MIB Files and Objects

This appendix contains information on how to modify existing Management Information Base (MIB) files and establish new MIB files, as well as a brief example of MIB objects and their use with CiscoWorks polling capabilities.

For more detailed information on MIB objects, refer to the Cisco MIB User Quick Reference publication. For a list of MIB reference sources relating to building MIB object structure, refer to the appendix "References and Recommended Reading."

For consistency, this guide uses the term *object* to represent such terms as MIB objects, MIB object instances, and so on. Other publications might use different terms, but they can be used interchangeably.

MIB Objects Overview

There are many MIB objects that can help you to manage your network. All objects are documented in either the RFC standard or a vendor-specific MIB (for example, the Cisco MIB). Here are a few MIB objects to consider using:

- Bandwidth—To obtain information about Internet Control Message Protocol (ICMP) echo packets (ping) input and output from the device, use icmpInEchos, icmpInEchoReps, icmpOutEchos, and icmpOutEchoReps objects. This information is useful to measure the bandwidth being consumed by simply answering ping packets.
- Configuration Information—To verify configuration information, use the MIB objects sysDescr, sysName, sysUpTime, sysContact, sysLocation, ifNumber, romId, and whyReload.
- Interface Error Rates—For fault management, it is often useful to monitor interface error rates. For an Ethernet interface, use locIfInCRC, locIfCollisions, ifInErrors, ifOutErrors, locIfInRunts, or locIfInGiants. For a serial interface, use locIfInFrame, locIfInAbort, locIfInIgnored, locIfResets, locIfRestarts, ifOutErrors, and ifInErrors.
- SNMP Packet Data—To determine how much time the router is spending answering or sending SNMP packets, use *snmpInGetRequests*, *snmpInGetNexts*, *snmpInGetResponses*, snmpOutGetRequests, snmpOutGetNexts, snmpOutGetResponses, snmpInTraps, and snmpOutTraps.
- Traffic Flow—To measure traffic flow for performance management, use the Cisco MIB objects locIfInBitsSec, locIfOutBitsSec, locIfInPktsSec, and locIfOutPktsSec to determine basic traffic flow on an interface in bits per second (bps) and packets per second (pps). Use lifTable in the Cisco MIB to monitor on a specific port for a specific protocol.
- Unreachable Address—To determine how often a router is being asked to send information to an unreachable address, use the icmpOutDestUnreachs object.

MIB Source Files

The textual MIB files must be written in the ASN.1 subset format described in RFC 1212. This guide does not describe all aspects of the ASN.1 language.

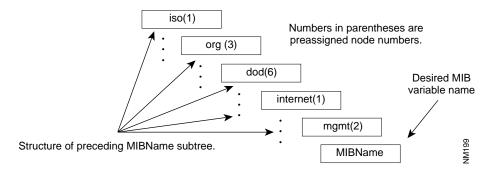
A MIB is organized into a tree structure consisting of labeled nodes. A complete object identifier is built by traversing the tree from the root node, collecting labels as each node is passed. The root of the MIB tree is iso(1). (See Figure A-1.)

Except for the MIB tree root iso(1), all nodes in the tree must have the parent node defined before a child node can be defined. Upper level nodes (those above mib(1)) can be most conveniently defined with the following statement:

```
MIBName { iso org(3) dod(6) internet(1) mgmt(2) 1 }
```

MibName is an arbitrary name. The numbers in parentheses are preassigned node numbers. The previous statement is interpreted as follows: **mgmt** is the beginning of a subtree (called *MIBName*) under internet, which is under dod, which is under org, which is under iso.

Figure A-1 **MIB Hierarchy**



Defining MIB Files

Additional subtrees below mgmt can be defined using OBJECT IDENTIFIER statements as follows:

```
Child Node OBJECT IDENTIFIER
::= { ParentNode ChildNodeNumber }
```

For example, to define **mib** (an object type) as a child of **mgmt** and assign a node number of 1, enter the following:

```
mib OBJECT IDENTIFIER ::= { mgmt 1 }
```

Most object types in a MIB should be defined using the OBJECT-TYPE macro. Following are the basic structure elements and format:

```
ObjectDescriptor OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX ASN1_Type
ACCESS AccessType
STATUS StatusType
::= ObjectIdentifier
```

An example of defining an OBJECT-TYPE macro with the name atNetAddress follows:

```
atNetAddress OBJECT-TYPE
SYNTAX NetworkAddress
ACCESS read-write
```

```
STATUS mandatory
:= { atEntry 3 }
```

Note For a complete discussion of the structure of a MIB file, refer to RFC 1212 and RFC 1213. ISO document 8824 describes ASN.1 in detail.

