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**Migration of a pre-standard network to a metro  
transport network**

ITU-T G-series Recommendations – Supplement 69

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GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS COMMON TO ALL ANALOGUE CARRIER-TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS	G.200–G.299
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GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF INTERNATIONAL CARRIER TELEPHONE SYSTEMS ON RADIO-RELAY OR SATELLITE LINKS AND INTERCONNECTION WITH METALLIC LINES	G.400–G.449
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TRANSMISSION MEDIA AND OPTICAL SYSTEMS CHARACTERISTICS	G.600–G.699
DIGITAL TERMINAL EQUIPMENTS	G.700–G.799
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DIGITAL SECTIONS AND DIGITAL LINE SYSTEM	G.900–G.999
MULTIMEDIA QUALITY OF SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE – GENERIC AND USER-RELATED ASPECTS	G.1000–G.1999
TRANSMISSION MEDIA CHARACTERISTICS	G.6000–G.6999
DATA OVER TRANSPORT – GENERIC ASPECTS	G.7000–G.7999
PACKET OVER TRANSPORT ASPECTS	G.8000–G.8999
ACCESS NETWORKS	G.9000–G.9999

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## Supplement 69 to ITU-T G-series Recommendations

### Migration of a pre-standard network to a metro transport network

#### Summary

Supplement 69 to ITU-T G-series Recommendations describes scenarios for migrating existing slicing packet networks (SPNs) to metro transport networks (MTNs). Scenarios include carrying SPN path layer connections over MTN section layers, or for carrying MTN path layer connections over SPN section layers. It also describes how misconfiguration of the end points that result in the connection of a SPN end point to a MTN end point can be detected.

#### History

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## Table of Contents

		Page
1	Scope .....	1
2	References.....	1
3	Definitions .....	1
	3.1 Terms defined elsewhere .....	1
	3.2 Terms defined in this Supplement .....	1
4	Abbreviations and acronyms .....	1
5	Conventions .....	2
6	Migration requirements .....	2
7	Migration scenarios .....	2
	7.1 Pass-through migration mode.....	2
	7.2 Gateway node migration mode.....	2
8	General considerations.....	3
	8.1 Differences between pre-standard and standard formats.....	3
	8.2 Detecting incompatible source and sink nodes for a path .....	3
9	Migration process .....	4
	9.1 Initial configuration .....	4
	9.2 Early migration – introducing ITU-T G.8312-compliant nodes .....	5
	9.3 Late migration – handling legacy pre-standard nodes.....	5
	9.4 Final configuration .....	6
	Bibliography.....	7



# Supplement 69 to ITU-T G-series Recommendations

## Migration of a pre-standard network to a metro transport network

### 1 Scope

This Supplement describes considerations for migration of networks using pre-standard SPN to using metro transport network (MTN) technology.

### 2 References

- [ITU-T G.805] Recommendation ITU-T G.805, *Generic functional architecture of transport networks*.
- [ITU-T G.8312] Recommendation ITU-T G.8312 (2020), *Interfaces for the metro transport network*.
- [IEEE 802.3] IEEE 802.3-2018, IEEE Standard for Ethernet

### 3 Definitions

#### 3.1 Terms defined elsewhere

This Supplement uses the following terms defined elsewhere:

##### 3.1.1 Terms defined in [IEEE 802.3]

- LF
- Ordered Set
- RF

##### 3.1.2 Terms defined in [ITU-T G.805]

- Termination function
- Network

#### 3.2 Terms defined in this Supplement

None.

### 4 Abbreviations and acronyms

This Supplement uses the following abbreviations and acronyms:

APS	Auto Protection Switching
BIP	Bit-Interleaved Parity
MTN	Metro Transport Network
OAM	Operations Administration and Maintenance
SPN	Slicing Packet Network

## 5 Conventions

None.

## 6 Migration requirements

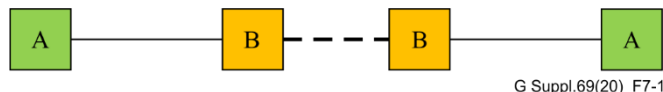
As a predecessor of the MTN technology, there exist substantial implementations and deployments of a pre-standard technology (known as slicing packet network, SPN). SPN is defined with a set of technologies from L0 to L3, and ITU-T G.8312 MTN corresponds to the SPN slicing channel layer. See [b-CCSA-2019-1213T-YD] in the Bibliography for a detailed description of SPN.

This Supplement provides information to help guide how an operator can gracefully migrate from a network of pre-standard nodes to one using ITU-T G.8312-compliant MTN nodes.

## 7 Migration scenarios

### 7.1 Pass-through migration mode

The pass-through migration mode takes advantage of MTN and pre-standard intermediate nodes being transparent to the path and path overhead of both protocols. Consequently, edge nodes that use the same protocol can communicate with each other through any intermediate nodes along the path. This is illustrated in Figure 7-1, where both the sink node and source node (the green colour) work in standard A (for example standard [ITU-T G.8312]), and the intermediate nodes (the gold colour) work in the different format (for example pre-standard SPN). This allows edge nodes to be upgraded independently from the intermediate network nodes. Clause 8 explains how an edge node can determine the protocol for which the other edge node is configured.



