



MEMBER UPDATE

UPDATE FROM THE RIPE NCC MANAGING DIRECTOR

With this edition of the Member Update, we're able to bring you lots of news about what's going on inside the RIPE NCC and plenty more from the world outside. If you look at the Draft Activity Plan and Budget 2015, which outlines our plans for all services and activities in 2015, as well as their associated costs, you'll see that two of our focus points for next year involve adding value to services for our members and introducing process efficiencies in the RIPE NCC that will lead to better use of our resources. As the people who rely on our services, we hope you'll let us know what you think of our planned improvements.

The RIPE 69 Meeting in London is also nearly upon us, and as I write, well over 500 people are registered to attend, which will make this one of the biggest RIPE Meetings yet. It also gives us an excellent chance to engage with members from all over our service region and to find out directly from them how the RIPE NCC can better serve them. The RIPE NCC Services Working Group on the afternoon of 5 November is where our staff and Executive Board members will be presenting. Straight after this, the RIPE NCC General Meeting for RIPE NCC members takes place.

This is always an extremely important meeting for us, and the discussion on the Activity Plan and Budget is crucial for letting us know how you want us to carry out our work next year. There is also a resolution for the members to vote on a new RIPE NCC Standard Service Agreement. This relates to a change in our agreement with the Dutch tax authorities, and we hope you'll read the relevant documentation and exercise your right to vote.

Being transparent about our processes and conducting good corporate governance are vital in light of the current IANA stewardship transition process. The U.S. National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced that it intended to transition out of the role of oversight of the IANA functions. It asked the global Internet community to develop a plan for this transition and for ongoing stewardship of these critical functions. The RIRs and their communities are key stakeholders in the administration of the IANA functions, and each of the five RIR communities is discussing the issues raised by the NTIA's announcement.

It is important that the RIPE NCC membership have its voice heard in the RIPE community discussion, whether to propose specific elements of a future model or simply to support broad principles or priorities that can help inform the community and its representatives on the relevant coordination group. We are asking our members to contribute to this process via the RIPE Cooperation Working Group, which will meet at RIPE 69.

In this transition process, the RIPE NCC needs to show that it is accountable to its members and community. So whether you are providing your input into the IANA stewardship transition or helping the RIPE NCC to fine-tune its processes and corporate governance, you are contributing to a RIPE NCC and a global Internet environment that reflects the wishes of the people they serve.



Axel Pawlik

RIPE NCC Managing Director

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Feedback

If you have feedback about the contents of this Member Update or suggestions for future issues, please email the Membership Communications Officer at fergalc@ripe.net.

All About the RIPE NCC General Meeting

November 2014

The RIPE NCC General Meeting (GM) takes place at 18:00 UTC on Wednesday, 5 November at the Novotel London West Hotel. We strongly urge all members to attend, either in person at the meeting in London, or via the remote participation options available.

New for this General Meeting

For this GM, we launched registration for both attendance and voting options through the LIR Portal. All members can log in and register in just a few clicks without the need to fill in a registration form. Aside from reducing the effort needed by members to register, the LIR Portal is a much more secure method of registration. It also allows us to introduce some useful features for members, such as using RIPE NCC Access to show which LIRs the member is entitled to represent and, if a vote is already taken, which of the member's colleagues has taken that vote.

Another registration improvement that the LIR Portal gives us is the ability for electronic voters to register right up until the start of the GM in the same way as on-site attendees.

You can try out the new registration process by navigating to the GM Preferences section in the LIR Portal. If you are unable to log in, an LIR Portal administrator from your organisation will be able to add you as a contact or you can email agm@ripe.net for help.

While registration now takes place through the LIR Portal, the electronic voting itself is still carried out by BigPulse to ensure an independent voting process. Following discussion on the members-discuss mailing list, the RIPE NCC Executive Board also decided to extend the period for electronic voting to ensure everyone has sufficient time to cast their votes. Votes can now be cast until 09:00 UTC on Friday, 7 November, which gives members two days to cast their votes. The announcement of the results will be made during the Friday morning coffee break at the RIPE Meeting, at 10:45 UTC.

All the details about registration, voting and remote participation are available on the GM webpages:

<https://www.ripe.net/lir-services/ncc/gm/november-2014>

The image shows two screenshots from the LIR Portal. On the left is the 'My LIR' sidebar menu with options: Home, General Information, Billing Details, LIR Contacts, GM Preferences (highlighted with an orange arrow), Manage Users, and Add Users. On the right is the 'Attendance and Voting: GM November 2014' registration form. The form includes sections for 'Attendance Options' (Attend in person or Participate remotely), 'Voting Options' (Vote electronically or by paper ballot), and 'Finalise Registration' (checkbox for online materials). A 'Register' button is at the bottom.

My LIR

- Home >
- General Information >
- Billing Details >
- LIR Contacts >
- GM Preferences >
- Manage Users >
- Add Users >

Attendance and Voting: GM November 2014

All information, including supporting documentation and information about how to participate, is available on the [General Meeting webpages](#).
If you have any questions about the General Meeting, please email: agm@ripe.net

Attendance Options

☒ Attend the General Meeting in person
☐ Participate remotely via webcast and chat

Voting Options

I want to vote on behalf of the following RIPE NCC members:

☒ [No members](#)
☐ [No members](#)

Any person who is a representative of a RIPE NCC member is allowed to attend the General Meeting. Only one person is allowed to vote on behalf of each member.
Note: If you wish to assign your vote to a proxy voter, you need to follow the proxy voting process outlined on [the GM webpages](#).

