



DNSSEC Deployment Considerations

Olaf M. Kolkman

RIPE NCC

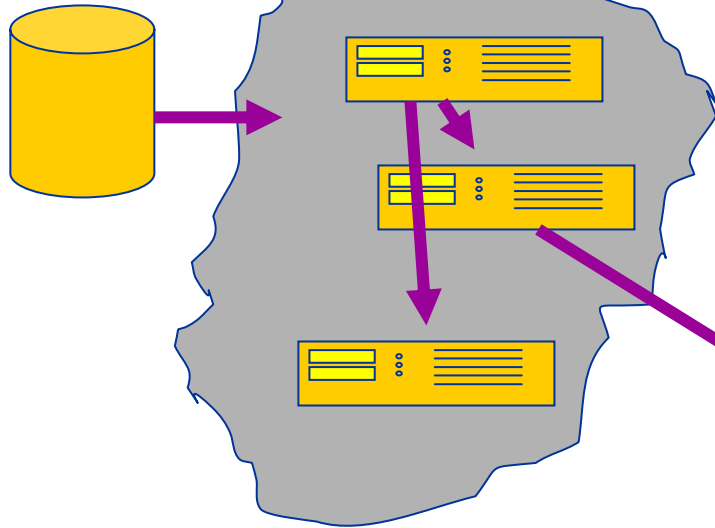
olaf@ripe.net

Goal

Using the 'building' blocks in the DNS architecture

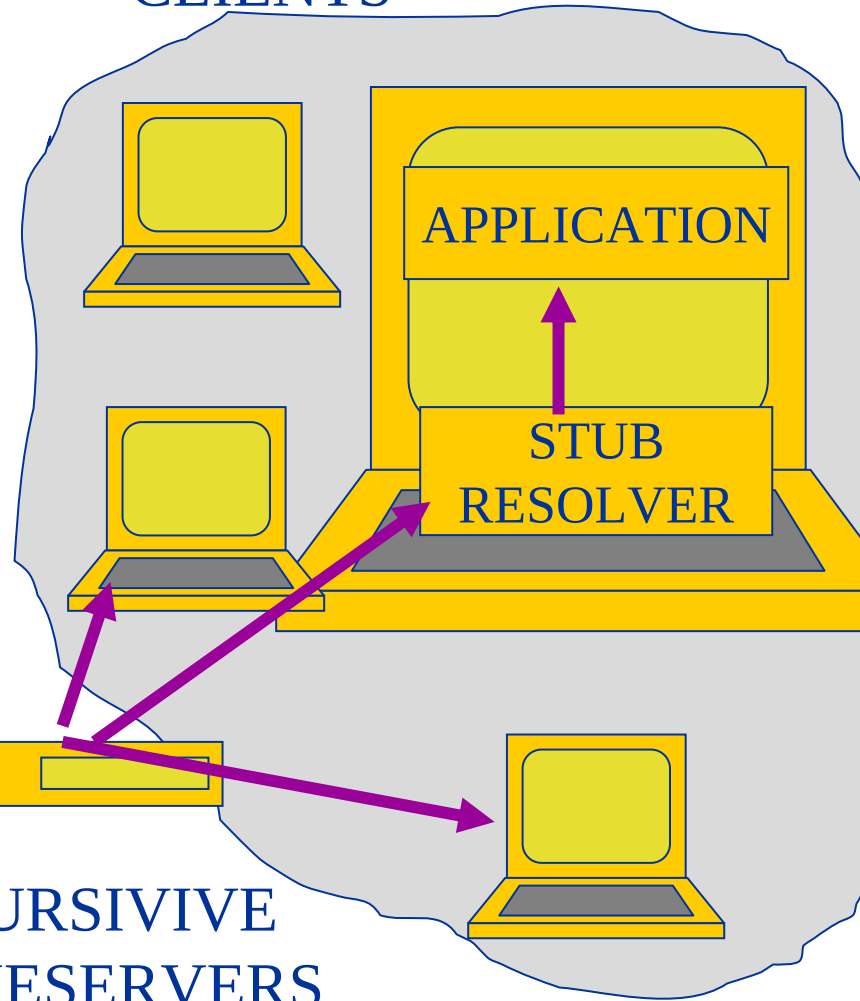
- Identify where DNSSEC can be deployed now
- Identify where protocol work needs to be done
- Identify where tools are needed
- Identify possible catalysts for deployment