**Figure 7-1 – Pass-through migration mode**

### 7.2 Gateway node migration mode

During network migration or new network additions, some network domains will be built or migrated to MTN ahead of other network domains. This scenario is illustrated in Figure 7-2. In this situation, a network operator may choose to have a gateway node between the network domains. There are two general approaches for providing the gateway function.

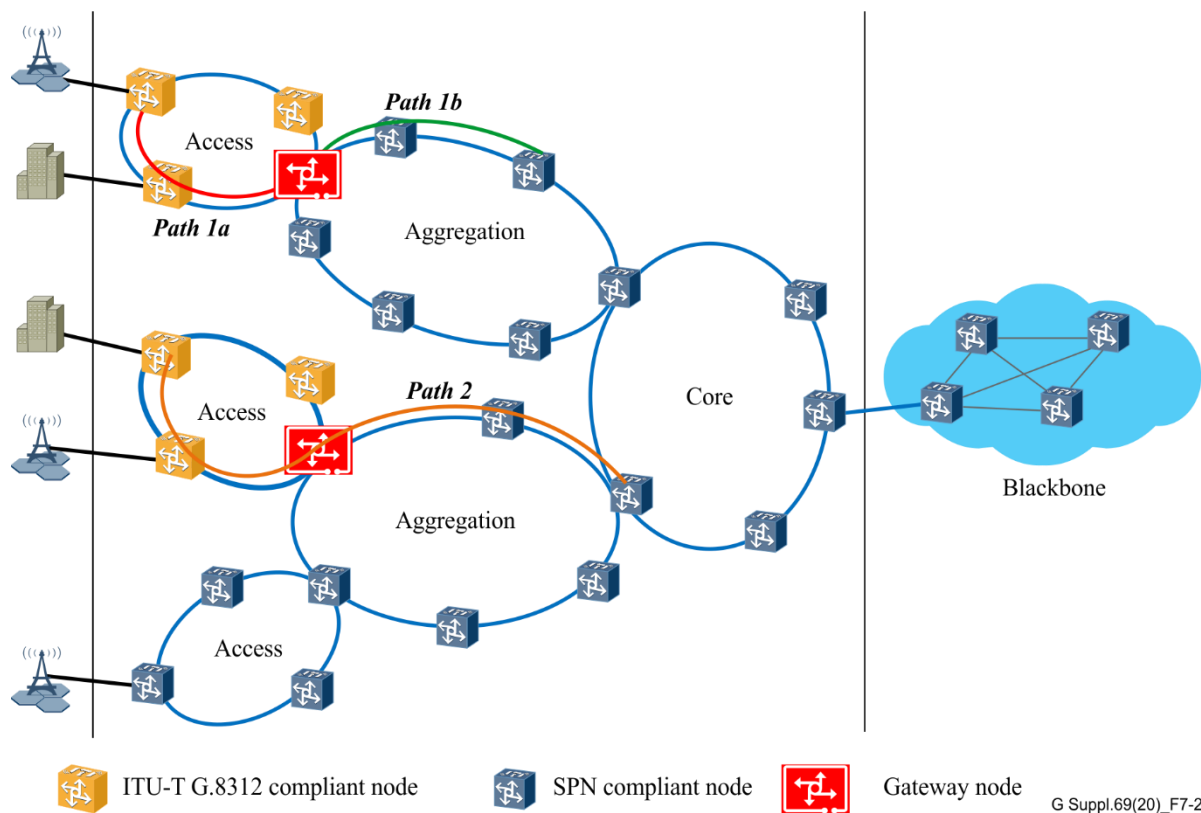
For the first approach, the service is delivered over a serial concatenation of pre-standard paths and MTN paths (see Path 1a and Path 1b in Figure 7-2). The operations administration and maintenance (OAM) at the pre-standard path port and the MTN path port in the gateway node is fully terminated. Forwarding of the client information can either be done at the client layer (i.e., MAC frames) or at the 66B coding sublayer. End-to-end service monitoring of the serial concatenation of paths is possible via a tandem connection in the client layer at the service endpoints (e.g., between the two endpoints of Path 1 in Figure 7-2).

With the second approach, the gateway node provides a functional translation between the two protocols (see Path 2 in Figure 7-2). The Path 66B block sequence is passed between the pre-standard path and the MTN path ports, but the Path OAM blocks and corresponding messages are extracted, and then the functionally equivalent OAM blocks of the other protocol are inserted into the egress block sequence on the other side. The functional translation accounts for specific differences between SPN and MTN path overhead (e.g., the insertion rate and number of blocks covered by the bit-



interleaved parity (BIP)-type error monitoring function and the insertion reference point for timestamp messages) that do not allow directly forwarding the same OAM messages between SPN and MTN Paths.

Detailed specification the gateway node functions is beyond the scope of this Supplement.



