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Edition 1.0 2014-11

# INTERNATIONAL STANDARD



**Information technology – Storage management –  
Part 6: Fabric**



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Part 6: Fabric**

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## CONTENTS

FOREWORD.....	21
Introduction .....	23
1 Scope .....	25
2 Normative references .....	25
3 Terms and definitions .....	25
4 Typographical conventions.....	26
4.1 Maturity model.....	26
4.2 Experimental maturity level.....	26
4.3 Implemented maturity level .....	26
4.4 Stable maturity level.....	27
4.5 Finalized maturity level.....	27
4.6 Deprecated Material.....	27
5 Fabric Profile .....	29
5.1 Description .....	29
5.1.1 General.....	29
5.1.2 SANS and Fabrics as AdminDomains.....	29
5.1.3 Fabrics and Topology .....	30
5.1.4 Systems and NetworkPorts .....	30
5.1.5 N Port Virtualization (NPIV).....	31
5.1.6 Zoning .....	32
5.1.7 Conditional Classes and Properties .....	33
5.1.8 Fabric Predefined Indications.....	34
5.2 Health and Fault Management.....	35
5.3 Cascading Considerations .....	35
5.4 Supported Subprofiles and Package.....	35
5.5 Methods of this Profile.....	35
5.6 Client Considerations and Recipes .....	36
5.6.1 Fabric Identifier.....	36
5.6.2 FCPort OperationalStatus .....	36
5.6.3 Switch ComputerSystem OperationalStatus .....	36
5.6.4 Discover The Fabric Topology .....	37
5.7 Registered Name and Version .....	41
5.8 CIM Elements.....	41
5.8.1 General.....	41
5.8.2 CIM_ActiveConnection .....	47
5.8.3 CIM_AdminDomain (Fabric).....	47
5.8.4 CIM_AdminDomain (SAN)and .....	48
5.8.5 CIM_Component (Platform to Fabric) .....	49
5.8.6 CIM_Component (Switch to Fabric) .....	49
5.8.7 CIM_ComputerSystem (Host Platform).....	49
5.8.8 CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioned Switch).....	50
5.8.9 CIM_ComputerSystem (Storage Platform).....	51
5.8.10 CIM_ComputerSystem (Switch) .....	51
5.8.11 CIM_ConnectivityCollection .....	52
5.8.12 CIM_ContainedDomain .....	53
5.8.13 CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (Non-Switch to FCPort).....	53
5.8.14 CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (Switch to FCPort).....	53
5.8.15 CIM_ElementCapabilities (ZoneCapabilities to Fabric).....	54
5.8.16 CIM_ElementCapabilities (ZoneCapabilities to Switch) .....	54
5.8.17 CIM_ElementSettingData (ZoneMembershipSettingData to Zone).....	55
5.8.18 CIM_FCActiveConnection .....	55
5.8.19 CIM_FCPort (Host FCPort) .....	55

5.8.20	CIM_FCPort (Host NPIV FCPort)	56
5.8.21	CIM_FCPort (Partitioned Switch FCPort)	57
5.8.22	CIM_FCPort (Storage FCPort)	59
5.8.23	CIM_FCPort (Switch FCPort)	59
5.8.24	CIM_FilterCollection (Fabric Predefined FilterCollection)	61
5.8.25	CIM_HostedAccessPoint (AdminDomain to ProtocolEndpoint)	61
5.8.26	CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to ProtocolEndpoint)	61
5.8.27	CIM_HostedCollection (Fabric to ConnectivityCollection)	62
5.8.28	CIM_HostedCollection (Fabric to predefined FilterCollection)	62
5.8.29	CIM_HostedCollection (System to LogicalPortGroup)	62
5.8.30	CIM_HostedCollection (Zones or ZoneSets to Fabric)	63
5.8.31	CIM_HostedCollection (Zones or ZoneSets to Switch)	63
5.8.32	CIM_HostedDependency	64
5.8.33	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ComputerSystem Creation)	64
5.8.34	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ComputerSystem Deletion)	65
5.8.35	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ComputerSystem OperationalStatus)	66
5.8.36	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric FCPort Creation)	67
5.8.37	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric FCPort Deletion)	68
5.8.38	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric FCPort OperationalStatus)	69
5.8.39	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Fabric Added or Removed)	70
5.8.40	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Fabric Merge or Segmentation)	71
5.8.41	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Switch Added or Removed)	72
5.8.42	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Switch Status Changed)	72
5.8.43	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Zone Database Changed)	73
5.8.44	CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ZoneSet Activated)	74
5.8.45	CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Fabric ComputerSystem OperationalStatus)	75
5.8.46	CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Fabric FCPort OperationalStatus)	76
5.8.47	CIM_LogicalPortGroup	77
5.8.48	CIM_MemberOfCollection (ConnectivityCollection to ProtocolEndpoint)	78
5.8.49	CIM_MemberOfCollection (LogicalPortGroup to FCPort)	78
5.8.50	CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Fabric Filters)	78
5.8.51	CIM_MemberOfCollection (ZoneSet to Zone)	79
5.8.52	CIM_ProtocolEndpoint	79
5.8.53	CIM_SystemDevice (Non-Switch FCPort to Fabric)	80
5.8.54	CIM_SystemDevice (Non-Switch FCPort to Platform)	80
5.8.55	CIM_SystemDevice (Switch FCPort to Switch)	80
5.8.56	CIM_Zone (Active)	81
5.8.57	CIM_Zone (Inactive)	81
5.8.58	CIM_ZoneCapabilities	81
5.8.59	CIM_ZoneMembershipSettingData	83
5.8.60	CIM_ZoneSet (Active)	83
5.8.61	CIM_ZoneSet (Inactive)	84
6	Enhanced Zoning and Enhanced Zone Control Subprofile	85
6.1	Description	85
6.2	Health and Fault Management	85
6.3	Cascading Considerations	85
6.4	Dependencies on Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages	85
6.5	Methods of this Profile	85
6.5.1	CreateZoneAlias	85
6.5.2	AddZoneAlias	85
6.6	Client Considerations and Recipes	85
6.6.1	Create a ZoneAlias	85
6.6.2	Delete a ZoneAlias	87
6.7	Registered Name and Version	88

