IPv6, IETF, and the Different Deployment Stages

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The Role of the IETF

- **Basics**: the specifications for IPv6 – Done!
- **Maintenance**
  - Correcting bugs, operational guidance
  - Very similar to what we do with IPv4
- **Addressing new deployment requirements**: Ongoing!
- **New features**
  - Often IP-version agnostic, sometimes related to feature parity
Shifting Focus

- Prior focus has largely been in the basics and features
- Emphasis is now on co-existence and specific deployment scenarios
  - Keeping IPv4 alive while at the same time moving forward with IPv6 (Dual-Stack Lite)
  - Enabling networks to use IPv6 before all other networks use it as well (Translation)
- But most of the deployment effort is practical - training, vendors, plans, configuration