Network Working Group Request for Comments: 4747 Category: Standards Track S. Kipp G. Ramkumar McDATA Corporation K. McCloghrie Cisco Systems November 2006

The Virtual Fabrics MIB

Status of This Memo

This document specifies an Internet standards track protocol for the Internet community, and requests discussion and suggestions for improvements. Please refer to the current edition of the "Internet Official Protocol Standards" (STD 1) for the standardization state and status of this protocol. Distribution of this memo is unlimited.

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Abstract

This memo defines a portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it describes managed objects for information related to the Fibre Channel network's Virtual Fabrics function.

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1. Introduction

This memo defines a portion of the Management Information Base (MIB) for use with network management protocols in the Internet community. In particular, it describes managed objects for information related to the Fibre Channel network's Virtual Fabric function.

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 RFC 2119 [RFC2119].

2. The Internet-Standard Management Framework

For a detailed overview of the documents that describe the current Internet-Standard Management Framework, please refer to section 7 of RFC 3410 [RFC3410]. Managed objects are accessed via a virtual information store, termed the Management Information Base or MIB. MIB objects are generally accessed through the Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP).

Objects in the MIB are defined using the mechanisms defined in the Structure of Management Information (SMI). This memo specifies a MIB module that is compliant to the SMIv2, which is described in STD 58, RFC 2578 [RFC2578], STD 58, RFC 2579 [RFC2579] and STD 58, RFC 2580 [RFC2580].

3. Short Overview of Fibre Channel

The Fibre Channel (FC) is logically a bidirectional point-to-point serial data channel, structured for high performance. Fibre Channel provides a general transport vehicle for higher-level protocols such as Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) command sets, the High-Performance Parallel Interface (HIPPI) data framing, IP (Internet Protocol), IEEE 802.2, and others.

Physically, Fibre Channel is an interconnection of multiple communication points, called N_Ports, interconnected either by a switching network, called a Fabric, or by a point-to-point link. A Fibre Channel "node" consists of one or more N_Ports. A Fabric may consist of multiple Interconnect Elements, some of which are switches. An N_Port connects to the Fabric via a port on a switch called an F_Port. When multiple FC nodes are connected to a single port on a switch via an "Arbitrated Loop" topology, the switch port is called an FL_Port, and the nodes' ports are called NL_Ports. The term Nx_Port is used to refer to either an N_Port or an NL_Port. The term Fx_Port is used to refer to either an F_Port or an FL_Port. A switch port, which is interconnected to another switch port via an

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Inter-Switch Link (ISL), is called an E_Port. A B_Port connects a bridge device with an E_Port on a switch; a B_Port provides a subset of E_Port functionality.

Many Fibre Channel components (including the Fabric, each node, and most ports) have globally-unique names. These globally-unique names are typically formatted as World Wide Names (WWNs). More information on WWNs can be found in [FC-FS]. WWNs are expected to be persistent across agent and unit resets.

Fibre Channel frames contain 24-bit address identifiers that identify the frame's source and destination ports. Each FC port has both an address identifier and a WWN. When a Fabric is in use, the FC address identifiers are dynamic and are assigned by a switch. Each octet of a 24-bit address represents a level in an address hierarchy, with a Domain_ID being the highest level of the hierarchy.

Virtual Fabrics allow a single physical Fabric to be divided into multiple logical Fabrics. Each Virtual Fabric may be managed independently like traditional Fabrics. Virtual Fabrics are designed to achieve a better utilization of a physical infrastructure and to isolate events in one Virtual Fabric from affecting other Fabrics. When one Core Switch provides switching functions for multiple Virtual Fabrics, that Core Switch is modeled as containing multiple Virtual Switches, one for each Virtual Fabric.

Each Virtual Fabric is identified by a 12-bit Virtual Fabric ID (VF_ID). When frames from multiple Virtual Fabrics are transmitted over a physical link, the VF_ID carried in a frame's Virtual Fabric Tagging Header (VFT_Header) identifies which Virtual Fabric the frame belongs to. The use of VFT_Headers is enabled through an initial negotiation exchange between the two connected ports.

4. Relationship to Other MIBs

This MIB extends beyond [RFC4044] to cover the functionality, in Fibre Channel switches, of providing Fibre Channel's Virtual Fabrics function.

