

Addendum a to ANSI/ASHRAE 135-1995



# ASHRAE<sup>®</sup> STANDARD

## BACnet<sup>®</sup> - A Data Communication Protocol for Building Automation and Control Networks

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**[Add these abbreviations and acronyms to 3.3]**

<b>BBMD</b>	BACnet Broadcast Management Device
<b>BVLL</b>	BACnet Virtual Link Layer
<b>BVLC</b>	BACnet Virtual Link Control
<b>BVLCI</b>	BACnet Virtual Link Control Information
<b>BDT</b>	Broadcast Distribution Table
<b>B/IP</b>	BACnet/IP
<b>B/IP-M</b>	BACnet/IP Multicast
<b>FDT</b>	Foreign Device Table
<b>IP</b>	Internet Protocol - RFC 791
<b>PPP</b>	Point-to-Point Protocol - RFC 1661
<b>UDP</b>	User Datagram Protocol - RFC 768
<b>RFC</b>	Request for Comment
<b>SLIP</b>	Serial Line Internet Protocol - RFC 1055

**[Add the following entry to Table 6-1, p. 50]**

<b>Data Link Technology</b>	<b>Maximum NPDU Length</b>
BACnet/IP as defined in Annex J	1497 octets
...	...

**[Add the following Annex]**

**Annex J - BACnet/IP**

**J.1 General**

This normative annex specifies the use of BACnet messaging with the networking protocols originally defined as the result of research sponsored by the U. S. government's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency and now maintained by the Internet Engineering Task Force. This suite of protocols is generally known as the "Internet Protocols."

**J.1.1 BACnet/IP (B/IP) Network Definition**

A BACnet/IP network is a collection of one or more IP subnetworks (IP domains) that are assigned a single BACnet network number. A BACnet internetwork (3.2.26) consists of two or more BACnet networks. These networks may be BACnet/IP networks or use the technologies specified in Clauses 7, 8, 9, and 11. This standard also supports the inclusion of IP multicast groups in a fashion analogous to IP subnets, as described below in J.8.

**J.1.2 Addressing within B/IP Networks**

In the case of B/IP networks, six octets consisting of the four-octet IP address followed by a two-octet UDP port number (both of which shall be transmitted most significant octet first) shall function analogously to the MAC address of the technologies of Clauses 7, 8, 9, and 11 with respect to communication between individual devices and inclusion in the Clause 6 NPCI, where a DADR or SADR is required. This address shall be referred to as a B/IP address. The default UDP port for both directed messages and broadcasts shall be X'BAC0' and all B/IP devices shall support it. In some cases, e.g., a situation where it is desirable for two groups of BACnet devices to coexist independently on the same IP subnet, the UDP port may be configured locally to a different value without it being considered a violation of this protocol. Where the "B/IP broadcast address" is referred to in this Annex, it means an IP address with the subnet of the broadcasting device in the network portion and all 1's in the host portion of the address and the UDP port of the devices on the B/IP network in question. An IP multicast address in conjunction with an appropriate UDP port may be used in lieu of the B/IP broadcast address under the circumstances defined in J.8.

### J.1.3 B/IP Concept

A BACnet/IP network shall function in concept identically to the other non-IP network types with respect to directed messages and broadcast messages, including local, remote, and global broadcasts, as defined in 6.3.2: a directed message shall be sent directly to the destination node; a "local broadcast" shall reach all nodes on a single B/IP network; a "remote broadcast" shall reach all nodes on a single BACnet network with network number different from that of the originator's network; a "global broadcast" shall reach all nodes on all networks. The management of broadcasts within a single B/IP network, or between multiple B/IP networks, or between B/IP and non-B/IP networks, is described in J.4.

## J.2 BACnet Virtual Link Layer

The BACnet Virtual Link Layer (BVLL) provides the interface between the BACnet Network Layer (Clause 6) and the underlying capabilities of a particular communication subsystem. This Annex specifies the BACnet Virtual Link Control (BVLC) functions required to support BACnet/IP directed and broadcast messages. The purpose and format of each message is described in the following subclauses.

Note that each BVLL message has at least three fields. The 1-octet BVLC Type field indicates which underlying communication subsystem or microprotocol is in use. In this case, a BVLC Type of X'81' indicates the use of BACnet/IP as defined in this Annex. The 1-octet BVLC Function field identifies the specific function to be carried out in support of the indicated communication subsystem or microprotocol type. The 2-octet BVLC Length field is the length, in octets, of the entire BVLL message, including the two octets of the length field itself, most significant octet first.

### J.2.1 BVLC-Result: Purpose

This message provides a mechanism to acknowledge the result of those BVLL service requests that require an acknowledgment, whether successful (ACK) or unsuccessful (NAK). These are: Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table (ACK, NAK); Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table (NAK only); Register-Foreign-Device (ACK, NAK); Read-Foreign-Device-Table (NAK only); Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry (ACK, NAK); and Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network (NAK only).

#### J.2.1.1 BVLC-Result: Format

The BVLC-Result message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'00'	BVLC-Result
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
Result Code:	2-octets	X'0000'	Successful completion
		X'0010'	Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table NAK
		X'0020'	Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table NAK
		X'0030'	Register-Foreign-Device NAK
		X'0040'	Read-Foreign-Device-Table NAK
		X'0050'	Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry NAK
		X'0060'	Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network NAK

### J.2.2 Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table: Purpose

This message provides a mechanism for initializing or updating a Broadcast Distribution Table (BDT) in a BACnet Broadcast Management Device (BBMD).

#### J.2.2.1 Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table: Format

The Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'01'	Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message

List of BDT Entries: N\*10-octets

N indicates the number of entries in the BDT. Each BDT entry consists of the 6-octet B/IP address of a BBMD followed by a 4-octet field called the broadcast distribution mask that indicates how broadcast messages are to be distributed on the IP subnet served by the BBMD. See J.4.3.2.

