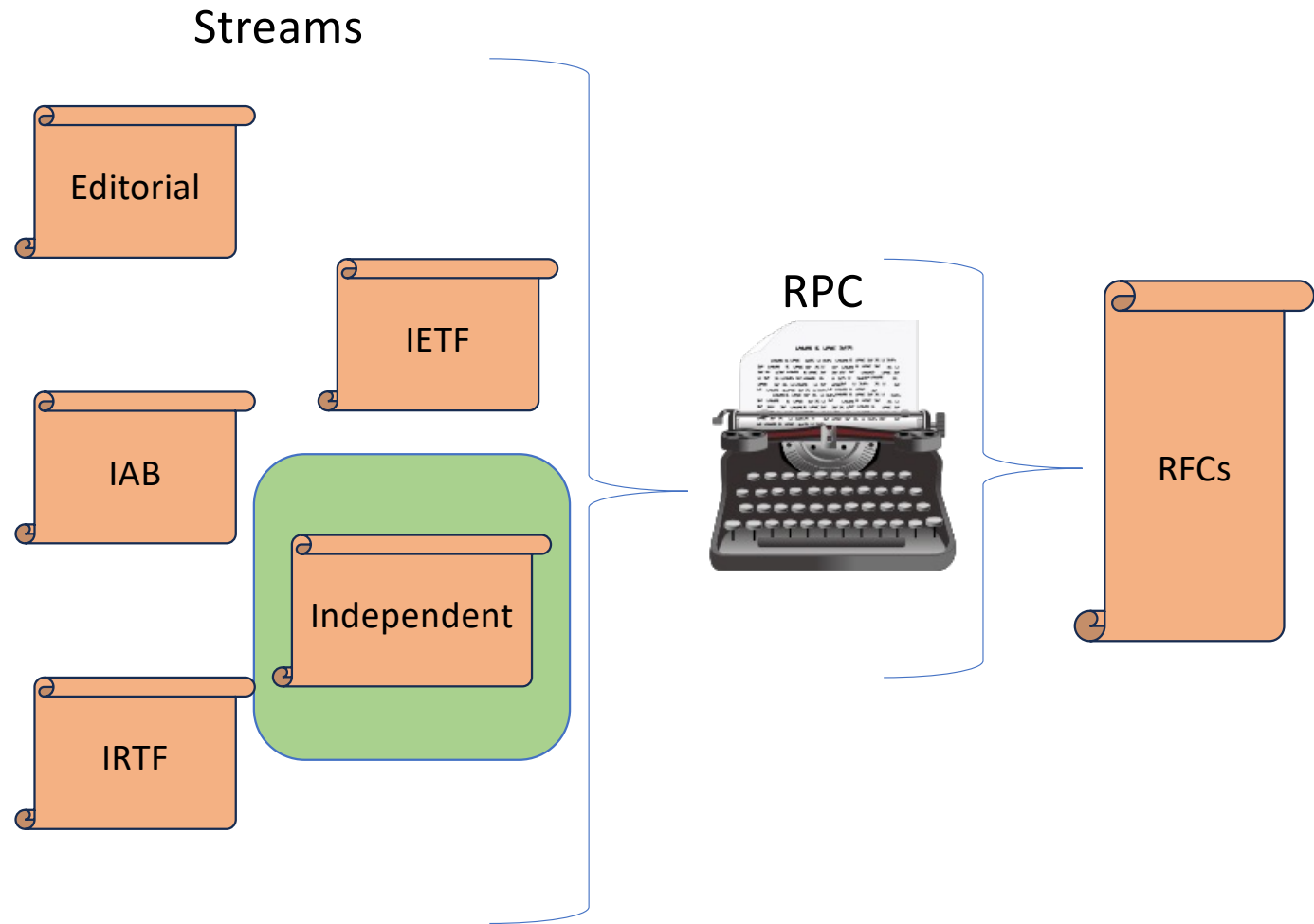


Introduction to Independent Submissions

Russ Housley / Eliot Lear

You Are Here



What is the Independent Series?

