

T10/07-075 revision 3

Date: July 03, 2007

To: T10 Committee (SCSI)

From: George Penokie (IBM)

Subject: SAS-2: REPORT BROADCAST function

1 Overview

Attempting to locate the origin of a broadcast (other than BROADCAST(CHANGE)) is impossible in SAS today. There is also a very limited number of broadcast primitives. This proposal addresses both those issues by defining a new SMP function that could be used by an management application client to determine the source of the broadcast and to allows multiple reasons to be assigned to a single broadcast type.

Revision 3 adds in the ability to count received broadcasts in addition to those originated by an expander.

2 SAS-2 changes

4.1.13 Broadcasts

Broadcasts are used to notify all phys in the SAS domain about certain events. Broadcasts are transmitted using BROADCAST (see 7.2.5.5) or the SMP ZONED BROADCAST function (see 10.4.3.17).

Table 1 defines the types of Broadcasts supported.

Table 1 — Broadcast types

Broadcast	Primitive	Description
Broadcast (Change)	yes	Originated by an expander device to notify SAS initiator ports that a SAS domain change has occurred (see 7.11). May also be originated by SAS initiator ports. Ignored by SAS target ports.
Broadcast (Reserved Change 0)	yes	Reserved. SAS ports (i.e, SAS initiator ports and SAS target ports) shall process this Broadcast the same as Broadcast (Change).
Broadcast (Reserved Change 1)	yes	Reserved. SAS ports shall process this Broadcast the same as Broadcast (Change).
Broadcast (SES)	yes	Originated by a logical unit with a peripheral device type set to 0Dh (i.e., enclosure services device) (see SPC-4 and SES-2) accessible through a SAS target port in the SAS domain to notify SAS initiator ports of an asynchronous event. SSP initiator ports should poll all the logical units in the SAS domain with peripheral device types set to 0Dh to determine the source. SAS target ports shall ignore this Broadcast.
Broadcast (Expander)	yes	Originated by an expander device to notify SAS initiator ports that an expander event has occurred, including: a) a phy event information peak value detector has reached its threshold value; or b) a phy event information peak value detector has been cleared by an SMP CONFIGURE PHY EVENT INFORMATION function (see 10.4.3.26). Expander events do not include SAS domain changes, which are communicated with Broadcast (Change).
Broadcast (Asynchronous Event)	yes	Originated by an SSP target port when an event occurs that causes one or more unit attention conditions to be established for one or more logical units accessible through the SSP target port. An SSP target port shall only originate one Broadcast (Asynchronous Event) for each event that affects multiple logical units accessible through the SSP target port (e.g., only one Broadcast (Asynchronous Event) is originated when a hard reset occurs).
Broadcast (Reserved 3)	yes	Reserved. SAS ports shall ignore this Broadcast.
Broadcast (Reserved 4)	yes	Reserved. SAS ports shall ignore this Broadcast.
Broadcast (Zone Activate)	no	Initiates the zone activate step (see 4.9.6.4). Devices that are not locked zoning expander devices shall ignore this Broadcast.
<p>^a All Broadcasts are supported by the SMP ZONED BROADCAST function (see 10.4.3.17). Broadcasts labeled “yes” are also transmitted via BROADCAST primitive sequences (see 7.2.5.5).</p>		

When an expander port receives a Broadcast, the BPP (see 4.6.5) shall forward the Broadcast on at least one phy in each other expander port if zoning is disabled, or forward the Broadcast as described in 4.9.5 if zoning is enabled.

An expander device is not required to queue multiple identical Broadcasts for the same expander port. If a second identical Broadcast is requested before the first Broadcast has been transmitted, the second Broadcast may be ignored.

See 10.4.3.3 for details on counting Broadcast (Change)s originated in an expander device. See 4.11 for details on phy event information.

A SAS device or an expander device is not required to maintain Broadcast count information in non-volatile storage or across reset events.

If supported, a SAS device or an expander device shall, for each combination of broadcast type and broadcast reason code (see x.x.x) that the SAS device or expander device has originated, maintain a single broadcast counter.

If supported, a SAS device or an expander device shall, for each combination of broadcast type and broadcast reason code (see x.x.x) that the SAS device or expander device has received, maintain a single broadcast counter.

