

NZNOG gathers in Auckland

Over 150 network operators from across New Zealand attended the annual Network Operators Group Conference in late January. The conference was held in Auckland and featured expert speakers on technical subjects including IPv6 and DNSSEC.

InternetNZ was a platinum sponsor and is a strong supporter of the conference, which has been running since 2004 and is a valuable forum for exchange of technical information and industry networking.

The Society was represented by Executive Director Keith Davidson, who updated conference-goers on recent InternetNZ activity including IPv6, copyright, telco regulatory issues, the .nz honeypot project and ENUM.

DNS guru Bill Manning spoke on IPv4/IPv6 translation methods and Internet security research firm Team CYMRU gave a useful presentation on online badness.

Other speakers included former InternetNZ Councillor Sam Sargeant, who spoke on the security of the Domain Name System, and the State Services Commission's Jamie Horrell who updated conference-goers on The National Broadband Map, a graphical representation of New Zealand's broadband supplier networks available at broadbandmap.govt.nz.

In addition, InternetNZ Fellow Donald Neal presented the results of a traffic trace collected from users of the Internet service provided by Lightwire to students living on Waikato University's main campus.

A full list of speakers, and presentation slides, will shortly be available on the NZNOG website at <http://2009.nznog.org>.



NZNOG Conference attendees.

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Member consultations

InternetNZ is holding its annual round of member consultations in Auckland and Wellington in mid February.

We will work through the budget for the 2009/10 year and listen to your feedback and suggestions for InternetNZ's direction.

Staff from the NZRS and DNC will also be attending, presenting issues under current discussion on .nz and its policies.

The meeting agenda and papers are available on the InternetNZ website at internetcnz.net.nz/09membersconsult

Meeting Details:

Auckland - 7.00pm, 18 February
Mercure Hotel
Auckland

Wellington - 6.00pm, 19 February
InternetNZ Office
Wellington

IPv6 progressed by Steering Group

IPv6 is shaping up to be a significant area of work for InternetNZ this year, with the Society taking part in a Steering Group helping develop a roadmap for New Zealand IPv6 deployment.

The IPv6 Steering Group was established in November 2008 and now has 20 members including representatives from telecommunications carriers, ISPs, ICT vendors, and industry and user associations.

One of the outputs of the Steering Group will be a forum, held in August or September 2009, to bring together stakeholders to formulate a plan for deployment.

The Steering Group is convened by telecommunications consultant Murray Milner and includes a mailing list group designed to focus technical discussion.

Activity on the Tech-SIG list, hosted by InternetNZ, has been fast-paced with over 220 posts since the list was initiated in January. There are 132 list members, and a variety of topics are being discussed; from general IPv6 discussion through to implementation details including Google's deployment model, and native access vs. tunneled access. There have also been specific questions asked around deployment.

The IPv6.org.nz website, also hosted by InternetNZ, has been updated and now includes an IPv6 Status Survey, giving a rough indication of IPv6 uptake in New Zealand to-date.

Tech-SIG co-convenor Dean Pemberton says the survey data has been well received and has spurred a few organizations on to some quick wins; for instance, Massey University, which has become the first and only University in New Zealand to deploy IPv6 on its production servers.

"We are on the breaking crest of the wave, with a couple of significant supply-side moves," says Pemberton. "Vocus is now peering and is advertising its IPv6 customer routes at APE, and other New Zealand ISPs will shortly be in a position to provide IPv6 services."

A Wiki that will provide meaningful deployment guidance to industry and capture mailing list discussion threads is also being planned for the website.

Members are invited to join the following mailing lists, set up for discussion of New Zealand-related IPv6 issues:

IPv6 Public Mailing List:

http://listserver.internetnz.net.nz/mailman/listinfo/ipv6_maillist

IPv6 Technical Mailing List:

<http://listserver.internetnz.net.nz/mailman/listinfo/ipv6-techsig>

NZRS appoints Chief Executive

.nz Registry Services (NZRS) has appointed Jay Daley to the newly-created Chief Executive position.



NZRS CEO Jay Daley

Jay was formerly Director of IT at Nominet UK, one of the world's leading domain name registries, and brings to the role experience in registry management, leadership and strategic management, and critical technology systems management.

One of Jay's notable recent successes has been heading the implementation of ENUM in the United Kingdom, the first diversification undertaken by Nominet UK.

Jay is married with three children and currently lives in the UK. Subject to Jay and his family meeting New Zealand residency requirements, Jay expects to be able to take up his position with NZRS in February.

Reminder to members: PAG list initiated

A reminder that InternetNZ's Policy Advisory Group (PAG) mailing list has been initiated.

The Group provides a platform for expanded membership involvement in policy issues and replaces the Public Policy and Technical Policy committees.

It will become the forum (primarily the email list) where discussions of InternetNZ public and technical policy issues will happen from now on.

When debates ensue on the PAG mailing list, staff will draw together the differing viewpoints in smaller groups and research relevant topics before reporting back through the PAG in order to derive consensus.

In addition, we will seek to convene a meeting (face to face and electronically) for PAG members on a 6 monthly basis, to provide a forum for current and developing issues.

Membership of InternetNZ is required to join the PAG and there are a very small number of current subscribers to the existing public policy and technical policy lists who are not InternetNZ members.

They are encouraged to become InternetNZ members and continue to contribute to discussions. Those whose memberships have expired will need to renew their subscriptions prior to joining the PAG list.