5. MIB Overview

This MIB module provides the means for monitoring the operation of, and configuring some parameters of, one or more instances of Fibre Channel Virtual Fabric functionality. (Note that there are no definitions in this MIB module of "managed actions" which can be invoked via a remote network management protocol such as SNMP.)

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The following MIB module has IMPORTS from [RFC2578], [RFC2579], [RFC2580], [RFC2863], [RFC4044], and [RFC4439]. In REFERENCE clauses, it refers to [FC-SW-4].

5.1. Fibre Channel Management Instance

A Fibre Channel management instance is defined in [RFC4044] as a separable managed instance of Fibre Channel functionality. Fibre Channel functionality may be grouped into Fibre Channel management instances in whatever way is most convenient for the implementation(s). For example, one such grouping accommodates a single SNMP agent having multiple AgentX [RFC2741] sub-agents, with each sub-agent implementing a different Fibre Channel management instance.

The object, fcmInstanceIndex, is IMPORTed from the FC-MGMT-MIB [RFC4044] as the index value to uniquely identify each Fibre Channel management instance, for example within the same SNMP context ([RFC3411] section 3.3.1). The tllvfVirtualSwitchTable augments the fcmSwitchTable, and the primary index variable of the fcmSwitchTable is fcmInstanceIndex.

5.2. Representing Core and Virtual Switches

In the presence of Virtual Switches, fcmSwitchTable in RFC4044 contains a row for each Virtual Switch. fcmSwitchTable, tllvfCoreSwitchTable, and tllvfVirtualSwitchTable are complementary. The tllvfCoreSwitchTable and tllvfVirtualSwitchTable contain information that helps the management client determine which Switches are Virtual Switches and how each relates to a Core Switch. A Virtual Switch must reside in a single Core Switch, and a Core Switch is defined as a set of entities with the same Core Switch_Name.

RFC 4044 was defined before Virtual Switches were standard and represented only physical Switches, so the RFC 4044 tables were not defined as read-create. With the advent of Virtual Switches, Virtual Switches can now be created by administrators, and read-create tables are required. The StorageType of RFC 4044 tables were not defined, and StorageTypes used in this MIB should also apply to the RFC 4044 tables that this MIB augments.

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6. The T11-FC-VIRTUAL-FABRIC-MIB Module

T11-FC-VIRTUAL-FABRIC-MIB DEFINITIONS ::= BEGIN IMPORTS MODULE-IDENTITY, OBJECT-TYPE, Unsigned32, mib-2 FROM SNMPv2-SMI -- [RFC2578] MODULE-COMPLIANCE, OBJECT-GROUP FROM SNMPv2-CONF-- [RFC2580]RowStatus, StorageTypeFROM SNMPv2-TC-- [RFC2579]InterfaceIndexFROM IF MID[REC2262] InterfaceIndex FROM IF-MIB -- [RFC2863] fcmInstanceIndex, FcNameIdOrZero, fcmPortEntry, fcmSwitchEntry FROM FC-MGMT-MIB-- [RFC4044]FROM T11-TC-MIB;-- [RFC4439] T11FabricIndex t11FcVirtualFabricMIB MODULE-IDENTITY LAST-UPDATED "200611100000Z" ORGANIZATION "IETF IMSS (Internet and Management Support for Storage) Working Group" CONTACT-INFO Scott Kipp McDATA Corporation Tel: +1 720 558-3452 E-mail: scott.kipp@mcdata.com Postal: 4 McDATA Parkway Broomfield, CO USA 80021 G D Ramkumar SnapTell, Inc. Tel: +1 650-326-7627 E-mail: gramkumar@stanfordalumni.org Postal: 2741 Middlefield Rd, Suite 200 Palo Alto, CA USA 94306 Keith McCloghrie Cisco Systems, Inc. Tel: +1 408 526-5260 E-mail: kzm@cisco.com Postal: 170 West Tasman Drive San Jose, CA USA 95134 ... DESCRIPTION "This module defines management information specific to Fibre Channel Virtual Fabrics. A Virtual Fabric is a

