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Authors: P. van Dijk L. Peltan
 PowerDNS CZ.NIC
 O. Sury W. Toorop
 Internet Systems Consortium NLnet Labs
 C.R. Monshouwer
 P. Thomassen
 deSEC, SSE - Secure Systems Engineering
 A. Sargsyan
 Internet Systems Consortium
 DNS Catalog Zones

Abstract

This document describes a method for automatic DNS zone provisioning among DNS primary and secondary nameservers by storing and transferring the catalog of zones to be provisioned as one or more regular DNS zones.

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1. Introduction

The content of a DNS zone is synchronized among its primary and secondary nameservers using AXFR and IXFR. However, the list of zones served by the primary (called a catalog in [RFC1035]) is not automatically synchronized with the secondaries. To add or remove a zone, the administrator of a DNS nameserver farm not only has to add or remove the zone from the primary, they must also add/remove configuration for the zone from all secondaries. This can be both inconvenient and error-prone; in addition, the steps required are dependent on the nameserver implementation.

This document describes a method in which the list of zones is represented as a regular DNS zone (called a "catalog zone" here), and transferred using DNS zone transfers. When entries are added to or removed from the catalog zone, it is distributed to the secondary nameservers just like any other zone. Secondary nameservers can then add/remove/modify the zones they serve in accordance with the changes to the catalog zone. Other use-cases of nameserver remote configuration by catalog zones are possible, where the catalog consumer might not be a secondary.

2. Terminology

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [[RFC2119](#)][[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

Catalog zone: A DNS zone containing a DNS catalog, that is, a list of DNS zones and associated properties.

Member zone: A DNS zone whose configuration is published inside a catalog zone.

Member node: A DNS name in the Catalog zone representing a Member zone.

\$CATZ: Used in examples as a placeholder to represent the domain name of the catalog zone itself. \$OLDCATZ and \$NEWCATZ are used to discuss migration of a member zone from one catalog zone \$OLDCATZ to another catalog zone \$NEWCATZ.

Catalog producer: An entity that generates and is responsible for the contents of the catalog zone.

Catalog consumer: An entity that extracts information from the catalog zone (such as a DNS server that configures itself according to the catalog zone's contents).

This document makes use of terminology that is specific to the DNS, such as for transfer mechanisms (AXFR, IXFR), for record types (SOA, NS, PTR), and other technical terms (such as RDATA). Since these terms have specific meanings in the DNS they are not expanded at first use in this document. For definitions of those and other terms, see [[RFC8499](#)].

3. Description

A catalog zone is a DNS zone whose contents are specially crafted. Its resource records (RR) primarily constitute a list of PTR records

referencing other DNS zones (so-called "member zones"). The catalog zone may contain other records indicating additional metadata (so-called "properties") associated with these member zones.

Catalog consumers MUST ignore any RRs in the catalog zone for which no processing is specified or which are otherwise not supported by the implementation.

Authoritative servers may be pre-configured with multiple catalog zones, each associated with a different set of configurations.

Although the contents of a catalog zone are interpreted and acted upon by nameservers, a catalog zone is a regular DNS zone and so must adhere to the standards for DNS zones.

A catalog zone is primarily intended for the management of a farm of authoritative nameservers, and should not be expected to be accessible from any recursive nameserver.

4. Catalog Zone Structure

A catalog zone MUST follow the usual rules for DNS zones. In particular, SOA and NS record sets MUST be present and adhere to standard requirements (such as [[RFC1982](#)]).

Although catalog zones are not intended to be queried via recursive resolution (see [Section 7](#)), at least one NS RR is still required so that a catalog zone is a syntactically correct DNS zone. A single NS RR with a NSDNAME field containing the absolute name "invalid." is RECOMMENDED [[RFC2606](#)][[RFC6761](#)].

4.1. Member Zones

The list of member zones is specified as a collection of member nodes, represented by domain names under the owner name "zones" where "zones" is a direct child domain of the catalog zone.

The names of member zones are represented on the RDATA side (instead of as a part of owner names) of a PTR record, so that all valid domain names may be represented regardless of their length [[RFC1035](#)]. This PTR record MUST be the only record in the PTR RRset with the same name. The presence of more than one record in the RRset indicates a broken catalog zone which MUST NOT be processed (see [Section 5.1](#)).

