

Whither the DTN RI?

lots of questions, no answers

Christopher Small BBN Technologies csmall@bbn.com



BBN DTN2—a tremendous success

- DTN2, the reference implementation, has been a tremendous success.
- Mike Demmer, the primary author, has been working long hours and writing reams of code.
- People are using it in several research projects.
- DARPA funded a major refactoring to make DTN2 a better platform for experimentation.
- Intel has been generously funding substantial work.

BBN DTN2—what of the future?

- At some point (soon) Mike will graduate and (probably) not be able to spend as much time maintaining DTN2.
- DARPA's mission is to speed the maturation of nascent technology, not support mature technology.
- Intel has been very generously supporting DTN2 work. This may not continue forever.

BBN Whence the DTN RI?

- What will happen to the reference implementation?
- What can we do to ensure that work continues on the RI?
 - Will an army of volunteers take it over?
 - Will it be pushed out to Sourceforge, and left to fend for itself?
 - Will it wither away?
- (OK, that last one was too melodramatic.)

BBN What do we want from the DTN RI?

- What do we, the community, want the RI to do for us?
- Several (conflicting) possibilities:
 - Platform for experimenting with the protocol
 - Platform for experimenting with routing
 - Teaching tool for understanding how the bundle protocol works
 - A building block for constructing DTNs.
- How will we decide? Who will fund it? Who will do it?
- This is a discussion we should have as a community.

Whence the RI?



BBN Free Beer

- To encourage a spirited, open, and inspired discussion, I propose we meet at the bar after the plenary tonight.
- To encourage attendance, I will buy the first round.
- Location: The Field House. Time 7:30PM.
 - Cross 3rd floor skybridge to Convention Center, go down escalator to street level. The entrance is behind the escalators.
- Notes:
 - Remote attendance is likely to be impossible.
 - Results will be summarized and posted to dtn-interest.
 - Note to DARPA: this is not getting billed to you.