If the Broadcast is related to a phy then there shall be an originating broadcast counter and a received broadcast counter maintained for each phy. If the Broadcast is related to a SAS device or an expander device, then there shall only be one originating broadcast counter and one received broadcast counter maintained.

10.4.3 SMP functions

10.4.3.1 SMP function request frame format

An SMP request frame is sent by a management application client via an SMP initiator port to request an SMP function be performed by a management device server. Table 2 defines the SMP request frame format.

Table 2 — SMP request frame format

Byte/Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0	SMP FRAME TYPE (40h)								
1	FUNCTION								
2	Reserved								
3	REQUEST LENGTH $((n - 7) / 4)$								
4	ADDITIONAL REQUEST BYTES								
m									
	Fill bytes, if needed								
n - 3	(MSB)	CRC							
n								(LSB)	

The SMP FRAME TYPE field is included in each frame format defined in this clause, although that field is parsed by the SMP transport layer (see 9.4). The SMP FRAME TYPE field is set to 40h.

The FUNCTION field specifies which SMP function is being requested and is defined in table 3. If the value in the FUNCTION field is not supported by the management device server, it shall return a function result of UNKNOWN SMP FUNCTION as described in table 13.

Table 3 — SMP functions (FUNCTION field) (part 1 of 2)

Code	SMP function	Description	Reference
00h	REPORT GENERAL	Return general information about the device	10.4.3.3
01h	REPORT MANUFACTURER INFORMATION	Return vendor and product identification	10.4.3.4
02h	READ GPIO REGISTER	See SFF-8485	
03h	REPORT SELF-CONFIGURATION STATUS	Return status of the discover process in a self-configuring expander device	10.4.3.5
04h	REPORT ZONE PERMISSION	Return zone permission table active or shadow values	10.4.3.6
05h	REPORT BROADCAST	Return information on Broadcasts	10.4.3.3
05 6h - 0Fh	Reserved for general SMP input functions		
10h	DISCOVER	Return information about the specified phy	10.4.3.7
11h	REPORT PHY ERROR LOG	Return error logging information about the specified phy	10.4.3.8
12h	REPORT PHY SATA	Return information about a phy currently attached to a SATA phy	10.4.3.9
13h	REPORT ROUTE INFORMATION	Return phy-based expander route table information	10.4.3.10
14h	REPORT PHY EVENT INFORMATION	Return phy event information for the specified phy	10.4.3.11
15h	REPORT PHY BROADCAST COUNTS	Return Broadcast counts	10.4.3.12
16h	DISCOVER LIST	Return information about the specified phys	10.4.3.13
17h	REPORT EXPANDER ROUTE TABLE	Return contents of the expander-based expander route table	10.4.3.14
18h - 1Fh	Reserved for phy-based SMP input functions		
20h - 3Fh	Reserved for SMP input functions		
40h - 7Fh	Vendor specific		
80h	CONFIGURE GENERAL	Configure the device	10.4.3.15
81h	ENABLE DISABLE ZONING	Enable or disable zoning	10.4.3.16
82h	WRITE GPIO REGISTER	See SFF-8485	
83h - 84h	Reserved for general SMP output functions		
85h	ZONED BROADCAST	Transmit the specified Broadcast on the expander ports in the specified zone group(s)	10.4.3.17
86h	ZONE LOCK	Lock a zoning expander device	10.4.3.18
87h	ZONE ACTIVATE	Set the zoning expander active values equal to the zoning expander shadow values	10.4.3.19

Table 3 — SMP functions (FUNCTION field) (part 2 of 2)

Code	SMP function	Description	Reference
88h	ZONE UNLOCK	Unlock a zoning expander device	10.4.3.20
89h	Reserved for a zoning function		
8Ah	CONFIGURE ZONE PHY INFORMATION	Configure zone phy information	10.4.3.21
8Bh	CONFIGURE ZONE PERMISSION TABLE	Configure the zone permission table	10.4.3.22
8Ch - 8Fh	Reserved for general SMP output functions		
90h	CONFIGURE ROUTE INFORMATION	Change phy-based expander route table information	10.4.3.23
91h	PHY CONTROL	Request actions by the specified phy	10.4.3.24
92h	PHY TEST FUNCTION	Request a test function by the specified phy	10.4.3.25
93h	CONFIGURE PHY EVENT INFORMATION	Configure phy event information for the specified phy	10.4.3.26
94h - 9Fh	Reserved for phy-based SMP output functions		
A0h - BFh	Reserved for SMP output functions		
C0h - FFh	Vendor specific		

The REQUEST LENGTH field specifies the number of dwords that follow, not including the CRC field. For compatibility with previous versions of this standard, a REQUEST LENGTH field set to 00h sometimes specifies a non-zero number of dwords; this is defined in the function description.

