

NANOG Panel Discussion

**Dan Alexander
Comcast Cable**

10/19/2009

One point of view on ARIN IPv6 policies

ARIN policies and IPv6 mandates

- Some have suggested ARIN policies should mandate IPv6 deployment upon future requests for IPv4 resources.
- ARIN should strive for consistent RIR policies that facilitate growth without trying to mandate the direction and evolution of the Internet.
- IPv6 deployment is underway, despite the current lack of visibility.

While frustration is understandable...

Much attention is focused on the lack of visible IPv6 deployments

- My ISP does not offer it.
- My favorite web site is not available.
- My vendor does not support it.

...it is a matter of priorities...

The reality is that finance and business requirements are primary drivers of Internet evolution.

- It requires significant resources for vendors to integrate IPv6 into products and services.
- It requires significant resources for companies to upgrade networks.
- Most businesses operate on business cycles that span years.

...And timing.

The state of IPv6 deployment might be looked at in a different way.

- IPv6 deployments are increasing even though most calculations estimate there is still a two year supply of IPv4 resources.
- While it is not prudent to wait until IPv4 resources have been depleted, it is also not a good investment to bear the burden of upgrades in the next one or two quarters.
- The current lack of IPv6 deployment visibility does not imply that all companies are ignoring the problem.

IPv6 is being deployed

- Comcast currently connects with other networks using IPv6 and this number continues to grow.
- Comcast is currently running IPv6 trials and they will continue into 2010.
- It will be helpful if more organizations come forward and offer up their progress on deploying IPv6 connectivity. The Internet community needs better visibility to reduce concerns about the current state of the Internet and assist in planning.
- The message should not be, “No one is doing anything about IPv6 and it’s all going to crash.” A more accurate message might be, “IPv6 is being deployed. If you aren’t already working on it you will need to catch up if you want to keep up.”