PROVISIONING



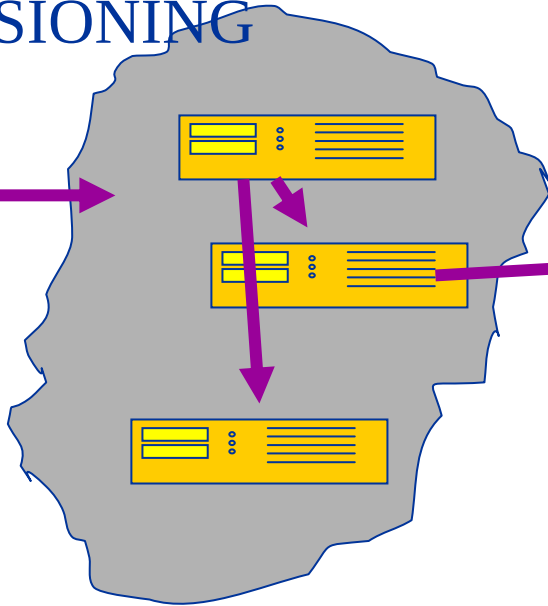
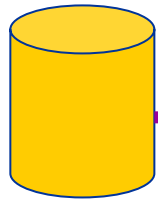
AUTHORITATIVE SERVERS

