

InternetNZ comments on Broadband Initiative

InternetNZ has responded to the Government's request for comment on its Broadband Investment Initiative, supporting the approach and providing feedback on a variety of policy, consultation and timing aspects.

"InternetNZ supports the broad approach outlined of an open access network providing dark fibre and some wholesale services," says Executive Director Keith Davidson. "The regional approach of Local Fibre Companies funded through a centralised investment vehicle is appropriate."

Davidson says the proposal to provide coverage to 75 percent of the population should be seen in the context of ultimately extending high speed connectivity to all New Zealanders.

Specific issues addressed by InternetNZ in its submission include:

- Implementation detail should be released as soon as possible to allow for public feedback. Proper consultation or comment periods should also be included in the proposal's timetable, to improve the prospects of a successful rollout.
- InternetNZ supports open access being a fundamental aspect of the new network's business arrangements. Open access will also need to be clearly defined.
- Price regulation will be required at the outset to increase regulatory certainty and avoid delays for when significant market power develops. An appropriate body should also be appointed for technical standards-setting.
- InternetNZ has a strong preference for point-to-point network architecture. Local Fibre Companies (LFCs) should be able to provide wholesale services, particularly if PON network architectures are chosen.
- InternetNZ would like to see a stronger separation between LFCs and vertically integrated incumbents.

PDF and HTML versions of the submission can be viewed on the InternetNZ website at: www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/

89% of businesses use broadband

Statistics New Zealand has released its 2008 Business Operations Survey, showing 89% of businesses use broadband in New Zealand. DSL is the most common connection type, used by 82% of those with broadband. 54% of businesses reported improved responsiveness to customers was an outcome of using ICT.

Making Contact

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Acting CEO appointed

InternetNZ has appointed Richard Currey as Acting CEO. The Acting CEO takes over the functions of the Executive Board, which was dissolved at the end of March.

Richard's contract runs until 31 July 2009. He is stepping down from his position as Chair of the DNCL Board, but remains as a member.

Joy Liddicoat will take over as Acting Chair of the DNCL for the duration of Richard's CEO assignment.

Richard will be responsible for oversight of the staff and managing the work of the office of the Executive Director and the Shared Services Unit.

Executive Director Keith Davidson will continue to report to the President, and will liaise and work with staff as required on advocacy and policy work. He will continue to be the principal spokesperson for InternetNZ.

The DNCL and NZRS are not directly affected by this appointment.

What is IPv6 and why the IPv6 Hui?

Planning is now underway for an IPv6 Hui in August targeted at CIOs and CTOs. This event aims to increase awareness of IPv4 exhaustion and the importance of IPv6 in network upgrades. The event organisation is overseen by an across-government and industry steering group headed by consultant Dr Murray Milner, while InternetNZ is providing support and organisational assistance.

It behoves those interested in the future of the Internet to understand what IPv6 (Internet Protocol Version 6) is all about. InternetNZ is maintaining a website at www.ipv6.org.nz with up-to-date information, from which we've pulled together this article.

Network layer

IPv6 is a network layer Internet protocol standard used to exchange data across a packet-switched Internet. It was designed as a successor to IPv4, which has served the Internet well but provides a pool of only four billion addresses that is expected to be exhausted by 2011-2012. IPv6 by contrast will provide 340 billion, billion, billion, billion addresses.

IPv6 is often called the next-generation Internet Protocol. It is designed to ensure ongoing end-to-end connectivity across the Internet. While workarounds have been able to extend the life of IPv4, they can create technical difficulties.

Broadly speaking, IPv6 is a conservative extension of IPv4. Most IPv4 transport and application layer protocols need little or no change to work over IPv6.

However, IPv6 cannot be said to be "backwards compatible" with IPv4 and so IPv6 is normally run in conjunction with

Who needs to take notice

New Zealand organisations need to position themselves to take advantage of the opportunities IPv6 offers to innovative users of the Internet and developers of new technology.

