



RIPE NCC

RIPE NETWORK COORDINATION CENTRE

Operational Update RIPE Database

RIPE NCC Database Team

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The RIPE NCC Database Team





Progress Since RIPE 85

Whois Releases



- Whois 1.105 (December)
 - NWI-19: Change to AS-SET object naming rules (only create hierarchical as-sets)
- Whois 1.106 (February)
 - NWI-19: Implement AS-SET for RIPE-NONAUTH source
 - NWI-12: Initial NRTMv4 implementation (snapshots)
 - RDAP improvements
- Whois 1.106.1 (April)
 - NWI-12: NRTMv4 improvements (deltas and notification file)
 - RDAP improvements

Whois Outages



- From 28-29 December, large Whois mail updates messages were not processed, due to a misconfiguration during a server migration.
- On 23 March, the NRTM service was unreachable between 15:03 - 15:22 (UTC+1) due to a load balancer misconfiguration.
- From 7-10 April, there were intermittent interruptions to the Whois query service due to spikes in RDAP queries.
- Check <https://status.ripe.net/> for outages

Whois Features - Statistics



- 2017-02 Regular Abuse-c Validation
 - **93K** abuse-c addresses, **55K** to be validated this year (on track)
- 2018-06 “RPKI” NONAUTH Route(6) Cleanup
 - Deleted **147** route(6) objects since RIPE85
- “Unregistered Prefix” NONAUTH Route(6) Cleanup
 - Deleted **77** route(6) objects since RIPE85
- NWI-8 (Synchronise LIR Portal users to Default Maintainer)
 - **1,486** LIR organisations synchronising users (less than RIPE85)
- NWI-9 (Open NRTM Service)
 - **863** distinct client IPs using NRTM in May 2022 (3x more than RIPE85)

Database Cleanups



- NWI-19 “Change to AS-SET object naming rules”
 - Updated **76** AS-SET objects "source:" attribute to “RIPE-NONAUTH”
 - Matches the AUT-NUM “source:”
 - Notified maintainers
- Unlocked Resources
 - Set default maintainer on **438** ASSIGNED PA and **13** LEGACY resources
 - Previously locked due to the deprecation of the NONE authentication scheme in 2004
 - Notified maintainers

Operational Work



- Support greylisted responses in abuse-c email validation
- Protect secrets in deploy pipeline
- Improve password rotation

Web Application



- Making the Web application Open Source
 - Removed identifying data from tests
 - External security review (planned)

RIPE Database Documentation



- Migrating existing documentation to its own website
 - Separate open source repository maintained by DB team
 - Uses Markdown syntax for text; build pipeline to generate & deploy static site
- In Progress
 - Migrating documentation from across the website
 - Redirects in place from previous locations

RDAP



- Redirect RDAP inverse domain queries to authoritative source
- Implement "networks" and "autnums" elements in RDAP entity response
- Don't return as-block for aut-num query (flat model)
- Include description in error responses
- Order elements alphabetically
- Events and notices

Full Text Search API



- Switched Full Text Search engine to Elasticsearch
 - Better availability for API (clustering) and Whois reliability (separate process)
 - Faster development (not tied to Whois releases)
- Improved Full Text Search API
 - Features no longer tied to web application
 - Raised per-request limit from 100 to 10,000 objects
 - Removed 10 page request limit
 - Bug fixes
- Improving Documentation (in progress)

Full Text Search API: Examples



- API endpoint is <https://rest.db.ripe.net/fulltextsearch/select>
- XML or JSON response
- Query for string in most attributes
 - Example “[q=AS3333](#)”
- Limit by object type and attribute
 - Example “[q=\(import:\(AS3333\)\)%20AND%20\(object-type:aut-num\)](#)”
- Pagination
 - Example “[q=\(AS3333\)&start=10&rows=10](#)”