CLIENTS



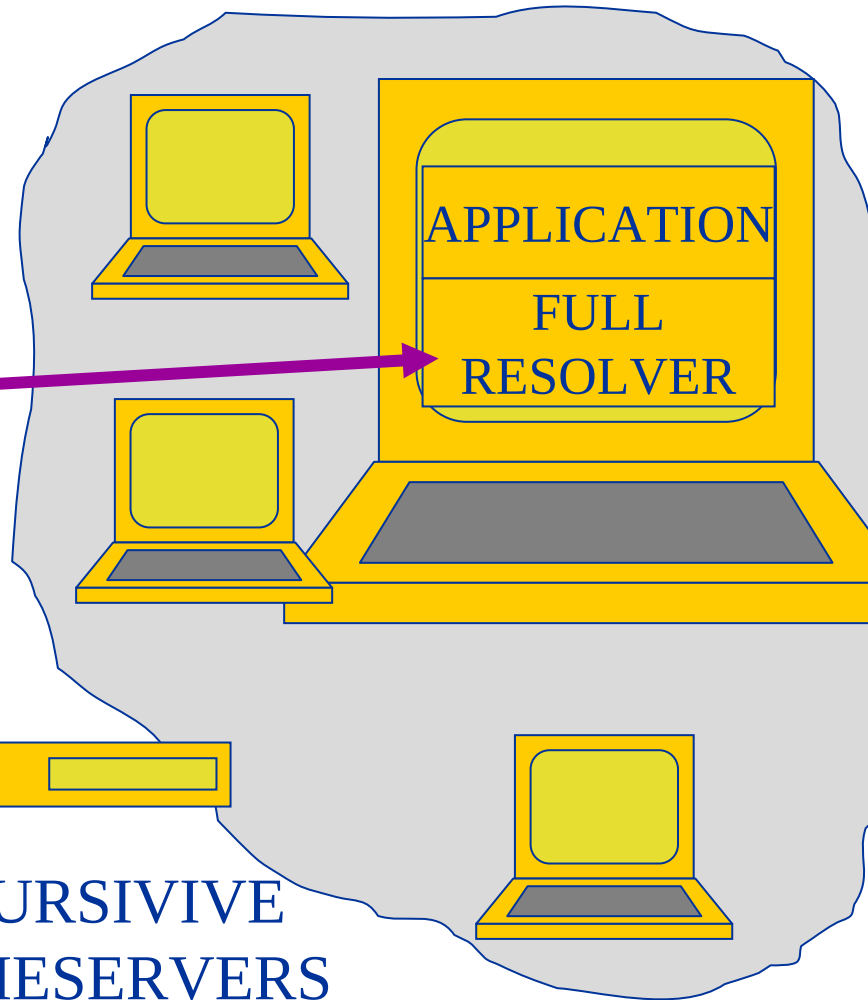
RECURSIVE NAMESERVERS

PROVISIONING



AUTHORITATIVE SERVERS

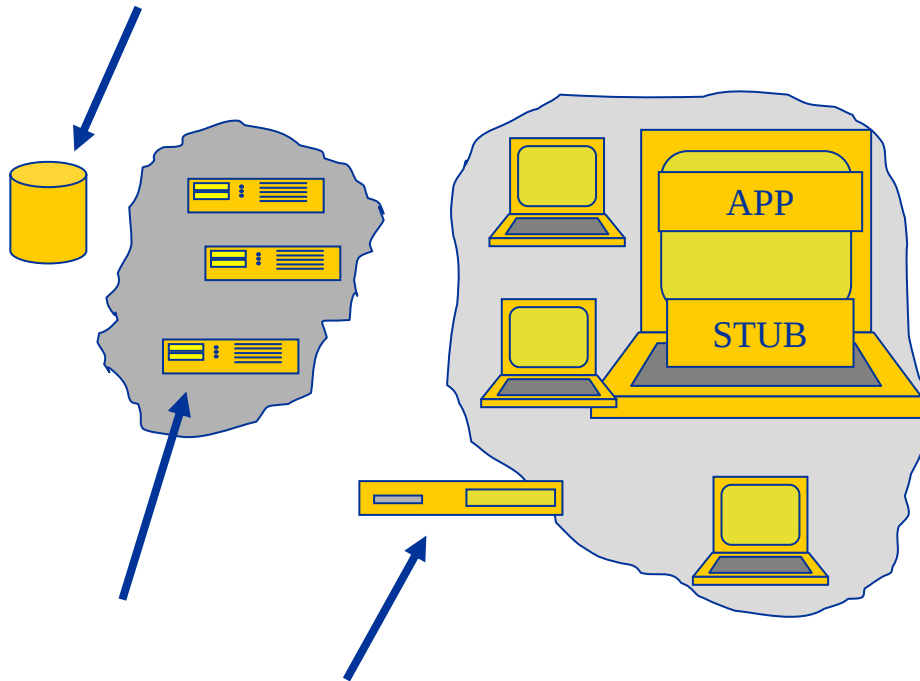
CLIENTS



RECURSIVE NAMESERVERS

DEPLOYMENT NOW

DNS server infrastructure related



Protocol spec is clear on:

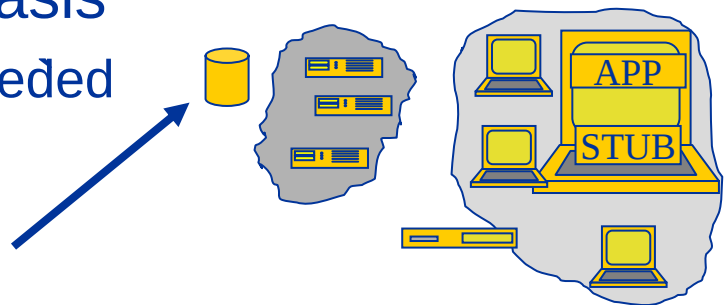
- Signing
- Serving
- Validating

Implemented in

- Signer
- Authoritative servers
- Security aware recursive nameservers

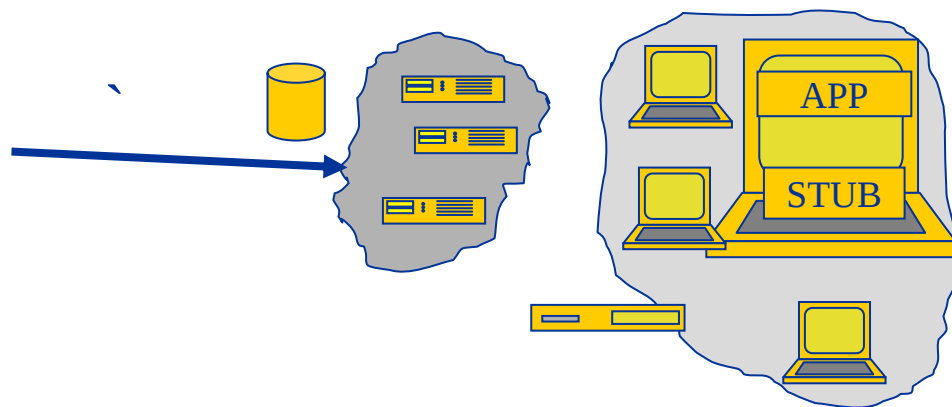
Deploying DNSSEC server infrastructure 1

- Provisioning systems
 - The signer component is readily available
 - No standard way to perform client parent key interaction (Public Key management)
 - Not really a problem, different registries use different systems
 - EPP can be extended with DNSSEC
 - Private Key management is not something most registries do on a regular basis
 - Tools and procedures are needed



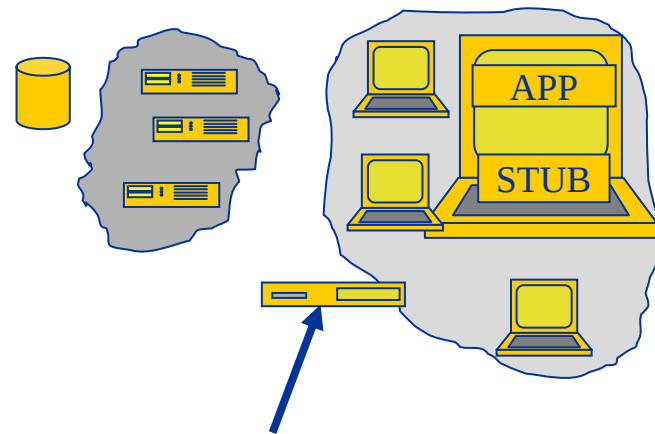
Deploying DNSSEC server infrastructure 2

