Welcome to the IETF!

You are standing at the end of the road before a
small brick building…
Mike StJohns
IETF 98
Chicago, IL, USA
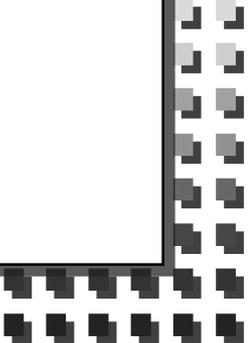
I E T F®

IETF Note Well

Any submission to the IETF intended by the Contributor for publication as all or part of an IETF Internet-Draft or RFC and any statement made within the context of an IETF activity is considered an "IETF Contribution". Such statements include oral statements in IETF sessions, as well as written and electronic communications made at any time or place, which are addressed to:

> The IETF plenary session; The IESG, or any member thereof on behalf of the IESG; Any IETF mailing list, including the IETF list itself, any working group or design team list, or any other list functioning under IETF auspices; Any IETF working group or portion thereof; Any Birds of a Feather (BOF) session; The IAB or any member thereof on behalf of the IAB; The RFC Editor or the Internet-Drafts function

All IETF Contributions are subject to the rules of RFC 5378 and RFC 3979 (updated by RFC 4879).

Statements made outside of an IETF session, mailing list or other function, that are clearly not intended to be input to an IETF activity, group or function, are not IETF Contributions in the context of this notice. Please consult RFC 5378 and RFC 3979 for details.

A participant in any IETF activity is deemed to accept all IETF rules of process, as documented in Best Current Practices RFCs and IESG Statements.

A participant in any IETF activity acknowledges that written, audio and video records of meetings may be made and may be available to the public.

https://www.ietf.org/about/note-well.html

I E T F®

Scope of This Presentation

Information immediately useful to you as you attend your first(ish) IETF

NOT the history of the IETF

    Instead see: The Tao of the IETF (listed later)

    Or buy one of the long-term participants a beer!

NOT "How to write a standard"

    Instead see: https://www.rfc-editor.org – For Authors

How to make the most of your time and opportunities without becoming catatonic or frustrated

I E T F®

Outline

The IETF

IETF vs. Other SDOs & IETF Culture

The IETF Meeting & Etiquette

Working Group vs. Birds of a Feather (BOF)

Working Group Etiquette

IETF and Consensus

Who's Who?

Useful People

Useful Documents & Tools

What is an IRTF?

Other Resources
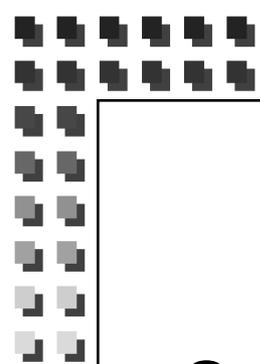
I E T F®

The IETF

Organized activity of the Internet Society

A voluntary Standards Development Organization

Consists of !many! Working Groups

Organized by Areas: Applications and Real Time, General, Internet, Operations and Management, Routing, Security and Transport

Most standards work is done by the Working Groups

Internet Architecture Board is a related organization (and probably is more well known publicly)

Lots more details – not immediately important to your meeting attendance.

I E T F®
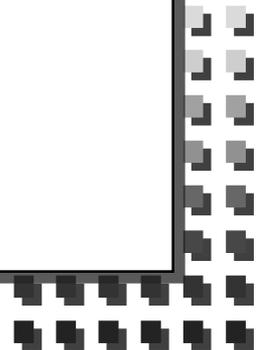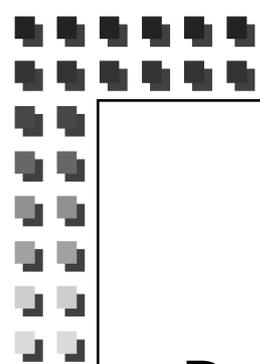
IETF Purpose

Develop and maintain standards for technologies used to provide Internet service or to provide services over the Internet

Ensure that the technology can perform needed functions

Ensure that the technology will support the proper scale of deployment and usage

Ensure that the technology itself is secure and can be operated securely

Ensure that the technology is manageable

I E T F®

IETF vs. Other Standard Development Organizations

IETF

No formal voting; Self-selected individual participants;
No formal government role; Market-based adoption;
Focused on Internet technologies; Bottom-up