MIB trees must define the parentage of every branch from terminal object IDs to the *iso(1)* tree root. All trees must have the same root (iso(1)) is the recommended root) in order to determine how one MIB tree relates to another.

CiscoWorks MIB Files

The MIB object set read by CiscoWorks at the time it is started defines the objects that can be monitored and collected in the database for future analysis. At startup, CiscoWorks looks for the mib.bin and mib.alias files in the \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs directory. These files define the MIB object set and the aliases used for polling and data collection, and in addition to alias.gen, alias.master, and the MIB source files (*.mib) comprise the set of MIB-related files necessary for operating CiscoWorks.

The following MIB source files are shipped with CiscoWorks:

- A100-R1-MIB.mib—enterprise MIB for version 1.x of the A100 Hyperswitch
- BGP4-MIB.mib—Border Gateway Protocol Version 4 (BGP4) MIB from draft-ietf-bgp-mibv4-05.txt
- CISCO-CDP-MIB.mib—Cisco Discovery Protocol (CDP) MIB. Used for management of the CDP in Cisco devices.
- CISCO-CHANNEL-MIB.mib—Cisco Channel Interface Processor (CIP) MIB, which allows management of the CIP.
- CISCO-DSPU-MIB.mib—MIB definitions for Cisco downstream physical unit (DSPU)
- CISCO-IMAGE-MIB.mib—Cisco Image MIB, which allows CiscoWorks to query the capabilities of the image running on a Cisco box
- CISCO-PING-MIB.mib— Allows multiprotocol pings to be performed via Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP). This MIB is a replacement for the ping MIB object ({ lsystem 7 }), which is now obsolete.
- CISCO-PRODUCTS-MIB.mib—Contains the sysObjectID assignments for Cisco hardware platforms.
- CISCO-SMI.mib— Cisco Structure of Management Information (SMI) MIB, which defines the top-level OBJECT IDENTIFIER assignments for the Cisco enterprise, as well as all Cisco sysObjectID values.
- CISCO-TC.mib—Cisco Textual Conventions, which defines some ASN.1 textual conventions that are used throughout Cisco MIBs.
- CISCO-TCP-MIB.mib—An extension to the "tcp" group defined in MIB-II (RFC 1213). This MIB is a replacement for the "ltcp" group, defined as { local 6 } in earlier MIBs, which is now obsolete.
- CISCO-VINES-MIB.mib—Objectsfrom the Cisco VINES command line interface, influenced by the Banyan VINES MIB. It now subsumes the obsolescent, temporary Cisco VINES MIB.

