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LLDP support

Description

LLDP (Link Layer Discovery Protocol) is a Layer 2 (L2) protocol used by network devices to advertise themselves to neighboring devices and to discover them.

In fastDPI, LLDP is not used for traffic analysis or network topology mapping. Instead, fastDPI generates and sends its own LLDP packets in order to:

1. Be discovered by neighboring network equipment (switches, routers).
2. Integrate correctly into a cable break setup — fastDPI presents itself as an active device but does not forward third-party LLDP packets. **All incoming LLDP packets are unconditionally dropped.**

LLDP configuration

The `lldp` section in the configuration file controls LLDP behavior. All parameters within the section, except `device`, are optional.

Basic configuration template

```
lldp {  
    enable=off  
    trace=off  
    pcap=off  
    chassis=  
    ttl=120  
    src_mac=  
    dest_mac=01:80:c2:00:00:0e  
    system_name=  
    system_desc=  
    device=01-00.0;enable=on;desc=port_description  
}
```

Configuration parameters

All parameters are hot-reloadable and take effect without restarting fastDPI.

Parameter	Description	Possible values
enable	Enables or disables LLDP support. Default: if the <code>lldp</code> section is present in the configuration — on, if absent — off.	on, off

Parameter	Description	Possible values
trace	Enables LLDP tracing. When enabled, information about packet generation and transmission is written to <code>fastdpi_alert.log</code> .	on, off
pcap	Enables saving LLDP packets to a pcap file (named in the format <code>udpi_YYYYMMDDHHMMSS_XXXXX.pcap</code>).	on, off
chassis	Chassis-ID value included in the LLDP packet. If not specified, the MAC address from the <code>bras_arp_mac</code> option is used; if it is also unavailable, the port MAC address is used.	String
ttl	Time To Live of the LLDP packet in seconds.	Number (default: 120)
src_mac	Source MAC address in the LLDPDU Ethernet header. If not specified, the MAC address from <code>bras_arp_mac</code> is used; otherwise, the port MAC address is used.	MAC address (for example, aa:bb:cc:dd:ee:ff)
dest_mac	Destination MAC address in the LLDPDU Ethernet header.	MAC address (default: 01:80:c2:00:00:0e — LLDP multicast)
system_name	Value of the System-Name TLV in the LLDP packet. If not specified, the System-Name TLV is not included.	String
system_desc	Value of the System-Description TLV in the LLDP packet. If not specified, the System-Description TLV is not included.	String
device	Specifies the port on which LLDP packets should be sent. The parameter can be repeated for multiple ports. The port name must match the <code>in_dev/out_dev</code> value. The following subparameters can be specified within the parameter using semicolons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <code>enable=on off</code> — enable or disable transmission for this port (default: on) <code>desc=string</code> — value of the Port-Desc TLV (if not specified, the Port-Desc TLV is not included) 	Format: <code><port_name>[;enable=on off][;desc=<string>]</code> Example: <code>device=01-00.0;enable=on;desc=WAN_port</code>

Configuration examples

Minimum configuration required to enable LLDP support

```
lldp {
    device=01-00.0
    device=02-00.0
}
```

Configuration with Port-Desc TLV values specified for each port

```
lldp {
    device=01-00.0;desc=WAN_port_1;enable=on
```

```
device=02-00.0;desc=LAN_port_2;enable=on
}
```

CLI management

Commands for dynamic LLDP management:

- Enable LLDP packet generation and transmission (immediate transmission):

```
fdpi_cli lldp enable
```

- Disable LLDP packet generation and transmission:

```
fdpi_cli lldp disable
```

Example output when enabled:

```
LLDP enabled chassis='<n/a>' TTL=120 system: name='', desc=''
src_MAC=00:00:00:00:00:00 dest_MAC=01:80:c2:00:00:0e
Devices:
'01-00.0': enabled desc=''
'02-00.0': enabled desc=''
```

Diagnostics and troubleshooting

Tracing

When the `trace=on` parameter is enabled in the `lldp` section, information about LLDP packet generation and transmission is written to the `fastdpi_alert.log` log file:

```
[INFO    ][2026/05/25-10:56:31:700344][0x7f0a4aa34400] LLDP options:
          enable      : 1
          trace       : 1
          pcap        : 0
          chassis     : ''
          ttl         : 120
          src_mac     : -
          dest_mac    : 01:80:c2:00:00:0e
          system_name : ''
          system_desc : ''
          device '01-00.0': enable=1 desc=''
          device '02-00.0': enable=1 desc=''
[TRACE   ][2026/05/25-10:56:31:700454][0x7f0a4aa34400] [LLDP]make_pdu: dev
'01-00.0' PDU len=234
[TRACE   ][2026/05/25-10:56:31:700475][0x7f0a4aa34400] [LLDP]make_pdu: dev
'02-00.0' PDU len=234
```

```
[TRACE ] [2026/05/25-10:56:31:850646] [0x7f0a4aa34400] [LLDP]send_pdu: dev
'01-00.0' via slave #0
[TRACE ] [2026/05/25-10:56:31:850725] [0x7f0a4aa34400] [LLDP]send_pdu: dev
'02-00.0' via slave #0
```

PCAP recording

When the `pcap=on` parameter is enabled, all generated LLDP packets are saved to a pcap file (named in the format `udpi_YYYYMMDDHHMMSS_XXXXX.pcap`).

LLDPDU example (operation result)

Example of a frame generated by fastDPI (minimum configuration, `bras_arp_mac=00:01:02:33:44:f1`):

```
00:01:02:33:44:f1 > 01:80:c2:00:00:0e, ethertype LLDP (0x88cc), length 78
  Chassis ID TLV (1), length 7
    Subtype MAC address (4): 00:01:02:33:44:f1
  Port ID TLV (2), length 8
    Subtype Local (7): 01-00.0
  Time to Live TLV (3), length 2: TTL 120s
  End TLV (0), length 0
```

Packets are transmitted periodically every 2 minutes or immediately upon executing the `fdpi_cli lldp enable` command.