RFC Series Editor
Status Report

IETF 96

RFC Format Project Update
(the short version)

- Drafts are done (until we start the –*bis* process)

- RFPs to go out after this IETF

- Coding to start at the end of this year; testing to start next year

Other updates

- For your reading pleasure…

RFC Format Project Update
(the longer version)

- Project goals:
  - XML as the unchanging, underlying format
  - TXT, PDF/A-3, HTML as the outputs
  - SVG line art (black and white) allowed
  - Non-ASCII characters allowed

Progress

- Four years of community and design team discussions

- One RFC published (RFC 7749: 'The "xml2rfc" Version 2 Vocabulary')

- Eight I-Ds waiting to be approved for publication by the IAB

- Collecting issues in the github issue trackers associated with each draft
  - (see https://www.rfc-editor.org/rse/format-faq/ for the URLs)

Next Steps

- IAB to discuss approving drafts for publication
- Send out the RFPs for the tools and the CSS upon approval for publication
  - SoW: http://www.nostrum.com/~rjsparks/rfced/
- Start coding
  - Coding will be an iterative process; expect more details and requests for people to help
- *-bis* documents will be created for all format-related RFCs to capture final outcomes and decisions; those will be the ones to require backwards compatibility

The Future of Internet-Drafts

- The RFC Editor and the IESG continue to plan a staged approach for testing the new features that will be available to RFCs
  - e.g., start by allowing one new feature set such as SVG images or non-ASCII characters, seeing how that works, then allowing additional features over time
- Time frame: Q1/Q2 2017?
  - timing is dependent on having the necessary code available and tested

For more information

- Including suggested reading order for drafts

  http://www.rfc-editor.org/rse/format-faq/

RFC Format Design Team

- Many thanks to the members, both active and reserve

    – Nevil Brownlee (ISE)
    – Heather Flanagan (RSE)
    – Tony Hansen
    – Joe Hildebrand
    – Paul Hoffman
    – Ted Lemon
    – Julian Reschke
    – Adam Roach
    – Alice Russo
    – Robert Sparks (Tools Team liaison)
    – Dave Thaler

Project planning – next 18+ months

- Major projects to complete (in progress)
  - Format
  - Digital Preservation
  - Stats and Metrics
  - Digital Signatures for RFCs
- Infrastructure cleanup
  - 2016: planning underway
  - 2017: year of refactoring database(s) and code

Digital Preservation

- See <draft-iab-rfc-preservation>
- Have agreement from the Royal Library of Sweden to begin depositing material (pro bono)
  - RSS feed details approved and in production
  - Actual deposit of RFCs into the digital repository to begin in shortly, after summer holidays
- Related work: figuring out the details for digitally signing RFCs and if/how that will impact the preservation process

Stats & Metrics

- Automating the creation of regular reports re: the publication metrics of the RFC Editor

- Project moving into production this month

- Many thanks to Standcore LLC for the work on this project!

- [RFC Editor Automation of Stats and Reports Project SOW for Community Input - September 3, 2014](#)

Digital Signatures for RFCs

- I-Ds are already signed in batches

- RFCs to be signed individually as part of the publication process
  - all previously published RFCs will be signed en masse

- See draft-housley-rfc-and-id-signatures

Infrastructure Cleanup

- Internal RFC Editor tools and database have improved since AMS took the RPC and Publisher contracts

- Discussions are under way with Robert Sparks, Joe Hildebrand, and RPC staff to develop an architecture for the infrastructure in 2016; implementation to start in ~2017

- The goal will be to make incremental improvements that each address a piece of the infrastructure; this is not a forklift effort