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13 **Internet Printing Protocol (IPP):**  
14 **The 'collection' attribute syntax**

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16  
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27 **Abstract**

28 This document specifies an OPTIONAL attribute syntax called 'collection' for use with the  
29 Internet Printing Protocol/1.0 (IPP) [RFC2565, RFC2566], IPP/1.1 [ipp-mod, ipp-pro], and  
30 subsequent versions. A 'collection' is a container holding one or more named values, which are  
31 called "member" attributes. A collection allows data to be grouped like a PostScript dictionary or  
32 a Java Map. This document also specifies the conformance requirements for a definition  
33 document that defines a collection attribute.

34 The full set of IPP documents includes:

- 35 Design Goals for an Internet Printing Protocol [RFC2567]
- 36 Rationale for the Structure and Model and Protocol for the Internet Printing Protocol [RFC2568]
- 37 Internet Printing Protocol/1.1: Model and Semantics (this document)
- 38 Internet Printing Protocol/1.1: Encoding and Transport [IPP-PRO]
- 39 Internet Printing Protocol/1.1: Implementer's Guide [IPP-IIG]
- 40 Mapping between LPD and IPP Protocols [RFC2569]

41

42 The "Design Goals for an Internet Printing Protocol" document takes a broad look at distributed printing  
43 functionality, and it enumerates real-life scenarios that help to clarify the features that need to be included  
44 in a printing protocol for the Internet. It identifies requirements for three types of users: end users,  
45 operators, and administrators. It calls out a subset of end user requirements that are satisfied in IPP/1.0. A  
46 few OPTIONAL operator operations have been added to IPP/1.1.

47 The "Rationale for the Structure and Model and Protocol for the Internet Printing Protocol" document  
48 describes IPP from a high level view, defines a roadmap for the various documents that form the suite of  
49 IPP specification documents, and gives background and rationale for the IETF working group's major  
50 decisions.

51 The "Internet Printing Protocol/1.1: Encoding and Transport" document is a formal mapping of the abstract  
52 operations and attributes defined in the model document onto HTTP/1.1 [RFC2616]. It defines the  
53 encoding rules for a new Internet MIME media type called "application/ipp". This document also defines  
54 the rules for transporting over HTTP a message body whose Content-Type is "application/ipp". This  
55 document defines a new scheme named 'ipp' for identifying IPP printers and jobs.

56 The "Internet Printing Protocol/1.1: Implementer's Guide" document gives insight and advice to  
57 implementers of IPP clients and IPP objects. It is intended to help them understand IPP/1.1 and some of the  
58 considerations that may assist them in the design of their client and/or IPP object implementations. For  
59 example, a typical order of processing requests is given, including error checking. Motivation for some of  
60 the specification decisions is also included.

61 The "Mapping between LPD and IPP Protocols" document gives some advice to implementers of gateways  
62 between IPP and LPD (Line Printer Daemon) implementations.

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106

## 107 **1 Problem Statement**

108 The IPP Model and Semantics [ipp-mod] supports most of the common data structures that are available in  
109 programming languages. It lacks a mechanism for grouping several attributes of different types. The Java  
110 language uses the Map to solve this problem and PostScript has a dictionary. The new mechanism for  
111 grouping attributes together (called 'collection' mechanism) must allow for optional members and  
112 subsequent addition of new members.

113 The 'collection' mechanism must be encoded in a manner consistent with existing 1.0 and 1.1 parsing rules  
114 (see [ipp-pro]). Current 1.0 and 1.1 parsers that don't support the 'collection' mechanism must not confuse  
115 collections or parts of collection they receive with other attributes.

## 116 **2 Solution**

117 The new mechanism is a new IPP attribute syntax called a 'collection'. As such, each collection value is a  
118 value of an attribute whose attribute syntax type is defined to be a 'collection'. Such an attribute is called a  
119 collection attribute. The name of the collection attribute serves to identify the collection value in an  
120 operation request or response, as with any attribute value.

