

IETF Trust Report

IETF-95

Benson Schliesser
(Outgoing) IETF Trust Chair

2016-Apr-08



Trust Chair Election

- Tobias Gondrom Elected Chair
 - Effective 05-Apr-2016



Subpoenas and Legal Requests



- The IAOC Legal Committee has concluded that we should not respond to Authentication Requests from anonymous requestors (i.e. via their counsel).
 - This enables us to report with transparency to the IETF community.
- In other respects, legal requests and responses have been proceeding as usual.
- For detailed updates & additional information see <http://iaoc.ietf.org/subpoenas.html>

Lawsuit filed against IETF among others



- Glassey v. Microsemi Inc - ISOC, IETF, ICANN, et al (received 2014-Sep)
 - On 03-Mar-2016 the US 9th District Court of Appeals affirmed all decisions by District Court including dismissing Glassey's action, and motions.
 - See: <https://iaoc.ietf.org/documents/Glassey-Judgment-3March2016.pdf>
 - Much more information, including all detailed filings, is available at <http://iaoc.ietf.org/subpoenas.html>

Trust Willingness to hold IPR Related to IANA



- As previously reported, the IETF Trust is willing to hold intellectual property rights relating to the IANA function, including IANA trademarks and the IANA.ORG domain name (and other related names).
- Since the last IETF meeting:
 - The ICANN board voted to accept the plan developed by the ICG (including input from the IETF and other stakeholders).
 - This plan is now being reviewed by the NTIA (of the US Dept of Commerce).
 - See <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2016-03-10-en>
- The IETF Trust and counsel have been collaborating with the IANA communities in preparation to support the IANA community's IPR needs.
- For further discussion on this topic please see the IANAPLAN WG
 - <https://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/ianaplan/charter/>



Trust Finances

- The IETF Trust is in process of filing for tax-exempt status as a §501(c)(3) organization under US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations.
 - The trust currently and historically has no revenue and has thus not pursued tax-exempt status.
 - The official filing is pending adoption of a formal Conflict of Interest (COI) policy. *(see subsequent slide)*
- After §501(c)(3) status is acquired, the IETF Trust will be opening a Trust-owned bank account, funded adequately from meeting registration revenues, to cover the needs of maintaining the Trust.
 - NOTE: Meeting Registration Revenues received in excess of meeting expenses are and have been used to fund other operating costs, such as the Secretariat, RFC Editor, IASA, and the IETF Trust.

2016 Trust Budget

(Working Draft)



Total: \$53,076

- Legal: \$25,000
- D&O Ins: \$11,576
- Storage: \$1,500
- Misc: \$15,000

Legal and Miscellaneous were increased in 2016 to address estimated unknown costs for trademark renewal, IANA IPR transfer, and 501(c)(3) application.

2015 Expenses were \$34K.



Conflict of Interest Policy

- The IETF Trust is planning to adopt an official Conflict of Interest (COI) policy.
 - This is necessary for tax-exempt status.
- It is currently under review by the IETF community until 13 April 2016.
 - See <http://trustee.ietf.org/documents/TheIETFTrustcommunityinputConflictofInterest.pdf>
- The proposed Conflicts of Interest Policy is located here:
 - <http://trustee.ietf.org/documents/IETF-Trust-Conflict-Policy-18March2016.htm>
- The Trustees have been collecting comments and revising, as appropriate.



Records Retention Policy

- The IETF Trust reviews the Records Retention Policy annually and updates it as needed.
- This year the Trust plans to adopt an updated version of the policy, currently available for review at:
 - <http://trustee.ietf.org/documents/Trust-Records-Policy-2016-03-23-Clean.htm>

Copyright Statements in Contributions to the IETF



- IETF IPR is managed consistent with BCP 78 and 79.
 - Contributors grant the IETF a license to publish contributions, e.g. as part of an IETF document or meeting proceedings.
 - IETF publications are copyrighted by the IETF and the resulting IPR is held by the IETF Trust.
- Contributors are not permitted to include additional copyright assertions in contributions.
 - This includes documents (drafts and RFCs) as well as presentation slides, etc.



IETF Trademark Usage

- The IETF Trust holds the trademarks associated with the name “IETF” and the IETF logo.
- Usage of these trademarks is often permitted when referring to the IETF factually, but licenses may be required for other cases.
 - See the FAQ at <http://trustee.ietf.org/ietf-logo-acronym.html>
- Derivative works are never permitted without a license from the IETF Trust.

Hackathon IPR

- As previously reported, the IETF does *not* consider code developed at the Hackathon to inherently be a contribution to the IETF.
 - It may be intentionally contributed, but is not automatically assumed be.
- However presentations at IETF meetings, including those given at an IETF Hackathon, are contributions to the IETF.
 - Thus the usual IETF policies apply to these Contributions, including copyright license and IPR disclosure rules.
 - This may include slides that are included in the official proceedings, video of demonstrations, etc.
- Contributors are responsible for ensuring that they have the right to make contributions!



Any Questions?



Backup Material

The IETF Trust



- The IETF Trust was formed on 2005-Dec-15.
- It has a legal existence as a Trust in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- It exists to hold intellectual and other property of the IETF.
 - The purposes of the trust include the advancement of educational and public interest by acquiring, holding, maintaining and licensing certain existing and future intellectual property and other property used in connection with the Internet standards process and its administration, for the advancement of the science and technology associated with the Internet and related technology.
 - The Beneficiary of the Trust shall be the IETF as a whole
 - The Trust Assets shall be used solely in furtherance of the Purpose
- More detailed info is available at <https://trustee.ietf.org/>
- Also see RFC4371 and RFC5378

Current Trustees of the IETF Trust



- There are currently 9 Trustees, all of whom are members of the IAOC.
- The Trustees have a fiduciary duty to protect the IETF's property!
- Current Trustees:
 - Jari Arkko
 - Lou Berger
 - Scott Bradner
 - Kathy Brown
 - Leslie Daigle
 - Tobias Gondrom
 - Ray Pelletier
 - Benson Schliesser (Chair)
 - Andrew Sullivan



Trust Legal Provisions (TLP)

- The TLP describes the rights and licenses that the IETF Trust grants to others with respect to IETF Contributions and IETF Documents; as well as certain restrictions, limitations and notices relating to IETF Documents.
- TLP version 5.0 is current:
<http://trustee.ietf.org/license-info/IETF-TLP-5.htm>