For example, if a catalog zone lists three zones "example.com.", "example.net." and "example.org.", the member node RRs would appear as follows:

```
<unique-1>.zones.$CATZ 0 IN PTR example.com.  
<unique-2>.zones.$CATZ 0 IN PTR example.net.  
<unique-3>.zones.$CATZ 0 IN PTR example.org.
```

where <unique-N> is a label that tags each record in the collection. <unique-N> has a unique value in the collection. When different <unique-N> labels hold the same PTR value (i.e., point to the same member zone), the catalog zone is broken and MUST NOT be processed (see [Section 5.1](#)).

Member node labels carry no informational meaning beyond labeling member zones. A changed label may indicate that the state for a zone needs to be reset (see [Section 5.6](#)).

Having the zones uniquely tagged with the <unique-N> label ensures that additional RRs can be added below the member node (see [Section 4.2](#)).

The CLASS field of every RR in a catalog zone MUST be IN (1). The TTL field's value has no meaning in this context and SHOULD be ignored.

4.2. Properties

Catalog zone information is stored in the form of "properties".

Properties are identified by their name, which is used as an owner name prefix for one or more record sets underneath a member node (or underneath the catalog zone apex), with RR type(s) as appropriate for the respective property.

Known properties with the correct RR type, but which are for some reason invalid (for example because of an impossible value or because of an illegal number of RRs in the RRset), denote a broken catalog zone which MUST NOT be processed (see [Section 5.1](#)).

This document includes a set of initial properties which can be extended via the IANA registry defined and created in [Section 8](#). Some properties are defined at the global level; others are scoped to apply only to a specific member zone. This document defines a mandatory global property in [Section 4.2.1](#). The "zones" label from [Section 4.1](#) can also be seen as a global property and is listed as such in the IANA registry in [Section 8](#). Member-specific properties are described in [Section 4.3](#).

Implementers may store additional information in the catalog zone with Custom properties, see [Section 4.4](#). The meaning of such custom properties is determined by the implementation in question.

4.2.1. Schema Version (version property)

The catalog zone schema version is specified by an integer value embedded in a TXT RR named version.\$CATZ. All catalog zones MUST have a TXT RRset named version.\$CATZ with exactly one RR.

Catalog consumers MUST NOT apply catalog zone processing to

- *zones without the version property
- *zones with a version property with more than one RR in the RRset
- *zones with a version property without an expected value in the version.\$CATZ TXT RR
- *zones with a version property with a schema version value which is not implemented by the consumer (e.g. version "1")

These conditions signify a broken catalog zone which MUST NOT be processed (see [Section 5.1](#)).

For this memo, the value of the version.\$CATZ TXT RR MUST be set to "2", i.e.:

```
version.$CATZ 0 IN TXT "2"
```

NB: Version 1 was used in a draft version of this memo and reflected the implementation first found in BIND 9.11.

4.3. Member Zone Properties

Each member zone MAY have one or more additional properties, described in this chapter. The member properties described in this document are all optional and implementations MAY choose to implement all, some or none of them. Member zone properties are represented by RRsets below the corresponding member node.

4.3.1. Change of Ownership (coo property)

The coo property facilitates controlled migration of a member zone from one catalog to another.

A Change Of Ownership is signaled by the coo property in the catalog zone currently "owning" the zone. The name of the new catalog is the value of a PTR record in the relevant coo property in the old catalog. For example if member "example.com." will migrate from catalog zone \$OLDCATZ to catalog zone \$NEWCATZ, this appears in the \$OLDCATZ catalog zone as follows:

```
<unique-N>.zones.$OLDCATZ 0 IN PTR example.com.  
coo.<unique-N>.zones.$OLDCATZ 0 IN PTR $NEWCATZ
```

The PTR RRset MUST consist of a single PTR record. The presence of more than one record in the RRset indicates a broken catalog zone which MUST NOT be processed (see [Section 5.1](#)).

When a consumer of a catalog zone \$OLDCATZ receives an update which adds or changes a coo property for a member zone in \$OLDCATZ, it does *not* migrate the member zone immediately. The migration has to wait for an update of \$NEWCATZ. in which the member zone is present. The consumer MUST verify, before the actual migration, that coo property pointing to \$NEWCATZ is still present in \$OLDCATZ.