Informational discussions of technologies, options, or experience with protocols

April 1st RFCs and other humor

Informational publication of vendor-specific protocols

Discussion of Internet-related technologies that are not part of the IETF agenda

Introduction of important new ideas as a bridge publication venue between academia and IETF engineering

Critiques and discussions of alternatives to IETF Standards-Track protocols and processes

Documents considered by IETF Working Groups but not standardized

Meeting notes and reports

Eulogies

Source: RFC 4846

Why Independent Submissions?

A check on the IETF process

But not an “end run”
(No standards or BCPs may be published)

A means to publish RFCs when standards, BCPs, and IETF consensus are not necessary or appropriate.

A means to raise important issues for the community's consideration

What
documents
govern the
Independent
Series?

RFC 4846 defines the series and the general publishing process

RFC 5744 specifies the IPR policies for the series

RFC 8730 specifies the role of the independent series editor

RFC 8726 specifies policies around IANA considerations for independent submissions

(RFC 5742 governs the IESG in how it conducts conflict reviews)



The Independent Submissions Editor

Appointed by and responsible to the IAB
for repeatable two-year terms

Comments about ISE may be sent to the
IAB (iab@iab.org)

Before 2007: Combined "RFC Editor" role
(Before the IETF came to be, Jon Postel
made all publication decisions)

History

- Jon Postel (1969 – 1998) (RFC-Editor)
- Joyce Reynolds
- Bob Braden (2000 – 2010) (RFC-Editor)
- Neville Brownlee (2010 – 2018) (ISE)
- Adrian Farrel (2018 – 2022) (ISE)
- Eliot Lear (2022 – present) (ISE)