121 The 'collection' attribute syntax is a container holding one or more named values (i.e., attributes), which are  
122 called member attributes. Each collection attribute definition document lists the mandatory and optional  
123 member attributes of each collection value. A collection value is similar to an IPP attribute group in a  
124 request or a response, such as the operation attributes group. They both consist of a set of attributes.

125 As with any attribute syntax, the document that defines a collection attribute specifies whether the attribute  
126 is single-value (collection) or multi-valued (1setOf collection). If the attribute is multi-valued (1setOf  
127 collection) each collection value **MUST** be a separate instance of a single definition of a collection, i.e. it  
128 **MUST** have the same member attributes except for **OPTIONAL** member attributes. If we view each  
129 collection definition as a separate syntax type, this rule continues the IPP/1.1 notion that each attribute has a  
130 single type or pattern (e.g. "keyword | name" is a pattern). Without this rule, the supported values would be  
131 more difficult to describe and the mechanism defined in item 4 of section 3.1 would not be sufficient.

132 The name of each member attribute **MUST** be unique for a collection attribute, but **MAY** be the same as the  
133 name of a member attribute in another collection attribute and/or **MAY** be the same as the name of an  
134 attribute that is not a member of a collection. The rules for naming member attributes are given in section  
135 3.1.

136 Each member attribute can have any attribute syntax type, including 'collection', and can be either single-  
137 valued or multi-valued. The length of a collection value is not limited. However, the length of each  
138 member attribute **MUST NOT** exceed the limit of its attribute syntax.

139 The member attributes in a collection MAY be in any order in a request or response. When a client sends a  
140 collection attribute to the Printer, the order that the Printer stores the member attributes of the collection  
141 value and the order returned in a response MAY be different from the order sent by the client.

142 A collection value MUST NOT contains two or more member attributes with the same attribute name.  
143 Such a collection is mal-formed. Clients MUST NOT submit such malformed requests and Printers MUST  
144 NOT return such malformed responses. If such a malformed request is submitted to a Printer, the Printer  
145 MUST (depending on implementation) either (1) reject the request with the 'client-error-bad-request' status  
146 code (see section 13.1.4.1), or (2) accept the request and use only one of each duplicate member attribute..

### 147 **3 Definition of a Collection Attribute**

148 This section describes the requirements for any collection attribute definition.

#### 149 **3.1 Information to Include**

150 When a specification document defines an "xxx" collection attribute, i.e., an attribute whose attribute  
151 syntax type is 'collection' or '1setOf collection'; the definition document MUST include the following  
152 aspects of the attribute semantics. Suppose the "xxx" collection attribute contains N member attributes  
153 named "aaa1", "aaa2", ..., "aaaN" ("aaaI" represents any one of these N member attributes).

- 154 1. The name of the collection attribute MUST be specified (e.g. "xxx"). The selection of the name  
155 "xxx" MUST follow the same rules for uniqueness as for attributes of any other syntax type (as  
156 defined by IPP/1.1) unless "xxx" is a member attribute of another collection. Then the selection of  
157 the name "xxx" MUST follow the rules for uniqueness defined in item 5a) of this list.
- 158 2. The collection attribute syntax MUST be of type 'collection' or '1setOf collection'.
- 159 3. The context of the collection attribute MUST be specified, i.e., whether the attribute is an operation  
160 attribute, a Job Template attribute, a Job Description attribute, a Printer Description attribute, a  
161 member attribute of a particular collection attribute, etc.
- 162 4. An "xxx-supported" attribute MUST be specified and it has one of the following two forms:
  - 163 a) "xxx-supported" is a "1setOf collection" which enumerates all of the supported collection values  
164 of "xxx". If a collection of this form contains a nested collection, it MUST be of the same form.  
165  
166 For example, "media-size-supported" might have the values { {x-dimension:210, y-  
167 dimension:297}, {x-dimension:297, y-dimension:420} } to show that it supports two values of  
168 "media size": A4 (210x297) and A3 (297x420). It does not support other combinations of "x-  
169 dimension" and "y-dimension" member attributes, such as 210x420 or 297x297 and it does not  
170 supported non-enumerated values, such as 420x595.
  - 171 b) "xxx-supported" is a "1setOf type2 keyword" which enumerates the names of all of the member  
172 attributes of "xxx": "aaa1", "aaa2", ..., "aaaN". If a collection of this form contains a nested  
173 collection, it MAY be of either form. See item 5f) below for details on supported values of

174 member attributes.

