

# Next steps

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# Is the sky falling?

- IETF 50, March 2001, Minneapolis: 1822 people
  - Core attendees (4+ out of 6 meetings): 938 people
- IETF 62, March 2005, Minneapolis: 1133 people (down 38%)
  - Core attendees (4+ out of 6 meetings): 743 people (down 21%)
- NASDAQ Telecom Index
  - March 1, 2001: 400.690
  - March 1, 2005: 182.120 (down 55%)



# Achieved (by others, not me)

- IASA admin restructuring well under way
  - big, important, sometimes distracting effort
- IETF Mission Statement
- TOOLS team in place
- EDU team in place
- Improvements in IESG document processing
  - PROTO shepherds
  - Constant improvements to I-D tracker
  - General Area Review Team
  - Several Areas have specialized review teams
  - *Note that Secretariat performance and tools issues are now IASA responsibility*

# In progress (IESG)

- Transparency efforts
  - retreat minutes published
  - narrative minutes experiment planned
  - Info/Exp criteria published
  - DISCUSS criteria draft published
    - remember that all DISCUSS comments are visible in tracker
  - other operational notes exposed
  - <http://www.ietf.org/u/ietfchair/>
  - conscious efforts to include all parties in email threads (especially resolving DISCUSSes and charter discussions)
  - can always do more

# In progress with IAB

- Liaison mechanisms
  - governing RFCs published
  - liaison submission tool in beta test
  - especially active liaisons with ITU-T SG13 and IEEE 802.\*
  - still need clarity on how "requirement" liaison inputs from other bodies can be effectively and efficiently handled within the IETF process

# In progress (IETF) (1)

- IPR WG
  - basically done; no consensus for change in underlying policy
  - trailing copyright issues
- NEWTRK
  - disagreement between WG and IESG on ISD proposal
  - renewed interest in radical surgery to standards track
  - meeting Friday morning

# In progress (IETF/IAB) (2)

- IANA
  - interesting debate about role of IANA Considerations
  - interesting debate about boundaries of authority for assignments
- Technical Specifications publication
  - what are the IETF's requirements?
  - techspec BOF in Vancouver
- *Note that tracking IANA and RFC Editor performance is now IASA responsibility*

# Open

- Quality and timeliness of WG output
  - does the community hold WGs to a high enough standard?
    - ~30% of standards track drafts pass the IESG with no DISCUSS
  - more to do on WG engineering practices
  - tools for WGs as well as tools for IESG?
- Cross-area review
  - partial solutions in place; can we do more?
- IESG throughput rate and role
  - IESG needs to be able to set directions ("steer")
  - would reorganization make things better, or just different?
  - should the final review process be split out?
- Patchwork of updates to RFC 2026

# Open (personal)

- The IETF Chair has conflicting roles:
  - Chair of the IETF
    - Member of IAB
    - Member of IAOC
  - Chair of the IESG
    - Area Director of the General Area
- We need to discuss carefully the advantages and disadvantages of splitting these roles

# Very Open

- "The IETF has Difficulty Handling Large and/or Complex Problems" (RFC 3774)
  - we do best designing "elements of the Internet Architecture" (IESG retreat, 4/2005)
  - opinion: this is a feature, not a bug
- "Working Group Dynamics can make Issue Closure Difficult" (RFC 3774)
  - open access and the rough consensus process inevitably have this effect
- Are these features just the cost of doing business the IETF way?

# Process change

- The world has changed, so further change in IETF process is apparently needed
- It is hard to predict the effect and cost of changes in a non-linear system
- The aircraft is in flight, so the engines need to be changed with care (probably one at a time)



# Discussion forum for process change?

- We have previously use regular WGs for process reform
  - is this the best way for the next round of process reform?
  - change must do more good than harm, so broad implications must be scrutinized
  - obviously, genuine IETF consensus is needed on the results
  - must be compatible with human and budgetary resource constraints (IASA signoff)

# Use of Town Hall Time

- Please – make your remarks short and to the point
  - IETF Admin, Operations & Process topics only tonight, please - technical topics tomorrow
- Remember to speak clearly – many of us don't come from the ~~US~~ France
- Welcome to the microphone!  
We are all equal here.



# Issues raised

- project management/delay reduction for drafts (Henning Schulzrinne)
- process change ideas (Spencer Dawkins)
  - draft-klensin-nomcom-term-00.txt
  - draft-klensin-stds-review-panel-00.txt
- does the community believe process change is needed (if so, at what priority)? (Bert Wijnen)
- what is the best way to change the process? (Brian Carpenter)
  - at least, how do we focus the list discussion?