WCTP 1.1 Corrections and Clarifications

Technical Note #5

Clarification of senderID in SubmitClientMessage

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1 Purpose

The purpose of this technical note is to clarify the senderID field in the wctp-SubmitClientMessage operation.

2 Discussion of senderID

According to the WCTP Field Definitions (Appendix B) the senderID field is a "Unique identifier of the message submitter." Additionally, if there is no sendResponsesToID field specified, the senderID indicates the return address.

The wctp-SubmitRequest is a message send operation intended for Enterprise Host users. Notifications and replies for a wctp-SubmitRequest operation are retrieved via wctp-PollForMessages or POSTed by the carrier directly to the Enterprise Host.

The wctp-SubmitClientMessage is a message send operation intended for Transient users. The response to the wctp-SubmitClientMessage operation provides a tracking number so that the user can use a wctp-ClientQuery operation to receive notifications and replies. Notifications and replies for a wctp-SubmitClientMessage operation will NOT be delivered via wctp-PollForMessages or via POSTing. Therefore, there is no need for a return address.

3 Potential Problem

Since there are no restrictions or guidelines on transient user's senderID, there is no guarantee that it is unique. If a transient user happens to use a senderID that matches a pollerID or an alias, the gateway may become confused. Depending on the implementation, the transient user's replies could potentially be delivered to an enterprise host.

4 Solution

The solution is for carrier gateways to simply ignore the senderID field in SubmitClientMessage. Developers must be aware that this field will be ignored. In the future, the senderID field may be removed from the SubmitClientMessage operation.