☒ I want to vote electronically
☐ I want to vote by paper ballot

Finalise Registration

☐ The GM materials are available online. Select this checkbox to receive a printed meeting pack on the day of the GM.
Once you click the Register button, you can only change the selections you made by contacting: agm@ripe.net

[Register](#)

The new GM registration system in the LIR Portal

Draft Activity Plan and Budget 2015

One of the main features of the Autumn GM is the discussion of the Draft RIPE NCC Activity Plan and Budget 2015. This document outlines the RIPE NCC's strategic focus for the year ahead, its plans with regard to all services and activities, and the budgeted cost of each service and activity to the membership. The Activity Plan and Budget has been developed to address requests from the membership from the RIPE NCC to be more transparent with regard to what it does and to provide associated costs. The document is in draft form until after the discussion at the GM, after which the Executive Board will take account of the members' feedback, incorporate it into the document and publish a final version at the end of 2014.

The document is available for members to review and the Board hopes you will provide feedback either at the GM or on the members-discuss mailing list:

<https://www.ripe.net/lir-services/ncc/gm/november-2014/draft-ripe-ncc-activity-plan-and-budget-2015>

Resolution on New RIPE NCC Standard Service Agreement

At the GM, members will be asked to vote on a new RIPE NCC Standard Service Agreement (SSA). A new SSA is required because of a change in the tax ruling that the RIPE NCC has with the Dutch tax authorities. This change means that, although the current RIPE NCC reserves will not be taxed, future surpluses will be subject to tax. However, the authorities agreed that surpluses could be redistributed among the members without being subject to taxation.

To make this possible, the RIPE NCC's Clearing House Procedure needs to be updated and the SSA amended. Members will be asked to vote on this change at the upcoming GM.

More details are available in the updated Clearing House Procedure:

<https://www.ripe.net/lir-services/ncc/gm/november-2014/updated-ripe-ncc-clearing-house-procedure>

The update SSA that members will vote on it published at:

<https://www.ripe.net/lir-services/ncc/gm/november-2014/ripe-ncc-standard-service-agreement>

Get Involved

The GM is a very important meeting for the RIPE NCC because we get to hear direct feedback from the members on our activities and act on this to improve our services. The GM will be webcast and there will be a live chat facility available to ensure that all members are able to join the meeting and discussions.

If you are attending the meeting in London, the GM Registration Desk will be open all day Wednesday, and you can go there to pick up your badge that you need for entry to the meeting, and your meeting pack and votes.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Fergal Cunningham

Membership Communications Officer



Introducing the RIPE NCC IPv6 Program Manager

In May 2014, ICANN announced that it had begun allocating the final IPv4 address blocks to the five RIRs. As more and more devices come online, the demand for IP addresses rises and with the inevitable run-out of IPv4, network operators are encouraged to adopt IPv6.

At the RIPE NCC, we strive to create awareness about IPv6 and how it can be adopted, providing information and support at both technical and managerial levels. With increased awareness comes increased adoption rates, and the demand for training courses and informative publications rises. These efforts demanded a centralised focus, and that's where the new role of IPv6 Program Manager came about.

As the owner of the RIPE NCC IPv6 Training Course, I've been spending much of my time prior to this appointment in IPv6 focus groups (both internally and externally), IPv6 Task Forces and at related conferences throughout the world, trying to keep my knowledge fresh and familiarising myself with those who are using it and the challenges that they face.

This "new" role, therefore, is not foreign to me, but it does bring with it added challenges and responsibility as I act as a recognisable and accessible point of contact for RIPE NCC members with questions about IPv6. I also welcome suggestions regarding our initiatives, including the IPv6 Roadshow and

ipv6actnow.org – our comprehensive online resource about IPv6 adoption, featuring a variety of information tailored to different audiences – from small business owners to network engineers at Internet Service Providers.

If you'd like to discuss any IPv6-related issues or send me suggestions, feel free to email me at nathalie@ripe.net.

Nathalie Trenaman

IPv6 Program Manager

RIPE NCC

Operations Overview

One of the main strategic focus points for the RIPE NCC, at present and for 2015, is to refine our internal processes in order to provide further efficiency for our members and to improve the value of services for members while reducing the resources needed to provide them.

Ultimately, we want to make life much easier for our members while maintaining all the controls that ensure a robust registry. With this article, we want to let you know what we've been doing to improve our processes and what we plan to do in the year ahead.

Improvements will begin right at the start of members' interaction with the RIPE NCC, with a complete overhaul of the member application process. The improvements to this process will mean there is less back-and-forth interaction between the RIPE NCC and the applying member. Information will be gathered at the start of the process, RIPE NCC Access will be used to prefill information where possible, and the automatic creation of RIPE Database objects will simplify matters greatly. This means that new members will have the database objects they need to request Internet number resources immediately after activation. We expect that the new membership application process will be launched early in 2015.

RIPE NCC Access has already allowed us to improve the usability of the contact management interface in the LIR Portal, and using the single sign-on system to make improvements like this is something we are looking forward to carrying out.

We are also working on streamlining the processes for members making resource requests, in line with feedback from the RIPE NCC Survey 2013 and in consultation with the RIPE NCC Services Working Group. We are moving away from email-based resource requests in favour of offering IP requests solely through the LIR Portal. Over 90% of IP resource requests are already made through the portal, so this allows us to make considerable efficiencies by removing forms that use legacy systems and require engineering support.