The ADDITIONAL REQUEST BYTES field definition and length are based on the SMP function. The maximum size of the ADDITIONAL REQUEST BYTES field is 1 024 bytes, making the maximum size of the frame 1 032 bytes (i.e., 1 024 bytes of data + 4 bytes of header + 4 bytes of CRC).

Fill bytes shall be included after the ADDITIONAL REQUEST BYTES field so the CRC field is aligned on a four byte boundary. The contents of the fill bytes are vendor specific.

The CRC field is included in each request frame format defined in this clause, although that field is defined by the SMP transport layer (see 9.4.1) and parsed by the SMP link layer (see 7.18).

10.4.3.2 SMP function response frame format

An SMP response frame is sent by a management device server via an SMP target port in response to an SMP request frame. Table 4 defines the SMP response frame format.

Table 4 — SMP response frame format

Byte/Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0	
0	SMP FRAME TYPE (41h)								
1	FUNCTION								
2	FUNCTION RESULT								
3	RESPONSE LENGTH $((n - 7) / 4)$								
4	ADDITIONAL RESPONSE BYTES								
m									
	Fill bytes, if needed								
n - 3	(MSB)	CRC							
n								(LSB)	

...

Table 5 defines the priority of the SMP function results defined in table 13.

Table 5 — Function result priority (part 1 of 4)

SMP function	SMP function result priority
REPORT GENERAL (see 10.4.3.3)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT MANUFACTURER INFORMATION (see 10.4.3.4)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
READ GPIO REGISTER (see SFF-8485)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT SELF-CONFIGURATION STATUS (see 10.4.3.5)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT ZONE PERMISSION TABLE (see 10.4.3.6)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT BROADCAST (see 10.4.3.3.3)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED

Table 5 — Function result priority (part 2 of 4)

SMP function	SMP function result priority
DISCOVER (see 10.4.3.7)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 5) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT PHY ERROR LOG (see 10.4.3.8)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 5) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT PHY SATA (see 10.4.3.9)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) PHY DOES NOT SUPPORT SATA; 5) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 6) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT ROUTE INFORMATION (see 10.4.3.10)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) INDEX DOES NOT EXIST; 5) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 6) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT PHY EVENT INFORMATION (see 10.4.3.11)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 5) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT PHY BROADCAST COUNTS (see 10.4.3.12)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
DISCOVER LIST (see 10.4.3.13)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) UNKNOWN DESCRIPTOR TYPE; 4) UNKNOWN PHY FILTER; 5) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 6) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
REPORT EXPANDER ROUTE TABLE (see 10.4.3.14)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
CONFIGURE GENERAL (see 10.4.3.15)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP ZONE VIOLATION; 3) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 4) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 5) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
WRITE GPIO REGISTER (see SFF-8485)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 3) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED

Table 5 — Function result priority (part 3 of 4)

SMP function	SMP function result priority
ENABLE DISABLE ZONING (see 10.4.3.16)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) ZONE LOCK VIOLATION; 3) UNKNOWN ENABLE DISABLE ZONING VALUE; 4) NO MANAGEMENT ACCESS RIGHTS; 5) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 6) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 7) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
ZONED BROADCAST (see 10.4.3.17)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) SMP ZONE VIOLATION; 3) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 4) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
ZONE LOCK (see 10.4.3.18)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) ZONE LOCK VIOLATION; 3) NO MANAGEMENT ACCESS RIGHTS; 4) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 5) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 6) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
ZONE ACTIVATE (see 10.4.3.19)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) ZONE LOCK VIOLATION; 3) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 4) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 5) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
ZONE UNLOCK (see 10.4.3.20)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) ZONE LOCK VIOLATION; 3) NOT ACTIVATED; 4) BUSY; 5) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 6) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
CONFIGURE ZONE PHY INFORMATION (see 10.4.3.21)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) ZONE LOCK VIOLATION; 4) UNKNOWN ZONE PHY INFORMATION VALUE; 5) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 6) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 7) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
CONFIGURE ZONE PERMISSION (see 10.4.3.22)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) ZONE LOCK VIOLATION; 3) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 4) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 5) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
CONFIGURE ROUTE INFORMATION (see 10.4.3.23)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) INDEX DOES NOT EXIST; 5) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 6) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 7) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED

