

18 March 2024

IETF 122 NASR (BoF)

Network Attestation for Secured foRwarding

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Note Well

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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)
- <https://www.ietf.org/privacy-policy/> (Privacy Policy)



Note Really Well

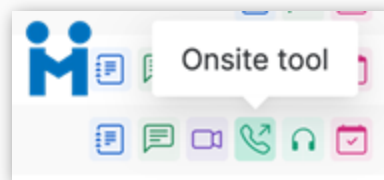
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In-person participants

- Make sure to sign into the session via Datatracker or the QR Code in this session.
- Use Meetecho (usually the “Meetecho lite”) client to:
 - join the mic queue
 - participate in shows of hands
- *Keep audio and video off if not using the onsite version.*



Remote participants

- Make sure your audio and video are off unless you are chairing or presenting during a session.
- Use of a headset is strongly recommended.

Resources for IETF 122 Bangkok

- Agenda & Slides:
 - <https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/122/session/nasr>
- Notepad:
 - <https://notes.ietf.org/notes-ietf-122-nasr>
- Zulip Room:
 - <https://zulip.ietf.org/#narrow/stream/nasr>
- Audio Stream:
 - <https://mp3.conf.meetecho.com/ietf122/34026.m3u>
- Meetecho
 - Remote Stream: <https://meetings.conf.meetecho.com/ietf122/?session=34026>
 - Onsite Tool: <https://meetings.conf.meetecho.com/onsite122/?session=34026>

Agenda

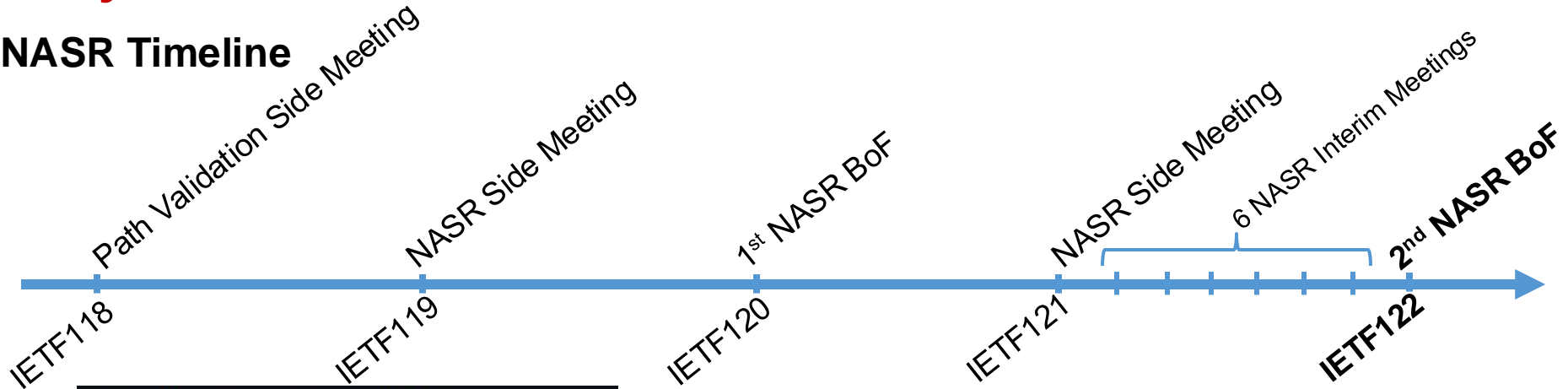
- **Note Well and Agenda Bashing** - Chairs (5 Minutes)
- **Why are we here?** - Chairs (5 Minutes)
- **Use Cases** – Diego Lopez / Meiling Chen / Cuicui Wang (20 Minutes)
 - Use Cases (Lac Lemman Example)
- **Problem Statement & Proposed Architecture** - Peter Liu / Michael Richardson (15 Minutes)
- **Charter Discussion** – Chairs (30 Minutes)
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- **Explore Consensus & Next Steps** – Chairs & AD (20 Minutes)

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Why are we here?

NASR Timeline



- NASR Interim Meeting 26 Feb 2025
- NASR Interim Meeting 12 Feb 2025
- NASR Interim Meeting 22 Jan 2025
- NASR Interim Meeting 08 Jan 2025
- NASR Interim Meeting 11 Dec 2024
- NASR Interim Meeting 27 Nov 2024
- NASR Side meeting @ IETF 121
- NASR not WG forming BOF @ IETF 120
- NASR Side Meeting @ IETF 119
- Path Validation Side Meeting @ IETF 118

BoF Goals

- The aim of this BoF is to determine – “Can WG with the proposed charter be formed?”
 - Scope is clear?
 - Deliverables are clear?
 - Critical mass of contributors?