- FDDI-SMT73-MIB.mib—RFC 1512 Fiber Distributed Data Interface (FDDI) MIB for Station Management (SMT) 7.3.
- LS100-R2-MIB.mib—Enterprise MIB for Version 2.x of the LS100 Hyperswitch (formerly known as the A100).
- NOVELL-IPX-MIB.mib—Virtually identical to the IPX MIB distributed as a part of the Novell NetWare Link Services Protocol (NLSP) Specification 1.0, Novell Part Number 100-001708-002, 2nd Edition, February 1994.
- NOVELL-RIPSAP-MIB.mib—Virtually identical to the RIPSAP MIB distributed as a part of the Novell NetWare Link Services Protocol (NLSP) Specification 1.0, Novell Part Number 100-001708-002, 2nd Edition, February 1994.
- OLD-CISCO-APPLETALK-MIB.mib—Cisco AppleTalk MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB
- OLD-CISCO-CHASSIS-MIB.mib—Cisco Chassis MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB
- OLD-CISCO-CPU-MIB.mib—Cisco CPU MIB. This MIB represents a portion of the *lsystem* group that was present in the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB. These are objects used to monitor the agent CPU usage.
- OLD-CISCO-DECNET-MIB.mib—Cisco DECnet MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- OLD-CISCO-ENVMON-MIB.mib—Cisco Environmental Monitor MIB. This MIB represents a portion of the *lsystem* group that was present in the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB. These are objects used to monitor the Environmental Monitor, when present.
- OLD-CISCO-FLASH-MIB.mib—Cisco Flash Memory MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- OLD-CISCO-INTERFACES-MIB.mib—Cisco Interfaces MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- OLD-CISCO-IP-MIB.mib—Cisco IP MIB, extracted from the IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB
- OLD-CISCO-MEMORY-MIB.mib—Cisco Memory MIB. This MIB represents a portion of the lsystem group that was present in the IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB. These are objects used to monitor the Dynamic Memory Manager.
- OLD-CISCO-NOVELL-MIB.mib—Cisco Novell/IPX MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- OLD-CISCO-SYSTEM-MIB.mib—Cisco System MIB. This MIB represents a portion of the lsystem group that was present in the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB. These are all general-purpose MIB objects.
- OLD-CISCO-TCP-MIB.mib—Cisco TCP MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB. This MIB is deprecated, having been replaced with CISCO-TCP-MIB.my, and is obsolete.
- OLD-CISCO-TS-MIB.mib—Cisco Terminal Service MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- OLD-CISCO-VINES-MIB.mib—Cisco Banyan Vines MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- OLD-CISCO-XNS-MIB.mib—Cisco Xeros Network Systems (XNS) MIB, extracted from the Cisco IOS 10.0 monolithic MIB.
- RFC1213-MIB.mib—MIB-II from RFC 1213.

- RS-232-MIB.mib—RS-232 MIB from RFC 1659.
- SNA-SDLC-MIB.mib—Synchronous Data Link Control (SDLC) MIB. This MIB is almost identical to RFC 1747, but was implemented prior to the RFC being finalized. In the future it will be updated to implement the finalized RFC.
- SNMP-REPEATER-MIB.mib—Hub MIB from RFC 1516.
- SOURCE-ROUTING-MIB.mib—Source Route Bridging MIB from RFC 1525 and RFC 1573
- cisco-adapter-mib—ASN.1 description of Cisco-specific MIB variables for Cisco network adapter cards.
- cisco-stack.mib—ASN.1 description of Cisco-specific MIB variables for Cisco's Catalyst concentrators and switches.
- ciscoworks.mib

Individual objects in the MIB files appear on a lines with the OBJECT-TYPE keyword.

The alias.master file contains the list of aliases upon which CiscoWorks depends. It is located in *\$NMSROOT/etc/mibs* directory.

Cisco Private MIB Objects

The Cisco private MIB object file, cisco.mib, is located in the CiscoWorks directory \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs. This section lists the Cisco private MIB objects that have been introduced starting with Software Release 8.1.

Note As shipped, CiscoWorks 3.0.3 does not support objects newly introduced after Cisco IOS Release 10.2. With patch software, however, CiscoWorks will support network devices running future releases of the Cisco IOS.

Software Release 8.1

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 8.1:

actAge *ipCkAccountingTable* ipckactSrc ipckactDst ipkactPkts ipckactByts ckactAge

Software Release 8.2

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 8.2:

writeMem writeNet *busyPer* avgBusy1 avgBusy5 idleCount idleWired locIfCarTrans locĬfReliab locIfDelay locĬfLoaď locĬfCollisions tsLineNoise dnAreaTablednACost dnAHopdnAIfIndex *dnANextHop* dnAAgednAPrio vinesInput vinesOutput vinesLocaldest vinesForwarded vinesBcastin vinesBcastout vinesBcastfwd vinesNotlan vinesNotgt4800 vinesNocharges vinesFormaterror vinesCksumerr vinesHopcout vinesNoroute vinesEncapsfailed vinesUnkown vinesIcpIn vinesIcpOut vinesMetricOut vinesMacEchoIn vinesMacEchoOut vinesEchoIn vinesEchoOut

Software Release 8.3

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 8.3:

bufferHgsize bufferHgTotal bufferHgFree bufferHgMax bufferHgHit bufferHgMiss bufferHgTrim bufferHgCreate locIfInputQueueDrops locIfOutputQueueDrops ipNoaccess actCheckPoint tsMsgTtyLine tsMsgIntervaltim *tsMsgDuration* tsMsgTest tsMsgTmpBannertsMsgSend dnIfTable dnĬfCost