### **J.2.3 Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table: Purpose**

The message provides a mechanism for retrieving the contents of a BBMD's BDT.

#### **J.2.3.1 Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table: Format**

The Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table message consists of three fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'02'	Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table
BVLC Length:	2-octets	X'0004'	Length, in octets, of the BVLL message

### **J.2.4 Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table-Ack: Purpose**

This message returns the current contents of a BBMD's BDT to the requester. An empty BDT shall be signified by a list of length zero.

#### **J.2.4.1 Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table-Ack: Format**

The Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table-Ack message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'03'	Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table-Ack
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
List of BDT Entries:	N*10-octets		

N indicates the number of entries in the BDT whose contents are being returned.

### **J.2.5 Forwarded-NPDU: Purpose**

This BVLL message is used in broadcast messages from a BBMD as well as in messages forwarded to registered foreign devices. It contains the source address of the original node as well as the original BACnet NPDU.

#### **J.2.5.1 Forwarded-NPDU: Format**

The Forwarded-NPDU message consists of five fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'04'	Forwarded-NPDU
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
B/IP Address of Originating Device:	6-octets		
BACnet NPDU from Originating Device:	Variable length		

### **J.2.6 Register-Foreign-Device: Purpose**

This message allows a foreign device, as defined in J.5.1, to register with a BBMD for the purpose of receiving broadcast messages.

### J.2.6.1 Register-Foreign-Device: Format

The Register-Foreign-Device message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'05'	Register-Foreign-Device
BVLC Length:	2-octets	X'0006'	Length, in octets, of the BVLL message
Time-to-Live	2-octets	T	Time-to-Live T, in seconds

The Time-to-Live value is the number of seconds within which a foreign device must re-register with a BBMD or risk having its entry purged from the BBMD's FDT. This value will be sent most significant octet first. See J.5.2.2.

### J.2.7 Read-Foreign-Device-Table: Purpose

The message provides a mechanism for retrieving the contents of a BBMD's FDT.

#### J.2.7.1 Read-Foreign-Device-Table: Format

The Read-Foreign-Device-Table message consists of three fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'06'	Read-Foreign-Device-Table
BVLC Length:	2-octets	X'0004'	Length, in octets, of the BVLL message

### J.2.8 Read-Foreign-Device-Table-Ack: Purpose

This message returns the current contents of a BBMD's FDT to the requester. An empty FDT shall be signified by a list of length zero.

#### J.2.8.1 Read-Foreign-Device-Table-Ack: Format

The Read-Foreign-Device-Table-Ack message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'07'	Read-Foreign-Device-Table-Ack
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
List of FDT Entries:	N*10-octets		

N indicates the number of entries in the FDT whose contents are being returned. Each returned entry consists of the 6-octet B/IP address of the registrant; the 2-octet Time-to-Live value supplied at the time of registration; and a 2-octet value representing the number of seconds remaining before the BBMD will purge the registrant's FDT entry if no re-registration occurs.

### J.2.9 Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry: Purpose

This message is used to delete an entry from the Foreign-Device-Table.

#### J.2.9.1 Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry: Format

The Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'08'	Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry
BVLC Length:	2-octets	X'000A'	Length, in octets, of the BVLL message
FDT Entry:	6-octets		

The FDT entry is the B/IP address of the table entry to be deleted.

### J.2.10 Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network: Purpose

This message provides a mechanism whereby a foreign device may cause a BBMD to broadcast a message on all IP subnets in the BBMD's BDT.

#### J.2.10.1 Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network: Format

The Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'09'	Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
BACnet NPDU from Originating Device:			Variable length

### J.2.11 Original-Unicast-NPDU: Purpose

This message is used to send directed NPDUs to another B/IP device or router.

#### J.2.11.1 Original-Unicast-NPDU: Format

The Original-Unicast-NPDU message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'0A'	Original-Unicast-NPDU
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
BACnet NPDU:		Variable length	

### J.2.12 Original-Broadcast-NPDU: Purpose

This message is used by B/IP devices and routers which are not foreign devices to broadcast NPDUs on a B/IP network.

#### J.2.12.1 Original-Broadcast-NPDU: Format

The Original-Broadcast-NPDU message consists of four fields:

BVLC Type:	1-octet	X'81'	BVLL for BACnet/IP
BVLC Function:	1-octet	X'0B'	Original-Broadcast-NPDU
BVLC Length:	2-octets	L	Length L, in octets, of the BVLL message
BACnet NPDU:		Variable length	

## J.3 BACnet/IP Directed Messages

B/IP devices shall communicate directly with each other by using the B/IP address of the recipient. Each NPDU shall be transmitted in a BVLL Original-Unicast-NPDU.

## J.4 BACnet/IP Broadcast Messages

This clause defines how BACnet broadcast messages are managed within a B/IP network.

### J.4.1 B/IP Broadcast Management, Single IP Subnet

In this case, the B/IP network consists of a single IP subnet. A "local broadcast" shall use the B/IP broadcast address and the NPDU shall be transmitted in a BVLL Original-Broadcast-NPDU message. Because all nodes are on a single IP subnet, such messages will automatically reach all nodes. See Figure J-1.

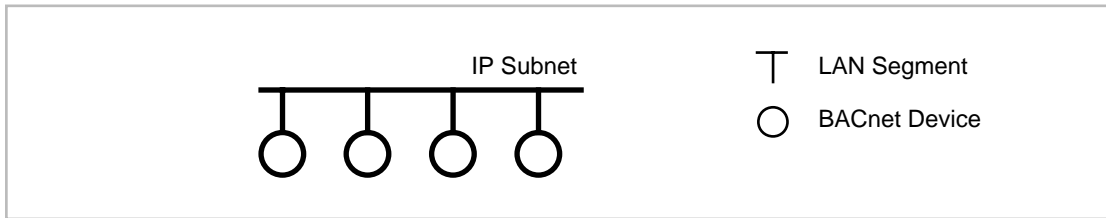


Figure J-1. A B/IP network consisting of a single IP subnet.

