its value contained within <tn> element, and its Registrant ID. TNType is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="TNType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="tn" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="sedRecRef" type="sppfb:SedRecRefType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

<complexType name="CORInfoType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="corClaim" type="boolean" default="true"/>
    <element name="cor" type="boolean" default="false" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="corDate" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>

<simpleType name="NumberValType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <maxLength value="20"/>
    <pattern value="\+?\d\d*" />
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

TNType consists of the following attributes:

- o tn: Telephone number to be added to the Registry.
- o sedRecRef: Optional reference to SED records that are directly associated with the TN Public Identifier. Following the SPPF data model, the SED record could be a protocol agnostic URIType or another type.
- o corInfo: corInfo is an optional parameter of type CORInfoType that allows the Registrant organization to set forth a claim to be the carrier-of-record (see [RFC5067]). This is done by setting the value of <corClaim> element of the CORInfoType object structure to "true". The other two parameters of the CORInfoType, <cor> and <corDate> are set by the Registry to describe the outcome of the carrier-of-record claim by the Registrant. In general, inclusion of <corInfo> parameter is useful if the Registry has the authority information, such as, the number portability data, etc., in order to qualify whether the Registrant claim can be satisfied. If the

carrier-of-record claim disagrees with the authority data in the Registry, whether the TN add operation fails or not is a matter of policy and it is beyond the scope of this document.

A routing number is provisioned using the RNTType, an extension of PubIDType. The Registrant organization can add the RN and associate it with the appropriate destination group(s) to share the route information. This allows SSPs to use the RN search key to derive the ingress routes for session establishment at the runtime resolution process (see [RFC3761]). Each RNTType object is uniquely identified by the combination of its value inside the <rn> element, and its Registrant ID. RNTType is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="RNTType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="rn" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

RNTType has the following attributes:

- o rn: Routing Number used as the search key.
- o corInfo: corInfo is an optional parameter of type CORInfoType that allows the Registrant organization to set forth a claim to be the carrier-of-record (see [RFC5067])

TNRType structure is used to provision a contiguous range of telephone numbers. The object definition requires a starting TN and an ending TN that together define the span of the TN range. Use of TNRType is particularly useful when expressing a TN range that does not include all the TNs within a TN block or prefix. The TNRType definition accommodates the open number plan as well such that the TNs that fall between the start and end TN range may include TNs with different length variance. Whether the Registry can accommodate the open number plan semantics is a matter of policy and is beyond the scope of this document. Each TNRType object is uniquely identified by the combination of its value that in turn is a combination of the <startTn> and <endTn> elements, and its Registrant ID. TNRType object structure definition is as follows:

```
<complexType name="TNRType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="range" type="sppfb:NumberRangeType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
<complexType name="NumberRangeType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="startTn" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
    <element name="endTn" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
```

TNRType has the following attributes:

- o startTn: Starting TN in the TN range
- o endTn: The last TN in the TN range
- o corInfo: corInfo is an optional parameter of type CORInfoType that allows the Registrant organization to set forth a claim to be the carrier-of-record (see [RFC5067])

In some cases, it is useful to describe a set of TNs with the help of the first few digits of the telephone number, also referred to as the telephone number prefix or a block. A given TN prefix may include TNs with different length variance in support of open number plan. Once again, whether the Registry supports the open number plan semantics is a matter of policy and it is beyond the scope of this document. The TNPType data structure is used to provision a TN prefix. Each TNPType object is uniquely identified by the combination of its value in the <tnPrefix> element, and its Registrant ID. TNPType is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="TNPType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="tnPrefix" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

TNPType consists of the following attributes:

- o tnPrefix: The telephone number prefix
- o corInfo: corInfo is an optional parameter of type CORInfoType that allows the Registrant organization to set forth a claim to be the carrier-of-record (see [RFC5067])

In some cases, a Public Identifier may be a URI, such as an email address. The URIPubIdType object is comprised of the data element necessary to house such Public Identifiers. Each URIPubIdType object is uniquely identified by the combination of its value in the <uri> element, and its Registrant ID. URIPubIdType is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="URIPubIdType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="uri" type="anyURI"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

URIPubIdType consists of the following attributes:

- o uri: The value that acts a Public Identifier.
- o ext: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

### 6.3. SED Group

SED Group is a grouping of one or more Destination Group, the common SED Records, and the list of peer organizations with access to the SED Records associated with a given SED Group. It is this indirect linking of public identifiers to their Session Establishment Data



that significantly improves the scalability and manageability of the peering data. Additions and changes to SED information are reduced to a single operation on a SED Group or SED Record, rather than millions of data updates to individual public identifier records that individually contain their peering data. The transport protocol MUST support the ability to Create, Modify, Get, and Delete SED Groups (refer the "Framework Operations" section of this document for a generic description of various operations).

A SED Group object MUST be uniquely identified by attributes as defined in the description of "ObjKeyType" in the section "Generic Object Key Type" of this document.

