

# Data Types

RADEXT - IETF 86

# Data Types

- RADIUS has data types?
- Explicitly named and defined in 2865
  - text, string, address, integer, time
- Used in dictionaries since Livingston 1.0
- `ATTRIBUTE User-Name 1 text`

# What's missing

- No other RFC named and defined data types
- 3162 “Address” is IPv6
- 2869 Event-Timestamp is time, but not “date”
- 6572 defines IPv4 prefix, but not as a data type
  - And doesn't refer to 6158. Why?
- Extended attrs defines multiple data types, and names them

# What do to about it

- Define the data types in new document
- Changes two things:
  - IANA registry
  - Specification format

# New Registry

- RADIUS Data types
  - Value - integer, only for IANA tracking
  - Description - name (disambiguated)
  - Reference (RFC, etc.)

# Mod Attribute Registry

- Add “data type” column
- Reference to “Description” field of RADIUS data type registry

# Benefits

- It now becomes possible to generate RADIUS dictionaries directly from the IANA registry
- Data types are explicitly enumerated
- Data types have their formats explicitly given
- Specifications can probably avoid ASCII art

# Downsides

- None?

# Next Steps

- Accept as WG document
- Publish as Standards Track
- Start using data types in new specifications

Discussion?