6.8	CIM Elements.....	89
6.8.1	General.....	89
6.8.2	CIM_ElementSettingData (ZoneMembershipSettingData to NamedAddressCollection).....	89
6.8.3	CIM_HostedCollection (AdminDomain to Collection).....	89
6.8.4	CIM_HostedCollection (ComputerSystem to Collection).....	90
6.8.5	CIM_MemberOfCollection.....	90
6.8.6	CIM_NamedAddressCollection.....	90
6.8.7	CIM_ZoneService (Zone Service).....	91
7	Zone Control Subprofile.....	92
7.1	Description.....	92
7.2	Durable Names and Correlatable IDs of the Profile.....	92
7.3	Instrumentation Requirements.....	92
7.4	Health and Fault Management.....	92
7.5	Cascading Considerations.....	92
7.6	Dependencies on Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages.....	92
7.7	Methods of this Profile.....	92
7.7.1	CreateZoneSet.....	92
7.7.2	CreateZone.....	93
7.7.3	CreateZoneMembershipSettingData.....	93
7.7.4	AddZone.....	93
7.7.5	AddZoneMembershipSettingData.....	93
7.7.6	ActivateZoneSetWithJob.....	93
7.7.7	ActivateZoneSet.....	94
7.7.8	SessionControlWithJob.....	94
7.7.9	SessionControl.....	95
7.7.10	Intrinsics for removing a zone from a zone set.....	96
7.7.11	Intrinsics for removing a zone alias from a zone.....	96
7.7.12	Intrinsics for removing a zone member from a zone or zone alias.....	96
7.7.13	Intrinsic for deleting a zone member.....	97
7.7.14	Intrinsic for deleting a zone, zone alias, or zone set.....	97
7.8	Client Considerations and Recipes.....	97
7.8.1	General.....	97
7.8.2	Create or delete zones Common Functions.....	97
7.8.3	Add new Zone Member to Existing Zone.....	100
7.8.4	Create new Zone, add new Zone Member, and add to existing ZoneSet.....	101
7.8.5	Create new ZoneSet and add existing Zone.....	103
7.8.6	Delete zone.....	105
7.8.7	Delete ZoneSet.....	106
7.8.8	Delete ZoneMember.....	107
7.9	Registered Name and Version.....	108
7.10	CIM Elements.....	108
7.10.1	General.....	108
7.10.2	CIM_HostedService (Fabric (AdminDomain) to ZoneService).....	108
7.10.3	CIM_HostedService (Switch (ComputerSystem) to ZoneService).....	109
7.10.4	CIM_ZoneService (Zone Service).....	109
8	FDMI Subprofile.....	111
8.1	Description.....	111
8.2	Health and Fault Management.....	111
8.3	Cascading Considerations.....	111
8.4	Dependencies on Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages.....	111
8.5	Methods of this Profile.....	112
8.6	Client Considerations and Recipes.....	112
8.7	Registered Name and Version.....	112

8.8	CIM Elements.....	112
8.8.1	General.....	112
8.8.2	CIM_Component (Host Server to Fabric).....	112
8.8.3	CIM_ComputerSystem (Host Server).....	113
8.8.4	CIM_ControlledBy .....	113
8.8.5	CIM_ElementSoftwareIdentity.....	114
8.8.6	CIM_FCPort (Host FCPort).....	114
8.8.7	CIM_HostedCollection (System to LogicalPortGroup).....	115
8.8.8	CIM_InstalledSoftwareIdentity.....	115
8.8.9	CIM_MemberOfCollection (LogicalPortGroup to FCPort).....	115
8.8.10	CIM_PhysicalPackage (HBA Package).....	116
8.8.11	CIM_PortController.....	116
8.8.12	CIM_Product (HBA Product).....	117
8.8.13	CIM_ProductPhysicalComponent .....	117
8.8.14	CIM_Realizes .....	118
8.8.15	CIM_SoftwareIdentity (Driver).....	118
8.8.16	CIM_SoftwareIdentity (Firmware).....	118
8.8.17	CIM_SoftwareIdentity (Option ROM).....	119
8.8.18	CIM_SystemDevice (ComputerSystem to FCPort).....	119
8.8.19	CIM_SystemDevice (ComputerSystem to PortController).....	120
9	Fabric Path Performance Subprofile .....	121
9.1	Description .....	121
9.2	Health and Fault Management.....	121
9.3	Dependencies on Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages .....	121
9.4	Methods of this Profile.....	121
9.5	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	122
9.6	Registered Name and Version .....	122
9.7	CIM Elements.....	122
9.7.1	General.....	122
9.7.2	CIM_ElementStatisticalData.....	122
9.7.3	CIM_EndpointOfNetworkPipe .....	123
9.7.4	CIM_HostedCollection.....	123
9.7.5	CIM_HostedNetworkPipe .....	123
9.7.6	CIM_MemberOfCollection .....	124
9.7.7	CIM_Network.....	124
9.7.8	CIM_NetworkPipe .....	125
9.7.9	CIM_NetworkPortStatistics.....	125
9.7.10	CIM_ProtocolEndpoint .....	125
9.7.11	CIM_StatisticsCollection.....	126
10	Fibre Channel Security Subprofile.....	127
10.1	Description .....	127
10.2	Health and Fault Management Consideration.....	129
10.3	Cascading Considerations .....	129
10.4	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages.....	129
10.5	Methods of the Profile .....	129
10.6	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	129
10.7	Registered Name and Version .....	129
10.8	CIM Elements.....	130
10.8.1	General.....	130
10.8.2	CIM_AuthorizationService .....	130
10.8.3	CIM_AuthorizedPrivilege .....	130
10.8.4	CIM_AuthorizedSubject.....	131
10.8.5	CIM_AuthorizedTarget .....	131
10.8.6	CIM_HostedService .....	131

10.8.7	CIM_ServiceAffectsElement (ManagedElement to Service)	132
10.8.8	CIM_ServiceAffectsElement (StorageHardwareID to Service)	132
10.8.9	CIM_ServiceAvailableToElement (Fabric AdminDomain to Service)	132
10.8.10	CIM_StorageHardwareID	133
11	Fabric Views Subprofile	134
11.1	Description	134
11.1.1	Synopsis	134
11.1.2	Overview	134
11.1.3	Topology View	135
11.1.4	FCSwitch View	136
11.2	Health and Fault Management Consideration	136
11.3	Cascading Considerations	136
11.4	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages	136
11.5	Methods of the Profile	137
11.6	Client Considerations and Recipes	137
11.7	Registered Name and Version	137
11.8	CIM Elements	137
11.8.1	General	137
11.8.2	CIM_ElementCapabilities (View Capabilities)	138
11.8.3	SNIA_BaseInstance (View to FC Port)	138
11.8.4	SNIA_BaseInstance (View to Switch)	139
11.8.5	SNIA_ComponentView (FCSwitchView to Fabric)	139
11.8.6	SNIA_ComponentView (TopologyView to Fabric)	139
11.8.7	SNIA_FCSwitchView	140
11.8.8	SNIA_TopologyView	141
11.8.9	SNIA_ViewCapabilities	142
12	Virtual Fabrics Subprofile	143
12.1	Description	143
12.2	Health and Fault Management Consideration	145
12.3	Cascading Considerations	145
12.4	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages	145
12.5	Methods of the Profile	145
12.6	Client Considerations and Recipes	145
12.7	Registered Name and Version	145
12.8	CIM Elements	145
12.8.1	General	145
12.8.2	CIM_Component (AdminDomain to Partitioning CS)	145
12.8.3	CIM_ElementConformsToProfile (SAN AdminDomain to Virtual Fabrics Registered-Profile)	146
13	Switch Profile	147
13.1	Description	147
13.1.1	General	147
13.1.2	FC Port Settings and Capabilities	148
13.1.3	Trunking	149
13.1.4	DetailedPortState, PortAvailability, OperationalStatus, and EnabledState	149
13.1.5	Conditional Classes and Properties	150
13.1.6	Switch Predefined Indications	151
13.2	Health and Fault Management	152
13.3	Cascading Considerations	153
13.4	Dependencies on Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages	153
13.5	Methods of this Profile	153
13.6	Client Considerations and Recipes	153
13.6.1	Enable FCPort	153
13.6.2	Disable Port	154