Since announcing the plans to deprecate email-based requests, we received positive feedback from members and we now offer APIs for several resource requests. These APIs and related documentation are available at:

<https://www.ripe.net/data-tools/developer-documentation/resource-request-api>

We hope to receive feedback on these until the end of January 2015 before deploying final versions and archiving the email-based system.

By making the process simpler for our members, we think this will feed into our main organisational goal of maintaining a strong registry. By making it easier for members to provide correct and updated information, the registry will only benefit. This goes hand in hand with the Assisted Registry Check (ARC), which is allowing us to provide more in-depth support to our members and help them with their operations. This service also supports the quality of the RIPE Registry.



Our IP Resource Analysts (IPRAs) and Customer Service Representatives can now benefit from RIPE NCC Access by responding to member requests via LiveChat. By using RIPE NCC Access, LIRs can now provide their details securely so their resource requests and queries can be dealt with on the spot. This means they can have much quicker access to the information they need. And as requested in the last RIPE NCC survey, members are now also able to request a phone call from an IPRA to help with their requests.

A process we identified as one where efficiencies can be made is when a member's structure changes, as in the case where there is a merger or an acquisition. Currently, several processes are involved to ensure the registry remains up to date, and over the coming months we will be looking at using the experience we gained and improved systems to reduce the effort required from members to comply with our requirements for accurate data. For all operational processes, we are re-examining and simplifying explanatory text to make all RIPE NCC-related activities more understandable. All of these increased efficiencies allow us to provide improved and new services such as LiveChat that can help members with their operations.

Tickets for Registration Services and Customer Services increased in 2014 as we work to improve all our processes but the number of FTEs remained stable. This demonstrates the increased workload we are carrying out on behalf of members, but the aim is to reduce the ticket load through better processes, allowing focus on quality of service. The reduction of the number of tickets is indicative of a situation where there is much improved usability and dealing with the RIPE NCC becomes a much more intuitive experience.

None of the process improvements at the RIPE NCC are possible without the consent of the membership, and that is why we are committed to announcing any changes and requesting guidance via the mailing lists. We also look forward to meeting our members at the RIPE 69 Meeting in London and various events around our service region. We hope you'll talk to us online or in person and let us know how we can make dealing with the RIPE NCC a better and more productive experience.

Updates about our operations take place on the RIPE NCC Services Working Group mailing list. You can participate in the discussions and give us feedback by subscribing at:

<http://www.ripe.net/mailman/listinfo/ncc-services-wg/>

*Laura Copley, Customer Services Manager
and Andrea Cima, Registration Services Manager*

RIPE Database Developments

The RIPE Database is one of the most important resources that the RIPE NCC operates on behalf of the RIPE community, so any work involves ensuring that no substantive changes are made to the core functionality of the database without the support of the community. At the same time, we are working constantly to introduce usability and simplicity to the database for the benefit of the many RIPE NCC and Internet community members who rely on it for their operations.

Resiliency and Releases

Over the last year, we have continued to improve the resiliency of the RIPE Database operations. We installed additional hardware in Stockholm that is able to serve read queries should there be a problem with the infrastructure in both of the Amsterdam datacentres.

Furthermore, we improved the transparency of our issue tracking and release process. New releases are first deployed to a dedicated Release Candidate environment for a minimum period of two weeks to allow users to test changes before they are deployed to production. New releases are announced to the Database Working Group mailing list and published on the RIPE NCC website:

<http://www.ripe.net/data-tools/db/release-notes>

Documentation and Learning

We are also working on the RIPE Database Documentation Project based on feedback from the RIPE Database Working Group. Documentation is updated for every release of the database and made available when a new version is released to the Release Candidate environment. The first batch of new documentation pages, which includes the new contents of the RIPE Database Update Manual, are now available:

<https://www.ripe.net/data-tools/support/ripe-database-documentation>

The RIPE NCC Database Group has also worked with Training Services to facilitate hands-on RIPE Database training and certification through the RIPE NCC Academy e-learning platform, which will be launched at the RIPE 69 Meeting on 5 November.

Core Database Work and the RIPE Database Working Group

The RIPE Database Working Group requested to deprecate the “changed:” attribute in favour of having a “last-modified:” attribute that would provide more reliable information about when an object in the database was last updated. We were also asked to deprecate the “referral-by” in maintainer objects since

it’s no longer relevant. We have proposed a phased approach to both changes to the RIPE Database Working Group mailing list, and we will discuss this again at the upcoming RIPE meeting.

We will also discuss plans to simplify authentication in the RIPE Database. This is a complex process at the moment, making it difficult for users to get started, posing problems when developing better web-based user interfaces and leading to complicated maintainer password resets. The use of RIPE NCC Access accounts as an authentication mechanism, “sso-auth”, has already been implemented. We recently changed the maintainer password reset process to use this authentication mechanism to encourage its use, and we plan to build on this further in order to address the issues mentioned above. It should be noted, however, that any such improvements will be thoroughly discussed with the working group, and that existing authentication mechanisms will continue to be supported.

Usability

Furthermore we have an ongoing effort to improve the usability for RIPE NCC members and users of the RIPE Database in general. Similar to the IPv6 Analyser in the LIR Portal, which allows LIRs to easily create database objects for their IPv6 space, we will start offering more intuitive interfaces to manage other database objects. These user interfaces should be seen as an addition to the existing update mechanisms that will remain available for ‘power users’ and tools. It should also be noted that these user interfaces are purely focused on usability. They do not require any changes or have an impact on the core database. We believe, however, that better tooling is also important to assure the quality of the data contained in the RIPE Database.

