

RIPE Policy Development Process A Case Study

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Overview

- Background
- Why a change was needed
- Initial ideas over the problem
- Proposal
- PDP Phases and Discussions
- Benefits
- Conclusions



Case: Anycasting Assignments

Background

- DNS runs in a hierarchy and all levels need to be reachable
- cc/gTLDs sit on the top in this tree (such as ".uk", ".nl", ".org")
- More people in Internet over the years resulted in more DNS queries on cc/gTLD name servers
- So number and diversity of name servers has been increased
- Anycasting Technology allows the same IP to be used on several name servers that are in different locations
- Anycasting is good for stability and redundancy helps to reduce the impact of DoS (Denial of Service) attacks
- Anycasting requires independent address space due to different peerings in different locations for the same IP address



Background: Summary

- Anycasting is a popular solution for cc/gTLDs for better DNS
- cc/gTLDs need independent address space to use it
- Routability is a factor
 - In todays Internet, less than a /24 (256 IPs) has a risk to be filtered



Why a change was needed

- Policy at the time applied in all cases:
 - Assignments should be justified
 - Justification is based on the number of IP addresses to be actually used
 - Size of the assignment is based on this demonstrated need
- Problem for cc/gTLDs
 - They needed minimum 256 IPs (a /24) to ensure global reachability
 - But they needed just a few IP addresses to be used on name servers
 - So they were not able to justify and receive a /24



Building the proposal

- Problem raised in RIPE 47
- Solution: Build a specific policy
- Proposer collected feedback
- Revised the initial idea with further details
 - Fine tune criteria
 - Make it to be a selective policy
 - Clearly define how much space is under discussion



PDP

- Proposal published
- Initial discussions took place
 - Discussion Phase (on Mailing list and the RIPE meetings)
- Draft policy document published
 - Documentation
- Discussions over the drafted document took place
 - Review Phase
- Last Call
 - Concluding Phase resulting with consensus



Discussion Points

- Principles revisited
 - Conservation
 - Aggregation
 - Registration
- Careful analysis of the proposal made during discussions by the community
- Community decided that
 - Everyone will benefit from better DNS
 - Address consumption impact is minimum
 - Single /24 (256 IPs) per TLD operator
 - Extra routes impact is minimum



Policy is changed

- Announcements made
 - policy-announce@ripe.net
- Active since September 2006
 - Documented in ripe-387 (obsoleted ripe-368)
 - Specific policy only for anycasting cc/gTLDs
 - cc/gTLDs can receive a single /24 to use only for Anycasting name servers
 - They need to justify that anycasting is required for their DNS setup
 - Criteria based on IANA Administrative Procedure for Name Server Delegation



Benefits

- cc/gTLDs can get space that will be routable
- More name servers can be run diversely in different locations
- Less impact of a DoS attack on name servers
- More redundancy and stability in DNS
- Better reachability for overall Internet and its users
- Awareness in the technology raised



Conclusion

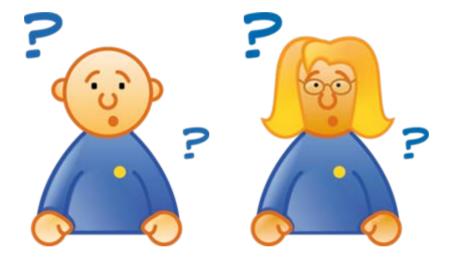
- Industry environment and business requirements change
- PDP is a bottom-up process
- It is there to meet this demand for change
- So do the policies do change
- But the principles remain the same
- Many policies stayed stable since the beginning



References

- http://www.ripe.net/ripe/docs/
- http://www.ripe.net/ripe/docs/ipv4-policies.html
- http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/
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Questions?