#### J.4.2 B/IP Broadcast Management, Multiple IP Subnets

In this case, the BACnet/IP network consists of two or more IP subnets. A "local broadcast" shall use the B/IP broadcast address, and the NPDU shall be transmitted in a BVLL Original-Broadcast-NPDU message. Because standard IP routers do not forward such broadcasts, an ancillary device is required to perform this function. This device shall be called a BACnet/IP Broadcast Management Device (BBMD). See Figure J-2.

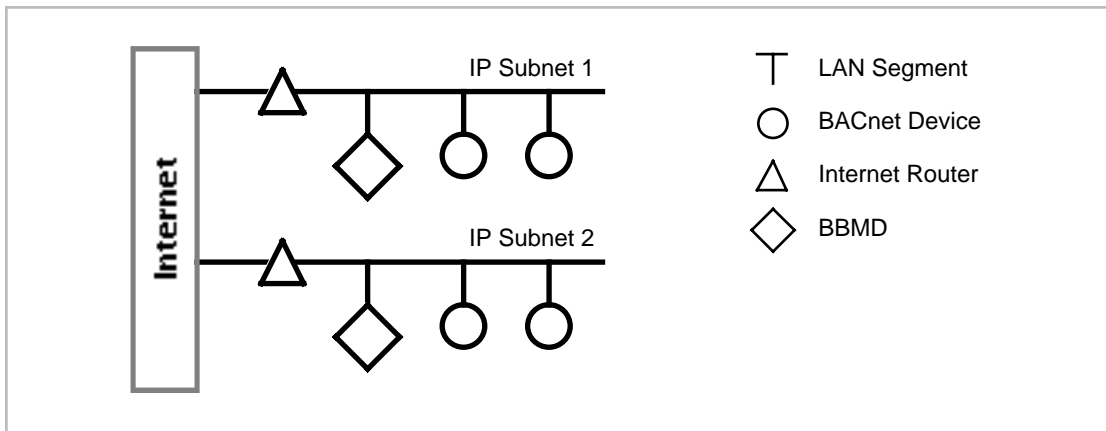


Figure J-2. A B/IP network consisting of two IP subnets.

#### J.4.3 BBMD Concept

Each IP subnet that is part of a B/IP network comprised of two or more subnets shall have one, and only one, BBMD. Each BBMD shall possess a table called a Broadcast Distribution Table (BDT) which shall be the same in every BBMD in a given B/IP network. If the BBMD has also been designated to register foreign devices as described below, it shall also possess a Foreign Device Table (FDT).

##### J.4.3.1 Broadcast Distribution

There are two ways that a BBMD may distribute broadcast messages to remote IP subnets. The first is to use IP "directed broadcasts" (also called "one-hop" distribution). This involves sending the message using a B/IP address in which the network portion of the address contains the subnet of the destination IP subnet and the host portion of the address contains all 1's. While this method of distribution is efficient, it requires that the IP router serving the destination subnet be configured to support the passage of such directed broadcasts.

Since not all IP routers are configured to pass directed broadcasts, a BBMD may be configured to send a directed message to the BBMD on the remote subnet ("two-hop" distribution) which then transmits it using the B/IP broadcast address. Since the use of one-hop distribution requires an IP router configuration that may or may not be possible, while the two-hop method is always available, the choice of which method to use in any given case is a local matter.



#### **J.4.3.2 Broadcast Distribution Table Format**

The BDT consists of one entry for each BBMD within a B/IP network. Each entry consists of the 6-octet B/IP address of the BBMD serving the IP subnet and a 4-octet broadcast distribution mask. If messages are to be distributed on the remote IP subnet using directed broadcasts, the broadcast distribution mask shall be identical to the subnet mask associated with the subnet, i.e., all 1's in the network portion of the 4-octet IP address field and all 0's in the host portion. If messages are to be distributed on the remote IP subnet by sending the message directly to the remote BBMD, the broadcast distribution mask shall be all 1's. The use of the broadcast distribution mask is described in J.4.5.

#### **J.4.4 BBMD Configuration**

The configuration of the BACnet-related capability of a BBMD shall consist of supplying it with a BDT. The table may be supplied by local means or by means of the BVLL Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table message.

#### **J.4.5 BBMD Operation - Broadcast Distribution**

Upon receipt of a BVLL Write-Broadcast-Distribution-Table message, a BBMD shall attempt to create or replace its BDT, depending on whether or not a BDT has previously existed. If the creation or replacement of the BDT is successful, the BBMD shall return a BVLC-Result message to the originating device with a result code of X'0000'. Otherwise, the BBMD shall return a BVLC-Result message to the originating device with a result code of X'0010' indicating that the write attempt has failed.

Upon receipt of a BVLL Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table message, a BBMD shall load the contents of its BDT into a BVLL Read-Broadcast-Distribution-Table-Ack message and send it to the originating device. If the BBMD is unable to perform the read of its BDT, it shall return a BVLC-Result message to the originating device with a result code of X'0020' indicating that the read attempt has failed.

Upon receipt of a BVLL Original-Broadcast-NPDU message, a BBMD shall construct a BVLL Forwarded-NPDU message and send it to each IP subnet in its BDT with the exception of its own. The B/IP address to which the Forwarded-NPDU message is sent is formed by inverting the broadcast distribution mask in the BDT entry and logically ORing it with the BBMD address of the same entry. This process produces either the directed broadcast address of the remote subnet or the unicast address of the BBMD on that subnet depending on the contents of the broadcast distribution mask. See J.4.3.2.. In addition, the received BACnet NPDU shall be sent directly to each foreign device currently in the BBMD's FDT also using the BVLL Forwarded-NPDU message.