Software Release 9.0

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 9.0:

netConfigProto hostConfigProto sysConfigAddr sysConfigName sysConfigProto sysClearARP sysClearInt *envPresent* envTestPt1Descr envTestPt1Measure ${\it envTestPt2Descr}$ envTestPt2Measure envTestPt3Descr envTestPt3Measure envTestPt4Descr envTestPt4Measure envTestPt5DescrenvTestPt5Measure envTestPt6Descr envTestPt6Measure loc If DescrlocĬfPakmon

Software Release 9.1

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 9.1:

envTestPt4MarginPercent envTestPt5MarginPercent envTestPt6MarginPercent envTestPt1last envTestPt2last envTestPt3last envTestPt4last envTestPt5last envTestPt6last envTestPt1MarginVal envTestPt2MarginVal envTestPt3MarginVal envTestPt4MarginVal envTestPt5MarginVal envTestPt6MarginVal envTestPt1warn envTestPt2warn envTestPt3warn envTestPt4warn envTestPt5warn envTestPt6warn *envFirmVersion envTechnicianID envType* envBurnDate envSerialNumber locIfSlowInPkts locIfSlowOutPkts locIfSlowInOctets locĬfSlowOutOctets locIfFastInPkts locIfFastOutPkts locIfFastInOctets locIfFastOutOctets locIfotherInPkts locIfotherOutPkts locIfotherInOctets locIfotherOutOctets locĬfipInPkts locĬfipOutPkts locIfipInOctets locIfipOutOctets locĬfdecnetInPkts locĬfdecnetOutPkts locIfdecnetInOctets locIfdecnetOutOctets *locIfxnsInPkts* locĬfxnsOutPkts locĬfxnsInOctets locIfxnsOutOctets locIfclnsInPkts locĬfclnsOutPkts locIfclnsInOctets locĬfclnsOutOctets loc ĬfappletalkInPkts locIfappletalkOutPkts locIfappletalkInOctets locIfappletalkOutOctets locIfnovellInPkts locIfnovellOutPkts

locIfnovellInOctets

locIfnovellOutOctets

locIfapolloInPkts

locIfapolloOutPkts

locĬfapolloInOctets

locIfapolloOutOctets

locĬfvinesInPkts

locĬfvinesOutPkts

locÍfvinesInOctets

locĬfvinesOutOctets

locIfbridgedInPkts

locIfbridgedOutPkts

locIfbridgedInOctets

locĬfbridgedOutOctets

locIfsrbInPkts

locĬfsrbOutPkts

locĬfsrbInOctets

locIfsrbOutOctets

locĬfchaosInPkts

locIfchaosOutPkts

locIfchaosInOctets

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locIfpupInOctets

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locĬfmopInPkts

locIfmopOutPkts

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locIfmopOutOctets

locIflanmanInPkts

locIflanmanOutPkts

locIflanmanInOctets

locĬflanmanOutOctets

locIfstunInPkts

locĬfstunOutPkts

locIfstunInOctets

locĬfstunOutOctets

locIfspanInPkts

locIfspanOutPkts

locĬfspanInOctets

locĬfspanOutOctets

locĬfarpInPkts

locIfarpOutPkts

locĬfarpInOctets

locIfarpOutOctets

locĬfprobeInPkts

locIfprobeOutPkts

locĬfprobeInOctets

locĬfprobeOutOctets

flasĥSize

flashFree

flashcontoller

flashcard

flashVPP

flashErase

flashEraseTime

flashEraseStatus

flashToNet

flashToNetTime

flashToNetStatus

netToFlash

netToFlashTime

netToFlashStatus

flashStatus

flashEntries

flashDirName flashDirSize flashDirStatus

Software Release 9.21

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 9.21:

