

Internet Protocol Static Routing
External Reference Specification
November 13, 1985

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

This document describes the external interfaces of the internet protocol static routing (IPSR) module. This module contains the routing tables that are used by all other DoD protocols. Routines are provided to maintain the list of directly connected hosts kept in the routing tables. Command processors are also provided to maintain this list of directly connected hosts. The major purpose of this module is fulfilled by a routine provided to determine the next hop for a given datagram.

The routines contained in this module are not intended to be the only users of the routing tables, any dynamic routing protocol (EGP for instance) may access the routing tables directly.

1.2 REFERENCES

The following manuals contain material that either defines the operations of the IPSR module and the modules it interfaces to, or provides additional insight into the use of the module.

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| [1] | RFC-791 | SRI | Internet Protocol |
| [2] | RFC-792 | SRI | Internet Control Message Protocol |
| [3] | MIL-STD-1777 | DoD | Internet Protocol Standard |
| [4] | ARH6265 | CDC | Internet Protocol ERS |
| [5] | ARH7016 | CDC | Internet Protocol IDS |

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2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW

2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW

In the DoD network environment the following characteristics control the routing of datagrams. It should be noted that in the CDCNET environment the distinction between hosts and gateways is not adhered to, the IP module performs both functions.

1. A DoD host is by definition connected to only one network.
2. A DoD gateway is by definition connected to two or more networks.
3. The routing tables used by a host are also used by a gateway and include two tables. The first contains a list of all directly connected hosts and gateways, and their local addresses. The second contains a list of all reachable networks and the local address of the gateway to each network.
4. As each host or gateway is added to a DoD network, its existence must be manually indicated to every other entity connected to that network. There is no protocol that a new host can use to automatically inform its neighbors of its existence.
5. The network table used by a host is only updated by redirect messages. Hosts do not participate in any routing protocols.
6. The network table used by a gateway may be updated dynamically by various routing protocols, with EGP and GGP as examples. Additional tables may be used by these routing protocols that do not appear in a host.

IGP

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 2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW

 2.1 SERVICES PROVIDED

 2.1 SERVICES PROVIDED

The static routing module provides services to allow the modules which implement other DoD protocols in the DI to function according to the characteristics noted above. There are three base services provided, each service is described in one of the following sections.

2.1.1 PROCEDURE ACCESS

The IPSR module provides other modules with a set of subroutines that can be called to modify the contents of the routing tables. These routines are provided to minimize the amount of information that an outside user needs to know about the routing tables.

ipsr_add_host

This routine allows an outside module to add a host to the routing table. The various addresses of the host must be specified, as well as the type of host.

ipsr_delete_host

This routine allows an outside module to delete a host from the routing table. The IP address and type of the host must be specified.

ipsr_process_icmp_data

This routine allows the IP module to inform the IPSR module that it has received an ICMP datagram.

ipsr_add_network

This routine allows an outside module to add a new network to the network table.

ipsr_delete_network

This routine allows an outside module to delete a network from the network table.

ipsr_search_host_table

This routine allows an outside module to locate a specific host and determine all

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2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW
2.1.1 PROCEDURE ACCESS

known information about that
host.

`ipsr_search_network_table` This routine allows an
outside module to locate a
specific network and determine
all known information about that
network.

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2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW**2.1.2 ROUTING SERVICES**

2.1.2 ROUTING SERVICES

The IPSR module's primary task is to provide routing decisions to the IP module. This task is handled by the `iprsr_get_route` routine. The `iprsr_get_route` routine is called by the IP module to determine where a datagram should be sent. Each datagram that the IP module receives from the upper layer or the lower layer will be processed to determine the next destination. The routing options that are part of the datagram will be processed by this routine.

2.1.3 COMMAND ACCESS

There are four command processors which are logically part of the IPSR module. The first two allow the list of directly connected hosts/gateways to be modified, and the second two allow the list of known networks to be modified. These command processors will call the routines that are provided to the rest of the system to perform their functions. This service is intended to allow the network operator to modify the routing tables manually.

Define_IP_host This command allows the addition of a host to the routing table. The various addresses of the host must be specified, as well as the type of host.

