FRTIB IPv6 Policy

Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board
Effective Date: March 31, 2021

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1.0   OVERVIEW

The Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986 (FERSA) authorized the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB), an independent agency of the U.S. Executive Branch, to administer the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP), one of the three components of the Federal Employees' Retirement System (FERS). The TSP is a defined contribution plan for U.S. Federal civilian employees (including those covered by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) as well as members of the uniformed services). FRTIB and TSP are collectively referred to as the Agency. The mission of FRTIB is to administer the TSP solely in the interest of its participants and beneficiaries.

This document, which applies to Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6), sets forth FRTIB's policy related to the Agency's IPv6 deployment and implementation. This policy governs the requirements for completing the operational deployment of IPv6 as well as capturing considerations for transitioning from the current IPv4 environment in accordance with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Memorandum M-21-07 requirements. It defines the governance and support for the ongoing use and future development of IPv6. The FRTIB Office responsible for this policy is the Office of Technology Services (OTS).

The main advantages of IPv6 are:

- Expanded addressing capability,
- Security extensions for authentication and privacy,
- Flow labeling capability,
- Improved efficiency in routing and packet handling,
- Support for auto-configuration and plug-and-play capabilities,
- Support for embedded IP security,
- Elimination of the need for Network Address Translation (NAT),
- Support for widely deployed routing protocols,
- Network efficiency and bandwidth conservation, and
- Transition and interoperability mechanisms that allow users to deploy IPv6 incrementally.

2.0 REFERENCES AND AUTHORITIES

In accordance with *Completing the Transition to Internet Protocol Version 6 (IPv6)*, M-21-07, signed November 19, 2020, FRTIB has established an IPv6 working group.

3.0 POLICY

IPv6 Working Group

The Agency has one primary IPv6 governance working group that assesses, prioritizes, and approves requirements that will meet the IPv6 standards. The working group, designated as an Agency-wide integrated project team, consists of policy, legal, acquisition, technical, security and other subject matter stakeholders. The group facilitates the IPv6 pilot system and all related activities. Continuous monitoring will be leveraged to support the IPv6 pilot deployment and to identify requirements needed to develop an implementation plan. All transition activities from IPv4 to IPv6 must meet OMB-defined timelines and established Agency IT governance, including enterprise risk management. The group determines further recommendations on IPv6 hardware and software requirements as appropriate.

IPv6 Infrastructure Implementation

The integrated project team must develop an IPv6 implementation plan. This plan includes the update of the Agency's information resource management (IRM) strategic plan with transition details that provide direction regarding processes for new procurements.

Ensuring Adequate Security

The Agency shall establish plans to fully support IPv6 services in IT security plans, enterprise architecture, and acquisitions. All systems that support network operations and/or enterprise security services shall be IPv6-capable and operate in IPv6-only environments. The Agency shall monitor and manage compliance with all applicable Federal guidance and leverage industry best practices, as appropriate, to secure the deployment and operation of IPv6 networks. All security and privacy policy

assessments, authorizations and monitoring processes shall address the production use of IPv6 in Federal information systems.

4.0   APPLICABLE PROCEDURES

- FRTIB IPv6 Management Procedure

- OTS.200 IT Service Management Policy

- OTS.201 IT Services Availability Management Procedures

- OTS.220 IT Service Continuity and Disaster Recovery Policy

- OTS.401 IT Governance Procedures

- OTS.500 IT Asset and Software License Management Policy

- OTS.501 IT Asset Management Procedures

- OTS.503 IT Capital Asset Procedures

5.0   REVISION HISTORY

Date	Version	FRTIB Author	Comments *(briefly summarize change)*
03/10/2021	0	Tony Sanchious, OTS, and James Busby, OTS	Initial Version
07/07/2021	1	Saundra Durant, OTS	Removed CUI Marking

6.0   APPROVAL

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