Table 5 — Function result priority (part 4 of 4)

SMP function	SMP function result priority
PHY CONTROL (see 10.4.3.24)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) SMP ZONE VIOLATION; 5) LOGICAL LINK RATE NOT SUPPORTED; 6) UNKNOWN PHY OPERATION; 7) PHY DOES NOT SUPPORT SATA; 8) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 9) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 10) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
PHY TEST FUNCTION (see 10.4.3.25)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) SMP ZONE VIOLATION; 5) UNKNOWN PHY TEST FUNCTION; 6) PHY TEST FUNCTION IN PROGRESS; 7) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 8) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 9) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED
CONFIGURE PHY EVENT INFORMATION (see 10.4.3.26)	1) INVALID REQUEST FRAME LENGTH; 2) PHY DOES NOT EXIST; 3) PHY VACANT; 4) SMP ZONE VIOLATION; 5) UNKNOWN PHY EVENT INFORMATION SOURCE; 6) INVALID EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT; 7) SMP FUNCTION FAILED; and 8) SMP FUNCTION ACCEPTED

The RESPONSE LENGTH field indicates the number of dwords that follow, not including the CRC field. For compatibility with previous versions of this standard, a RESPONSE LENGTH field set to 00h sometimes indicates a non-zero number of dwords; this is defined in the function description.

The ADDITIONAL RESPONSE BYTES field definition depends on the SMP function requested. The maximum size of the ADDITIONAL RESPONSE BYTES field is 1 024 bytes, making the maximum size of the frame 1 032 bytes (i.e., 1 024 bytes of data + 4 bytes of header + 4 bytes of CRC).

Fill bytes shall be included after the ADDITIONAL RESPONSE BYTES field so the CRC field is aligned on a four byte boundary. The contents of the fill bytes are vendor specific.

The CRC field is included in each response frame format defined in this clause, although that field is defined by the SMP transport layer (see 9.4.1) and parsed by the SMP link layer (see 7.18).

10.4.3.3 REPORT BROADCAST function

[Editor's Note 1: All new in this section](#)

10.4.3.3.1 REPORT BROADCAST function overview

The REPORT BROADCAST function returns information about Broadcasts that were:

- a) originated from this expander device or end device; and
- b) received by this expander device or end device.

This SMP function may implemented by any management device server.

The expander device or end device shall, if any broadcast counter (see x.x.x) within a broadcast descriptor is not set to zero then, report that broadcast descriptor.

10.4.3.3.2 REPORT BROADCAST request

Table 6 defines the request format.

Table 6 — REPORT BROADCAST request

Byte\Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	SMP FRAME TYPE (40h)							
1	FUNCTION (05h)							
2	Reserved							
3	REQUEST LENGTH (00h)							
4	(MSB)							
5	CRC							
	(LSB)							

The SMP FRAME TYPE field shall be set to 40h.

The FUNCTION field shall be set to 05h.

The REQUEST LENGTH field shall be set to 00h.

The CRC field is defined in 10.4.3.1.

10.4.3.3.3 REPORT BROADCAST response

Table 239 defines the response format.

Table 7 — REPORT BROADCAST response

Byte\Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	SMP FRAME TYPE (41h)							
1	FUNCTION (05h)							
2	FUNCTION RESULT							
3	RESPONSE LENGTH $((n - 7) / 4)$							
4	(MSB)	EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT						(LSB)
5								
6	Reserved							
7	NUMBER OF BROADCAST DESCRIPTORS							
Broadcast descriptor list								
8	Broadcast descriptor (first) (see table 8)							
15								
...	...							
n - 11	Broadcast descriptor (last) (see table 8)							
n - 4								
n - 3	(MSB)	CRC						(LSB)
n								

The SMP FRAME TYPE field shall be set to 41h.

The FUNCTION field shall be set to 05h.