Cancel_IP_host This command allows the deletion of a host from the routing table. The IP address of the host must be specified.

Define_IP_network This command allows the addition of a network to the routing table.

Cancel_IP_network This command allows the deletion of a network from the routing table.

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2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW

2.2 FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

2.2 FUNCTIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

The services of the IPSR module may be accessed by anyone, at any time, no SAP is needed. All routines are global addresses. The routing tables do not have any locks. It is assumed that all users of the routing tables will be running as a non-preemptive tasks, but if the IPSR module detects that its user is preemptive then the NOPREMT and OKPREMT common subroutines will be called.

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2.0 SERVICE OVERVIEW**2.3 EXTERNAL SERVICES UTILIZED**

2.3 EXTERNAL SERVICES UTILIZED**2.3.1 INTRANET LAYER (3A)**

The IPSR module uses the services of the 3A module. The IPSR module requires the ability to differentiate between CDC network solutions and IP network solutions. When the IPSR module opens a SAP with the 3A module it will specify that it is only concerned with IP network solutions. The IPSR module will specify a routine that 3A can call to inform it that the status of a network has changed and will expect to receive the following information from the 3A module.

1. The IP address of the network connection.
2. The 3A network ID.
3. The 3A system ID.
4. The maximum datagram size for the network.
5. The current status of the network.

The IPSR module will use the information that it receives in a 3A status indication to create a network entry for the directly connected network and a host entry for its own address on the particular network.

2.3.2 INTERNET PROTOCOL (IP)

The IPSR module expects that the IP module will present an indication of each Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) datagram that it receives. The format of ICMP datagrams is documented in reference [2]. By processing ICMP datagrams the IPSR module will be able to keep the network table up to date in a somewhat dynamic manner.

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

3.1 PROCEDURE ACCESS

The DoD protocols do not at this time provide any method for the IPSR module to obtain the addresses of directly connected hosts. It is therefore necessary for some other module which knows these addresses to inform the IPSR module. The routines described in this section allow the caller to add to and delete from the routing table. There are also two routines which allow reachable networks to be added to and deleted from the routing table.

3.1.1 ADD HOST FUNCTION

This routine is used to add the information about a directly connected host into the routing table. Each IP host on a directly connected IP network must be entered into the routing table with this routine. All hosts in a connected CDC Catnet to whom this gateway provides direct service, are considered to be directly connected and must be entered into the routing table with this routine. The format of the CYBIL interface is as follows:

```
PROCEDURE ipsr_add_host (
  host_address : ip_address;
  host_type    : ipsr_host_type;
  egp_active   : BOOLEAN;
  igp_active   : BOOLEAN;
  3a_network   : net_id_type;
  3a_system    : sys_id_type;
  VAR status   : ipsr_status_type);
```

host_address	In	This is the IP address of the host being defined.
host_type	In	This is the type of host being defined.
egp_active	In	This flag is set if an external

CONTROL DATA PRIVATE

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS3.1.1 ADD HOST FUNCTION

		gateway protocol is active in this host.
igp_active	In	This flag is set if an internal gateway protocol is active in this host.
3a_network	In	This is the 3A net_id of the network solution that the host is connected to.
3a_system	In	This is the 3A system_id of the host.
status	Out	This is the status of the request. The following values may be returned: igpr_successful igpr_host_exists igpr_invalid_address igpr_invalid_type igpr_unknown_network

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS3.1.3 PROCESS ICMP DATA

3.1.3 PROCESS ICMP DATA

This routine is called by the IP module to indicate that it has received an ICMP datagram. This is the only dynamic routing information that a standard DoD host will receive. The format of the CYBIL interface is as follows:

```
PROCEDURE ipsr_process_icmp_data (  
    error_type : ipsr_icmp_ind;  
    source      : ip_address;  
    destination : ip_address;  
    new_gateway : ip_address);
```

error_type	In	This is the type of ICMP datagram that is being reported.
source	In	This is the source address from the datagram that the ICMP datagram pertains to.
destination	In	This is the destination address from the datagram that the ICMP datagram pertains to.
new_gateway	In	This is the IP address of the gateway that the datagram should have been sent to.