Unless the member node label (i.e., <unique-N>) for the member is the same in \$NEWCATZ, all its associated state for a just migrated zone MUST be reset (see [Section 5.6](#)). Note that the owner of \$OLDCATZ allows for the zone associated state to be taken over by the owner of \$NEWCATZ by default. To prevent the takeover of state, the owner of \$OLDCATZ must remove this state by updating the associated properties or by performing a zone state reset (see [Section 5.6](#)) before or simultaneous with adding the coo property. (see also [Section 7](#))

The old owner may remove the member zone containing the coo property from \$OLDCATZ once it has been established that all its consumers have processed the Change of Ownership.

4.3.2. Groups (group property)

With a group property, consumer(s) can be signaled to treat some member zones within the catalog zone differently.

The consumer MAY apply different configuration options when processing member zones, based on the value of the group property. A group property value is stored as the entire RDATA of a TXT record directly below the member node. The exact handling of the group property value is left to the consumer's implementation and configuration.

The producer MAY assign a group property to all, some, or none of the member zones within a catalog zone. The producer MAY assign more than one group property to one member zone. This will make it possible to transfer group information for different consumer operators in a single catalog zone. Implementations MAY facilitate mapping of a specific group value to specific configuration configurable *on a per catalog zone basis* to allow for producers that publish their catalog zone at multiple consumer operators. Consumer operators SHOULD namespace their group values to reduce the risk of having to resolve clashes.

The consumer MUST ignore group values it does not understand. When a consumer encounters multiple group values for a single member zone, it MAY choose to process all, some or none of them. This is left to the implementation.

4.3.2.1. Example

Group properties are represented by TXT resource records. The record content has no pre-defined meaning. Their interpretation is purely a matter of agreement between the producer and the consumer(s) of the catalog.

For example, the "foo" group could be agreed to indicate that a zone not be signed with DNSSEC. Conversely, an agreement could define that group names starting with "operator-" indicate in which way a given DNS operator should set up certain aspects of the member zone's DNSSEC configuration.

Assuming that the catalog producer and consumer(s) have established such agreements, consider the following catalog zone (snippet) which signals to consumer(s) how to treat DNSSEC for the zones "example.net." and "example.com.":

```
<unique-1>.zones.$CATZ      0 IN PTR    example.com.
group.<unique-1>.zones.$CATZ 0 IN TXT    "foo"
<unique-2>.zones.$CATZ      0 IN PTR    example.net.
group.<unique-2>.zones.$CATZ 0 IN TXT    "operator-x-foo"
group.<unique-2>.zones.$CATZ 0 IN TXT    "operator-y" "bar"
```

In this scenario, consumer(s) shall, by agreement, not sign the member zone "example.com." with DNSSEC. For "example.net.", the consumers, at two different operators, will configure the member zone to be signed with a specific combination of settings. The group value that indicates that depends on what has been agreed with each operator ("operator-x-foo" vs. "operator-y" "bar").

4.4. Custom Properties (*.ext properties)

Implementations and operators of catalog zones may choose to provide their own properties. Custom properties can occur both globally, or for a specific member zone. To prevent a name clash with future properties, such properties MUST be represented below the label "ext".

"ext" is not a placeholder. A custom property is named as follows:

; a global custom property:
<property-prefix>.ext.\$CATZ

; a member zone custom property:
<property-prefix>.ext.<unique-N>.zones.\$CATZ

<property-prefix> may consist of one or more labels.

Implementations SHOULD namespace their custom properties to limit risk of clashes with other implementations of catalog zones. This can be achieved by using two labels as the <property-prefix>, so that the name of the implementation is included in the prefix:
<some-setting>.<implementation-name>.ext.\$CATZ.

Implementations MAY use such properties on the member zone level to store additional information about member zones, for example to flag them for specific treatment.

Further, implementations MAY use custom properties on the global level to store additional information about the catalog zone itself. While there may be many use cases for this, a plausible one is to store default values for custom properties on the global level, then overriding them using a property of the same name on the member level (= under the ext label of the member node) if so desired. A property agreement between producer and consumer should clearly define what semantics apply, and whether a property is global, member, or both.

The meaning of the custom properties described in this section is determined by the implementation alone, without expectation of interoperability.

5. Nameserver Behavior

5.1. General Requirements

As it is a regular DNS zone, a catalog zone can be transferred using DNS zone transfers among nameservers.

