



# DASH-IF implementation guidelines: MPD Patch

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**This version:**

<https://dashif.org/Guidelines/master/mpd-patch.html>

**Issue Tracking:**

[GitHub](#)

**Editor:**

SVTA DASH-IF Working Group

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## § 1. MPD Patch

### § 1.1. Introduction

This feature description is an update to DASH-IF IOP Guidelines v4.3 [IOP43]. It adds an additional feature, the MPD Patch, a way provide a differential update to a previous dynamic MPD.

### § 1.2. Scenarios

The typical use case for MPD patch is for dynamic manifests with long SegmentTimeline elements due to non-constant segment duration prohibiting efficient compression using repeat count. This happens when the media frame rate is not commensurable with the segment duration.

For example, a 2s average segment duration is not compatible with AAC 48kHz audio, since it corresponds to 93.75 frames leading to a cycle of 4 segments (8s) and the corresponding SegmentTimeline pattern:

```
<SegmentTimeline>
  <S t="83498463744000" d="96256" r="2"></S>
  <S d="95232"></S>
  <S d="96256" r="2"></S>
  <S d="95232"></S>
  <!-- continued pattern -->
</SegmentTimeline>
```

For a long sliding window, this results in a huge MPD. With MPD Patch one can instead request a delta document, a Patch, describing the changes relative to a `publishTime`.

### § 1.3. Content Offering Requirements and Recommendations

MPD Patch is essentially only useful in the case of `SegmentTemplate` with `SegmentTimeline`. It is especially useful when the segment durations are varying leading to long `SegmentTimeline` nodes. It may also help in the case of multiple periods of a dynamic MPD.

MPD Patch should NOT be used for `SegmentTemplate` with `$Number$` since such MPDs typically rarely change, meaning that their content including the `publishTime` is the same over a longer period of time.

The `PatchLocation` element in the MPD contains an optional `ttl` attribute providing the availability end time relative to the `publishTime`. It is recommended to use this value, and set it to relatively small number like 1 minute.

The node serving the MPD Patch requests can cache the first response with an updated `publishTime` respect to the referred one, provided that the time difference is less than the `ttl` value.

A client can therefore NOT assume that the Patch response is providing information about the latest `publishTime`. It follows that the client may need to make more MPD Patch requests to arrive at the live edge.

The server response to a too early request for an MPD Patch, i.e. before there is a new `publishTime`, should be the same as when asking for a segment before its availability time. That could be 404 Not Found or 425 Too Early.

## § 1.4. Client Implementation Requirements and Guidelines

Clients should ignore the `<PatchLocation>` element if not understood. If used, they should make a request for an Patch at the same instant that they would ask for an updated MPD.

If they get a 4XX response to the Patch request, they should either wait and redo the request, or switch to fetching a full MPD.

## § 1.5. Examples

Below is an example with a `<PatchLocation>` element and `publishTime="2024-04-16T07:34:38Z"`.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<MPD xmlns="urn:mpeg:dash:schema:mpd:2011" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema
  xsi:schemaLocation="urn:mpeg:dash:schema:mpd:2011 DASH-MPD.xsd" id="auto-patch-id"
  profiles="urn:mpeg:dash:profile:isoff-live:2011,http://dashif.org/guidelines/dash-if-simple"
  type="dynamic" availabilityStartTime="1970-01-01T00:00:00Z" publishTime="2024-04-16T07:34
```

```
minBufferTime="PT2S" timeShiftBufferDepth="PT1M" maxSegmentDuration="PT2S">
<ProgramInformation moreInformationURL="https://github.com/dash-Industry-Forum/livesim-
<Title>Basic MPD with 640x480@30 video at 300kbp and 48kbps audio</Title>
<Source>VoD source for DASH-IF livesim2</Source>
</ProgramInformation>
<PatchLocation ttl="60">/patch/livesim2/patch_60/segtimeline_1/testpic_2s/Manifest.mpp?publ
<Period id="P0" start="PT0S">
<AdaptationSet id="2" lang="en" contentType="audio" segmentAlignment="true" mimeType="a
<Role schemeldUri="urn:mpeg:dash:role:2011" value="main"></Role>
<SegmentTemplate media="$RepresentationID$/Time$.m4s" initialization="$Representation
<SegmentTimeline>
<S t="82236135168000" d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
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<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
<S d="95232"></S>
<S d="96256" r="2"></S>
</SegmentTimeline>
</SegmentTemplate>
<Representation id="A48" bandwidth="48000" audioSamplingRate="48000" codecs="mp4a.4C
<AudioChannelConfiguration schemeldUri="urn:mpeg:dash:23003:3:audio_channel_configur
</Representation>
</AdaptationSet>
<AdaptationSet id="1" contentType="video" par="16:9" minWidth="640" maxWidth="640" minR
<Role schemeldUri="urn:mpeg:dash:role:2011" value="main"></Role>
<SegmentTemplate media="$RepresentationID$/Time$.m4s" initialization="$Representation
<SegmentTimeline>
<S t="154192753440000" d="180000" r="30"></S>
</SegmentTimeline>
</SegmentTemplate>
<Representation id="V300" bandwidth="300000" width="640" height="360" sar="1:1" frameRa
</AdaptationSet>
```

