How Often and How Long Should IETF virtual meetings be?

IETF 109 – not Bangkok

Slides from:
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About my remote attendance

- It seemed nobody was going to express themselves, and I have an opinion.
- So, this is my opinion.

- My first IETF was 35, in 1996 in Los Angelos. I was supposed to go to Dallas (#34), but my boss cancelled me at the last minute. (customers! eh)
- I was in mailing lists since 1993ish: IPsec/SKIP wars, SNMP security, the endless CLIPPER Chip/Escrow bullshit debate
- I have attended perhaps 50 of the last 73 meetings

- Starting around 2004 I had a new “dotcom”, no money, and a high-needs baby in 2005, and so I attended 2 meetings/year remotely until 2012 when, due to the nomcom selection occurring AFTER the summer meeting, I was suddenly eligible, and was selected. Again the next year. Then I was nomcom chair as punishment.
- Mbone for audio worked once. Streamed mp3s with posted slides. Ah. Good times!
- I work from a pleasant, but dark and messy basement office as a sometimes consultant, sometimes “dotcom” founding employee.
- I do IoT security, IPsec, and DNS stuff keeps appearing
- I use BGP, OSPF, DHCP, in the networks that I operate, but rarely look under the hood.
My experience at IETF
**Carsten’s experience**
Summary of Recommendations

• Many small focused WGs --> people involved in many things.
  – It’s good to have people doing cross-coordination
  – The IESG likes to create small focused WGs

• Do the bulk of the work in virtual interims

• Keep the ~6 hour work-day for virtual meetings for things that need wider audiences:
  – BOFs!!!!
  – Meta-work (like SHMoo, plenary, *DISPATCH, SAAG)
  – Groups going through changes: new, old, re-chartering, celebrating
Proposed structure

- Between two and six tracks during the week
  - It could vary: big attractors like 6man [which is sometimes dispatchy), might have only one competing item
  - But, let’s call it “four”

- 8hours * 4.5 days * 8 tracks => 288 hours

- Proposal is to accommodate only 100 hours of virtual sessions during the week
  - 4 tracks * 4 days
When to have side meetings?

- For IETF109, if you schedule “before” the meeting, you get Asia, West-Coast and many East Coast, but no Europeans
  - (they haven’t woken up yet)

- For IETF109, if you schedule “after” the meeting, you get a few East-Coast, Europeans. West Coast and Asia has gone to bed.