

# RIPE



## Update on Personal Data in the RIPE Database

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# Coming of age

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- This version of the RIPE Database went (a)live in April 2001
- This makes the current RIPE Database 18 years old
- It's now an adult
- It's time to have a mature conversation about it's future

# Database Content

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- It still has over 2m personal data sets in it
- In plain speak that means personal data on over 2m people
- Very few (if any) of these can be justified
- The purpose in the T&C does not justify this personal data

# Data Quality

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- At RIPE 77 many negative comments made about quality of data
  - Garbage, unreliable, out-dated, swamp
- We need a mindset change by those who enter/maintain data
- We may need structural changes to assist the mindset change

# Cliches

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- If it ain't broken don't fix it
  - This IS broken and it **MUST** be fixed
- If you are going to do a job then do it well
  - A short term, quick fix often leaves us back where we are now in a year or two
  - This needs to be fixed for the longer term

# Approach

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- James Kennedy, Elvis Velea and myself started to look at this problem
- We identified a list of issues we need to look at regarding contacts/  
contact data
- What contact information is needed by whom, for what purpose, and  
how, when, where should it be stored/accessed?
- We quickly ruled out a straight swap of PERSON for ROLE object
- We need to go back to basics and ask some fundamental questions  
about this database
- AND those questions need to be answered!!

# Policies

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- We started by looking at what the policy requirements are for contacts
- This is a policy driven industry
- If policies require contacts, either we must justify those needs, or we must change the policies
- We put a question to the AP-WG, 4 times, with virtually no response
- Personal data/privacy not a very interesting subject
- Serious consequences of ignoring the issue

# Policy Question

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- 6.2 Network Infrastructure and End User Networks (RIPE-708)
- Last November discussion on definition of a network that must be separately listed
- Once defined, what information is needed in the RIPE Database for that network?
- The wording suggests ORGANISATION object needed for End Users operating these separately documented networks



# Needs for contacts

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- What are the needs of the RIPE Registry for RIPE Database contacts?
- What are the needs of network operators for RIPE Database contacts?
- What are the needs of resource holders for RIPE Database contacts?
- What are the needs of other interested parties and should/can we accommodate them?

# Change

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- There may be a need for some data model changes
- Despite community reluctance for this, after 18 years without any major change, if it is needed, there can be no argument against the necessary changes
- The RIPE Database MUST comply with relevant laws
- Given the scale/scope of the issue, do we need a **Task Force**?

# Reference

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- What is a contact?
- What data is needed about a contact?
- Who needs to contact who and for what reason?
- Who needs to access contact data?
- Where should contact data be stored?
- How should contacts be referenced by operational and organisational data?
- Should all, part, none of the contact data be public?
- How to access contact data
- What are the RIPE Registry requirements for contact data?
- What are policy requirements for contact data?

# Reference 2

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- What are operators/resource holders requirements for contact data?
- Personal vs corporate contact data
- Organisations that are personal
- Is any personal data needed for any purpose?
- Mindset shift in resource holders about (not) entering personal data
- Clarity over who is responsible/liable for (personal) contact data entered into RIPE Database, against any new published guidelines
- Other interested parties (eg LEA, researchers) needs for/access to contact data
- Legacy personal data including data auto generated during the early registry transfer process
- How to transition from where we are now to where we want to be, over what timescale

Questions?

