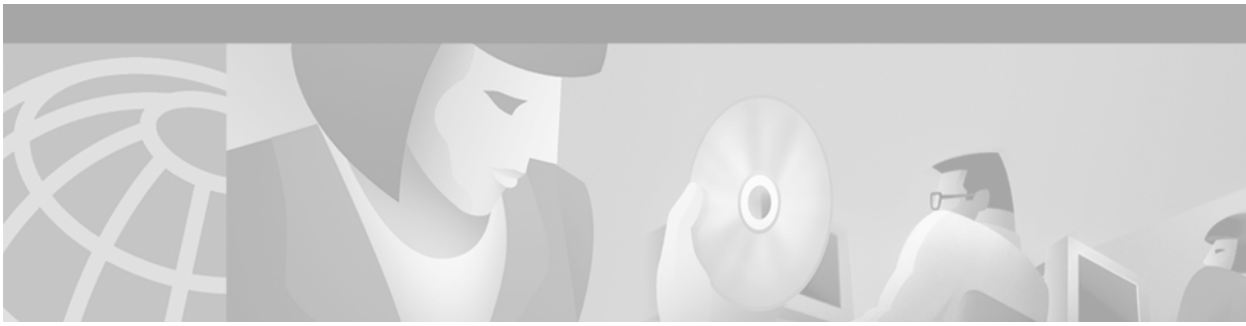

Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy

Feature History

Release	Modification
12.1(1)T	This feature was introduced.
12.1(5)XM2	Support was added for the Cisco AS5350 and Cisco AS5400 universal gateways.

This document describes the Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy feature that was introduced in Cisco IOS Release 12.1(1)T. This document contains the following sections:

Feature Overview

The Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy feature enhances the accounting capabilities of the Cisco H.323 Gateway and provides support for Vocaltec Gatekeepers. The Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy feature provides redundant billing information to an alternate gatekeeper if the primary Gatekeeper to which a Gateway is registered becomes unavailable.

During the process of establishing a call, the primary Gatekeeper sends an admission confirmation (ACF) message to the registered Gateway. The ACF message includes the user's billing information and an access token. To provide the billing information to an alternate gatekeeper if the primary Gatekeeper is unavailable when the call session ends, the access token information sent in the ACF message in now also included in the disengage request (DRQ) message that is sent to the alternate Gatekeeper.

This features enables the alternate Gatekeeper to obtain the billing information required to successfully complete the transaction.

Benefits

The Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy enables the maintenance of billing information on alternate Gatekeepers.

Related Features and Technologies

The Gateway-to-Gateway Billing Redundancy feature is related to the Cisco H.235 Accounting and Security Enhancements for Cisco Gateways and to the Gateway support for Alternate Gatekeepers.

Related Documents

- Configuring H.323 VoIP Gateway for Cisco Access Platforms
- Cisco H.235 Accounting and Security Enhancements for Cisco Gateways
- Cisco H.323 Gateway Security and Accounting Enhancements
- Gateway Support for Alternate Gatekeeper

Supported Platforms

The Gateway-to-Gateway Billing Redundancy feature is supported on any existing Cisco IOS Gatekeeper platform, including the following:

- Cisco 2600 Series
- Cisco 3600 Series
- Cisco MC3810
- Cisco AS5300
- Cisco AS5350
- Cisco AS5400
- Cisco AS5800
- Cisco 7200 Series

Supported Standards, MIBs, and RFCs

Standards

No new or modified standards are supported by this feature.

MIBs

No new or modified MIBs are supported by this feature.

To obtain lists of MIBs supported by platform and Cisco IOS release and to download MIB modules, go to the Cisco MIB web site on Cisco Connection Online (CCO) at http://www.cisco.com/public/sw-center/netmgmt/cmtk/mibs.shtml.

RFCs

No new or modified RFCs are supported by this feature.

Prerequisites

The Cisco AS5350 and Cisco AS5400 do not support the Mica Modem Card, Microcom Modem Card, or VoIP Feature Card. Voice and modem functions are provided by the Universal Port Dial Feature card running SPE firmware. See the *Cisco AS5350 Universal Gateway Card Installation Guide* and the *Cisco AS5400 Universal Gateway Card Installation Guide* for more information. All references to the Cisco AS5300 in this document apply to the Cisco AS5350 and Cisco AS5400 platforms with the following exceptions:

- Use the Universal Port Dial Feature Card instead of the Mica or Microcom modem cards.
- Use SPE firmware instead of portware version 6.7.7.
- Run Cisco IOS Release 12.1(5)XM2 software for VoIP functionality.

Other Prerequisites

The Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy feature requires the Cisco H.323 VoIP Gatekeeper for Cisco Access Platforms feature and the Gateway support for Alternate Gatekeepers feature.

Configuration Tasks

There are no configuration tasks for this feature.

Configuration Examples

Because there are no configuration tasks associated with the Gateway-to-Gatekeeper Billing Redundancy feature, no configuration examples are provided.

Command Reference

There are no new or modified commands for this feature.

Debug Commands

There are no new or modified Debug commands supported by this feature.

Glossary

ACF—An RAS message sent as an admissions confirmation.

gatekeeper—A gatekeeper maintains a registry of devices in the multimedia network. The devices register with the gatekeeper at startup, and request admission to a call from the gatekeeper.

The gatekeeper is an H.323 entity on the LAN that provides address translation and control access to the LAN for H.323 terminals and gateways. The gatekeeper may provide other services to the H.323 terminals and gateways, such as bandwidth management and locating gateways.

gateway—A gateway allows H.323 terminals to communicate with non-H.323 terminals by converting protocols. A gateway is the point at which a circuit-switched call is encoded and repackaged into IP packets.

An H.323 gateway is an endpoint on the LAN that provides real-time, two-way communications between H.323 terminals on the LAN and other ITU-T terminals in the WAN, or to another H.323 gateway.

H.323—An International Telecommunication Union (ITU-T) standard that describes packet-based video, audio, and data conferencing. H.323 is an umbrella standard that describes the architecture of the conferencing system, and refers to a set of other standards (H.245, H.225.0, and Q.931) to describe its actual protocol.

RAS—Registration, admission, and status protocol. This is the protocol that is used between endpoints and the gatekeeper to perform management functions. The RAS signaling function performs registration, admissions, bandwidth changes, status and disengage procedures between the VoIP gateway and the gatekeeper.

VoIP—Voice over IP. The ability to carry normal telephone-style voice over an IP-based Internet with POTS-like functionality, reliability, and voice quality. VoIP is a blanket term which generally refers to Cisco's standards based (H.323, etc.) approach to IP voice traffic.

Note For a list of other internetworking terms, see *Internetworking Terms and Acronyms*, available on the Documentation CD-ROM and Cisco Connection Online (CCO) at the following URL: http://www.cisco.com/univercd/cc/td/doc/cisintwk/ita/index.htm.