Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers of IPFIX IEs
(draft-trammell-ipfix-ie-doctors-01)

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IE-DOCTORS in a nutshell

- IPFIX expanding into new application areas
- Most new applications just need new IEs
- \( \rightarrow \) Streamline and improve IE definition process
  - Enable domain experts to specify new IEs and applications with assistance from IPFIX experts, or IE-DOCTORS.
  - Provide processes in line with RFC 5102 and existing IANA Expert Review process.
New in draft-trammell-03

• 4.10 Avoiding Bad Ideas in Information Element Design
  • IE-DOCTORS guidelines basically say "when you make new IEs, make them look like old IEs."
  • But: some old IEs are simply broken.
    • initiatorOctets/responderOctets: duplicates 5102, 5103 IEs
    • *Technology: string instead of three-state enum
    • mplsLabelStackSectionN: implicit multiplicity
  • Provide examples, refer to rules, note exceptions
New in draft-trammell-03

• New guidance on using types effectively in §4.2
  • in short: IPFIX provides a lot of useful types, use them appropriately.

• Split and improve §4.5/§4.6
  • IE internal structure and IE multiplicity are two separate issues; treat them as such.
  • Improve guidance on permitted internal structure in IEs in §4.5
  • Improve guidance on representing variable-multiplicity information in §4.6
Comments for ietf-00

- David Harrington:
  - explicitly separate things which can be checked automatically from those which are subjective
  - review MUSTS and SHOULDS with an eye toward which conditions would be errors/warnings from the POV of an automated verification tool
  - echo MIB-Doctors recommendations on minimizing impact extensions to the information model
  - work to reduce load on appointed IE doctors
Next steps

- Submit ietf-00
  - Incorporate comments from David Harrington, others
- WGLC before Paris