Those to benefit from implementation of IPv6 include:

- Government, health and education
- Operations, administration and management
- New technology end-users and consumers
- Defence forces and industry
- Banking and security organisations
- Research and education networks
- Transition technology strategists
- Convergence technologies like VoIP and ENUM
- Mobility and sensor network technologists
- Regional and rural interest groups
- Computer and network service providers
- Numbering and addressing organisations

Resources

With the formation of the New Zealand IPv6 Steering Group, local activity in respect to IPv6 has accelerated. The following resources have been initiated:

IPv6 Public Mailing List: for general IPv6 discussion:

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

IPv6 Technical Mailing List: for technical IPv6 discussion:

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

IPv6 Wiki: to provide meaningful deployment guidance to industry:

<http://wiki.ipv6.org.nz>

IPv4, using dual stacking or translation techniques currently under development.

This co-existence between IPv6 and IPv4 is seen as a pragmatic step forward, and the immediate requirements are for transition planning and creation of organisational and national roadmaps.

The benefits

IPv6 allows for practically unlimited IP addresses. IPv4's 4×10^9 (4 billion) addresses cannot provide every living person with an address, let alone support the growing market of connectivity devices, whereas IPv6 supports 3×10^{38} addresses.

The IPv6 header is a standardised format, simplified by allowing headers to be chained together. There are only six fields, the two 128 bit addresses for source and destination, and no options. It is much more straightforward than the IPv4 format; it produces simple headers when required, but also allows for more complicated applications to add intricacy.

Progress

Only a small percentage of live addresses in the publicly accessible Internet currently use IPv6; the large majority use IPv4. However, large scale deployments of the IPv6 protocol have already been made in Asia, North America and Europe.

Federal government agencies in the United States for instance have been required to run IPv6 since mid-2008, and the Korean government is making IPv6 mandatory in the public sector by 2010.

Example of an IPv6 address

The IPv6 address of www.ipv6.org.nz is 2402:6000:f001::50

Penguins visiting

InternetNZ is to be a leading sponsor of Linux.conf.au 2010 (LCA2010).

The annual Linux.conf.au conference will be held in January 2010 in Wellington - the second time it has been held in New Zealand. It will bring together local and international open source practitioners who contribute to the Linux operating system and numerous other open source projects. Linux creator Linus Torvalds regularly attends this event.



InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says open source has played, and continues to play, a key role in achieving InternetNZ's vision of an open and uncaptureable Internet.

"Every New Zealander that uses the Internet is an open source user. It's the backbone of almost everything business and government does these days. If you want to get close to the people that have built the core technology of the 21st century, you go to conferences like LCA2010. I'm thrilled it is being held right on our doorstep."

As part of its mission, InternetNZ seeks to improve technical knowledge and capability in New Zealand and has in recent years sponsored and hosted other such international technical fora.

"Our sponsorship of LCA2010 is in expectation that a significant proportion of attendees will be New Zealanders and for the benefits that will accrue to the country and its Internet infrastructure."

"We are delighted to be a significant sponsor of LCA2010. Even if you are new to open source, attending this event will help build your technical skills and understanding of how open source works," says Davidson.

Further conference details can be found at www.lca2010.org.nz.

InternetNZ to feature at Tel.Con 10

InternetNZ President Pete Macaulay and Deputy Executive Director Jordan Carter are among the speakers at the upcoming Tel.Con 10 telecommunications and ICT conference.

Macaulay will present on 'InternetNZ and Ubiquitous Connectivity', outlining work done by the Society to-date and what the Government's recent fibre infrastructure announcements are likely to deliver. He will also speak on the importance of regional networks.

Carter will sit on a panel examining fibre and whether it is 'the answer to New Zealand's broadband prayers'. Other panelists include TelstraClear Regulatory Manager Chris Abbott, Orcon CEO Scott Bartlett and Chris Dyhrberg from Chorus.