13.6.3	Enable Switch	156
13.6.4	Disable Switch	157
13.6.5	Reset Switch	158
13.6.6	Set Port Speed	160
13.6.7	Set Port Type	161
13.6.8	Set Fibre Channel Switch Principal Priority	162
13.6.9	Set Switch Name	164
13.6.10	Set Port Name	165
13.6.11	Set Fibre Channel Switch Preferred Domain ID	166
13.6.12	Lock Fibre Channel Switch Domain ID	168
13.7	Registered Name and Version	170
13.8	CIM Elements	170
13.8.1	General	170
13.8.2	CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioned Switch)	172
13.8.3	CIM_ComputerSystem (Switch)	173
13.8.4	CIM_ComputerSystemPackage	174
13.8.5	CIM_ElementCapabilities (FCPort to FCPortCapabilities)	175
13.8.6	CIM_ElementCapabilities (System to FCSwitchCapabilities)	175
13.8.7	CIM_ElementSettingData (FCPortSettings to FCPort)	175
13.8.8	CIM_ElementSettingData (FCSwitchSettings to ComputerSystem)	176
13.8.9	CIM_ElementStatisticalData (FCPortRateStatistics to FCPort)	176
13.8.10	CIM_ElementStatisticalData (FCPortStatistics to FCPort)	176
13.8.11	CIM_FCPort (Partitioned Switch FCPort)	177
13.8.12	CIM_FCPort (Switch FCPort)	178
13.8.13	CIM_FCPortCapabilities	179
13.8.14	CIM_FCPortRateStatistics	180
13.8.15	CIM_FCPortSettings	181
13.8.16	CIM_FCPortStatistics	181
13.8.17	CIM_FCSwitchCapabilities	183
13.8.18	CIM_FCSwitchSettings	184
13.8.19	CIM_FilterCollection (Switch Predefined FilterCollection)	184
13.8.20	CIM_HostedCollection (Redundancy Set)	185
13.8.21	CIM_HostedCollection (Statistics Collection)	185
13.8.22	CIM_HostedCollection (Switch to predefined FilterCollection)	185
13.8.23	CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch ComputerSystem Creation)	186
13.8.24	CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch ComputerSystem Deletion)	187
13.8.25	CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch ComputerSystem OperationalStatus)	187
13.8.26	CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch FCPort OperationalStatus)	188
13.8.27	CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Switch ComputerSystem OperationalStatus)	189
13.8.28	CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Switch FCPort OperationalStatus)	190
13.8.29	CIM_MemberOfCollection (FCPort to RedundancySet)	191
13.8.30	CIM_MemberOfCollection (NetworkPortStatistics to StatisticalCollection)	191
13.8.31	CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Switch Filters)	192
13.8.32	CIM_ProtocolEndpoint	192
13.8.33	CIM_RedundancySet	193
13.8.34	CIM_StatisticsCollection	193
13.8.35	CIM_SystemDevice	193
14	Switch Configuration Data Subprofile	195
14.1	Description	195
14.2	Durable Names and Correlatable IDs of the Profile	195
14.3	Instrumentation Requirements	195
14.4	Health and Fault Management	195
14.5	Cascading Considerations	195
14.6	Methods of this Profile – ApplyConfiguration	195

14.7	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	195
14.7.1	Get Switch Configuration .....	195
14.7.2	Set Switch Configuration .....	196
14.8	Registered Name and Version .....	196
14.9	CIM Elements.....	196
14.9.1	General.....	196
14.9.2	CIM_ComputerSystem .....	197
14.9.3	CIM_ConfigurationData .....	197
14.9.4	CIM_ElementSettingData .....	197
15	Blades Subprofile .....	199
15.1	Description .....	199
15.1.1	General.....	199
15.1.2	Instance Diagram .....	199
15.1.3	Blades Predefined Indications.....	199
15.2	Health and Fault Management.....	200
15.3	Cascading Considerations .....	201
15.4	Dependencies on Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages .....	201
15.5	Methods of this Profile.....	201
15.6	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	201
15.7	Registered Name and Version .....	201
15.8	CIM Elements.....	201
15.8.1	General.....	201
15.8.2	CIM_FilterCollection (Blades Predefined FilterCollection).....	202
15.8.3	CIM_HostedCollection (Switch to Blades predefined FilterCollection) .....	203
15.8.4	CIM_IndicationFilter (Blades LogicalModule Creation) .....	203
15.8.5	CIM_IndicationFilter (Blades LogicalModule Deletion).....	204
15.8.6	CIM_IndicationFilter (Blades LogicalModule OperationalStatus) .....	205
15.8.7	CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Blades LogicalModule OperationalStatus) .....	206
15.8.8	CIM_LogicalModule.....	207
15.8.9	CIM_MemberOfCollection (Blades FilterCollection to Switch FilterCollection).....	207
15.8.10	CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Blades Filters) .....	208
15.8.11	CIM_ModulePort .....	208
15.8.12	CIM_PhysicalPackage (Logical Module).....	208
15.8.13	CIM_Product (Blade).....	209
15.8.14	CIM_ProductPhysicalComponent .....	209
15.8.15	CIM_Realizes (Logical Module Package) .....	209
15.8.16	CIM_SystemDevice (Logical Module) .....	210
16	Switch Partitioning Subprofile.....	211
16.1	Description .....	211
16.2	Health and Fault Management Consideration.....	212
16.3	Cascading Considerations .....	212
16.4	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages.....	212
16.5	Methods of the Profile .....	213
16.6	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	213
16.7	Registered Name and Version .....	213
16.8	CIM Elements.....	213
16.8.1	General.....	213
16.8.2	CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioned) .....	213
16.8.3	CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioning).....	214
16.8.4	CIM_ElementCapabilities (Association between NetworkPort and NetworkPortCapabilities) .....	214
16.8.5	CIM_ElementConformsToProfile (Partitioning ComputerSystem to Switch Partitioning RegisteredProfile) .....	215
16.8.6	CIM_ElementSettingData .....	