The SedGrpType object structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="SedGrpType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="sedGrpName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
        <element name="sedRecRef" type="sppfb:SedRecRefType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="dgName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="peeringOrg" type="sppfb:OrgIdType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="sourceIdent" type="sppfb:SourceIdentType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="isInSvc" type="boolean"/>
        <element name="priority" type="unsignedShort"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
<complexType name="SedRecRefType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="sedKey" type="sppfb:ObjKeyType"/>
    <element name="priority" type="unsignedShort"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
```

The SedGrpType object is composed of the following elements:

- o base: All first class objects extend BasicObjType (see Section 5.1).

- o `sedGrpName`: The character string that contains the name of the SED Group. It uniquely identifies this object within the context of the Registrant ID (a child element of the base element as described above).
- o `sedRecRef`: Set of zero or more objects of type `SedRecRefType` that house the unique keys of the SED Records (containing the session establishment data) that the `SedGrpType` object refers to and their relative priority within the context of this SED Group.
- o `dgName`: Set of zero or more names of `DestGrpType` object instances. Each `dgName` name, in association with this SED Group's Registrant ID, uniquely identifies a `DestGrpType` object instance whose associated public identifiers are reachable using the session establishment information housed in this SED Group. An intended side affect of this is that a SED Group cannot provide session establishment information for a Destination Group belonging to another Registrant.
- o `peeringOrg`: Set of zero or more peering organization IDs that have accepted an offer to receive this SED Group's information. Note that this identifier "peeringOrg" is an instance of `OrgIdType`. The set of peering organizations in this list is not directly settable or modifiable using the `addSedGrpsRqst` operation. This set is instead controlled using the SED offer and accept operations.
- o `sourceIdent`: Set of zero or more `SourceIdentType` object instances. These objects, described further below, house the source identification schemes and identifiers that are applied at resolution time as part of source based routing algorithms for the SED Group.
- o `isInSvc`: A boolean element that defines whether this SED Group is in service. The session establishment information contained in a SED Group that is in service is a candidate for inclusion in resolution responses for public identities residing in the Destination Group associated with this SED Group. The session establishment information contained in a SED Group that is not in service is not a candidate for inclusion in resolution responses.
- o `priority`: Priority value that can be used to provide a relative value weighting of one SED Group over another. The manner in which this value is used, perhaps in conjunction with other factors, is a matter of policy.
- o `ext`: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

As described above, the SED Group contains a set of references to SED record objects. A SED record object is based on an abstract type: `SedRecType`. The concrete types that use `SedRecType` as an extension base are `NAPTRType`, `NSType`, and `URIType`. The definitions of these types are included the SED Record section of this document.

The `SedGrpType` object provides support for source-based routing via the `peeringOrg` data element and more granular source base routing via the source identity element. The source identity element provides the ability to specify zero or more of the following in association with a given SED Group: a regular expression that is matched against the resolution client IP address, a regular expression that is matched against the root domain name(s), and/or a regular expression that is matched against the calling party URI(s). The result will be that, after identifying the visible SED Groups whose associated Destination Group(s) contain the lookup key being queried and whose `peeringOrg` list contains the querying organizations organization ID, the resolution server will evaluate the characteristics of the Source URI, and Source IP address, and root domain of the lookup key being queried. The resolution server then compares these criteria against the source identity criteria associated with the SED Groups. The session establishment information contained in SED Groups that have source based routing criteria will only be included in the resolution response if one or more of the criteria matches the source criteria from the resolution request. The Source Identity data element is of type `SourceIdentType`, whose structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="SourceIdentType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="sourceIdentRegex" type="sppfb:RegexType"/>
    <element name="sourceIdentScheme"
      type="sppfb:SourceIdentSchemeType"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>

<simpleType name="SourceIdentSchemeType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="uri"/>
    <enumeration value="ip"/>
    <enumeration value="rootDomain"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

The `SourceIdentType` object is composed of the following data elements:

- o `sourceIdentScheme`: The source identification scheme that this source identification criteria applies to and that the associated `sourceIdentRegex` should be matched against.
- o `sourceIdentRegex`: The regular expression that should be used to test for a match against the portion of the resolution request that is dictated by the associated `sourceIdentScheme`.
- o `ext`: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

#### 6.4. SED Record

SED Group represents a combined grouping of SED Records that define session establishment information. However, SED Records need not be created to just serve a single SED Group. SED Records can be created and managed to serve multiple SED Groups. As a result, a change for example to the properties of a network node used for multiple routes, would necessitate just a single update operation to change the properties of that node. The change would then be reflected in all the SED Groups whose SED record set contains a reference to that node. The transport protocol MUST support the ability to Create, Modify, Get, and Delete SED Records (refer the "Framework Operations" section of this document for a generic description of various operations).

A SED Record object MUST be uniquely identified by attributes as defined in the description of "ObjKeyType" in the section "Generic Object Key Type" of this document.

The `SedRecType` object structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="SedRecType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="sedName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
        <element name="sedFunction" type="sppfb:SedFunctionType"
          minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="isInSvc" type="boolean"/>
        <element name="ttl" type="positiveInteger" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

<simpleType name="SedFunctionType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="routing"/>
    <enumeration value="lookup"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

The SedRecType object is composed of the following elements:

- o base: All first class objects extend BasicObjType (see Section 5.1).
- o sedName: The character string that contains the name of the SED Record. It uniquely identifies this object within the context of the Registrant ID (a child element of the base element as described above).
- o sedFunction: As described in [RFC6461], SED or Session Establishment Data falls primarily into one of two categories or functions, LUF and LRF. To remove any ambiguity as to the function a SED record is intended to provide, this optional element allows the provisioning party to make his or her intentions explicit.
- o isInSvc: A boolean element that defines whether this SED Record is in service or not. The session establishment information contained in a SED Record which is in service is a candidate for inclusion in resolution responses for Telephone Numbers that are either directly associated to this SED Record, or for Public Identities residing in a Destination Group that is associated to a SED Group which in turn has an association to this SED Record.
- o ttl: Number of seconds that an addressing server may cache a particular SED Record.

As described above, SED records are based on an abstract type: `SedRecType`. The concrete types that use `SedRecType` as an extension base are `NAPTRType`, `NSType`, and `URIType`. The definitions of these types are included below. The `NAPTRType` object is comprised of the data elements necessary for a NAPTR (see [RFC3403]) that contains routing information for a SED Group. The `NSType` object is comprised of the data elements necessary for a DNS name server that points to another DNS server that contains the desired routing information. The `NSType` is relevant only when the resolution protocol is ENUM (see [RFC3761]). The `URIType` object is comprised of the data elements necessary to house a URI.

The data provisioned in a Registry can be leveraged for many purposes and queried using various protocols including SIP, ENUM and others. As such, the resolution data represented by the SED records must be in a form suitable for transport using one of these protocols. In the `NAPTRType` for example, if the URI is associated with a destination group, the user part of the replacement string `<uri>` that may require the Public Identifier cannot be preset. As a SIP Redirect, the resolution server will apply `<ere>` pattern on the input Public Identifier in the query and process the replacement string by substituting any back reference(s) in the `<uri>` to arrive at the final URI that is returned in the SIP Contact header. For an ENUM query, the resolution server will simply return the values of the `<ere>` and `<uri>` members of the URI.