Upon receipt of a BVLL Forwarded-NPDU message, a BBMD shall process it according to whether it was received from a peer BBMD as the result of a directed broadcast or a unicast transmission. A BBMD may ascertain the method by which Forwarded-NPDU messages will arrive by inspecting the broadcast distribution mask field in its own BDT entry since all BDTs are required to be identical. If the message arrived via directed broadcast, it was also received by the other devices on the BBMD's subnet. In this case the BBMD merely retransmits the message directly to each foreign device currently in the BBMD's FDT. If the message arrived via a unicast transmission it has not yet been received by the other devices on the BBMD's subnet. In this case, the message is sent to the devices on the BBMD's subnet using the B/IP broadcast address as well as to each foreign device currently in the BBMD's FDT. A BBMD on a subnet with no other BACnet devices may omit the broadcast using the B/IP broadcast address. The method by which a BBMD determines whether or not other BACnet devices are present is a local matter.

Upon receipt of a BVLL Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network message from a foreign device, the receiving BBMD shall transmit a BVLL Forwarded-NPDU message on its local IP subnet using the local B/IP broadcast address as the destination address. In addition, a Forwarded-NPDU message shall be sent to each entry in its BDT as described above in the case of the receipt of a BVLL Original-Broadcast-NPDU as well as directly to each foreign device currently in the BBMD's FDT except the originating node. If the BBMD is unable to perform the forwarding function, it shall return a BVLC-Result message to the foreign device with a result code of X'0060' indicating that the forwarding attempt was unsuccessful.

## J.5 Addition of Foreign B/IP Devices to an Existing B/IP Network

### J.5.1 Foreign device definition

A "foreign" device is a BACnet device that has an IP subnet address different from those comprising the BACnet/IP network that the device seeks to join. The foreign device may be a full-time node on the foreign subnet or may be a part-time participant, as would be the case if the device accessed the internet via a SLIP or PPP connection. See Figure J-3.

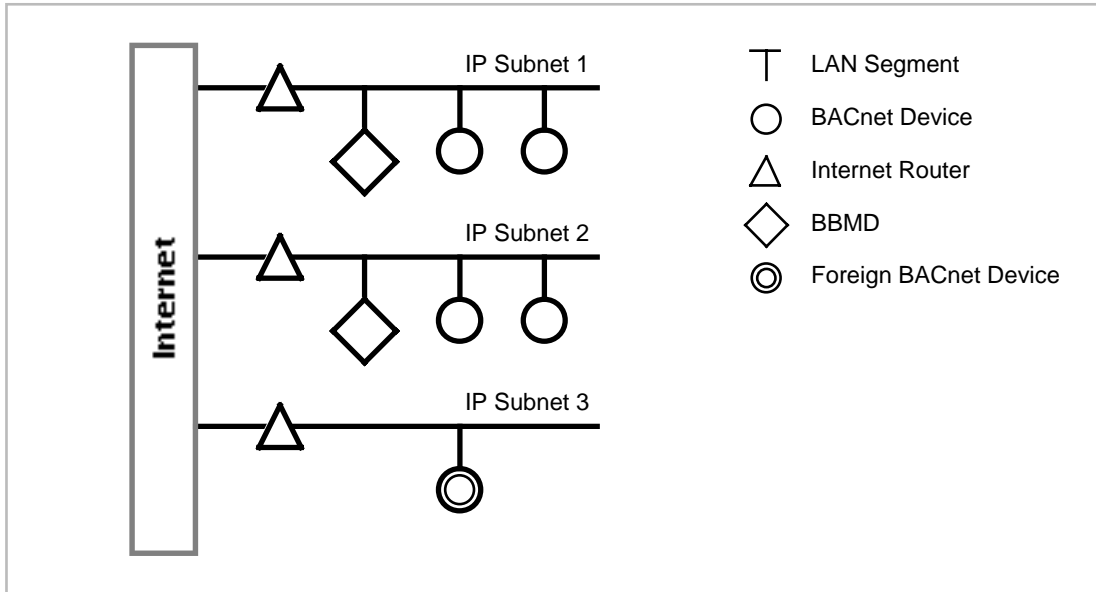


Figure J-3. The "foreign" BACnet device on Subnet 3 can register to receive broadcasts from devices on Subnets 1 and 2 by sending a BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message to a BBMD that supports foreign device registration.

### J.5.2 BBMD Operation - Foreign Devices

In order for a foreign device to fully participate in the activities of a B/IP network, the device must register itself with a BBMD serving one of the IP subnets comprising that network. "Full participation" implies the ability to send and receive both directed and broadcast messages. Registration consists of sending a BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message to an appropriate BBMD and receiving a BVLC-Result message containing a result code of X'0000' indicating the successful completion of the registration. Ascertaining the IP address of such a BBMD is a local matter but could involve the use of a domain nameserver or the distribution of a numeric IP address to authorized users. The UDP port X'BAC0' shall be considered the default, but the use of other port values is permitted if required by the local network architecture, e.g., where two B/IP networks share the same physical LAN.

#### J.5.2.1 Foreign Device Table

Each device that registers as a foreign device shall be placed in an entry in the BBMD's Foreign Device Table (FDT). Each entry shall consist of the 6-octet B/IP address of the registrant; the 2-octet Time-to-Live value supplied at the time of registration; and a 2-octet value representing the number of seconds remaining before the BBMD will purge the registrant's FDT entry if no re-registration occurs. This value will be initialized to the 2-octet Time-to-Live value supplied at the time of registration.

Two BVLL messages support the maintenance of FDTs and are described in J.5.2.1.1 and J.5.2.1.2.

