

ID Tracker States: An Internet Draft's Path Through the IESG

Thomas Narten

narten@us.ibm.com

Atlanta IETF

2002-11-20

Introduction

- “ID Tracker” tool shows state of IDs on IESG's plate
- <https://datatracker.ietf.org/public/pidtracker.cgi>
- Under development for more than a year
- Under general use by IESG 6 +/- months
- Still under development/refinement

Primary Benefits

- Keeps track of all IDs on IESG's plate
- Public view of each document's state (and history)
- Clearly identify who has action token for next steps
- Reduce confusion about an ID's actual status
- Public access to any IESG comments
- Reduce possibility of “losing” documents (as has sometimes happened in the past...)

Work-Flow Model of ID Processing

- All documents travel along well-defined path through system
- Path reflected as state machine; each state:
 - Indicates what the next step is
 - Who has the action
 - What events move document to another state

ID States

- Within ID tracker, documents are:
 - Always in exactly one state
 - May also be in a sub state (providing more detail)
 - May include a “note” field with additional explanation

Where IDs Start

- WG documents, individual submissions, etc.
- In one of two states:
 - ID Exists - means just that
 - AD is Watching - document is in ID Tracker for easy tracking by AD

State: Publication Requested

- Via formal request from WG (via Section 7.5 of RFC 2418, plus cc iesg-secretary@ietf.org)
- Via a submission directly to RFC editor
- Via a direct request to an AD
- Additional details:
 - Need to assign a shepherding AD
 - Need to assign to an area
 - no action has been taken by AD yet

State: AD Evaluation

- AD has begun review process:
 - Is intended status right? (Info? Experimental? Proposed Standard? BCP?)
 - Is Last Call needed?
 - Is expert review needed? (e.g., MIB doctor, security, etc.)
 - ID Nits taken care of?
 - Has AD convinced herself that document is ready for next step?

State: Expert Review

- AD may ask someone else to review
- Perhaps needs review from particular angle
 - Operational impacts?
 - Security?
 - Something else?
- Comments from review may result in:
 - Additional discussion with WG/authors
 - Need for revision

State: Last Call Requested

- Last Call is required for Standards Track or BCP documents
- *MAY* be requested if broad review/notice is needed
- AD makes formal request when document is really ready

State: In Last Call

- Last Call has actually started
- Last Call message has been sent to ietf-announce
- Now just waiting for LC to end

State: Waiting For Writeup

- Protocol Actions include explanation of action
- Sent out if/when document is approved
- Written up by AD for rest of IESG to read as part of the (soon-to-happen) full IESG review

State: Waiting for AD Go-Ahead

- Comments/issues may arise during Last Call
- Additional discussion may be needed (or still be on going)
- Revision of document may be needed
- AD needs to ensure document really is ready for formal consideration by entire IESG
- When ready, AD requests document be put on IESG agenda for full IESG review

State: IESG Evaluation

- The entire IESG is (finally!) reviewing the document
- Each AD reviews and brings up any issues
- For standards track, a formal Evaluation records issues and ensures each AD has expressed an opinion

State: Defer

- An AD wanted more time to review
- Invoked no more than once, the first time a document appears on agenda

Document Approved States

- State: Approved - Announcement to be Sent
 - IESG has approved the document
 - Secretariat needs to send out the announcement
- State: RFC Ed Queue
 - document is recorded in queue at <http://www.rfc-editor.org/queue.html>
- State: RFC Published
 - RFC has been published!

Do Not Published States

- State: DNP - Waiting for AD Note
 - Sometimes, IESG concludes that a document just shouldn't be published
 - Pretty rare in practice
 - More often, we say “document has the following problems, not suitable to be published in current form”.
 - Reason for DNP needs to be written up
- State: DNP - Announcement to be Sent
 - DNP note has been written up
- State DNP – Announcement Sent
 - Note has been sent to author

Sub States

- For some states, state itself is too coarse to really describe state sufficiently
- Sub state provides finer grain of explanation
- Similar sub states apply to many states, e.g.:
 - IESG Evaluation
 - AD Evaluation

Sub-State:

Point Raised - Writeup Needed

- One or more ADs has an issue
- Point needs to be written up
- Decision to formally raise a “discuss” often made only after voice telechat discussion
- Writeup produced shortly after telechat

Sub-State: AD Follow up

- AD holds token for determining next steps, but next steps are unclear
- May be discussing issues within WG
- May need to ascertain whether WG/author response addresses concern or question
- May need to get feedback from another AD
- Lots of different possible reasons why actual state is unclear

Sub-State: Revised ID Needed

- Determination has been made that revised ID is needed

Sub-State: External Party

- Review or followup from External party needed (i.e., someone other than Author or AD)
- See “note” field for more details