```
<complexType name="NAPTRType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:SedRecType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="order" type="unsignedShort"/>
        <element name="flags" type="sppfb:FlagsType" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="svcs" type="sppfb:SvcType"/>
        <element name="regx" type="sppfb:RegexParamType" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="repl" type="sppfb:ReplType" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
<complexType name="NSType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:SedRecType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="hostName" type="token"/>
        <element name="ipAddr" type="sppfb:IPAddrType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</extension>
</complexContent>
</complexType>

<complexType name="IPAddrType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="addr" type="sppfb:AddrStringType"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="type" type="sppfb:IPType" default="v4"/>
</complexType>

<simpleType name="IPType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="IPv4"/>
    <enumeration value="IPv6"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>

<complexType name="URIType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:SedRecType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="ere" type="token" default="^(.*)$"/>
        <element name="uri" type="anyURI"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

<simpleType name="flagsType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <length value="1"/>
    <pattern value="[A-Z]|[a-z]|[0-9]"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

The NAPTRType object is composed of the following elements:

- o order: Order value in an ENUM NAPTR, relative to other NAPTRType objects in the same SED Group.
- o svcs: ENUM service(s) that are served by the SBE. This field's value must be of the form specified in [RFC6116] (e.g.,

E2U+pstn:sip+sip). The allowable values are a matter of policy and not limited by this protocol.

- o regx: NAPTR's regular expression field. If this is not included then the Repl field must be included.
- o repl: NAPTR replacement field, should only be provided if the Regex field is not provided, otherwise the server will ignore it
- o ext: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

The NSType object is composed of the following elements:

- o hostName: Root-relative host name of the name server.
- o ipAddr: Zero or more objects of type IpAddrType. Each object holds an IP Address and the IP Address type, IPv4 or IP v6.
- o ext: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

The URIType object is composed of the following elements:

- o ere: The POSIX Extended Regular Expression (ere) as defined in [RFC3986].
- o uri: the URI as defined in [RFC3986]. In some cases, this will serve as the replacement string and it will be left to the resolution server to arrive at the final usable URI.

## 6.5. SED Group Offer

The list of peer organizations whose resolution responses can include the session establishment information contained in a given SED Group is controlled by the organization to which a SED Group object belongs (its Registrant), and the peer organization that submits resolution requests (a data recipient, also know as a peering organization). The Registrant offers access to a SED Group by submitting a SED Group Offer. The data recipient can then accept or reject that offer. Not until access to a SED Group has been offered and accepted will the data recipient's organization ID be included in the peeringOrg list in a SED Group object, and that SED Group's peering information become a candidate for inclusion in the responses to the resolution requests submitted by that data recipient. The transport protocol MUST support the ability to Create, Modify, Get, Delete, Accept and Reject SED Group Offers (refer the "Framework Operations" section of this document for a generic description of various operations).



A SED Group Offer object MUST be uniquely identified by attributes as defined in the description of "SedGrpOfferKeyType" in the section "Derived Object Key Types" of this document.

