

Client Identifier Option in DHCP Server Replies

(draft-ietf-dhc-client-id-02)

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Problem Statement/Motivation

- [RFC2131] specifies that a combination of 'client identifier' or 'chaddr' and assigned network address constitute a unique identifier for the client's lease and are used by both the client and server to identify a lease referred in any DHCP messages.
- [[RFC2131](#)] also specifies that the server "MUST NOT" return 'client identifier' in DHCPOFFER and DHCPACK messages. DHCP relay agents and servers, following these recommendations MAY drop the DHCP packets in the **absence of both** 'client identifier' and 'chaddr'.
- In some cases, client may not be having a valid hardware address value to be filled in 'chaddr' field of the packet and hence may set this field as zero.

Solution Characteristics

- If the 'client identifier' option is set in a message received from a client, the server **MUST** return the 'client identifier' option, unaltered, in its response message.

Next Steps

- This is already a WG draft and has been discussed in past in WG.
- WG members and other stake holders have expressed interest in solution.
- Authors requests WGLC for draft-ietf-dhc-client-id-02?