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```
Fabric composed of partitions of switches, links and
        N_Ports with a single Fabric management domain, Fabric
        Services and independence from other Virtual Fabrics.
        Copyright (C) The IETF Trust (2006). This version of
        this MIB module is part of RFC 4747; see the RFC itself for
        full legal notices."
              "200611100000z"
   REVISION
   DESCRIPTION
        "Initial version of this MIB module, published as RFC 4747."
    ::= \{ mib-2 \ 147 \}
t11vfObjects OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { t11FcVirtualFabricMIB 1 }
tllvfConformance OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { tllFcVirtualFabricMIB 2 }
__*********************************
-- MIB object definitions
_ _
tllvfCoreSwitchTable OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF TllvfCoreSwitchEntry
MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
        "A table of core switches supported by the current
        management entity."
    ::= { tllvfObjects 1 }
t11vfCoreSwitchEntry OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX T11vfCoreSwitchEntry
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
       "Each entry represents one core switch."
    INDEX { fcmInstanceIndex, t11vfCoreSwitchSwitchName }
    ::= { t11vfCoreSwitchTable 1}
T11vfCoreSwitchEntry ::=
   SEQUENCE {
      t11vfCoreSwitchSwitchName FcNameIdOrZero,
      t11vfCoreSwitchMaxSupported Unsigned32,
     tllvfCoreSwitchStorageType StorageType
    }
tllvfCoreSwitchSwitchName OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX FcNameIdOrZero (SIZE(8 | 16))
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS
              current
```

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DESCRIPTION "The Core Switch_Name (WWN) of this Core Switch." ::= { tllvfCoreSwitchEntry 1 } t11vfCoreSwitchMaxSupported OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX Unsigned32 (1..4095) MAX-ACCESS read-write STATUS current DESCRIPTION "In switches that do not support Virtual Fabrics, this object has the value of 1. If Virtual Fabrics are supported, this object is the maximum number of Virtual Fabrics supported by the Core Switch. For the purpose of this count, the Control VF_ID is ignored." ::= { t11vfCoreSwitchEntry 2 } tllvfCoreSwitchStorageType OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX StorageType MAX-ACCESS read-write STATUS current DESCRIPTION "The storage type for this conceptual row. Conceptual rows having the value 'permanent' need not allow write-access to any columnar objects in the row." DEFVAL { nonVolatile } ::= { t11vfCoreSwitchEntry 3 } -- Virtual Switch table t11vfVirtualSwitchTable OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF T11vfVirtualSwitchEntry MAX-ACCESS not-accessible STATUS current DESCRIPTION "A table of Virtual Switches. When one Core Switch provides switching functions for multiple Virtual Fabrics, that Core Switch is modeled as containing multiple Virtual Switches, one for each Virtual Fabric. This table contains one row for every Virtual Switch on every Core Switch. This table augments the basic switch information in the fcmSwitchTable Table in the FC-MGMT-MIB." REFERENCE "fcmSwitchTable is defined in the FC-MGMT-MIB [RFC4044]." ::= { t11vfObjects 2 } t11vfVirtualSwitchEntry OBJECT-TYPE SYNTAX T11vfVirtualSwitchEntry

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```
MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS
                current
    DESCRIPTION
        "An entry of the Virtual Switch table. Each row is for a
         Virtual Switch.
         This table augments the fcmSwitchTable, i.e., every entry
         in this table has a one-to-one correspondence with an
         entry in the fcmSwitchTable. At the time when the
         fcmSwitchTable was defined, it applied to physical
         switches. With the definition and usage of virtual
         switches, fcmSwitchTable now applies to virtual switches
         as well as physical switches, and (in contrast to physical
         switches) it is appropriate to provide the capability for
         virtual switches to be created via remote management
         applications, e.g., via SNMP.
         So, this entry contains a RowStatus object (to allow the
         creation of a virtual switch), as well as a StorageType
         object. Obviously, if a row is created/deleted in this
         table, the corresponding row in the fcmSwitchTable will
         be created/deleted."
    REFERENCE
        "fcmSwitchEntry is defined in the FC-MGMT-MIB module
         [RFC4044]."
    AUGMENTS { fcmSwitchEntry }
    ::= { t11vfVirtualSwitchTable 1}
TllvfVirtualSwitchEntry ::=
    SEQUENCE {
        JENCEIt11vfVirtualSwitchVfIdIIIraoriot11vfVirtualSwitchCoreSwitchNameFcNameIdOrZero,IIIRowStatusRowStatusRowStatus,
        t11vfVirtualSwitchVfId
        tllvfVirtualSwitchRowStatus RowStatus,
tllvfVirtualSwitchStorageType StorageType
    }
t11vfVirtualSwitchVfId OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX T11FabricIndex
    MAX-ACCESS read-create
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The VF_ID of the Virtual Fabric for which this virtual
         switch performs its switching function. The Control
         VF_ID is implicitly enabled and is not set.
         Communication with the Control VF_ID is required."
    REFERENCE
        "FC-SW-4, REV 7.5, section 12.2"
    ::= { t11vfVirtualSwitchEntry 1 }
```

