Adoption of I-Ds
(updating existing guidelines)
draft-carpenter-gendispatch-rfc7221bis-01

Brian Carpenter
Dave Crocker
Adrian Farrel
Fernando Gont
Michael Richardson

IETF 109 (virtual)
November 2020
Why?

• Participants are sometimes confused about WG "adoption" of a draft and how it fits into the standards process.
• That has led to misunderstandings or conflict.
  • Details omitted to protect the guilty :-)
• RFC7221 offers guidelines but apparently not quite clear enough.
FYI: The story of RFC7221

• The authors just wrote it
• They solicited review from a few key people
• They solicited review from the WG chairs
• The document was AD sponsored through IETF last call
• Relatively few community comments
Deliverable

• An update to RFC7221 that adds
  – Clarification of the implications of WG adoption
  – Additional guidelines for adoption
  – Guidelines for "unadoption"
• No other changes to the RFC
• No change to IETF rules; this is Informational
Logistics

• `draft-carpenter-gendispatch-rfc7221bis-00` is the unchanged RFC text
• `draft-carpenter-gendispatch-rfc7221bis-01` has the proposed updates
• `rfcdiff` is your friend
• `github.com/becarpenter/draft-adopt`
Summary of new text (1)

• Consequences of WG Adoption
  – Change control moves to WG
  – WG agrees to work on it
  – But no guarantee of consensus

• Relationship to Formal IETF Rules
  – A WG adoption call is not a required step; WG Chairs can decide to declare consensus without it.
Summary of new text (2)

- *Any* participant may ask for adoption
- WG Chairs should handle adoption regardless of their own opinions
- After a call for adoption, WG Chairs
  - Judge whether there is rough consensus
  - Choose document editors (not necessarily the existing authors)
Summary of new text (3)

• Additional criteria to be considered:
  – If not already in scope, is a simple modification to the charter feasible?
  – Is the proposal useful?
  – Is the quality of writing sufficient as a basis?
  – Are any IPR disclosures acceptable?
  – Is the work in conflict with work elsewhere in the IETF?
Summary of new text (4)

• Withdrawal of an adopted I-D is a WG decision
  – After failed attempts to make progress, the WG Chairs may make a WG call for the withdrawal of a draft
  – Following the discussion, the WG Chairs may declare rough consensus for withdrawal of the WG draft
  – The I-D is then removed from the WG agenda and returned to its authors
Next steps

• Continue discussion on a suitable list. (Which one? A WG is certainly not justified.)
• Solicit AD sponsorship