Catalog updates should be automatic, i.e., when a nameserver that supports catalog zones completes a zone transfer for a catalog zone, it SHOULD apply changes to the catalog within the running nameserver automatically without any manual intervention.

Nameservers MAY allow loading and transfer of broken zones with incorrect catalog zone syntax (as they are treated as regular zones). The reason a catalog zone is considered broken SHOULD be communicated clearly to the operator (e.g. through a log message).

When a previously correct catalog zone becomes a broken catalog zone, because of an update through an incremental transfer or otherwise, it loses its catalog meaning. No special processing occurs. Member zones previously configured by this catalog MUST NOT be removed or reconfigured in any way.

If a name server restarts with a broken catalog zone, the broken catalog SHOULD NOT prevent the name server from starting up and serving the member zones in the last valid version of the catalog zone.

Processing of a broken catalog SHALL start (or resume) when the catalog turns into a correct catalog zone, for example by an additional update (through zone transfer or updates) fixing the catalog zone.

Similarly, when a catalog zone expires, it loses its catalog meaning and MUST no longer be processed as such. No special processing occurs until the zone becomes fresh again.

5.2. Member zone name clash

If there is a clash between an existing zone's name (either from an existing member zone or otherwise configured zone) and an incoming member zone's name (via transfer or update), the new instance of the zone MUST be ignored and an error SHOULD be logged.

A clash between an existing member zone's name and an incoming member zone's name (via transfer or update), may be an attempt to migrate a zone to a different catalog, but should not be treated as one except as described in [Section 4.3.1](#).

5.3. Member zone removal

When a member zone is removed from a specific catalog zone, a consumer MUST NOT remove the zone and associated state data if the zone was not configured from that specific catalog zone. Only when the zone was configured from a specific catalog zone, and the zone is removed as a member from that specific catalog zone, the zone and associated state (such as zone data and DNSSEC keys) MUST be removed from the consumer. Consumer operators may consider to temporarily archive associated state to facilitate mistake recovery.

5.4. Member node name change

When via a single update or transfer, the member node's label value (<unique-N>) changes, catalog consumers MUST process this as a member zone removal including all the zone's associated state (as described in [Section 5.3](#)), immediately followed by processing the member as a newly to be configured zone in the same catalog.

5.5. Migrating member zones between catalogs

If all consumers of the catalog zones involved support the `coo` property, it is RECOMMENDED to perform migration of a member zone by following the procedure described in [Section 4.3.1](#). Otherwise, a migration of a member zone from a catalog zone `$OLDCATZ` to a catalog zone `$NEWCATZ` has to be done by: first removing the member zone from `$OLDCATZ`; second adding the member zone to `$NEWCATZ`.

If in the process of a migration some consumers of the involved catalog zones did not catch the removal of the member zone from `$OLDCATZ` yet (because of a lost packet or downtime or otherwise), but did already see the update of `$NEWCATZ`, they may consider the update adding the member zone in `$NEWCATZ` to be a name clash (see [Section 5.2](#)) and as a consequence the member is not migrated to `$NEWCATZ`. This possibility needs to be anticipated with a member zone migration. Recovery from such a situation is out of the scope of this document. It may for example entail a manually forced retransfer of `$NEWCATZ` to consumers after they have been detected to have received and processed the removal of the member zone from `$OLDCATZ`.

5.6. Zone-associated state reset

It may be desirable to reset state (such as zone data and DNSSEC keys) associated with a member zone.

A zone state reset may be performed by a change of the member node's name (see [Section 5.4](#)).

6. Implementation and Operational Notes

Although any valid domain name can be used for the catalog name `$CATZ`, a catalog producer MUST NOT use names that are not under the control of the catalog producer (with the exception of reserved names). It is RECOMMENDED to use either a domain name owned by the catalog producer, or to use a name under a suitable name such as "invalid." [[RFC6761](#)].

Catalog zones on secondary nameservers would have to be set up manually, perhaps as static configuration, similar to how ordinary DNS zones are configured when catalog zones or another automatic configuration mechanism are not in place. The secondary additionally needs to be configured as a catalog consumer for the catalog zone to enable processing of the member zones in the catalog, such as automatic synchronization of the member zones for secondary service.