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```
tllvfVirtualSwitchCoreSwitchName OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX FcNameIdOrZero (SIZE(8 | 16))
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS
               current
   DESCRIPTION
        "The Core Switch_Name (WWN) of the Core Switch that
        contains this Virtual Switch."
   REFERENCE
        "FC-SW-4, REV 7.5, section 12.2."
    ::= { t11vfVirtualSwitchEntry 2 }
t11vfVirtualSwitchRowStatus OBJECT-TYPE
       SYNTAX RowStatus
       MAX-ACCESS read-create
       STATUS current
       DESCRIPTION
           "The status of this row."
        ::= { t11vfVirtualSwitchEntry 3 }
tllvfVirtualSwitchStorageType OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX StorageType
MAX-ACCESS read-create
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
        "The storage type for this conceptual row.
        Conceptual rows having the value 'permanent' need not
        allow write-access to any columnar objects in the row."
   DEFVAL { nonVolatile }
    ::= { tllvfVirtualSwitchEntry 4 }
-- Port table
t11vfPortTable OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX SEQUENCE OF T11vfPortEntry
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
       "A table of Port attributes related to Virtual Fabrics."
    ::= { t11vfObjects 3 }
tllvfPortEntry OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX T11vfPortEntry
   MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
   STATUS
              current
   DESCRIPTION
        "Each entry represents a physical Port on a switch.
        Switches that support Virtual Fabrics would add
```

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```
these four additional columns to the fcmPortEntry
          row."
      REFERENCE
         "fcmPortEntry is defined in the FC-MGMT-MIB module."
      AUGMENTS { fcmPortEntry }
      ::= { tllvfPortTable 1}
  T11vfPortEntry ::=
      SEQUENCE {
         t11vfPortVfId
                                  T11FabricIndex,
         tllvfPortTaggingAdminStatus INTEGER,
         t11vfPortTaggingOperStatus INTEGER,
                             StorageType
         tllvfPortStorageType
      }
  tllvfPortVfId OBJECT-TYPE
      SYNTAX T11FabricIndex
      MAX-ACCESS read-write
      STATUS current
      DESCRIPTION
          "The Port VF_ID assigned to this Port. The Port VF_ID is the
          default Virtual Fabric that is assigned to untagged frames
          VF_ID is required."
      REFERENCE
         "FC-SW-4, REV 7.5, section 12.1"
      DEFVAL {1}
      ::= { t11vfPortEntry 1 }
  tllvfPortTaggingAdminStatus OBJECT-TYPE
      SYNTAX INTEGER {
         off(1),
         on(2),
         auto(3)
      }
      MAX-ACCESS read-write
      STATUS
            current
      DESCRIPTION
         "This object is used to configure the administrative status
          of Virtual Fabric tagging on this Port.
          SET operation Description
          -----
          off(1)
                        To disable Virtual Fabric tagging on this
                        Port.
          on(2)
                        To enable Virtual Fabric tagging on this
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Port if the attached Port doesn't
                        prohibit it.
        auto(3)
                        To enable Virtual Fabric tagging if the
                        peer requests it."
   REFERENCE
      "FC-SW-4, REV 7.5, section 12.4"
    ::= { tllvfPortEntry 2 }
 t11vfPortTaggingOperStatus OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX INTEGER {
       off(1),
       on(2)
         }
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
        "This object is used to report the operational status of
        Virtual Fabric tagging on this Port.
        SET operation Description
        off(1) Virtual Fabric tagging is disabled on this
                        Port.
        on(2)
                        Virtual Fabric tagging is enabled on this
                        Port."
   REFERENCE
       "FC-SW-4, REV 7.5, section 12.4"
    ::= { tllvfPortEntry 3 }
tllvfPortStorageType OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX StorageType
   MAX-ACCESS read-write
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
       "The storage type for this conceptual row, and for the
        corresponding row in the augmented fcmPortTable.
        Conceptual rows having the value 'permanent' need not
        allow write-access to any columnar objects in the row."
   DEFVAL { nonVolatile }
    ::= { tllvfPortEntry 4 }
-- Locally Enabled Table
t11vfLocallyEnabledTable OBJECT-TYPE
```