Traditional SDOs

Formal voting, National members or organizational members
– rarely individuals; Sometimes treaty-based; Sometimes
legally mandated adoption; Wide range of technical,
process & physical standards; Often top-down

> If you've been involved in other SDOs,
> be prepared to manage your culture
> shock when dealing with the IETF!
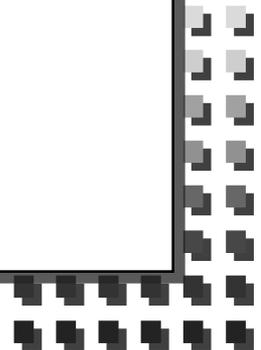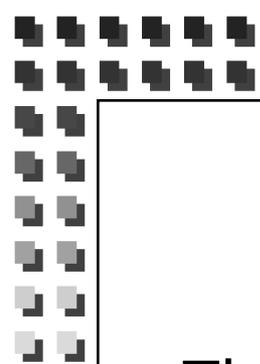
I E T F®

IETF "Culture"

The IETF is not a traditional SDO

Informal dress and attitude is the norm

> We can and have cut the ties off of the necks of the unwary!

Smart and opinionated participants

> Self-selected for technical, not necessarily people, skills

A few can be quite blunt

> Generally do not mean to be rude (some exceptions)

> But most IETF participants are welcoming

Like every other long-established organization, the IETF has a culture. You may need to adapt to the IETF culture - the IETF culture will NOT adapt to you

Dumb ideas forcefully presented are still dumb ideas
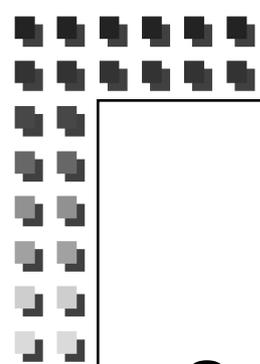
I E T F ®

The IETF Meeting

Gathering of IETF Participants 3x per year - ~1000-1500/meeting

Organized events include:

- Working Group Sessions - ~130 working groups
- Birds of a Feather Sessions - varies
- IRTF Sessions - ~7
- Area-Wide Sessions
- IETF-Wide Plenaries (Hosted by the IAB, IESG and IAOC)
- Tutorials & Lunch Sessions
- Social Events
- Hackathons, Code Sprints & Related Activities
- Non-public Business Meetings (e.g. IAB, IESG, IAOC, NOMCOM)

I E T F®
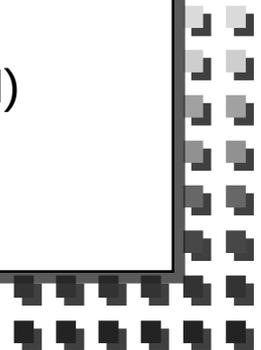
The IETF Meeting (cont'd)

Disorganized events include:

Hallway meetings

Bar BOFs

Marathon Editing Sessions

"The Agenda is your friend" -
https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/98/agenda.html
https://tools.ietf.org/agenda/98/

The App is your friend! Find the free IETF Meeting app in both the Google and Apple stores. Use it!
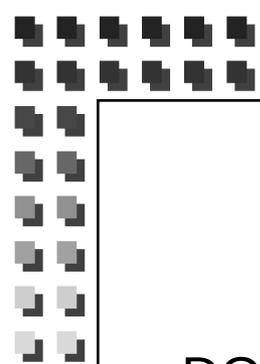
Meeting Etiquette

DO – Behave respectfully and tolerantly towards the other participants

DO – Introduce yourself

DON'T – Harass the other participants
https://www.ietf.org/iesg/statement/ietf-anti-harassment-policy.html

DO – Let someone know if you are harassed

DON'T – Hog the food at the Welcome Reception, Newcomer's Reception, Bits n Bytes or Social!

DON'T – Leave your bag unguarded

DO – Remember to sleep!