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Technical Presentation

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1st BoF Feedback Summary & Proposed Changes

- **From IAB:**
 - *The BOF's name includes "secure routing", which also contributed to some confusion since the focus is on *forwarding*, not routing.*
 - Changed acronym meaning:
 - Old: NASR – Network Attestation for Secure Routing
 - New: NASR – Network (remote) Attestation for Secured foRwarding
 - Clarified scope from routing to forwarding (see proposed charter)
 - *...due to the broad nature of the use cases and the liberal use of terminology, there were also many clarifying questions.*
 - Work on to describing a specific use case succinctly (technical presentation)
 - Also added as work item (see proposed charter)
 - Simplified and unified terminology
 - Work item (see proposed charter)

1st BoF Feedback Summary & Proposed Changes

- **From IAB:**
 - *Discussing the NASR scenarios in PANRG may help the proponents clarify the terminology and focus the use cases before a second BOF.*
 - Luigi Iannone presented @ PANRG IETF 121
 - Feedback during meeting on already identified concerns:
 - Routing vs Forwarding
 - Corollary: PoT can be used “*standalone*” in other scenarios
 - Proof of Non-transit
 - Clarified scope from routing to forwarding (see proposed charter)
 - Added threat analysis task (see proposed charter)
 - Informal feedback after PANRG meeting showed support and interest
 - *SCION has addressed some of the scenarios and needs (except for PoT)*
 - The group is in contact with SCION authors which also are regular attendees of NASR meetings

1st BoF Feedback Summary & Proposed Changes

- **From Community (during 1st Bof and/or mailing list):**
 - *What does “Secure Routing” stand for in NASR?*
 - See similar point raised by IAB and at PANRG
 - Clarified scope from routing to forwarding (see Proposed Charter)
 - *Mixed and unclear usage of terms “secure” and “trust”* NASR does not target large scale deployment in the open Internet.
 - See similar point raised by IAB, the variety of presented use cases had a different use of these terms.
 - Simplified and unified terminology
 - Work item (see proposed charter)

1st BoF Feedback Summary & Proposed Changes

- **From Community (during 1st Bof and/or mailing list):**
 - *What is the relation/overlap with SAVNET WG?*
 - SAVNET Chairs and NASR Chairs discussed a text stating SAVNET and NASR are complementary (presented at the 1st BoF)
 - SAVNET goal is to provide a mechanism to determine valid incoming router interfaces for specific source prefixes. NASR aims at providing secure forwarding via mechanisms to make packets follow a trusted path.
 - Other WG discussed proposed charter
 - *What is the relation with the IAB Statement about the risks of attestation on the open Internet*
 - <https://datatracker.ietf.org/doc/statement-iab-statement-on-the-risks-of-attestation-of-software-and-hardware-on-the-open-internet/>
 - NASR does not target large scale deployment in the open Internet.
 - NASR aims at providing a technical solution for services that have intentionally specific requirements concerning path devices attributes and provable transit.

Proposed Charter – Motivation & Background (1/4)

- In the current network deployments, **communicating entities** implicitly rely on peer entities and use paths as determined by the control plane. These **available path(s) are implicitly trusted**. Communicating entities have very little information about the entities in the paths over which their traffic is carried, and have no available means to audit the entities and paths, beyond basic properties like latency, throughput, and congestion. However, **increased demand in network security, privacy, and robustness makes tools for enabling visibility of the entities' security posture a necessity.**

Proposed Charter – Motivation & Background (2/4)

- Path-agnostic traffic signing and encryption has been the primary method to ensure data confidentiality, integrity and authenticity today. However, with the increasing amount of attacks, and vulnerabilities, new emerging threats are imposing requirements that go beyond the data security currently provided. Vulnerable factors include:
 - Exploitation of poor cryptographic engineering
 - Side-channel attacks
 - Untrusted network devices (e.g., middlebox decryption and/or inspection)
 - Unauthorized data duplication (capture now decrypt later)
 - Unauthorized device root access, caused by physical tampering or penetration
 - Erroneous routing to unintended devices or areas, etc.