175  
176 For example, "media-col-supported" might have the keyword values: "media-size" and "media-  
177 color".

178 5. The member attributes **MUST** be defined. For each member attribute the definition document  
179 **MUST** provide the following information:

- 180 a) The member attribute's name (e.g., "aaa") **MUST** be unique within the collection being defined  
181 and **MUST** either
- 182 i) reuse the attribute name of another attribute (that is unique across the entire IPP attribute  
183 name space) and have the same syntax and semantics as the reused attribute (if the condition  
184 of item 4b) above is met). For example, a member attribute definition could reuse the  
185 IPP/1.1 "media" attribute.
  - 186 ii) potentially occur elsewhere in the entire IPP attribute name space. (if the condition of item  
187 4a) above is met). For example, a member attribute could be "x-dimension" which could  
188 potentially occur in another collection or as an attribute outside of a collection.
  - 189 iii) be unique across the entire IPP attribute name space (if the condition of item 4b) above is  
190 met). For example, a member attribute could be "media-color" which must unique be across  
191 the entire IPP attribute name space.
- 192 b) Whether the member attribute is **REQUIRED** or **OPTIONAL** for the Printer to support
- 193 c) Whether the member attribute is **REQUIRED** or **OPTIONAL** for the client to supply in a request
- 194 d) The member attribute's syntax type, which can be any attribute syntax, including '1setOf X',  
195 'collection', and '1setOf collection'. If this attribute name reuses the name of another attribute  
196 (case of item a1 above), it **MUST** have the same attribute syntax, including cardinality (whether  
197 or not 1setOf).
- 198 e) The semantics of the "aaa" member attribute. The semantic definition **MUST** include a  
199 description of any constraint or boundary conditions the member attribute places on the  
200 associated attribute, especially if the attribute reuses the name of another attribute (case of item  
201 a1 above)
- 202 f) The supported values for the each "aaaI" member attribute (of the member attributes "aaa1",  
203 "aaa2", ..., "aaaN") is specified by one of two mechanisms.
- 204 i) If "xxx-supported" is a "1setOf collection" (see item 4a) above), the value for each "aaaI" is  
205 specified in each collection value of "xxx-supported" in the context of other member  
206 attributes. That is, "xxx-supported" enumerates all supported values of "xxx".  
207

- 208 ii) If the value of "xxx-supported" is a "1setOf type2 keyword" (see item 4b) above), the  
209 supported values of "aaaI" are the values specified by either i) the "aaaI-supported" attribute  
210 or ii) the definition of the member attribute "aaaI" within the document defining the "xxx"  
211 attribute. The values of each member attribute "aaaI" are specified independently of other  
212 member attributes though a Printer is not required to support all combinations of supported  
213 values.

214  
215 For example, "media-col-supported" might have the keyword values: "media-size" and  
216 "media-color". Using the first method for defining supported values (an "aaaI-supported"  
217 attribute), the collection values of "media-col" are combinations of values of "media-size-  
218 supported" and "media-color-supported". If "media-size-supported" has the values of  
219 '210x297' and '297x420' and "media-color-supported" has the values of 'white' and 'pink', the  
220 Printer might support only the combinations 'white-210x297', 'pink-210x297' and 'white-  
221 297x420', and not 'pink-297x420'.

222  
223 If a collection contains a member "aaaI" whose syntax type is "text", the supported values  
224 would probably be defined by the definition of "xxx" rather than by the attribute "aaaI-  
225 supported".

- 226 g) the default value of each "aaaI" member attribute if it is OPTIONAL for a client to supply the  
227 "aaa" member attribute in a request. The default value is specified by in the attribute's definition  
228 within a document and MUST be one of the following:

- 229 i) a fixed default  
230 ii) a mechanism by which the Printer determines default  
231 iii) an indefinite default that is left to the implementation.  
232 iv) an attribute that the Printer uses to determine the default

- 233 6. The default value of "xxx" if a client does not supply it. The default value is specified by in the  
234 attribute's definition within a document and MUST be one of the following:

- 235 a) a fixed default  
236 b) a mechanism by which the Printer determines default  
237 c) an indefinite default that is left to the implementation  
238 d) a Printer attribute "xxx-default" which is a collection with the same member attributes as "xxx".  
239 Though optional member attributes may be absent in which case the Printer uses the defaulting  
240 rules of item 5g) above.

