

Getting involved with ARIN

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Who is ARIN?

- The American Registry for Internet Numbers
 - One of 5 Regional Internet Registries (RIRs)
 - Caretaker of IP Number Resources (IPv4, IPv6 & ASN)
 - For North America and parts of the Carribean
- Allocates/Assigns IP number resources
 - For this region, to service providers and end-users
 - According to self-developed policies
- Maintains 'WHOIS' data-base (and server)
- Maintains IP reverse look-up tree
- Staff (about 45) in Chantilly, VA
- Members
 - Both organizational and individual members
 - Members elect Board of Trustees and Advisory Council

Why be involved with ARIN?

- The ARIN Number Resource Policy is changeable
 - Changes are proposed by the community at large
 - From the ARIN web site: “Policy development is an open and transparent process. Anyone may participate in the process -- a prior relationship as an ARIN member or customer is not a requirement nor is it a requirement for a person to become a member.”
 - Consensus is judged from among those who participate
- ARIN is evolving
 - IPv4 address free pool depletion may change ARIN's role
 - Development of PKI certificates
 - To validate resource holders
 - Policy process changes have been proposed
 - More active role for the Advisory Council (AC)

Terminology (ARIN speak)

- ARIN, like many organizations, uses its own terms
- RSA
 - Registration Services Agreement
- IRPEP
 - Internet Resource Policy Evaluation Process
- NRPM
 - Number Resource Policy Manual
- LIR
 - Local Internet Registry (aka ISP)
- And for number resource disbursement:
 - Allocation – for resources going to LIR/ISP
 - The LIR is responsible for registering it's assignments
 - Assignment – for resources going to end-users

Changing policy

- Policies are changed by using the IRPEP
 - See details at <http://www.arin.net/policy/index.html>
- Anyone (except staff) can submit a policy proposal
 - Proposals are gated through the Advisory Council
 - Accepted proposals are numbered - year-(#)
- Discussed on the Public Policy Mailing List (PPML)
 - That's ppml@arin.net
 - It has a high noise level sometimes but hang in there!
- Proposals presented/debated at public policy meetings
 - Such meetings are held twice a year, in April and October
 - You can attend physically or participate remotely...
- Advisory Council evaluates community consensus
- If consensus, forwarded to the Board of Trustees

Some recent examples

- 2005-1
 - To allow for multi-homing by end users in IPv6
 - Allows provider independent IPv6 direct assignment
 - From ARIN, /48 up to /44 directly assignable
- 2005-8
 - Regarding assignment size of IPv6 from LIR to end users
 - Withdrew the “only /48, /64 or /128” IPv6 assignment rules
 - Which had been proposed by the IAB in RFC3177
 - And incorporated into RIR policy by a global editing team
 - Sometimes called CIDR for IPv6

The current hot topic

- What to do after the depletion of the IANA IPv4 address free pool?
 - Certainly no surprise...
 - And a really hard problem to get consensus on
- At the request of the Board of Trustees, the Advisory Council submitted the first AC-authored policy proposal, 2008-2
 - Proposes a liberalized transfer policy
 - Would permit transfers between entities directly
 - Need requirements would be pre-qualified by ARIN
- AC also judged they could see no clear way to encourage IPv6 deployment through ARIN policy

2008-2 issues

- Some believe a market in IPv4 addresses will arise
 - And perhaps ARIN should run the market?
- Many believe transfers should be “needs based”
- This proposal is quite complicated
 - 2008-2 attempts to control de-aggregation & speculation
 - Much simpler transfer proposals in other RIRs
- There is a significant lack of enforcement ability
 - e.g. no control over routing of prefixes
- Will ARIN just become a “Title Company”?
 - And will there be others?
- Concern over making IPv4 addresses “property”
 - Policy states “transfer the right to use”
- Concern with windfall profits for legacy holders

Please participate!!

- The process would benefit from experienced views
- Subscribe to PPML
 - Or view the PPML archive on the arin.net web site
 - Remember email is included in judging consensus
 - So don't hesitate to say if you agree with someone
 - ARIN has begun taking surveys of PPML subscribers
- Attend a public policy meeting
 - Next is ARIN XXII, in Los Angeles, October 15-17 2008
 - Another joint meeting with NANOG, October 12-14 2008
 - Or sign up for remote participation
- There is also a suggestion process
 - For operational questions not appropriate for the IRPEP
- Consider becoming a member

Proposed change to the IRPEP

- The current IRPEP can take a long time
 - If consensus is not reached at public meeting, a proposal is continued until the next public meeting
 - 2005-8 took two cycles
 - 2005-1 took three cycles
 - The author still “owns” the proposal
 - Therefore the author must decide on changes
 - This has been known to result in delays
- BoT felt “quick response” would be a “good thing”
- The Board of Trustees has proposed a change
 - Empowering the Advisory Council (AC)
 - Proposals, once submitted, would be owned by the AC
 - AC could make the changes necessary for consensus
- So far, little discussion of this change on PPML

Legacy RSA

- To establish an on-going, active relationship with holders of legacy number resources
- Specific goal: to keep contact info up to date
 - This verifies the resource holder legally as well
- Locks in services, e.g. reverse lookup and whois
 - Policy changes could effect service provision
- Nominal annual fee
- Still some legal issues for many
 - ARIN has stated their desire to resolve these

Resource certification

- APNIC, with support from ARIN, has been developing an RIR-focused PKI structure
- Purposed to allow an RIR to sign resources
 - Certifying the resource holder is legitimate
- This is likely to become increasingly important
- So stay tuned!!

Status of WSIS

- The World Summit on the Information Society
 - UN and ITU proposals on “Internet Governance”
 - More government involvement with internet
- Several years since initial presentation (Vancouver)
- WSIS concluded with current I* structure continuing
 - Much political effort by ICANN, ISOC and the RIRs
 - Number Resource Organization (NRO) formed by RIRs
 - Still entities out there who would like to change things
- The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) continues