The SedGrpOfferType object structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="SedGrpOfferType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="sedGrpOfferKey" type="sppfb:SedGrpOfferKeyType"/>
        <element name="status" type="sppfb:SedGrpOfferStatusType"/>
        <element name="offerDateTime" type="dateTime"/>
        <element name="acceptDateTime" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

<complexType name="SedGrpOfferKeyType" abstract="true">
  <annotation>
    <documentation>
      -- Generic type that represents the key for a SED group offer. Must
      be defined in concrete form in the transport specification. --
    </documentation>
  </annotation>
</complexType>

<simpleType name="SedGrpOfferStatusType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="offered"/>
    <enumeration value="accepted"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

The SedGrpOfferType object is composed of the following elements:

- o base: All first class objects extend BasicObjType (see Section 5.1).
- o sedGrpOfferKey: The object that identifies the SED that is or has been offered and the organization that it is or has been offered to.
- o status: The status of the offer, offered or accepted. The server controls the status. It is automatically set to "offered" when ever a new SED Group Offer is added, and is automatically set to

"accepted" if and when that offer is accepted. The value of the element is ignored when passed in by the client.

- o offerDateTime: Date and time in UTC when the SED Group Offer was added.
- o acceptDateTime: Date and time in UTC when the SED Group Offer was accepted.

## 6.6. Egress Route

In a high-availability environment, the originating SSP likely has more than one egress path to the ingress SBE of the target SSP. If the originating SSP wants to exercise greater control and choose a specific egress SBE to be associated to the target ingress SBE, it can do so using the EgrRteType object.

An Egress Route object MUST be uniquely identified by attributes as defined in the description of "ObjKeyType" in the section "Generic Object Key Type" of this document.

Lets assume that the target SSP has offered as part of his session establishment data, to share one or more ingress routes and that the originating SSP has accepted the offer. In order to add the egress route to the Registry, the originating SSP uses a valid regular expression to rewrite ingress route in order to include the egress SBE information. Also, more than one egress route can be associated with a given ingress route in support of fault-tolerant configurations. The supporting SPPF structure provides a way to include route precedence information to help manage traffic to more than one outbound egress SBE.