locIfDribbleInputs vinesProxy vinesProxyReply vinesNet vinesSubNet vinesClient vinesIfMetric vinesIfEnctype vinesIfAccesslist vinesIfPropagate vinesIfArpEnabled vinesĬfServerless vinesĬfServerlessBcast vinesĬfRedirectInterval vinesIfSplitDisabled vinesĬfLineup vinesIfFastokay vinesIfRouteCache vinesĬfIn vinesIfOut vinesĬfInBytes *vinesIfOutBytes* vinesIfRxNotEnabled vinesIfRxFormatError vinesĬfRxLocalDest vinesIfRxBcastin vinesIfRxForwarded vinesĬfRxNoRoute *vinesIfRxZeroHopCount vinesIfRxChecksumError* vinesĬfRxArp0 vinesĬfRxArp1 vinesIfRxArp2 vinesIfRxArp3 vinesIfRxArpIllegal vinesĬfRxIcpError vinesĬfRxIcpMetric vinesIfRxIcpIllegal vinesIfRxIpc vinesĬfRxRtp0 vinesĬfRxRtp1 vinesĬfRxRtp2 vinesIfRxRtp3 vinesIfRxRtp4 vinesIfRxRtp5 vinesIfRxRtp6 vinesIfRxRtpIllegal vinesIfRxSpp vinesľfRxÛnknown vinesIfRxBcastHelpered vinesIfRxBcastForwarded *vinesIfRxBcastDuplicate* vinesIfRxEcho vinesIfRxMacEcho vinesIfRxProxyReply

vinesIfTxUnicast

vinesIfTxBcast vinesIfTxForwarded vinesIfTxFailedEncaps vinesĬfTxFailedAccess vinesIfTxFailedDown vinesĬfTxNotBcastToSource vinesĬfTxNotBcastNotlan vinesĬfTxNotBcastNotgt4800 vinesIfTxNotBcastPpcharge vinesIfTxBcastForwarded vinesIfTxBcastHelpered vinesĬfTxArp0 vinesĬfTxArp1 vinesĬfTxArp2 vinesIfTxArp3 vinesIfTxIcpError vinesIfTxIcpMetric vinesĬfTxIpc vinesĬfTxRtp0 vinesIfTxRtp1 vinesĬfTxRtp2 vinesĬfTxRtp3 vinesIfTxRtp4 vinesIfTxRtp5 vinesIfTxRtp6 vinesIfTxSpp vinesĬfTxĔcho vinesĬfTxMacEcho *vinesIfTxProxy chassisType* chassisVersion chassisId romVersion romSysVersion processorRam nvRAMSize nvRAMUsed configRegister configRegNext cardTable cardTableEntrycardIndexcardType cardDescr cardSerialcardHwVersion cardSwVersion cardSlotNumber

chassis Slots

Cisco Internetwork Operating System (Cisco IOS) Release 10.0

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 10.0:

ipxThresh ipxactLostPkts ipxactLostByts *ipxactSrc* ipxactDst ipxactPkts *îpxactByts ipxactAge ipxckactSrc* ipxckactDst ipxckactPkts ipckactByts ipxckactAge ipxactCheckPoint vinesIfInputNetworkFilter vinesĬfInputRouterFilter vinesIfOutputNetworkFilter cardIfIndex cardIfSlotNumber cardIfPortNumber

Cisco Internetwork Operating System (Cisco IOS) Release 10.2

Following are the objects introduced with Software Release 10.2:

cipCardClawEntry cipCardClawIndex cipCardClawConnected cipCardClawConfigTable *cipCardClawConfigEntry cipCardClawConfigPath* cipCardClawConfigDevice cipCardClawConfigIpAddr cipCardClawConfigHostName *cipCardClawConfigRouterName* cipCardClawConfigHostAppl cipCardClawConfigRouterAppl cipCardClawDataXferStatsTable cipCardClawDataXferStatsEntry cipCardClawDataXferStatsBlocksReadcipCardClawDataXiferStatsBlocksWrittencipCardClawDataXferStatsBytesRead cipCardClawDataXferStatsBytesWritten cipCardClawDataXferStatsHCBytesRead cipCardClawDataXferStatsHCBytesWritten cip Card Claw Data X fer Stats Read Blocks DroppedcipCardClawDataX ferStatsWriteBlocksDroppedcipCardClawDataXferStatsBufferGetRetryCount *cipCardDtrBrdIndex* cipCardDtrBrdType cipCardDtrBrdŠtatus cipCardDtrBrdSignal cipCardDtrBrdOnline *implicitIncidents*

Modifying the MIB Files

Many networks are built with equipment from various vendors, and there are custom objects that you as a network manager may want to monitor. You can add these non-Cisco custom MIBs to the standard object set using the makemib script.

