

Clarification Request

References: BTL Testplan 12.0

Date of BTL-WG Response: September 26, 2013

Background / Proposed Solution:

A device supporting alarming but w/o any clock information may need to reject entries to the notification-class/recipient-list with entries other than

Valid Days = all days

From Time = 0:00:00.0

To Time = 23:59:59.99

Transitions = (TRUE, TRUE, TRUE)

Problems:

The allowance to reject entries other than those stated above was added in protocol revision 13.

Last paragraph of Clause 12.21.8:

For writable Recipient_List properties, devices are allowed to restrict the values for the Valid Days, From Time, To Time, and the Transitions field such that they only accept the configuration that results in all transitions being sent without regard to the current time or date. In such cases, the Valid Days shall be all days, From Time shall be 0:00:00.0, To Time shall be 23:59:59.99, and Transitions shall be (TRUE, TRUE, TRUE). A device shall not otherwise restrict the value of Recipient_List entries.

Devices supporting BACnet revisions earlier than 13 w/o a clock would not be allowed to reject those recipients and would fail the BACnet conformance test.

This would obligate implementers to always integrate a clock when supporting alarming but the use of a sequence number in the event time stamps would become absurd in those cases.

This behaviour does not look consistent as already identified by the SSPC in BACnet revisions earlier than 13.

Proposal:

Allow to reject entries other than those stated above for all devices supporting alarming but not supporting a clock regardless which BACnet revision they implement.

Question:

What is the appropriate error-class/error-code to reject such entries?

Is it property/value-out-of-range?

Response:

In such a situation, the device shall return an error to a write attempt bearing unsupported time restriction values. Appropriate 'Error class' and 'Error code' is either PROPERTY / OPTIONAL_FUNCTIONALITY_NOT_SUPPORTED, or PROPERTY / VALUE_OUT_OF_RANGE."