

RIPE

Solving The Unsolvable



Recent issues

- Over last few years many DB issues brought up and stalled
- Currently 7 Numbered Work Items (NWIs)
- 5 NWIs still at Problem Definition Stage
- 4 NWIs have less than 5 comments from only 3 people



Other issues raised include:

- Locking 700k+ personal data items in DB
- Implementing UTF8 in the DB
- To password or not
- Validation of contact data - once, repeated, never
- Personalised authorisation
- Public vs private data in DB
- Is stale data still valid?



Timing

- Issues often brought up just before RIPE Meetings
- Some strong views expressed during meeting
- Often quickly forgotten straight after meeting
- Issues not resolved, brought up again and again over time



No progress

- Even what seem to be relatively straightforward issues never concluded
- Continued use of DB as White Pages Directory
- Continued use of geolocation and language features



What now?

- What do you do when you can't see the way forward?
- **MOVE!!!**
 - to a new position
- Direction, distance don't matter - just move
- From a new position, you may see way ahead
- Stay way you are and you continue to NOT see any way ahead



Options

- Ultimately only 3 options with any problem:
 - Change/replace/fix something
 - Accept it's a problem and live with it
 - Decide it's no longer/never was a problem, drop it



Way ahead...

- Take an issue
- Discuss it
- Make a decision
- Implement decision..even if that is just to document it
- Move on with life...



Questions?

