**[MS-RAI]:**

**Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol**

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**Revision Summary**

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# Introduction

The Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol is a set of [**Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM)**](#gt_ae2a9876-7fed-4f0d-a390-bf78f76c0736) interfaces, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf), for initiating a [**Remote Assistance connection**](#gt_9d7b1eb9-8131-4eb3-ad5b-08792b014893) to another computer in a [**domain**](#gt_b0276eb2-4e65-4cf1-a718-e0920a614aca). The Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol allows an authorized [**expert**](#gt_64520114-7ddc-4f5a-b63d-81d79b9a6693) to start [**Remote Assistance**](#gt_494867b1-8c5c-4fde-b089-1056c3a64f18) on a remote [**novice**](#gt_d27bcedc-ae63-4e15-a0cb-9b371f1820dc) computer to retrieve data that is required to make a Remote Assistance connection from the expert computer to the novice computer.

Sections 1.8, 2, and 3 of this specification are normative and can contain the terms MAY, SHOULD, MUST, MUST NOT, and SHOULD NOT as defined in [[RFC2119]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90317). Sections 1.5 and 1.9 are also normative but do not contain those terms. All other sections and examples in this specification are informative.

## Glossary

The following terms are specific to this document:

**class identifier (CLSID)**: A GUID that identifies a software component; for instance, a DCOM object class (4) or a COM class.

**computer name**: The DNS or NetBIOS name.

**Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM)**: The Microsoft Component Object Model (COM) specification that defines how components communicate over networks, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf).

**domain**: A set of users and computers sharing a common namespace and management infrastructure. At least one computer member of the set must act as a domain controller (DC) and host a member list that identifies all members of the domain, as well as optionally hosting the Active Directory service. The domain controller provides authentication (2) of members, creating a unit of trust for its members. Each domain has an identifier that is shared among its members. For more information, see [[MS-AUTHSOD]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-AUTHSOD%5d.pdf) section 1.1.1.5 and [[MS-ADTS]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ADTS%5d.pdf).

**domain name**: A [**domain name**](#gt_45a1c9f1-0263-49a8-97c7-7aca1a99308c) or a NetBIOS name that identifies a [**domain**](#gt_b0276eb2-4e65-4cf1-a718-e0920a614aca).

**expert**: The side of a [**Remote Assistance connection**](#gt_9d7b1eb9-8131-4eb3-ad5b-08792b014893) that is able to view the remote screen of the other computer in order to provide help.

**fully qualified domain name (FQDN)**: An unambiguous [**domain name**](#gt_45a1c9f1-0263-49a8-97c7-7aca1a99308c) that gives an absolute location in the Domain Name System's (DNS) hierarchy tree, as defined in [[RFC1035]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90264) section 3.1 and [[RFC2181]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=127732) section 11.

**novice**: The side of a [**Remote Assistance connection**](#gt_9d7b1eb9-8131-4eb3-ad5b-08792b014893) that shares its screen with the other computer in order to receive help.

**opnum**: An operation number or numeric identifier that is used to identify a specific [**remote procedure call (RPC)**](#gt_8a7f6700-8311-45bc-af10-82e10accd331) method or a method in an interface. For more information, see [[C706]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89824) section 12.5.2.12 or [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

**Remote Assistance (RA)**: A feature of the operating system that allows screen, keyboard, and mouse sharing so that a computer user can be assisted by a remote helper.

**Remote Assistance connection**: A communication framework that is established between two computers that facilitates [**Remote Assistance**](#gt_494867b1-8c5c-4fde-b089-1056c3a64f18).

**Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP)**: A multi-channel protocol that allows a user to connect to a computer running Microsoft Terminal Services (TS). RDP enables the exchange of client and server settings and also enables negotiation of common settings to use for the duration of the connection, so that input, graphics, and other data can be exchanged and processed between client and server.

**remote procedure call (RPC)**: A context-dependent term commonly overloaded with three meanings. Note that much of the industry literature concerning RPC technologies uses this term interchangeably for any of the three meanings. Following are the three definitions: (\*) The runtime environment providing remote procedure call facilities. The preferred usage for this meaning is "RPC runtime". (\*) The pattern of request and response message exchange between two parties (typically, a client and a server). The preferred usage for this meaning is "RPC exchange". (\*) A single message from an exchange as defined in the previous definition. The preferred usage for this term is "RPC message". For more information about RPC, see [C706].

**terminal services (TS)**: A service on a server computer that allows delivery of applications, or the desktop itself, to various computing devices. When a user runs an application on a terminal server, the application execution takes place on the server computer and only keyboard, mouse, and display information is transmitted over the network. Each user sees only his or her individual session, which is managed transparently by the server operating system and is independent of any other client session.

**Unicode string**: A Unicode 8-bit string is an ordered sequence of 8-bit units, a Unicode 16-bit string is an ordered sequence of 16-bit code units, and a Unicode 32-bit string is an ordered sequence of 32-bit code units. In some cases, it may be acceptable not to terminate with a terminating null character. Unless otherwise specified, all [**Unicode strings**](#gt_b069acb4-e364-453e-ac83-42d469bb339e) follow the UTF-16LE encoding scheme with no Byte Order Mark (BOM).

**universally unique identifier (UUID)**: A 128-bit value. UUIDs can be used for multiple purposes, from tagging objects with an extremely short lifetime, to reliably identifying very persistent objects in cross-process communication such as client and server interfaces, manager entry-point vectors, and [**RPC**](#gt_8a7f6700-8311-45bc-af10-82e10accd331) objects. UUIDs are highly likely to be unique. UUIDs are also known as globally unique identifiers (GUIDs) and these terms are used interchangeably in the Microsoft protocol technical documents (TDs). Interchanging the usage of these terms does not imply or require a specific algorithm or mechanism to generate the UUID. Specifically, the use of this term does not imply or require that the algorithms described in [[RFC4122]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90460) or [C706] must be used for generating the UUID.

**well-known endpoint**: A preassigned, network-specific, stable address for a particular client/server instance. For more information, see [C706].

**MAY, SHOULD, MUST, SHOULD NOT, MUST NOT:** These terms (in all caps) are used as defined in [[RFC2119]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90317). All statements of optional behavior use either MAY, SHOULD, or SHOULD NOT.

## References

Links to a document in the Microsoft Open Specifications library point to the correct section in the most recently published version of the referenced document. However, because individual documents in the library are not updated at the same time, the section numbers in the documents may not match. You can confirm the correct section numbering by checking the [Errata](http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/dn781092.aspx).

### Normative References

We conduct frequent surveys of the normative references to assure their continued availability. If you have any issue with finding a normative reference, please contact [dochelp@microsoft.com](mailto:dochelp@microsoft.com). We will assist you in finding the relevant information.

[C706] The Open Group, "DCE 1.1: Remote Procedure Call", C706, August 1997, [https://www2.opengroup.org/ogsys/catalog/c706](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89824)

[MS-DCOM] Microsoft Corporation, "[Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM) Remote Protocol](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf)".

[MS-DTYP] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Data Types](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DTYP%5d.pdf)".

[MS-ERREF] Microsoft Corporation, "[Windows Error Codes](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf)".

[MS-OAUT] Microsoft Corporation, "[OLE Automation Protocol](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf)".

[MS-RA] Microsoft Corporation, "[Remote Assistance Protocol](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RA%5d.pdf)".

[MS-RDPBCGR] Microsoft Corporation, "[Remote Desktop Protocol: Basic Connectivity and Graphics Remoting](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RDPBCGR%5d.pdf)".

[MS-RPCE] Microsoft Corporation, "[Remote Procedure Call Protocol Extensions](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf)".

[RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", BCP 14, RFC 2119, March 1997, [http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=90317)

### Informative References

[MSDN-CRYPTO] Microsoft Corporation, "Cryptography Reference", [http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/aa380256.aspx](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89984)

## Overview

The Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol provides a set of DCOM interfaces that enable an expert to retrieve the Remote Assistance connection-specific data from the remote novice computer. This Remote Assistance connection-specific data is subsequently used to initiate a Remote Assistance connection as explained in the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol.

The expert must have the IP address or [**fully qualified domain name (FQDN)**](#gt_1769aec9-237e-44ed-9014-1abb3ec6de6e) of the novice computer to use this protocol.

The expert is the DCOM client and the novice is the DCOM server.

Before the expert's DCOM call is executed on the novice computer, DCOM performs a check to verify that the expert is on the list of authorized Remote Assistance helpers on the novice computer.[<1>](#Appendix_A_1)

## Relationship to Other Protocols

The Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol relies on the OLE Automation Protocol [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf), the Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM) Remote Protocol [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf), and on the Microsoft [**remote procedure call (RPC)**](#gt_8a7f6700-8311-45bc-af10-82e10accd331), as specified in the Remote Procedure Call Protocol Extensions [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

The Remote Assistance Protocol [[MS-RA]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RA%5d.pdf) is dependent on both the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol and the Remote Desktop Protocol: Basic Connectivity and Graphics Remoting [[MS-RDPBCGR]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RDPBCGR%5d.pdf).

The following diagram illustrates the relationships between the preceding protocols.