The
Independent
Submissions
Editorial Board

Serves at the pleasure of the ISE

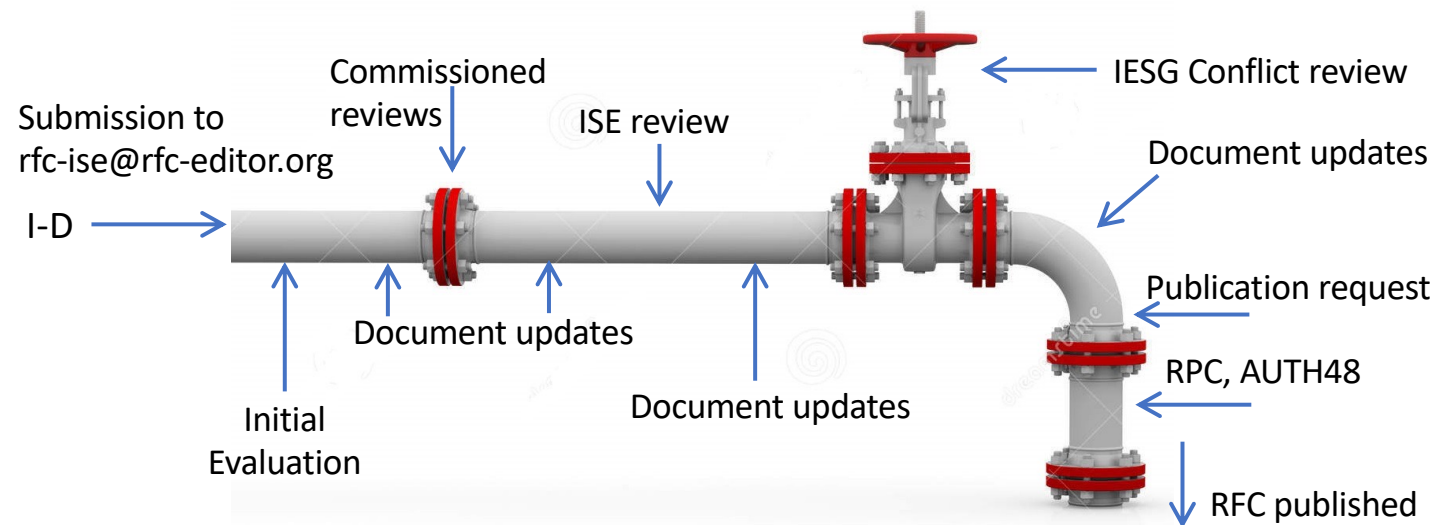
Provides document reviews

Is informed of decisions by the ISE

Receives reviews by the ISE for comment

By practice, assists the ISE when there is
a potential for conflict of interest

What's the process?



The ISE reserves the right to decline publication at any stage.



Reviews

All documents must receive reviews from both the ISE and external reviewers

Reviews are made available to authors by default, and authors are expected to interact with reviewers

The ISE generally acts on the preponderance of opinions of reviewers (but this is expected to be an iterative process)

The ISE may request area/directorate reviews

The ISE **must** seek conflict reviews from the IESG, but still makes an independent decision.

The IESG's
Formal Role:
RFC 5742
Reviews:
Advise the ISE

Common choices:

No conflict between this document and IETF work; **or**

Work is related to IETF work done in WG <X>, but this relationship does not prevent publishing; **or**

Publication could potentially disrupt the IETF work done in WG <X> and recommends not publishing the document at this time; **or**

Document violates IETF procedures for <Y> and should therefore not be published without IETF review and IESG approval; **or**

Document extends an IETF protocol in a way that requires IETF review and should therefore not be published without IETF review and IESG approval.