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```
SYNTAX
                SEQUENCE OF T11vfLocallyEnabledEntry
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS
                current
    DESCRIPTION
        "A table for assigning and reporting operational status of
         locally-enabled Virtual Fabric IDs to Ports. The set of
         Virtual Fabrics operational on the Port is the bit-wise
         'AND' of the set of locally-enabled VF_IDs of this Port
         and the locally-enabled VF_IDs of the attached Port."
    ::= { tllvfObjects 4 }
t11vfLocallyEnabledEntry OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX T11vfLocallyEnabledEntry
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
         "An entry for each locally-enabled VF_ID on
         each Port."
    REFERENCE
        "FC-SW-4, REV 7.5, section 12.4"
    INDEX { tllvfLocallyEnabledPortIfIndex, tllvfLocallyEnabledVfId }
    ::= { t11vfLocallyEnabledTable 1}
T11vfLocallyEnabledEntry ::=
    SEQUENCE {
        tllvfLocallyEnabledPortIfIndex InterfaceIndex,
tllvfLocallyEnabledVfId TllFabricIndex,
        t11vfLocallyEnabledVfIdT11FabricIndt11vfLocallyEnabledOperStatusINTEGER,t11vfLocallyEnabledRowStatusRowStatus,t11vfLocallyEnabledStorageTypeStorageType
    }
t11vfLocallyEnabledPortIfIndex OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX InterfaceIndex
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS current
    DESCRIPTION
        "The value of the ifIndex that identifies the Port."
    ::= { t11vfLocallyEnabledEntry 1 }
tllvfLocallyEnabledVfId OBJECT-TYPE
    SYNTAX T11FabricIndex
    MAX-ACCESS not-accessible
    STATUS
                current
    DESCRIPTION
        "A locally-enabled VF_ID on this Port."
    ::= { t11vfLocallyEnabledEntry 2 }
```

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```
t11vfLocallyEnabledOperStatus OBJECT-TYPE
   SYNTAX INTEGER {
       off(1),
       on(2)
         }
   MAX-ACCESS read-only
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
       "This object is used to report the operational status of
        Virtual Fabric tagging on this Port.
        SET operation Description
        ------
        off(1)
                      Virtual Fabric tagging is disabled on this
                       Port.
        on(2)
                       Virtual Fabric tagging is enabled on this
                       Port."
   REFERENCE
       "FC-SW-4, REV 7.3, section 12.4"
   ::= { t11vfLocallyEnabledEntry 3 }
t11vfLocallyEnabledRowStatus OBJECT-TYPE
       SYNTAX RowStatus
MAX-ACCESS read-create
       STATUS current
       DESCRIPTION
           "The status of this conceptual row.
            When a row in this table is in 'active(1)' state,
            no object in that row can be modified except
            t11vfLocallyEnabledRowStatus and
            t11vfLocallyEnabledStorageType."
       ::= { t11vfLocallyEnabledEntry 4 }
t11vfLocallyEnabledStorageType OBJECT-TYPE
       SYNTAX StorageType
       MAX-ACCESS read-create
       STATUS current
       DESCRIPTION
           "The storage type for this conceptual row.
            Conceptual rows having the value 'permanent' need not
            allow write-access to any columnar objects in the row."
       DEFVAL { nonVolatile }
       ::= { t11vfLocallyEnabledEntry 5 }
__*********************************
```