##### J.5.2.1.1 Use of the BVLL Read-Foreign-Device-Table Message

Upon receipt of a BVLL Read-Foreign-Device-Table message, a BBMD shall load the contents of its FDT into a BVLL Read-Foreign-Device-Table-Ack message and send it to the originating device. If the BBMD is unable to perform the read of

its FDT, it shall return a BVLC-Result message to the originating device with a result code of X'0040' indicating that the read attempt has failed.

### J.5.2.1.2 Use of the BVLL Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry Message

Upon receipt of a BVLL Delete-Foreign-Device-Table-Entry message, a BBMD shall search its foreign device table for an entry corresponding to the B/IP address supplied in the message. If an entry is found, it shall be deleted and the BBMD shall return a BVLC-Result message to the originating device with a result code of X'0000'. Otherwise, the BBMD shall return a BVLC-Result message to the originating device with a result code of X'0050' indicating that the deletion attempt has failed.

### J.5.2.2 Use of the BVLL Register-Foreign-Device Message

Upon receipt of a BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message, a BBMD capable of providing foreign device support and having available table entries, shall add an entry to its FDT as described in J.5.2.1 and reply with a BVLC-Result message containing a result code of X'0000' indicating the successful completion of the registration. A BBMD incapable of providing foreign device support shall return a BVLC-Result message containing a result code of X'0030' indicating that the registration has failed.

### J.5.2.3 Foreign Device Table Timer Operation

Upon receipt of a BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message, a BBMD shall start a timer with a value equal to the Time-to-Live parameter supplied plus a fixed grace period of 30 seconds. If, within the period during which the timer is active, another BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message from the same device is received, the timer shall be reset and restarted. If the time expires without the receipt of another BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message from the same foreign device, the FDT entry for this device shall be cleared.

Upon receipt of a BVLC-Result message containing a result code of X'0000' indicating the successful completion of the registration, a foreign device shall start a timer with a value equal to the Time-to-Live parameter of the preceding Register-Foreign-Device message. At the expiration of the timer, the foreign device shall re-register with the BBMD by sending a BVLL Register-Foreign-Device message.

## J.6 Routing Between B/IP and non-B/IP BACnet Networks

### J.6.1 Router Operation

In concept, a router between a B/IP network and a non-B/IP network functions identically to the routers described in Clause 6. See Figure J-4.

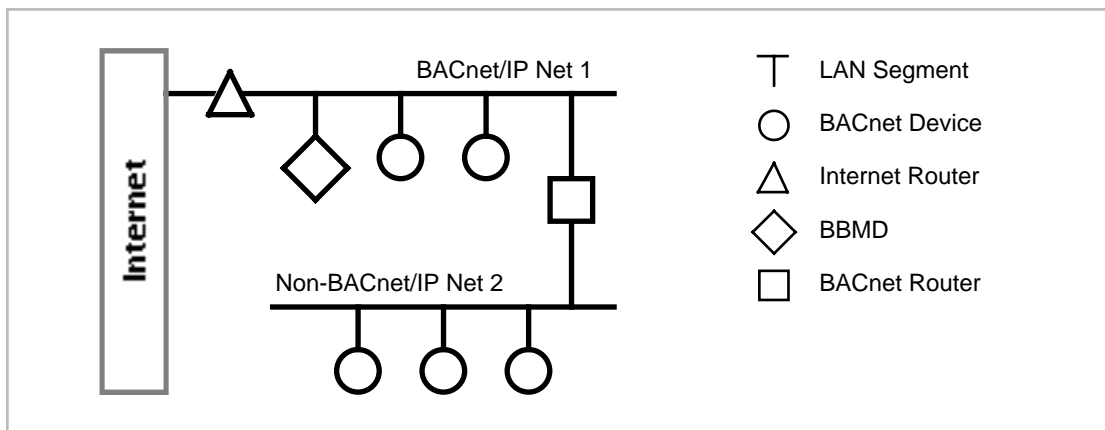


Figure J-4. A BACnet router can be used to convey messages between devices on a B/IP network and non-B/IP network using the procedures in Clause 6.

There are two possible differences. First, on the B/IP side, the B/IP address is used in place of the MAC layer address referred to throughout Clause 6. Second, if B/IP and non-B/IP BACnet devices reside on the same physical LAN, then all traffic is typically sent and received through a single physical port. The collection of B/IP devices would, in such a case, have a network number distinct from the network number of the non-B/IP devices. Such a scenario could easily occur on an Ethernet network where some devices are IP-capable while others are not.

## **J.7 Routing Between Two B/IP BACnet Networks**

Although the foreign registration process provides the ability for remote devices to participate in a particular B/IP network, there may be occasions when it is desirable for two collections of B/IP devices to interoperate more closely. This type of interoperation can only produce results consistent with the assumptions and intent contained in the original BACnet standard if the configuration of the two B/IP networks has been coordinated. For example, it is assumed that Device object identifiers are unique "internetwork wide." If this is not the case, the Who-Is service will produce ambiguous results. Similarly, the Who-Has service may be useless for dynamic configuration applications if multiple instances of objects with identical object identifiers exist.

The BACnet standard also assumes that only a single path exists between devices on different BACnet networks and that this path passes through a BACnet router. The internet's web topology violates this assumption in that, apart from security constraints such as "firewalls", any IP device can communicate directly with any other IP device if it knows the device's IP address.

This clause specifies how B/IP internetworks may be constructed.

### **J.7.1 B/IP Internetwork Design Considerations**

This standard recognizes that BACnet internetworks containing one or more B/IP networks can be configured in a variety of ways, depending on the requirements of an installation. Any of these configurations shall be deemed to conform to this standard provided they employ the techniques specified in this clause.

