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Re:	Response to IEEE 802.16-04/19 (Recirculation Ballot #14a Announcement)			
Abstract	To securely transport backbone message, shared secret based encryption for backbone message is proposed.			
Purpose	Discuss and Adopt as the secure backbone message transport mechanism			
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# Secure Transport of backbone messages

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### 1. Problem Statements

Current IEEE 802.16e/D2 does not specify secure backbone transport mechanism. There are some backbone messages which might have sensitive information like security context information, mobility information which requires secure transport mechanism.

## 2. Overview of Proposed Solutions

When a BS sends backbone message which requires secure transport, it will encrypt the attributes using the method taken from the book "*Network Security*" by Kaufman, Perlman and Speciner pages 109-110. This method is used in encrypting RADIUS User Password and MS-MPPE-Send-Key, MS-MPPE-Rcv-Key.

# 3. Proposed Changes to IEEE 802.16e

[Add the following text to section D.2.11 after D.2.10 MSS:]

#### **D.2.11 Secure Backbone transport**

This field contains encrypted attributes which requires secure transport between backbone nodes. Any backbone message may contain this attribute, but shared secret between backbone nodes shall be provisioned before usage.

Type	Length	Value	Scope
TBD	Variable	Encrypted backbone message	Any backbone message which
		attributes except global header	requires secure transport

Attributes shall be encrypted as follows:

Attributes which requires encryption are first padded at the end with nulls to a multiple of 16 octets. A one-way MD5 hash is calculated over a stream of octets consisting of the shared secret. This value is XORed with the first 16 octet segment of the attributes which is to be encrypted and placed in the first 16 octets of the Value field of the Secure-Backbone-transport Attribute.

If the attributes which is to be encrypted are longer than 16 characters, a second one-way MD5 hash is calculated over a stream of octets consisting of the shared secret followed by the result of the first xor. That hash is XORed with the second 16 octet segment of the password and placed in the second 16 octets of the Value field of the Secure-Backbone-transport Attribute.

If necessary, this operation is repeated, with each xor result being used along with the shared secret to generate the next hash to xor the next segment of the password, to no more than 128 characters.

<u>Call the shared secret S.</u> Break the attributes which is to be encrypted into 16-octet chunks p1, p2, etc. with the last one padded at the end with nulls to a 16-octet boundary. Call the ciphertext blocks c(1), c(2), etc. We'll need intermediate values b1, b2, etc.

b1 = MD5(S) c(1) = p1 xor b1 b2 = MD5(S + c(1)) c(2) = p2 xor b2. . . .

bi = MD5(S + c(i-1)) c(i) = pi xor bi

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<u>The Value field will contain c(1)+c(2)+...+c(i) where + denotes concatenation. On receipt, the process is reversed to yield the original attributes.</u>