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IETF Discussion List Charter

Abstract

The Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) discussion mailing list furthers the development and specification of Internet technology through the general discussion of topics for which no dedicated mailing lists exists. As this is the most general IETF mailing list, considerable latitude is allowed. Advertising, whether to solicit business or promote employment opportunities, falls well outside the range of acceptable topics, as do discussions of a personal nature.

This document obsoletes RFC3005.

Note to Readers

Discussion of this draft takes place on the [GENDISPATCH working group mailing list](#), which is archived at <https://mailarchive.ietf.org/arch/browse/gendispatch/>.

Working Group information can be found at <https://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/gendispatch/>; source code and the issues list for this draft can be found at <https://github.com/larseggert/bcp45bis>.

Status of This Memo

This Internet-Draft is submitted in full conformance with the provisions of BCP 78 and BCP 79.

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1. Introduction

The IETF discussion list [[IETF-DISCUSS](#)] furthers the development and specification of Internet technology through the general discussion of topics for which no dedicated mailing lists exists. As this is the most general IETF mailing list, considerable latitude is allowed. Advertising, whether to solicit business or promote

employment opportunities, falls well outside the range of acceptable topics, as do discussions of a personal nature.

The IETF Note Well [[NOTE-WELL](#)] applies to discussions on the IETF discussion list and all other IETF mailing lists, and requires conformance with the IETF Guidelines for Conduct [[RFC7154](#)] and the Anti-Harassment Policy [[IETF-AHP](#)], among others.

2. Charter for the IETF Discussion List

This list is meant for initial technical discussion only. Discussions that fall within the area of any working group, area or well established list should be moved to such more specific forums as soon as this is pointed out.

When no dedicated mailing list exists, it may be preferable to request the creation of one [[NON-WG-LISTS](#)] and only announce the availability of the new list on the IETF discussion list.

In addition to the topics noted above, appropriate postings include:

- *Initial discussion of technical issues that are candidates for IETF work, but have not yet identified appropriate mailing lists.

- *Questions and clarifications concerning IETF meetings, although most of these topics are better brought up on the discussion list for IETF LLC administrative issues [[ADMIN-DISCUSS](#)] or the attendee discussion list for a given IETF meeting, such as [[IETF110-ATTENDEES](#)] for IETF-110.

- *Announcements of conferences, events, or activities that are sponsored or endorsed by the Internet Society or IETF, although the IETF announcement list [[IETF-ANNOUNCE](#)] is the preferred list for these.

These topics used to be in scope for the IETF discussion list, but have since moved to dedicated lists:

- *Last Call discussions of proposed protocol actions now take place on the IETF Last Calls mailing list [[LAST-CALLS](#)].

- *Discussion of IETF administrative policies now take place on the discussion list for IETF LLC administrative issues [[ADMIN-DISCUSS](#)].

Inappropriate postings include:

- *Unsolicited bulk e-mail

*Discussion of subjects unrelated to IETF policy, meetings, activities, or technical concerns

*Unprofessional commentary, regardless of the general subject

*Announcements of conferences, events, or activities that are not sponsored or endorsed by the Internet Society or IETF.

3. Security Considerations

The IETF Chair, the IETF Executive Director, or a sergeant-at-arms [[SAA-SOP](#)] appointed by the Chair is empowered to restrict posting by a person, or of a thread, when the content is inappropriate and represents a pattern of abuse [[SAA-UPC](#)]. They are encouraged to take into account the overall nature of the postings by an individual and whether particular postings are an aberration or typical. Complaints regarding their decisions should be referred to the IAB.

4. IANA Considerations

This document does not request any IANA actions.

5. References

5.1. Normative References

[RFC3005] Harris, S., "IETF Discussion List Charter", BCP 45, RFC 3005, DOI 10.17487/RFC3005, November 2000, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc3005>>.

5.2. Informative References

- [ADMIN-DISCUSS] IETF, "Discussion List for IETF LLC Administrative Issues", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/admin-discuss>>.
- [IETF-AHP] IETF, "IETF Anti-Harassment Policy", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/about/groups/iesg/statements/anti-harassment-policy/>>.
- [IETF-ANNOUNCE] IETF, "IETF Announcement List", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/ietf-announce>>.
- [IETF-DISCUSS] IETF, "IETF Discussion List", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/ietf>>.
- [IETF110-ATTENDEES] IETF, "Mailing List for IETF 110 Attendees", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/110attendees>>.
- [LAST-CALLS] IETF, "IETF Last Calls", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/last-call>>.
- [NON-WG-LISTS] IETF, "Non-Working Group Email List Guidelines", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/how/lists/nonwqlist-guidelines/>>.
- [NOTE-WELL] IETF, "Note Well", n.d., <<https://ietf.org/about/note-well/>>.
- [RFC7154] Moonesamy, S., Ed., "IETF Guidelines for Conduct", BCP 54, RFC 7154, DOI 10.17487/RFC7154, March 2014, <<https://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc7154>>.
- [SAA-SOP] IETF Sergeants-at-Arms, "Sergeant-at-Arms Standard Operating Procedures", n.d., <<https://github.com/ietf/saa/blob/master/sop.md>>.
- [SAA-UPC] IETF Sergeants-at-Arms, "Unprofessional commentary", n.d., <<https://github.com/ietf/saa/blob/master/unprofessional-commentary.md>>.

Appendix A. Acknowledgements

Susan R. Harris authored [[RFC3005](#)], which this document replaces.

Appendix B. Changes

B.1. Since draft-eggert-bcp45bis-00

*added introduction, security considerations and IANA considerations sections

- *added "note to readers" with pointers to the discussion list and the repo

- *added references to IETF Sergeants-at-Arms procedures

- *added references to various mailing lists for topics that used to be in scope for the IETF discussion list but no longer are

- *added references to the Note Well and relevant other policies that apply

B.2. Since RFC3005

- *converted to Markdown and xml2rfc v3

- *updated references (as part of the conversion)

- *updated author information

- *various formatting changes

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