Finally, we will be updating the community at the RIPE 69 Meeting in London on 6 November at 16:00 UTC. This is the forum for discussion on the RIPE Database, and we hope you will join us there in person or via webcast and follow the discussions. You can also keep abreast of RIPE Database issues by subscribing to the RIPE Database Working Group mailing list:

<http://www.ripe.net/mailman/listinfo/db-wg/>

The RIPE Database Team

RIPE NCC Academy

Results from the RIPE NCC Survey 2013 showed that members wanted the RIPE NCC to provide more online learning options in addition to the instructional videos, live webinars and documentation currently offered.

As a result, the RIPE NCC worked on the implementation of a virtual learning environment, the RIPE NCC Academy, which will be launched during the RIPE NCC Services Working Group at the RIPE 69 Meeting in London on 5 November 2014.

The RIPE NCC Academy will allow us to offer more learning modules and training courses through an interactive portal.

Members will be able to test and certify their knowledge and interact with the RIPE NCC and each other, sharing best current practices and experiences.

The academy will launch with the RIPE Database Course, and more courses will be added in 2015.

<https://academy.ripe.net/>

Rumy Kanis
RIPE NCC Training Services Manager

RIPE Policy Development Update

The Policy Development Process (PDP) is the tool the RIPE community uses to create and update policies for the RIPE NCC service region. Proposals are published on the relevant working group mailing list and discussed by community members. When there is consensus on a proposal, it becomes an active policy and is implemented by the RIPE NCC.

New PDP Document

In May 2014, a revised PDP document reached consensus by the collective of Working Group (WG) Chairs. Previously, the final decision on whether consensus had been reached on a proposal was made by this collective. The updated PDP document moves this responsibility to the chair of the relevant working group.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/docs/ripe-614>

Accepted Policy Proposals

2014-01, Abandoning the Minimum Allocation Size for IPv4, proposed by Carsten Schiefner

This proposal removed the Minimum Allocation Size and Minimum Sub-Allocation Size concept for IPv4. Previously, this was a /22 for allocations and a /24 for sub-allocations. The minimum allocation size meant that IPv4 transfers and conversions of IPv4 PI to PA could only apply to blocks that were a /22 or larger. The proposal was accepted in July 2014 after receiving only support.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/2014-01>

2014-02, Allow IPv4 PI Transfer, proposed by Erik Bais

The goal of this policy proposal was to get IPv4 PI space on par with PA space in terms of being able to transfer it. The proposal was published in March 2014 and was accepted in September 2014.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/2014-02>

Current Policy Proposals

2014-03, Remove Multihoming Requirement for AS Number Assignments, proposed by Saku Ytti and Job Snijders

This proposal removes the requirement that a network be multihomed to receive an AS Number assignment from the

RIPE NCC. Networks would be able to receive AS Numbers for any technical requirement that cannot be satisfied with an existing or private AS Number. The proposal was published in April 2014 and at the time of writing the proposers are working on a new proposal version, based on feedback received during the Review Phase.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/2014-03>

2014-04, Relaxing IPv6 Requirement for Receiving Space from the Final /8, proposed by Aleksi Suhonen and Martin Pels

Currently, LIRs must have an IPv6 allocation from the RIPE NCC or an upstream provider in order to request their /22 IPv4 allocation. This proposal extends this requirement to include any valid globally routable unicast IPv6 address block. The proposal was published in April 2014 and, at the time of writing, the proposers are working on a new proposal version, based on feedback received during the extended Review Phase.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/2014-04>

2014-05, Policy for Inter-RIR Transfers of Internet Resources, proposed by Sandra Brown

This proposal describes how the transfer of Internet number resources will occur between resource holders in the RIPE NCC service region and those in other RIR service regions. The proposal was published in May 2014 and, at the time of writing, is in the extended Review Phase.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/2014-05>

While publishing this proposal, the publisher has withdrawn her previous proposal: 2012-02, "Policy for Inter-RIR Transfers of IPv4 Address Space".

2014-06, Publication of Sponsoring LIR for Legacy Internet Resource Holders, proposed by Nick Hilliard and Niall O'Reilly

This policy proposal applies the "Publication of Sponsoring LIR for Independent Resources" policy to holders of legacy resources. The proposal was published in August 2014 and, at the time of writing, is in the extended Review Phase.

<http://www.ripe.net/ripe/policies/proposals/2014-06>

Marco Schmidt
Policy Development Officer



From the RIPE NCC Product Manager's Desk

In 2013, the RIPE NCC committed to a project to make interaction with us as easy, smooth and enjoyable as possible. The length and breadth of this project is quite large, ranging from the process to sign up as a new member, all the way through to requesting, managing and transferring IP addresses and Autonomous System Numbers.

In practice, this boils down to making a lot of improvements to the LIR Portal, where most of the interaction between resource holders and the RIPE NCC is taking place. It's a huge undertaking, because the LIR Portal offers many different services that were designed for a different time: when we still had a regular pool of IPv4 addresses. At the same time, it's a great opportunity to re-implement some of the functionality, taking the current reality and policy changes into account.

What makes taking on the LIR Portal a complicated task is the fact that both the front and back-end design stemmed from a time where the RIPE NCC did not yet have a need for a lot of standardisation. As a result, we were dealing with different coding languages, different libraries, different visualisation techniques, different design elements, and more ...

To make this project a success, we set out to make some big decisions with regards to coding practices, prototyping, feature development, usability testing and usage tracking. First and foremost, we adopted an AGILE work methodology. This means we work in short, two-week sprints with tangible goals on which we iterate. We quickly inspect and adapt, based on the results and feedback gathered.