The FUNCTION RESULT field is defined in 10.4.3.2.

The RESPONSE LENGTH field indicates the number of dwords that follow, not including the CRC field.

The EXPANDER CHANGE COUNT field is defined in the SMP REPORT GENERAL response (see x.x.x.x).

The NUMBER OF BROADCAST DESCRIPTORS field indicates how many broadcast descriptors follow.

NOTE 1 - The number of broadcast descriptors is limited to 126.

The broadcast descriptor list contains broadcast descriptors as defined in 10.4.3.3.4.

The CRC field is defined in 10.4.3.2.

10.4.3.3.4 REPORT BROADCAST response broadcast descriptor

A broadcast descriptor shall only be returned for:

- a) broadcasts originated from or received by the SAS device or expander device (i.e., a count of Broadcasts is greater than zero); and

b) broadcast types that the SAS device or expander device has implemented.

The broadcast descriptors shall be returned in the order indicated in table 9. If the same broadcast type and broadcast reason code have counts on multiple phys then that group of broadcast descriptors shall be returned in increasing phy identifier order.

Table 8 defines the broadcast descriptor.

Table 8 — Broadcast descriptor

Byte/Bit	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
0	Reserved				BROADCAST TYPE			
1	PHY IDENTIFIER							
2	Reserved				BROADCAST REASON CODE			
3	(MSB)	ORIGINATING BROADCAST COUNT						
4								(LSB)
5	(MSB)	RECEIVED BROADCAST COUNT						
6								(LSB)
7	Reserved							

The BROADCAST TYPE field, defined in table 264 in 10.4.3.17, indicates the Broadcast type that was originated by the expander device.

The PHY IDENTIFIER field indicates the phy that caused the Broadcast described by this broadcast descriptor. A PHY IDENTIFIER field set to FFh indicates that no specific phy caused the Broadcast described by this broadcast descriptor.

Table 9 — BROADCAST REASON CODE field

Code	Broadcast type	Description
0h	0h (i.e., Broadcast (Change))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	1h (i.e., Broadcast (Reserved Change 0))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	2h (i.e., Broadcast (Reserved Change 1))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	3h (i.e., Broadcast (SES))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	4h (i.e., Broadcast (Expander))	Unspecified
1h		A phy event information peak value detector has reached its threshold value.
2h		A phy event information peak value detector has been cleared by an SMP CONFIGURE PHY EVENT INFORMATION function (see 10.4.3.26).
3h		The expander device is going to temporarily have reduced function (e.g., disable SMP access, reduced performance, disable phy to phy communication) for a period of time (see 4.6.8)
4h - Fh		Reserved
0h	5h (i.e., Broadcast (Asynchronous Event))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	6h (i.e., Broadcast (Reserved 3))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	7h (i.e., Broadcast (Reserved 4))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
0h	8h (i.e., Broadcast (Zone Activate))	Unspecified
1h - Fh		Reserved
All others		Reserved

The ORIGINATING BROADCAST COUNT field counts the number of Broadcasts that originated from the expander device described by this broadcast descriptor. If the expander device has originated the broadcast for any reason since transmitting a REPORT BROADCAST response, it shall increment this field at least once from the value in the previous REPORT BROADCAST response. It shall not increment this field when forwarding a Broadcast. This field shall wrap to at least 0001h after the maximum value (i.e., FFFFh) has been reached.

The RECEIVED BROADCAST COUNT field counts the number of Broadcasts that received by the expander device described by this broadcast descriptor. If the expander device has received the broadcast for any reason since transmitting a REPORT BROADCAST response, it shall increment this field at least once from the value

in the previous REPORT BROADCAST response. It shall not increment this field when originating a Broadcast. This field shall wrap to at least 0001h after the maximum value (i.e., FFFFh) has been reached.

NOTE 2 - The management application clients that use the ORIGINATING BROADCAST COUNT field or the RECEIVED BROADCAST COUNT field should read and save all the ORIGINATING BROADCAST COUNT field and the RECEIVED BROADCAST COUNT field values after a discover process (see x.x), and then read them after each receipt of each Broadcast to ensure that the count does not increment a multiple of 65 536 times between reading the field.

The BROADCAST REASON CODE field (see table 9) indicates the reason that the Broadcast described by this broadcast descriptor was originated.