Numbered Work Items

NWI - Progress Since RIPE85



- NWI-4 “Role of status: field in multivalued status context”
 - Published impact analysis for NWI-4 in December 2022
 - Propose to add new status “ALLOCATED-ASSIGNED PA”
 - Drawback of combined status is that LIR and end user cannot share object
 - Cannot add both LIR and end user organisations to resource
 - LIR and End User cannot co-maintain object
 - **Is this acceptable to the DB-WG?**
 - Alternative is to use a tuple of {inet(6)num, status} attributes as the primary key, similar to route(6)
 - Drawback is clients need to use tuple to query for the correct object

NWI - Progress Since RIPE85



- NWI-10 “Definition of Country”
 - Populated “country:” Attribute for End User Organisations
 - Country code taken from legal address of the organisation
 - For ~20K organisations with resources allocated or assigned by the RIPE NCC
 - Changes synchronised from internal registry
 - Country code is now **editable** in organisations without co-maintained resources
 - Consistent with other attributes
 - What it means is not defined

NWI - Progress Since RIPE85



- NWI-12 “NRTMv4”
 - Contributed to NRTMv4 draft RFC document
 - Server-side implementation in RC environment for testing
 - Available at <https://nrtm-rc.db.ripe.net/nrtmv4/>
 - RIPE database <https://nrtm-rc.db.ripe.net/nrtmv4/RIPE/update-notification-file.json>
 - Links to latest snapshot and delta files
 - Not enabled in production yet (not feature complete)
 - Working on signing notifications and key rotation
 - Also CDN setup
 - Upcoming client-side implementation (IRRd)

NWI - Progress Since RIPE85



- NWI-14 “Protecting References to Objects in the RIPE Database”
 - Add “mnt-ref:” as an optional, multiple attribute to mntner, irt, person, role object types
 - Works in same way as for organisation
 - Published Solution Definition and Impact Analysis (May 2023)
 - Implementation in upcoming Whois release

NWI - Progress Since RIPE85



- NWI-19 “Change to AS-SET object naming rules”
 - Do not allow short format AS-SETs to be created (e.g. “AS-SOMETHING”)
 - Only hierarchical AS-SETs can be created (e.g. “AS3333:AS-SOMETHING”)
 - Authentication with AUT-NUM mntner is required
 - Existing short format AS-SETs are unaffected
 - AS-SETs referencing NONAUTH AUT-NUM have NONAUTH source



Upcoming Changes

Upcoming Changes



- Client Certificate Authentication (HTTPS)
 - Moving TLS from loadbalancer to backend Whois servers
 - Allows us to better support client certificates
- Cleanup “remarks:” Attributes
 - ERX Transfer (2002)
 - References by names (2003)
 - NONE authentication deprecated (2004)
 - “rev-srv:” attribute deprecated (2009)

Upcoming Changes - RDAP Features



- RDAP Redacted Fields

- Identify redacted RDAP response fields (e.g. mntner upd-to:, notify:, mnt-nfy:)
- RIPE NCC RDAP implementation uses redaction by removal

- RDAP RIR Search

- Can already search for entities (e.g. org-name, person, role) in RDAP
- This RFC defines cross-RIR compatible syntax for resource search
- Search for inet(6)num by netname, search for aut-nums by as-name
- Relation search (e.g. find parent or child) for inet(6)num, aut-num, domain
- Search by status



Using the Cloud

Why Use the Cloud?



- What are the issues we want to address?
 - Availability
 - Resiliency
 - Security
 - Services (flexibility)
- A cloud architecture will help us deliver a better service
 - Maintain an on-premise environment for failover

Using the Cloud: The Framework



- Recently updated Cloud Strategy Framework, together with the Service Criticality definitions agreed with the community
- External criticality questionnaire and form published in the DB-WG last year. Also determined impact levels on internal areas.
- We use these criticality ratings to help determine our services' architecture
- Final service criticality ratings for RIPE Database

Service	Data Confidentiality	Data Integrity	Data Availability
RIPE Database	High	Very High	High

Using the Cloud: Next Steps



- Start a Consultation with the Community
 - Create a high-level architecture in the coming weeks
 - Publish on the website with discussion in the DB-WG
- Have a consultation period
 - Address concerns previously raised
 - Refine the architecture based on feedback
- Decide to use cloud or stay on-premise



Questions



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