- 241 7. The "xxx-ready (1setOf collection)" attribute if human intervention is required to make many of the  
242 supported values available. For example, "media-col" is an attribute which has a "ready" attribute.  
243 Most attributes do not have a "ready" attribute.

### 244 **3.2 Nested Collections**

245 A member attribute may have a syntax type of 'collection' or '1setOf collection', in which case it is called a  
246 nested collection attribute. The rules for a nested collection attribute are the same as for a collection  
247 attribute as specified in section 3.1.

## 248 **4 Collection Attributes as Attributes in Operations**

### 249 **4.1 General Rules**

250 A collection value is like any other IPP/1.1 value, except that it is structured. The rules for attributes with  
251 collection values are the same as for attributes of any other syntax type (see IPP/1.1), be they in any group  
252 of a request or a response.

### 253 **4.2 Unsupported Values**

254 The rules for returning an unsupported collection attribute are an extension to the current rules:

- 255 1. If the entire collection attribute is unsupported, then the Printer returns just the collection  
256 attribute name with the 'unsupported' out-of-band value (see the beginning of [ipp-mod] section  
257 4.1) in the Unsupported Attributes Group.
- 258 2. If a collection contains unrecognized, unsupported member attributes and/or conflicting values,  
259 the attribute returned in the Unsupported Group is a collection containing the unrecognized,  
260 unsupported member attributes, and/or conflicting values. The unrecognized member attributes  
261 have an out-of-band value of 'unsupported' (see the beginning of [ipp-mod] section 4.1). The  
262 unsupported member attributes and conflicting values have their unsupported or conflicting  
263 values.

## 264 **5 Example definition of a collection attribute**

265 In some printing environments, it is desirable to allow the client to select the media by its properties, e.g.,  
266 weight, color, size, etc., instead of by name. In IPP/1.1 (see [ipp-mod]), the "media (type3 keyword | name)  
267 Job Template attribute allows selection by name. It is tempting to extend the "media" attribute syntax to  
268 include "collection", but then existing clients could not understand default or supported media values that  
269 use the collection value. To preserve interoperability, a new attribute **MUST BE** added, e.g., "media-col  
270 (collection)". The following subsections contain a sample definition of a simplified "media-col" attribute.  
271 The definition follows the rules in section 3.

272 Note: we picked the name "media-col" because the name "media" is already in use. Ordinarily the collection  
273 attribute would have a name like any other attribute and would not end in "col".

274 The member attributes of "media-col" attribute ("media-color (type 3 keyword)" and "media-size  
275 (collection)") both follow the naming rules of item 4a3 of section 3, i.e. the names are unique across the  
276 entire IPP attribute name space. The member attributes of the "media-size (collection)" member attribute

277 ("x-dimension (integer(0,MAX))" and "y-dimension (integer(0,MAX))") both follow the naming rules of  
 278 item 4a2 of section 3, i.e. they potentially occur elsewhere in the IPP attribute name space.

## 279 **5.1 media-col (collection)**

280 The "media-col" (collection) attribute augments the IPP/1.1 [ipp-mod] "media" attribute. This collection  
 281 attribute enables a client end user to submit a list of media characteristics to the Printer. When the client  
 282 specifies media using the "media-col" collection attribute, the Printer object **MUST** match the requested  
 283 media exactly. The 'collection' consists of the following member attributes:

284 **Table 1 - "media-col" member attributes**

Attribute name	attribute syntax	request	Printer Support
media-color	type3 keyword   name (MAX)	MAY	MUST
media-size	collection	MUST	MUST

285 The definitions for the member attributes is given in the following sub-sections:

### 286 **5.1.1 media-color (type3 keyword | name(MAX))**

287 This member attribute identifies the color of the media. Valid values are 'red', 'white' and 'blue'

288 The "media-color-supported" (1setOf (type3 keyword | name(MAX))) Printer attribute identifies the  
 289 values of this "media-color" member attribute that the Printer supports, i.e., the colors supported.