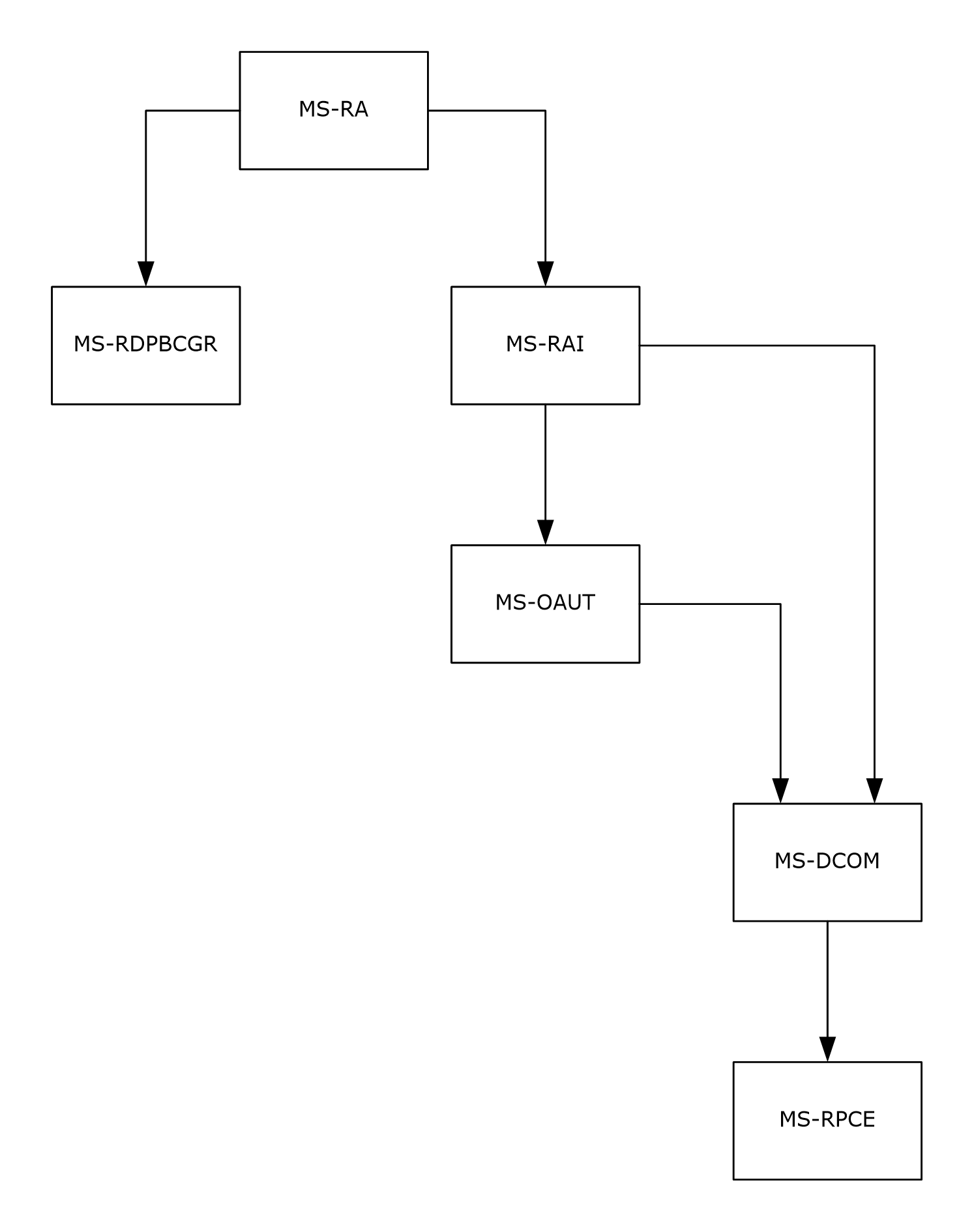


Figure : Relationships between protocols

## Prerequisites/Preconditions

This protocol is implemented over DCOM and RPC, and, as a result, has the prerequisites specified in the Distributed Component Object Model (DCOM) Remote Protocol [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) and Remote Procedure Call Protocol Extensions [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf) as being common to DCOM and RPC interfaces.

The Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol assumes that the expert has the IP Address or the FQDN of the novice computer.

## Applicability Statement

This protocol is used to perform the following functions:

* Using the novice IP address or FQDN, the expert queries the novice for a list of active [**terminal services**](#gt_ffff3f01-8c21-44d3-bbda-0062a1fbda4b) sessions running on the novice computer. Additional information about each terminal services session—DomainName, UserName, terminal services SessionID, and terminal services SessionState—is also obtained.
* Using the DomainName, UserName, and SessionID of a specific session on the novice computer, the expert queries the novice for a Remote Assistance Connection String. The novice starts Remote Assistance and returns a Remote Assistance Connection String. The novice is now waiting for the expert to make a peer-to-peer connection to its terminal services session.
* After a Remote Assistance Connection String is obtained by the expert, it is used to make a peer-to-peer Remote Assistance connection to the novice's Terminal Service session on the novice computer.

## Versioning and Capability Negotiation

This document covers versioning issues in the following areas.

**Supported Transports:** This protocol uses the DCOM technology specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf), which provides capabilities to query for interface versions.

**Protocol Versions:** This protocol is composed of the following two primary DCOM interfaces, which are version 0.0:[<2>](#Appendix_A_2)

* IPCHService
* IRASrv

Both these interfaces offer similar functionality through their methods. An RPC client determines if a method is supported by attempting to invoke the method; if the method is not supported, the RPC server returns the "RPC\_S\_PROCNUM\_OUT\_OF\_RANGE" error, as specified in [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf) section 3.1.1.5.5.

When an expert attempts to connect using this protocol, it uses only one of these two interfaces.

The novice computer implements at least one of these two interfaces, and can implement both interfaces.

The expert computer negotiates for a given set of server functionality by specifying the [**UUID**](#gt_c4813fc3-b2e5-4aa3-bde7-421d950d68d3) corresponding to the wanted RPC interface when binding to the novice.

## Vendor-Extensible Fields

This protocol does not define any vendor-extensible fields.

## Standards Assignments

No standards assignments have been received for this protocol. All values used in these extensions are in private ranges specified in section [2.1](#Section_0ccb1130af7b4a6e98d97d56ece284ae).

| Parameter | Value | Reference |
| --- | --- | --- |
| RPC Interface UUID for IPCHService | 833E4200-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE | [IPCHService](#Section_63d012b83fad429f8609004949db6e7f) |
| RPC Interface UUID for IPCHCollection | 833E4100-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE | [IPCHCollection](#Section_972bb92173824fb7b10576ad31551206) |
| RPC Interface UUID for ISAFSession | 833E41AA-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE | [ISAFSession](#Section_4508d6c37bb74e75ad938e08924cca4d) |
| RPC Interface UUID for IRASrv | F120A684-B926-447F-9DF4-C966CB785648 | [IRASrv](#Section_e88e4afea7fd4b7bb5ec5e42fb7888d5) |
| [**CLSID**](#gt_e433c806-6cb6-46a2-bb95-523df8818c99) for PCHService object | 833E4010-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE | [PCHService](#Section_8fa23c9dec254981bb50c6745d4a4cac) |
| CLSID for RASrv object | 3C3A70A7-A468-49B9-8ADA-28E11FCCAD5D | [RASrv](#Section_7c7f282aee3a49c59d7d1afe71c16033) |

# Messages

## Transport

DCOM [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) is used as the transport protocol. The Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol documented here relies upon DCOM [MS-DCOM] authentication and encryption for all protocol messages.

This protocol MUST use these universally unique identifier (UUID) interfaces, as explained in section [1.9](#Section_f3ce14e9cc8e4655bd3bb9fdf3b3ff53):

* (833E4200-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE)
* (833E4100-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE)
* (833E41AA-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE)
* (F120A684-B926-447F-9DF4-C966CB785648)

The following two are the CLSIDs of the objects implementing these interfaces, as explained in section 1.9:

* (833E4010-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE)
* (3C3A70A7-A468-49B9-8ADA-28E11FCCAD5D)

## Common Data Types

In addition to RPC base types and definitions specified in [[C706]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89824) and [[MS-DTYP]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DTYP%5d.pdf), additional data types are defined in the following sections.

There are two version-specific forms of the Remote Assistance Connection String, appended with 1 and 2 to differentiate them.

### Remote Assistance Connection String 1

The Remote Assistance Connection String 1 contains the [**Remote Desktop Protocol**](#gt_17c795a6-68bf-46bf-8ea8-467c8df1a0b3) parameters to establish a Remote Assistance connection. The Remote Assistance Connection String 1 is a comma-delimited [**Unicode string**](#gt_b069acb4-e364-453e-ac83-42d469bb339e) comprising the following pieces of data.[<3>](#Appendix_A_3)

1. <ProtocolVersion>,<protocolType>,<machineAddressList>,<assistantAccountPwd>,
2. <RASessionID>,<RASessionName>,<RASessionPwd>,<protocolSpecificParms>

The elements are defined as follows.

**ProtocolVersion:** Identifies the protocol version. The value MUST be 65,538.

**protocolType:** Identifies the protocol type. The value MUST be 1.

**machineAddressList:** Identifies network address of server machine. It is a semicolon-delimited list of IPAddress(or [**computer name**](#gt_9a7bc8b3-3374-4608-8f73-be20a90b898b)):PortID string pairs. The IPAddress is of type IPV4.

**assistantAccountPwd:** Password for Remote Assistance Account Name. This MUST be set to "\*".

**RASessionID:** Remote Assistance session unique identifier.

**RASessionName:** Remote Assistance session name. This MUST be set to "\*".

**RASessionPwd:** Remote Assistance session password. This MUST be set to "\*".

**protocolSpecificParms:** Parameter specific to a Remote Desktop Protocol.

The following is an example of Remote Assistance Connection String 1.