How the ISE
processes
results of a
RFC 5742
review

Consider advice and publish

Consider advice and ask authors to make some changes

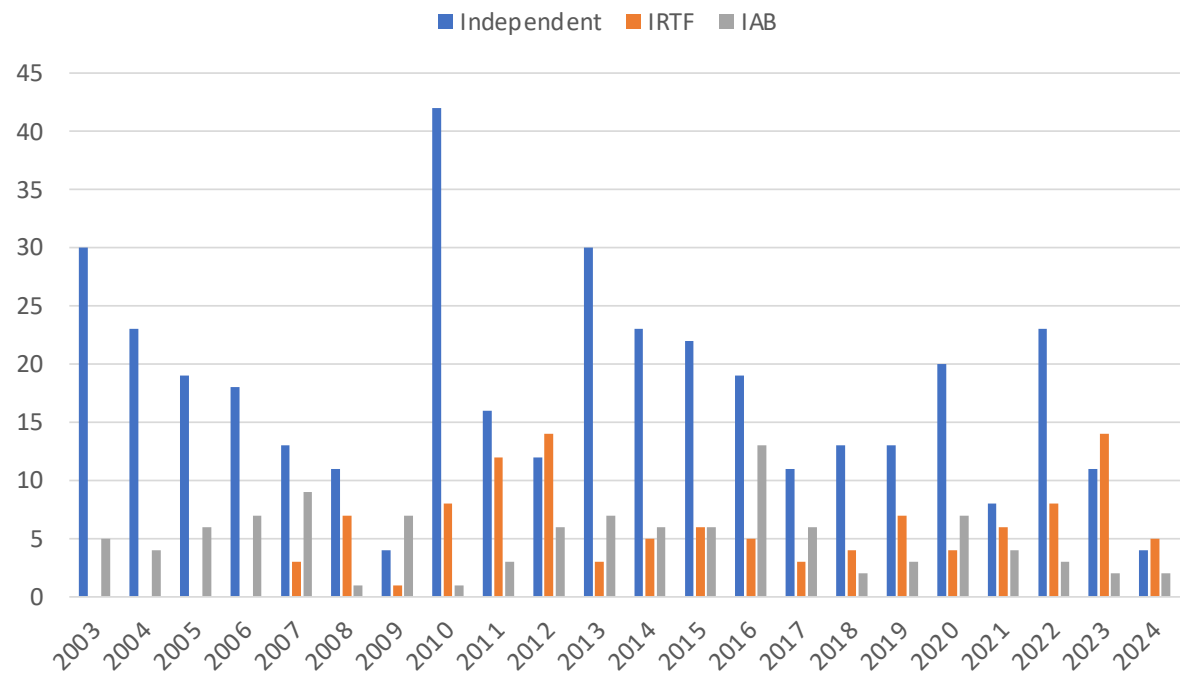
Negotiate an IESG note

Delay publication for a time

Consider advice and decide not to publish

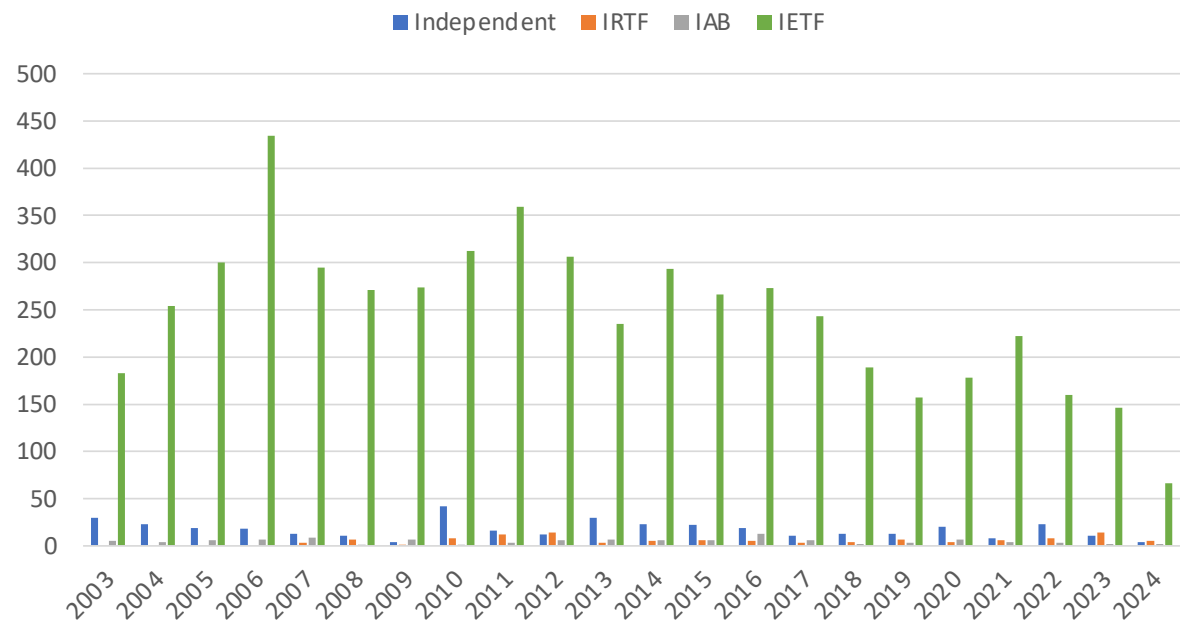
Some Stats

Documents By Year

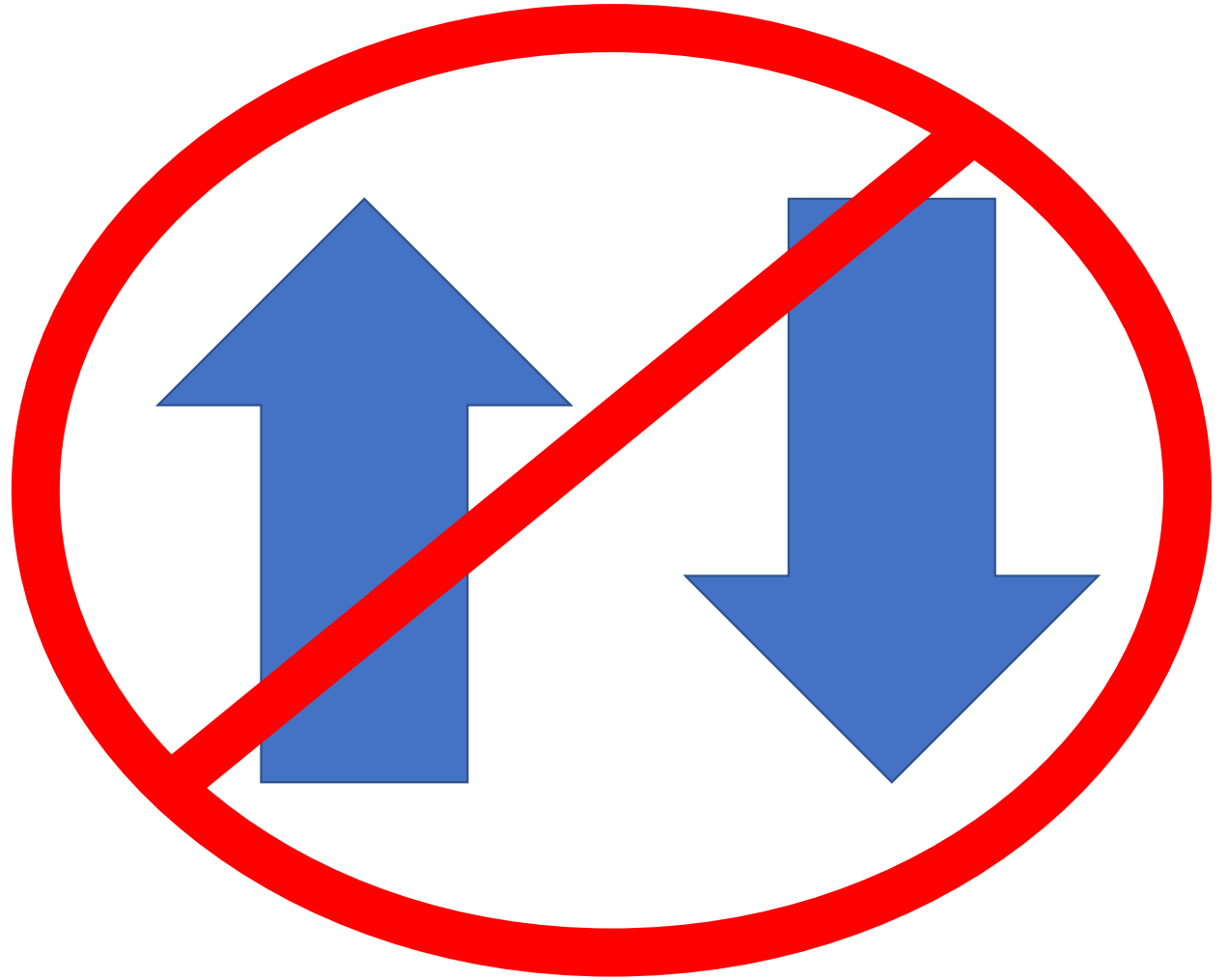


More Stats

Documents By Year



A word about
volume





My priorities

Interoperability

Levity

Continuous
Improvement

Some recent
examples of
Independent
Stream RFCs

RFC 9558: Use of GOST 2012 Signature Algorithms
in DNSKEY and RRSIG Resource Records for DNSSEC

RFC 9518: Centralization, Decentralization, and
Internet Standards

RFC 9517: A URN Namespace for the Data
Documentation Initiative (DDI)