DO – Remember to enjoy yourself

I E T F®

Working Group vs. BOF

Working Group

- Where the main work of the IETF takes place
- F2F ideally focused on key issues
- Bottom-up formation
  - Generally proposed by IETF participants to meet a perceived need, rather than IESG, AD or IETF Chair
  - Negotiates a charter with the AD (with advice and consent of IESG and IAB)
- Has an agreed work plan and schedule
- Lives on between IETF Meetings
- Often preceded by (usually one) Birds of a Feather session

Birds of a Feather (BOF)

- Often precedes formation of a WG
  - And will include consideration or discussion of a proposed WG charter
- Sometimes a one-shot to discuss or present information on timely topic
- Group of people interested in topic convince an AD that an idea is worth exploring
- AD vets description and agenda before approving BOF scheduling
- BOFs generally meet only once

I E T F®

The Pointy End of the Stick: IETF Areas

General	Applications/Real Time	Operations & Management	Security
	Transport		
	Internet	Routing		
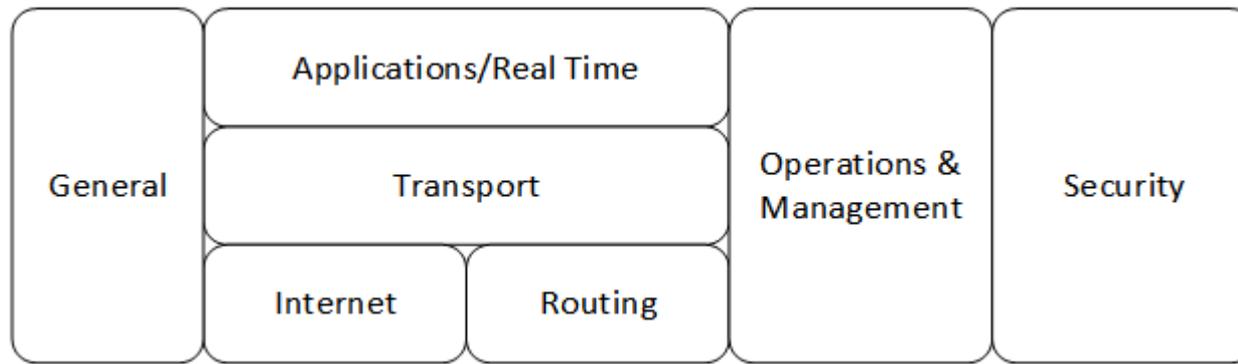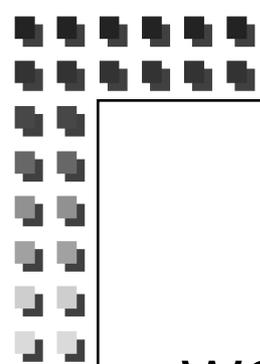
I E T F®

A Working Group Session

WGs only meet for a few hours at an IETF meeting

Often only specific unresolved issues are discussed at meetings

Read the I-Ds and mailing list before the session

Sessions are being streamed & recorded

Speak directly into the mike (don't look at the questioner)

Say your name **_every_** time you get to the microphone

for the people in audio-land & for the scribe(s)

Sign the "blue sheets"

Record of who is in the room - required for openness

Scanned & posted - original not retained

I E T F®
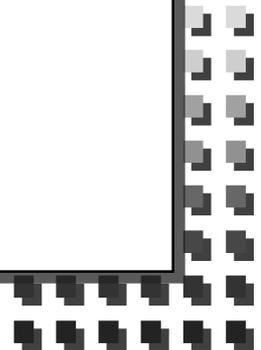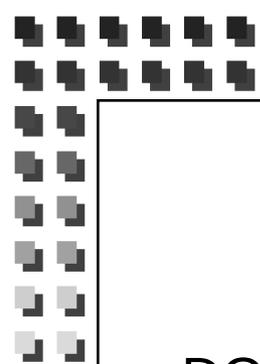
Working Group Session Etiquette

DO – Sign the Blue Sheets

DO – Read the WG Agenda & Drafts

DO – Listen (DO tell the speaker if they aren't speaking clearly or loudly enough)

DO – Feel free to comment IFF you've read the draft AND you have a useful technical comment; be brief

DON'T – Hog the microphone

DON'T – Hog the seats (move your bag if asked so someone can sit down)

AVOID – Side conversations – you might think you're being quiet, but your neighbors might not.