1. 65538,1,172.31.243.138:3389;MIKE\_HOME:3389,\*,Uj7RpOlU80SibpRw
2. RZ9+z1vbh7nIgVn89X1AiKp15Vc=,\*,\*,RcfwecK8dpcT1fjZ6iQ5M0+q7iU=

The values for the Remote Assistance Connection String 1 entities in the preceding example are as follows.

1. ProtocolVersion = 65538
2. protocolType = 1
3. machineAddressList = 172.31.243.138:3389;MIKE\_HOME:3389
4. assistantAccountPwd = \*
5. RASessionID = Uj7RpOlU80SibpRwRZ9+z1vbh7nIgVn89X1AiKp15Vc=
6. RASessionName = \*
7. RASessionPwd = \*
8. protocolSpecificParms = RcfwecK8dpcT1fjZ6iQ5M0+q7iU=

### Remote Assistance Connection String 2

The second type of the Remote Assistance Connection String packet is a Unicode string in XML format.[<4>](#Appendix_A_4) The details of this are as follows.

1. <E>
2. <A KH="Protocol-specific Parameter" KH2="Protocol-specific Parameter" ID="Authorization String Identifier" />
3. <C>
4. <T ID="Transport ID" SID="Session ID">
5. <L P="Port" N="Server Name" />
6. </T>
7. </C>
8. </E>

The novice (server) generates the KH attribute of the Auth String Node <A> in the Remote Assistance Connection String 2. The expert (client) validates the value of KH during the RDP connection sequence.

The KH value is a base64-encoded string of the SHA1 hash of the **PublicKeyBlob** field of the server certificate received in TS\_UD\_SC\_SEC1. The length, in bytes, of the **PublicKeyBlob** is given by the **wPublicKeyBlobLen** field as specified in [[MS-RDPBCGR]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RDPBCGR%5d.pdf) sections 2.2.1.4.3 and 2.2.1.4.3.1.1.

In addition to the KH attribute, the novice (server) SHOULD[<5>](#Appendix_A_5) generate the KH2 attribute of the Auth String Node <A> in the Remote Assistance Connection String 2. If this parameter is present in the connection string, the expert (client) validates the value of KH2 during the RDP connection. If this parameter is absent in the connection string, the client uses the KH parameter for validating the server as described in the previous paragraph. The KH2 value is a composite of the hashing algorithm used and the base64 encoded string of the PublicKeyBlob field of the server certificate received in TS\_UD\_SC\_SEC1. The hashing algorithm can be sha256, sha384, or sha512. The hashing algorithm and base64 encoded string of the hash are separated by a colon (:).

The Remote Assistance Connection String 2 starts with the root Node <E>. This root Node contains the following child nodes:

1. The Auth String Node <A> has the following attributes.

| Value | Meaning |
| --- | --- |
| KH | Parameters specific to a Remote Desktop Protocol |
| ID | Authstring identifier |
| KH2 | Parameters specific to a Remote Desktop Protocol |

1. The Connector Node <C> has child nodes that give information on the underlying Transport used. This Transport Node <T> has the following attributes.

| Value | Meaning |
| --- | --- |
| ID | Transport Identifier |
| SID | Session Identifier |

1. The Transport Node has Listener child Nodes that give information about the Server IP and port. This Listener node <L> has the following attributes.

| Value | Meaning |
| --- | --- |
| P | Port: The dynamic port on which the Remote Assistance connection could happen. |
| N | Server Name: The name/IP address of the server, that is, the novice computer. |

The following is an example of Remote Assistance Connection String 2:

1. <E>
2. <A KH="YiKwWUY8Ioq5NB3wAQHSbs5kwrM=" KH2="sha256:wKSAkAV3sBfa9WpuRFJcP9q1twJc6wOBuoJ9tsyXwpk=" ID="8rYm30RBW8/4dAWoUsWbFCF5jno/7jr5t
3. NpHQc2goLbw4uuBBJvLsU02YYLlBMg5"/>
4. <C>
5. <T ID="1" SID="1440550163">
6. <L P="49749" N="2001:4898:1a:5:79e2:3356:9b22:3470"/>
7. <L P="49751" N="172.31.250.64"/>
8. </T>
9. </C>
10. </E>

In the preceding example:

1. The Auth String Node <A> has the attribute KH="YiKwWUY8Ioq5NB3wAQHSbs5kwrM=", KH2="sha256:wKSAkAV3sBfa9WpuRFJcP9q1twJc6wOBuoJ9tsyXwpk=", and attribute ID = "8rYm30RBW8/4dAWoUsWbFCF5jno/7jr5tNpHQc2goLbw4uuBBJvLsU02YYLlBMg5". In this example, the KH2 value contains the encoded string "wKSAkAV3sBfa9WpuRFJcP9q1twJc6wOBuoJ9tsyXwpk=" and the hashing algorithm used is SHA256.
2. The Connector Node <C> has one Transport child Node <T> with the following attributes:

ID = "1"

Session ID - SID = "1440550163"

1. The Transport Node has two Listener child Nodes <L> with the following server and port information attributes:

Port - P = "49749"

Server Name - N = "2001:4898:1a:5:79e2:3356:9b22:3470", and

Port - P = "49751"

Server Name - N = "172.31.250.64".

### SessionStateEnum

The SessionStateEnum enumeration defines the states of a terminal services session.

1. typedef enum
2. {
3. pchActive = 0,
4. pchConnected = 1,
5. pchConnectQuery = 2,
6. pchShadow = 3,
7. pchDisconnected = 4,
8. pchIdle = 5,
9. pchListen = 6,
10. pchReset = 7,
11. pchDown = 8,
12. pchInit = 9,
13. pchStateInvalid = 10
14. } SessionStateEnum;

**pchActive:** The user is logged on and active.

**pchConnected:** The server is connected to the client.

**pchConnectQuery:** The server is in the process of connecting to the client.

**pchShadow:** The session is shadowing another session.

**pchDisconnected:** The client has disconnected from the session.

**pchIdle:** The session is waiting for a client to connect.

**pchListen:** The session is listening for a request for a new connection. No user is logged on to a listener session. A listener session cannot be reset, shadowed, or changed to a regular client session.

**pchReset:** The session is being reset.

**pchDown:** The session is down due to an error.

**pchInit:** The session is initializing.

**pchStateInvalid:** The session is in an unknown state.

# Protocol Details

## IPCHService Remote Assistance Server Details

The Remote Assistance server provides methods that allow a client to:

* Get the collection of the terminal services sessions on the remote novice computer.
* Get a Remote Assistance Connection String for a specific Terminal Server session.

The following sections specify server details of the IPCHService interface of the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol, including abstract data models, timers, and message processing rules.

### Abstract Data Model

No abstract data model is used.

### Timers

No timers or time-out periods are associated with this section of the protocol.

### Initialization

The server MUST listen on the [**well-known endpoint**](#gt_a7498f8e-e85d-473b-9fc9-d2fffdf71c8a) defined for this RPC interface. For more information, see section [2.1](#Section_0ccb1130af7b4a6e98d97d56ece284ae).

### Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

#### IPCHService

The IPCHService interface is implemented by the novice to allow the expert to request a Remote Assistance Connection String.[<6>](#Appendix_A_6)

The UUID for this interface is: "833E4200-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE".

[**Opnums**](#gt_e127848e-c66d-427d-b3aa-9f904fa4ada7) 3 and 4 are not used across the network. These opnums are reserved and MUST NOT be reused by non-Microsoft implementations.[<7>](#Appendix_A_7)

Methods in RPC Opnum Order

| Method | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Opnum7NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 7 |
| Opnum8NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 8 |
| Opnum9NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 9 |
| Opnum10NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 10 |
| Opnum11NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 11 |
| Opnum12NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 12 |
| Opnum13NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 13 |
| Opnum14NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 14 |
| Opnum15NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 15 |
| Opnum16NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 16 |
| Opnum17NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 17 |
| Opnum18NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 18 |
| [RemoteConnectionParms](#Section_253af5563edc40d08ffa5a6e23e6ecb5) | Gets the Remote Assistance connection parameters for a specified UserName, DomainName, and SessionID triple.  Opnum: 19 |
| [RemoteUserSessionInfo](#Section_a7abc4db6ad14aed9cf772428f72ce96) | Returns the collection of the terminal services sessions on the remote novice computer. All the terminal services session information is returned as a standard IPCHCollection interface. The members of this collection are objects of type ISAFSession. ISAFSession includes the DomainName, UserName, SessionID, and User SessionState for each session.  Opnum: 20 |
| Opnum21NotUsedByProtocol | Opnum: 21 |

Opnums 0, 1, and 2 are reserved for the IUnknown\_QueryInterface, AddRef, and Release methods used by the standard COM IUnknown interface, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) section 3.1.1.5.8. Opnums 5 and 6 are reserved for the GetIDsOfNames and Invoke methods in the IDispatch interface, as specified in [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf) section 3.1. Opnums 7 through 18 and opnum 21 are not used by this protocol.

##### RemoteConnectionParms (Opnum 19)

The RemoteConnectionParms method gets the Remote Assistance connection parameters for a specific UserName, DomainName, and SessionID triple.

1. [id(DISPID\_PCH\_SVC\_\_REMOTECONNECTIONPARMS)] HRESULT RemoteConnectionParms(
2. [in] BSTR bstrUserName,
3. [in] BSTR bstrDomainName,
4. [in] long lSessionID,
5. [in] BSTR bstrUserHelpBlob,
6. [out, retval] BSTR\* pbstrConnectionString
7. );

**bstrUserName:** The UserName part of the DomainName\UserName string corresponding to the terminal services session for which the client is requesting a Remote Assistance Connection String.