In the Software Engineering Department, coding is done primarily in Java, Scala and AngularJS. For the front-end framework we use Bootstrap, which offers a plethora of visual components to create dynamic, responsive websites. On the back-end, we make sure to offer an API for most of our services, so you can programatically access data that's relevant to your organisation.

Finally, all of this runs on a standardised, virtualised CentOS platform, which the IT Department manages. These elements combined allow the software developers to easily share experiences, code and design elements. The result is a tightly knit, cohesive and familiar LIR Portal, where everything works and feels the same.

The fruits of these efforts are already visible. You'll notice that the overall LIR Portal design is more uniform than ever, but we still have a long way to go: the member sign-up process will be reworked, registry changes such as transfers and mergers will get an overhaul, the RPKI management is being redesigned, and much more is in the pipeline.

When doing a redesign, making the right decisions with regards to functionality is one of the most important tasks. We first gather feedback from users through RIPE and Regional Meetings, through training courses, webinars, social media and, of course, our Customer Services Department. We have also implemented website analytics tools, not only to see which pages are being visited most often, but also to see which features are used the most and whether people perhaps

abandon a wizard or other workflow half way through.

After identifying the pain points, the missing functionality and the areas for improvements, the second stage is involving all stakeholders to come up with a new vision and a feature set. This is where the mock-up stages and interaction design begins. This stage has become really important for us, because it's not just a question of what you offer, but how easy and intuitive the feature is.

We like doing quick wireframe mock-ups in a tool called Balsamiq. When we're happy after a couple of iterations, we make a tangible design in HTML using the Bootstrap template. Usually, the development team will start hooking in the backend to create a functional first prototype. We've gotten into the habit of deploying these quite early in the LIR Portal on a hidden location. This allows us to throw some ideas around with real users in the community to see if our vision matches with their expectations.

The next stage is to build a production grade service. Again, we try to build and deploy in small iterations. For example, we first launched the new request form wizard for IPv4 only. Based on the things we learned along the way and the feedback we received after launching it, we were able to roll all changes into the IPv6 request forms immediately. This saves us a lot of refactoring time later on.

All in all, we're running a tight and smooth operation, and new functionality to make your life easier gets deployed quickly and with a higher quality than ever. If you have ideas or feedback for us, we would love to hear about it! Drop us a line via email, find us at a conference or on social media.

Alex Band
RIPE NCC Product Manager

If you have feedback for Alex, you can contact him on alexb@ripe.net. He's also an avid Twitterer and posts about product development. Follow @alexander_band for updates!

RIPEstat: Providing Better Data at the Rate of 1,000,000 Queries a Day

A big focus for the RIPE NCC this year has been making our services more valuable to our members as well as the wider Internet community. A lot of the time, that means new features or functionality that are immediately evident, but sometimes, it also means working behind the scenes to ensure that the data we provide you with is as accurate and up to date as possible – which is where we’ve been focusing our efforts with RIPEstat.

RIPEstat currently uses a lot of different back-ends for its data sources, and we have been consolidating those and removing the dependency for routing data delivered from an older database. That means that routing data, which used to be more than a day old in RIPEstat, is now a maximum of 12 hours old by the time you access it. The new internal database, which accesses the RIPE Database directly, has a quicker processing

pipeline, and the team is now working to use it for other datasets as well, including RIS stats, blacklist information, geolocation data and IANA registry data. As the team moves toward a production level back-end by the end of the year, RIPEstat users – who now make more than one million queries a day – will continue to benefit from more reliable, timely data.

If you haven’t already experienced what RIPEstat can do for your operations, explore it yourself online or drop by the Information Hub at the RIPE 69 Meeting from 3-7 November in London, where you’ll have a chance to ask questions and watch demos by RIPEstat developers.

<https://stat.ripe.net/>

RIPE Atlas: Tagging Means More Tailored Measurements

Would you like to measure your network from IPv6-only home connections? That’s just one of many tailored measurements that RIPE Atlas users can now perform using the global Internet measurement network, thanks to the newly introduced “tagging” feature. This new functionality is now running in beta status – but to make it as useful as possible, we need your help.

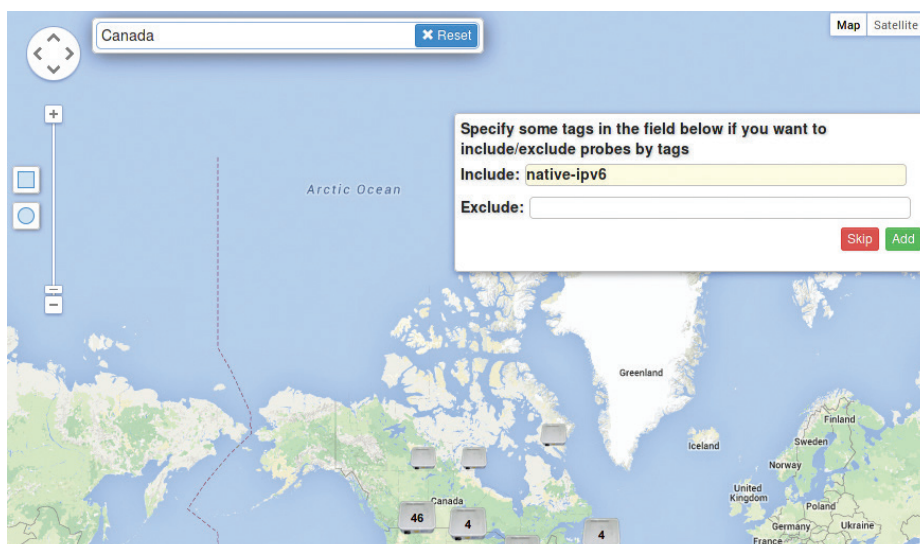
Anyone who hosts a RIPE Atlas probe can tag their probe with different categories and properties, such as “home”, “data centre”, “DSL”, “cable”, “NAT”, “No NAT”, etc. We’ve also introduced a new feature called “system tags” to probes, which are added automatically by the RIPE Atlas system and include whether the probes are working or not over IPv4 and IPv6, their DNS resolution ability, and which generation the probe is.