290 If the client omits this member attribute, the Printer determines the value in an implementation  
 291 dependent manner.

### 292 **5.1.2 media-size (collection)**

293 This member attribute identifies the size of the media. The 'collection' consists of the member  
 294 attributes shown in Table 2:

295 **Table 2 - "media-size" collection member attributes**

Attribute name	attribute syntax	request	Printer Support
x-dimension	integer (0:MAX)	MUST	MUST
y-dimension	integer (0:MAX)	MUST	MUST

296 The definitions for the member attributes is given in the following sub-sections:

297                   **5.1.2.1 x-dimension (integer(0:MAX))**

298                   This attribute identifies the width of the media in inch units along the X axis.

299                   **5.1.2.2 y-dimension (integer(0:MAX))**

300                   This attribute identifies the height of the media in inch units along the Y axis.

301                   The "media-size-supported" (1setOf collection) Printer attribute identifies the values of this  
302                   "media-size" member attribute that the Printer supports, i.e., the size combinations  
303                   supported. The names of the member attributes are the same as the member attributes of the  
304                   "media-size" collection attribute, namely "x-dimension", and "y-dimension", since they have  
305                   the same attribute syntax and the same semantics.

306                   **5.2 media-col-default (collection)**

307                   The "media-col-default" Printer attribute specifies the media that the Printer uses, if any, if the client omits  
308                   the "media-col" and "media". Job Template attribute in the Job Creation operation (and the PDL doesn't  
309                   include a media specification). The member attributes are defined in Table 1. A Printer MUST support the  
310                   same member attributes for this default collection attribute as it supports for the corresponding "media-col"  
311                   Job Template attribute.

312                   **5.3 media-col-ready (1setOf collection)**

313                   The "media-col-ready" Printer attribute identifies the media that are available for use without human  
314                   intervention, i.e., the media that are ready to be used without human intervention. The collection value  
315                   MUST have all of the member attributes that are supported in Table 1.

316                   **5.4 media-col-supported (1setOf type2 keyword)**

317                   The "media-col-supported" Printer attribute identifies the keyword names of the member attributes  
318                   supported in the "media-col" collection Job Template attribute, i.e., the keyword names of the member  
319                   attributes in Table 1 that the Printer supports.

320                   **6 A Second Example Definition Of A Collection Attribute**

321                   In some printing environments, it is desirable to allow the client to select the media for the job start sheet.  
322                   The reason for not adding the 'collection' attribute syntax to the existing "job-sheets" Job Template attribute  
323                   is the same as for "media". Instead, a new Job Template attribute is introduced, e.g. "job-sheet-col  
324                   (collection)".

325                   The member attributes of "job-sheet-col" attribute ("job-sheets (type 3 keyword)" and "media (type3  
326                   keyword | name)") both follow the naming rules of item 4a1 of section 3, i.e they reuse existing IPP  
327                   attributes. According to the rules, their supported values come from the existing IPP attributes: "job-sheets-  
328                   supported" and "media-supported". However, their default values do not come from "job-sheets-default"  
329                   and "media-default", respectively. Rather the definition of "job-sheet-col" says that "job-sheets (type 3

330 keyword)" is required and if "media (type3 keyword | name)" is absent, the Printer uses the same media as  
 331 the rest of the job uses.

332 If "job-sheet-col" attribute were defined to contain the member attribute "job-sheet-media (type3 keyword |  
 333 name)" instead of "media (type3 keyword | name)", then the definition would also have to specify a "job-  
 334 sheet-media-supported (1setOf (type3 keyword | name))" whose values would be independent of "media-  
 335 supported (1setOf (type3 keyword | name))" and would be set separately by a System Administrator.

336 The actual text for the definition of the attribute is left as an exercise for the reader.

## 337 7 Encoding

338 This section defines the additional encoding tags used according to [ipp-pro] and gives an example of their  
 339 use.