**bstrDomainName:** The DomainName part of the DomainName\UserName string corresponding to the terminal services session for which the client is requesting a Remote Assistance Connection String.

**lSessionID:** Identifier of the terminal services session for which the client is requesting a Remote Assistance Connection String.

**bstrUserHelpBlob:** A semicolon-delimited string that contains the domain and user names of the expert requesting a Remote Assistance Connection String. The format of the string is as follows.

1. <Length of the string>;
2. <"UNSOLICITED=1"> (Note: no semicolon)
3. <Length of the DomainName\UserName string>;
4. <ID=DomainName\UserName> (Note: characters 'ID=' count toward string length)

The following is an example.

1. "13;UNSOLICITED=118;ID=EXDOMAIN\EXUSER"

**pbstrConnectionString**: A pointer to a Remote Assistance Connection String for the requested session.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure. If the UserName and DomainName are valid BSTRs, the return code is one listed in the following table. If the UserName and DomainName are invalid BSTRs, the HRESULT value returned is the corresponding HRESULT to the system error code ERROR\_NONE\_MAPPED.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80070005  E\_ACCESSDENIED | General access denied error. [<8>](#Appendix_A_8) |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | Out of memory. |
| 0x800704EC  ERROR\_ACCESS\_DISABLED\_BY\_POLICY | Windows cannot open this program because it has been prevented from doing so by a software restriction policy. For more information, open Event Viewer or contact the system administrator. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

##### RemoteUserSessionInfo (Opnum 20)

The RemoteUserSessionInfo method returns the collection of the terminal services sessions on the remote novice machine. All the terminal services session information is returned as a standard IPCHCollection interface. The members of this collection are objects of type ISAFSession. ISAFSession includes the DomainName, SessionID, SessionState, and UserName for each session.

1. [id(DISPID\_PCH\_SVC\_\_REMOTEUSERSESSIONINFO)] HRESULT RemoteUserSessionInfo(
2. [out, retval] IPCHCollection\*\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** A pointer to an [IPCHCollection](#Section_972bb92173824fb7b10576ad31551206) interface containing terminal services sessions information on the server.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80070005  E\_ACCESSDENIED | General access denied error. [<9>](#Appendix_A_9) |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | Out of memory. |
| 0x800704EC  ERROR\_ACCESS\_DISABLED\_BY\_POLICY | Windows cannot open this program because it has been prevented from doing do by a software restriction policy. For more information, open Event Viewer or contact the system administrator. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

###### IPCHCollection

The IPCHCollection interface provides methods to enumerate the elements of a collection.

The UUID for this interface is: "833E4100-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE".

Opnums 3 and 4 are not used across the network. These opnums are reserved and MUST NOT be reused by non-Microsoft implementations.[<10>](#Appendix_A_10)

Methods in RPC Opnum Order

| Method | Description |
| --- | --- |
| [\_NewEnum](#Section_47b2ec931b7749d7b68aab5dc4cc8628) | Creates a copy of the collection.  Opnum: 7 |
| [Item](#Section_e0e0535f9f9441008d178af919a8f736) | Retrieves an element.  Opnum: 8 |
| [Count](#Section_3fcfadfe24dc41bda3921a1ccfe5efc1) | Retrieves the number of elements in the collection.  Opnum: 9 |

Opnums 0, 1, and 2 are reserved for the IUnknown\_QueryInterface, AddRef, and Release methods used by the standard COM IUnknown interface, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) section 3.1.1.5.8. Opnums 5 and 6 are reserved for the GetIDsOfNames and Invoke methods in the IDispatch interface, as specified in [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf) section 3.1.

\_NewEnum (Opnum 7)

The \_NewEnum method creates a copy of the collection.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_NEWENUM)] HRESULT \_NewEnum(
2. [out, retval] IUnknown\*\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** A pointer to a pointer to the **IUnknown** interface of a new copy of the collection.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer. |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | The method was unable to allocate required memory. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

Item (Opnum 8)

The Item method retrieves an element.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_VALUE)] HRESULT Item(
2. [in] long vIndex,
3. [out, retval] VARIANT\* ppEntry
4. );

**vIndex:** One-indexed number of the element to retrieve.

**ppEntry:** A pointer to the element at *vIndex*, of type VARIANT as defined in [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf) section 2.2.29.2.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer. |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | The method was unable to allocate required memory. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

Count (Opnum 9)

The Count method retrieves the number of elements in the collection.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_PCH\_COL\_\_COUNT)] HRESULT Count(
2. [out, retval] long\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** A pointer to the number of elements in the collection.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer. |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | The method was unable to allocate required memory. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

###### ISAFSession

The ISAFSession interface is implemented by servers to describe sessions.

The UUID for this interface is:

"833E41AA-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE".

Opnums 3 and 4 are not used across the network. These opnums are reserved and MUST NOT be reused by non-Microsoft implementations.[<11>](#Appendix_A_11)

Methods in RPC Opnum Order

| Method | Description |
| --- | --- |
| [SessionID (Get)](#Section_c003cd1c7604471b9599dba7091e163a) | Retrieves the identifier number of the session.  Opnum: 7 |
| [SessionID (Set)](#Section_1a4f84af73654db6bc3118d1bf178dde) | Sets the identifier number of the session.  Opnum: 8 |
| [SessionState (Get)](#Section_13c98a00fc5d439a8aac0f32c0a9aeaa) | Retrieves the state of the session.  Opnum: 9 |
| [SessionState (Set)](#Section_a02a6192587540eab9a3c9d0bb6757b4) | Sets the state of the session.  Opnum: 10 |
| [DomainName (Get)](#Section_769bb5dd1dda45cca64eab8b2944e896) | Retrieves the [**domain name**](#gt_45a1c9f1-0263-49a8-97c7-7aca1a99308c) for the session user.  Opnum: 11 |
| [DomainName (Set)](#Section_abf953b44f7e433f93b1417dd928e470) | Sets the domain name for the session user.  Opnum: 12 |
| [UserName (Get)](#Section_3b6b412e36184e809bf71acda07b4fda) | Retrieves the user name for the session.  Opnum: 13 |
| [UserName (Set)](#Section_4e02318fb1c247bc8f7e4eb25a550d24) | Sets the user name for the session.  Opnum: 14 |

Opnums 0, 1, and 2 are reserved for the IUnknown\_QueryInterface, AddRef, and Release methods used by the standard COM IUnknown interface, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) section 3.1.1.5.8. Opnums 5 and 6 are reserved for the GetIDsOfNames and Invoke methods in the IDispatch interface, as specified in [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf) section 3.1.

DomainName (Get) (Opnum 11)

The DomainName (Get) method retrieves the domain name for the session user.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_DOMAINNAME)] HRESULT DomainName(
2. [out, retval] BSTR\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** Pointer to the domain name for the session user.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

DomainName (Set) (Opnum 12)

The DomainName (Set) method sets the domain name for the session user.

1. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_DOMAINNAME)] HRESULT DomainName(
2. [in] BSTR pVal
3. );

**pVal:** Domain name to assign for the session user.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

SessionID (Get) (Opnum 7)

The SessionID (Get) method retrieves the identifier number of the session.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONID)] HRESULT SessionID(
2. [out, retval] DWORD\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** Pointer to the identifier number of the session.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80000003  E\_INVALIDARG | One or more arguments are invalid. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

SessionID (Set) (Opnum 8)

The SessionID (Set) method sets the identifier number of the session.

1. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONID)] HRESULT SessionID(
2. [in] DWORD pVal
3. );

**pVal:** Identifier number of the session to assign.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

SessionState (Get) (Opnum 9)

The SessionState (Get) method retrieves the state of the session.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONSTATE)] HRESULT SessionState(
2. [out, retval] SessionStateEnum\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** A pointer to an integer that represents the state of the session. The integer MUST be one of the values of [SessionStateEnum](#Section_1ddbbb2a187b424dba0a5ebed5071574), as specified in section 2.2.3.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80000003  E\_INVALIDARG | One or more arguments are invalid. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

SessionState (Set) (Opnum 10)

The SessionState (Set) method sets the state of the session.

1. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONSTATE)] HRESULT SessionState(
2. [in] SessionStateEnum pVal
3. );

**pVal:** An integer that represents the state of the session. The integer MUST be one of the values of the [SessionStateEnum](#Section_1ddbbb2a187b424dba0a5ebed5071574) enumeration, as specified in section 2.2.3.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80000003  E\_INVALIDARG | One or more arguments are invalid. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

UserName (Get) (Opnum 13)

The UserName (Get) method retrieves the user name for the session.

1. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_USERNAME)] HRESULT UserName(
2. [out, retval] BSTR\* pVal
3. );

**pVal:** Pointer to the user name for the session.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

UserName (Set) (Opnum 14)

The UserName (Set) method sets the user name for the session.

1. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_USERNAME)] HRESULT UserName(
2. [in] BSTR pVal
3. );

**pVal:** User name to assign for the session.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

### Timer Events

No timer events are required beyond the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport (see section [2.1](#Section_0ccb1130af7b4a6e98d97d56ece284ae)).

### Other Local Events

No additional local events are used beyond the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport (see section [2.1](#Section_0ccb1130af7b4a6e98d97d56ece284ae)).

