

# BBS Hierarchical Addressing Protocol

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## Date:

August 30th, 1994

## Adopted by TAPR:

March 3rd, 1995

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## Introduction

The TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the x.3.4 hierarchical address protocol.

After discussion of previous articles on hierarchical addressing standards (1,2) and taking into account international issues of regional/state name sizes, the TAPR BBS Special Interest Group recommends the adoption of the x.3.4 standard on an international basis. x is defined as 2, 3, or 4 letter region names as defined by the country.

### Examples of x.3.4:

@WA6GVD.CA.USA.NOAM  
@EA2CMO.EAZ.ESP.EURO  
@F5JGK.FAQI.FRA.EURO

Regional identifiers may be duplicated in different countries (i.e. AK, Alaska, USA, could be used in another country as a regional identifier); however, Country and Continental identifiers SHOULD NOT be used as regional names.

It is important to note that there is a distinct and significant difference between HIERARCHICAL ADDRESSES and FLOOD DESIGNATORS. Hierarchical address elements are common to all messages (bulletins, P and T types) and are the foundation of the digital forwarding system. Flood designators are used for routing and filtering bulletins. Geographical flood designators are likely based upon hierarchical address elements. It is therefore important that any attempt to establish standards concentrate first on hierarchical address elements. Standards for flood designators can follow.

It is the purpose of this document to generate a changing recommendation that reflects current hierarchical routing. Reference Tables at the end will be changed as necessary to reflect current configurations within the international BBS network. These tables will need to be changed and updated in order to meet future needs of user and sysops.

## Hierarchical Routing Syntax Summary

This summary uses a modified Backus-Naur form to summarize the syntax for hierarchical addressing. [] = optional

@hierarchical\_address  
bbs.[#octothorpe.][region.]country.continent

bbs  
valid callsign as defined by local communications authority

#octothorpe.  
#area.[#octothorpe.]

#area  
area as defined by the local region

See Table 4 for list of current area identifiers

region  
2,3, or 4 character region identifier as defined by the country.

See Table 3 for list of region identifiers

country  
3 character country identifier as defined by ANSI X.12 and EDIFACT.  
Published in ISO 3166-1981(E/F).

See Table 2 for country identifiers

continent  
4 character continental identifier.

See Table 1 for continental identifiers.

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#### Examples:

F6CNB.#SETX.TX.USA.NOAM  
KB7WE.#WWA.WA.USA.NOAM  
OH6RBV.#VAA.FIN.EURO  
SK2AT.AC.SWE.EURO  
OH6RBG.FIN.EURO  
KE7KD.#NONEV.NV.USA.NOAM  
WX3K.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NOAM

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#### References:

1. Jenkins, Lew (N6VV), Dave Toth (VE3GYQ), and Hank Oredson (W0RLI).  
International Routing Designators. Proceedings of the ARRL 7th Computer  
Networking Conference. Columbia Maryland. October 1, 1988. pp. 91-93.
2. Clark, Tom (W3IWI). Some comments on the `H`ierarchical Continent  
Address Designator. Proceedings of the ARRL 9th Computer Networking  
Conference. London, Ontario Canada. September 22, 1990. pp. 278-279.

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TABLE 1: Continent Identifiers

EURO -- Europe  
MEDR -- Mediterranean  
INDI -- Indian Ocean including the Indian subcontinent  
MDLE -- Middle East  
SEAS -- South-East Asia  
ASIA -- The Orient  
  
NOAM -- North America (Canada, USA, Mexico)  
CEAM -- Central America

CARB -- Caribbean  
SOAM -- South America  
  
AUNZ -- Australia/New Zealand  
EPAC -- Eastern Pacific  
NPAC -- Northern Pacific  
SPAC -- Southern Pacific  
WPAC -- Western Pacific  
  
NAFR -- Northern Africa  
CAFR -- Central Africa  
SAFR -- Southern Africa  
  
ANTR -- Antarctica

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TABLE 2: Country Identifiers