The list can be joined here:

<http://listserver.internetnz.net.nz/mailman/listinfo/pag>

InternetNZ calls for urgent action on copyright

In January, InternetNZ called on the Government to urgently resolve problems with Section 92A of the Copyright Act, to prevent the cutting off of Internet access to innocent people and businesses.

Executive Director Keith Davidson points to growing concern in the telecommunications and Internet industries at the proposed law, which will require the termination of Internet accounts on the basis of allegations of copyright infringement.

Davidson notes that little has been done to explain the implications of Section 92A to businesses in respect to their need to have a termination policy. "It is likely that most New Zealand businesses have never heard of Section 92A, yet any business that provides Internet access for its staff will be regarded as an ISP and will need to implement a termination policy, prior to Section 92A coming law on 28 February."

InternetNZ is a member of a Telecommunications Carriers' Forum Working Party, which is working on a termination policy so that ISPs can comply with the Act but InternetNZ is not convinced a reasonable solution can be found in the limited timeframe.

"A termination policy that meets the law will be very difficult, if not impossible to achieve, without compromising the rights of individuals and organisations to be regarded as innocent until proven guilty."

"The TCF Working Party is working in good faith, but vague wording in the new legislation, and lack of reasonable protection for those expected to enforce it, make the Working Group's task extremely difficult, and this does not bode well for the broader business community," he says.

"Section 92A should not be brought into force. If the new Government remains committed to implementing it regardless of the concerns raised by many, it should still defer the commencement of the section by at least another two months to allow for the TCF Working Party to complete its work and for the Government to begin an extensive education programme for business."

Davidson observes that even amongst right-holders the appropriateness of the new law is being questioned. A concerned group of artists has launched a petition to repeal the law saying they do not condone cutting off the Internet on the basis of allegation, despite the exhortations of the entertainment industries.

It is unreasonable to require Internet Service Providers to be unpaid policemen for the entertainment industry, with ISPs already requiring their customers to obey the law with respect to Internet usage.

"They incur real costs with international traffic and are unlikely to receive any significant economic benefit from illegal downloading activities. Let ISPs get on with the business of developing decent high speed Internet access. Don't force them to divert scarce resources into being unprotected enforcers of poor law."

events

Webstock

16 - 20 February, Wellington
webstock.org.nz

APRICOT 2009

18 - 27 February, The Philippines
apricot.net

APTLD

24 - 25 February, The Philippines
aptld.org

ComCom NGN Conference

26 - 27 February, Auckland
comcom.govt.nz

ICANN

1 - 6 March, Mexico City
icann.org

Digital Media Summit

11 - 12 March, Auckland
conferenz.co.nz

Web09

17 - 18 April, Auckland
web09.org

IPv6 for Business

20 - 21 April, Auckland
27 - 28 April, Wellington
conferenz.co.nz

National Infrastructure Summit

27 - 28 April, Wellington
conferenz.co.nz

TUANZ Telco Day

12 May, Wellington
tuanz.org.nz

PacNOG

14 - 20 June, Tahiti
pacnog.org

ICANN

21 - 26 June, Sydney
icann.org

Telcon 10

23 - 24 June, Auckland
conferenz.co.nz

RAG elections – nominations closed

Nominations for the Registrars Advisory Group (RAG) election have now closed. Those nominated are listed on the DNC website, along with a small biography for each nominee.

The nominees are Richard Clark, Simon Stokes, Andrew Scott, Daniel Williams, Stephen Hogg, Peter Mott and Rowan Smith.

As there are only three open spaces and seven nominations, an election will be held. Each .nz authorised registrar will have one vote.

For more information on the RAG group a background article has been posted at:

<http://dnc.org.nz/content//ragbackground.html>

DNCL board minutes

A meeting of the DNCL board meeting was held on Monday 15 December. The minutes of this meeting are now available. They can be viewed in either .html or .pdf format on the DNC website.

Free access at libraries

The number of libraries nationally offering free Internet access through the Aotearoa People's Network (APN) will reach 87 in the next two months.

There are 284 library sites possible, although 80-odd that are connected to large metro libraries aren't being addressed by this project.

The network provides free access both at computers and in most cases through wi-fi. According to APN manager Margaret Garland there has been a huge social impact as a result. "It's pretty major. There is more than a critical mass now on board." There are 434 personal computers connected.

The 87 libraries connected at the end of Phase 2 are in 29 local body areas. Phase 3 will enable an additional 25 sites in the next three years out of applications from 46. In total 69 of the sites will have wi-fi, and there is the ability to print locally.

Of 74 local authorities in New Zealand, 46 have libraries on the network or on the waiting list.

Uptake on the network was independently assessed in April and May 2008 with a number of positive impacts noted for both communities and libraries themselves as well suggested improvements around extending capacity, providing more privacy, and educating in respect to access restrictions.

A managed network approach is used, where Aotearoa People's Network provides and maintains the network separate from Council networks.

The network can be maintained remotely and all computers are "locked down" with antivirus and filtering and no software plug-ins allowed. Digital Cameras and USB sticks can be connected.

The first funding for the Aotearoa People's Network came from the Community Partnership Fund. The project was then picked up by the National Library as core infrastructure and \$2 million was provided from the Digital Strategy.

Existing funding will allow for three more years operation, provides for the Kete digital repository system for up to 30 websites, and some digital scanning and video recorder facilities. Further funding is being sought.



Internet users at Masterton Public Library.