## IPCHService Remote Assistance Client Details

The following sections specify client details of the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol, including abstract data models, timers, and message processing rules.

### Abstract Data Model

The expert MUST specify the IP address or FQDN of the novice computer to use this protocol.

Using the specified IP address or FQDN of the novice computer, the expert connects to the novice computer and invokes the [RemoteUserSessionInfo](#Section_a7abc4db6ad14aed9cf772428f72ce96) method of IPCHService on the remote novice computer and gets back a collection containing the DomainName, UserName, SessionID and SessionState of the terminal services sessions from the novice computer.

The expert selects the terminal services session where Remote Assistance is to be offered and by specifying the terminal services Session's DomainName, UserName and SessionID, invokes the [RemoteConnectionParms](#Section_253af5563edc40d08ffa5a6e23e6ecb5) method of IPCHService on the remote novice computer to obtain the Remote Assistance Connection String.

### Timers

No protocol timers are required other than those internal ones used in RPC to implement resiliency to network outages, as specified in [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

### Initialization

The client creates an RPC association (or binding) to the server RPC before an RPC method is called. The client MAY create a separate association for each method invocation, or it MAY reuse an association for multiple invocations.

### Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The following list shows the sequence of steps involved in a Remote Assistance Connection String request:

1. The client initiates the conversation with the server by performing DCOM activation, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) section 3.2.4.1.1, of the **PCHService** CLSID specified in section [1.9](#Section_f3ce14e9cc8e4655bd3bb9fdf3b3ff53). As a result of the activation, the client gets the **PCHService**'s interface from the server.
2. The client then obtains an additional **IPCHService** interface from the **PCHService** interface as specified in [MS-DCOM] section 3.2.4.4.3.
3. The client then invokes the [RemoteUserSessionInfo](#Section_a7abc4db6ad14aed9cf772428f72ce96) method of the **IPCHService** interface to retrieve an **ISAFSession** interface pointers' collection of type **IPCHCollection**.
4. Enumerate the **ISAFSession** interfaces of the server by repeatedly calling the Item method of the **IPCHCollection** interface. The collected list of session information is presented to the Remote Assistance user, by means of an implementation-specific user interface, to decide which session to connect to.
5. From the collected **ISAFSession** interface values, a session is chosen by the Remote Assistance user. The SessionID and corresponding DomainName and UserName are passed in a call to the [RemoteConnectionParms](#Section_253af5563edc40d08ffa5a6e23e6ecb5) method of the **IPCHService** interface. This call returns the Remote Assistance Connection String for the specified session. Sessions with no DomainName or UserName MUST be ignored.
6. This Remote Assistance Connection String is valid to begin the Remote Assistance connection.

### Timer Events

No protocol timer events are required on the client other than the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport.

### Other Local Events

No additional local events are used on the client other than the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport.

## IRASrv Remote Assistance Server Details

The Remote Assistance Server provides methods to allow a client to:

* Get the collection of the terminal services sessions on the remote novice computer.
* Get a Remote Assistance Connection String for a specified user session on the remote novice computer.

The following sections specify server details of the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol, including abstract data models, timers, and initialization.

### Abstract Data Model

No abstract data model is used.

### Timers

No protocol timers are required other than those internal ones used in RPC to implement resiliency to network outages, as specified in [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

### Initialization

The server MUST listen on the well-known endpoint defined for this RPC interface. For more information, see section [2.1](#Section_0ccb1130af7b4a6e98d97d56ece284ae).

### Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

#### IRASrv

The IRASrv interface is implemented by the novice computer to allow the expert computer to request a Remote Assistance Connection String.[<12>](#Appendix_A_12)

The UUID for this interface is: "F120A684-B926-447F-9DF4-C966CB785648".

Opnums 3 and 4 are not used across the network. These opnums are reserved and MUST NOT be reused by non-Microsoft implementations.[<13>](#Appendix_A_13)

Methods in RPC Opnum Order

| Method | Description |
| --- | --- |
| [GetNoviceUserInfo](#Section_be1fdfb67e794eb7af5bc5ae0e2fa373) | Retrieves the Remote Assistance Connection String information for a specified terminal services session.  Opnum: 7 |
| [GetSessionInfo](#Section_0c4cd71a0c7540089ccf4d5f8bb685b9) | Returns the collection of the terminal services sessions on the remote novice computer. This method also returns the number of terminal services sessions running on the novice computer. All the terminal services session information is returned as a SAFEARRAY. The elements of this SAFEARRAY are strings with information about the DomainName, UserName, and SessionID for each terminal services session.  Opnum: 8 |

Opnums 0, 1, and 2 are reserved for the IUnknown\_QueryInterface, AddRef, and Release methods used by the standard COM IUnknown interface, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) section 3.1.1.5.8. Opnums 5 and 6 are reserved for the GetIDsOfNames, and Invoke methods in the IDispatch interface, as specified in [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf) section 3.1.

##### GetNoviceUserInfo (Opnum 7)

The GetNoviceUserInfo method is received by the server in an RPC\_REQUEST packet. The method is received in the terminal services session as specified by the Client. In response, the server returns the Remote Assistance Connection String 2 for the specified terminal services session.

1. [id(1), helpstring("method GetNoviceUserInfo")] HRESULT GetNoviceUserInfo(
2. [in, out] LPWSTR\* szName
3. );

**szName:** A pointer to a NULL-terminated Unicode string that contains the Remote Assistance Connection String 2 for the specified terminal services session.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer for szName. |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | Out of memory. |
| 0x80070052  ERROR\_CANNOT\_MAKE | An instance of Remote Assistance is already running on the novice's machine. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

##### GetSessionInfo (Opnum 8)

The GetSessionInfo method is received by the server in an RPC\_REQUEST packet. In response, the server returns the terminal services session information for the various sessions on the computer. The terminal services session information is returned as a SAFEARRAY of BSTRs. Each BSTR contains the DomainName, UserName and SessionID in the format DomainName\UserName:SessionID.

This method also returns the count of the total number of sessions.

This method does not return Idle and Disconnected terminal services sessions. Any null values returned in the SAFEARRAY can be ignored.

1. [id(2), helpstring("method GetSessionInfo")] HRESULT GetSessionInfo(
2. [in, out] SAFEARRAY(BSTR)\* UserNames,
3. [in, out] INT\* Count
4. );

**UserNames:** A pointer to a SAFEARRAY, as specified in [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf), of BSTRs containing the terminal services session information. Each BSTR element in the array contains the DomainName, UserName, and SessionID in the format DomainName\UserName:SessionID. This is returned to the expert.

**Count:** A pointer to an INT that returns the number of terminal services sessions on the novice.

**Return Values:** A signed 32-bit value indicating return status. This method MUST return zero to indicate success, or an HRESULT error value (as specified in [[MS-ERREF]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-ERREF%5d.pdf) section 2.1.1) to indicate failure.

| Return value/code | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 0x00000000  S\_OK | The call was successful. |
| 0x80004003  E\_POINTER | The method failed due to an invalid pointer. |
| 0x8007000E  E\_OUTOFMEMORY | The method was unable to allocate required memory. |

**Exceptions Thrown:**

No exceptions are thrown beyond those thrown by the underlying RPC protocol [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

### Timer Events

No protocol timer events are required on the client other than the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport.

### Other Local Events

No additional local events are used other than the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport.

## IRASrv Remote Assistance Client Details

The following sections specify client details of the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol, including abstract data models, timers, and message processing rules.

### Abstract Data Model

The expert computer MUST specify the IP address or FQDN of the novice computer to use this protocol.

Using the specified IP Address or FQDN of the novice computer, the expert computer connects to the novice computer and invokes the [GetSessionInfo](#Section_0c4cd71a0c7540089ccf4d5f8bb685b9) method of IRASrv on the remote novice computer. GetSessionInfo returns a SAFEARRAY of BSTRs containing the DomainName, UserName and SessionID of the terminal services sessions from the novice computer.

The expert computer selects the terminal services session where Remote Assistance is to be offered and invokes the [GetNoviceUserInfo](#Section_be1fdfb67e794eb7af5bc5ae0e2fa373) method of the IRASrv interface running on the remote novice computer. The GetNoviceUserInfo method returns the Remote Assistance Connection String for the terminal services session where it is being invoked.

### Timers

No protocol timers are required other than those internal ones used in RPC to implement resiliency to network outages, as specified in [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf).

### Initialization

The client creates an RPC association (or binding) to the server RPC before an RPC method is called. The client MAY create a separate association for each method invocation, or it MAY reuse an association for multiple invocations.

### Message Processing Events and Sequencing Rules

The following list shows the sequence of steps involved in a Remote Assistance Connection String request:

1. The client initiates the conversation with the server by performing DCOM activation, as specified in [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf) section 3.2.4.1.1, of the **RASrv** CLSID specified in section [1.9](#Section_f3ce14e9cc8e4655bd3bb9fdf3b3ff53). As a result of the activation, the client gets the **RASrv**'s interface from the server.
2. The client then obtains an additional **IRASrv** interface from the **RASrv** interface as specified in [MS-DCOM] section 3.2.4.4.3.
3. The client then invokes the [GetSessionInfo](#Section_0c4cd71a0c7540089ccf4d5f8bb685b9) method of the **IRASrv** interface to retrieve the terminal services session information as a SAFEARRAY of BSTRs and the count of the number of sessions.
4. From the collected terminal services session entries, choose a session and use the corresponding SessionID to invoke the [GetNoviceUserInfo](#Section_be1fdfb67e794eb7af5bc5ae0e2fa373) method of **IRASrv** in the specified session. This call returns the Remote Assistance Connection String for the specified session.
5. This Remote Assistance Connection String is valid to begin the Remote Assistance connection from the expert computer to the novice computer.

