Some thoughts on the future of Ops in the IETF

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Where we are

- Quite a lot has changed since I stepped onto the IESG three years ago.
  - 3 working groups closed, 3 created
- It is tempting to see IETF activity as mired in it's respective Silos.
  - But WG's do finish
  - Work evolves
  - Things get deployed
  - Close down unproductive lines of work.
Interdisciplinary

- Operations
  - bmwg
  - dnsop
  - grow
  - mboned
  - opsawg
  - opsec
  - v6ops

- Management
  - l3sm
  - lime
  - netconf
  - netmod
  - supa

- Other ADs
  - anima
  - dime
  - lmap
  - radext
Flexibility

- Reorganize around changing demands.
  - IESG responding by shifting working group management is much faster than creating new areas, retiring AD roles, or changing job descriptions (via nomcom)

- In the future you can imagine new OPS groups chartered with a non-OPS AD sponsor.

- As existing groups may shuffle into OPS or be reconstituted as OPS working groups via working group chartering. (sidrops)
Operations is going to be different

- The consumers and participants in our work are not pre-occupied with the problems we addressed in the past
  - v6 transition technologies don't have a bright future
  - Shedding legacy technologies.
  - Network operators are not box jockeys, they are orchestrators of complex systems.
  - Software tooling evolution runs faster than Customer → Vendor interaction
    - yang model catalogs is one example of this, other proprietary / enterprise / open-source interactions
Conclusions

- Activity levels vary over time
- Examples, dnsop / grow are at a higher level of activity right now opsec at a lower.
- Certain activities in other areas are entering maturity phases where their level of activity and the focus of that activity might change; that work may come into ops.
- The output of operations groups is likely to change as efforts around netconf / yang / service models / mature and migrate into deployment.