The transport protocol MUST support the ability to Add, Modify, Get, and Delete Egress Routes (refer the "Framework Operations" section of this document for a generic description of various operations). The EgrRteType object structure is defined as follows:

```
<complexType name="EgrRteType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="egrRteName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
        <element name="pref" type="unsignedShort"/>
        <element name="regxRewriteRule" type="sppfb:RegexParamType"/>
        <element name="ingrSedGrp" type="sppfb:ObjKeyType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="svcs" type="sppfb:SvcType" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

The EgrRteType object is composed of the following elements:

- o base: All first class objects extend BasicObjType (see Section 5.1).
- o egrRteName: The name of the egress route.
- o pref: The preference of this egress route relative to other egress routes that may get selected when responding to a resolution request.
- o regxRewriteRule: The regular expression re-write rule that should be applied to the regular expression of the ingress NAPTR(s) that belong to the ingress route.
- o ingrSedGrp: The ingress SED group that the egress route should be used for.
- o svcs: ENUM service(s) that are served by an Egress Route. This element is used to identify the ingress NAPTRs associated with the SED Group to which an Egress Route's regxRewriteRule should be applied. If no ENUM service(s) are associated with an Egress Route, then the Egress Route's regxRewriteRule should be applied to all the NAPTRs associated with the SED Group. This field's value must be of the form specified in [RFC6116] (e.g., E2U+pstn:sip+sip). The allowable values are a matter of policy and not limited by this protocol.
- o ext: Point of extensibility described in Section 3.3.

## 7. Framework Operations

In addition to the operation specific object types, all operations MAY specify the minor version of the protocol that when used in conjunction with the major version (that can be for instance specified in the protocol namespace) can serve to identify the version of the SPPF protocol that the client is using. If the minor version is not specified, the latest minor version supported by the SPPF server for the given major version will be used. Additionally, operations that may potentially modify persistent protocol objects SHOULD include a transaction ID as well.

### 7.1. Add Operation

Any conforming transport protocol specification MUST provide a definition for the operation that adds one or more SPPF objects into the Registry. If the object, as identified by the request attributes that form part of the object's key, does not exist, then the Registry MUST create the object. If the object does exist, then the Registry MUST replace the current properties of the object with the properties passed in as part of the Add operation.

If the entity that issued the command is not authorized to perform this operation an appropriate error message MUST be returned from amongst the response messages defined in "Response Message Types" section of the document.

### 7.2. Delete Operation

Any conforming transport protocol specification MUST provide a definition for the operation that deletes one or more SPPF objects from the Registry using the object's key.

If the entity that issued the command is not authorized to perform this operation an appropriate error message MUST be returned from amongst the response messages defined in "Response Message Types" section of the document.

When an object is deleted, any references to that object must of course also be removed as the SPPF server implementation fulfills the deletion request. Furthermore, the deletion of a composite object must also result in the deletion of the objects it contains. As a result, the following rules apply to the deletion of SPPF object types:

- o Destination Groups: When a destination group is deleted any references between that destination group and any SED group must be automatically removed by the SPPF implementation as part of

fulfilling the deletion request. Similarly, any references between that destination group and any Public Identifier must be removed by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request.

- o SED Groups: When a SED group is deleted any references between that SED group and any destination group must be automatically removed by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request. Similarly any references between that SED group and any SED records must be removed by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request. Furthermore, SED group offers relating that SED group must also be deleted as part of fulfilling the deletion request.
- o SED Records: When a SED record is deleted any references between that SED record and any SED group must be removed by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request. Similarly, any reference between that SED record and any Public Identifier must be removed by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request.
- o Public Identifiers: When a public identifier is deleted any references between that public identifier and any referenced destination group must be removed by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request. Any references to SED records associated directly to that Public Identifier must also be deleted by the SPPF implementation as part of fulfilling the deletion request.

### 7.3. Get Operations

At times, on behalf of the Registrant, the Registrar may need to get information about SPPF objects that were previously provisioned in the Registry. A few examples include logging, auditing, and pre-provisioning dependency checking. This query mechanism is limited to aid provisioning scenarios and should not be confused with query protocols provided as part of the resolution system (e.g. ENUM and SIP).

Any conforming "protocol" specification MUST provide a definition for the operation that queries the details of one or more SPPF objects from the Registry using the object's key. If the entity that issued the command is not authorized to perform this operation an appropriate error message MUST be returned from amongst the response messages defined in Section 5.3.

If the response to the Get operation includes object(s) that extend the BasicObjType, the Registry MUST include the 'cDate' and 'mDate', if applicable.

#### 7.4. Accept Operations

In SPPF, a SED Group Offer can be accepted or rejected by, or on behalf of, the Registrant to whom the SED Group has been offered (refer "Framework Data Model Objects" section of this document for a description of the SED Group Offer object). The Accept operation is used to accept the SED Group Offers. Any conforming transport protocol specification MUST provide a definition for the operation to accept SED Group Offers by, or on behalf of the Registrant, using the SED Group Offer object key.

Not until access to a SED Group has been offered and accepted will the Registrant's organization ID be included in the peeringOrg list in that SED Group object, and that SED Group's peering information become a candidate for inclusion in the responses to the resolution requests submitted by that Registrant. A SED Group Offer that is in the "offered" status is accepted by, or on behalf of, the Registrant to which it has been offered. When the SED Group Offer is accepted the the SED Group Offer is moved to the "accepted" status and adds that data recipient's organization ID into the list of peerOrgIds for that SED Group.

If the entity that issued the command is not authorized to perform this operation an appropriate error message MUST be returned from amongst the response messages defined in "Response Message Types" section of the document.

#### 7.5. Reject Operations

In SPPF, a SED Group Offer object can be accepted or rejected by, or on behalf of, the Registrant to whom the SED Group has been offered (refer "Framework Data Model Objects" section of this document for a description of the SED Group Offer object). Furthermore, that offer may be rejected, regardless of whether or not it has been previously accepted. The Reject operation is used to reject the SED Group Offers. When the SED Group Offer is rejected that SED Group Offer is deleted, and, if appropriate, the data recipient's organization ID is removed from the list of peeringOrg IDs for that SED Group. Any conforming transport protocol specification MUST provide a definition for the operation to reject SED Group Offers by, or on behalf of the Registrant, using the SED Group Offer object key.

If the entity that issued the command is not authorized to perform this operation an appropriate error message MUST be returned from

amongst the response messages defined in "Response Message Types" section of the document.

## 7.6. Get Server Details Operation

In SPPF, Get Server Details operation can be used to request certain details about the SPPF server that include the SPPF server's current status, the major/minor version of the SPPF protocol supported by the SPPF server.

Any conforming transport protocol specification MUST provide a definition for the operation to request such details from the SPPF server. If the entity that issued the command is not authorized to perform this operation an appropriate error message MUST be returned from amongst the response messages defined in "Response Message Types" section of the document.

## 8. XML Considerations

XML serves as the encoding format for SPPF, allowing complex hierarchical data to be expressed in a text format that can be read, saved, and manipulated with both traditional text tools and tools specific to XML.

XML is case sensitive. Unless stated otherwise, XML specifications and examples provided in this document MUST be interpreted in the character case presented to develop a conforming implementation.

This section discusses a small number of XML-related considerations pertaining to SPPF.

### 8.1. Namespaces

All SPPF elements are defined in the namespaces in the IANA Considerations section and in the Formal Framework Specification section of this document.

### 8.2. Versioning and Character Encoding

All XML instances SHOULD begin with an `<?xml?>` declaration to identify the version of XML that is being used, optionally identify use of the character encoding used, and optionally provide a hint to an XML parser that an external schema file is needed to validate the XML instance.

Conformant XML parsers recognize both UTF-8 (defined in [RFC3629]) and UTF-16 (defined in [RFC2781]); per [RFC2277] UTF-8 is the RECOMMENDED character encoding for use with SPPF.

Character encodings other than UTF-8 and UTF-16 are allowed by XML. UTF-8 is the default encoding assumed by XML in the absence of an "encoding" attribute or a byte order mark (BOM); thus, the "encoding" attribute in the XML declaration is OPTIONAL if UTF-8 encoding is used. SPPF clients and servers MUST accept a UTF-8 BOM if present, though emitting a UTF-8 BOM is NOT RECOMMENDED.

Example XML declarations:

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no"?>
```

## 9. Security Considerations

Many SPPF implementations manage data that is considered confidential and critical. Furthermore, SPPF implementations can support provisioning activities for multiple Registrars and Registrants. As a result any SPPF implementation must address the requirements for confidentiality, authentication, and authorization.