Proposed Charter – Motivation & Background (3/4)

- With these additional security and privacy requirements, there is a **need to provide enhanced or added services beyond the pure encryption-based data security; requiring better visibility of the security posture of the underlying network elements.** Specifically, to satisfy the visibility of the network elements' security state, proof that data is traversed through network elements (devices, links and services) that satisfy security posture claims to avoid exposure of unqualified elements is needed.

Proposed Charter – Motivation & Background (4/4)

- The **RATS (Remote ATtestation procedureS) working group** has provided a framework and approaches to assess and establish the trustworthiness of a single device, hence offering an **initial building block**. However, a comprehensive framework that attests to a network -- meaning **network-level elements' trustworthiness proofs and verification methods are lacking**.

Proposed Charter – Goals (1/2)

1. The Network Attestation for Secured FoRwarding working group is **(being) chartered to address the challenges associated with proving state and characteristics of a network path are compliant to a set of claims, so as to achieve predictable and verifiable forwarding behavior.** The work will build as much as possible on existing standards and implementations, focusing on combining them in a clear and coherent manner to address secured forwarding use cases such as those identified and described in the NASR use cases and requirements document.

Proposed Charter – Goals (2/2)

2. The working group will **initially focus on** a simple source-routing path in **limited domains** under a single administrative control. The working group **will then focus on** a path spanning **a few number of domains that have business relationship**, in order to help coordinate, connect and deliver a consistent connectivity service. Applying NASR to large groups of domains such as the Internet is not seen as viable and useful use case.

Proposed Charter - Scope

- **In Scope**
 - Architecture and procedures of network path attestation
 - Interface among limited number of domains having business relationships
 - Proof-of-Transit mechanisms to verify forwarding path in the data plane
- **Out of Scope**
 - Path computation according to a set of claims.
 - Automated operational security incident remediation, routing fault correction.
 - Methods of how to assess device integrity and/or trust-level.
 - Public Internet deployment.
 - Proof of non-transit.

Proposed Charter – Key Deliverables

- **NASR Use Cases, Problem Statement and Requirements:**
 - A description of use cases already identified by the participants, formalize their requirements and the problem to be solved. The document will include a threat analysis to clarify what NASR is able to achieve and what is not able to achieve.
- **NASR Architecture:**
 - An architecture that defines the interactive procedures of network path attestation, along with definitions of common terminology, roles, trust models etc.. The terminology will build on and extend terminology already in defined in the context of attestation technology.
- **NASR Service Model:**
 - A definition of the standard service interface between operators and operator customers, translate customers requests to objective security features or trust attributes, making sure the same service request will receive same compliance level from different operators.
- **NASR Path Attestation Claims Set:**
 - Attested claims set that describes state and characteristics of a network path comprised of network elements. It should be collectively defined by all network elements in the path, and encoded in certain encapsulation formats. This claims set is used by a relying party, to determine if the operator delivers the requested compliance requirements.
- **NASR Proof of Transit:**
 - Mechanisms and protocol extensions for Proof-of-Transit (PoT), proving and visualizing the actual forwarding paths in the data plane.

Proposed Charter - Relation with Other WGs

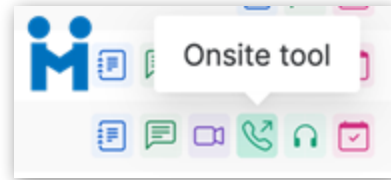
- The NASR working group will coordinate and collaborate with other WGs as needed. Specific expected interactions include (but may not be limited to):
 - RATS on the remote attestation technology.
 - PANRG and SPRING on path-aware networking aspects.
 - Other IETF WGs and IRTF RGs that address topics related to attestation, routing security, like for instance SAVNET, SIDROPS.

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Open Mic

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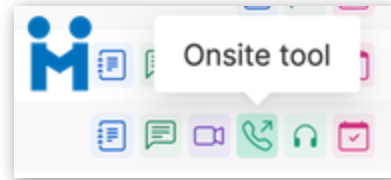


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Wrap-Up Questions

- Please scan QR code to login to Meetecho and be ready to respond to the upcoming polls...



Wrap-Up Questions (1/4)

1. **Is the problem well understood?**

Wrap-Up Questions (2/4)

2. Is this problem tractable?

Wrap-Up Questions (3/4)

3. Is the IETF the right place to address the problem?

Wrap-Up Questions (4/4)

- 4. Is there support to form a WG with the proposed charter?**
 - Assuming that any further charter revision proposal will be discussed and made

Next Steps

THANKS!