Operators of catalog consumers should note that secondary name servers may receive DNS NOTIFY messages [[RFC1996](#)] for zones before

they are seen as newly added member zones to the catalog from which that secondary is provisioned.

Although they are regular DNS zones, catalog zones contain only information for the management of a set of authoritative nameservers. To prevent unintended exposure to other parties, operators SHOULD limit the systems able to query these zones.

Querying/serving catalog zone contents may be inconvenient via DNS due to the nature of their representation. An administrator may therefore want to use a different method for looking at data inside the catalog zone. Typical queries might include dumping the list of member zones, dumping a member zone's effective configuration, querying a specific property value of a member zone, etc. Because of the structure of catalog zones, it may not be possible to perform these queries intuitively, or in some cases, at all, using DNS QUERY. For example, it is not possible to enumerate the contents of a multivalued property (such as the list of member zones) with a single QUERY. Implementations are therefore advised to provide a tool that uses either the output of AXFR or an out-of-band method to perform queries on catalog zones.

Great power comes with great responsibility: Catalog zones simplify zone provisioning by orchestrating zones on secondary name servers from a single data source - the catalog. Hence, the catalog producer has great power and changes must be treated carefully. For example if the catalog is generated by some script and this script for whatever reason generates an empty catalog, millions of member zones may get deleted from their secondaries within seconds and all the affected domains may be offline in a blink of an eye.

7. Security Considerations

As catalog zones are transmitted using DNS zone transfers, it is RECOMMENDED that catalog zone transfers are protected from unexpected modifications by way of authentication, for example by using TSIG [[RFC8945](#)], or Strict or Mutual TLS authentication with DNS Zone transfer over TLS or QUIC [[RFC9103](#)].

Use of DNS UPDATE [[RFC2136](#)] to modify the content of catalog zones SHOULD similarly be authenticated.

Zone transfers of member zones SHOULD similarly be authenticated. TSIG shared secrets used for member zones SHOULD NOT be mentioned in the catalog zone data. However, key identifiers may be shared within catalog zones.

Catalog zones reveal the zones served by their consumers, including their properties. To prevent unintentional exposure of catalog zone

contents, it is RECOMMENDED to limit the systems able to query them and to conduct catalog zone transfers confidentially [[RFC9103](#)].

As with regular zones, primary and secondary nameservers for a catalog zone may be operated by different administrators. The secondary nameservers may be configured as a catalog consumer to synchronize catalog zones from the primary, but the primary's administrators may not have any administrative access to the secondaries.

Administrative control over what zones are served from the configured name servers shifts completely from the server operator (consumer) to the "owner" (producer) of the catalog zone content. To prevent unintended provisioning of zones, consumer(s) SHOULD scope the set of admissible member zones by any means deemed suitable (such as statically, via regular expressions, or dynamically, by verifying against another database before accepting a member zone).

With migration of member zones between catalogs using the `coo` property, it is possible for the owner of the target catalog (i.e., `$NEWCATZ`) to take over all its associated state with the zone from the original owner (i.e., `$OLDCATZ`) by maintaining the same member node label (i.e., `<unique-N>`). To prevent the takeover of the zone associated state, the original owner has to enforce a zone state reset by changing the member node label (see [Section 5.6](#)) before or simultaneously with adding the `coo` property.

8. IANA Considerations

IANA is requested to create a registry on the "Domain Name System (DNS) Parameters" IANA web page as follows:

Registry Name: DNS Catalog Zones Properties

Assignment Policy: Expert Review, except for property prefixes ending in the label "ext", which are for Private Use.

Reference: [this document]

Note: This registry does not apply to Catalog Zones version "1", but applies to Catalog Zones version "2" as specified in [this document].

Property prefix	Description	Status	Reference
zones	List of member zones	Standards Track	[this document]
version	Schema version	Standards Track	[this document]

Property prefix	Description	Status	Reference
coo	Change of Ownership	Standards Track	[this document]
group	Group	Standards Track	[this document]
*.ext	Custom properties	Private Use	[this document]

Table 1

The meanings of the fields are as follows:

Property prefix: One or more domain name labels

Description: A human readable short description or name for the property

Status: IETF Document status or "External" if not documented in an IETF document.

Reference: A stable reference to the document in which this property is defined.