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 3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

 3.1.4 ADD NETWORK FUNCTION

3.1.4 ADD NETWORK FUNCTION

This routine is used to add information about a reachable network into the routing table. This routine will be used at first by the command processor which adds networks. It may also be used by modules that provide dynamic routing services. The format of the CYBIL interface is as follows:

```

PROCEDURE ipsr_add_network (
  network      : 0..OFFFFFF(16);
  gateway      : ip_address;
  hop_count    : INTEGER;
  owner        : ipsr_net_owners;
  VAR status   : ipsr_status_type);
  
```

network	In	This is the network number of the network that is being added to the routing table.
gateway	In	This is the IP address of the gateway that datagrams destined for this network should be sent to.
hop_count	In	This is the number of gateways that the datagrams must pass through to reach this network.
owner	In	This is the owner of the table entry. Dynamic routing modules may use this value to insure that they only delete entries that they added.
status	Out	This is the status of the request. The following values may be returned: ipsr_successful ipsr_invalid_owner ipsr_network_exists ipsr_unknown_gateway

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS3.1.5 DELETE NETWORK FUNCTION

3.1.5 DELETE NETWORK FUNCTION

This routine is used to delete information about a reachable network from the routing table. This routine will be used at first by the command processor which removes networks. It may also be used by modules that provide dynamic routing services. The format of the CYBIL interface is as follows:

```
PROCEDURE ipsr_delete_network (  
    network      : 0..OFFFFFF(16);  
    owner        : ipsr_net_owners;  
    VAR status   : ipsr_status_type);
```

network	In	This is the network number of the network that is being removed from the routing table.
owner	In	This is the owner of the table entry. Dynamic routing modules may use this value to insure that they only delete entries that they added.
status	Out	This is the status of the request. The following values may be returned: ipsr_successful ipsr_invalid_owner ipsr_unknown_network

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
3.1.6 SEARCH_HOST_TABLE

3.1.6 SEARCH_HOST_TABLE

This routine will search the network/host table; the host_address will be used as the key. If an entry is found then a pointer to the host information record will be returned, else the pointer will be NIL.

```
PROCEDURE ipsr_search_host_table (  
    host_address : ip_address;  
    VAR host_entry : ↑ipsr_host_info);
```

host_address In This is the address of the host
 that we are searching for.

host_entry Out This is a pointer to the
 information about the host if its
 found in the table. If the host is
 not found then this pointer is
 returned as NIL.

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS**3.1.7 SEARCH_NETWORK_TABLE**

3.1.7 SEARCH_NETWORK_TABLE

This routine will search the network table. The network number will be used as the key. If an entry is found then a pointer to the network information record will be returned, else the pointer will be returned NIL.

```
PROCEDURE ipsr_search_network_table (  
  network_number : 0..FFFFFF;  
  VAR network_entry : ^ipsr_network_info);
```

network_number In This is the network number of
 the network that we are searching
 for.

network_entry Out This is a pointer to the
 information record of the network
 being searched for, if the network
 is not found then the pointer will
 be returned NIL.

 3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

 3.2 ROUTING SERVICES

3.2 ROUTING SERVICES

The primary purpose of the IPSR module is the routing service that it provides to the local system. This service is provided by a single routine which accepts the header and options of an IP datagram and determines the next host/gateway on the datagrams route.

3.2.1 IP ROUTING FUNCTION

This routine is called by the IP module when a datagram is received. The IPSR module uses the destination address, the source address, and the ip routing options to determine the best place for the datagram to go next. The source address is optional and the IPSR module will determine it and return it to the IP module if not specified. The 3A network_id and the 3A system_id of the local destination are returned to the IP module along with the type of destination. This routine will also process the IP routing options, if there are any, and updates them according to the IP protocol. The format of the CYBIL interface is as follows:

```

PROCEDURE ipsr_get_route (
  from_network      : BOOLEAN;
  header            : ip_header;
  VAR source        : ip_address;
  destination       : ip_address;
  VAR options       : ip_option_record;
  VAR host_info     : ipsr_host_rec;
  VAR max_data_size : INTEGER;
  VAR status        : ipsr_status_type);
  
