

Information on Authentication for Dialup Async PPP and SLIP

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Questions

Introduction

I would like more information on the features of dialup async PPP and dialup async SLIP.

Does the PPP interface support peer authentication?

Can the server allow the remote peer to act as a gateway to a remote subnet based on the authenticated peer ID?

Does SLIP support any kind of user authentication?

Related Information

Introduction

This document lists some frequently asked questions and their answers related to authentication for dialup async PPP and SLIP.

Q. I would like more information on the features of dialup async PPP and dialup async SLIP.

A. First, we need to define a couple of terms. "In-band" services in this document refer to machine oriented negotiation, while "out-of-band" services refer to human-oriented interactions.

For example, when a telnet program uses the telnet echo option to control echoing, it is an in-band service. On the other hand, a telnet program may also use a method for the user to request a particular type of echoing behavior, regardless of any protocol negotiations that might occur. In this case, it is an out-of-band service.

Q. Does the PPP interface support peer authentication?

A. This question needs to be answered in three parts:

- ◆ **In-band:** No, PPP does not support peer authentication in case of in-band services.
- ◆ **Out-of-band:** A second level of log-in may be required if the user wants to use a particular IP address on a SLIP or PPP link.
- ◆ **Semi-in-band:** The address configured on the link, or selected by the user (through out-of-band services) may be related to the client implementation through BOOTP or PPP address negotiation.

Note: It is currently not possible for a PPP client to *set* the address through PPP negotiation.

Q. Can the server allow the remote peer to act as a gateway to a remote subnet based on the authenticated peer ID?

A. If the address belongs to a different network (than the main network interface), routing is performed. However, if the address is on the same network as the main interface, "terminal server" model SLIP/PPP will be applicable. You can further control access through the use of interface access-lists, router protocol access-lists, and so on.

Q. Does SLIP support any kind of user authentication?

A. This question needs to be answered in two parts:

- ◆ **In band:** No, SLIP does not support any kind of user authentication in case of in-band services.
- ◆ **Out of band:** The options are the same as PPP.

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