

Regional Coordinators Meeting

2024-05-23

Notes compiled by: Adam Lewis, TAC Lead, KC7GDY

Notes reviewed by:

- Rosy Schechter, Executive Director, KJ7RYV
- Rebecca Key, Communications Manager, KO4KVG

Present

ARDC Staff, Contractors, & TAC Members

- Rosy Schechter, KJ7RYV
- Chris Smith, G1FEF
- Merideth Stroh, KK7BKI
- Rebecca Key, KO4KVG
- Tim Pozar, KC6GNJ
- Adam Lewis, KC7GDY
- Rich Gopstein, KD2CQ
- Dave Gingrich, K9DG

Coordinators

- Boudewijn (Bob) Tenty VE3TOK
- Charles J. Hargrove N2NOV
- Jerry DeLong KD4YAL
- Toshiyuki (Tom) Mabuchi JF3LGC
- Ken Adlam KD6OAT
- Ronnie Montgomery W0RDM
- David Ranch KI6ZHD
- Bill Lewis KG6BAJ
- Bjorn Pehrson SA0BXI

Agenda:

Welcome, Housekeeping, intros
Thanks, everyone for joining the meeting
Discussion: New Portal, Role of Regional Coordinators
Get input from Coordinators
Next Repeat meeting
Record meeting
Next meeting time & date



Links:

- Meeting recording: <https://vimeo.com/949673707>
- Slides:
<https://www.ardc.net/wp-content/uploads/2024-05-23-regional-coordinator-meeting-slides.pdf>

Wrap up Discussion (action):

- Next meeting: TBD; new Poll to come.
- Chris to do a Portal Demo video
- Make List of all Coordinators
 - Which coordinator administers which /16 allocations
 - Find out if they are still active
- Need to create Policy & Documentation (below)

Documentation / Policy Needed:

- Create Portal Management Manual
- Answer Concerns from below discussion.
- Address Verification process
- Level of Trust Policy (LoT)
- What is the preferred DNS subdomain? e.g., Call sign; are other formats allowed?
- Described how to change the prefix to Open to allow requests.
- Define role of regional coordinators
- How do coordinators become a coordinator, how are they selected?
- How to onboard and define backup coordinators, especially when they have gone silent
- What is the process to move coordination management to a new person?
- Are allocations Regional or global?
 - Am I able to give allocations to other regions?



Items reviewed:

- Problems being solved with the new Portal
 - Need more than 1 person to administer the portal
 - Administrator accounts
 - Ticketing
 - Ensure the identity of people who are requesting and using addresses
 - DNS
 - Organize database and connect DNS to a user
 - Proposal: create a system that refers to call sign / easily connects DNS entry to the person who created it
 - e.g. www.qz9abc.ampr.org
 - Keep entries tidy, removing them as they become stale or no longer having an account.
- Coordinators note that they have challenges doing what they need to do
- Backlog of tickets
 - Volunteers
 - Confidentiality agreement for coordinators
- Need to develop SOP together for role and responsibilities of regional coordinators
- Draft Level of Trust Policy (LoT)
 - Never have we verified 44net users, are really active licensed ham
 - No visibility to sub-assignments from main subnet
 - Proposal: verify with least amount of info possible
 - Level 1 <= /25 Name first/last; callsign; email
 - Level 2 >= /24 Same as above + address verification

Collaboration Discussion:

- Need to define the process & policies that we want to use with the portal going forward.
- How would coordinators like to be involved with the new portal?
 - Regional allocations & Ticket support
- Would you like to see a regular meeting where we can work on SOP together
 - Yes, we will do another poll to determine good times.
- DNS
 - What type of DNS subdomain entries should be used?
 - Each coordinator had own way to do, this should be made standardized
 - Preferred syntax is to use callsign as subdomain.
 - Needs to be discussed further.
- How is verification of addresses being done on the new portal?
 - Have been verifying via upload images for ID
 - If uploaded, info is removed after approval.
 - Alternatively do zoom, visually verifying the person.
 - Show ID to confirm name/address matches what is in the portal.
 - Some users not comfortable with giving ID (on either Zoom or upload) but ok with utility bill