RIPE Atlas users can now make use of these tags when creating

their own customised measurements, choosing exactly which types of probes they want to use. Users can query for both types of tags – user tags and system tags – when selecting probes for their measurements, which means you can create measurements tailored specifically to your individual needs.

However, this new feature will only be as useful as RIPE Atlas users make it. The greater the number of RIPE Atlas probe hosts who apply tags to their probes, the more everyone will benefit. So if you host a probe, now’s the time to tag it! You can get creative and add as many tags as you want. You’ll be helping to turn RIPE Atlas into the most useful active Internet measurement network possible.

<https://atlas.ripe.net>



RIPE Atlas users can now select probes with specific tags, such as “native-ipv6”, when creating their own measurements

The RIPE NCC Website Overhaul

The Web Services Team is working on a project to restructure the RIPE NCC website to provide a better web experience for our users. This project was announced to the membership and it comes in response to feedback received via the RIPE NCC Survey 2013 and various other feedback mechanisms. The specific action items identified in the survey were to improve navigation, structure and usability, as well as the search functionality.

We hired an external consultancy firm to assist with the project since we wanted a fresh, neutral outlook of the site and suggested improvements. The research went in a number of directions simultaneously: web analytics, user interviews, internal workshops and online surveys. We have already gathered interesting feedback which has been used to improve the search form and for overall search optimisation of website content, and I would like to personally thank all the members and non-members alike who participated in our surveys and offered us their suggestions for improvement. We will be

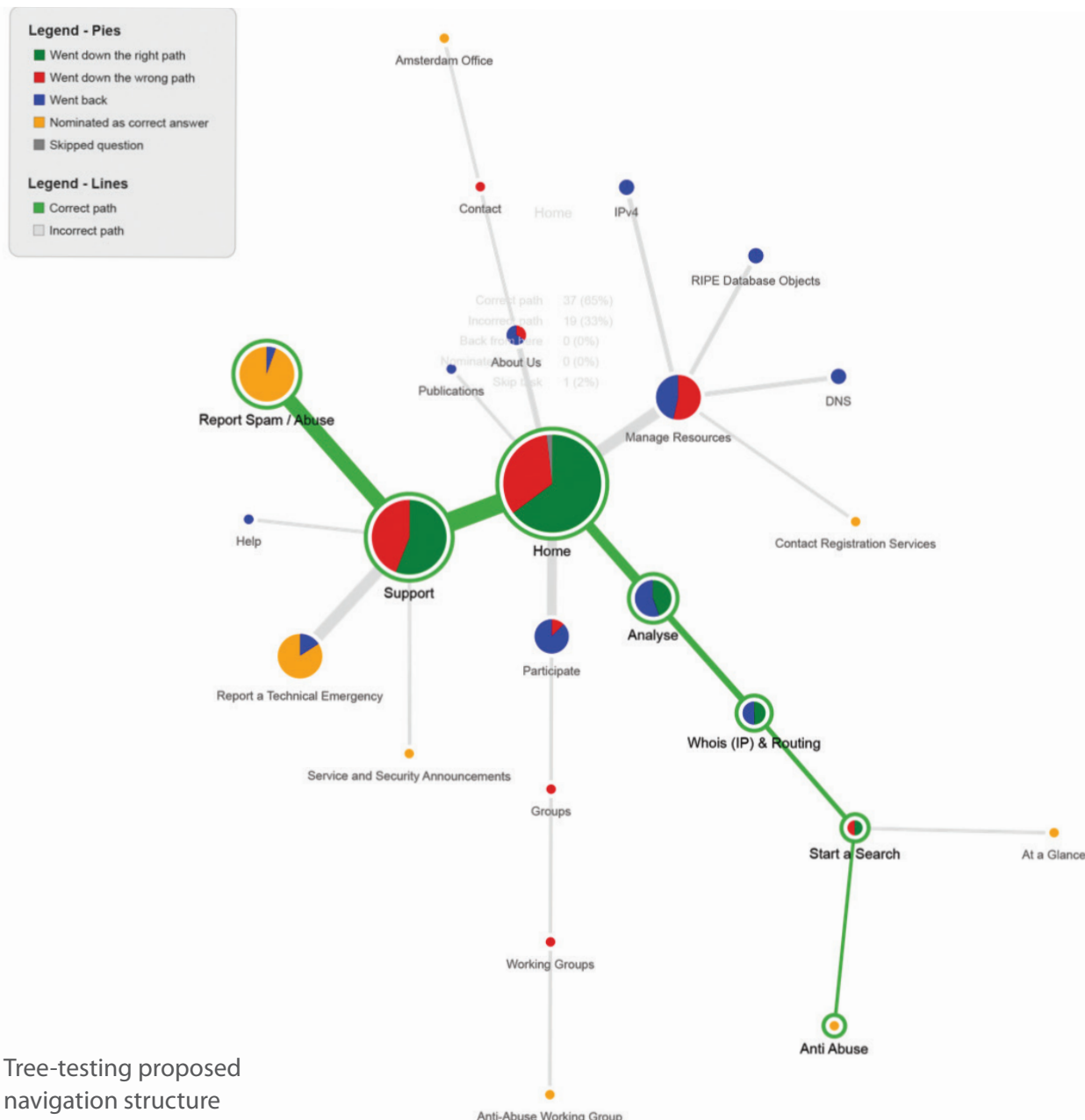
counting on you to provide further feedback as we get close to completing the project and will have a test version of the new website in place.