```

from_network	In	This flag should be TRUE if the datagram that is being routed was received from a network.
header	In	This is the header of the IP datagram.
source	I/O	This is the IP address of the source, this should be the address of the DI on a directly connected

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
3.2.1 IP ROUTING FUNCTION

		network. This parameter is optional and will be chosen by the IPSR module if not specified.
destination	In	This is the destination of the IP datagram.
options	I/O	This is an array which contains the IP routing options.
host_info	Out	This is a record which contains the routing information that the IP module requires.
max_data_size	Out	This is the maximum number of bytes that a datagram being sent to the indicated destination can contain.
status	Out	This is the status of the request. The following values may be returned: iprs_successful iprs_unable_to_route

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 3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
 3.3 COMMAND INTERFACE

3.3 COMMAND INTERFACE

The DoD protocols do not at this time provide any method for the IPSR module to obtain the addresses of directly connected hosts. It is therefore necessary for these addresses to be entered into the routing table manually. This management of the routing tables can be done through the procedure interface described in the previous sections, or it may be done by the network operator with the commands described in this section. Two of the commands described in this section allow the user to add to, and delete from the list of directly connected hosts and gateways. Unless another module is provided to do dynamic routing, ICMP data will be the only automatic way to add networks to the routing table. Two commands are therefore provided to allow the network operator to add reachable networks into the routing table manually.

3.3.1 DEFINE_IPSR_HOST

This command will enter the information about a directly connected host into the routing tables. If the address is not that of a directly connected network an error message will be returned.

Command_name:

Define_IPSR_Host, DEFIH

Parameters:

I_P_address, ipa	:	LIST 4 OF 0..255
host_type, ht	:	KEY
		ip_host
		ip_gw
		cdc_host
		cdc_gw
		local = local
network_3_A, n3a	:	INTEGER

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 3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

 3.3.1 DEFINE_IPSR_HOST

```

                                0..OFFFFFFFF = 0
host_3_A, h3a                  : INTEGER
                                0..OFFFFFFFF = 0
  
```

Parameter descriptions:

```

I_P_ADDRESS                    This is the IP address of the
                                host expressed in the format used by
                                SRI.

HOST_TYPE                      This is the type of host being
                                defined.

NETWORK_3_A                   This is the 3A network id.

HOST_3_A                      This is the 3A system id.
  
```

Responses:

```

Addition of host completed.
Address already in use.
Invalid IP address.
Invalid 3A address.
Invalid 3B address.
Invalid type of host.
  
```

Example:

```

DEFINE_IPSR_HOST
  IPA=5 123 44 76
  HT=IP GW
  N3A=09C4
  H3A=367D956F
  
```

3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
3.3.2 CANCEL_IPSR_HOST

3.3.2 CANCEL_IPSR_HOST

This command will remove the information about a directly connected host from the routing tables.

Command_name:

Cancel_IPSR_Host, CANIH

Parameters:

I_P_address, ipa : LIST 4 OF 0..255

Parameter descriptions:

I_P_ADDRESS This is the IP address of the host expressed in the format used by SRI.

Responses:

Removal of host completed.
Host not defined.
Invalid IP address.

Example:

CANCEL_IPSR_HOST
IPA=5 114 244 141

 3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

 3.3.3 DEFINE_IPSR_NETWORK

3.3.3 DEFINE_IPSR_NETWORK

This command will enter the information about a reachable network into the routing tables.

Command_name:

Define_IPSR_Network, DEFIN

Parameters:

Network_number, nn : INTEGER
 0..0FFFFFF(16)

G_W_address, gwa : LIST 4 OF 0..255

Hop_count, hc : INTEGER
 0..0FFFF(16)

Parameter descriptions:

NETWORK_NUMBER This is the network number of the network that is being added to the routing table.

G_W_ADDRESS This is the IP address of the gateway that datagrams should be directed to, expressed in the format used by SRI.

HOP_COUNT This is the number of gateways that a datagram must pass through in order to reach this network.

Responses:

Addition of network completed.
 Network already in use.
 Invalid hop count.