DO – Use the WG Jabber Channel to ask questions
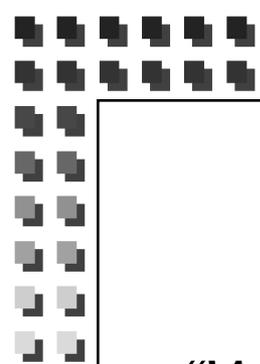
I E T F®

IETF and Consensus

"We reject kings, presidents and voting. We believe in rough consensus and running code." – David Clark

"Rough Consensus" - **Rough consensus is achieved when all issues are addressed, but not necessarily accommodated**

Humming – a way of measuring consensus that is not voting

The session chair is usually the arbiter of consensus, but WG session consensus must yield to WG mailing list consensus

Dissenting opinions are heard, but are not controlling

"On Consensus and Humming in the IETF", P. Resnick, https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7282

Who's Who – Decoding the Dots

🔴 IAB member (red)

🟡 IESG member (yellow)

🔵 Working Group chair (blue)

🟠 nomcom (orange)

🟢 Local host (green)

🟣 IAOC member (purple)

🔴 IRSG member (pink)

🔵 RFC Series Editor

IAB – Internet Architecture Board
IESG – Internet Engineering Steering Group
IRSG – Internet Research Steering Group
IAOC – IETF Administrative Oversight Committee
Nomcom – Nominations Committee

🙂 IETFer specifically happy to help
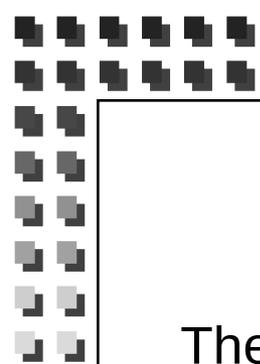
I E T F®

Useful People

The IETF Secretariat

- We can't hold the meeting without their help!
- Permanent staff of ~10 plus registration staff
- Manages the IETF meetings & provides between-meeting support

The Internet Assigned Names and Numbers Authority (IANA)

- Primary IETF role is parameter registrar
- You *must* talk to them if you have a non-trivial IANA Considerations Section – reviews documents in Last Call and can reject if section is not up to par

The RFC Editor

- Turns Internet-Drafts into RFCs – publication series of the IETF, IRTF, IAB and Independent Streams
- RFC Series Editor (RSE), RFC Production Center, RFC Publisher
- Independent Submissions Editor (ISE) – not part of RFC Editor staff
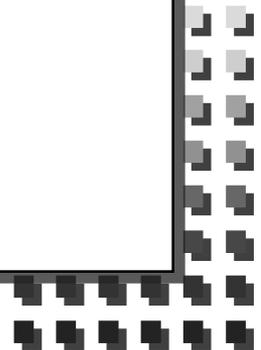
I E T F®

Useful People

The Secretariat & IETF Administrative Director
L to R: Maddy, Marcia, Stephanie, Naveen Amy, Cindy, Alexa, Ray

Group Picture by Richard Stonehouse

IANA Staff

Amanda   Elise   Michelle   Sabrina

RFC People
(RSE, Staff and ISE)
L to R: Heather(RSE), Alice, Sandy, Nevil(ISE)
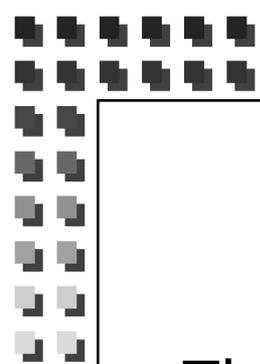
I E T F®

Useful Documents

The Tao of the IETF – "Everything you always wanted to know about the IETF, but were afraid to ask"
https://www.ietf.org/tao.html

The meeting Wiki –
https://www.ietf.org/registration/MeetingWiki/wiki/ietf98

The EDU tutorials –
https://ietf.org/edu/tutorials.html
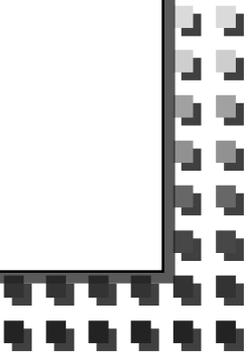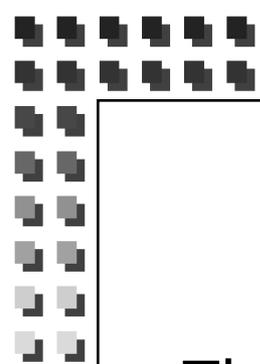
I E T F®

