

Clarification Request

References: 135.1-2013 14.8 Registering as a Foreign Device

Date of BTL-WG Response: 08-April-2010

☒ All Actions Necessitated have been Completed

Background: There is some debate about what the expected behavior of an IUT is, when it registered as a foreign device with a BBMD. The test lab has failed an IUT for test 14.8 for two reasons:

- 1) In response to a Who-Is arriving in Forwarded-NPDU BVLC from the BBMD, the IUT generates the correct I-Am response to the BBMD in a Distribute-Broadcast-to-Network BVLC but also an I-Am message to the local network in an Original-Broadcast-NPDU BVLC.
- 2) In response to a Who-Is arriving in an Original-Broadcast-NPDU BVLC from the local network to the IUT's active BACnet port, the IUT generates an I-Am message to the BBMD in a Distribute-Broadcast-to-Network BVLC and an I-Am message back out on that port to the local network in an Original-Broadcast-NPDU BVLC.

14.8 Registering as a Foreign Device

Test Steps:

1. RECEIVE DESTINATION = TD, SOURCE = IUT,
Register-Foreign-Device
2. TRANSMIT DESTINATION = IUT, SOURCE = TD,
BVLC-Result,
'Result Code' = Successful completion

Problem:

The test lab is implying that, when successfully registered as a foreign device with a BBMD on another IP subnet, it is no longer allowed to participate on the local IP network. However, the standard defines this relationship as a means to share broadcasts across IP subnets and does not make any implications about network exclusivity.

Questions:

- 1) Should the IUT fail test 14.8 for reason #1 above?
- 2) Should the IUT fail test 14.8 for reason #2 above?
- 3) Is it the intention of the BTL-WG to enforce a policy of network exclusivity when a device is registered with a BBMD?

RESPONSE:

1. Yes. The test will be modified to catch this failure.
2. NO. However, a foreign device should not be executing original broadcast messages. The BTL Working Group has no plans at this time to check for this condition.
3. YES. In general, the BTL enforces network exclusivity mandated by the BACnet Standard. We do not at this time have a test for all possible network exclusivity failures.