### 9.1. Confidentiality and Authentication

With respect to confidentiality and authentication, the transport protocol requirements section of this document contains security properties that the transport protocol must provide so that authenticated endpoints can exchange data confidentially and with integrity protection. Refer to that section and the resulting transport protocol specification document for the specific solutions to authentication and confidentiality.

### 9.2. Authorization

With respect to authorization, the SPPF server implementation must define and implement a set of authorization rules that precisely address (1) which Registrars will be authorized to create/modify/delete each SPPF object type for given Registrant(s) and (2) which Registrars will be authorized to view/get each SPPF object type for given Registrant(s). These authorization rules are a matter of policy and are not specified within the context of SPPF. However, any SPPF implementation must specify these authorization rules in order to function in a reliable and safe manner.

### 9.3. Denial of Service

Guidance on Denial-of-Service (DoS) issues in general is given in [RFC4732], "Internet Denial of Service Considerations", which also gives a general vocabulary for describing the DoS issue.



SPPF is a high-level client-server protocol that can be implemented on lower-level mechanisms such as remote procedure call and web-service API protocols. As such, it inherits any Denial-of-Service issues inherent to the specific lower-level mechanism used for any implementation of SPPF. SPPF also has its own set of higher-level exposures that are likely to be independent of lower-layer mechanism choices.

### 9.3.1. DoS Issues Inherited from Transport Mechanism

SPPF implementation is in general dependent on the selection and implementation of a lower-level transport protocol and a binding between that protocol and SPPF. The archetypal SPPF implementation uses XML (<http://www.w3.org/TR/xml/>) representation in a SOAP (<http://www.w3.org/TR/soap/>) request/response framework over HTTP ([RFC2616]), and probably also uses TLS ([RFC5246]) for on-the wire data integrity and participant authentication, and might use HTTP Digest authentication ([RFC2609]).

The typical deployment scenario for SPPF is to have servers in a managed facility, and therefore techniques such as Network Ingress Filtering ([RFC2609]) are generally applicable. In short, any DoS mechanism affecting a typical HTTP implementation would affect such an SPPF implementation, and the mitigation tools for HTTP in general also therefore apply to SPPF.

SPPF does not directly specify an authentication mechanism, instead relying on the lower-level transport protocol to provide for authentication. In general, authentication is an expensive operation, and one apparent attack vector is to flood an SPPF server with repeated requests for authentication, thereby exhausting its resources. SPPF implementations SHOULD therefore be prepared to handle authentication floods, perhaps by noting repeated failed login requests from a given source address and blocking that source address.

### 9.3.2. DoS Issues Specific to SPPF

The primary defense mechanism against DoS within SPPF is authentication. Implementations MUST tightly control access to the SPPF service, SHOULD implement DoS and other policy control screening, and MAY employ a variety of policy violation reporting and response measures such as automatic blocking of specific users and alerting of operations personnel. In short, the primary SPPF response to DoS-like activity by a user is to block that user or subject their actions to additional review.

SPPF allows a client to submit multiple-element or "batch" requests that may insert or otherwise affect a large amount of data with a single request. In the simplest case, the server progresses sequentially through each element in a batch, completing one and before starting the next. Mid-batch failures are handled by stopping the batch and rolling-back the data store to its pre-request state. This "stop and roll-back" design provides a DoS opportunity. A hostile client could repeatedly issue large batch requests with one or more failing elements, causing the server to repeatedly stop and roll-back large transactions. The suggested response is to monitor clients for such failures, and take administrative action (such as blocking the user) when an excessive number of roll-backs is reported.

An additional suggested response is for an implementer to set their maximum allowable XML message size, and their maximum allowable batch size at a level that they feel protects their operational instance, given the hardware sizing they have in place and the expected load and size needs that their users expect.

#### 9.4. Information Disclosure

It is not uncommon for the logging systems to document on-the-wire messages for various purposes, such as, debug, audit, and tracking. At the minimum, the various support and administration staff will have access to these logs. Also, if an unprivileged user gains access to the SPPF deployments and/or support systems, it will have access to the information that is potentially deemed confidential. To manage information disclosure concerns beyond the transport level, SPPF implementations MAY provide support for encryption at the SPPF object level.