### Timer Events

No protocol timer events are required on the client other than the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport.

### Other Local Events

No additional local events are used on the client other than the events maintained in the underlying RPC transport.

# Protocol Examples

The following example demonstrates the client and server for [IPCHService](#Section_63d012b83fad429f8609004949db6e7f) interface, using the [RemoteUserSessionInfo](#Section_a7abc4db6ad14aed9cf772428f72ce96) and [RemoteConnectionParms](#Section_253af5563edc40d08ffa5a6e23e6ecb5) methods.

1. The client (expert) calls the RemoteUserSessionInfo method on the server.
2. The server (novice) returns with code 0x00000000 and with the [IPCHCollection](#Section_972bb92173824fb7b10576ad31551206) interface pointer.
3. The client gets the count of the terminal services sessions in the collection by calling the [Count](#Section_3fcfadfe24dc41bda3921a1ccfe5efc1) method on the IPCHCollection interface.
4. The client indexes the collection from 1 through count using the [Item](#Section_e0e0535f9f9441008d178af919a8f736) method, and for each item in the collection retrieves the [ISAFSession](#Section_4508d6c37bb74e75ad938e08924cca4d) interface pointer.
5. From the ISAFSession interface the client gets:
   1. The DomainName using the [DomainName(Get)](#Section_769bb5dd1dda45cca64eab8b2944e896) method.
   2. The UserName using the [UserName(Get)](#Section_3b6b412e36184e809bf71acda07b4fda) method.
   3. The SessionID using the [SessionID(Get)](#Section_c003cd1c7604471b9599dba7091e163a) method.
6. The Client selects a DomainName, UserName, and SessionID.
7. The client formats the UserBlob, for example: "13;UNSOLICITED=119;ID=TESTDOMAIN\\Admin".
8. The Client calls the RemoteConnectionParms method using the UserName, DomainName, SessionID, and UserBlob.
9. The server returns with code 0x00000000, and with the Remote Assistance Connection String.

# Security

## Security Considerations for Implementers

This protocol relies on the security features provided by DCOM [[MS-DCOM]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DCOM%5d.pdf). Implementers SHOULD review the security considerations listed in [[MS-RPCE]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-RPCE%5d.pdf) section 5.1, as these are also valid for DCOM and DCOM-based protocols.[<14>](#Appendix_A_14)

## Index of Security Parameters

There are no security parameters for this protocol.

# Appendix A: Remote Assistance Invitation File Format

The purpose of the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol is to obtain the Remote Assistance Connection String using DCOM. However, the implementer is free to use alternative approaches to obtain the connection string. One such alternative approach implemented in Windows is to transmit the Remote Assistance Invitation File over email as an XML file.[<15>](#Appendix_A_15)

The expert computer parses the Remote Assistance Invitation File to extract the Remote Assistance Connection String and other information.

There are two version-specific types of the Remote Assistance Invitation File.

The following is a sample Remote Assistance Invitation File of the first type:[<16>](#Appendix_A_16)

1. <?xml version="1.0" encoding="Unicode" ?>
2. <UPLOADINFO TYPE="Escalated">
3. <UPLOADDATA
4. USERNAME="jeff"
5. RCTICKET="65538,1,192.168.1.65:3389;jeff\_xp:3389,\*,ot9B5Ut8n6FmiIOr2Aa91
6. 5WwuLcMdtNl5AoXFiA4wLg=,\*,\*,5nKH3X0Ikre0jjL9SaRlfN10p9o="
7. RCTICKETENCRYPTED="1"
8. DtStart="1160080069"
9. DtLength="60"
10. PassStub="o2\*5GdBARK\_JBB"
11. L="0" />
12. </UPLOADINFO>

The file contains the following pieces of information:

| Value | Meaning |
| --- | --- |
| UPLOADINFO | The UPLOADINFO TYPE MUST be "Escalated". |
| UPLOADDATA | The UPLOADDATA contains the following information:  **USERNAME**: The name of the Remote Assistance novice computer.  **RCTICKET**: The Remote Assistance Connection String.  **DtStart**: The time when the Remote Assistance Connection String was created. This time is the number of seconds elapsed since UTC 1/1/70.  **DtLength**: The duration for which the Remote Assistance Connection String is valid. This is expressed in minutes. If the expert computer cannot connect to the novice computer successfully within this time, Remote Assistance closes on the novice computer.  **PassStub**: The encrypted novice computer's password string. When the Remote Assistance Connection String is sent as a file over email, to provide additional security, a password is used.[<17>](#Appendix_A_17)  **L**: Indicates whether the novice computer is connected via a modem. L = 1 means MODEM is used, 0 means high-speed connectivity is used. |

The following diagram shows the password encryption flow for specific implementations.[<18>](#Appendix_A_18)

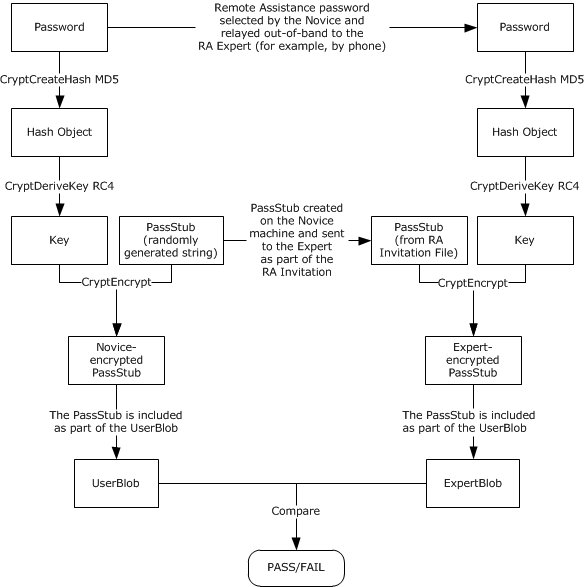


Figure : Password encryption flow

The following is a sample Remote Assistance Invitation File of the second type:[<19>](#Appendix_A_19)

1. <?xml version="1.0" encoding="Unicode" ?>
2. <UPLOADINFO TYPE="Escalated">
3. <UPLOADDATA
4. USERNAME="jeff"
5. LHTICKET="3CD9C8A0DB0628410E91EC277CAEB705E5422CE1DA55E0C118155A8BA465C3E81552DC
6. B85D03F6A7F2F930C44C1D097239DB8B47339A01D4392F4F05985106757148AEA4C6832BA2AC7C46
7. 0B958BD4F47966DBBC76E72F6F47FEE1AC50844D654D2D86A760854286F9DAA3823F0346D41063C7
8. 6378535688017C2D00D263AC187F6BE26FDB854B01E1BC8E4328F54163DB2E901D3805E0D6CF2593
9. 7A2D43C959F51809124DA2E70807A737323968644CB8BC56ECDCD43AAA40B3B2BA7021198D98AA4D
10. 5B9818095053C0104A52743343489AD1E12AC0CB7001E56910718B9A8155A60AFF3CC26D2B163629
11. 46C32F7F9C22AE844D731740301FBF5951FCF765E052D793F526603AA6B7F86C0697BD02FEF32A8F
12. 4031E30AD55F9752FCA3DB60F8A12466D256F29B22131C1D8ED43E9ACA2BBD172C27D1FD284F825E
13. E4E65F2D201E042C1C4DEE6C06522A3F015036F7603AAF16D8A6CB595E22CA80572C91F9E163028C
14. AA4A3E7EA0152045BDAAE8C1221283FF2E23CCC53D34870348D6D9CBD5B93411D4F9BB8180062D6B
15. 573CF2D428FDB1CA7142885F6B2A966A149E19F5D00E22E18A3802612521C126455B675F4D7E12C3
16. 6B861C19A2795CE87ED592CCCB735A081E428CC50BC23B460794B53601221FFCCCB458090DEB9B59
17. 19C942A6FD6937F49F9951A9CD416E8E356A6293443EC11798DE204CC67B652C5B62491E37455098
18. 764EE6727AB8272827411A712C62012026C71BC408D09F6B5FEEB85BF9DE434A5A2BB6F514C4BD06
19. 4D643F0A0EEAE46CCACA4994A6E7CEC42B70EC020DD2CB42058DC919EBE2CBCBE34575F4A40D47D1
20. EEA092653FC6723B2EC2E88231E46E98598218AA305810360CA972C935B5BCB73769197FD78B835C
21. 3A63A7D603E6CB51F6E84B377D731FEF38C6A9FE68640B58506486C76C33B7F53176E7A52D753DD2
22. EAEE34FB2812663D94B5F6BEF6C878BCD7D41F1983A5B87F1F797D4D7504F9C83A9FE661EBBD57FB
23. 3A01CF82D2E7FF01AE38F70EB8FA8A77B2A4DAB5BDA0E0B458A8FC51F3A354AB9F104DD7B91144D5
24. E8589F319CDB5ABD4A2B5DBB4B9C43E74309DE5C30102E7165507C5B2A5E613E30F784A0540E206C
25. 38965F1869EE53BD0CC8056B324C242F4DFD5D70EB55082F5A9F5513164D1097536037AB6964DBF4
26. D3425CBC5F2564B8DBC13889782BFE2C3DB391992781A80B187F6DAE15D643C85BAB3E12B535FEB0
27. E0BF79FF58"
28. RCTICKET="65538,1,172.31.244.101:55646,\*,BnrZvG4FglMwHBhZgo7SkJEqD90DrPYPnxtC/lv
29. UcczDCZJacjm0w80gKyzCHTTc,\*,\*,VasNb+Ymg1mvJ/AJWSh56qq7pk4="
30. RCTICKETENCRYPTED="1"
31. DtStart="1160080069"
32. DtLength="60"
33. PassStub= "fg^2IkiL\*z3j4U"
34. L="0" />
35. </UPLOADINFO>