(Association between NetworkPort and NetworkPortSettings) .....	215
16.8.7 CIM_FCPort (Partitioned) .....	216
16.8.8 CIM_HostedDependency (NetworkPort to FCPort).....	216
16.8.9 CIM_HostedDependency (Partitioning CS to Partitioned CS).....	217
16.8.10CIM_NetworkPort (Partitioning) .....	217
16.8.11CIM_NetworkPortCapabilities .....	217
16.8.12CIM_NetworkPortSettings.....	218
16.8.13CIM_SystemDevice (FCPort to Partitioned ComputerSystem).....	218
16.8.14CIM_SystemDevice (NetworkPort to ComputerSystem).....	219
17 Extender Profile .....	220
17.1 Description .....	220
17.1.1 General.....	220
17.1.2 FC Extender Node Topology Classes .....	220
17.1.3 FC Extender Node Network Connectivity Classes .....	221
17.1.4 FC Extender Group Network Connectivity Classes.....	221
17.1.5 Extender Predefined Indications .....	222
17.2 Health and Fault Management.....	223
17.3 Cascading Considerations .....	223
17.4 Supported Subprofiles and Packages.....	224
17.5 Methods of this Profile.....	224
17.6 Client Considerations and Recipes .....	224
17.6.1 Extender Connectivity Settings .....	224
17.6.2 Extender Connective Statistics.....	226
17.6.3 Extender Port Group Information .....	228
17.6.4 Extender Topology Mapping .....	230
17.7 Registered Name and Version .....	234
17.8 CIM Elements.....	234
17.8.1 General.....	234
17.8.2 CIM_BindsTo (IPPE to PE) .....	237
17.8.3 CIM_BindsTo (IPPE to RemoteSAP) .....	237
17.8.4 CIM_BindsTo (IPPE to RemoteSAP) .....	238
17.8.5 CIM_BindsTo (PE to RemotePort) .....	238
17.8.6 CIM_BindsTo (TCPPE to IPPE) .....	238
17.8.7 CIM_BindsTo (TCPPE to PE) .....	239
17.8.8 CIM_BindsTo (TCPPE to RemotePort) .....	239
17.8.9 CIM_Component .....	239
17.8.10CIM_ComputerSystem (Extender Node) .....	240
17.8.11CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation.....	240
17.8.12CIM_ElementSettingData (IPPE to IPSettings).....	241
17.8.13CIM_ElementSettingData (PE to FCIPSettings) .....	241
17.8.14CIM_ElementSettingData (System to FCIPSettings).....	241
17.8.15CIM_ElementSettingData (System to IPSettings).....	242
17.8.16CIM_ElementSettingData (System to TCPSettings) .....	242
17.8.17CIM_ElementSettingData (TCPPE to TCPSettings).....	242
17.8.18CIM_ElementStatisticalData (EthernetPort to EthernetPortStatistics) .....	243
17.8.19CIM_ElementStatisticalData (FCPort to FCPortStatistics).....	243
17.8.20CIM_ElementStatisticalData (IPPE to IPEndpointStatistics).....	243
17.8.21CIM_ElementStatisticalData (System to TCPStatisticalData).....	244
17.8.22CIM_ElementStatisticalData (TCPPE to TCPEndpointStatistics) .....	244
17.8.23CIM_EndpointOfNetworkPipe (PE to NetworkPipe).....	244
17.8.24CIM_EndpointOfNetworkPipe (TCPPE to NetworkPipe) .....	245
17.8.25CIM_EthernetPort .....	245
17.8.26CIM_EthernetPortStatistics .....	246
17.8.27CIM_FCIPSettings .....	246

This is a preview of "ISO/IEC 24775-6:2014". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

17.8.28	CIM_FCPort .....	247
17.8.29	CIM_FCPortStatistics .....	248
17.8.30	CIM_FilterCollection (Extender Predefined FilterCollection) .....	250
17.8.31	CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to IPProtocolEndpoint) .....	250
17.8.32	CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to TCPProtocolEndpoint) .....	250
17.8.33	CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to ProtocolEndpoint) .....	251
17.8.34	CIM_HostedCollection (Extender to predefined FilterCollection) .....	251
17.8.35	CIM_HostedNetworkPipe .....	251
17.8.36	CIM_IPEndpointStatistics .....	252
17.8.37	CIM_IPProtocolEndpoint .....	252
17.8.38	CIM_IPSettings .....	253
17.8.39	CIM_IndicationFilter (Extender ComputerSystem Creation) .....	253
17.8.40	CIM_IndicationFilter (Extender ComputerSystem Deletion) .....	254
17.8.41	CIM_IndicationFilter (Extender ComputerSystem OperationalStatus) .....	255
17.8.42	CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Extender ComputerSystem OperationalStatus) .....	256
17.8.43	CIM_LANEndpoint .....	257
17.8.44	CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Extender Filters) .....	258
17.8.45	CIM_Network .....	258
17.8.46	CIM_NetworkPipe .....	258
17.8.47	CIM_NetworkPipeComposition .....	259
17.8.48	CIM_ProtocolEndpoint .....	259
17.8.49	CIM_RemotePort .....	259
17.8.50	CIM_RemoteServiceAccessPoint .....	260
17.8.51	CIM_SystemDevice (System to EthernetPort) .....	260
17.8.52	CIM_SystemDevice (System to FCPort) .....	261
17.8.53	CIM_TCPEndpointStatistics .....	261
17.8.54	CIM_TCPProtocolEndpoint .....	261
17.8.55	CIM_TCPSettings .....	262
17.8.56	CIM_TCPStatisticalData .....	262
18	Router Profile .....	264
19	SAS Expander Profile .....	265
19.1	Description .....	265
19.2	Health and Fault Management Consideration .....	266
19.3	Cascading Considerations .....	266
19.4	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages .....	266
19.4.1	General .....	266
19.4.2	Enclosure .....	266
19.4.3	Software Inventory and Software Update .....	266
19.5	Methods of the Profile .....	266
19.6	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	266
19.7	CIM Elements .....	266
19.8	Registered Name and Version .....	266
19.9	CIM Elements .....	267
19.9.1	General .....	267
19.9.2	CIM_ComputerSystem .....	267
19.9.3	CIM_ConcreteComponent .....	268
19.9.4	CIM_ElementSoftwareIdentity .....	268
19.9.5	CIM_Product .....	268
19.9.6	CIM_ProductElementComponent .....	269
19.9.7	CIM_SASPort .....	269
19.9.8	CIM_SoftwareIdentity .....	269
19.9.9	CIM_SystemDevice (Port) .....	270
19.9.10	CIM_SystemDevice (SASPHY) .....	270
19.9.11	SNIA_SASPHY .....	270