- 1) Depending on local traffic conditions and security requirements, all B/IP subnetworks can be configured into a single B/IP network. This case is dealt with in clauses J.1-6.
- 2) Creating two or more B/IP networks, each with a unique network number, can be useful for limiting the propagation of local broadcast messages and for providing security by confining traffic to a particular geographic or logical area.
- 3) A single device can be configured to provide all the routing for a B/IP internetwork. See Figure J-5. The advantages include: only a single routing table is required; the possibility of creating multiple paths between B/IP networks is eliminated; the resulting star topology is easy to conceptualize. The disadvantages are: there is a single point of failure; a single device could present a traffic bottleneck under heavy load conditions.

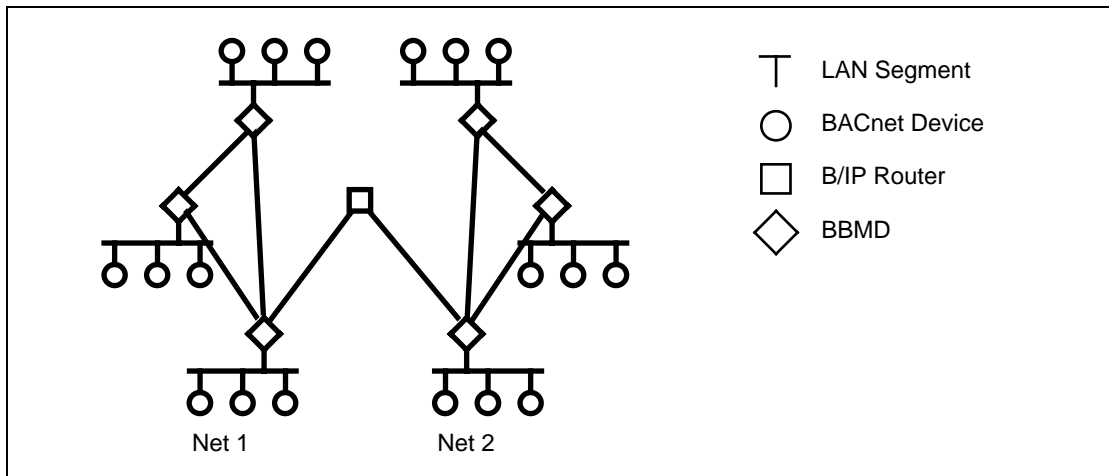


Figure J-5. A single B/IP Router can perform all routing for two or more B/IP networks by registering as a foreign device on each network. It is then "directly connected" to each such network and uses a UDP port unique to that network for the receipt of communications from its individual nodes. See J.7.2. The unique UDP port is required to determine a message's origin for the purpose of appending an SNET to the routed packet. Note that the UDP port associated with the B/IP addresses of the non-router nodes remains in general X'BAC0'.

- 4) While the functions of BBMDs as specified in J.4 and of BACnet routers as specified in Clause 6 and J.7.2 are entirely distinct, this standard does not preclude the implementation of BBMD functionality and router functionality in a single physical device. See Figure J-6.

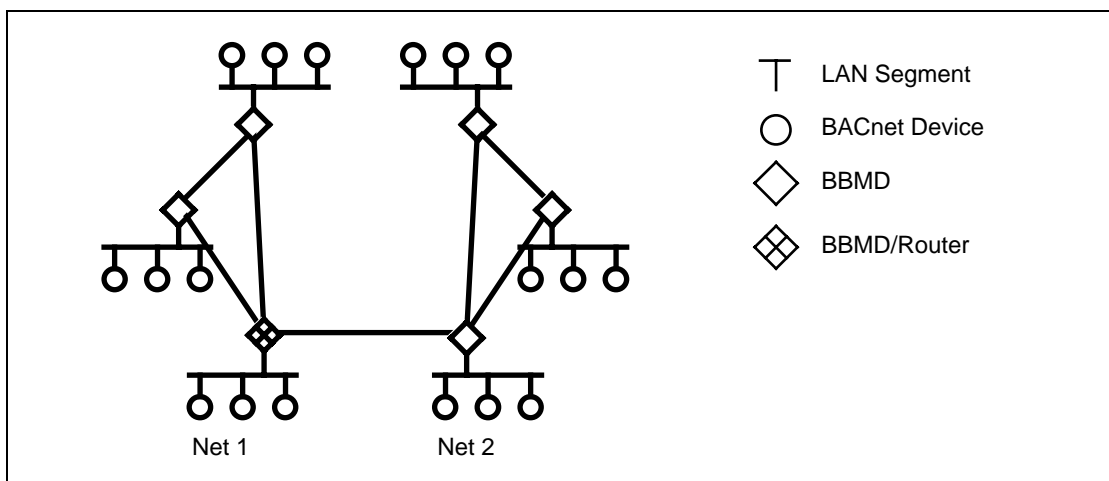


Figure J-6. An alternative to the architecture depicted in Figure J-5 is to combine both BBMD and router functionality in the same physical device as explicitly permitted in J.7.1.

### J.7.2 B/IP Routers

B/IP routers adhere to the requirements of Clause 6 with the following differences:

- 1) The physical ports of Clause 6 routers are replaced by logical ports. Each logical port is identified by the unique B/IP address of the port's connection to the B/IP network served by the router.
- 2) The term "directly connected network" in Clause 6 implies a physical LAN connection between a LAN segment and a physical router port. In this clause "directly connected network" is extended to mean any B/IP network from which a router can receive local broadcast or IP multicast messages. Such networks are: the B/IP network on which a router resides by virtue of having an IP network number in common with one of the IP subnets comprising the B/IP network; a

B/IP network in which the router participates as a member of an IP multicast group; or a B/IP network in which a router participates by having registered as a foreign device with a BBMD serving that network.

- 3) Networks that are not directly connected are called "remote networks." Remote networks, whether B/IP or non-B/IP, may be reachable by communicating using B/IP with a router serving the remote network.

