Internet Engineering Task Force Newcomers' Overview

March 2018

https://www.ietf.org/

Welcome to the IETF!

Thanks to Scott Bradner and Mike St.Johns for earlier versions of this presentation.

https://www.ietf.org/about/note-well/

IETF Note Well

This is a reminder of IETF policies in effect on various topics such as patents or code of conduct. It is only meant to point you in the right direction. Exceptions may apply. The IETF's patent policy and the definition of an IETF "contribution" and "participation" are set forth in BCP 79; please read it carefully.

As a reminder:

- By participating in the IETF, you agree to follow IETF processes and policies.
- If you are aware that any IETF contribution is covered by patents or patent applications that are owned or controlled by you or your sponsor, you must disclose that fact, or not participate in the discussion.
- As a participant in or attendee to any IETF activity you acknowledge that written, audio, video, and photographic records of meetings may be made public.
- Personal information that you provide to IETF will be handled in accordance with the IETF Privacy Statement.
- As a participant or attendee, you agree to work respectfully with other participants; please contact the ombudsteam (https://www.ietf.org/contact/ombudsteam/) if you have questions or concerns about this.

https://www.ietf.org/about/note-well/

IETF Note Well (cont.)

Definitive information is in the documents listed below and other IETF BCPs. For advice, please talk to WG chairs or ADs:

- BCP 9 (Internet Standards Process)
- BCP 25 (Working Group processes)
- BCP 25 (Anti-Harassment Procedures)
- BCP 54 (Code of Conduct)
- BCP 78 (Copyright)
- BCP 79 (Patents, Participation)
- https://www.ietf.org/privacy-policy/ (Privacy Policy)

https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/101/newcomers

Newcomer Activities @ IETF 101

- Newcomer's tutorial … (12:30 – 13:30, Sunday March 18)
- IETF Quick Connections (15:00 – 16:00, Sunday March 18)
  - Short one-on-one conversations with experienced IETFers
- Newcomer's Meet and Greet (16:00 - 17:00, Sunday March 18)
  - Newcomers and IETF Leadership (WG Chairs, ADs, IAB)
- Mentoring https://www.ietf.org/about/participate/mentoring/
- Newcomer's Dinner (Monday evening March 19)
  - Informal dinner for newcomers to chat

https://www.ietf.org/about/participate/

Scope: Preparing for an IETF Meeting

This presentation includes:

- Information immediately useful to you as you attend your first(ish) IETF meetings
- Strategies to make the most of the meeting (whether in person or remote)

This presentation does not include information about:

- The history of the IETF; How to write a “standard”; and many other things…

The IETF YouTube channel has a playlist with information about all these topics (and more:
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLC86T-6ZTP5hXPJ-n4mwJbZ0BHaNlhTMA

The IETF and Related Organizations

https://www.ietf.org/about/mission/

IETF Mission

The mission of the IETF is to make the Internet work better by producing high quality, relevant technical documents that influence the way people design, use, and manage the Internet. [RFC 3935]

The IETF is …

- A Standards Development Organization (SDO)
- With self-selected individual participants, no formal membership
- No formal voting (but we do hum…)
- No formal government role
- Driven by market-based adoption (a *real* standard is one people use)
- Focused on Internet technologies
- Bottom-up… and unique!

IETF Areas

Applications and Real-Time (ART)	• Application protocols and architectures • Real-time (communication) and non-real-time
Transport (TSV)	• Mechanisms related to data transport on the Internet • Includes congestion control
Routing (RTG)	• Routing and signaling protocols
Internet (INT)	• IPv4/IPv6, DNS, DHCP, VPNs, mobility
Operations and Management (OPS)	• Network management • Operations: IPv6, DNS, security, routing
Security (SEC)	• Security protocols and mechanisms, including cryptography
General (GEN)	• Activities focused on supporting and updating IETF processes

The IETF and Consensus

- IETF mantra:
  - “We reject kings, presidents and voting. We believe in rough consensus and running code.”
- Rough consensus is achieved when all issues are addressed, but not necessarily accommodated
- Dissenting opinions are heard, but are not controlling
- Humming: a way of measuring consensus that is not voting
- Session chair is responsible for building consensus
- WG mailing list consensus has to be taken into account
- “On Consensus and Humming in the IETF”, P. Resnick, https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7282