Useful Documents (Cont'd)

The list of mailing lists –

https://www.ietf.org/meeting/email-list.html

First-time attendees mailing list –

https://www.ietf.org/mailman/listinfo/98-1st-timers

Network Information –

https://tickets.meeting.ietf.org/wiki/IETF98Meeting   (TBD)
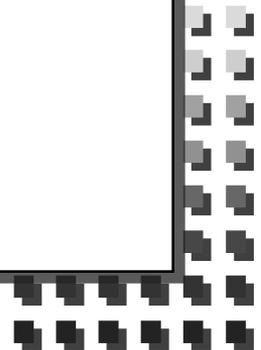
I E T F®

What is an IRTF?

The Internet Research Task Force is an activity of the Internet Architecture Board

Investigates more "researchy" topics than IETF (i.e., Delay-Tolerant Networking investigated interplanetary internetworking)

Research Groups (RGs) of the IRTF share space at IETF meetings

Meetings are open to all attendees as observers, but some have closed membership

I E T F®

Other Resources

Newcomers Page –

https://www.ietf.org/newcomers.html

Contains videos of previous Newcomers briefings

Tools Page –

https://tools.ietf.org/

Jabber –

https://www.ietf.org/jabber/index.html

Companions Program –

https://www.ietf.org/meeting/companion-program.html
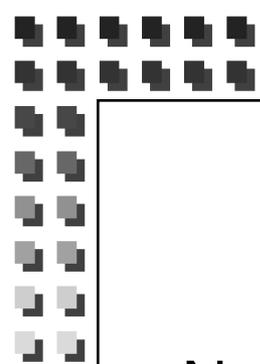
I E T F®

Other Newcomer Activities

Newcomer's Meet and Greet

Precedes Welcome Reception; Newcomers, WG Chairs, ADs, IAB

See Agenda for details

Newcomer's Dinner

Informal dinner for newcomers to chat; Meet at the IETF registration desk at 20:00 Monday

Walk to nearby reasonably priced restaurant

RSVP Naveen Khan (nkhan@amsl.com) or for more details.

Mentoring

https://www.ietf.org/resources/mentoring-program.html

I E T F®

Local Cautions

Some minor issues with thieves and panhandlers, especially in tourist areas.

If walking at night, know your surroundings and generally try to walk in a group.

Chicago is known as the "Windy City" for a reason – pay attention to the weather if you're outside.

Watch your stuff! Even in the conference rooms.
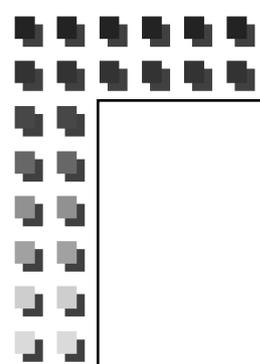
# Getting Started

Networking and Jabber
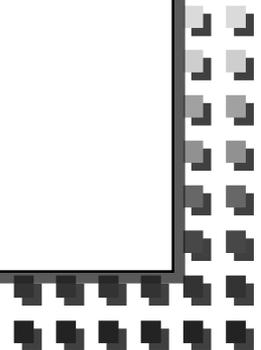
Networking

The IETF runs its own network, and generally takes over the conference hotel's wired and wireless network for the duration

Generally up by early Sunday and down around Noon Friday

Look for SIDs: "ietf", "ietf-hotel" and other variants with "ietf" in the name.

Secure networks use Userid: "ietf" and password "ietf"

Generally WPA2-Enterprise security mode.

There's also a terminal room with no terminals, but with printers and wired connectivity – AND PEOPLE WHO CAN HELP! And copies of the networking how-to's

I E T F®

Jabber

The IETF uses eXtensible Messaging and Presence Protocol (XMPP) to host a number of chat rooms during the IETF meeting.

Step 1: Get a client: http://xmpp.org/software/clients.html

Step 2: Register an account: https://xmpp.net/directory.php

Step 3: Join a chat room: (usually is ->) <wgname>@jabber.ietf.org

Used to ask questions and provide a hint of where the discussion is at on slides for audio remote listeners.

I E T F®

Questions? Comments?

Please take the survey at

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/IETF98newcomers

I E T F ®