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
3.3.3 DEFINE_IPSR_NETWORK

Unknown gateway.

Example:

```
DEFINE_IPSR_NETWORK  
  NN=1823D5  
  GWA=5 23 123 12  
  HC=4
```

3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
3.3.4 CANCEL_IPSR_NETWORK

3.3.4 CANCEL_IPSR_NETWORK

This command will remove the indicated network from the routing table.

Command_name:

Cancel_IPSR_Network, CANIN

Parameters:

Network_number, nn : INTEGER
 0..0FFFFFF(16)

Parameter descriptions:

NETWORK_NUMBER This is the network number of the network that is being removed from the routing table.

Responses:

Network removed.
Unknown network.

Example:

CANCEL_IPSR_NETWORK
 NN=128AF

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3.0 SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS
3.4 ERROR RECOVERY

3.4 ERROR RECOVERY

The IPSR module will test all input parameters for legality before attempting to use them. In each routine there will be tests for those "impossible situations" that usually indicate that something unexpected has gone wrong. If one of these unexpected errors is found then an appropriate log message will be generated and an attempt will be made to pick up where we left off.

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4.0 PERFORMANCE

4.0 PERFORMANCE

4.1 OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS

The IPSR module is called once for each datagram processed by the IP module. It is therefore obvious that the time it takes to determine the next stop for a datagram has a large impact on the processing time of a datagram. The routing options must be as fast as possible, therefore, the routing tables will be designed to minimize routing time. The time needed to make updates to the routing tables will be considered relatively unimportant. The major goal for the routing routine is that the `iprsr_get_route` should not take more than $100 + (10 * \log_2(N)) + (10 * \log_2(H))$ assembler instructions for N networks with a maximum of H hosts per network.

4.0 PERFORMANCE

4.2 OPERATIONAL MEASUREMENTS

4.2 OPERATIONAL MEASUREMENTS

The IPSR module does not keep any statistics, however, the information in the routing tables can be displayed by the CDNA status command processor. The content and basic format of the information provided is shown below.

Summary report

IP Static Routing Table Status

```

IP_hosts = ####      Reachable networks = ####
IP_gws   = ####      Connected networks = ####
CDC_hosts = ####
CDC_gws  = ####
Locals   = ####
    
```

Expanded report

IP Static Routing Table Status

Directly Connected Hosts

Type	IP Address	CDC Address
IP_host	001.011.047.167	000000000001
IP_gw	127.001.000.203	000000000002
CDC_gw	003.000.034.054	000001D3-00000000000A
CDC_host	192.000.00A.024	
Local	004.037.242.108	

Reachable networks

Network	Gateway Address	Hops	Owner
003	003.000.034.054	3	SRM
127.003	127.001.000.203	34	IGP
192.000.003	127.001.000.203	7	EGP

5.0 FINITE STATE MACHINE

5.0 FINITE STATE MACHINE

The IPSR module does not need an FSM it has no external protocol.

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6.0 LOG MESSAGES
-----6.0 LOG MESSAGES

The IPSR module issues the following two log messages to indicate that an error has occurred in the IPSR module.

6.1 INTERNAL ERROR CONDITION

Message Id: ???

Descriptive Message: "IPSR Internal Error"

Fixed Text	Type	Value	Description
"Procedure: "	Character Octet	1..30 Octets	Name of the procedure the error occurred in.
"Description: "	Character Octet	1..60 Octets	Short description of the error that occurred.

Example: 85/01/28 15.47.00 1234567890ABC
 IPSR Internal Error
 Procedure: Get_route
 Description: Bad table pointer

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7.0 INSTALLATION OPTIONS

7.0 INSTALLATION OPTIONS

The IPSR module does not require any installation options. The only data contained in the module is in the routing tables and these tables are initialized to be empty.

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 8.0 NEW DATA TYPES

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The IPSR module uses a number of ordinals. The status returned by its routines is an ordinal, and there are other identifiers that are defined as ordinals. The CYBIL definition of the various ordinals follows.

