



Chapter 1

About this Manual

1.1 Overview

This manual explains how to configure GateD on a UNIX system. For information on how to install GateD, see *Installing GateD*. For information on specific commands, see the *GateD Command Reference Guide*. For information on command line information, including options, signals, and various support programs, see *Operating GateD*.

1.2 Audience

This manual is written for system administrators who are configuring GateD to route packets. You will need to understand basic routing concepts and UNIX commands to understand this manual.

1.3 Configuring GateD Sections

In general, chapters of this manual have four sections:

- Overview
- Syntax
- Sample Configurations
- Protocol-specific Issues

1.3.1 Overview

In the Overview section, you can find an explanation of how the protocol (or GateD statement) works. Overview information might include the RFC (or sections of the RFC) that matches a particular GateD protocol, the algorithms used to route packets, and how GateD's implementation of the protocol differs from other routers.

1.3.2 Syntax

In the Syntax section, you can find all the options and subcommands for the GateD statement, typed exactly as you would type them in your config file if you were to use every option.

Keywords and special characters that the parser expects exactly are displayed in ***courier bold*** font. Parameters are shown in *courier italics* font. Optional keywords or parameters are shown in square brackets ('[' and ']'). The vertical bar ('|') is used to indicate a choice of parameters. Parentheses ('(' and ')') are used to group keywords and parameters when necessary.

For example, in the syntax description:

```
[ backbone | ( area areanumber ) ]
```

backbone and **area** are keywords. *areanumber* is a variable of **area**. The square brackets indicate that these keywords are optional. The vertical bar indicates that either "**backbone**" or "**area** *areanumber*" can be specified. Because *areanumber* is in italics, you must provide the value for this variable.

If you want more specific information about a command, refer to the *GateD Command Reference Guide*, which organizes commands alphabetically within protocols.

1.3.3 Sample Configurations

In the Sample Configurations section, you can find examples of valid syntax for the protocol or GateD statement. You can type (or copy and paste) these sections into your configuration file.

1.3.4 Protocol-specific Issues

Any other issues specific to the protocol or to its GateD statement can be found in the sections that follow Sample Configurations. In some cases, we have included the defaults of the protocol.