

Wanna Buy a /24?

The Coming IPv4 (Black?) Market

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Disclaimer

I am speaking only for my self and any opinions expressed in this talk or the following discussion are my own and may not represent those of ESnet, Berkeley Lab, or the U.S Government.

(I doubt that they actually have opinions on these matters...yet.)

It's Going to Happen!

- It already is happening
- If you have a commodity or anything that has value, someone will be interested in buying it, legally or otherwise
- If the commodity is in short supply and is essential to doing business, the price will grow to the point where someone will sell

Prohibition Does Not Work!

- How badly it works is proportional to the level of demand (not the volume)
 - E.g. Addictive commodities generate strong demand
- Simply creates a “criminal” organization
- Has failed against alcohol and is failing against drugs
- Is expensive
- Often causes problems far worse than those caused by the prohibition

We Have a Choice

- Black market
 - Ad-hoc
 - No oversight
 - Rules made up on the fly (anarchic)
- White market
 - Established with reasonably “fair” rules
 - Managed by “responsible” parties

Summary

When a /18 stands between you and the continued existence of your business, would you buy an address block on the black market?