IETF Trust Report

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ISOC Board of Trustees Meeting, August 2013
No Changes

- The IETF Trust Agreement has not been modified since its execution on December 15, 2005
License & Rights Requests

- Request for derivative work permission related to IETF IPR Policy
  - (Received 7/25/2013 - Resolved 7/31/2013)

- Request to quote from RFC 2702 in a book
  - (Received 7/11/2013 - Resolved 7/25/2013)

- Request to license Tao under Creative Commons
  - (Received 6/18/2013 - Not Resolved)

- Copyright Question related to publishing RFC 6933
  - (Received 5/20/2013 - Resolved 5/22/2013)
Subpoenas & Legal Requests

- Apple and International Trade Commission (January 2013; Required a Deposition)

- Details: [http://iaoc.ietf.org/subpoenas.html](http://iaoc.ietf.org/subpoenas.html)
Requesting Feedback

- We are currently requesting feedback from the IETF community on several items that may need to be addressed with updated language in the trust agreement document.
  - We have received requests that we can not accommodate and consulted legal counsel on this matter.
  - The trust agreement does not allow the trustees to effectively manage some trust assets.
Issue #1

- We have recently been asked permission to republish the TAO with a creative commons license, but unfortunately the current trust agreement does not give the trustees the rights to do this
  - Without specific language being added to the trust agreement, we cannot grant these types of requests
  - The current open request for a creative commons license from 6/18/2013 cannot be completed
Issue #2

- We cannot currently accept physical assets like hardware donations into the trust
  - Once accepted into the trust, we would be unable to dispose of these items in the future if they are identified as no longer being needed
  - This removes flexibility in managing assets in the trust, and we currently use alternative methods of accepting donations outside of the trust
Issue #3

- Once a domain name or trademark is registered by the trust, it cannot be abandoned even if it is no longer needed
  - We must maintain these in perpetuity
Requesting Feedback

- We will pose these questions to the IETF community to see if they feel these are reasonable reasons to update the trust agreement

- Next Steps:
  - Email to community soliciting input
Thank You!
Backup Slides
What is the IETF Trust?

- The IETF Trust was founded by CNRI and the Internet Society (AKA the Settlors).
  - Also see BCP 78 / RFC 5378.
- It exists to hold intellectual and other property of the IETF “for the advancement of the science and technology associated with the Internet and related technology.”
- It has a legal existence as a Trust in the Commonwealth of Virginia.
- There are 9 Trustees, the members of the IAOC.
- The Trustees have a fiduciary duty to protect the IETF’s property!
The IETF Trust Legal Provisions

- The IETF Trust is currently operating under Trust Legal Provisions (TLP) 4.0.
  - Effective Date: December 15, 2009

- These can be found at
  
  http://trustee.ietf.org/docs/IETF-Trust-License-Policy.pdf