20	N Port Virtualizer Profile .....	272
20.1	Description .....	272
20.2	Implementation.....	272
20.3	Health and Fault Management Consideration.....	273
20.4	Cascading Considerations .....	273
20.5	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages.....	273
20.6	Methods of the Profile .....	273
20.7	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	273
20.8	Registered Name and Version .....	273
20.9	CIM Elements.....	273
20.9.1	General.....	273
20.9.2	CIM_Component (N Port Virtualizer to Fabric).....	274
20.9.3	CIM_ComputerSystem (N Port Virtualizer).....	274
20.9.4	CIM_ComputerSystemPackage (N Port Virtualizer to Physical Package) .....	275
20.9.5	CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (ProtocolEndpoint to Gateway FCPort).....	275
20.9.6	CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (ProtocolEndpoint to NPIV FCPort).....	276
20.9.7	CIM_FCActiveConnection (Gateway) .....	276
20.9.8	CIM_FCActiveConnection (N Port Virtualization).....	277
20.9.9	CIM_FCPort (Fabric NPIV).....	277
20.9.10	CIM_FCPort (Gateway).....	278
20.9.11	CIM_HostedAccessPoint (N Port Virtualizer System to ProtocolEndpoint) .....	279
20.9.12	CIM_LogicalIdentity (NPIV Port to Switch Port) .....	279
20.9.13	CIM_ProtocolEndpoint (N Port Virtualizer).....	280
20.9.14	CIM_SystemDevice (N Port Virtualizer Gateway FCPort to Gateway System) ....	280
20.9.15	CIM_SystemDevice (N Port Virtualizer NPIV FCPort to Gateway System) .....	281
21	Inter Fabric Routing Profile.....	282
21.1	Description .....	282
21.1.1	General.....	282
21.1.2	Switch Topology .....	282
21.1.3	Identification of Ports.....	283
21.2	Health and Fault Management Consideration.....	284
21.3	Cascading Considerations .....	284
21.4	Supported Profiles, Subprofiles, and Packages.....	284
21.5	Methods of the Profile .....	284
21.6	Client Considerations and Recipes .....	284
21.7	Registered Name and Version .....	284
21.8	CIM Elements.....	285
21.8.1	General.....	285
21.8.2	CIM_Component (Backbone Switch to Fabric) .....	285
21.8.3	CIM_Component (IFR Switch to Fabric) .....	285
21.8.4	CIM_ComputerSystem (Backbone Switch) .....	286
21.8.5	CIM_ComputerSystem (IFR Switch) .....	287
21.8.6	CIM_FCActiveConnection .....	287
21.8.7	CIM_FCPort (IFR FCPort).....	288
21.8.8	CIM_ProtocolEndpoint .....	289
	Annex A (informative) SMI-S Information Model.....	290
	Annex B (informative) Structure of Fabric Profiles.....	291
	Bibliography .....	311

This is a preview of "ISO/IEC 24775-6:2014". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

Figure 1 - Experimental maturity level tag .....	26
Figure 2 - Implemented maturity level tag.....	27
Figure 3 - Stable maturity level tag .....	27
Figure 4 - Deprecated tag .....	28
Figure 5 - Fabric Instance .....	29
Figure 6 - NPIV Instance.....	31
Figure 7 - Zoning Instance (AdminDomain) .....	32
Figure 8 - Zoning Instance (ComputerSystem) .....	33
Figure 9 - Predefined Fabric IndicationFilters and Collection .....	34
Figure 10 - FDMI Instance .....	111
Figure 11 - Instance Diagram .....	121
Figure 12 - Specialization of Security Authorization Subprofile for Membership Policy.....	128
Figure 13 - Specialization of Security Authorization Subprofile for Connectivity Policy.....	129
Figure 14 - Fabric View Class Capabilities .....	135
Figure 15 - Topology View Class .....	136
Figure 16 - FCSwitch View Class .....	136
Figure 17 - RegisteredProfile/Subprofile, AdminDomain, and ComputerSystem Relationships.....	143
Figure 18 - Two Virtual Fabric and Two Partitioning Systems .....	144
Figure 19 - Two Virtual Fabrics and One Partitioning System .....	144
Figure 20 - Switch Instance Diagram.....	148
Figure 21 - Trunking Instance Diagram .....	149
Figure 22 - Predefined Switch IndicationFilters and Collection.....	152
Figure 23 - Switch Configuration Data Instance .....	195
Figure 24 - Switch Blade Instance .....	199
Figure 25 - Predefined Blades IndicationFilters and Collection .....	200
Figure 26 - Switch ComputerSystem and Partitioning System .....	211
Figure 27 - Switch and Partitioning System and Partitioning Ports.....	211
Figure 28 - Underlying System Port Settings and Capabilities .....	212
Figure 29 - FC Extender Node Instance .....	221
Figure 30 - FC Extender Group Instance.....	222
Figure 31 - Predefined Extender IndicationFilters and Collection.....	223
Figure 32 - SAS Expander Instance Diagram.....	265
Figure 33 - N Port Virtualizer .....	272
Figure 34 - IFR Switch Topology .....	282
Figure 35 - Inter Fabric Routing Ports.....	284
Figure B.1 - Structure of the Fabric Part Profiles .....	291
Figure B.2 - AdminDomain Properties .....	294
Figure B.3 - Associations on AdminDomains .....	296
Figure B.4 - Properties of various Switches .....	298
Figure B.5 - Associations on Switches .....	300
Figure B.6 - General ComputerSystem Properties .....	302
Figure B.7 - General ComputerSystem Associations .....	304
Figure B.8 - Switch FCPort Properties .....	306
Figure B.9 - Switch FCPort Associations .....	307
Figure B.10 - Non-Switch Port Properties .....	309
Figure B.11 - Non-Switch Port Associations .....	310

This is a preview of "ISO/IEC 24775-6:2014". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

Table 1 - Supported Profiles for Fabric .....	35
Table 2 - Port OperationalStatus.....	36
Table 3 - OperationalStatus for ComputerSystem .....	36
Table 4 - CIM Elements for Fabric .....	41
Table 5 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ActiveConnection .....	47
Table 6 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_AdminDomain (Fabric).....	48
Table 7 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_AdminDomain (SAN).....	48
Table 8 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (Platform to Fabric) .....	49
Table 9 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (Switch to Fabric).....	49
Table 10 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Host Platform).....	50
Table 11 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioned Switch).....	50
Table 12 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Storage Platform).....	51
Table 13 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Switch) .....	52
Table 14 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ConnectivityCollection.....	53
Table 15 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ContainedDomain .....	53
Table 16 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (Non-Switch to FCPort).....	53
Table 17 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (Switch to FCPort).....	54
Table 18 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementCapabilities (ZoneCapabilities to Fabric).....	54
Table 19 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementCapabilities (ZoneCapabilities to Switch) .....	54
Table 20 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (ZoneMembershipSettingData to Zone).....	55
Table 21 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCActiveConnection .....	55
Table 22 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Host FCPort) .....	56
Table 23 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Host NPIV FCPort) .....	57
Table 24 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Partitioned Switch FCPort) .....	58
Table 25 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Storage FCPort) .....	59
Table 26 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Switch FCPort) .....	60
Table 27 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FilterCollection (Fabric Predefined FilterCollection) .....	61
Table 28 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedAccessPoint (AdminDomain to ProtocolEndpoint).....	61
Table 29 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to ProtocolEndpoint) .....	62
Table 30 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Fabric to ConnectivityCollection) .....	62
Table 31 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Fabric to predefined FilterCollection).....	62
Table 32 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (System to LogicalPortGroup).....	63
Table 33 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Zones or ZoneSets to Fabric) .....	63
Table 34 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Zones or ZoneSets to Switch) .....	63
Table 35 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedDependency .....	64
Table 36 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ComputerSystem Creation) .....	64