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```
-- Conformance Section
_ _
tllvfMIBCompliances OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { tllvfConformance 1 }
t11vfMIBGroups OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { t11vfConformance 2 }
t11vfMIBCompliance MODULE-COMPLIANCE
   STATUS current
   DESCRIPTION
        "Describes the requirements for compliance to the
        Fibre Channel Virtual Fabric MIB."
    MODULE -- this module
       MANDATORY-GROUPS { t11vfGeneralGroup }
        OBJECT tllvfCoreSwitchMaxSupported
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
       OBJECT tllvfCoreSwitchStorageType
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
        DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
        OBJECT tllvfVirtualSwitchVfId
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
        OBJECT tllvfVirtualSwitchRowStatus
        SYNTAX RowStatus { active(1) }
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
        OBJECT tllvfVirtualSwitchStorageType
        MIN-ACCESS read-only
        DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
        OBJECT tllvfPortVfId
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
           "Write access is not required."
       OBJECT tllvfPortTaggingAdminStatus
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
```

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```
"Write access is not required."
        OBJECT tllvfPortStorageType
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
       OBJECT t11vfLocallyEnabledRowStatus
        SYNTAX RowStatus { active(1) }
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
       OBJECT tllvfLocallyEnabledStorageType
       MIN-ACCESS read-only
       DESCRIPTION
            "Write access is not required."
    ::= { t11vfMIBCompliances 1 }
-- Units of conformance
    t11vfGeneralGroup OBJECT-GROUP
        OBJECTS { tllvfCoreSwitchMaxSupported,
                  tllvfVirtualSwitchVfId,
                  tllvfVirtualSwitchCoreSwitchName,
                  tllvfVirtualSwitchRowStatus,
                  tllvfPortVfId,
                  tllvfPortTaggingAdminStatus,
                  tllvfLocallyEnabledOperStatus,
                  tllvfPortTaggingOperStatus,
                  tllvfLocallyEnabledRowStatus,
               tllvfCoreSwitchStorageType,
                  tllvfVirtualSwitchStorageType,
                  tllvfPortStorageType,
                  tllvfLocallyEnabledStorageType
        }
        STATUS current
       DESCRIPTION
            "A collection of objects for monitoring and
            configuring Virtual Fabrics in a Fibre Channel switch."
        ::= { t11vfMIBGroups 1 }
```

END

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7. Security Considerations

There are a number of management objects defined in this MIB module with a MAX-ACCESS clause of read-write and/or read-create. Such objects may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments. The support for SET operations in a non-secure environment without proper protection can have a negative effect on network operations. These are the tables and objects and their sensitivity/vulnerability:

tllvfCoreSwitchMaxSupported, tllvfVirtualSwitchVfId, tllvfCoreSwitchStorageType, tllvfVirtualSwitchStorageType and tllvfVirtualSwitchRowStatus

- the ability to change the configuration of Virtual Fabrics on a particular switch.

tllvfPortTaggingAdminStatus, tllvfLocallyEnabledRowStatus, tllvfPortVfId, tllvfPortStorageType and tllvfLocallyEnabledStorageType

- the ability to change the configuration of Virtual Fabrics on a port of a particular switch.

Some of the readable objects in this MIB module (i.e., objects with a MAX-ACCESS other than not-accessible) may be considered sensitive or vulnerable in some network environments. It is thus important to control even GET and/or NOTIFY access to these objects and possibly to even encrypt the values of these objects when sending them over the network via SNMP. These are the tables and objects and their sensitivity/vulnerability:

tllvfVirtualSwitchCoreSwitchName, tllvfPortTaggingOperStatus, tllvfLocallyEnabledOperStatus,

- the ability to discover configuration of Virtual Fabrics on a virtual switch or a port.

SNMP versions prior to SNMPv3 did not include adequate security. Even if the network itself is secure (for example by using IPSec), even then, there is no control as to who on the secure network is allowed to access and GET/SET (read/change/create/delete) the objects in this MIB module.

It is RECOMMENDED that implementers consider the security features as provided by the SNMPv3 framework (see [RFC3410], section 8), including full support for the SNMPv3 cryptographic mechanisms (for authentication and privacy).

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Further, deployment of SNMP versions prior to SNMPv3 is NOT RECOMMENDED. Instead, it is RECOMMENDED to deploy SNMPv3 and to enable cryptographic security. It is then a customer/operator responsibility to ensure that the SNMP entity giving access to an instance of this MIB module is properly configured to give access to the objects only to those principals (users) that have legitimate rights to indeed GET or SET (change/create/delete) them.

8. IANA Considerations

IANA has assigned 147 for the MIB module under the appropriate subtree.

9. Acknowledgements

This document was developed by the INCITS Task Group T11.5. We wish to acknowledge the contributions and comments from the INCITS Technical Committee T11 and the IMSS WG, including the following:

T11 Chair: Robert Snively, Brocade T11 Vice Chair: Claudio Desanti, Cisco Systems T11.5 Chair: Roger Cummings, Symantec IMSS WG Chair: David Black, EMC Corporation Bert Wijnen, Lucent

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 - [RFC2579] McCloghrie, K., Perkins, D., Schoenwaelder, J., Case, J., Rose, M., and S. Waldbusser, "Textual Conventions for SMIv2", STD 58, RFC 2579, April 1999.
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