IETF 83 - HTTPbis -16/-17/-18/-19 Changes Overview

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History

- -16: published August 2011 (after IETF 81)
- -17: published November 2011 (before IETF 82, WG did not meet)
- -18: published January 2012
- -19: published March 2012 (before IETF 83)

Working Group Last Call for Parts 4, 5, 6, and 7 started March 15, ends April 12
Changes - General

- Document HTTP's error-handling philosophy (Ticket 186)
- effective request URI: handling of request-target * (Ticket 222)

Changes - Messaging

- Keep-Alive and Proxy-Connection headers (Ticket 158)
- Retrying Requests (Ticket 297)
- Define non-final responses (Ticket 300)
- closing the connection on server error (Ticket 318)
- Intermediary rewriting of queries (Ticket 324)
- chunk-extensions (Ticket 343)

...plus many editorial improvements
Changes - Syntax

- Explain header registration (Ticket 215)
- Considerations for new headers (Ticket 231)
- \-escaping in quoted strings (Ticket 270)
- does etag value really use quoted-string (Ticket 306)
- header field considerations: quoted-string vs use of double quotes (Ticket 329)
- wording of line folding rule (Ticket 335)
Changes - Status Codes

- Clarify status code for rate limiting ([Ticket 255](#))
- Strength of requirements on Accept re: 406 ([Ticket 285](#))
- expand definition of 413 for header field size limits? ([Ticket 299](#))
- 400 response isn't generic ([Ticket 303](#))
- clarify that 201 doesn't require Location header fields ([Ticket 331](#))
- relax requirements on hypertext in 3/4/5xx error responses ([Ticket 332](#))
- example for 426 response should have a payload ([Ticket 333](#))

...also say "Hello" to 428 (Precondition Required), 429 (Too Many Requests), 431 (Request Header Fields Too Large) and 511 (Network Authentication Required) -- defined in [draft-nottingham-http-new-status-04](#), now in RFC Editor Queue
Changes - Redirects

- Redirects and non-GET methods (Ticket 160)
- Requirements for user intervention during redirects (Ticket 238)
- Applying original fragment to "plain" redirected URI (Ticket 295)
- clarify 303 redirect on HEAD (Ticket 310)
- When are Location's semantics triggered? (Ticket 325)

...also say "Hello" to 308 (Permanent Redirect), -- defined in draft-reschke-http-status-308-06, past IETF LC
Changes - Method Semantics

- message-body in CONNECT response (Ticket 250)
- Content-Range on responses other than 206 (Ticket 301)

Changes - Payload

- Location header payload handling (Ticket 185)
- is ETag a representation header field? (Ticket 330)
- Content-Location doesn't constrain the cardinality of representations (Ticket 338)
Changes - Conditionals/Range

- Security consideration: range flooding (Ticket 175)
- If-Range should be listed when discussing contexts where L-M can be considered strong (Ticket 304)
- Add limitations to Range to reduce its use as a denial-of-service tool (Ticket 311)
- case sensitivity of ranges in p5 (Ticket 319)
Changes - Caching

- Refining age for 1.1 proxy chains ([Ticket 212](#))
- Combining HEAD responses ([Ticket 227](#))
- Motivate one-year limit for Expires ([Ticket 290](#))
- Interaction of request and response Cache-Control ([Ticket 293](#))
- SHOULD and MAY review in p6 ([Ticket 313](#))
- Cache-Control directive case sensitivity ([Ticket 317](#))
- Field names in cache-control header arguments ([Ticket 337](#))
Changes - Authentication

- Relationship between 401, Authorization and WWW-Authenticate (Ticket 78)
- Realm required on challenges (Ticket 177)
- auth-param syntax (Ticket 195)
- Considerations for new authentications schemes (Ticket 257)
- LWS in auth-param ABNF (Ticket 287)
- credentials ABNF missing SP (still using implied LWS?) (Ticket 309)
- allow unquoted realm parameters (Ticket 314)
- add advice on defining auth scheme parameters (Ticket 320)
- Repeating auth-params (Ticket 321)
- recipient behavior for new auth parameters (Ticket 334)
- WWW-Authenticate ABNF slightly ambiguous (Ticket 342)
Changes - IANA/Registries

- warn-code registry ([Ticket 274](#))
- "Close" should be reserved in the HTTP header field registry ([Ticket 305](#))
- need to reserve "negotiate" as auth scheme name ([Ticket 308](#))
- make IANA policy definitions consistent ([Ticket 346](#))

Changes - Process-Related

- move RFCs 2145, 2616, 2817 to Historic status ([Ticket 254](#))
- Revise Acknowledgements Sections ([Ticket 219](#))
- intended maturity level vs normative references ([Ticket 323](#))