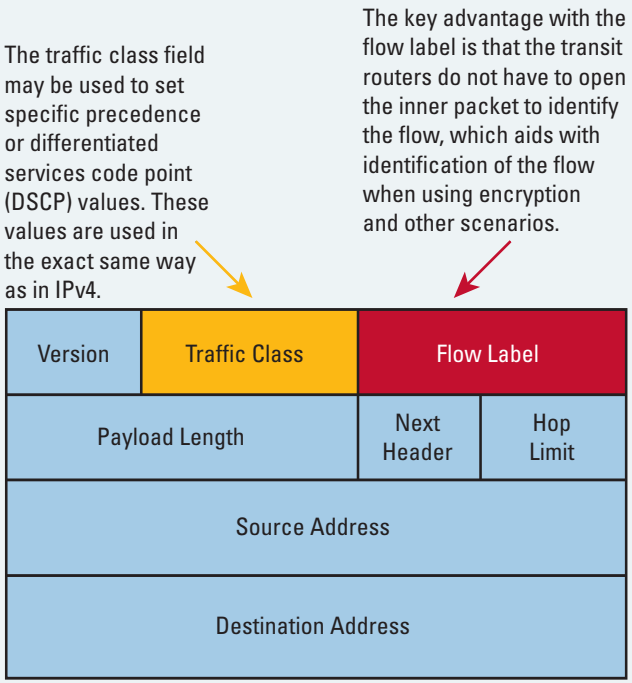
IPv6 QoS
AT–A–GLANCE

RFC 2460/3697

Currently IPv6 provides support for QoS marking via a field in the IPv6 header.

Similar to the type of service (ToS) field in the IPv4 header, the traffic class field (8 bits) is available for use by originating nodes and/or forwarding routers to identify and distinguish between different classes or priorities of IPv6 packets.

Figure 1



Current Cisco IOS® Software support for IPv6 QoS includes:

- Packet classification
- Queuing (includes LLQ; excludes legacy PQ/CQ)
- Traffic shaping
- WRED

IPv6 also has a 20-bit field known as the flow label field (RFC 3697). The flow label enables per-flow processing for differentiation at the IP layer.

It can be used for special sender requests and is set by the source node.

The flow label must not be modified by an intermediate node.

Planned Cisco IOS Software support for IPv6 QoS includes:

- Compressed Real-Time Protocol (cRTP)
- Network-based application recognition (NBAR)
- Committed access rate (CAR)

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