9. Acknowledgements

Our deepest thanks and appreciation go to Stephen Morris, Ray Bellis and Witold Krecicki who initiated this draft and did the bulk of the work.

Catalog zones originated as the chosen method among various proposals that were evaluated at ISC for easy zone management. The chosen method of storing the catalog as a regular DNS zone was proposed by Stephen Morris.

The initial authors discovered that Paul Vixie's earlier [\[Metazones\]](#) proposal implemented a similar approach and reviewed it. Catalog zones borrow some syntax ideas from Metazones, as both share this scheme of representing the catalog as a regular DNS zone.

Thanks to Leo Vandewoestijne. Leo's presentation in the DNS devroom at the FOSDEM'20 [\[FOSDEM20\]](#) was one of the motivations to take up and continue the effort of standardizing catalog zones.

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Appendix A. Catalog Zone Example

The following is a full example of a catalog zone containing three member zones with various properties:

```
catalog.invalid.          0 SOA   invalid. (
                           invalid. 1625079950 3600 600 2147483646 0 )
catalog.invalid.          0 NS    invalid.
example.vendor.ext.catalog.invalid. 0 CNAME example.net.
version.catalog.invalid.  0 TXT   "2"
nj2xg5b.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 PTR  example.com.
nvxxezj.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 PTR  example.net.
group.nvxxezj.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 TXT  (
                           "operator-x-foo" )
nfwxa33.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 PTR  example.org.
coo.nfwxa33.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 PTR  (
                           newcatz.invalid. )
group.nfwxa33.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 TXT  (
                           "operator-y-bar" )
metrics.vendor.ext.nfwxa33.zones.catalog.invalid. 0 CNAME (
                           collector.example.net. )
```

Appendix B. Implementation Status

Note to the RFC Editor: please remove this entire appendix before publication.

In the following implementation status descriptions, "DNS Catalog Zones" refers to DNS Catalog Zones version 2 as described in this document. Version 1 of catalog zones was initially developed by ISC for BIND, but never standardized in the IETF. Support for version 1 catalog zones is explicitly mentioned per implementation. Support for the coo and group properties are also explicitly mentioned per implementation.

*Knot DNS 3.1 (released August 2, 2021) supports both producing and consuming of catalog zones, including the group property.

*PowerDNS from version 4.7 (released October 3, 2022) supports both producing and consuming of catalog zones version 2 and

consuming of catalog zones version 1. PowerDNS does support the coo property, and the group property on the producing side.

*Proof of concept [python scripts](#) that can be used for both generating and consuming DNS Catalog Zones with NSD have been developed during the hackathon at the IETF-109.

*BIND 9.18.3+ supports version 2 catalog zones as described in this document including the coo property, as well as version 1 catalog zones.

Interoperability between the above implementations has been tested during the hackathon at the IETF-109.

Appendix C. Change History

Note to the RFC Editor: please remove this entire appendix before publication.

*draft-muks-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-00

Initial public draft.

*draft-muks-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-01

Added Witold, Ray as authors. Fixed typos, consistency issues. Fixed references. Updated Area. Removed newly introduced custom RR TYPES. Changed schema version to 1. Changed TSIG requirement from MUST to SHOULD. Removed restrictive language about use of DNS QUERY. When zones are introduced into a catalog zone, a primary SHOULD first make the new zones available for transfers first (instead of MUST). Updated examples, esp. use IPv6 in examples per Fred Baker. Add catalog zone example.

*draft-muks-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-02

Addressed some review comments by Patrik Lundin.

*draft-muks-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-03

Revision bump.

*draft-muks-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-04

Reordering of sections into more logical order. Separation of multi-valued properties into their own category.

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-00

New authors to pickup the editor pen on this draft

Remove data type definitions for zone properties Removing configuration of member zones through zone properties altogether

Remove Open issues and discussion Appendix, which was about zone options (including primary/secondary relationships) only.

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-01

Added a new section "The Serial Property", introducing a new mechanism which can help with disseminating zones from the primary to the secondary nameservers in a timely fashion more reliably.

Three different ways to provide a "serial" property with a member zone are offered to or the workgroup for discussion.

Added a new section "Implementation Status", listing production ready, upcoming and Proof of Concept implementations, and reporting on interoperability of the different implementations.