### **J.7.3 B/IP Router Tables**

B/IP router tables shall contain the following information for each logical port:

- (a) the B/IP address for this port,
- (b) if the port is to be used to communicate with nodes on a network directly connected by virtue of the router having an IP network number in common with one of the IP subnets comprising the B/IP network, the BACnet network number of the network, else

if the port is to be used to communicate with nodes on a network directly connected by virtue of the router registering as a foreign device with a BBMD, the BACnet network number of the network served by the BBMD and the B/IP address of the BBMD offering foreign device registration,

- (c) a list of network numbers reachable through this port along with the B/IP address of the next router on the path to each network number and the reachability status, as defined in 6.6.1, of each such network.

Because internetworks involving multiple B/IP networks may be more dynamic than traditional BACnet internetworks, implementers of B/IP routers may wish to provide a mechanism whereby specific table entries can be selectively activated and deactivated. The mechanism for accomplishing this is deemed to be a local matter.

### **J.7.4 B/IP Router Operation**

Upon start-up, each B/IP router shall search its routing table for active entries indicating direct connection via foreign registration with a BBMD. The router shall then proceed to register itself with each such network using the procedures specified in J.5. At the conclusion of all such registrations, the router shall follow the procedure of 6.6.2 in that it shall broadcast an I-Am-Router-To-Network message containing the network numbers of each accessible network except the networks reachable via the network on which the broadcast is being made. Note that networks accessed through a given active UDP port that are not directly connected, but are reachable by means of communication with another B/IP router shall, upon router startup, be deemed to be reachable.

Additional router operations with regard to local and remote traffic shall follow the procedures of Clause 6.

### **J.8 Use of IP Multicast within BACnet/IP**

BACnet/IP devices that so desire may alternatively use IP multicasting as a method for distributing BACnet broadcast messages, subject to the constraints imposed in this clause. This is accomplished through the use of an IP class D address which is made up of a single multicast group identifier rather than a combination of network and host IDs. Such devices shall be referred to as B/IP-M devices. The use of IP multicasting also requires that devices comprising a multicast group that reside on more than one IP subnet be served by IP routers capable of supporting IP multicast distribution. (See RFC 1112.) Note that all B/IP-M devices must also be capable of processing unicast messages and must each have a unique unicast IP address. All B/IP devices sharing a common IP multicast address should also share a common BACnet network number.

#### **J.8.1 B/IP Multicast (B/IP-M) concept**

For the purposes of BACnet/IP, a B/IP-M group functions logically in the same manner as an IP subnet in the previous clauses. The B/IP multicast group address replaces the B/IP broadcast address for members of the group. The following constraints apply:

1. If the B/IP-M group is part of a BACnet network with B/IP non-multicast devices, there shall be one, and only one, BBMD configured to serve the B/IP-M group devices. A BACnet network comprised solely of B/IP-M devices need not have a BBMD unless foreign devices are to be supported.

2. In order to prevent the receipt of multiple broadcast messages, devices that are in the B/IP-M group and B/IP non-multicast devices may not share the same IP subnet. Note that this does not necessarily preclude them from sharing the same physical LAN if the IP router serving the LAN can support multiple IP subnets.

### **J.8.2 B/IP-M Use of BVLL Messages**

B/IP-M devices shall use the Original-Unicast-NPDU BVLL message for directed messages to any B/IP device within the BACnet/IP network. B/IP-M devices shall use the Original-Broadcast-NPDU BVLL message for the purpose of transmitting BACnet "local" and "global" broadcasts and shall use the B/IP-M group address as the destination IP address.

### **J.8.3 B/IP-M BBMD Operation**

BBMDs function as described in J.4.5 except that the BBMD serving the B/IP-M group must also be a member of the group and that the B/IP-M group address is used analogously to the B/IP broadcast address with respect to the B/IP-M group. It is also required that the BDT entry for each BBMD serving a B/IP-M group shall use a broadcast distribution mask of all 1's to force "two-hop" BBMD-to-BBMD broadcast distribution. This is to prevent the multiple receipt of broadcast messages that would occur if the B/IP-M BBMD were on the same IP subnet as any of the B/IP-M devices themselves and a "directed broadcast" were used. The following paragraphs summarize the relevant operations of BBMDs that serve a B/IP-M group:

Upon receipt of an Original-Broadcast-NPDU via its B/IP-M group address, a BBMD shall forward the message to other entries in its BDT (as well as to any devices in its FDT if the BBMD also supports foreign device registration) as described in J.4.5.

Upon receipt of a Forwarded-NPDU from a peer BBMD, the BBMD shall re-transmit the message using the B/IP-M group address (as well as direct it to any devices in its FDT if the BBMD also supports foreign device registration).

Upon receipt of a BVLL Distribute-Broadcast-To-Network message from a foreign device, the receiving BBMD shall transmit a BVLL Forwarded-NPDU message using the B/IP-M group address as the destination address. In addition, a Forwarded-NPDU message shall be sent to each entry in its BDT as described in J.4.5 as well as directly to each foreign device currently in the BBMD's FDT except the originating node. Error processing is as described in J.4.5.

### **J.9 Sources for Internet Information**

The RFCs referred to in this Annex are available from:

USC/Information Sciences Institute  
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 1001  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6695

or online at: [WWW.ISI.EDU](http://WWW.ISI.EDU).

## **NOTICE**

### **INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING A PROPOSED CHANGE TO THIS STANDARD UNDER CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE**

This standard is maintained under continuous maintenance procedures by a Standing Standard Project Committee (SSPC) for which the Standards Committee has established a documented program for regular publication of addenda or revisions, including procedures for timely, documented, consensus action on requests for change to any part of the standard. SSPC consideration will be given to proposed changes according to the following schedule:

Deadline for receipt of proposed changes

February 20

SSPC will consider proposed changes at next

ASHRAE Annual Meeting (normally June)

Proposed changes must be submitted to the Manager of Standards (MOS) in the latest published format available from the MOS. However, the MOS may accept proposed changes in an earlier published format, if the MOS concludes that the differences are immaterial to the proposed changes. If the MOS concludes that the current form must be utilized, the proposer may be given up to 20 additional days to resubmit the proposed changes in the current format.