CiscoWorks uses two files to define how it accesses MIB object information from devices. The first, mib.bin, is a database of all the objects currently defined in the MIB source files. The second file, mib.alias, allows Cisco to define a protocol-independent application environment.

The *mib.alias* file also allows you to assign custom names to existing MIB objects. For instance, you could assign the name UpTimeInterval to the MIB object sysUptime. You also could assign several names to the same MIB object. The *mib.alias* file provides the translation matrix for the object information you want to collect.

Note If you have Cisco devices only on your network, or if you want to collect standard MIB object information only from non-Cisco devices, you do not have to modify the mib.bin or mib.alias files.

Using the makemib Script

If you want to collect custom MIB information from non-Cisco SNMP devices in your network, use the *makemib* script to create new *mib.bin* and *mib.alias* files for your installation.

To use the *makemib* script, perform the following steps:

- Assemble all the additional MIB source files relevant to your application into the \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs directory.
- **Step 2** Delete any of the source files supplied by Cisco that are not needed.
- Check that any MIB files you added to the \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs directory include the .mib Step 3 extension.
- **Step 4** Enter the following:

%makemib

Note \$NMSROOT/etc must be in the PATH statement. If it is not, you must include the entire path in the command statement.

When the *makemib* process finishes, you are ready to start CiscoWorks.

The makemib script runs mibbld to generate the mib.bin file and the alias.gen file, and then runs aliaschk to check the alias.gen file. It then combines the alias.gen and alias.master files to form the *mib.alias* file. (See Figure A-2.)

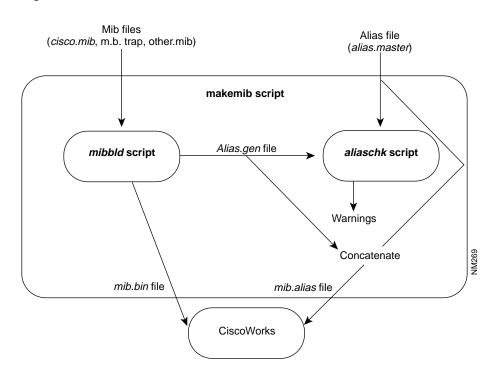


Figure A-2 **CiscoWorks MIB Build Process**

The process of expanding the MIB object set starts with a series of files supplied by the vendors of the various network products. These files define the MIB objects and can be edited with any standard text editor, as long as you conform to the concise MIB format. You can store as many vendor files as you like. The file specification must include the .mib extension.

Note Building or modifying existing MIB tables requires a working knowledge of the ASN.1 language, the Concise MIB Notation, and the Structure of Management Information (SMI) specification.

Command Syntax for makemib

Use the following syntax to start the *makemib* script:

makemib -m MasterAlias -a FinalAlias options

MasterAlias is the master alias file (default: alias.master). FinalAlias is the final alias file (default: mib.alias). Options are described in Table A-1.

Table A-1 makemib Options

Option	Description
−f MibFile	Specifies the MIB file to be processed by filename MibFile (default *.mib).
−o OutMib	Indicates the name of the output file for the MIB binary file (default mib.bin).
- p PathToMibs	Processes all MIB files found in the directory specified by the path name <i>PathToMibs</i> (default <i>\$NMSROOT/\$MIBDIR</i>).
-a AliasFile	Indicates the name of output file for the aliases (default alias.gen).

Option	Description
-w WarnLevel	Sets the warning message level at the level specified by <i>WarnLevel</i> . A level of 0 suppresses all warning messages (including "unknown variable type"). The default setting is 1. The <i>mibbld</i> script issues warning and error messages regarding syntax errors, bad keywords, and so on, so it is wise to run with the warning level set to 1 or greater.
t	Displays MIB table after processing to standard output.
_n	Disables alias generation.
	Displays copyright and version information to standard output.
_h	Displays help information to standard error output (stderr).

Running makemib completes the creation of the mib.alias file in a single command step. You can, however, run the *mibbld* and *aliaschk* scripts individually instead of running the *makemib* script. These scripts are described later in this chapter under their individual headings.

We recommend that you use the *makemib* script.

Using MIB Aliases

MIB aliases are used by CiscoWorks to create protocol-independent MIB objects. The mib.alias file defines a name in terms of a MIB object name and a protocol. Aliases also allow one or more protocol-specific object identifiers to be associated with a single MIB object. Currently, only SNMP is supported.