#### 9.5. Non Repudiation

In some situations, it may be required to protect against denial of involvement (see [RFC4949]) and tackle non-repudiation concerns in regards to SPPF messages. This type of protection is useful to satisfy authenticity concerns related to SPPF messages beyond the end-to-end connection integrity, confidentiality, and authentication protection that the transport layer provides. This is an optional feature and some SPPF implementations MAY provide support for it.

#### 9.6. Replay Attacks

Anti-replay protection ensures that a given SPPF object replayed at a later time doesn't affect the integrity of the system. SPPF provides at least one mechanism to fight against replay attacks. Use of the optional client transaction identifier allows the SPPF client to

correlate the request message with the response and to be sure that it is not a replay of a server response from earlier exchanges. Use of unique values for the client transaction identifier is highly encouraged to avoid chance matches to a potential replay message.

## 9.7. Man in the Middle

The SPPF client or Registrar can be a separate entity acting on behalf of the Registrant in facilitating provisioning transactions to the Registry. Further, the transport layer provides end-to-end connection protection between SPPF client and the SPPF server. Therefore, man-in-the-middle attack is a possibility that may affect the integrity of the data that belongs to the Registrant and/or expose peer data to unintended actors in case well-established peering relationships already exist.

## 10. Internationalization Considerations

Character encodings to be used for SPPF elements are described in Section 8.2. The use of time elements in the protocol is specified in Section 3.2. Where human-readable languages are used in the protocol, those messages SHOULD be tagged according to [RFC5646], and the transport protocol MUST support a respective mechanism to transmit such tags together with those human-readable messages. If tags are absent, the language of the message defaults to "en" (English).

## 11. IANA Considerations

### 11.1. URN Assignments

This document uses URNs to describe XML namespaces and XML schemas conforming to a Registry mechanism described in [RFC3688].

Two URI assignments are requested.

Registration request for the SPPF XML namespace:

urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:sppf:base:1

Registrant Contact: IESG

XML: None. Namespace URIs do not represent an XML specification.

Registration request for the XML schema:

URI: urn:ietf:params:xml:schema:sppf:1

Registrant Contact: IESG

XML: See the "Formal Specification" section of this document (Section 12).

## 11.2. Organization Identifier Namespace Registry

IANA is requested to create and maintain a Registry entitled "SPPF OrgIdType Namespaces". Strings used as OrgIdType Namespace identifiers MUST conform to the following syntax in the Augmented Backus-Naur Form (ABNF) [RFC5234]

```
namespace = ALPHA * (ALPHA/DIGIT/"-")
```

Assignments consist of the OrgIdType namespace string, and the definition of the associated namespace. This document makes the following initial assignment for the OrgIdType Namespaces:

OrgIdType namespace string	Namespace
-----	-----
IANA Enterprise Numbers	iana-en

Future assignments are to be made through the well known IANA Policy "RFC Required" (see section 4.1 of [RFC5226])

## 12. Formal Specification

This section provides the draft XML Schema Definition for SPPF Protocol.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<schema xmlns:sppfb="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:sppf:base:1"
xmlns="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
targetNamespace="urn:ietf:params:xml:ns:sppf:base:1"
elementFormDefault="qualified" xml:lang="EN">
  <annotation>
    <documentation>
      ---- Generic Object key types to be defined by specific
      Transport/Architecture. The types defined here can
      be extended by the specific architecture to
      define the Object Identifiers ----
    </documentation>
  </annotation>
  <complexType name="ObjKeyType"
    abstract="true">
    <annotation>
      <documentation>
        ---- Generic type that represents the
        key for various objects in SPPF. ----
      </documentation>
    </annotation>
  </complexType>
```

```
<complexType name="SedGrpOfferKeyType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:ObjKeyType">
      <annotation>
        <documentation>
          ---- Generic type that represents
            the key for a SED group offer. ----
        </documentation>
      </annotation>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

<complexType name="PubIdKeyType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:ObjKeyType">
      <annotation>
        <documentation>
          ----Generic type that
            represents the key
            for a Pub Id. ----
        </documentation>
      </annotation>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>

<annotation>
  <documentation>
    ---- Object Type Definitions ----
  </documentation>
</annotation>

<complexType name="SedGrpType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="sedGrpName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
        <element name="sedRecRef" type="sppfb:SedRecRefType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="dgName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="peeringOrg" type="sppfb:OrgIdType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="sourceIdent" type="sppfb:SourceIdentType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="isInSvc" type="boolean"/>
        <element name="priority" type="unsignedShort"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
    <element name="ext"
      type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</extension>
</complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="DestGrpType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="dgName"
          type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="PubIdType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="dgName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="TNType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="tn" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="sedRecRef" type="sppfb:SedRecRefType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="TNRType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="range" type="sppfb:NumberRangeType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
<complexType name="TNPType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="tnPrefix" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="RNType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="rn" type="sppfb:NumberValType"/>
        <element name="corInfo" type="sppfb:CORInfoType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="URIPubIdType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:PubIdType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="uri" type="anyURI"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="SedRecType" abstract="true">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="sedName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
        <element name="sedFunction" type="sppfb:SedFunctionType"
          minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="isInSvc" type="boolean"/>
        <element name="ttl" type="positiveInteger" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="NAPTRType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:SedRecType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="order" type="unsignedShort"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
```

