Internet Engineering Task Force
Newcomer's Overview

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Newcomers Overview Presentation

1. **Introduction and overview of newcomer's activities**

2. Structure of the IETF

3. Introduction to an IETF meeting week

4. Overview of resources (people, tools, information)

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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 many other things...

IETF Note Well
https://www.ietf.org/about/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.

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IETF Note Well (cont.)

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

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)
- Privacy Policy

Newcomer's Activities @ IETF 114

Each IETF meeting has a set of IETF newcomer activities planned. These vary from meeting to meeting and include the following for IETF 114:

- Newcomer's Overview Tutorial (this session)
- Newcomers Quick Connections (Sun @ 4 pm, Liberty C/D)
- Newcomer's Dinner (Mon @ 7 pm, Horizons Ballroom – please sign up)
- Remote Newcomers Coffee Break (Tues @ 12 pm, in gather)
- Onsite Newcomer's Feedback Session (Thurs @ 8:30 am, Philadelphia South)
- Remote Newcomer's Feedback Session (To be announced)

Be sure to check the Newcomer webpage for the latest schedule.

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IETF Mission
https://www.ietf.org/about/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
- Driven by market-based adoption (a *real* standard is one people use)
- Focused on Internet technologies
- Bottom-up… and unique!
  - No formal voting (but we <u>do</u> hum…)
  - No formal government role
- And… no booths, sales promotions, or other sales related activities

The Big Picture

- **Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG)**
  responsible for technical management of IETF activities and the Internet standards process

- **Internet Research Steering Group (IRSG)**
  a group of members from various research groups focused on longer-term Internet research topics

- **Internet Architecture Board (IAB)**
  provides oversight of the Internet architecture and the standards process

- **IETF Administration LLC**
  corporate home for the IETF, the IAB, and the IRTF; provides fiscal and administrative support
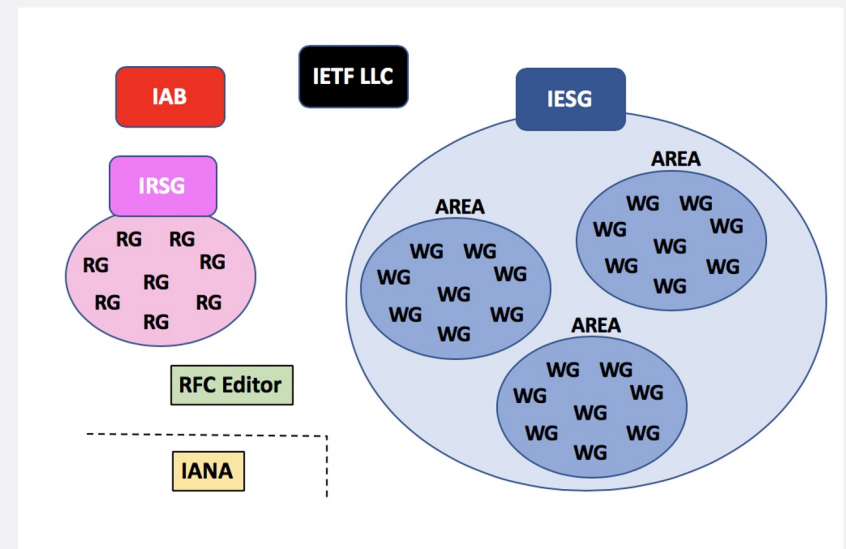
IETF Areas

Area	Description
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, mobility
Operations and Management (OPS)	• Network management • Operations: IPv6, DNS, security, routing
Security (SEC)	• Security protocols and mechanisms
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, [RFC 7282]

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An IETF Meeting week (in person)

- Organized events on the agenda include:
  - Working Group sessions: ~130 working groups (some subset meeting)
  - Birds of a Feather sessions (BOFs)
  - IRTF sessions: ~ 15 research groups (some subset meeting)
  - Area-wide sessions, IETF-wide plenary(s), invited talks
  - Hackathon including a datatracker Code Sprint
  - Social Events
  - Tutorials, Deep Dives & Lunch Sessions
  - Hot RFC Lightning Talks
  - Side Meetings, Open Time

Working Group sessions

- Biggest part of an IETF week
- 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) sessions

- 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 Area Directors
- Generally meet only once

IRTF Research Group sessions

- Officially an activity of the IAB

- Focused more on research versus engineering 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"

[RFC 7418]

Area-wide Sessions, Plenaries, and invited lunch talks

Hackathons
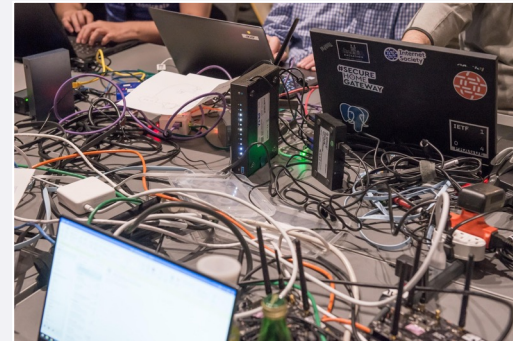
Hackathon Details

- Free to participate, open to everyone
- Collaborative, working toward shared goals
- Advance pace and relevance of IETF standards
  - Flush out ideas, feed back into working groups
- Attract developers, universities
  - Team newcomers with veterans
  - Reduce time to meaningful contribution
- Weekend at start of each IETF meeting
- https://www.ietf.org/how/runningcode/hackathons/

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Networking and Social Events

But wait... there is more!