The conference is being held in Auckland on 23 - 24 June 2009.

events

GOVIS 2009

20—22 May, Wellington
govis.org.nz

PacNOG

14—20 June, Tahiti
pacnog.org

INZ Council Meeting

19 June
internetnz.net.nz

ICANN

21—26 June, Sydney
icann.org

Tel.Con 10

23—24 June, Auckland
conferenz.co.nz

APAN

20—23 July, Kuala Lumpur
apan.net

InternetNZ AGM

31 July, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

InternetNZ Council Meeting

21 August, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

IPv6 Hui

19 August Christchurch / 20 August, Auckland /
21 August, Wellington
ipv6.org.nz

APNIC28

24—28 August, Beijing
apnic.net

InternetNZ Council Meeting

14 October, Wellington
internetnz.net.nz

ICANN: Asia

25—30 October, Seoul
icann.org

IGF 2009

15—18 November, Egypt
intgovforum.org

LCA2010 (Linux.conf.au)

18—23 January, Wellington
lca2010.org.nz

Privacy Policy review

The DNC has been reviewing the Privacy Policy. This policy relates to the collection and use of personal information to effectively operate the DNS.

Only personal information that is directly related to the function of the .nz register, and that is necessary for, or directly related to this functioning, will be collected. This is in line with other Internet domain name registration services worldwide.

No operational issues have been identified with the current policy. It is being reviewed as part of the regular, ongoing review of .nz policies.

Submissions are published at www.dnc.org.nz/pri-review.

.nz Statistics

A breakdown of the financial year end .nz statistics has been published on the DNC website at: http://dnc.org.nz/content/apr_09_newsletter.pdf.

In 2008-2009 there was a marked lower net annual increase along with a lower net monthly increase in domain name registrations in comparison with previous financial years.

However there was a steady increase in the total names in the .nz space, with an additional 28,708 names during 2008-2009.

DNS Specialist sought

NZRS is looking for a DNS Systems Specialist/Systems Administrator. The role includes day-to-day support and management of NZRS' DNS infrastructure and research, planning and implementing DNS system upgrades/additions.

The position requires a thorough understanding of the DNS, particularly with respect to the BIND name server software.

At least three years experience in a systems administrator role is required. Applicants must also have strong skills in UNIX and networking and enjoy diversity and challenge.

Interested applicants should enquire via e-mail to recruitment@nzrs.net.nz.

2009 Cyberlaw Fellow presents research

2009 InternetNZ Cyberlaw fellow Cynthia LaBerge presented her primary research findings to a meeting of Victoria University and InternetNZ attendees on 27 April.



Cynthia LaBerge

Her research has been on changes to the status of individual privacy rights in the post-September 11th world.

Cynthia's main focus has been on the United States and its responses, in terms of data matching, to heightened perceived threats to law and order or national security from terrorist activity.

A number of data-sharing and data-mining initiatives that threaten privacy rights have been introduced in the United States post 9-11. LaBerge says these initiatives need to be monitored to protect privacy and there needs to be some degree of transparency and effective oversight.

The initiatives, carried out in the name of 'national security', include expanded wiretapping by the NSA, the mandatory collection and retention of PNR (Passenger Name Records) and analysis of SWIFT records.

A records sharing agreement has been struck between the United States and the EU, and the EU has signed a sharing agreement with Australia.

Call for nominations: The Jonathan B. Postel Service Award

The Internet Society (ISOC) has called for nominations for the 2009 Jonathan B. Postel Service Award, an annual award for an individual or an organization that has made outstanding contributions in service to the data communications community.

The 2009 award will be presented at the 75th Internet IETF meeting in Stockholm, Sweden, on July 26-31, 2009. It includes a presentation crystal and a prize of USD 20,000. The deadline for nominations is 29 May 2009.

The award is named for Dr. Jonathan B. Postel to recognize and commemorate the extraordinary stewardship exercised by Jon over the course of a thirty year career in networking. He served as the editor of the RFC series of notes from its inception in 1969 until 1998.

He also served as the ARPANET "numbers Czar" and managed the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority function over the same period of time. He was a founding member of the Internet Architecture (nee Activities) Board and the first individual member of the Internet Society, where he also served as a Trustee.