```
</Period>
<UTCTiming schemeldUri="urn:mpeg:dash:utc:http-xdate:2014" value="https://time.akamai.co
</MPD>
```

The segments have an average duration of 2s, so a request 5s after the publishTime results in the following PATCH document with a more complex change to the audio part than to the video part.

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<Patch xmlns="urn:mpeg:dash:schema:mpd-patch:2020"
  xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance"
  xsi:schemaLocation="urn:mpeg:dash:schema:mpd-patch:2020 DASH-MPD-PATCH.xsd" mpdId:
<replace sel="/MPD/@publishTime">2024-04-16T07:34:42Z</replace>
<replace sel="/MPD/PatchLocation[1]">
  <PatchLocation ttl="60">/patch/livesim2/patch_60/segtimeline_1/testpic_2s/Manifest.mpp?pub
</replace>
<remove sel="/MPD/Period[@id='P0']/AdaptationSet[@id='2']/SegmentTemplate/SegmentTimeli
<add sel="/MPD/Period[@id='P0']/AdaptationSet[@id='2']/SegmentTemplate/SegmentTimeline"
  <S t="82236135360512" d="96256"/>
</add>
<add sel="/MPD/Period[@id='P0']/AdaptationSet[@id='2']/SegmentTemplate/SegmentTimeline/"
  <S d="95232"/>
</add>
<add sel="/MPD/Period[@id='P0']/AdaptationSet[@id='2']/SegmentTemplate/SegmentTimeline/"
  <S d="96256"/>
</add>
<remove sel="/MPD/Period[@id='P0']/AdaptationSet[@id='1']/SegmentTemplate/SegmentTimeli
<add sel="/MPD/Period[@id='P0']/AdaptationSet[@id='1']/SegmentTemplate/SegmentTimeline"
  <S t="15419275380000" d="180000" r="30"/>
</add>
</Patch>
```

## 1.6. Reference Tools

**NOTE:** provide status for the following functionalities

- dash.js supports MPD Patch for SegmentTemplate with SegmentTimeline. It has been tested towards [livesim2][livesim2] including cases with multiple periods. If a 4XX

response is received, it will switch to ordinary full MPD requests (Daniel to confirm)

- [livesim2][livesim2] supports MPD DASH. There is [Wiki article][livesim2-wiki] describing how it works
- Test Vectors. One can get test vectors from the [DASH-IF instance of livesim2][livesim2-instance], e.g. [https://livesim2.dashif.org/livesim2/patch\_60/segmenttimeline\_1/testpic\_2s/Manifest.mpd][livesim2-entry]. Use the [urlgen][urlgen] page to generate other test vectors.
- JCCP

## § 1.7. Additional Information

[livesim2]: <https://github.com/Dash-Industry-Forum/livesim2> [livesim2-wiki]: <https://github.com/Dash-Industry-Forum/livesim2/wiki/MPD-Patch> [livesim2-instance]: <https://livesim2.dashif.org> [livesim2-entry]: [https://livesim2.dashif.org/livesim2/patch\\_60/segmenttimeline\\_1/testpic\\_2s/Manifest.mpd](https://livesim2.dashif.org/livesim2/patch_60/segmenttimeline_1/testpic_2s/Manifest.mpd) [urlgen]: <https://livesim2.dashif.org/urlgen>

## § References

### § Normative References

#### **[IOP43]**

*Guidelines for Implementation: DASH-IF Interoperability Points*. URL: <https://dash-industry-forum.github.io/docs/DASH-IF-IOP-v4.3.pdf>