- Authoritative servers
 - They will just work as long as they speak the protocol
 - Primary and secondary server infrastructure may not be under the same administrative control
 - Zone administrators eager to roll out DNSSEC may need to reevaluate their secondary servers



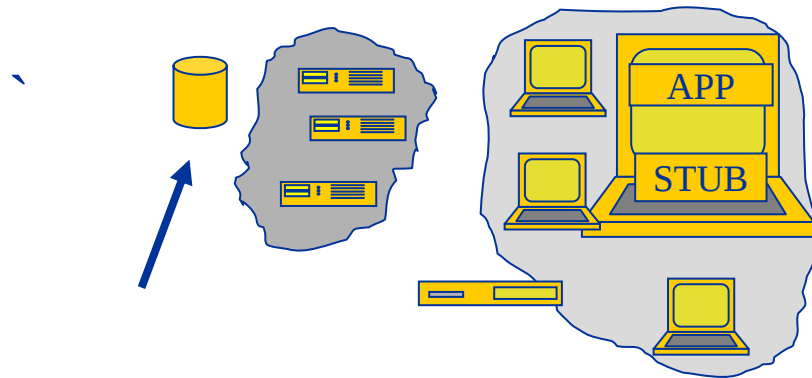
Deploying DNSSEC server infrastructure 3

- Security aware recursive servers
 - Protect the security oblivious clients behind it
 - Solves a whole class of DNS attacks
 - Either on-or-off; deployment risk
 - Multiple keys to be configured in absence of a signed root



Deploying Registry Policy

- Some registries have data transfer policies
 - NSEC walk is a barrier



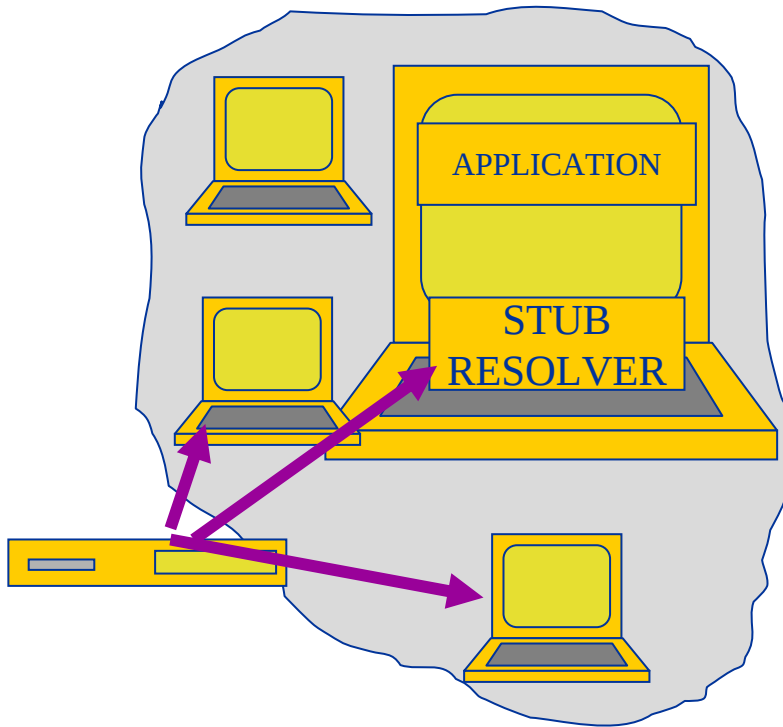
The Wish List

(from DNSSEC server infrastr.)

- Public and private key management tools
- Provisioning tools
- DNSSEC aware DNS hosts
- Secure Island's public keys distribution

