Service Function Chaining (SFC) BoF

IETF 88
Vancouver, British Columbia
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SFC Background

• Berlin IETF meeting:
  – One-hour non-WG forming BoF
  – Presentation of use cases by Service Providers
  – 250+ persons in the BoF
  – Strong support to do work in space

• Since Berlin:
  – Drafts: on problem statement (quinn-sfc-problem-statement), use cases, architecture, encapsulation, ...
  – Proposed charter: problem statement, architecture, requirements, encap, management
  – Good list discussion

• This IETF: WG forming BoF on Thursday @ 3:20
Service Function Chaining (SFC)

• Today, “composite” network service built from set of cooperating applications/entities interconnected by Service Nodes (FWs, LBs, SSL accelerators etc.)
• Ordered Path through SNs is called Service Function Chain
• Today, deployments achieved by:
  – Physically placing SNs on data path of underlay, or
  – Changing the forwarding of underlying network to "steer" packets through service chain
• Increasingly inflexible/painful deployment model:
  – Requires changing forwarding behavior of underlay, or
  – Requires physical placement of SF on data path
Service Function Chaining (cont.)

• SFC is about changing that model
  – Decouple the "steering" function from underlay
  – Use special encapsulation to tunnel from one SF to another
  – Encapsulation also carries additional meta data in data packets for SF use

• Come to BoF!!
  – Thursday 3:20 PM