The file contains the following pieces of information:

| Value | Meaning |
| --- | --- |
| UPLOADINFO | The UPLOADINFO TYPE MUST be "Escalated". |
| UPLOADDATA | The UPLOADDATA contains the following information:  **USERNAME**: The name of the Remote Assistance novice.  **LHTICKET**: The encrypted Remote Assistance Connection String 2 where each byte is converted to two HEX numbers[<20>](#Appendix_A_20)  **RCTICKET**: The version-specific[<21>](#Appendix_A_21) Remote Assistance Connection String.  **DtStart**: The time when the Remote Assistance Connection String was created. This time is the number of seconds elapsed since UTC 1/1/70.  **DtLength**: The duration for which the Remote Assistance Connection String is valid. This is expressed in minutes. If the expert computer cannot connect to the novice computer successfully within this time, Remote Assistance closes on the novice computer.  **PassStub**: The encrypted novice computer password string. When the Remote Assistance Connection String is sent as a file over email, to provide additional security, a password is used.  **L**: Indicates whether the novice computer is connected via a modem. L = 1 means MODEM is used, 0 means high-speed connectivity is used. |

The following diagram shows the password encryption flow for specific implementations.[<22>](#Appendix_A_22)

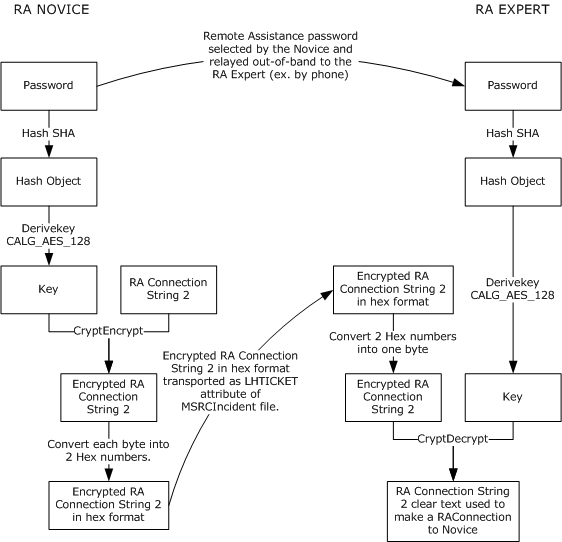


Figure : Password encryption flow

# Appendix B: Full IDL

For ease of implementation, the full IDL is provided below.

This IDL imports the IDL from the OLE Automation Protocol [[MS-OAUT]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-OAUT%5d.pdf), Appendix A, to provide support for the type definitions VARIANT and SAFEARRAY.

1. import "ms-oaut.idl";
2. #define SAFEARRAY(type) SAFEARRAY
3. #define DISPID\_PCH\_BASE 0x08010000
4. #define DISPID\_PCH\_BASE\_COL (DISPID\_PCH\_BASE + 0x0000)
5. #define DISPID\_PCH\_HELPSVC\_BASE 0x08000000
6. #define DISPID\_PCH\_HELPSVC\_BASE\_SVC (DISPID\_PCH\_HELPSVC\_BASE + 0x0000)
7. #define DISPID\_PCH\_SVC\_\_REMOTECONNECTIONPARMS (DISPID\_PCH\_HELPSVC\_BASE\_SVC + 0x0040)
8. #define DISPID\_PCH\_SVC\_\_REMOTEUSERSESSIONINFO (DISPID\_PCH\_HELPSVC\_BASE\_SVC + 0x0041)
9. #define DISPID\_PCH\_COL\_\_COUNT (DISPID\_PCH\_BASE\_COL + 0x0000)
10. #define DISPID\_SAF\_BASE 0x08020000
11. #define DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_RCD (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE + 0x0B00)
12. #define DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_USER (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE + 0x0C00)
13. #define DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_SESS (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE + 0x0D00)
14. #define DISPID\_SAF\_USER\_\_DOMAINNAME (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_USER + 0x0010)
15. #define DISPID\_SAF\_USER\_\_USERNAME (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_USER + 0x0011)
16. #define DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONID (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_SESS + 0x0010)
17. #define DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONSTATE (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_SESS + 0x0011)
18. #define DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_DOMAINNAME (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_SESS + 0x0012)
19. #define DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_USERNAME (DISPID\_SAF\_BASE\_SESS + 0x0013)
20. typedef enum
21. {
22. pchActive = 0,
23. pchConnected = 1,
24. pchConnectQuery = 2,
25. pchShadow = 3,
26. pchDisconnected = 4,
27. pchIdle = 5,
28. pchListen = 6,
29. pchReset = 7,
30. pchDown = 8,
31. pchInit = 9,
32. pchStateInvalid = 10
33. } SessionStateEnum;
34. [
35. object,
36. uuid(833E4100-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE),
37. dual,
38. oleautomation,
39. helpstring("IPCHCollection Interface"),
40. pointer\_default(unique)
41. ]
42. interface IPCHCollection : IDispatch
43. {
44. [propget, id(DISPID\_NEWENUM) ] HRESULT \_NewEnum(
45. [out, retval] IUnknown\* \*pVal );
46. [propget, id(DISPID\_VALUE) ] HRESULT Item (
47. [in] long vIndex,
48. [out, retval] VARIANT \*ppEntry );
49. [propget, id(DISPID\_PCH\_COL\_\_COUNT)] HRESULT Count (
50. [out, retval] long \*pVal );
51. };
52. [
53. object,
54. uuid(833E4200-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE),
55. dual,
56. oleautomation,
57. helpstring("IPCHService Interface"),
58. pointer\_default(unique)
59. ]
60. interface IPCHService : IDispatch
61. {
62. HRESULT Opnum7NotUsedByProtocol(void);
63. HRESULT Opnum8NotUsedByProtocol(void);
64. HRESULT Opnum9NotUsedByProtocol(void);
65. HRESULT Opnum10NotUsedByProtocol(void);
66. HRESULT Opnum11NotUsedByProtocol(void);
67. HRESULT Opnum12NotUsedByProtocol(void);
68. HRESULT Opnum13NotUsedByProtocol(void);
69. HRESULT Opnum14NotUsedByProtocol(void);
70. HRESULT Opnum15NotUsedByProtocol(void);
71. HRESULT Opnum16NotUsedByProtocol(void);
72. HRESULT Opnum17NotUsedByProtocol(void);
73. HRESULT Opnum18NotUsedByProtocol(void);
74. [id(DISPID\_PCH\_SVC\_\_REMOTECONNECTIONPARMS)] HRESULT RemoteConnectionParms(
75. [in] BSTR bstrUserName,
76. [in] BSTR bstrDomainName,
77. [in] long lSessionID,
78. [in] BSTR bstrUserHelpBlob,
79. [out, retval] BSTR \*pbstrConnectionString );
80. [id(DISPID\_PCH\_SVC\_\_REMOTEUSERSESSIONINFO)] HRESULT RemoteUserSessionInfo(
81. [out, retval] IPCHCollection\* \*pVal );
82. HRESULT Opnum21NotUsedByProtocol(void);
83. };
84. [
85. object,
86. uuid(833E41AA-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE),
87. dual,
88. oleautomation,
89. helpstring("ISAFSession Interface"),
90. pointer\_default(unique)
91. ]
92. interface ISAFSession : IDispatch
93. {
94. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONID )] HRESULT SessionID (
95. [out, retval] DWORD \*pVal );
96. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONID )] HRESULT SessionID (
97. [in ] DWORD pVal );
98. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONSTATE)] HRESULT SessionState(
99. [out, retval] SessionStateEnum \*pVal );
100. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_SESSIONSTATE)] HRESULT SessionState(
101. [in ] SessionStateEnum pVal );
102. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_DOMAINNAME )] HRESULT DomainName (
103. [out, retval] BSTR \*pVal );
104. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_DOMAINNAME )] HRESULT DomainName (
105. [in ] BSTR pVal );
106. [propget, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_USERNAME )] HRESULT UserName (
107. [out, retval] BSTR \*pVal );
108. [propput, id(DISPID\_SAF\_SESS\_\_USERNAME )] HRESULT UserName (
109. [in ] BSTR pVal );
110. };
111. [
112. object,
113. uuid(F120A684-B926-447F-9DF4-C966CB785648),
114. dual,
115. nonextensible,
116. helpstring("IRASrv Interface"),
117. pointer\_default(unique)
118. ]
119. interface IRASrv : IDispatch{
120. [id(1), helpstring("method GetNoviceUserInfo")] HRESULT GetNoviceUserInfo(
121. [in,out] LPWSTR \* szName);
122. [id(2), helpstring("method GetSessionInfo")] HRESULT GetSessionInfo(
123. [in,out] SAFEARRAY(BSTR) \* UserNames, [in,out] INT \* Count);
124. };
126. [
127. uuid(833E4010-AFF7-4AC3-AAC2-9F24C1457BCE),
128. helpstring("PCHService Class")
129. ]
130. coclass PCHService
131. {
132. [default] interface IPCHService;
133. }
134. [
135. uuid(3C3A70A7-A468-49B9-8ADA-28E11FCCAD5D),
136. helpstring("RASrv Class")
137. ]
138. coclass RASrv
139. {
140. [default] interface IRASrv;
141. };

# Appendix C: Product Behavior

The information in this specification is applicable to the following Microsoft products or supplemental software. References to product versions include released service packs.