DEPLOYMENT NOW

DNS client infrastructure related



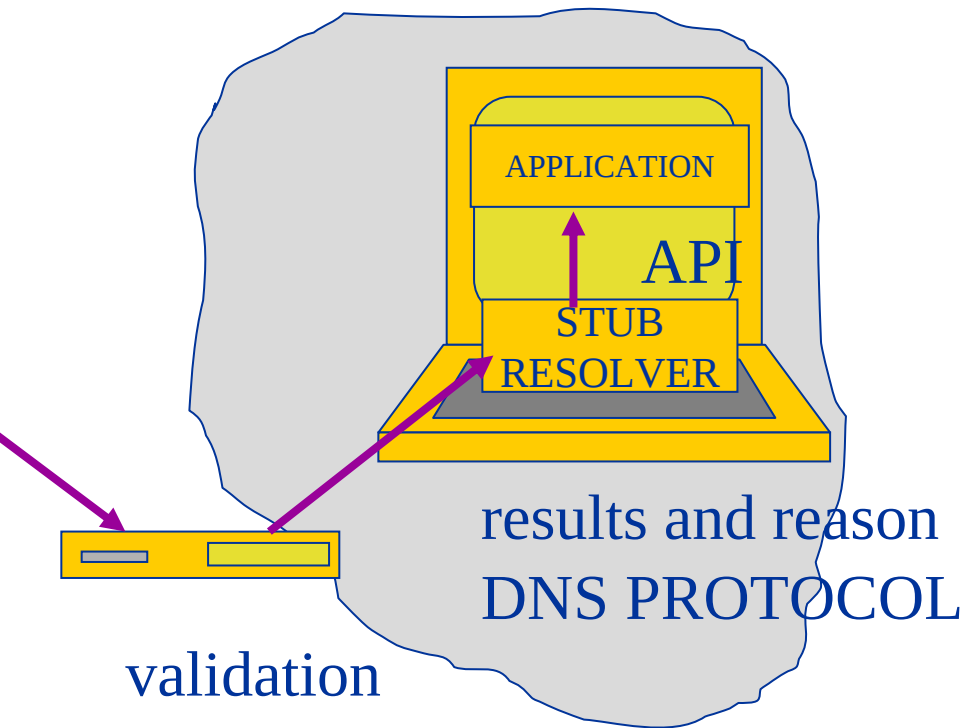
Protocol spec. lacks means to communicate policy and verification results

Current means:

- For security oblivious stub resolvers: SERFAIL
- For security aware stub resolvers: cd bit, ad bit
- For security aware full resolvers: log files and traces

The Ideal

- The application dictates the security policy
 - An application may want to try to use the DNS data under certain circumstances
 - Signature timed out x minutes ago
 - Could not obtain key material because of network problem
 - The application uses strong crypto and doesn't care about overhead





Is this really The Ideal????

Web Site Certified by an Unknown Authority

Unable to verify the identity of bert.secret-wg.org as a trusted site.

Possible reasons for this error:

- Your browser does not recognize the site's certificate.
- The site's certificate is incomplete.
- You are connected to a site that is not intended for confidential information.

Please notify the site's webmaster.

Before accepting this certificate, you should be willing to accept this certificate for bert.secret-wg.org?

[Examine Certificate...](#)

Security Alert

Information you exchange with this site cannot be viewed or changed by others. However, there is a problem with the site's security certificate.

Warning - Security

Do you want to accept the certificate from web site "www.p3.postbank.nl" for the purpose of exchanging encrypted information?

Publisher authenticity verified by: "VeriSign, Inc."

The security certificate was issued by a company that is not trusted.

The security certificate has not expired and is still valid.

Caution: "www.p3.postbank.nl" is not a trusted site. Do not accept this content if you trust your privacy.

[Yes](#)

Security Alert

Information you exchange with this site cannot be viewed or changed by others. However, there is a problem with the site's security certificate.

The security certificate was not chosen to trust. View the certificate to determine whether you want to trust the certifying authority.

The security certificate date is valid.

The security certificate has a valid name matching the name of the page you are trying to view.

Do you want to proceed?

[Yes](#) [No](#) [View Certificate](#)

Certificate signer not found

The server's certificate chain is incomplete, and the signer(s) are not registered. Accept?