### 340 7.1 Additional tags defined for representing a collection attribute value

341 The 'collection' attribute syntax uses the tags defined in Table 3.

342 **Table 3 - Tags defined for encoding the 'collection' attribute syntax**

Tag name	Tag value	Meaning
begCollection	0x34	Begin the collection attribute value.
endCollection	0x37	End the collection attribute value.
memberAttrName	0x4A	The value is the name of the collection member attribute

343 When encoding a collection attribute "xxx" that contains an attribute "aaa" and is not inside another  
 344 collection, the encoding follows these rules:

- 345 1. The beginning of the collection is indicated with a value tag that **MUST** be syntax type  
 346 'begCollection' (0x34) with a name length and Name field that represent the name of the collection  
 347 attribute ("xxx") as with any attribute, followed by a value. The Printer **MAY** ignore the value and its  
 348 length of **MAY** be 0. In the future, however, this field **MAY** contain useful information, such as the  
 349 collection name (cf. the name of a C struct).
- 350 2. Each member attribute is encoded as a sequence of two or more values that appear to be part of a  
 351 single multi-valued attribute, i.e. 1setOf. The first value after the 'begCollection' value has the  
 352 attribute syntax 'memberAttrName' (0x4A) and its value holds the name of the first member attribute  
 353 (e.g. "aaa"). The second value holds the first member's attribute value, which can be of any attribute  
 354 syntax, except 'memberAttrName' or 'endCollection'. If the first member's attribute value is multi-  
 355 valued, the third value holds the second value of the first member's value. Otherwise, the third value  
 356 holds the name of second member attribute (e.g. "bbb") and its attribute syntax is 'memberAttrName'.

357 In this case, the fourth member's value is the value of "bbb".

358

359 Note that the technique of encoding a 'collection' as a 'lsetOf' makes it easy for a Printer that doesn't  
360 support a particular collection attribute (or the collection attribute syntax at all) to simply skip over  
361 the entire collection value.

362 3. The end of the collection is indicated with a value tag that **MUST** be syntax type 'endCollection' (e.g.  
363 0x37) and **MAY** have a zero name length and a zero value length. In the future, this field **MAY**  
364 contain useful information, such as the collection name that matches the one in the 'begCollection' .

365 4. It is valid to have a member attribute that is, itself, a collection attribute, i.e., collections can be nested  
366 within collections. This is represented by the occurrence of a member attribute that is of attribute  
367 syntax type 'begCollection'. Such a collection is terminated by a matching 'endCollection'. The name  
368 of such a member attribute is in the immediately preceding value whose syntax type is  
369 'memberAttrName'.

370 5. It is valid for a collection attribute to be multi-valued, i.e., have more than one collection value. If the  
371 next attribute immediately following the 'endCollection' has a zero name length and a tag of  
372 'begCollection', then the collection attribute is a multi-valued collection, as with any attribute. This  
373 statement applies to collections within collections and collections that are not in collections.

## 374 **7.2 Example encoding: "media-col" (collection)**

375 The collection specified in section 5 is used for the encoding example shown in Table 5. The example also  
376 shows nested collections, since the "media-size" member attribute is a 'collection'. The encoding example  
377 represents a blue 4x6-index cards and takes 216 octets. The Appendices contains more complex examples.

378 Additional examples have been included in the appendices.

379 The overall structure of the two collection values can be pictorially represented as:

```
380 "media-col" =
381     {   "media-color" = 'blue';
382         "media-size" =
383             {   "x-dimension" = 6;
384                 "y-dimension" = 4
385             }
386     },
```

387  
388 The full encoding is in table 4. A simplified view of the encoding looks like this:

389 **Table 4 - Overview Encoding of "media-col" collection**

390

Tag Value	Name	Value
begCollection	media-col	""
memberAttrName	""	media-color

keyword	""	blue
memberAttrName	""	media-size
begCollection	""	""
memberAttrName	""	x-dimension
integer	""	6
memberAttrName	""	y-dimension
integer	""	4
endCollection	""	""
endCollection	""	""