ARG -- Argentina  
AUS -- Australia  
AUT -- Austria  
BEL -- Belgium  
BMU -- Bermuda  
BOL -- Bolivia  
BRA -- Brazil  
BRN -- Brunei  
BGR -- Bulgaria  
CAN -- Canada  
CHL -- Chile  
CHN -- China  
COL -- Colombia  
CRI -- Costa Rica  
CUB -- Cuba  
DNK -- Denmark  
DOM -- Dominican Republic  
ECU -- Ecuador  
EGY -- Egypt  
SLV -- El Salvador  
FIN -- Finland  
FRA -- France  
PYF -- French Polynesia  
DEU -- Germany  
GRC -- Greece  
GRL -- Greenland  
GTM -- Guatemala  
HTI -- Haiti  
HND -- Honduras  
HKG -- Hong Kong  
HUN -- Hungary  
ISL -- Iceland  
IND -- India  
IDN -- Indonesia  
IRL -- Ireland  
ISR -- Israel  
ITA -- Italy  
JPN -- Japan  
PRK -- Korea, North  
KOR -- Korea, South  
LBN -- Lebanon  
LIE -- Liechtenstein  
LUX -- Luxembourg  
MYS -- Malaysia  
MEX -- Mexico  
MCO -- Monaco  
MAR -- Morocco

NLD -- Netherlands  
 NZL -- New Zealand  
 NIC -- Nicaragua  
 NOR -- Norway  
 PAK -- Pakistan  
 PAN -- Panama  
 PRY -- Paraguay  
 PER -- Peru  
 PHL -- Phillipines  
 POL -- Poland  
 PRT -- Portugal  
 ROM -- Romania  
 SAU -- Saudi Arabia  
 SGP -- Singapore  
 ZAF -- South Africa  
 ESP -- Spain  
 SWE -- Sweden  
 CHE -- Switzerland  
 SYR -- Syria  
 TWN -- Taiwan  
 THA -- Thailand  
 TUR -- Turkey  
 GBR -- United Kingdom  
 USA -- United States  
 URY -- Uruguay  
 SUN -- USSR ??? (Document needs latest defintions)  
 VEN -- Venezuela  
 YUG -- Yugoslavia

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TABLE 3: Region Identifiers organized by Country Codes.

ARG -- Argentina  
     BA -- ??  
     CF -- ??  
 AUS -- Australia  
     ??  
 AUT -- Austria  
     ??  
 BEL -- Belgium  
     HT -- ??  
     LG -- ??  
     OVN -- ??  
     WVL -- ??  
 BMU -- Bermuda  
     ??  
 BOL -- Bolivia  
     ??  
 BRA -- Brazil  
     RS -- ??  
     SP -- ??  
 BRN -- Brunei  
     ??  
 BGR -- Bulgaria  
     ??  
 CAN -- Canada  
     NF -- Newfoundland  
     AB -- Alberta  
     BC -- British Columbia  
     MB -- Manitoba  
     NB -- New Brunswick  
     NS -- Nova Scotia  
     NW -- Northwest Territories  
     ON -- Ontario  
     PQ -- Province du Quebec

SK -- Saskatchewan  
YK -- Yukon  
CHL -- Chile  
??  
CHN -- China  
??  
COL -- Colombia  
??  
CRI -- Costa Rica  
??  
CUB -- Cuba  
??  
DNK -- Denmark  
??  
DOM -- Dominican Republic  
??  
ECU -- Ecuador  
??  
EGY -- Egypt  
??  
SLV -- El Salvador  
??  
FIN -- Finland  
??  
FRA -- France  
FCEN -- ??  
FRPA -- ??  
FCAL -- ??  
FPDL -- ??  
FMLR -- ??  
FNOR -- ??  
FCOR -- ??  
FPOC -- ??  
FAQI -- ??  
PYF -- French Polynesia  
??  
DEU -- Germany  
BY -- ??  
GRC -- Greece  
??  
GRL -- Greenland  
??  
GTM -- Guatemala  
none  
HTI -- Haiti  
??  
HND -- Honduras  
??  
HKG -- Hong Kong  
??  
HUN -- Hungary  
??  
ISL -- Iceland  
??  
IND -- India  
??  
IDN -- Indonesia  
??  
IRL -- Ireland  
??  
ISR -- Israel  
??  
ITA -- Italy  
IEMR -- ??  
IFVG -- ??  
ILOM -- ??

