IDNA – Next Steps

John Klensin

Status

- IAB has approved "Review and Recommendations for Internationalized Domain Names (IDN)"

  draft-iab-idn-nextsteps-06.txt

  for publication

- This overview represents personal opinions not necessarily official IAB interpretation

Issue Identification

- IAB Report …and this presentation…
  - Identify issues
  - Sometimes identify possibilities
  - Try to identify who should look at them
  - Do not propose solutions
- Some issues..
  - Do not have solutions other than education and awareness   or
  - Getting the problem out of the DNS

Problems with *Using* IDNA and IDNs

- Character spoofing and similarities
  - Can't be "fixed" technically
  - Hard to design policies that help for many cases
  - Impossible to prevent all cases
- Transcription from written form
- Human expectations and DNS ones
  - Different
  - DNS much less flexible

Main Issues and Conclusions

- IDNA –especially the tables– needs another look
  - (Other uses of Unicode in IETF contexts too?)
- Need stable normalization
- Need more restricted permitted character list
- No IDNA/DNS solution to several problems
- Another look at "above DNS" approaches?

How to Proceed

- Stable normalization
  - New proposal developing in UTC
- Character list
  - Start with Unicode "identifier characters"?
  - Design team effort to generate proposal?
- Other major areas?
  - Assumption now is "none both needed and possible"