We are currently in the final stages of the research, with the outcome crystallised into a new navigation structure and complete wire-frames that will be the basis of the new website design.

In the coming months, we will develop a new design based on these results and focus our resources on implementing it, with the goal to release the fresh new look of www.ripe.net at the beginning of 2015.

If you have any feedback about this project, please contact ws@ripe.net.

Mihnea-Costin Grigore
Web Services Team Leader



Tree-testing proposed navigation structure

IANA Stewardship: Evolution in Progress

In March of this year, the U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced that it intended to transition out of the role of oversight of the IANA functions. It asked the global Internet community to develop a plan for this transition and for ongoing stewardship of these critical functions.

Information and background on this process, including summaries of community discussions to date, is available on the RIPE NCC website:

<http://www.ripe.net/iana-oversight-transition>

With the global and community processes underway, what's next and how and where can RIPE NCC's membership contribute?

RIPE Community

In October 2014, the following draft RIPE community position was published to the RIPE Cooperation Working Group:

The RIPE community asks the RIPE NCC to work with the other RIRs to produce a common proposal for a legally binding agreement (such as a Service Level Agreement) between ICANN and the RIRs to replace the Internet number-related elements of the ICANN-NTIA agreement.

This proposal should meet the requirements of the Request For Proposals (RFP) produced by the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG).

The proposal should bring the provisions of the agreement related to the services and service levels up-to-date with current requirements where necessary.

This work should be coordinated with the other users of the IANA function as much as practical, with the aim of producing a proposed arrangement that is compatible with the proposed arrangements of the other IANA users.

The RIPE community asks the RIPE NCC and the other RIRs keep it informed about progress and content of the proposal.

The RIPE community asks the RIPE NCC to complete the proposal and to submit it to the ICG before 15 January 2015.

This is not agreed text, but is intended to act as a basis for community discussions over the coming weeks.

Building Consensus Across the RIR Communities

The Regional Internet Registries (RIRs) and their communities are key stakeholders in the administration of the IANA functions, and each of the five RIR communities is discussing the issues raised by the NTIA's announcement.

Each of the five RIR communities are expected to produce their output by December 2014, at which point a single

Internet numbers community proposal will be consolidated for submission to the global IANA stewardship process.

In October 2014, a proposal was put to the RIR communities for a Consolidated RIR IANA Stewardship Proposal (CRISP) team. Drawing together members of the communities and RIR staff, this group will be responsible for developing the Internet numbers community proposal.

<https://nro.net/crisp-team>

The Global Process

The IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) was convened in July 2014 as a means of coordinating the input from the various the various IANA communities of interest and producing a single proposal to the NTIA.

Of the 32 members of the group, Paul Wilson and Adiel Akplogan, the CEOs of APNIC and AFRINIC respectively are representing the NRO, while Hartmut Glaser (NRO Number Council representative from the LACNIC region) represents the ICANN Address Supporting Organization (ASO). RIPE NCC Chief Scientist Daniel Karrenberg is also serving on the ICG as a representative of the Root Server Operators Advisory Group (RSSAC).

Archives of all ICG meetings, including full transcripts, audio files and minutes, are available publicly:

<https://www.icann.org/stewardship/coordination-group>

What Can RIPE NCC Members Contribute?

The RIPE NCC, along with many others, is pushing for each stage of this global process to be as transparent and inclusive as possible. This means that those RIPE NCC members with a strong interest in the future administration of IANA can follow the discussions not only in the RIPE community, but also in the other RIR communities, the IETF, the ICG and other relevant communities.

It is equally important that the RIPE NCC membership have its voice heard in the RIPE community discussion, whether to propose specific elements of a future model or simply to support broad principles or priorities that can help inform the community and its representatives on the ICG.

From now through to the end of 2014 is the key period for contributing to this process. Join the RIPE Cooperation Working Group and have your say today:

<https://www.ripe.net/ripe/mail/wg-lists/cooperation>

The RIPE Cooperation Working Group will also discuss this topic at the RIPE 69 Meeting in London on Thursday, 6 November.

<https://ripe69.ripe.net/programme/meeting-plan/coop-wg/>

*Chris Buckridge
Senior External Relations Officer*

The RIPE 69 Meeting: A Guide for Members



RIPE 69 runs from Monday, 3 November to Friday, 7 November, and the entire program will be of interest to RIPE NCC members. Here, we explain some of what will happen next week and highlight some areas that RIPE NCC members will want to follow.

All of the RIPE Meeting sessions are webcast live, the presentations are available for download and you can join discussions in the chat room. You can also click each session on the meeting programme to find the agenda and other details for that session. You can access all these via the RIPE 69 Meeting website:

<https://ripe69.ripe.net/>

We'll also be posting on our Facebook and Twitter pages, using the hashtag #RIPE69 to keep everyone aware of what's happening.