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Table 37 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ComputerSystem Deletion).....	65
Table 38 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ComputerSystem OperationalStatus).....	66
Table 39 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric FCPort Creation).....	67
Table 40 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric FCPort Deletion).....	68
Table 41 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric FCPort OperationalStatus).....	69
Table 42 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Fabric Added or Removed).....	70
Table 43 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Fabric Merge or Segmentation).....	71
Table 44 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Switch Added or Removed).....	72
Table 45 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Switch Status Changed).....	73
Table 46 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric Zone Database Changed).....	74
Table 47 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Fabric ZoneSet Activated).....	75
Table 48 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Fabric ComputerSystem OperationalStatus).....	76
Table 49 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Fabric FCPort OperationalStatus).....	77
Table 50 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_LogicalPortGroup.....	78
Table 51 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (ConnectivityCollection to ProtocolEndpoint).....	78
Table 52 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (LogicalPortGroup to FCPort).....	78
Table 53 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Fabric Filters).....	79
Table 54 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (ZoneSet to Zone).....	79
Table 55 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProtocolEndpoint.....	79
Table 56 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (Non-Switch FCPort to Fabric).....	80
Table 57 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (Non-Switch FCPort to Platform).....	80
Table 58 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (Switch FCPort to Switch).....	81
Table 59 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Zone (Active).....	81
Table 60 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Zone (Inactive).....	81
Table 61 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ZoneCapabilities.....	82
Table 62 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ZoneMembershipSettingData.....	83
Table 63 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ZoneSet (Active).....	84
Table 64 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ZoneSet (Inactive).....	84
Table 65 - Supported Profiles for Enhanced Zoning and Enhanced Zoning Control.....	85
Table 66 - CIM Elements for Enhanced Zoning and Enhanced Zoning Control.....	89
Table 67 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (ZoneMembershipSettingData to NamedAddressCollection).....	89
Table 68 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (AdminDomain to Collection).....	90
Table 69 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (ComputerSystem to Collection).....	90
Table 70 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection.....	90



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Table 71 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NamedAddressCollection .....	91
Table 72 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ZoneService (Zone Service) .....	91
Table 73 - CIM Elements for Zone Control .....	108
Table 74 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedService (Fabric (AdminDomain) to ZoneService) .....	109
Table 75 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedService (Switch (ComputerSystem) to ZoneService).....	109
Table 76 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ZoneService (Zone Service) .....	110
Table 77 - CIM Elements for FDMI .....	112
Table 78 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (Host Server to Fabric).....	113
Table 79 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Host Server).....	113
Table 80 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ControlledBy .....	113
Table 81 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSoftwareIdentity .....	114
Table 82 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Host FCPort) .....	114
Table 83 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (System to LogicalPortGroup).....	115
Table 84 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_InstalledSoftwareIdentity .....	115
Table 85 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (LogicalPortGroup to FCPort) .....	116
Table 86 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_PhysicalPackage (HBA Package) .....	116
Table 87 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_PortController .....	117
Table 88 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Product (HBA Product) .....	117
Table 89 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProductPhysicalComponent.....	117
Table 90 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Realizes .....	118
Table 91 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SoftwareIdentity (Driver) .....	118
Table 92 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SoftwareIdentity (Firmware).....	119
Table 93 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SoftwareIdentity (Option ROM).....	119
Table 94 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (ComputerSystem to FCPort) .....	120
Table 95 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (ComputerSystem to PortController).....	120
Table 96 - CIM Elements for Fabric Path Performance .....	122
Table 97 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData.....	123
Table 98 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_EndpointOfNetworkPipe.....	123
Table 99 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection .....	123
Table 100 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedNetworkPipe .....	124
Table 101 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection .....	124
Table 102 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Network.....	124
Table 103 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPipe.....	125
Table 104 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPortStatistics .....	125
Table 105 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProtocolEndpoint.....	126
Table 106 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_StatisticsCollection .....	126
Table 107 - CIM Elements for FabricSecurity .....	130
Table 108 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_AuthorizationService .....	130
Table 109 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_AuthorizedPrivilege .....	131
Table 110 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_AuthorizedSubject.....	131
Table 111 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_AuthorizedTarget .....	131
Table 112 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedService.....	132
Table 113 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ServiceAffectsElement (ManagedElement to Service) .....	132
Table 114 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ServiceAffectsElement (StorageHardwareID to Service).....	132
Table 115 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ServiceAvailableToElement	

(Fabric AdminDomain to Service) .....	133
Table 116 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_StorageHardwareID .....	133
Table 117 - CIM Elements for Fabric Views.....	137
Table 118 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementCapabilities (View Capabilities) .....	138
Table 119 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_BaseInstance (View to FC Port) .....	138
Table 120 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_BaseInstance (View to Switch).....	139
Table 121 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_ComponentView (FCSwitchView to Fabric) .....	139
Table 122 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_ComponentView (TopologyView to Fabric).....	140
Table 123 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_FCSwitchView .....	140
Table 124 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_TopologyView.....	141
Table 125 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_ViewCapabilities.....	142
Table 126 - Supported Profiles for FabricVirtualFabrics .....	145
Table 127 - CIM Elements for FabricVirtualFabrics .....	145
Table 128 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (AdminDomain to Partitioning CS).....	146
Table 129 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementConformsToProfile (SAN AdminDomain to Virtual Fabrics RegisteredProfile).....	146
Table 130 - DetailedPortState for FCPort .....	150
Table 131 - PortAvailability for FCPort.....	150
Table 132 - Supported Profiles for Switch.....	153
Table 133 - CIM Elements for Switch.....	170
Table 134 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioned Switch) .....	173
Table 135 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Switch) .....	174
Table 136 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystemPackage .....	175
Table 137 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementCapabilities (FCPort to FCPortCapabilities) .....	175
Table 138 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementCapabilities (System to FCSwitchCapabilities).....	175
Table 139 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (FCPortSettings to FCPort).....	176
Table 140 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (FCSwitchSettings to ComputerSystem) .....	176
Table 141 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (FCPortRateStatistics to FCPort).....	176
Table 142 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (FCPortStatistics to FCPort) .....	177
Table 143 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Partitioned Switch FCPort) .....	177
Table 144 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Switch FCPort) .....	178
Table 145 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPortCapabilities .....	180
Table 146 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPortRateStatistics.....	180
Table 147 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPortSettings.....	181
Table 148 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPortStatistics .....	181
Table 149 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCSwitchCapabilities .....	183
Table 150 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCSwitchSettings.....	184
Table 151 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FilterCollection (Switch Predefined FilterCollection).....	185
Table 152 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Redundancy Set) .....	185
Table 153 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Statistics Collection) .....	185
Table 154 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Switch to predefined FilterCollection) .....	186

This is a preview of "ISO/IEC 24775-6:2014". [Click here to purchase the full version from the ANSI store.](#)