CONST

```

unreachable_hop = -1,

ipsr_net_unreachable = 20,
ipsr_source_quench = icmp_source_quench,
ipsr_redirect = icmp_redirect,
ipsr_time_exceeded = icmp_time_exceeded;

```

TYPE

```

ipsr_status_type = (
    ipsr_successful,           { Function completed.
    ipsr_host_exists,         { The host is in the list.
    ipsr_invalid_address,     { Illegal host address.
    ipsr_invalid_owner,       { Owner parameter incorrect.
    ipsr_invalid_type,        { Illegal host type.
    ipsr_network_exists,      { Network already exists.
    ipsr_unable_to_route,     { No route is available.
    ipsr_unknown_gateway,     { Gateway not in the list.
    ipsr_unknown_host,        { No such host in the list.
    ipsr_unknown_network),    { No such net in the list.

ipsr_host_type = (
    ip_host,                   { IP host on an IP network.
    cdc_host,                   { CDC host in a CDC Catnet.
    ip_gw,                       { IP gateway on an IP network.
    cdc_gw,                       { IP gateway in a CDC catnet.
    local,                       { IP address of this gateway.
    none),

ipsr_icmp_ind = (
    ipsr_net_unreachable, ipsr_source_quench,
    ipsr_redirect,         ipsr_time_exceeded);

```

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8.0 NEW DATA TYPES

```
ipsr_net_owners = (  
  all,           { Everyone owns this entry.  
  ipsr,         { The routing module owns it.  
  egp,          { The External Gateway owns it.  
  igp),         { The Internal Gateway owns it.  
  
ipsr_connect_status = (  
  unknown,      { The status is unknown.  
  available,    { Status up and available.  
  unavailable,  { Status up but unavailable.  
  down),       { Status down.  
  
ipsr_network_type = (  
  direct,      { Directly connected.  
  remote);    { Connected thru a gateway.
```

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8.0 NEW DATA TYPES

The information kept by the routing module includes networks and hosts/gateways. The structure used is a nested binary table. The first level table is keyed by network number. Each entry describes a known network. IF the network is directly connected then there will be a field which points to a second level table which contains all of the hosts/gateways that reside on the network; the host number being used as the key.

TYPE

```
ipsr_network_info = RECORD
  status : ipsr_connect_status,
  CASE net_type : ipsr_network_type OF
    =direct=
      local_address : ip_address,
      max_data_size : INTEGER,
      3a_network     : net_id_type,
      3a_system      : sys_id_type,
      host_root      : root,
    =remote=
      next_hop      : ip_address,
      hop_count     : INTEGER,
      owner         : ipsr_net_owners,
      timeouts      : INTEGER,
  CASEEND,
RECEIVED,
```

```
ipsr_host_info = RECORD
  host_type : ipsr_host_type,
  egp_active : BOOLEAN,
  igp_active : BOOLEAN,
  3a_system  : sys_id_type,
  status     : ipsr_connect_status,
RECEIVED;
```

VAR

```
default_gateway : ip_address,
ipsr_routing_table : root;
```

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9.0 GLOSSARY

9.0 GLOSSARY

The following term definitions are provided to aid the reader in understanding this document.

CDNA: Control Data Distributed Network Architecture.

Datagram: This is a block of ULP data, and is the unit of data processed by the IP module.

DoD: Department of Defense.

IP: DoD Internet Protocol. This is the level three protocol used by the DoD. It provides the serves of an OSI internet layer.

OSI: Open System Interconnect. This is a model developed by the International Standards Organization (OSI) which defines a method of layering modules within networking software.

Protocol: Each user of the IP module is identified by a specific protocol identifier. This identifier is referred to throughout this document as the protocol.

SAP: Service Access Point. A SAP is defined in this manual as the point of access to the services that a module provides. In the case of the IPSR module this point of access is defined by a set of routine address provided by the IPSR module through the open_sap request.

TCP: DoD transmission control protocol. This is the transport protocol used by the DoD. TCP provides an error free orderly end to end data transmission.

UDP: DoD user datagram protocol. This is a protocol which provides an single datagram transfer service with no promises.

9.0 GLOSSARY

ULP:

User Level Protocol. Used at various times to indicate the user of the module being discussed.

