The early days

**End of 1991:**

- The German .de NIC-function was in danger of being taken away from the University of Dortmund and being moved into German Telekom or into one of the then existing regulation bodies run by government.
- A bunch of people from universities, ISPs and research bodies came together to form a group making sure the de-NIC stays independent from government.
- Discussion and some preparatory meetings.
Start as DIGI

1992

DIGI is founded officially as German „Verein“

betr.: Ihr Beitritt

Liebe DIGI-Mitglieder,

Wir heißen Sie herzlich willkommen in der Deutschen Interessen-Gemeinschaft Internet e.V. (DIGI e.V.) und bestätigen hiermit Ihre Beitrittserklärung als institutionelles / persönliches / studentisches Mitglied.

An dieser Stelle möchten wir Sie über die aktuelle Situation informieren:

1) DIGI e.V. ist mit Wirkung vom 13.08.92 ins Vereinsregister München VR 13986 eingetragen.
2) Die Vorbereitungen für die DIGI-Konferenz "OPENNET" (9. - 12.11.92) sind in vollem Gange. Die Einladungen wurden bereits per e-mail verteilt. Falls Sie diese nicht erhalten haben, wenden Sie sich bitte an die obige Adresse, mit der Bitte um Zusendung (elektronisch / per Fax / per "gelber Post").
3) Die Vorbereitungen zur Absicherung der DE-NIC- Betriebs laufen ebenfalls.

Schließlich erlauben wir uns, Ihnen in der Anlage die Rechnung für den Jahresbeitrag 1992 zuzusenden, auf der vermerkt ist, ob die Zahlung bereits erfolgt ist, oder noch offen steht.
Start of DIGI

1993:

- Preparation of the bidding for .de NIC finished
- The NIC for the TLD .DE was now technically handled by University of Karlsruhe and financially by a consortium of the largest three ISPs in Germany with DIGI as an observer
- First OPENNET conference with Internet tutorials run by DIGI
ISOC Chapter

- 1994 official decision to apply as an ISOC chapter
- 1995 recognition as chapter
- 1996 formal renaming
  - Internet Society German Chapter e.V. (ISOC.DE e.V.)
  - membership fee
  - Member benefits:
    - Website with blog and information www.isoc.de
    - Half price access to all conferences by ISOC.DE
    - Personal email address xxx@isoc.de
The conferences:
- 1993 München
- 1994 München
- 1995 Göttingen
  with keynote by Frode Greisen ISOC
- 1996 Berlin
  with keynotes from Phil Zimmermann - PGP and Don Heath ISOC
- 1997 Berlin
- 1998 Potsdam
- 1999 Bad Honnef

A series of conferences with one to three days of tutorials and high class technical presentations

At peak over 600 paying guests

Always combined with our yearly plenary member meeting

Run out of success in 2000/2001 when finally everybody in Germany believed to know enough about the Internet to jump onto the already bursting Internet bubble
August 11-15 1997

- Munich
- Hosted by ISOC-Germany Chapter
  - Pooled sponsors
  - Provided terminal room with 40 PCs, 20 Unix workstations, 4 printers and power + Ethernet-plugs for 120 machines
  - Provided the first wireless network in Germany covering a beer-garden
  - Was run completely by volunteers
Conferences by ISOC.DE

- **2004 IETF round-table**
  - for German speaking IETF interested people
  - Platform to prepare locally oriented input
  - Give people a chance to learn how to interact with the IETF

- **2008 Data Retention discussion**
  - Dialog between government and technically oriented people
  - Data retention – possibilities and potential dangers
  - As add-on to a RIPE-meeting in Berlin
How the Networks came to Germany

- 2006 One day of the German network history
  - > 200 attendees
  - Bringing together all parts of network history relevant to Germany
  - In cooperation with „Haus der Geschichte“ (Museum of German History) in Bonn

- ISOC.DE History project
  - We collect materials of German network history
  - We interview network pioneers in Germany and document their achievements
  - Ongoing effort sponsored by ISOC.DE
Improving contacts to government

- Taking the discussion about ACTA as a starter we wrote last summer a letter to the ministry of Commerce to indicate our opinion that there needs to be more public discussion around internet topics in Germany.

- When (very late) the discussion about WCIT started in Germany, ISOC.DE was invited by government into the small circle from industry and public policy makers to define the German position during the WCIT session in Dubai.

- ISOC.DE opposed together with others strongly the initial positions found in the ETNO paper and supported initially by German government. This effort was part of a broader movement which finally changed the position of the German delegation.

- After Dubai we were invited to a follow-up meeting looking into the results from Dubai.

- Since then ISOC.DE is regularly invited by the government to all preparatory and follow-up-meetings regarding ICANN, ITU or IGF related matters.
IETF pre Conference 2013

„Wer macht das Internet“
- a one day conference April 2013 in Berlin
- Highlighting the importance of the IETF
- Targeting especially people from government involved in standardization and Internet policy
- Organized in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology
  - Parliamentary State Secretary as speaker
  - Keynotes from former IAB chair and from IETF-AD

Positive acceptance
- Audience > 50, many from parliament and governmental offices
- Several good press articles
- invitations and meetings about further working contacts with the ministry
The future

- ISOC.DE needs new people
  - 60 members is not enough
  - Less than 12 really active members is not sustaining
  - We need more younger people
  - We try to keep our high standards in membership quality

- Ideas?
- Proposals?
- Questions?
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