- Side meetings (ongoing agenda experiment)
  - https://trac.ietf.org/trac/ietf/meeting/wiki/114sidemeetings

- Technology Deep Dive: QUIC (Tues, 8:30 am Liberty B)

- IETF 114 new topics blog post
  - https://www.ietf.org/blog/ietf114-new-topics/

General Meeting Etiquette

- Read documents of interest before WG sessions
- Behave respectfully and tolerantly towards all participants
- Talk (and listen) to people
- Enjoy yourself

IETF Session Etiquette - the online version!

- Test your configuration in advance.
- Use good online meeting etiquette.
  - Keep audio and video off except when speaking.
  - Use a headset if possible
  - Speak slowly and clearly.
- Technical comments & questions are welcome.
- Use the WG chat to discuss meeting-relevant topics.
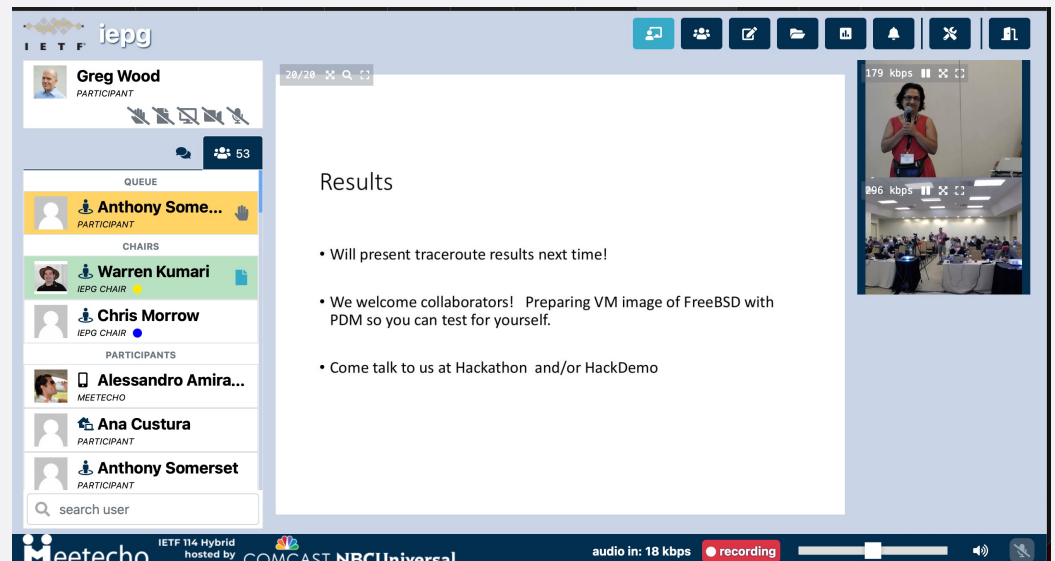
Bringing New Work to the IETF

- Develop some collaborators with similar interest
- Write some initial Internet-Drafts, maybe have some Bar BoFs
- Talk to Area Directors in the relevant area (maybe DISPATCH)
- Propose a BoF (drafts, charter, agenda all needed)
- Hold the BoF (Consensus determines the next steps)
- But first... Check out ... Tutorial on Bringing New Work to the IETF:
  - slides: https://www.ietf.org/proceedings/103/slides/slides-103-edu-sessl-bringing-new-work-to-the-ietf-00.pdf
  - video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnK3rsZG4Ec

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IETF Participants (and culture)

Passionate, smart, vocal people.

Have a question? Don't be shy; we're all here to help.

Technical excellence is highly valued.

Do your homework then please speak up and contribute!

Informal dress code. (when we meet in person or are on camera!)

Close working relationships (people know each other)

Area Directors (ADs) and WG Chairs

- Working Group Chairs
  - https://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/photos/
- Area Directors
  - https://www.ietf.org/about/groups/iesg/members/
- IETF General Chair - Lars Eggert
  - https://datatracker.ietf.org/person/Lars%20Eggert

NOTE: If you have <u>any</u> questions or concerns about working group operations or behaviors, please feel free to discuss these with either the working group chairs or the responsible Area Directors for that working group.

IETF Executive Director

Jay Daley
https://datatracker.ietf.org/person/Jay%20Daley

IETF Secretariat

RFC Editor Staff & IANA Staff

The Ombudsteam

- **IETF Participants must not engage in harassment while at IETF meetings, virtual meetings, or social events or while participating in mailing lists.**
  - **Report any harassment to the Ombudsteam (RFC 7776, BCP 25) https://www.ietf.org/blog/ietf-anti-harassment-policy/**
  - **Allison Mankin, Pete Resnick, Melinda Shore**

IETF Systers

https://www.ietf.org/about/groups/ietf-systers/

IETF Datatracker (https://datatracker.ietf.org)

Meetecho

- Meetecho is the IETF custom tool for remote participation!

- All sessions are linked off of the datatracker agenda page.

- Additional information https://www.ietf.org/how/meetings/technology/meetecho-guide-participant/

- Participant Practice sessions

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

The Network @ IETF

https://meeting.ietf.org/ietf-114-meeting-network-information.html

The IETF runs its own venue network

There is a printer and a helpdesk in the registration area.

Please report any issues!

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Additional Resources

Getting Started in the IETF

https://www.ietf.org/newcomers

The Tao of the IETF: A Novice's Guide to the Internet Engineering Task Force

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

Meeting mailing lists

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

One stop shop for all links:

https://www.ietf.org/links/

Meeting issues: Please send email to: support@ietf.org

Above all: Enjoy!

Questions or Feedback?

What did we miss?

Please help us help you!

For any feedback or additional questions, feel free to contact us at emo-dir@ietf.org

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