Table 155 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch ComputerSystem Creation).....	186
Table 156 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch ComputerSystem Deletion) .....	187
Table 157 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch ComputerSystem OperationalStatus) .....	188
Table 158 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Switch FCPort OperationalStatus).....	189
Table 159 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Switch ComputerSystem OperationalStatus) .....	190
Table 160 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Switch FCPort OperationalStatus).....	191
Table 161 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (FCPort to RedundancySet).....	191
Table 162 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (NetworkPortStatistics to StatisticalCollection) .....	192
Table 163 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Switch Filters) .....	192
Table 164 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProtocolEndpoint.....	192
Table 165 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_RedundancySet .....	193
Table 166 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_StatisticsCollection .....	193
Table 167 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice .....	194
Table 168 - CIM Elements for Switch Configuration Data.....	196
Table 169 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem .....	197
Table 170 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ConfigurationData .....	197
Table 171 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData .....	198
Table 172 - CIM Elements for Blades .....	201
Table 173 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FilterCollection (Blades Predefined FilterCollection) .....	202
Table 174 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Switch to Blades predefined FilterCollection) .....	203
Table 175 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Blades LogicalModule Creation).....	203
Table 176 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Blades LogicalModule Deletion) .....	204
Table 177 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Blades LogicalModule OperationalStatus).....	205
Table 178 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Blades LogicalModule OperationalStatus) .....	206
Table 179 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_LogicalModule .....	207
Table 180 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (Blades FilterCollection to Switch FilterCollection) .....	207
Table 181 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Blades Filters).....	208
Table 182 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ModulePort.....	208
Table 183 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_PhysicalPackage (Logical Module) .....	208
Table 184 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Product (Blade) .....	209
Table 185 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProductPhysicalComponent.....	209
Table 186 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Realizes (Logical Module Package).....	210
Table 187 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (Logical Module) .....	210
Table 188 - Supported Profiles for FabricSwitchPartitioning.....	212
Table 189 - CIM Elements for FabricSwitchPartitioning.....	213
Table 190 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioned).....	214
Table 191 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Partitioning).....	214
Table 192 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementCapabilities	

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(Association between NetworkPort and NetworkPortCapabilities) .....	215
Table 193 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementConformsToProfile (Partitioning ComputerSystem to Switch Partitioning RegisteredProfile).....	215
Table 194 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (Association between NetworkPort and NetworkPortSettings).....	215
Table 195 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Partitioned).....	216
Table 196 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedDependency (NetworkPort to FCPort) .....	217
Table 197 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedDependency (Partitioning CS to Partitioned CS) .....	217
Table 198 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPort (Partitioning).....	217
Table 199 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPortCapabilities.....	218
Table 200 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPortSettings .....	218
Table 201 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (FCPort to Partitioned ComputerSystem) .....	219
Table 202 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (NetworkPort to ComputerSystem) .....	219
Table 203 - Supported Profiles for Extender.....	224
Table 204 - CIM Elements for Extender.....	234
Table 205 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (IPPE to PE) .....	237
Table 206 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (IPPE to RemoteSAP) .....	238
Table 207 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (IPPE to RemoteSAP) .....	238
Table 208 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (PE to RemotePort).....	238
Table 209 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (TCPPE to IPPE) .....	239
Table 210 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (TCPPE to PE).....	239
Table 211 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_BindsTo (TCPPE to RemotePort) .....	239
Table 212 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component .....	240
Table 213 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Extender Node).....	240
Table 214 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation .....	240
Table 215 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (IPPE to IPSettings).....	241
Table 216 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (PE to FCIPSettings).....	241
Table 217 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (System to FCIPSettings) .....	242
Table 218 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (System to IPSettings) .....	242
Table 219 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (System to TCPSettings) .....	242
Table 220 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSettingData (TCPPE to TCPSettings) .....	243
Table 221 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (EthernetPort to EthernetPortStatistics).....	243
Table 222 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (FCPort to FCPortStatistics) .....	243
Table 223 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (IPPE to IPEndpointStatistics) .....	244
Table 224 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (System to TCPStatisticalData) .....	244
Table 225 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementStatisticalData (TCPPE to TCPEndpointStatistics).....	244
Table 226 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_EndpointOfNetworkPipe (PE to NetworkPipe) .....	245
Table 227 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_EndpointOfNetworkPipe	

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(TCPPE to NetworkPipe) .....	245
Table 228 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_EthernetPort .....	245
Table 229 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_EthernetPortStatistics .....	246
Table 230 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCIPSettings .....	247
Table 231 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort .....	247
Table 232 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPortStatistics .....	248
Table 233 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FilterCollection (Extender Predefined FilterCollection) .....	250
Table 234 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to IPProtocolEndpoint) .....	250
Table 235 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to TCPProtocolEndpoint) .....	251
Table 236 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedAccessPoint (ComputerSystem to ProtocolEndpoint) .....	251
Table 237 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedCollection (Extender to predefined FilterCollection) .....	251
Table 238 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedNetworkPipe .....	252
Table 239 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IPEndpointStatistics .....	252
Table 240 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IPProtocolEndpoint .....	253
Table 241 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IPSettings .....	253
Table 242 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Extender ComputerSystem Creation) .....	254
Table 243 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Extender ComputerSystem Deletion) .....	255
Table 244 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (Extender ComputerSystem OperationalStatus) .....	256
Table 245 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_IndicationFilter (WQL Extender ComputerSystem OperationalStatus) .....	257
Table 246 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_LANEndpoint .....	257
Table 247 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_MemberOfCollection (Predefined Filter Collection to Extender Filters) .....	258
Table 248 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Network .....	258
Table 249 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPipe .....	259
Table 250 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_NetworkPipeComposition .....	259
Table 251 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProtocolEndpoint .....	259
Table 252 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_RemotePort .....	260
Table 253 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_RemoteServiceAccessPoint .....	260
Table 254 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (System to EthernetPort) .....	261
Table 255 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (System to FCPort) .....	261
Table 256 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_TCPEndpointStatistics .....	261
Table 257 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_TCPProtocolEndpoint .....	262
Table 258 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_TCPSettings .....	262
Table 259 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_TCPStatisticalData .....	263
Table 260 - Supported Profiles for SAS Expander .....	266
Table 261 - CIM Elements for SAS Expander .....	267
Table 262 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem .....	267
Table 263 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ConcreteComponent .....	268
Table 264 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ElementSoftwareIdentity .....	268
Table 265 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Product .....	269
Table 266 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProductElementComponent .....	269
Table 267 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SASPort .....	269
Table 268 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SoftwareIdentity .....	270
Table 269 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (Port) .....	270

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Table 270 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (SASPHY) .....	270
Table 271 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for SNIA_SASPHY .....	271
Table 272 - Supported Profiles for N Port Virtualizer .....	273
Table 273 - CIM Elements for N Port Virtualizer .....	273
Table 274 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (N Port Virtualizer to Fabric) .....	274
Table 275 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (N Port Virtualizer) .....	275
Table 276 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystemPackage (N Port Virtualizer to Physical Package) .....	275
Table 277 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (ProtocolEndpoint to Gateway FCPort) .....	276
Table 278 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_DeviceSAPImplementation (ProtocolEndpoint to NPIV FCPort) .....	276
Table 279 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCActiveConnection (Gateway) .....	276
Table 280 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCActiveConnection (N Port Virtualization) .....	277
Table 281 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Fabric NPIV) .....	277
Table 282 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (Gateway) .....	278
Table 283 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_HostedAccessPoint (N Port Virtualizer System to ProtocolEndpoint) .....	279
Table 284 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_LogicalIdentity (NPIV Port to Switch Port) .....	280
Table 285 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProtocolEndpoint (N Port Virtualizer) .....	280
Table 286 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (N Port Virtualizer Gateway FCPort to Gateway System) .....	280
Table 287 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_SystemDevice (N Port Virtualizer NPIV FCPort to Gateway System) .....	281
Table 288 - CIM Elements for Inter Fabric Routing .....	285
Table 289 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (Backbone Switch to Fabric) .....	285
Table 290 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_Component (IFR Switch to Fabric) .....	286
Table 291 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (Backbone Switch) .....	286
Table 292 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ComputerSystem (IFR Switch) .....	287
Table 293 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCActiveConnection .....	288
Table 294 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_FCPort (IFR FCPort) .....	288
Table 295 - SMI Referenced Properties/Methods for CIM_ProtocolEndpoint .....	289
Table B.1 - AdminDomain Properties .....	293
Table B.2 - AdminDomain Associations .....	294
Table B.3 - Switch ComputerSystem Properties .....	297
Table B.4 - Switch ComputerSystem Associations .....	298
Table B.5 - Non-Switch ComputerSystem Properties .....	301
Table B.6 - Non-Switch ComputerSystem Associations .....	302
Table B.7 - Switch FCPort Properties .....	304
Table B.8 - Switch FCPort Associations .....	306
Table B.9 - Non-Switch Port Properties .....	308
Table B.10 - Non-Switch Port Associations .....	309