391

392

393

**Table 5 - Example Encoding of "media-col" collection**

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x34	begCollection	value-tag	beginning of the "media-col" collection attribute
0x0009		name-length	length of (collection) attribute name
media-col	media-col	name	name of (collection) attribute
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "media-color"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of "media-color" keyword
media-color	media-color	value	value is name of 1 <sup>st</sup> member attribute
0x44	keyword type	value-tag	keyword type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	
blue	blue	value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> member attribute
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "media-size"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000A		value-length	length of "media-size" keyword

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
media-size	media-size	value	Name of 2 <sup>nd</sup> member attribute
0x34	begCollection	value-tag	Beginning of the "media-size" collection attribute which is a sub-collection
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	collection attribute names have no value
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "x-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of "x-dimension" keyword
x-dimension	x-dimension	value	name of 1 <sup>st</sup> sub-collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0006		value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> sub-collection member attribute
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "y-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of the "y-dimension" keyword
y-dimension	y-dimension	value	name of 2 <sup>nd</sup> sub-collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0004		value	value of 2 <sup>nd</sup> sub-collection member attribute

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x37	endCollection	value-tag	end of the sub-collection
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x37	endCollection	value-tag	end of the 1st collection value in 1setOf
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)

## 394 8 Legacy issues

395 IPP 1.x Printers and Clients will gracefully ignore collections and its member attributes if it does not  
 396 understand the collection. The begCollection and endCollection elements each look like an attribute with  
 397 an attribute syntax that the recipient doesn't support and so should ignore the entire attribute. The  
 398 individual member attributes and their values will look like a 1setOf values of the collection attribute, so  
 399 that the Printer simply ignores the entire attribute and all of its values. Returning unsupported attributes is  
 400 also simple, since only the name of the collection attribute is returned with the 'unsupported' out-of-band  
 401 value (see section 4.2).

## 402 9 IANA Considerations

403 This attribute syntax will be registered with IANA after the WG approves its specification according to the  
 404 procedures for extension of the IPP/1.1 Model and Semantics [ipp-mod].

## 405 10 Internationalization Considerations

406 This attribute syntax by itself has no impact on internationalization. However, the member attributes that  
 407 are subsequently defined for use in a collection may have internationalization considerations, as may any  
 408 attribute, according to [ipp-mod].

## 409 11 Security Considerations

410 This attribute syntax causes no more security concerns than any other attribute syntax. It is only the  
 411 attributes that are subsequently defined to use this or any other attribute syntax that may have security  
 412 concerns, depending on the semantics of the attribute, according to [ipp-mod].

**413 12 References**

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## 479 **14 Appendix A: Encoding Example of a Simple Collection**

480 The overall structure of the collection value can be pictorially represented as:

```
481 " media-size " =
482   {   "x-dimension" = 6;
483       "y-dimension" = 4
484   }
```

485 A simplified view of the encoding would look like this:

486 **Table 6 - Overview Encoding of simple collection**

488

Tag Value	Name	Value
-----------	------	-------

begCollection	media-size	""
memberAttrName	""	x-dimension
integer	""	6
memberAttrName	""	y-dimension
integer	""	4
endCollection	""	""

489 Note: "" represents a name or value whose length is 0.  
490

491

492

**Table 7 - Example Encoding of simple collection**

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x34	begCollection	value-tag	beginning of the "media-size" collection attribute
0x000A		name-length	length of (collection) attribute name
media-size	media-size	name	name of (collection) attribute
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts member attribute: "x-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of "x-dimension" keyword
x-dimension	x-dimension	value	name of 1 <sup>st</sup> collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0006		value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> collection member attribute
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "y-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of the "y-dimension" keyword
y-dimension	y-dimension	value	name of 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection member attribute

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf for media-size no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0004		value	value of 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection member attribute
0x37	endCollection	value-tag	end of the collection
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type no value (since value-length was 0)

493

494 **15 Appendix B: Encoding Example of 1setOf Collection**

495 The overall structure of the collection value can be pictorially represented as:

```

496 "media-size-supported" =
497     {      "x-dimension" = 6;
498           "y-dimension" = 4
499     },
500     {      "x-dimension" = 3;
501           "y-dimension" = 5
502     };
503
504

