IETF Trust Purpose

Enable usage of IP Assets while protecting ownership

Hold & Manage IP Assets for IETF (and ICANN)
- 2016 NTIA-IANA Transition added IANA to the Trust’s care

Domain ownership
  IETF.ORG, IESG.ORG, IRTF.ORG, IAB.ORG, IANA.ORG,…

Copyrights
  IETF RFC’s, Logos, Photos, Videos

Contributions to the IETF: Internet Drafts, discussions, etc.

Trademarks
  IETF, IANA Marks, additional IETF marks (logo’s etc.)

Software
  IETF Tools, IETF YANG Catalog
Trust Structure

- Commonwealth of Virginia Trust
- IRS 501c3 Non-Profit
- Independent from ISOC and IETC LLC
- Website: trustee.ietf.org
- 5 Trustees
  - IETF Nomcom 3, IESG 1, ISOC BoT 1 = 5 Trustees
  - No financial support (travel or compensation)
  - Knowledge of IP law useful
  - Trustees are personally legally responsible/owners
- Annual budget ~100K
  - Legal & Administration Services, TM Registrations,
  - Document Storage (IETF bluesheets, other materials)
  - Domain Registrations, Trustee Insurance
  - Seeks diverse funding sources:
    - IETF LLC
    - Past contributions from Google, NBCUniversal, Tencent and others
Recent & On-Going Activities

- Transfer of IETF LLC IPR over to Trust management
  - Licensed back to IETF LLC for their use
  - Permits IETF LLC to sublicense as appropriate
- IANA Parameters Registry usage rules
  - Consultation with IETF community (2020)
  - Consultation with ICANN & IANA on implementation
- Licensing requests & questions of IETF copyrights
- Requests for use of IETF logos, trademarks
- On going monitoring for infringements
- IETF Trust also handles IETF fashion consultation
  - IETF Trust reviews and approves IETF meeting t-shirts
  - IETF meeting shirts license the IETF logo from the IETF Trust
2021 activities

- Considering a legal restructuring from a Trust to an LLC
  - Current Trust structure is outdated from a legal best practice view
  - Can’t Buy increased insurance for Trustees
    - Insurers won’t write larger policies to the Trust for the trustees
  - An LLC would be able to own and register trademarks
    - Trusts can’t register Trademarks in some territories
    - Trademarks are currently registered/owned by the Trustees directly

- Complete the IANA Protocol Registry use rights clarification
  - Working in conjunction with ICANN/IANA

- Clean up & publish IETF Trust asset inventory
  - Including assigned rights related to PKI RFCs

- Usage guidance on IETF web content, session videos, photographs, blogs etc.
  - Do for these assets what IETF Trust provides for I-Ds and RFCs