

RIPE Database Acceptable Use Policy

Definitions

In the Acceptable Use Policy (AUP), the following terms shall be understood to have the meanings assigned to them below:

RIPE NCC – Réseaux IP Européens Network Coordination Centre. A membership association under Dutch law operating its registered office in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

Update – submitting information for entry into or removal from the RIPE Database

Query – requesting information from the RIPE Database Access – Update and Query the RIPE Database

RIPE Database – the publicly available data collection of Internet Number Registry (INR) and Internet Routing Registry (IRR) data published by the RIPE NCC. It contains all the primary and secondary objects. There is also some non-public data required for the operation of the RIPE Database and the registries, but this non-public data does not form part of the RIPE Database.

User – anyone who Accesses the RIPE Database or causes Access to be made. This includes Registrants and Maintainers.

Abuse-c – an attribute referencing a role object holding abuse contact information, to be included in inetnum, inet6num and aut-num objects, intended for receiving automatic and manual reports about abusive behavior originating in resource holders' networks.

Introduction

The following principles define the purpose of this policy. Without prejudice to the applicability of the [RIPE Database Terms and Conditions](#), this policy is to ensure that:

- The usage of the RIPE Database is in line with the purpose of the RIPE Database as defined in the RIPE Database Terms and Conditions
- No copy is made of a significant part of the RIPE Database without the consent of the RIPE NCC
- We protect the personal data held within the RIPE Database
- The RIPE Database services are only used as intended and defined in documents and manuals associated with the service
- All Users comply with the limits set on their Access to the RIPE Database services
- We do not put the RIPE Database services at risk

- Our general policies (e.g., on pricing, fees, privacy, data protection and Access) are not compromised
- Users do not act in a way that disrupts the RIPE Database services for other Users

The RIPE Database Terms and Conditions permit the RIPE NCC to block Access to the RIPE Database services by any User for abuse, or suspend Access for suspected abuse.

Please note that we have a standard clause on anti-avoidance and connected persons that forms part of this policy (see below).

We may reject queries originated by Users who have exceeded their limit or who are subject to sanctions for abuse without regard to their limit.

Limits

These are the limits currently set by the RIPE NCC for use of the RIPE Database services.

Query service:

- Number of queries from an IP address – Unlimited [1]
- Number of queries passed by a proxy – Unlimited [1]
- Number of personal data sets returned in queries from an IP address – 1,000 per 24 hours [3]
- Number of personal data sets returned in queries from a proxy IP address – 20,000 per 24 hours [3]

Update service:

- Number of update e-mails sent to auto-dbm@ripe.net – Unlimited [1]
- Number of updates submitted through the syncupdates interface – Unlimited [1]
- Number of updates submitted through the webupdates interface – Unlimited [1]
- Number of objects contained in a single update message – 5,000
- Size of a single update message – 500Kb
- Number of queued e-mail update messages from any one e-mail address – 100

General:

Number of simultaneous connections to the RIPE Database server – 3 [2]

Anti-avoidance and Connected Persons

One way in which the principles of this policy can be compromised is if Users try to give the impression that they are separate or claim to be separate when

in fact they are acting together to, for example, pool their limits. If the RIPE NCC believes Users are acting in a coordinated way to bypass the above limits, we will consider the situation and act on a case-by-case basis.

References

[1] Where no limits are set, or a limit is set as Unlimited, we work on the basis of Fair Use. This means that we expect Users not to do anything that could abuse or damage the RIPE Database services or cause service disruption for other Users. If we detect any User causing problems we may, at our sole discretion, slow down or temporarily or permanently block Access to the RIPE Database services for that User.

[2] Queries can be sent to the RIPE Database without the need to wait for the previous query to return.

[3] If the number of personal data sets limit is exceeded, the User will be temporarily blocked from making any queries to the RIPE Database from the IP address submitting the queries for personal data. The number of queries accepted from the temporarily blocked IP address will recover exponentially over time. This will allow a slower query rate to be possible for a while. However, if a User is temporarily blocked several times, or continues to submit queries excessively even while blocked, they will be permanently denied from querying the RIPE Database from that IP address. Despite the set limits for queries by the Users of the RIPE Database, the email contacts which are included in the "abuse-c" attribute are meant to be available with no restrictions to bulk access. Because this attribute can potentially be filled in with email addresses which could be considered to be personal, it is the maintainer's responsibility to inform the individual whose personal details will be referenced in the RIPE Database and obtain their consent for use of their data.