```

505 A simplified view of the encoding would look like this:

506 **Table 8 - Overview Encoding of 1setOf collection**

507

Tag Value	Name	Value
begCollection	media-size-supported	""
memberAttrName	""	x-dimension
integer	""	6
memberAttrName	""	y-dimension
integer	""	4
endCollection	""	""
begCollection	""	""
memberAttrName	""	x-dimension

integer	""	3
memberAttrName	""	y-dimension
integer	""	5
endCollection	""	""

508

509

**Table 9 - Example Encoding of 1setOf collection**

510

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x34	begCollection	value-tag	beginning of the "media-size-supported (1setOf collection" attribute
0x00014		name-length	length of (collection) attribute name
media-size-supported	media-size-supported	name	name of (collection) attribute
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts member attribute: "x-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of "x-dimension" keyword
x-dimension	x-dimension	value	name of 1 <sup>st</sup> collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0006		value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> collection member attribute
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts member attribute: "y-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of the "y-dimension" keyword
y-dimension	y-dimension	value	name of 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0004		value	value of 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection member attribute

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x37	endCollection	value-tag	end of the collection
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x34	begCollection	value-tag	beginning of the 2 <sup>nd</sup> member of the 1SetOf "sizes-avail " collection attribute
0x0000		name-length	Zero length name indicates this is member of previous attribute
		name	no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts member attribute: "x-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of "x-dimension" keyword
x-dimension	x-dimension	value	name of 1 <sup>st</sup> collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0003		value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> collection member attribute
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts member attribute: "y-dimension"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x000B		value-length	length of the "y-dimension" keyword
y-dimension	y-dimension	value	name of 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0005		value	value of 2 <sup>nd</sup> collection member attribute
0x37	endCollection	value-tag	end of the 1setOf collection value
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)

511

512

## 513 **16 Appendix C: Encoding Example of Collection containing 1setOf XXX attribute**

514 The overall structure of the collection value can be pictorially represented as:

```
515 "wagons" =
516     {      "colors" = red, blue;
517           "sizes" = 4, 6, 8
518     }
```

519

520 A simplified view of the encoding would look like this:

521

522 **Table 10 - Overview Encoding of collection with 1setOf value**

523

Tag Value	Name	Value
begCollection	wagons	""
memberAttrName	""	colors
keyword	""	red
keyword	""	blue
memberAttrName	""	sizes
integer	""	4
integer	""	6
integer	""	8
endCollection	""	""

524

525 **Table 11 - Example Encoding of collection with 1setOf value**

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x34	begCollection	value-tag	beginning of the "wagons" collection attribute
0x0005		name-length	length of (collection) attribute name
wagons	wagons	name	name of (collection) attribute
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
			no value (since value-length was 0)
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "colors"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0006		value-length	length of "colors" keyword
colors	colosr	value	value is name of 1 <sup>st</sup> member attribute
0x44	keyword type	value-tag	keyword type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf wagons
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	
blue	blue	value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> member attribute
0x44	keyword type	value-tag	keyword type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf wagons
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0003		value-length	
red	red	value	value of 1 <sup>st</sup> member attribute
0x4A	memberAttrName	value-tag	starts a new member attribute: "sizes"
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0005		value-length	length of "length-avail" keyword
sizes	sizes	value	Name of 2 <sup>nd</sup> member attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf wagons
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0004		value	1 <sup>st</sup> value for 1SetOf integer attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4

Octets	Symbolic Value	Protocol field	comments
0x0006		value	2 <sup>nd</sup> value for 1SetOf integer attribute
0x21	integer type	value-tag	attribute type
0x0000		name-length	0 indicates 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0004		value-length	length of an integer = 4
0x0008		value	3 <sup>rd</sup> value for 1SetOf integer attribute
0x37	endCollection	value-tag	end of the collection
0x0000		name-length	defined to be 0 for this type, so part of 1setOf
			no name (since name-length was 0)
0x0000		value-length	defined to be 0 for this type
			no value (since value-length was 0)

526

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