**Figure 7-2 – Gateway node migration mode**

## 8 General considerations

### 8.1 Differences between pre-standard and standard formats

During migration of a network from pre-standard OAM to MTN OAM, it is possible that a pre-standard path termination may be misconnected to an MTN path termination. Both the pre-standard and ITU-T G.8312 MTN path OAM use an IEEE 802.3 64B/66B 0x4B ordered set block type with a 0xC O-code. This ensures that intermediate nodes of either type are transparent to both path OAM protocols, and also ensures that edge nodes configured for either protocol will recognize that they are receiving path OAM information from the other edge node. However, the pre-standard path OAM uses a format that is distinct from the ITU-T G.8312 path OAM format. The differences in the format of the OAM block make it straightforward for a path termination point or node to determine if it is receiving the type of OAM it expects to receive. Detecting the mismatch through these criteria is explained in clause 8.2.

### 8.2 Detecting incompatible source and sink nodes for a path

The standard ITU-T G.8312 path OAM block format is shown in Figure 8-1 (see also Figure 8-7 of [ITU-T G.8312]). As illustrated in Figure 8-2, the pre-standard path OAM uses a proprietary block format that utilizes the last three bytes to carry information.

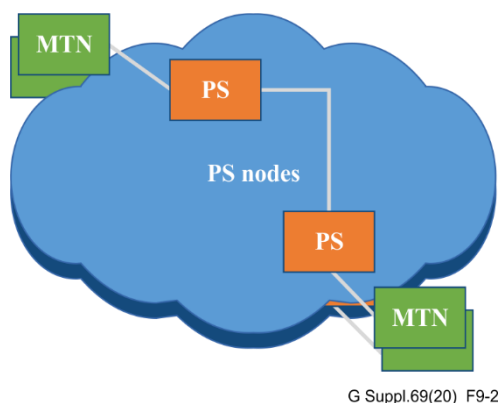
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## 9.2 Early migration – introducing ITU-T G.8312-compliant nodes

As nodes supporting ITU-T G.8312-compliant OAM become available, they can be introduced into the network.

In the pass-through migration mode, a path that originates and terminates on new nodes can use the ITU-T G.8312 format. The pre-standard intermediate nodes do not process the path OAM, so they are not impacted by the edge nodes using ITU-T G.8312-compliant OAM.

In the gateway node migration mode, the migration process for this large-scale network is performed based on the geographic network deployment. In the early stage, a path can originate on a new node but terminates on a legacy pre-standard node, or vice versa. The gateway node is deployed on the boundary between the pre-standard SPN and MTN networks. See clause 7.2 for a description of the gateway migration mode.



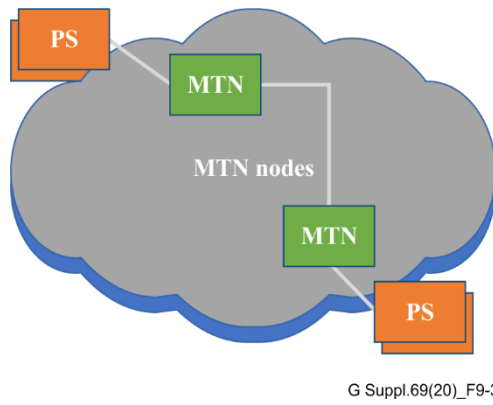
**Figure 9-2 – Early-stage migration**

## 9.3 Late migration – handling legacy pre-standard nodes

Over time, more standard-compliant nodes are added to the network.

In the pass-through migration mode, since an edge node may also be an intermediate node for other services, as the migration progresses the scenario may arise where some, or all, nodes between two pre-standard end point nodes have been upgraded, and there is a need for a path using the pre-standard OAM to be carried over new nodes. Again, since intermediate nodes do not process the path OAM, the ITU-T G.8312-compliant intermediate nodes are not impacted by the edge nodes using pre-standard path OAM.

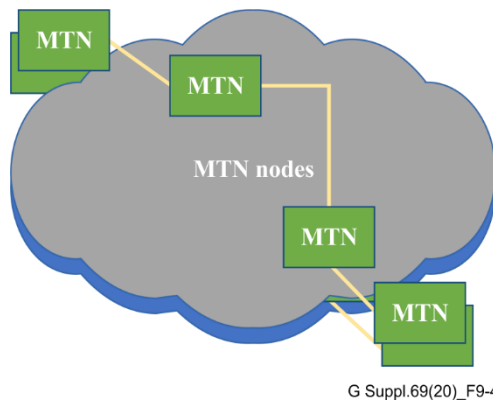
In the gateway node migration mode, in the late migration process, most of the network areas are upgraded with the new ITU-T G.8312-compliant network nodes. A few network areas using pre-standard SPN OAM are sporadically located adjacent to the MTN networks. See clause 7.2 for a description of the gateway migration mode.



**Figure 9-3 – Late-stage migration scenario**

#### 9.4 Final configuration

Eventually, the entire network has been upgraded to new nodes, and all paths are using standard-compliant OAM.



**Figure 9-4 – Network configuration after migration**

## Bibliography

- [b-ITU-T G.8310] Recommendation ITU-T G.8310 (2020), *Architecture of the metro transport network*.
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