IETF Chair and IESG Report, 111

This report, sent out before IETF 111 begins, provides more details than can be covered during the plenary. Discussion of these topics beforehand and afterwards is encouraged on ietf@ietf.org.

If you have topics that you think the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG) should discuss during the plenary, please send email (iesg@ietf.org).

This report covers:

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In addition, there are typically several other reports posted prior to the meeting: the IAB Report and the IETF Administration LLC Board Report. The IANA, Secretariat, and Temporary RFC Series Project Manager reports can be found under the IETF Plenary on the meeting materials page (materials to be supplied later).

Conversion of IETF 111 from In-Person to Online

On April 18, 2021, the IETF Chair, IRTF Chair, and IETF LLC Chair announced the cancellation of the in-person IETF 111 San Francisco meeting. This decision was made after conducting an assessment of local conditions using the criteria set out in the assessment framework developed with community input. IETF 111 will be held online.

A detailed agenda is available on the IETF Datatracker: https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/agenda/

At this meeting, working group sessions will begin at 19:00 UTC each day. A participant guide is available.
Meeting Sponsors

Although the in-person IETF 111 meeting was cancelled, our original Meeting Host, Juniper, graciously offered to serve as Host for the virtual meeting. Thank you!

Also thanks to Diversity and Inclusivity Gold Sponsors Akamai and Cisco, Diversity and Inclusivity Bronze Sponsors Comcast, Donuts, and ICANN. Also thanks to Running Code Bronze Sponsor ICANN. Thank you for helping make the Internet work better!

Hackathon

The IETF 111 Hackathon is being held online Monday, July 19 through Friday, July 23, 2021. The Hackathon is free to attend and is open to everyone. It is a collaborative event, not a competition. Any competition is friendly and in the spirit of advancing the pace and relevance of new and evolving internet standards.

Working Group Actions

The following changes have occurred since IETF 110:

Working groups approved:

- Serialising Extended Data About Times and Events (SEDATE)

Working groups rechartered:

- Limited Additional Mechanisms for PKIX and SMIME (LAMPS)
- QUIC (QUIC)
- CBOR Object Signing and Encryption (cose)

BOFs for IETF 111:

- Application Aware Networking (APN)
- DANE AutheNtication for IoT Service Hardening (DANISH)
- MAC Address Device Identification for Network and Application Services (MADINAS)
- Oblivious HTTP (OHTTP)
- SCIM Industry Next Steps (SINS)
Working groups concluded:

- NONE

New Non-WG Mailing Lists:

- IETF WG Chairs Training Advisory Group (training-wgchairs@ietf.org)
- Granular Encryption At Rest (gear@ietf.org)

Continued Work on Improving Internet Privacy

At IETF 111, the IETF will be discussing two proposed new areas of work intended to further strengthen Internet privacy. Internet privacy has been a key area of interest for a long time, but has seen increased interest especially since the publication of BCP 188, leading - for example - to the creation of the IRTF Privacy Enhancements and Assessments Research Group (PEARG), which will also be meeting during IETF 111.

The first of the two birds-of-a-feather (BOF) sessions aiming to start IETF work on improving privacy on the Internet is the MAC Address Device Identification for Network and Application Services (MADINAS) BOF. The default static assignment of the MAC address raises privacy concerns for personal devices, which have recently started to be mitigated by end-device vendors implementing and standards organizations specifying the use of Randomized and Changing MAC addresses (RCM). MADINAS will discuss forming a working group to examine the effect of RCM schemes on network and application services, to evaluate various other identifiers than MAC addresses that can be used by the network to provide services.

The second BOF related to Internet privacy is on Oblivious HTTP (OHTTP). This BOF seeks to charter a working group to define a method of bundling HTTP requests and responses that provides protected, low-latency exchanges. The Oblivious HTTP protocol would allow a server to accept requests through a proxy. The proxy ensures that the server cannot see source addressing information for clients, which prevents servers linking requests to the same client. Encryption ensures that the proxy is unable to read requests or responses.

Please refer to the IETF 111 agenda for the times and locations of these and all other sessions.

Currently Running Experiments

For IETF 111, the IESG scheduled additional time between the BOF submission deadline and the BOF approval deadline to provide time for area directors to work with BOF proponents to refine their proposals. If you have feedback on this scheduling change, please send it to iesg@ietf.org.
For the 2021 NomCom, RFC 8989 defines an experiment to extend the eligibility criteria. As part of this experiment, the IESG will share a report on the findings with the community in consultation with the 2020 and 2021 NomCom chairs. Please see RFC 8989 for details.

IETF 111 is the fourth online IETF meeting with a full agenda, and as such we are still refining the use of the Meetecho conferencing platform in new ways. For example, Meetecho will support sharing of PDF files when giving presentations at IETF 111 (instead of needing to share your screen or an application window). Please send your feedback about the meeting tooling to tools-discuss@ietf.org.

In general, the IESG would like to encourage experimenting and trying new things. If you have ideas about potentially useful things to try, try them and tell the rest of us!

Appeals

There have been no appeals to the IESG since IETF 110.

IESG Statements

The IESG published the following IESG statements since IETF 110:

- 2021-04-16 Last Call Guidance to the Community
- 2021-05-01 IESG Statement on Inclusive Language
- 2021-05-07 IESG Processing of RFC Errata for the IETF Stream
- 2021-05-10 IESG Statement on Internet Draft Authorship
- 2021-07-21 IESG Statement on Allocation of Email Addresses in the ietf.org Domain

Our Standards of Professional Behavior

IETF meetings, virtual meetings, and mailing lists are intended for professional collaboration and networking, as defined in the IETF Guidelines for Conduct, the IETF Anti-Harassment Policy, and the IETF Anti-Harassment Procedures. If you have any concerns about observed behavior, please talk to the Ombudsteam, who are available if you need to confidentially raise concerns about harassment or other conduct in the IETF.

We also expect professional behavior on all our mailing lists, including the ietf@ietf discussion list. There are multiple mechanisms to help list discussions stay focused and appropriate.

Keeping up with the IESG
The IESG formal telechat calls are open for observation. The upcoming agenda is posted online and an invitation is mailed out to the IETF main announcement list in advance of each telechat. The calendar and connection details are also available. We post both short and narrative minutes. And of course, the best place to follow what is going on with a particular document is the datatracker. The relevant actions such as significant comments from the IESG continue to be automatically emailed to the relevant WG mailing list.

The IAB and IESG hold a BOF coordination call before each IETF meeting. In this call, we go through the set of proposed BOFs and other possible new meetings, in an effort to help the responsible AD decide how to proceed with the specific proposals. See the blog post discussing the BOF coordination call outcomes.

The IESG continues to work on increasing transparency. We encourage feedback on what aspects need improvement.