The *mib.alias* file is an ASCII file. Each alias entry takes the following general format:

```
Alias { Protocol::ObjectID [ Protocol::ObjectID [ ...]] }
```

The ObjectID can be either numeric or textual, but must be fully qualified. MIB trees must define the parentage of every branch from terminal object IDs to the iso(1) tree root. All trees must have the same root. The recommended root is iso(1). As a side effect of ASN.1 object identifier encoding, the first two subidentifiers are compressed into a single numeric value. Thus, iso(l) - org(3) becomes 43. rather than 1.3. You follow this convention when specifying a numeric object identifier within an alias entry.

For uniformity, iso(l) through org(3) also are compressed to isoorg in a textual object identifier. Note that in actual application, each textual subidentifier must be introduced with the underbar delimiter (_), even the first subidentifiers (such as _isoorg).

An example of a portion of a *mib.alias* file follows:

```
UpTime { SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.1.3 }
ItsTime { SNMP::_isoorq_dod_internet_mqmt_mib_system_sysUpTime }
EgpNeighbor { SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.8.5.1.1, SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.8.5.1.2 }
RouteMetric { SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.3, SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.4,
SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.5, SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.6 }
```

If you list more than one object identifier for a given alias, CiscoWorks searches for the ID in the order listed.

To include comments in the MIB alias file, place two dashes (--) in front of the comment text, as follows:

```
-- This is a comment.
```

Modifying the mib.alias File

The makemib script builds the alias entries in alias.gen and then concatenates alias.gen and alias.master into mib.alias. It generates a unique name for each object by prefixing the MIB file identifier (defined within the *mib* file) to the object name with a hyphen (-). If the MIB filename is new.mib, its file name identifier is NEW-MIB, and the object name is newMibVar, the following alias name is generated:

```
NEW-MIB-newMibVar
```

The protocol and object identifier is defined in the file as follows:

```
NEW-MIB-newMibVar {SNMP::43.6.1.2.4.33.2.5}
```

However, if the filename identifier is already part of the object name, it is not prefixed to the object name. For example, if the MIB filename is *new.mib*, its filename identifier is *new* and the object name is *newMibVar*, the following alias name is generated:

```
newMibVar
```

One-to-One Name Definition

You can also modify the mib.alias file with any text editor. This is the most convenient way to add a name definition to an already existing MIB object. For instance, if you want to define the name *UpTimeInterval* as the standard MIB object sys*Uptime*, enter the following in the *mib.alias* file:

```
UpTimeInterval{SNMP::_isoorg_dod_internet_mgmt_mib_system_sysUpTime}
```

Many-to-One Name Definition

At times, you may want to have several names for the same MIB object. For instance, if you want to define the names Myhost, Ciscohost, and Routername as the Cisco private MIB object CISCO-MIB-hostName, enter the following in the mib.alias file:

```
Myhost{SNMP::_isoorg_dod_internet_private_enterprises_cisco_local_lsystem_hostName}
CiscoHost{SNMP::_isoorg_dod_internet_private_enterprises_cisco_local_lsystem_hostName}
Routername{SNMP::_isoorg_dod_internet_private_enterprises_cisco_local_lsystem_hostName}
```



Timesaver The easiest way to construct these many-to-one name entries is to find the appropriate MIB object definition in the *mib.alias* file, copy it, and modify it.

One-to-Many Name Definition

At times, you may want to have a single name for several MIB objects. For instance, if you want to define the name Routemetric to include four objects—SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.3, *SNMP*::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.4, *SNMP*::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.5, and *SNMP*::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.6—enter the following in the *mib.alias* file:

```
Routemetric {
SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.3
SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.4
SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.5
SNMP::43.6.1.2.1.4.21.1.6
}
```

When you start CiscoWorks, your changes to the mib.alias file are used when you ask CiscoWorks to poll for that object.

MIB Directory Pathing

There are two forms of directory pathing:

- Default MIB alias file, where \$MIBDIR has the following relative path name: \$NMSROOT/\$MIBDIR/mib.alias
- Default MIB alias file if \$MIBDIR is not defined: \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs/mib.alias

CiscoWorks requires the *mib.alias* file to appear in the same directory as the *mib.bin* file. CiscoWorks software looks for the MIB alias file in the directory \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs or \$NMSROOT/\$MIBDIR. NMSROOT defines the root directory for all Network Management System (NMS) software. MIBDIR is a relative path name that defines the directory below the NMS root directory, which contains one or more MIB files and the mib.alias file.