Note: Some of the information in this section is subject to change because it applies to an unreleased, preliminary version of the Windows Server operating system, and thus may differ from the final version of the server software when released. All behavior notes that pertain to the unreleased, preliminary version of the Windows Server operating system contain specific references to Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview as an aid to the reader.

* Windows XP operating system
* Windows Server 2003 operating system
* Windows Vista operating system
* Windows Server 2008 operating system
* Windows 7 operating system
* Windows Server 2008 R2 operating system
* Windows 8 operating system
* Windows Server 2012 operating system
* Windows 8.1 operating system
* Windows Server 2012 R2 operating system
* Windows 10 operating system
* Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview operating system

Exceptions, if any, are noted below. If a service pack or Quick Fix Engineering (QFE) number appears with the product version, behavior changed in that service pack or QFE. The new behavior also applies to subsequent service packs of the product unless otherwise specified. If a product edition appears with the product version, behavior is different in that product edition.

Unless otherwise specified, any statement of optional behavior in this specification that is prescribed using the terms SHOULD or SHOULD NOT implies product behavior in accordance with the SHOULD or SHOULD NOT prescription. Unless otherwise specified, the term MAY implies that the product does not follow the prescription.

[<1> Section 1.3](#Appendix_A_Target_1): Windows implements expert authentication using the Offer Remote Assistance Helpers Group. DCOM will only allow members of this group to execute the Remote Assistance Initiation Protocol methods.

[<2> Section 1.7](#Appendix_A_Target_2):

* Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2 operating system, Windows 8, Windows Server 2012, Windows 8.1, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows 10, and Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview implement IRASrv. A novice running one of these versions of Windows can be initiated only through IRASrv.
* Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 implement IPCHService. A Windows XP or Windows Server 2003 novice can be initiated only through IPCHService.
* A Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows 8, Windows Server 2012, Windows 8.1, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows 10, or Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview expert first attempts to call IRASrv, and if that fails, the expert then attempts to call the IPCHService interface.
* A Windows XP or Windows Server 2003 expert will only attempt to call IPCHService and will not be able to connect to a novice running Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows 8, Windows Server 2012, Windows 8.1, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows 10, or Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview.

[<3> Section 2.2.1](#Appendix_A_Target_3): This form of the Remote Assistance Connection String is obtained from Remote Assistance running on a Windows XP or Windows Server 2003 novice.

[<4> Section 2.2.2](#Appendix_A_Target_4): This form of the Remote Assistance Connection String is not available on Windows XP and Windows Server 2003.

[<5> Section 2.2.2](#Appendix_A_Target_5): The KH2 attribute is implemented in Windows 10 only.

[<6> Section 3.1.4.1](#Appendix_A_Target_6): This interface and its called interfaces, IPCHCollection and ISAFSession, are only called by Windows XP and Windows Server 2003.

[<7> Section 3.1.4.1](#Appendix_A_Target_7): Gaps in the opnum numbering sequence apply to Windows as follows.

| Opnum | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 3-4 | Only used locally by Windows, never remotely. |

[<8> Section 3.1.4.1.1](#Appendix_A_Target_8): Access denied error is returned only for Windows XP operating system Service Pack 1 (SP1) and the initial release of Windows Server 2003.

[<9> Section 3.1.4.1.2](#Appendix_A_Target_9): Access denied error is returned only for Windows XP SP1 and the initial release of Windows Server 2003.

[<10> Section 3.1.4.1.2.1](#Appendix_A_Target_10): Gaps in the opnum numbering sequence apply to Windows as follows.

| Opnum | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 3-4 | Only used locally by Windows, never remotely. |

[<11> Section 3.1.4.1.2.2](#Appendix_A_Target_11): Gaps in the opnum numbering sequence apply to Windows as follows.

| Opnum | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 3-4 | Only used locally by Windows, never remotely. |

[<12> Section 3.3.4.1](#Appendix_A_Target_12): This interface is not implemented in Windows XP and Windows Server 2003.

[<13> Section 3.3.4.1](#Appendix_A_Target_13): Gaps in the opnum numbering sequence apply to Windows as follows.

| Opnum | Description |
| --- | --- |
| 3-4 | Only used locally by Windows, never remotely. |

[<14> Section 5.1](#Appendix_A_Target_14): For DCOM authentication/authorization in Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows 8, Windows Server 2012, Windows 8.1, Windows Server 2012 R2, Windows 10, and Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview the following are used:

* Authentication Service - RPC\_C\_AUTHN\_WINNT
* Authorization Service - RPC\_C\_AUTHZ\_DEFAULT
* Authentication Level - RPC\_C\_AUTHN\_LEVEL\_PKT\_PRIVACY
* Impersonation Level - RPC\_C\_IMP\_LEVEL\_IMPERSONATE

For DCOM authentication/authorization in Windows XP and Windows Server 2003, all defaults are used.

[<15> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_15): In Windows, the XML file has the extension MSRCIncident.

[<16> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_16): This version is specific to Windows XP and Windows Server 2003.

[<17> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_17): A password can be used in Windows XP and Windows Server 2003. For security reasons it is advisable to protect the Remote Assistance invitation file using a password.

In Windows XP and Windows Server 2003, when a password is used, it is encrypted using PROV\_RSA\_FULL predefined Cryptographic provider with MD5 hashing and CALG\_RC4, the RC4 stream encryption algorithm. More details are in the Cryptography Reference [[MSDN-CRYPTO]](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkId=89984).

The password is translated into a Unicode string before it is hashed. The **passStub** is a 14 character Unicode string. Also, the **passStub** is prefixed with a four-byte integer that contains the number of bytes in the following data string, as defined in BSTR data type ([[MS-DTYP]](file:///E:\Target\Windows\Published\Books\MS-RAI\%5bMS-DTYP%5d.pdf) section 2.2.5), when performing the encryption.

[<18> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_18): This diagram applies to Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 implementations only.

[<19> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_19): This type is specific to Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows 8, and Windows Server 2012.

[<20> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_20): In Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows 8, and Windows Server 2012, the password is mandatory and it is encrypted using the MS\_ENH\_RSA\_AES\_PROV predefined Cryptographic provider with CALG\_SHA hashing and the CALG\_AES\_128 encryption algorithm. The cipher mode used can be CRYPT\_MODE\_CBC and the password used during the encryption process is a Unicode string.

[<21> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_21): This attribute can be present for Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 compatibility.

[<22> Section 6](#Appendix_A_Target_22): This diagram applies to the following Windows implementations: Windows Vista, Windows Server 2008, Windows 7, Windows Server 2008 R2, Windows 8, and Windows Server 2012.

# Change Tracking

This section identifies changes that were made to this document since the last release. Changes are classified as New, Major, Minor, Editorial, or No change.

The revision class **New** means that a new document is being released.

The revision class **Major** means that the technical content in the document was significantly revised. Major changes affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of major changes are:

* A document revision that incorporates changes to interoperability requirements or functionality.
* The removal of a document from the documentation set.

The revision class **Minor** means that the meaning of the technical content was clarified. Minor changes do not affect protocol interoperability or implementation. Examples of minor changes are updates to clarify ambiguity at the sentence, paragraph, or table level.

The revision class **Editorial** means that the formatting in the technical content was changed. Editorial changes apply to grammatical, formatting, and style issues.

The revision class **No change** means that no new technical changes were introduced. Minor editorial and formatting changes may have been made, but the technical content of the document is identical to the last released version.

Major and minor changes can be described further using the following change types:

* New content added.
* Content updated.
* Content removed.
* New product behavior note added.
* Product behavior note updated.
* Product behavior note removed.
* New protocol syntax added.
* Protocol syntax updated.
* Protocol syntax removed.
* New content added due to protocol revision.
* Content updated due to protocol revision.
* Content removed due to protocol revision.
* New protocol syntax added due to protocol revision.
* Protocol syntax updated due to protocol revision.
* Protocol syntax removed due to protocol revision.
* Obsolete document removed.

Editorial changes are always classified with the change type **Editorially updated**.

Some important terms used in the change type descriptions are defined as follows:

* **Protocol syntax** refers to data elements (such as packets, structures, enumerations, and methods) as well as interfaces.
* **Protocol revision** refers to changes made to a protocol that affect the bits that are sent over the wire.

The changes made to this document are listed in the following table. For more information, please contact [dochelp@microsoft.com](mailto:dochelp@microsoft.com).

| Section | Tracking number (if applicable) and description | Major change (Y or N) | Change type |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [2.2.2](#Section_1f30867a99ce48b5a72c660e00d92722) Remote Assistance Connection String 2 | 70932 : Described the KH attribute of the Auth String Node generated during the RDP connection sequence. | Y | Content update. |
| 2.2.2 Remote Assistance Connection String 2 | Updated content for Windows 10 and Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview. | Y | Content update. |
| [8](#Section_90b2d2e579314762894904617e1d9089) Appendix C: Product Behavior | Added Windows 10 to applicability list. | Y | Content update. |
| 8 Appendix C: Product Behavior | Updated product behavior notes for Windows 10 and Windows Server 2016 Technical Preview. | Y | Product behavior note updated. |

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