IPIE -- ??  
IPUG -- ??  
ISAR -- ??  
ISIC -- ??  
ITAA -- ??  
IVEN -- ??  
MO -- ??  
JPN -- Japan  
??  
PRK -- Korea, North  
??  
KOR -- Korea, South  
??  
LBN -- Lebanon  
??  
LIE -- Liechtenstein  
??  
LUX -- Luxembourg  
??  
MYS -- Malaysia  
??  
MEX -- Mexico  
??  
MCO -- Monaco  
??  
MAR -- Morocco  
??  
NLD -- Netherlands  
??  
NZL -- New Zealand  
??  
NIC -- Nicaragua  
??  
NOR -- Norway  
??  
PAK -- Pakistan  
??  
PAN -- Panama  
??  
PRY -- Paraguay  
??  
PER -- Peru  
??  
PHL -- Phillipines  
??  
POL -- Poland  
??  
PRT -- Portugal  
CTPT -- ??  
ROM -- Romania  
??  
SAU -- Saudi Arabia  
??  
SGP -- Singapore  
??  
ZAF -- South Africa  
??  
ESP -- Spain  
EAA -- Alicante  
EAAB -- Albacete  
EAAL -- Almeria  
EAAV -- Avila  
EAB -- Barcelona  
EABA -- Badajoz  
EABI -- Vizcaya (Bilbao)  
EABU -- Burgos

EAC -- Coruna  
EACA -- Cadiz  
EACC -- Caceres  
EACE -- Ceuta  
EACO -- Cordoba  
EACR -- Ciudad Real  
EACS -- Castellon  
EACU -- Cuenca  
EAGC -- Gran Canaria  
EAGI -- Gerona  
EAGR -- Granada  
EAGU -- Guadalajara  
EAH -- Huelva  
EAHU -- Huesca  
EAJ -- Jaen  
EAL -- Lerida  
EALE -- Leon  
EALO -- Logrono  
EALU -- Lugo  
EAM -- Madrid  
EAMA -- Malaga  
EAML -- Melilla  
EAMU -- Murcia  
EANA -- Navarra (Pamplona)  
EAO -- Oviedo  
EAOR -- Orense  
EAP -- Palencia  
EAPM -- Baleares (Palma de Mallorca)  
EAPO -- Pontevedra  
EAS -- Santander  
EASA -- Salamanca  
EASE -- Sevilla  
EASG -- Segovia  
EASO -- Soria  
EASS -- Guipuzcoa (San Sebastian)  
EAT -- Tarragona  
EATE -- Teruel  
EATF -- Tenerife  
EATO -- Toledo  
EAV -- Valencia  
EAVA -- Valladolid  
EAVI -- Alava (Vitoria)  
EAZ -- Zaragoza  
EAZA -- Zamora  
SWE -- Sweden  
AC -- ??  
CHE -- Switzerland  
??  
SYR -- Syria  
??  
TWN -- Taiwan  
??  
THA -- Thailand  
??  
TUR -- Turkey  
??  
GBR -- United Kingdom (need a list of routing numbers by county)  
#1 -- ??  
#2 -- ??  
# ...-- ??  
USA -- United States  
AK -- Alaska  
AL -- Alabama  
AR -- Arkansas  
  
AZ -- Arizona

CA -- California  
 CO -- Colorado  
 CT -- Connecticut  
 DE -- Delaware  
 FL -- Florida  
 GA -- Georgia  
 HI -- Hawaii  
 IA -- Iowa  
 ID -- Idaho  
 IL -- Illinois  
 IN -- Indiana  
 KS -- Kansas  
 KY -- Kentucky  
 LA -- Louisiana  
 MA -- Massachusetts  
 MD -- Maryland  
 ME -- Maine  
 MI -- Michigan  
 MI -- Mississippi  
 MN -- Minnesota  
 MO -- Missouri  
 MT -- Montana  
 NC -- North Carolina  
 ND -- North Dakota  
 NE -- Nebraska  
 NH -- New Hampshire  
 NJ -- New Jersey  
 NM -- New Mexico  
 NV -- Nevada  
 NY -- New York  
 OH -- Ohio  
 OK -- Oklahoma  
 OR -- Oregon  
 PA -- Pennsylvania  
 RI -- Rhode Island  
 SC -- South Carolina  
 SD -- South Dakota  
 TN -- Tennessee  
 TX -- Texas  
 UT -- Utah  
 VA -- Virginia  
 VT -- Vermont  
 WA -- Washington  
 WI -- Wisconsin  
 WV -- West Virginia  
 WY -- Wyoming  
 URY -- Uruguay  
 MVD -- ??  
 SUN -- USSR ??? (Document needs latest defintions)  
 ??  
 VEN -- Venezuela  
  
 YUG -- Yugoslavia  
 SRB -- ??

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 Table 4: Area Defintions

This table to be defined during the comment period.

All readers are suggested to submit their regional area defintions for inclusion in the table. Be sure to include the region and country.

Example: #DFW.TX.USA -- Dallas/Ft Worth Texas Area  
 would be an entry in this table.