Tutorials | 09:00-11:00 UTC Monday

If you are in London, you can attend one of the three tutorials that take place on Monday morning. There will be an introduction to RIPE Meetings from the RIPE NCC as well as a tutorial on basic RIPE NCC tools for network diagnostics and monitoring. There will also be a tutorial on using the `getdns` API, which is a new application-friendly interface to the DNS.

Newcomers' Introduction | 11:30-12:30 UTC Monday

RIPE Chair Hans Petter Holen and RIPE NCC Managing Director Axel Pawlik will give a talk for RIPE Meeting newcomers. If this is your first meeting, come along! There are about 100 newcomers at each RIPE Meeting, so if this is your first meeting and you want to know what to expect from the week ahead, this is the place to be.

The Plenary | 14:00 UTC Monday – 12:30 UTC Friday

The content in the plenary is chosen by a dedicated RIPE Programme Committee (PC) with the express purpose of being interesting, relevant and inspiring. Every session in the plenary is webcast for the Internet community. There are two plenary sessions on Monday, four on Tuesday and the Closing Plenary on Friday. Join us in person or online.

RIPE Atlas Workshop | 18:00-19:00 UTC Tuesday

This hands-on workshop will cover specific details about RIPE Atlas' advanced applications, such as setting up user-defined measurements, accessing results and exploring monitoring features.

Address Policy Working Group | 09:00 – 12:30 UTC Wednesday

The Address Policy Working Group discusses policies relating to the distribution and management of IPv4, IPv6 and AS Numbers. Traditionally, this is one of the more active working groups at RIPE Meetings, which is why it usually needs two sessions to get through a packed agenda. This time around will be no different. The discussions that take place in this working group should be of particular interest to RIPE NCC members as the policies discussed here can have a big impact on LIRs' day-to-day operations.

Open Source Working Group | 09:00-12:30 UTC Wednesday

The Open Source Working Group promotes discussion among developers, Internet Service Providers and the rest of the RIPE community about open source projects related to the RIPE community.

Connect Working Group | 11:00-12:30 UTC Wednesday

The Connect Working Group discusses all subjects related to IP interconnection, raises awareness about interconnection and its role on the global Internet, and educates policymakers on how interconnection works.

Measurement, Analysis and Tools (MAT) Working Group | 14:00-15:30 UTC Wednesday

This is the working group where the RIPE NCC and the community can collaborate in the areas of data, tools and analysis relating to the Internet and its infrastructure, with a loose focus on monitoring, diagnosis, analysis and forecasting.

Anti-Abuse Working Group | 14:00-15:30 UTC Wednesday

The Anti-Abuse Working Group aims to tackle online abuse from the technical and non-technical angles. This session will include presentations on the impact of rom-0 vulnerability in SOHO routers and Tor censorship countermeasures and how you can help.

RIPE NCC Services Working Group | 16:00-17:45 UTC Wednesday

The reports from the RIPE NCC, which form part of the RIPE NCC General Meeting, will be given in this working group. There will be presentations on the RIPE NCC's implementation of RIPE Policies. RIPE NCC Executive Board members Salam Yamout and Maria Häll will also present at this session on proposed new activities. We urge members to attend or join remotely to follow the proceedings here.

IPv6 Working Group | 09:00-10:30 UTC Thursday

Issues relating to IPv6 deployment and measurement are the focus in this session. The RIPE NCC IPv6 Program Manager Nathalie Trenamen will give an update from the RIPE NCC and Jen Linkova from Google will present on IPv6 extension headers.

DNS Working Group | 09:00-10:30 UTC Thursday

The DNS Working Group discusses current DNS-related issues in technology and operations. At RIPE 69, Anand Buddhdev will give the DNS report from the RIPE NCC, and there are several presentations from the community, including on DNS attacks and a dynamic DNS abuse overview.

Cooperation Working Group | 11:00-15:30 UTC Thursday

This working group primarily discusses outreach from the traditional RIPE community to everyone else, especially governments, regulators and NGOs. There are two Cooperation Working Group sessions at RIPE 69. The first deals exclusively

with the IANA stewardship transition and Internet governance. The second session deals with technology and social responsibility, and it has presentations relating to securing the Internet post-Snowden and measuring and preserving online freedom of expression.

Routing Working Group | 11:00-15:30 UTC Thursday

The Routing Working Group defined the RIPE Routing Registry and promoted it worldwide. The group exchanges information about various Routing Registries. It is concerned with the growth of the routing tables on the Internet and started an effort to decrease their size in Europe. There are two sessions dedicated to this working group at RIPE 69 including six presentations on BGP and other routing matters.

RIPE Database Working Group | 16:00-17:30 UTC Thursday

The RIPE Database is crucial for members' work, and this working group deals with all matters relating to the database. The RIPE NCC will update the community on its work on the RIPE Database, including new RIPE Database software functionality.

NRO/RIR Reports | 09:00-10:30 UTC Friday

In this plenary session, updates from the other four RIRs and the NRO are presented. This is also where the elections for the RIPE Programme Committee take place, which is extremely important for the development of future RIPE Meetings.

Upcoming Meetings



RIPE NCC Regional Meeting Iran

Tehran, Iran
18 November 2014

SEE 4 / RIPE NCC Regional Meeting

Belgrade, Serbia
21-22 April 2015

ENOG 9 / RIPE NCC Regional Meeting

Kazan, Russia
8-10 June 2015

RIPE 71

Bucharest, Romania
16-20 November 2015