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Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) and Internet Society



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How do we let devices, services, and applications work together across a wide and dispersed network of networks?



How did these come about?

TCP/IP	To interconnect network devices on the internet
Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP)	To transfer data over the web
Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)	To send and receive e-mail
Domain Name System (DNS)	A naming system for computers, services, or other resources online
IPv4/IPv6	Revisions of the IP used to identify devices on a network



Did any organisation or government impose these
rules on all of us?

Are these rules we must obey?

An introductory video

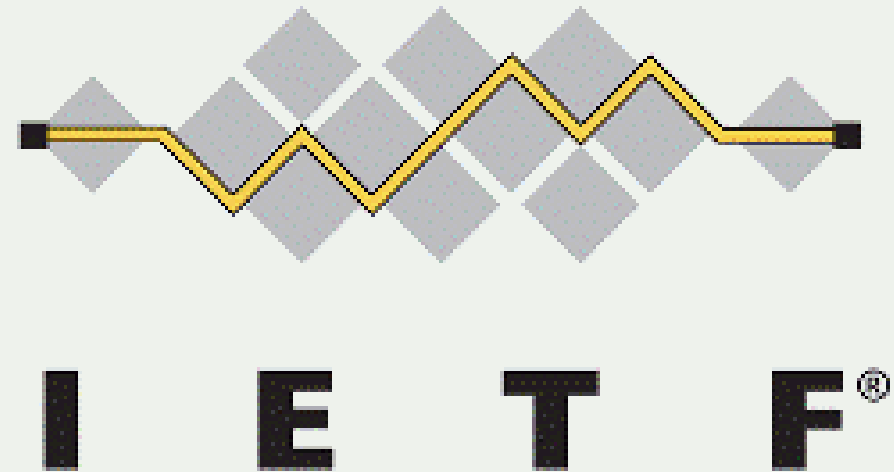


What is the IETF?

- Standards Development Organisation (SDO) for Internet standards, developing **open** standards through **open** processes to “make the Internet work better”

Unlike a typical SDO, the IETF is:

- Open organisation, no formal membership
- Run by volunteers
- No formal voting (but we do hum...)
- No formal government role
- Driven by market-based adoption (a real standard is one people use)
- Bottom-up standards development



How it works

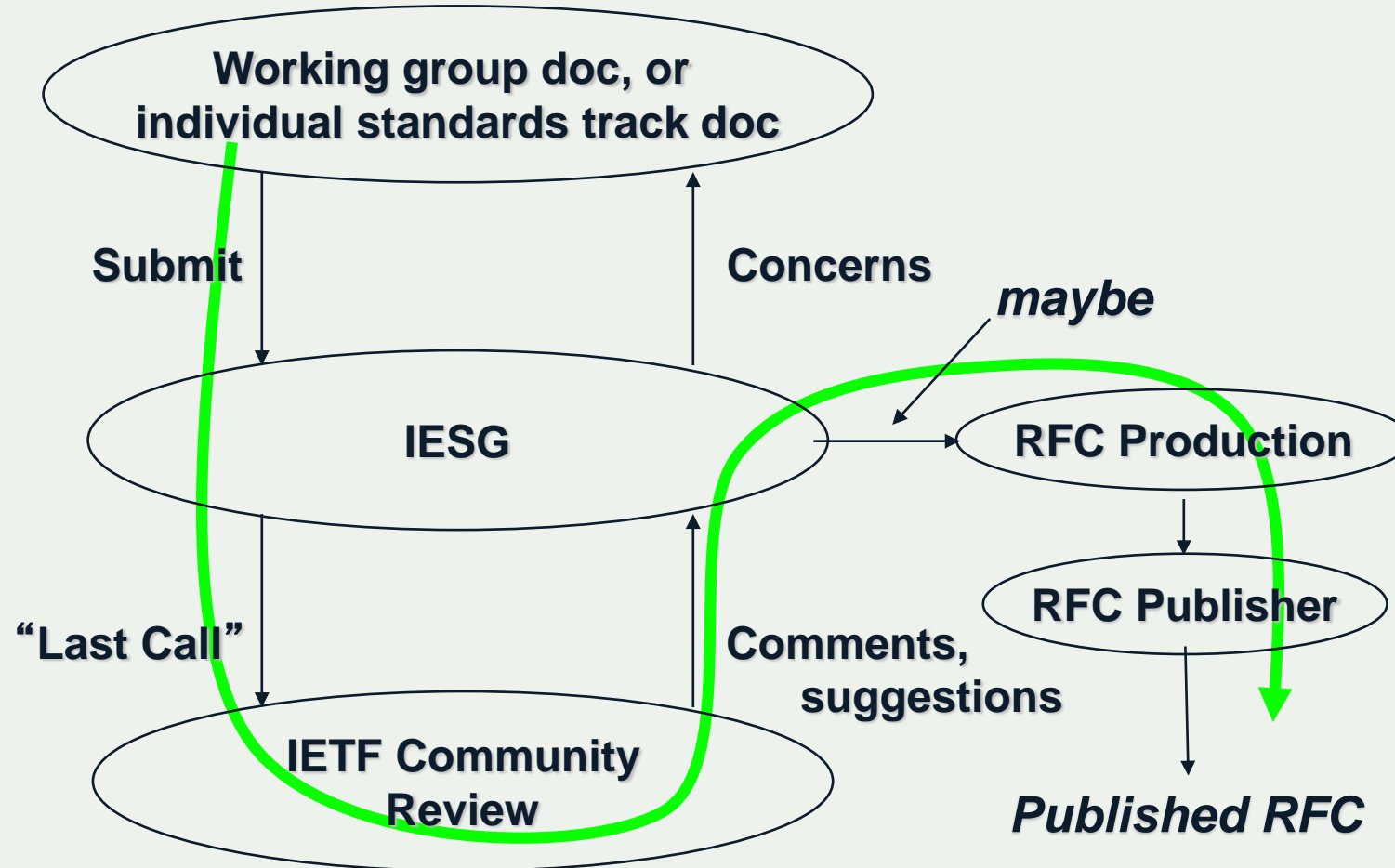
- Over 130 working groups
 - Primarily where work is done
- Roush consensus
 - All issues are addressed, but not necessarily accommodated
- No formal voting
 - Show of hands or hum but no count
- Disputes resolved by discussion
 - On mailing list & in face-to-face meetings
- Final decisions must be verified on mailing list
 - But taking into account face-to-face discussion



IETF areas – managed by Area Directors

Applications and Real-Time (ART)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application protocols and architectures• Real-time (communication) and non-real-time
Transport (TSV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mechanisms related to data transport on the Internet - Includes congestion control
Routing (RTG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Routing and signaling protocols
Internet (INT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• IPv4/IPv6, DNS, DHCP, mobility
Operations and Management (OPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Network management• Operations: IPv6, DNS, security, routing
Security (SEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Security protocols and mechanisms
General (GEN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities focused on supporting and updating IETF processes

Standard development process - there are over 8,500 RFCs today



IETF & the Internet Society

A bit of history:

- The IETF started out as an activity supported by the US government, but since 1993 it has operated as a standards development function under the Internet Society

What happened?

- The IETF had a growing need for financial support and organization structure
- A number of people involved in the IETF formed the Internet Society to provide a corporate structure to support the Internet standards development process
- The Internet Society is the organizational home of the IETF, so we support it with funding and other programmes



Standards may come and go over time,
but the open way of working persists.



Thank you.

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