IETF Culture

Passionate, smart, vocal people

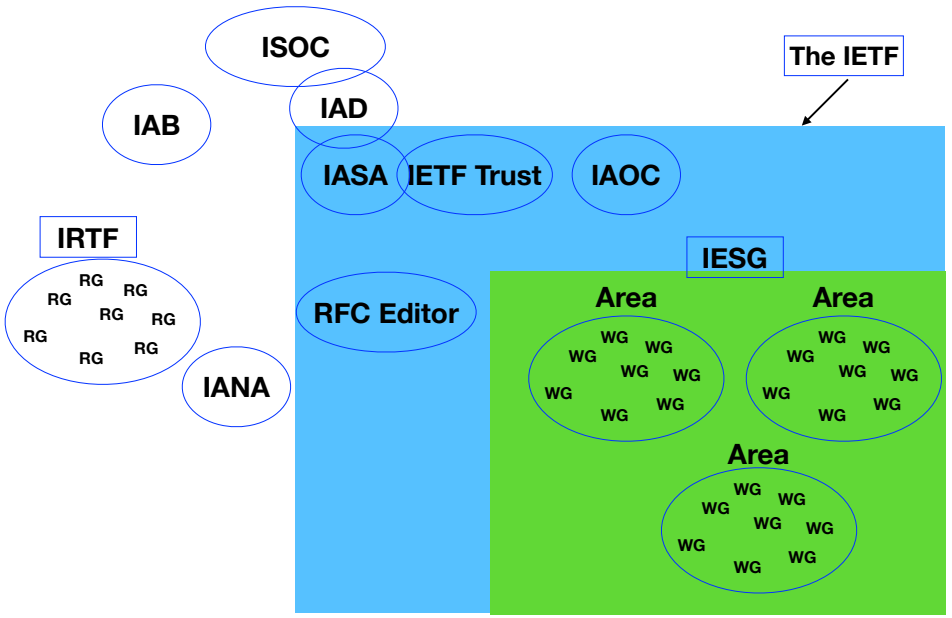
Technical excellence is highly valued

Informal dress code (people LOVE t-shirts)

Close working relationships (people know each other)

Alphabet soup

- **I**nternet **E**ngineering **S**teering **G**roup
- **I**nternet **A**rchitecture **B**oard
- **I**nternet **R**esearch **T**ask Force
- **I**ETF **A**dministrative **S**upport **A**ctivity
- **I**ETF **A**dministrative **O**versight **C**ommittee
- **I**ETF **A**dministrative **D**irector
- **I**nternet **Soc**iety



Who does what?

- **IAB:** provides oversight of the Internet architecture and the standards process
- **IESG:** responsible for technical management of IETF activities and the Internet standards process
- **IRTF:** a parallel organization focused on longer-term research topics for the Internet
- **IAOC:** is responsible for the fiscal & administrative support of the IETF standards process

IETF Week in a Nutshell

The IETF Meeting week

- Organized events include:
  - Working Group sessions: ~130 working groups
  - Birds of a Feather sessions (BOFs)
  - IRTF sessions: ~7
  - Area-wide sessions
  - IETF-wide plenaries
  - Hackathons (Code Sprints, etc)
  - Tutorials & Lunch Sessions
  - Social Events

IETF Meeting week (cont)

Other events include:

- Hallway meetings
- Many Bar BOFs
- Marathon Editing Sessions

The App is your friend!

The Agenda is your friend!

https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/101/agenda.html

Working Groups

- Where most of the IETF takes place
- Most work is done on mailing lists in between meetings
- Face-to-face meetings mostly focused on solving key issues
- Sessions are streamed & recorded
- Charter (including milestones) is negotiated with area director

Birds-of-a-Feather (BOF)

- Often precedes formation of a WG
- Usually includes discussion of a proposed WG charter
- Sometimes a one-shot for a timely topic
- Proposed by a group interested in a topic
- Approved by ADs
- Generally meet only once
- Some longer-term topics may meet as a

General Meeting Etiquette

- Read documents of interest before WG sessions
- Try to talk to people
- Enjoy yourself
- Remember to sleep!
- Behave respectfully and tolerantly towards the other participants

IETF Session Etiquette

- Speak directly into the mic
- Say your name every time you speak at the microphone
- Sign the “blue sheets” which provide a record of who is in the room (remote participants recorded as well)
- Listen
- Technical comments & questions are welcome
- Use the WG Jabber channel to discuss meeting-relevant topics

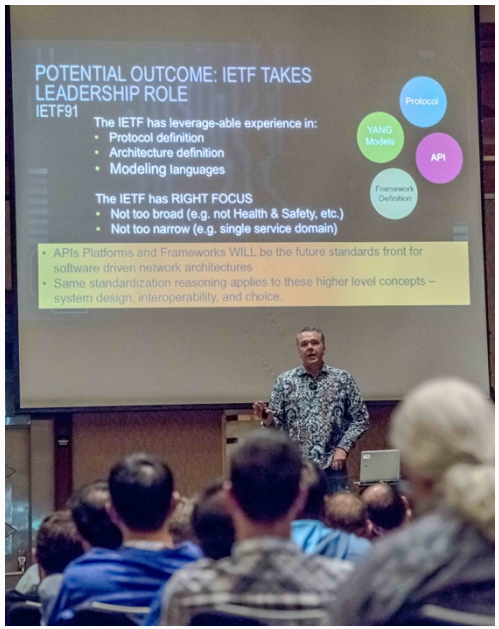
Internet Research Task Force

Officially an activity of the IAB

- Looks at more “researchy” topics
- IRTF RGs often meet at IETF meetings
- IRTF meetings at the IETF are open to all IETF attendees

Useful reference on the IRTF: RFC 7418
“An IRTF Primer for IETF Participants”
https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc7418.txt

Area Sessions, Plenaries, and lunch talks



Hackathons, Code Sprints, Code Lounge

Networking and Social Events

The Resources

- People
- Information
- Tools

Key People

- IETF Secretariat
- RFC Editor
- IANA staff
- IAD

Coming Soon! Pictures!!!