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY –**

**STORAGE MANAGEMENT –**

**Part 6: Fabric**

**FOREWORD**

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International Standard ISO/IEC 24775-6 was prepared by subcommittee 25: Interconnection of information technology equipment, of ISO/IEC joint technical committee 1: Information technology.

This International Standard, together with ISO/IEC 24775-1 to ISO/IEC 24775-5 and ISO/IEC 24775-7 and ISO/IEC 24775-8, replaces ISO/IEC 24775, second edition, published in 2011, and constitutes a technical revision.

This edition includes the following significant technical changes with respect to the previous edition:

- a) reorganization into eight parts;
- b) maturity identification using stages; and
- c) new profiles.

The list of all currently available parts of the ISO/IEC 24775 series, under the general title *Information technology – Storage management*, can be found on the IEC web site.

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This International Standard has been approved by vote of the member bodies, and the voting results may be obtained from the address given on the second title page.

This publication has been drafted in accordance with the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

**IMPORTANT – The “colour inside” logo on the cover page of this publication indicates that it contains colours which are considered to be useful for the correct understanding of its contents. Users should therefore print this publication using a colour printer.**



## Introduction

This part of ISO/IEC 24775 defines management profiles for Autonomous (top level) profiles for programs and devices whose central function is providing support for storage networking. The standard includes fabric management including topology and device management for switches. This standard also provides management of extenders that pass fibre channel frames over other protocols as well as a gateway that maps and translates iSCSI to Fibre Channel. As part of fabric management, this International Standard also has controls for fibre channel zoning and fibre channel security.

### Parts of this Standard

This International Standard is subdivided into the following parts:

- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 1: Overview*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 2: Common architecture*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 3: Common profiles*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 4: Block devices*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 5: Filesystems*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 6: Fabric*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 7: Host elements*
- *Information technology – Storage management – Part 8: Media libraries*

### Changes since the Last Edition

The changes since ISO/IEC 24775:2011 fall into three broad categories:

- **Improved organization.** The stand-alone standard has been split into eight parts to provide more information more easily. The parts are:
  - *Part 1 Overview:* The overview book provides a high level overview of the standard.
  - *Part 2 Common Architecture:* This part covers general information about the interface, such as security and protocols.
  - *Part 3 Common Profiles:* This part covers component profiles that extend profiles in other books, such as target ports and job control.
  - *Part 4 Block Devices:* This part covers storage profiles that support various forms of disk storage.
  - *Part 5 Filesystems:* This part covers profiles that support filesystems, such as NAS (Network Attached Storage).
  - *Part 6 Fabric:* This part covers profiles that deal with interconnection of host servers and storage devices, such as switches.
  - *Part 7 Host Elements:* This part covers profiles for storage software on host servers, such as disk partitioning and Host Hardware RAID controllers.
  - *Part 8 Media Libraries:* This part covers profiles that deal with removable media such as tape libraries.
- **Maturity identification.** As material is added to the standard it goes through various stages of maturity. The initial stage is *Experimental*, which is material that has not yet been implemented and is subject to change. The other stages indicate the degree of implementations. The stages are:
  - **Experimental:** Full design review, no commercial implementations.
  - **Implemented:** Initial implementations available, may be removed at minor revision.
  - **Stable:** Three or more vendors have implemented the identified material, backward compatibility assured, removed only at major revision.

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- **Finalized:** Relies solely on Finalized content, deprecated only at major revision.
- **Deprecated:** Obsolete material, may be removed in future revisions.  
For a more detailed explanation of each maturity level and its typographical indication, see Clause 4 Typographical Conventions.
- **Expanded scope.** The range of SAN components modeled by the profiles defined in the parts has been greatly expanded.
  - New profiles include:
    - *Part 3 Common Profiles:* Serial Attached SCSI (SAS) Target Port, Serial ATA (SATA) Target Ports, SB Target Port, SAS Initiator Ports, ATA Initiator Ports, FC-SB-x Initiator Ports, FCoE Initiator Ports, Power Supply, Fan, Sensors, Base Server, Media Access Device, Storage Enclosure, Software Inventory, Profile Registration, Proxy Server System Management, Operational Power.
    - *Part 4 Block Devices:* Block Storage Views, CKD Block Services, Erasure, Storage Server Asymmetry, Volume Composition, Storage Element Protection, Replication Services, Pools from Volumes, Group Masking and Mapping, Thin Provisioning.
    - *Part 5 Filesystems:* File Export, File Server Manipulation, File Storage, Filesystem, Filesystem Copy Services, Filesystem Performance, Filesystem Quotas, NAS Network Port, Host Filesystem, Filesystem Remote Copy Services.
    - *Part 6 Fabric:* Fibre Channel Security, Fabric Views, Virtual Fabrics, Switch Partitioning, SAS Expander, N Port Virtualizer, Inter Fabric Routing.
    - *Part 7 Host Elements:* Storage HBA, Host Hardware RAID Controller.
    - *Part 8 Media Libraries:* Partitioned Tape Library, Virtual Tape Library, Virtual Tape Library Copy and Library Views.
  - The following experimental profiles were removed from the International Standard:
    - *Part 3 Common Profiles:* Security, 3rd Party Authentication, Authorization, Credential Management, Identity Management, Security Role Based Access Control and Security Resource Ownership.
    - *Part 4 Block Devices:* Pool Management Policy.
  - The following profiles were deprecated:
    - *Part 3 Common Profiles:* Cascading (replaced by direct use of cascading classes).
    - *Part 4 Block Devices:* Volume Management (and not replaced).
    - *Part 6 Fabric:* Router (and not replaced).
    - *Part 7 Host Elements:* FC HBA (replaced by Storage HBA), SB Multipath Management (and not replaced).
    - *Part 8 Media Libraries:* InterLibraryPort Connection (and not replaced).
  - In addition, many of the existing profiles have been enhanced.

This International Standard was prepared by the SNIA (Storage Networking Industry Association)<sup>1</sup>. The standard is often referred to as **SMI-S** (*Storage Management Initiative Specification*).

---

1. Storage Networking Industry Association, 425 Market Street, Suite 1020, San Francisco, CA 94105, U.S.A., <http://www.snia.org>