RFC 9498: The GNU Name System

RFC 9446: Reflections on Ten Years Past the
Snowden Revelations



Common
reasons for
rejections

IETF conflict or likely IETF conflict

Poorly written

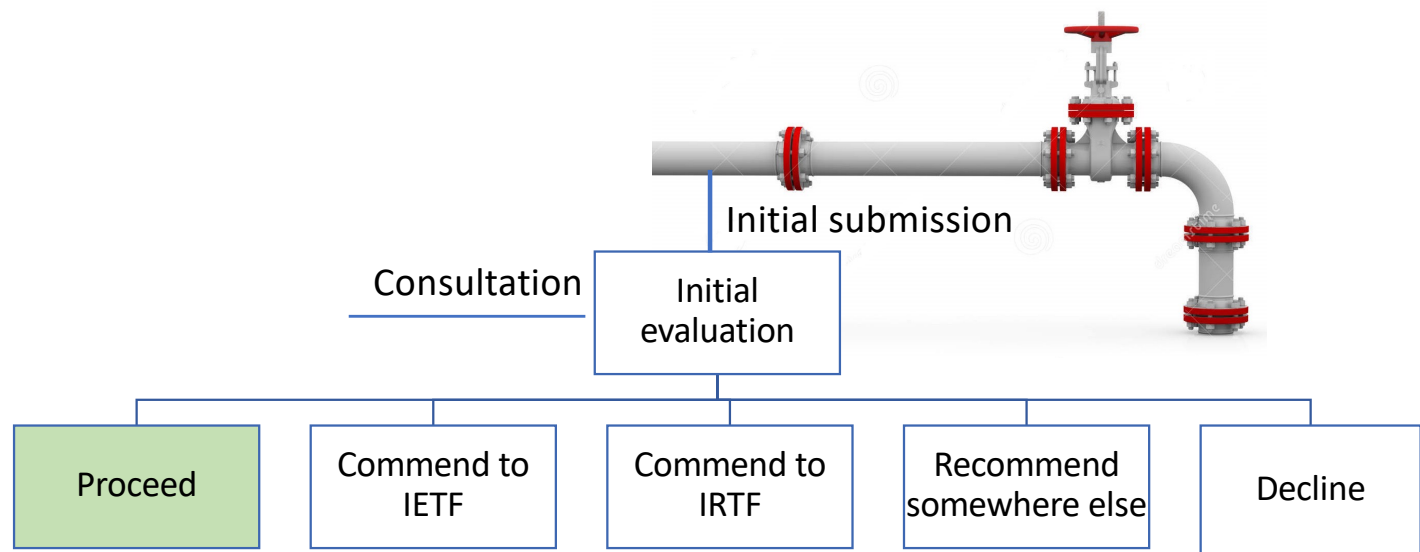
Inappropriate technical approach

IANA considerations

Not applicable to the community

Inappropriate IPR

Finding the right home



“Somewhere else” might be CACM, TPRC, NDSS, I2, RIRs, GÉANT, IEEE Computing Society, WEIS, IACR, SIGCOMM, another SDO, or elsewhere else.

Criteria: what will serve the community best?

What about Encryption?

Cannot / won't publish crypto algorithms, themselves
(lack of expert reviewers)

Sometimes RFCs are **required** by IANA considerations (cf
DNSSEC)

Applications of cryptography in in protocol suite are
permitted

Not a priority, but not a non-priority

Reviewed just the same as per RFC 4846
(Always reviewed by Crypto Panel)

Current number of crypto-related-documents in queue: 1

Some
documents
under
consideration

core/edhoc

draft-nichols-iotops-defined-trust-transport

Defined-Trust Transport (DeftT) Protocol for Limited Domains

draft-tschofenig-rats-psa-token

Arm's Platform Security Architecture (PSA) Attestation Token

draft-dekater-scion-{dataplane,controlplane,pki}

SCION

draft-menon-svr

Juniper's Secure Vector Routing (SVR)

draft-spinosa-urn-lex

A Uniform Resource Name (URN) Namespace for Sources of Law (LEX)

Longest days
In queue

Some
additional
thoughts

No stream is an island

- We all serve to better the Internet

RFCs serve many purposes

- Standardization is a big one (not the only one)