Summary...

1) **A BACnet network can be made up of one or more IP subnets.**

   For many installations, all subnets can share a single BACnet network number.

2) **Management of broadcasts of all types (local, remote, global), and thereby the use of BACnet unconfirmed services, is supported both within and between BACnet/IP and nonBACnet/IP, i.e., traditional, BACnet networks.**

   There is no loss in BACnet functionality just because a device uses IP.

3) **To accomplish broadcast management, a new device called a BACnet BroadcastManagement Device (BBMD) is defined.**

   Optionally, IP Multicast may be used as described in detail in the Annex.

4) **To support the operation of BBMDs a new "microprotocol" called the BACnet Virtual Link Layer (BVLL) is defined. For use with IP networks, 12 BVLL messages are defined.**

   The BVLL not only provides a "clean" way to manage broadcasting within the IP environment, it also provides a mechanism for the eventual inclusion of other network technologies in BACnet along with other possible microprotocol functionality such as encryption or data compression.

5) **Provision is made for "foreign" devices to join BACnet/IP networks thereby supporting the requirements for remote workstation access, including access via SLIP or PPP.**

   A person working at home can dial in to any internet service provider and get the same functionality as at the workstation in his/her office.

6) **Routing between BACnet/IP and non-BACnet/IP networks is supported, including the case where IP and non-IP BACnet devices reside on the same LAN.**

   IP messages on existing LANs can co-exist with other protocols. Thus IP-speaking BACnet devices could reside on an Ethernet with non-IP BACnet devices without any problem.

7) **Routing between multiple BACnet/IP networks is supported in various configurations.**

   Many configurations are possible, each with its own set of trade-offs, and all Can interoperate.

Thank you for reading this tutorial!