

2008-2: IPv4 Transfer Policy Proposal

ARIN XXI, Denver
April 7, 2008

Why are we here?

- ARIN BoT directed the AC to consider various ways of approaching IPv4 depletion and promoting IPv6 adoption
- To provide a focus for discussion of possible futures post-depletion
- This proposal is the AC's attempt to synthesize the results of our own research and input from the community and experts

Why this proposal?

- Given similar activity is underway in other regions, the AC wanted a proposal in the ARIN region that:
 - came from constituents in the region
 - reflected the requirements of our region
- Development of a proposal of this scope would have been difficult for an individual author
- The AC is not unanimous that we should liberalize transfer policy

What's in it?

- Current policy allows for number resource transfers only when assets using the resources are sold
- This proposal would also allow transfers between organizations based on need and a negotiated agreement between them

Why allow these transfers?

- provides a continued source of IPv4 addresses to organizations for whom migrating to IPv6 is more expensive
- provides incentive to IPv4 resource holders who can easily or cheaply migrate to IPv6 to free up resources for the use of organizations who can't

A spectrum of transfer policies

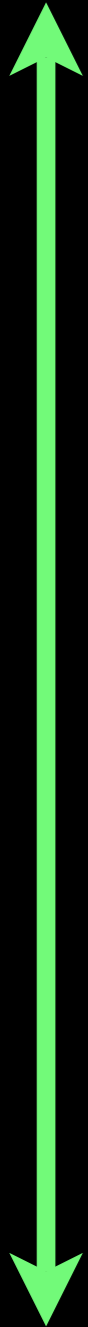
No resource transfers

Transfers only with asset acquisitions

2008-2 style limited paid transfers

Transfers between any interested parties
(e.g. APNIC proposal)

Unrestricted transfers



What are the key restrictions?

- transferor, transferee & resource use must be in the ARIN region
 - prevents RIR-shopping
- resources must be under an RSA
 - ensures transferor has the right to transfer the resources to another party; protects the transferee
- limits on deaggregation
 - helps prevent faster routing table growth

What are the key restrictions?

- transferee must qualify for the resources
 - continues the need-based distribution of resources
- can't be a transferee & and transferor
 - no middle men; prevents speculation
- minimum holding time
 - prevents speculation

Pros & Cons

- Pros
 - Covering the general topic, as well as this particular proposal
- Liberalized Transfer Cons
 - Cons to having this type of liberalization of the current transfer policy
- 2008-2 Cons
 - Cons of this specific policy proposal

Pros

- demonstrates to the broader community continued stewardship of IPv4 resources
- both parties benefit from a redistribution of resources; reduces overall industry cost of IPv6 transition
- creates incentives to renumber out of inefficiently used resources

Pros, cont'd

- post-depletion, allows new networks to acquire necessary resources to run dual-stack and communicate with the existing IPv4 network
- promotes accuracy of WHOIS
- limits the need for expensive enforcement of current limits on transfers

Liberalized Transfer Cons

- creates a false sense of security regarding the remaining lifetime of IPv4
- attempts to solve a non-problem; IPv6 exists and is available for growth
- assumes a problem will exist with a black market, which is not proven

Liberalized Transfer

Cons, cont'd

- the perpetuation of IPv4 brings increased use of NAT
- reduces the focus, and resources, directed at IPv6 adoption

Liberalized Transfer Cons, cont'd

- increases legal risk; complicates ARIN's position re. 'addresses as property'
- this significant a change to policies may encourage sceptics of the RIR structure to attempt broader review of the current system

2008-2 Cons

- very restrictive rules on deaggregation; may lead to difficult, arbitrary decisions by staff
- 6 month limit may be too restrictive; transferees may not be able to obtain a full six month supply via transfer
- complex restrictions may push people to other RIRs (RIR shopping)

Open Issues

- 2008-2 specifies a listing service, but does not define how it would operate
- What level of transparency or reporting should exist with regard to final transaction value?
- More feedback needed on safe harbour section (§ 8.3.7)
- Striking a balance between simplicity and reasonable restrictions on transfers

At the mic,
please declare:

Relaxed Transfer Policy, In General

For

Undecided

Against

Specific 2008-2 Policy Elements

For

Against