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-02

Adding the coo property for zone migration in a controlled fashion

Adding the group property for reconfigure settings of member zones in an atomic update

Adding the epoch property to reset zone associated state in a controlled fashion

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-03

Big cleanup!

Introducing the terms catalog consumer and catalog producer

Reorganized topics to create a more coherent whole

Properties all have consistent format now

Try to assume the least possible from implementations w.r.t.:

- 1) Predictability of the <unique-N> IDs of member zones
- 2) Whether or not fallback catalog zones can be found for a member
- 3) Whether or not a catalog consumer can maintain state

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-04

Move Implementation status to appendix

Miscellaneous textual improvements

coo property points to \$NEWCATZ (and not zones.\$NEWCATZ)

Remove suggestion to increase serial and remove member zone from \$OLDCATZ after migration

More consistent usage of the terms catalog consumer and catalog producer throughout the document

Better (safer) description of resetting refresh timers of member zones with the serial property

Removing a member MUST remove zone associated state

Make authentication requirements a bit less prescriptive in security considerations

Updated implementation status for KnotDNS

Describe member node name changes and update "Zone associated state reset" to use that as the mechanism for it.

Add Peter Thomassen as co-author

Complete removal of the epoch property. We consider consumer optimizations with predictable member node labels (for example based on a hash) out of the scope of this document.

Miscellaneous editorial improvements

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-05

Add Kees Monshouwer as co-author

Removed the "serial" property

Allow custom properties on the global level

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-06

Move administrative control explanation to Security Considerations

Move comment on query methods to Implementation Notes

Clarify what happens on expiry

Clarify catalog consumer behavior when MUST condition is violated

Better text on ordering of operations for Change of Ownership

Suggest to namespace custom properties

Clarify how to handle property record with wrong type

Cover the case of multiple different <unique-N>'s having the same value

Recommendations for naming catalog zones

Add an operational note about notifies for not yet existing zones

Add text about name server restarts with broken zones

Great power comes with great responsibility (Thanks Klaus!)

Mention the new BIND implementation

All invalid properties cause a broken catalog zone, including invalid group and version properties.

Add Aram Sargsyan as author (he did the BIND9 implementation)

group properties can have more than one value

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-07

Some spelling fixes from Tim Wicinski and Josh Soref

Replace SHOULDs with MUSTs for ignoring things that are meaningless to a catalog consumer (Thanks Michael StJohns)

Update the list of people to thank in the Acknowledgements section

Mention PowerDNS support of catalog zones from version 4.7.0 onwards

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-08

Address AD Review comments (editorial only)

When DoT is mentioned, also mention now-standardized DoQ

*draft-toorop-dnsop-dns-catalog-zones-08

Editorial nits from David Blacka, Lars Eggert, Russ Housley, Erik Kline, É (U+00C9)ric Vyncke and Paul Wouters

Adds a Catalog Zone Example

Mention that the document uses DNS specific terminology and reference RFC8499

Added IANA Considerations sections, with a registry for Catalog Zones properties

Updated Implementation status also with respect to Catalog zones version "1" support

Updates to Rename "group properties" to "group property values" or "group values" to reduce confusion about who will determine those values (operators and not implementations)

Change example group values in non descriptive names

Add some more clarifications on that and how group values are determined in producer/consumer agreements

Stronger checking suggestion (SHOULD instead of MAY) in accepting member zones by consumers in the Security section

Added mistake recovery text to the Member zone removal section

Replace vague language ("meaningless") with more precise wording

Catalog consumers that know only version "2" MUST not process version "1" catalog zones and consider it broken.

The entire RDATA of a group property is it's value

Authors' Addresses

Peter van Dijk
PowerDNS
Den Haag
Netherlands

Email: peter.van.dijk@powerdns.com

Libor Peltan
CZ.NIC
Czechia

Email: libor.peltan@nic.cz

Ondrej Sury
Internet Systems Consortium
Czechia

Email: ondrej@isc.org

Willem Toorop
NLnet Labs

Science Park 400
1098 XH Amsterdam
Netherlands

Email: willem@nlnetlabs.nl

Kees Monshouwer
Netherlands

Email: mind@monshouwer.eu

Peter Thomassen
deSEC, SSE - Secure Systems Engineering
Berlin
Germany

Email: peter@desec.io

Aram Sargsyan
Internet Systems Consortium

Email: aram@isc.org