```
<element name="flags" type="sppfb:FlagsType" minOccurs="0"/>
<element name="svcs" type="sppfb:SvcType"/>
<element name="regx" type="sppfb:RegexParamType" minOccurs="0"/>
<element name="repl" type="sppfb:ReplType" minOccurs="0"/>
<element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
</sequence>
</extension>
</complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="NSType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:SedRecType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="hostName" type="token"/>
        <element name="ipAddr" type="sppfb:IPAddrType"
          minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="URIType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:SedRecType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="ere" type="token" default="^(.*)$"/>
        <element name="uri" type="anyURI"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="SedGrpOfferType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
      <sequence>
        <element name="sedGrpOfferKey" type="sppfb:SedGrpOfferKeyType"/>
        <element name="status" type="sppfb:SedGrpOfferStatusType"/>
        <element name="offerDateTime" type="dateTime"/>
        <element name="acceptDateTime" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
        <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
      </sequence>
    </extension>
  </complexContent>
</complexType>
<complexType name="EgrRteType">
  <complexContent>
    <extension base="sppfb:BasicObjType">
```



```
<sequence>
  <element name="egrRteName" type="sppfb:ObjNameType"/>
  <element name="pref" type="unsignedShort"/>
  <element name="regxRewriteRule" type="sppfb:RegexParamType"/>
  <element name="ingrSedGrp" type="sppfb:ObjKeyType"
    minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  <element name="svcs" type="sppfb:SvcType" minOccurs="0"/>
  <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
</sequence>
</extension>
</complexContent>
</complexType>
<annotation>
  <documentation>
    ---- Abstract Object and Element Type Definitions ----
  </documentation>
</annotation>
<complexType name="BasicObjType" abstract="true">
  <sequence>
    <element name="rant" type="sppfb:OrgIdType"/>
    <element name="rar" type="sppfb:OrgIdType"/>
    <element name="cDate" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="mDate" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="RegexParamType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="ere" type="sppfb:RegexType" default="^(.*)$"/>
    <element name="repl" type="sppfb:ReplType"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="IPAddrType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="addr" type="sppfb:AddrStringType"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
  <attribute name="type" type="sppfb:IPType" default="v4"/>
</complexType>
<complexType name="SedRecRefType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="sedKey" type="sppfb:ObjKeyType"/>
    <element name="priority" type="unsignedShort"/>
    <element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="SourceIdentType">
  <sequence>
```

```
<element name="sourceIdentRegex" type="sppfb:RegexType"/>
<element name="sourceIdentScheme"
  type="sppfb:SourceIdentSchemeType"/>
<element name="ext" type="sppfb:ExtAnyType" minOccurs="0"/>
</sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="CORInfoType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="corClaim" type="boolean" default="true"/>
    <element name="cor" type="boolean" default="false" minOccurs="0"/>
    <element name="corDate" type="dateTime" minOccurs="0"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="SvcMenuType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="serverStatus" type="sppfb:ServerStatusType"/>
    <element name="majMinVersion" type="token" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <element name="objURI" type="anyURI" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <element name="extURI" type="anyURI"
      minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="ExtAnyType">
  <sequence>
    <any namespace="##other" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<simpleType name="FlagsType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <length value="1"/>
    <pattern value="[A-Z]|[a-z]|[0-9]"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="SvcType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <minLength value="1"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="RegexType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <minLength value="1"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="ReplType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <minLength value="1"/>
    <maxLength value="255"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

```
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="OrgIdType">
  <restriction base="token"/>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="ObjNameType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <minLength value="3"/>
    <maxLength value="80"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="TransIdType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <minLength value="3"/>
    <maxLength value="120"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="MinorVerType">
  <restriction base="unsignedLong"/>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="AddrStringType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <minLength value="3"/>
    <maxLength value="45"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="IPType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="v4"/>
    <enumeration value="v6"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="SourceIdentSchemeType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="uri"/>
    <enumeration value="ip"/>
    <enumeration value="rootDomain"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="ServerStatusType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="inService"/>
    <enumeration value="outOfService"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="SedGrpOfferStatusType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="offered"/>
    <enumeration value="accepted"/>
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
```

```
</restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="NumberValType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <maxLength value="20"/>
    <pattern value="\+?\d\d*" />
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="NumberTypeEnum">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="TN" />
    <enumeration value="TNPrefix" />
    <enumeration value="RN" />
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<simpleType name="SedFunctionType">
  <restriction base="token">
    <enumeration value="routing" />
    <enumeration value="lookup" />
  </restriction>
</simpleType>
<complexType name="NumberType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="value" type="sppfb:NumberValType" />
    <element name="type" type="sppfb:NumberTypeEnum" />
  </sequence>
</complexType>
<complexType name="NumberRangeType">
  <sequence>
    <element name="startRange" type="sppfb:NumberValType" />
    <element name="endRange" type="sppfb:NumberValType" />
  </sequence>
</complexType>
</schema>
```

### 13. Acknowledgments

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