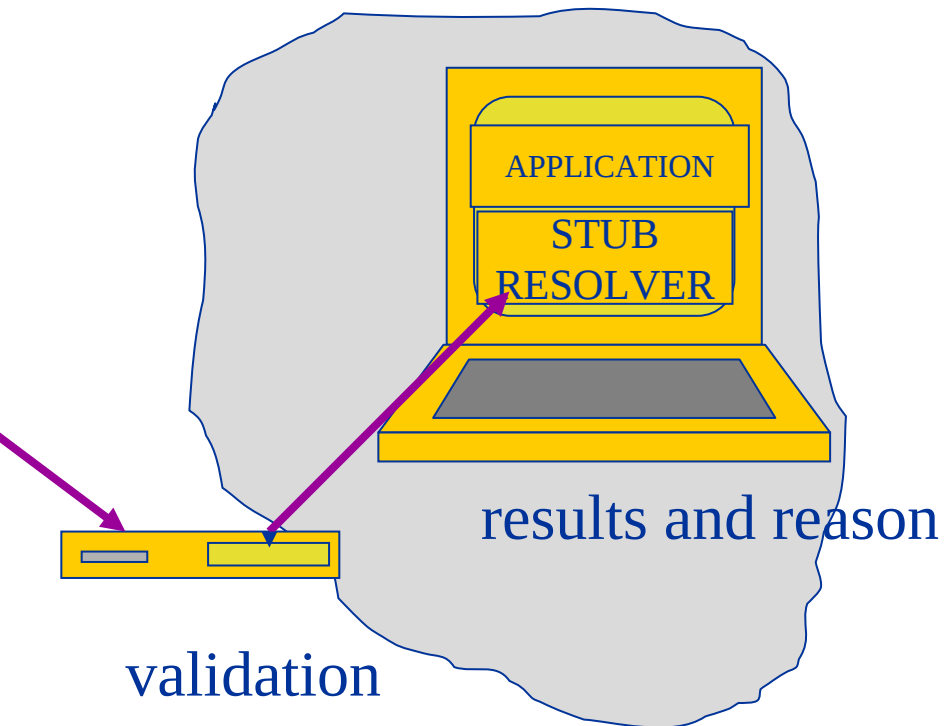
bert.secret-wg.org [View](#)

- The certificate for "bert.secret-wg.org" is signed by the unknown Certificate Authority "Secret WG Certificate Authority". It is not possible to verify that this is a valid certificate

[Accept](#) [Install](#) [Cancel](#) [Help](#)

Alternatively

- Applications will come with their own resolvers
 - No standard API
 - Either validating stub resolvers
 - Or validating full resolvers



The Wish List

- *Public and private key management tools*
- *Provisioning tools*
- *DNSSEC aware DNS hosts*
- *Secure Island's public keys distribution*
- An API and a protocol to communicate validation results
- Libraries that implement the API

The Application some remarks

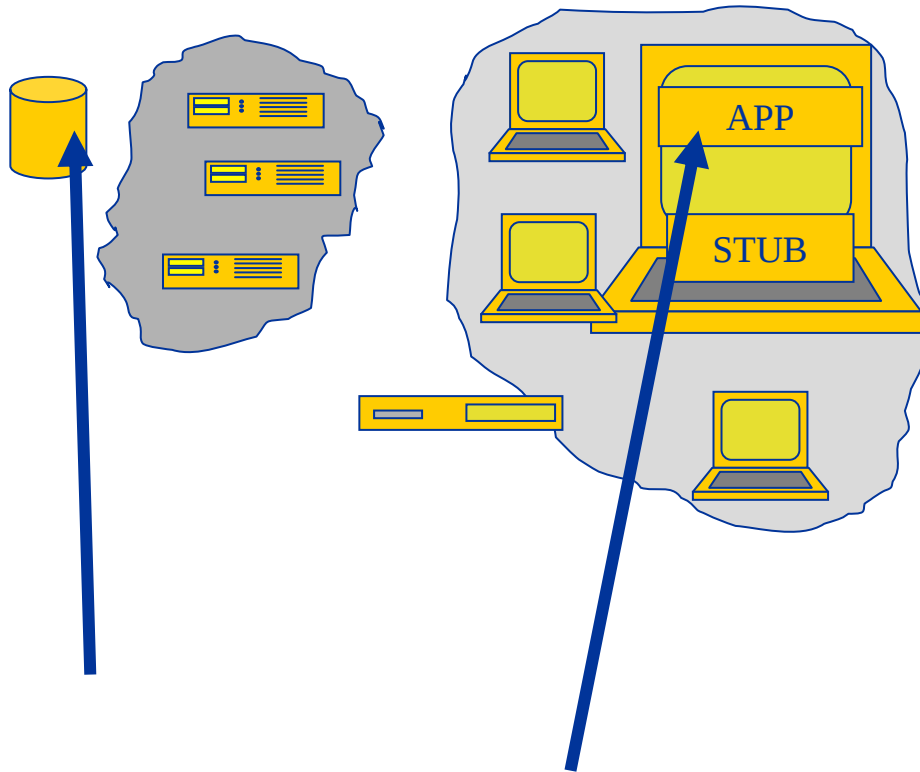
- Why should the application make policy decisions
 - Because people are operating it; all about making informed choices.
- There may be Apps that really benefit from DNSSEC
 - DNS based anti spam tools
 - IPsec SSH and other key distribution
 - DNSSEC was not designed as PKI but the killerapp may be exploiting the PKI likeness of a secured DNS.
- The DNS Killing App, exploiting the non-secured DNS