The Ombudsteam

- Report any harassment to the ombudsteam (BCP 25) https://www.ietf.org/iesg/statement/ietf-anti-harassment-policy.html
- Allison Mankin, Pete Resnick, Linda Klieforth

Dots & Ribbons (Who's Who!)

Working Group Chair

Nominations Committee

Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG) Member

Internet Architecture Board (IAB) Member

Internet Research Group (IRSG) Member

RFC Series Editor

IETF Administration and Oversight Committee (IAOC) Member

TBD (WG)

OMBUDSTEAM **NEWCOMER** HOST

Meeting Specific Links

Tutorials:

https://www.ietf.org/about/participate/tutorials/

Meeting wiki:

https://trac.ietf.org/trac/ietf/meeting/wiki/ietf101

Meeting mailing list:

https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/ietf-meeting-mailing-lists/

More Meeting Resources

First-time attendees mailing list:

https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/101-newcomers

Companions Program:

https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/101/companion-program/

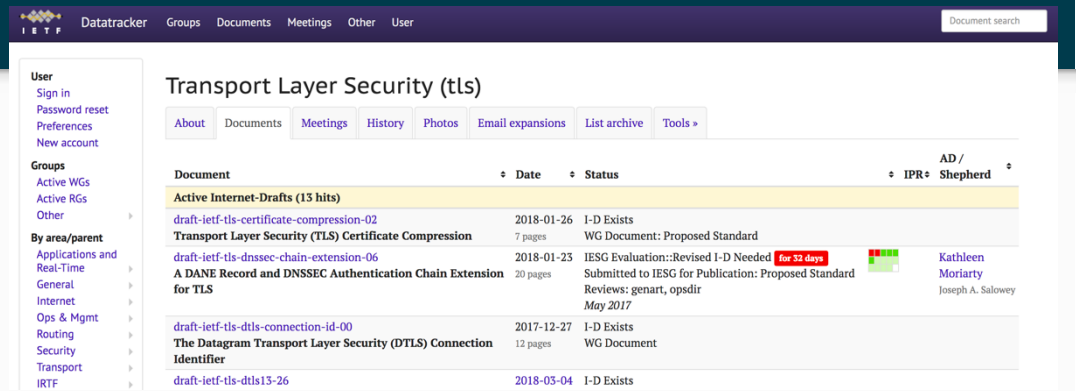
IETF Systers

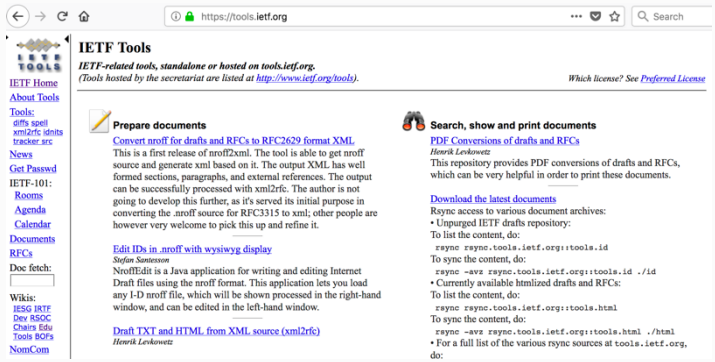
https://www.ietf.org/blog/ietf-systers/

Information

IETF Datatracker

https://datatracker.ietf.org/





Tools Page

https://tools.ietf.org/

https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/101/remote

Remote Participation

- Attendance at face-to-face IETF meetings is not required.
- IETF supports remote attendance capabilities for all WG sessions.
- Meetecho is the tool for remote participation!

The Meetecho team at IETF 83, (left to right) Lorenzo Miniero, Simon Romano, Tobia Castaldi, and Alessandro Amirante

https://tickets.meeting.ietf.org/wiki/IETF101network

The Network @ IETF

- The IETF runs its own network (including sometimes the primaryhotel)
- Generally up by early Saturday and down around noon on Friday
- There are a number of wireless SSIDs available
- Avoid ietf-legacy if possible. It is unencrypted (enough said...)
- Secure networks use userid: “ietf” and password: “ietf”
- There’s also a terminal room with no terminals, but with printers and wired connectivity – AND PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP!

Jabber

The IETF uses eXtensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP) [RFC 6120] to host a number of chat rooms during the IETF meeting.

1. Get a client: http://xmpp.org/software/clients.html
2. Register an account: https://list.jabber.at/
3. Join a chat room, usually: <wgname>@jabber.ietf.org

Used to ask questions and provide a hint of where the discussion is at on slides for audio remote listeners.

Above all: Enjoy!

Questions or Feedback?

What did we miss?

Please help us help you - answer our survey!
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/101newcomers

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