- Postcard? (esp for folks who have privacy concerns about uploading an ID)
 - Not a bad Idea
 - Concerned about delays it would introduce
 - Can we automate using global databases that are accessible I.E. QRZ
 - We can, but which database should be used.
 - There is differences between Countries
 - Why do we validate users for BGP?
 - Portal get lots of bogus requests, looking to reduce number of non-valid requests
 - Note: Need to be able to get a hold of the user if there are any issues such as if a prefix is causing problems on the internet.
- What is the role of regional coordinators going forward?
 - Is It now a pool, or do I still have the ability to do regional allocations?
 - Still have regional coordination of /16's
 - Can still manage their allocation; coordinators need to change the prefix to OPEN to allow users to request.
 - Is BGP still a regional coordinator process?
 - Both, you can request from global range and regional pool ranges
 - Has my role become closed?
 - Coordinators not going away
 - Using shared administrator roles to help where coordinators are not responsive
 - Note: Tickets can now be answered by a pool of coordinators and reassigned if needed.
 - Need to determine what is needed to maintain coordinators.
 - Need to describe how to change the prefix to open to allow requests.
 - Coordinator Concerns:
 - Need to assist users
 - Need clear delegation of authority
 - There was no input from coordinators before moved with new portal
 - Am I able to give allocations to other regions?
 - You can open your allocation so users can request
 - Need to determine policy, currently, some coordinators have been denying If request is out of area, and directing to a different prefix
 - Why are allocations defaulted to private?:
 - Was used to determine who is still active.
 - If coordinators activate to OPEN, will signify they are still active
 - There was no visibility to who coordinated what, now we can keep track
 - Why not default to open?
 - Reason not setting allocation to Default to open was it wouldn't be appropriate for all allocations.
 - New method also allows users to open their own allocations to others such as VPN for IP addresses.
 - Once a coordinator sets the prefix to OPEN, what has changed from the old portal?
 - Ticket is now created to interact with users with more granularity.
 - We now have more of a paper trail of allocation in new portal
 - How to toggle allocation on/off for public/open vs private?
 - There are help symbols “?” on each page with some descriptions.
 - Chris to make a portal demo video to describe processes.



- Can coordinators have input into the new policy?
 - We will get policy viewed/vetted by as many as possible.
 - Doing discussion via zoom will have more impact than email
 - To discuss in future coordinators meetings.
 - Want all voices to be heard.
 - Some would like final decisions for coordinators to be done by people instead of the board.
- What is the plan for IP coordination?
 - Need to determine who are folks involved and talk with TAC to define how we are going forward.
 - Having open conversation and transparency over zoom will help determine this going forward in determining what is going on.
 - Some Coordinators have used Portal as master with excel spreadsheet as backup.
 - New portal allows all info to be put in directly.
 - When is a policy going to be done, and what is that policy (TBD)
- Are IP allocations going to be regional / non-regional?
 - Current method is by region
 - Generic BGP is moving to specific Allocations and (additional prefixes added as they fill)
 - BGP is currently spread across the entire spectrum, looking to move to consolidated prefixes where possible.
 - Makes it easier to manage to move BGP into defined blocks.
 - What are limitations for what we can allocate based on region
 - What Block size?
 - If you have /16 you can allocate up to /17
 - Upper and lower limits can now be set In CIDR min/max
- I've tried to make allocation public, Why am I unable to make my allocation open?
 - There is a description field that also needs to be completed to change settings.
 - Descriptions from old portal is now moved to Notes(private)
 - Description is publicly viewable, Notes are Private to coordinator.
 - Need to clarify this Note vs Description, due to confusion.
 - What goes in description field of Allocation such as /16
 - This is a usage definition.
 - You can provide info on use cases.
 - No current set definition, left to coordinators to define
- How can a person request BGP from my coordinated allocation?
 - If your request comes from main page, it goes to Global request
 - If a user wants BGP from the regional allocation, they need to go directly to that region's allocation.
- On prefix allocation, what is "use case" for?:
 - It defines the internal usage of Allocation range
 - A Range will not be able to used with IPIP without setting as "IPIP tunnel mesh"
 - Use case is: Set when subnet is allocated
- How did coordinators become coordinators, how were they selected?
 - They asked Brian Kantor, and volunteered.
 - For new coordinators, we need to make procedures to onboard others.
 - It might be helpful to assign backups



- If a user requests allocation from a range, and if they re-request from a different allocation, will it auto delete the old ticket.
 - No, the user needs to close the ticket on their own. Or Coordinator denies and closes ticket.
- Does current portal have the ability to allow multiple users manage one region
 - Yes possible, setup organization and add users to organization.

- Some concerns / questions that need further addressing:
 - Are BGP allocations going outside of regional subnets?
 - Should it be done regionally?
 - Some would like BGP regional allocations instead of Global
 - Don't like Prefix moving due to the difficulty of renumbering
 - What happens when an IP prefix is assigned to a user and they move to a different region?
 - Do we need to redo with a new prefix or can they keep it?
 - Some coordinators would like to have regional and have user re-request
 - What is the process to move management of an allocation to a new person?
 - Would like backup coordinators, especially when they have gone silent
 - How do we select coordinators and backups; Who are the backups?