The Wish List

- *Public and private key management tools*
- *Provisioning tools*
- *DNSSEC aware DNS hosts*
- *Secure Island's public keys distribution*
- *An API and a protocol to communicate validation results*
- *Libraries that implement the API*
- **A killer App that relies on DNSSEC**

Cost Benefit

During initial deployment



DNSSEC will be most beneficial to the users of the applications

Costs are on the server side

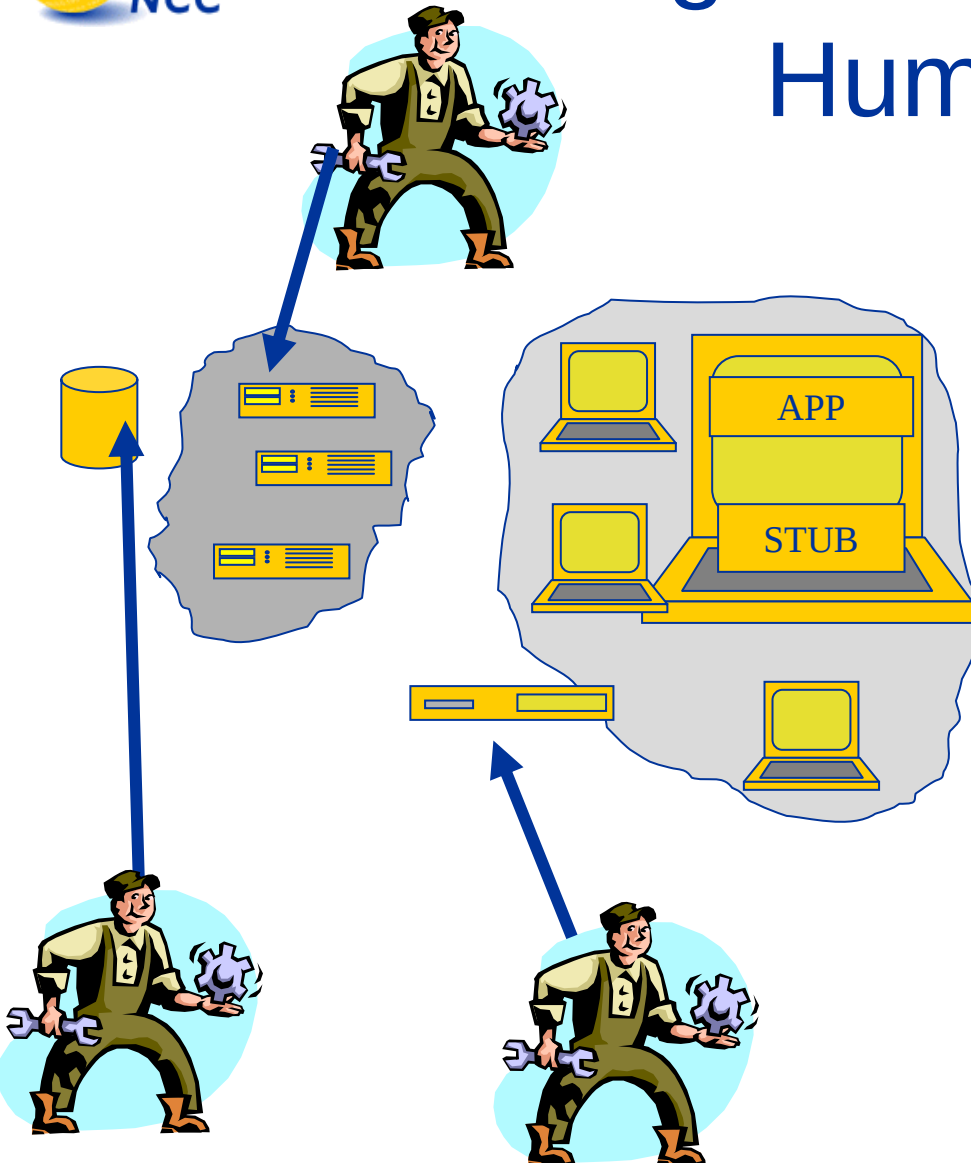
Costs are on maintaining multiple trust anchors

Risk for maintainer of security aware recursive nameservers

The Wish List

- *Public and private key management tools*
- *Provisioning tools*
- *DNSSEC aware DNS hosts*
- *Secure Island's public keys distribution*
- *An API and a protocol to communicate validation results*
- *Libraries that implement the API*
- *A killer App that relies on DNSSEC*
- *An incentive to invest in zone signing*