If MIBDIR is not defined, the MIB directory defaults to \$NMSROOT/etc/mibs. If a full path to the MIB directory or a MIB filename is specified using the -p or -f options, NMSROOT and MIBDIR are ignored.

The base name of the output MIB file defaults to mib.bin unless a specific binary output file is defined. The directory in which the output file appears is determined as follows:

- If the output MIB file includes a path, the file appears in the indicated directory.
- If the output MIB file did not include a path (or no output MIB file was specified), the following rules apply:
 - If an input MIB file is specified and it includes a path, the output MIB file appears in that directory.
 - If an input MIB file is specified and it does not include a path, the output MIB file appears in the current directory.
 - If an input MIB directory is specified and it does include a path, the output MIB file appears in that directory.
 - If neither an input MIB file nor path is specified, the output MIB file appears in the default directory, \$NMSROOT/\$MIBDIR.

Using mibbld

The script used to build the binary MIB file is *mibbld*. The script checks the contents of all the files with the .mib extension in the specified directory for syntax errors and creates binary format mib.bin and alias.gen files usable by CiscoWorks.

The format of the statement used to invoke *mibbld* follows:

mibbld [-f MibFile] [-o OutMib] [-P PathToMibs] [-a AliasFile] [-w WarnLevel] [-t] [-n] [-v][-h]

The *mibbld* script options are described in Table A-2.

Table A-2 mibbld Options

Option	Description
-f MibFile	Specifies the MIB file to be processed by filename <i>MibFile</i> (default *. <i>mib</i>).
-o OutMib	Provides the name of the output file for the MIB binary file (default <i>mib.bin</i>).

Option	Description
-p PathToMibs	Processes all MIB files found in the directory specified by the path name <i>PathToMibs</i> (default <i>\$NMSROOT/\$MIBDIR</i>). The environment objects <i>NMSROOT</i> and <i>MIBDIR</i> are ignored.
-a AliasFile	Provides the name of the output file for the aliases (default alias.gen).
-w WarnLevel	Sets the warning message level at the level specified by <i>WarnLevel</i> . A level of 0 suppresses all warning messages (including "unknown variable type"). The default setting is 1. The <i>mibbld</i> script issues warning and error messages regarding syntax errors, bad keywords, and so on, so it is wise to run with the warning level set to 1 or greater.
-t	Displays MIB table after processing to standard output.
-n	Disables alias generation.
-v	Displays copyright and version information to standard output.
-h	Displays help information to standard error.

If you run mibbld without specifying full path names, mibbld looks for the environment objects NMSROOT and MIBDIR.

Using showmib

showmib displays the contents of the binary MIB file in a tree structure. The command also checks the contents of the MIB alias file against the MIB tree. The form of showmib follows:

showmib processes the contents of a binary format MIB file and displays the contents in a hierarchical tree structure starting from the tree's root. The MIB alias file is then processed. Aliases are displayed with corresponding fully qualified object IDs.

showmib options are described in Table A-3.

showmib Command Options Table A-3

Option	Description
-a AliasFile	Provides name of MIB alias file.
-f MibFile	Processes the single MIB file specified by filename (path name) MibFile.
-p PathToMibs	Processes all MIB files found in the directory specified by path name <i>PathToMibs</i> . The environment objects <i>NMSROOT</i> and <i>MIBDIR</i> are ignored.
-s SuppressO	Suppresses output. If <i>SuppressO</i> is set to m , the output of the MIB tree is suppressed. If <i>SuppressO</i> is set to a , the output of aliases is suppressed. If set to -h , displays the showmib options list.
-h	Displays help information to standard error.

If you run **showmib** with no arguments, it looks for the environment objects *NMSROOT* and MIBDIR.

Using aliaschk

The aliaschk script ensures that alias names defined in alias.gen do not conflict with alias names in alias.master.

To complete the last step in the *makemib* process, concatenate the *alias.master* and *alias.gen* files together as mib.alias by entering the following:

% cat alias.master alias.gen > mib.alias