Requirements for IETF Technical Publication Service

draft-mankin-pub-req-05

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Scope

- Addresses publication needs of the IETF family
  - Includes IETF documents processed by the IESG
  - Includes IAB documents
  - Includes IRTF documents processed by the IRSG
  - Excludes independent submissions
- Currently focuses on what the publisher must do
  - Task and performance requirements on the technical publisher
  - Does not cover IETF processes for interfacing with the publisher

Draft Structure (Key Sections)

- Section 3 – Tasks to be performed by the technical publisher

- Section 4 – Performance metrics for the technical publisher

- Section 5 – IETF implications of the technical publisher requirements

Technical Publisher Tasks

- Pre-approval review or editing*
- Preliminary Specification Availability
- Post-Approval Editorial Cleanup (non-Author Editing)*
- Validation of references
- Validation of formal languages
- Assignment of Parameter Values
- Post Approval, Pre-Publication Technical Corrections *
- Allocation of Permanent Stable Identifiers *
- Document Format Conversions*
- Language Translation (no IETF requirement)
- Publication Status Tracking
- Expedited Handling
- Exception Handling
- Notification of publication
- Post Publication Corrections
- Indexing: maintenance of the catalog
- Access to Published Documents
- Maintenance of a Vocabulary Document (no IETF requirement)
- Providing Publication Statistics and Status Reports
- Process and Document Evolution
- Tutorial and Help Services

* Still some controversy on the requirements

Performance Metrics

- Post-approval timeframes
  - Publication Goal: Mean<4 Weeks, 90%<8 Weeks
  - Early Perm ID: Mean<1 Week, 90%<2 Weeks
  - Pre Approval Review: Mean<10 days, 90%<15 Days
  - *Above values are targets, actual numbers to be determined during negotiations with the publisher*

- Publication throughput

- Non author changes generated during publication

- Author changes generated during publication

IETF interactions with publisher

- Any IETF process changes expected to be documented separately
- Potential areas for further documentation
  - Usage of pre- vs post-approval editing
  - Process for approval of post-approval, pre-publication technical corrections
  - Document naming/numbering schemes
  - Usage of early allocation of permanent stable identifiers
  - Usage of exception handling
  - Vetting and authorization of post publication corrections
  - Authorization of status changes to published docs

Open Issue 1

- Style Guide – Are requirements needed for the publisher to produce, maintain, and check against a formal style guide?

  - Proposal: Publish 2223bis which this document refers to. This covers many topics found in a style guide.

Open Issue 2

- xml2rfc – Is this an allowed input format?
  - Proposal: Yes. Implying the need to formalize the handling of this input.

Open Issue 3

- Can the publisher refuse late or excessive post approval changes?
  - Proposal: The publisher should alert the IESG (or IAB or IRSG) when it feels that a requested change is unreasonable. Further processing of the draft should be suspended pending a response by the IESG (or IAB or IRSG) on how to proceed.

Open Issue 4

- Do we need early allocation of stable permanent identifiers or is it sufficient just to tighten the publication timeframes?
    - Proposal: Given that we don't know what publication timeframes will be negotiated, have early ID allocation as a safety valve, replacing the expedited handling process.

Open Issue 5

- Documentation of changes to IETF processes
  - Proposal: mankin-pub-req focuses on technical publisher requirements. Additional drafts (and possibly process experiments) created as required when process gaps identified in IETF publication process.

Open Issue 6

- Removal of Potential vs Current Requirement designation in document.
  - Proposal: Delete those requirements not accepted. Then remove potential and current prefix in the requirement numbering.