Huge Cost Factor: Humans



Needed to perform the
magic and keep the
system running

They need Clue

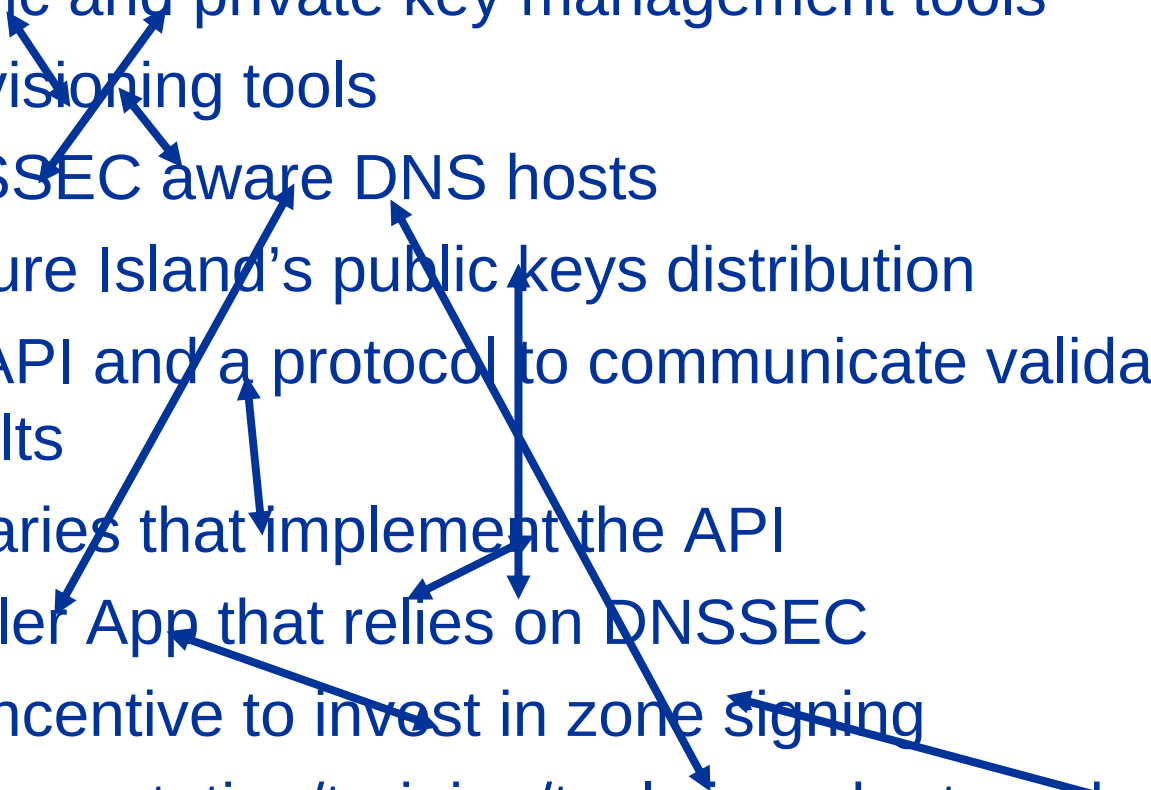
They need Motivation

The Wish List

- *Public and private key management tools*
- *Provisioning tools*
- *DNSSEC aware DNS hosts*
- *Secure Island's public keys distribution*
- *An API and a protocol to communicate validation results*
- *Libraries that implement the API*
- *A killer App that relies on DNSSEC*
- *An incentive to invest in zone signing*
- *Documentation/training/tools in order to reduce costs*

The Wish List

Interdependencies

- Public and private key management tools
 - Provisioning tools
 - DNSSEC aware DNS hosts
 - Secure Island's public keys distribution
 - An API and a protocol to communicate validation results
 - Libraries that implement the API
 - A killer App that relies on DNSSEC
 - An incentive to invest in zone signing
 - Documentation/training/tools in order to reduce costs
- 
- A diagram showing interdependencies between the items in the list. Arrows indicate dependencies: 'Public and private key management tools' and 'Provisioning tools' both point to 'DNSSEC aware DNS hosts'. 'DNSSEC aware DNS hosts' points to 'Secure Island's public keys distribution'. 'Secure Island's public keys distribution' points to 'An API and a protocol to communicate validation results'. 'An API and a protocol to communicate validation results' points to 'Libraries that implement the API'. 'Libraries that implement the API' points to 'A killer App that relies on DNSSEC'. 'A killer App that relies on DNSSEC' points to 'An incentive to invest in zone signing'. 'An incentive to invest in zone signing' points to 'Documentation/training/tools in order to reduce costs'. Additionally, 'Provisioning tools' points to 'A killer App that relies on DNSSEC', and 'DNSSEC aware DNS hosts' points to 'Documentation/training/tools in order to reduce costs'.

Questions???

- Questions and feedback to olaf@ripe.net