Specific changes in text or values are required and must be substantiated. The Manager of Standards will return to the submitter any change proposals that do not meet these requirements. Supplemental background documents to support changes submitted may be included.



**FORM FOR SUBMITTAL OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO ASHRAE STANDARD  
UNDER CONTINUOUS MAINTENANCE**

*(Please type)*

1. Submitter: \_\_\_\_\_  
(name—type)

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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**NOTE:** Use a separate form for each comment, completing each section (including Sections 1 and 2) to facilitate processing.

2. Number and Year of Standard:

3. Clause (i.e., Section), Subclause or Paragraph Number, and Page Number:

4. I Propose To:             Change to read as shown                             Delete and substitute as shown  
(check one)                 Add new text as shown     Delete without substitution

---

(Indicate the proposed change by showing a strikeout line through material to be deleted and underlining material to be added. After showing the text to be changed, insert a horizontal line and state the purpose, reason, and substantiation for the proposed change. Use additional pages if necessary.)

5. Proposed Change:

6. Purpose, Reason, and Substantiation Statements:

(Be brief; provide abstracts of lengthy substantiation; full text should be enclosed for reference on request by project committee members.)

Check if additional pages are attached. Number of additional pages: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Use separate form for each comment. Submittals (MS Word 6 preferred) may be attached to e-mail (preferable), submitted on diskettes, uploaded to ASHRAE's ftp site, or submitted in paper form by mail or fax to ASHRAE, Manager of Standards, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305.

E-mail: [change.proposal@ashrae.org](mailto:change.proposal@ashrae.org) Ftp server address: [ftp.ashrae.org](ftp://ftp.ashrae.org), directory: *change.proposal*. Fax: 404-321-5478

## ELECTRONIC PREPARATION/SUBMISSION OF FORM FOR PROPOSING CHANGES

An electronic version of each change, which must comply with the instructions in the Notice and the Form, is the preferred form of submittal to ASHRAE Headquarters at the address shown below. The electronic format facilitates both paper-based and computer-based processing. Submittal in paper form is acceptable. The following instructions apply to change proposals submitted in electronic form.

Use the appropriate file format for your word processor and save the file in either Microsoft Word 6.0 (preferred) or higher or WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS format. Please save each change proposal file with a different name (example, prop001.doc, prop002.doc, etc., for Word files—prop001.wpm, prop002.wpm, etc., for WordPerfect files). If supplemental background documents to support changes submitted are included, it is preferred that they also be in electronic form as wordprocessed or scanned documents.

Electronic change proposals may be submitted either as files (MS Word 6 preferred) attached to an e-mail (uuencode preferred), files uploaded to an ftp site, or on 3.5" floppy disk. ASHRAE will accept the following as equivalent to the signature required on the change submittal form to convey non-exclusive copyright:

Files attached to e-mail:	Electronic signature on change submittal form (as a picture; *.tif, or *.wpg), or e-mail address.
Files on disk or uploaded to ftp site:	Electronic signature on change submittal form (as a picture; *.tif, or *.wpg), listing of the submitter's e-mail address on the change submittal form, or a letter with submitter's signature accompanying the disk or sent by facsimile (single letter may cover all of proponent's proposed changes).

Submit e-mail, ftp file, or disks containing change proposal files to:

Manager of Standards  
ASHRAE  
1791 Tullie Circle, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329-2305

E-mail: [change.proposal@ashrae.org](mailto:change.proposal@ashrae.org)

Ftp server address: [ftp.ashrae.org](ftp://ftp.ashrae.org), logon to anonymous ftp in directory: *change.proposal*.  
(Alternatively, mail paper versions to ASHRAE address or Fax: 404-321-5478.)

The form and instructions for electronic submittal to ASHRAE's ftp site or as attachments to e-mail may be obtained from the Standards section of ASHRAE's Home Page, <http://www.ashrae.org>, or by contacting a Standards Secretary, 1791 Tullie Circle, NE, Atlanta, GA 30329-2305. Phone: 404-636-8400. Fax: 404-321-5478. Email: [standards.section@ashrae.org](mailto:standards.section@ashrae.org).

## **POLICY STATEMENT DEFINING ASHRAE'S CONCERN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF ITS ACTIVITIES**

ASHRAE is concerned with the impact of its members' activities on both the indoor and outdoor environment. ASHRAE's members will strive to minimize any possible deleterious effects on the indoor and outdoor environment of the systems and components in their responsibility while maximizing the beneficial effects these systems provide, consistent with accepted standards and the practical state of the art.

ASHRAE's short-range goal is to ensure that the systems and components within its scope do not impact the indoor and outdoor environment to a greater extent than specified by the standards and guidelines as established by itself and other responsible bodies.

As an ongoing goal, ASHRAE will, through its Standard Committee and extensive technical committee structure, continue to generate up-to-date standards and guidelines where appropriate and adopt, recommend, and promote those new and revised standards developed by other responsible organizations.

Through its *Handbook*, appropriate chapters will contain up-to-date standards and design considerations as the material is systematically revised.

ASHRAE will take the lead with respect to dissemination of environmental information of its primary interest and will seek out and disseminate information from other responsible organizations that is pertinent, as guides to updating standards and guidelines.

The effects of the design and selection of equipment and systems will be considered within the scope of the system's intended use and expected misuse. The disposal of hazardous materials, if any, will also be considered.

ASHRAE's primary concern for environmental impact will be at the site where equipment within ASHRAE's scope operates. However, energy source selection and the possible environmental impact due to the energy source and energy transportation will be considered where possible. Recommendations concerning energy selection should be made by its members.