Operational Update RIPE Database
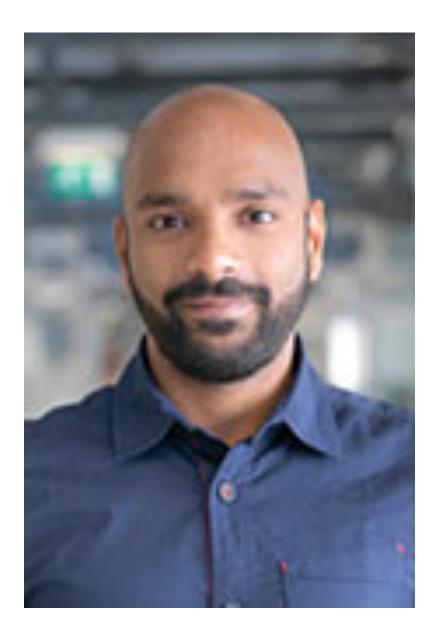
RIPE NCC Database Team

Ed Shryane | RIPE 82 | 20 May 2021

The RIPE NCC Database Team

Progress Since RIPE 81

Whois Releases

- Whois 1.99 (December)

  - Require "-mnt" suffix when creating an MNTNER object

- Whois 1.100 (April)

  - Fixed aut-num attribute "managed" flag in lookup and search response

Release Notes: https://www.ripe.net/manage-ips-and-asns/db/release-notes

Whois Outages

- <u>Partial query outage on Tuesday 9th March (8 minutes)</u>

  - Servers not re-enabled properly following rolling OS package update

  - Improve automation

- <u>Primary Database switchover on Monday 29th March (~1-2s)</u>

  - Performed maintenance on primary server (also test in case of failover)

  - Primary database switchover works as expected, takes a few seconds

  - One failed update

    - Whois re-tries to update on transient errors (but this case was new)

Whois Features - Statistics

- 2017-02 Regular Abuse-c Validation

    - **102K** abuse-c addresses, **3K** invalid (~3%)

- 2018-06 NONAUTH Route(6) Cleanup

    - Deleting **10-20** route(6) objects a month, **59K** remaining objects

- NWI-8 (Synchronise LIR Portal users to Default Maintainer)

    - **734** LIR organisations synchronising users

- NWI-9 (Open NRTM Service)

    - **154** distinct client IPs using NRTM

- NWI-10 (Country Code)

    - Added "country:" attribute code (from legal address) to **24K** LIR organisations

Person Objects

- 1.9M Person objects, 1.7M from assignments, 1.0M "Top 10"

- Unlocked Person Objects (June 2020)

  - Implemented cleanup of locked persons referenced from IPv4 Assignments

  - **600K** persons unlocked (set to assignment or LIR maintainer)

  - **13K unlocked persons deleted, 600 updated** since then

  - **13K locked persons** remaining

- Emailed "Top 10" LIRs referencing person objects from assignments (responsible for 1M persons) (May 2021)

  - Asked them why are they adding PERSON objects to the database

  - Reminded them of their obligations under the GDPR and DB T&Cs

  - Asked them to review unlocked person objects set to their maintainer

Data Cleanups

- Domain Object Cleanup

  - 1,582 domain objects without "nserver:" attributes were deleted

  - Mostly objects remaining from "Early Registration Transfer" (ERX) project (2002)

- Trailing dot in "nserver:" attribute

  - Convention since 2012 to remove trailing dot, but existing data was not cleaned up

  - Removed trailing dot, affected 544 domain objects / 814K total

RIPE Database Website

- New <u>website</u> template

  - Cleaner interface, consistent across the <u>ripe.net</u> websites

  - Left-hand side menu, header (footer removed), app switcher (top-right corner)

  - Mobile Friendly (responsive web design)

- Upcoming Work

  - Update right-hand side of the page (application space)

- Background Reading

  - RIPE Atlas Redesign: <u>https://labs.ripe.net/author/michela_galante/rolling-out-the-ripe-atlas-redesign/</u>

  - New look for the RIPE database: <u>https://labs.ripe.net/author/theodoros_polychniatis/new-look-for-the-ripe-database-and-lir-portal/</u>

Upcoming Changes

Upcoming Whois Release

- Improvements

  - Aligning on-premise and Cloud environments

  - All timestamps in UTC (from Central European time in some places)

  - Adding UTC ("Z") timezone to all timestamps

  - Simplifying HTTP redirect / rewrite rules

  - Deprecating insecure TLS cipher algorithms

- Due in the coming weeks

  - RIPE Labs article

  - DB-WG announcement

Unregistered Route(6) NONAUTH Cleanup

- Issue raised in the DB-WG in January

  - "196.52.0.0/14 revoked, cleanup efforts needed" - Ostap Efremov

  - 23 routes within 196.52.0.0/14 removed by RIPE NCC (confirmed by AFRINIC)

- Affects route(6) objects in NONAUTH with unregistered prefix

  - Only "available" or "reserved" prefixes in delegated stats are considered unregistered

  - Currently 869 routes and 94 route6 objects in NONAUTH database

- Presented <u>proposal</u> for cleanup (not an NWI)

  - Similar process to 2018-06 NONAUTH cleanup

  - Nightly job, compare route(6) prefixes (not ASN) with RIRs delegated stats

  - 1 week grace period, then notify maintainers, then delete after 2 weeks (or exclude)

Geofeed

- DB-WG "proposal: new attribute 'geofeed:'" - Job Snijders

  - Add a new single, optional attribute to inetnum and inet6num

  - Supersedes "remarks: Geofeed" already in use

  - Based on an IETF Internet-draft

- Defined as NWI-13

  - Problem statement, solution definition, technical impact analysis is complete

- Waiting for Legal review

  - Initial feedback: Geofeed data may qualify as personal data

Improving Search Interface

- The <u>web query page</u> has served us well, but can be improved

  - Command-line Whois wrapper (all flags, all the time)

  - Filter by type and inverse lookup can be difficult to use

  - Out of region resources are not returned by default

  - Full Text Search page is separate (better for matching text)

- Implementation Plan

  - Commence work in Q3

  - Solicit feedback from the community on what can be improved

  - Test changes in the Release Candidate environment

Proposals

Whois Tags

- DB-WG "Weirdness in DB files", Cynthia Revström

- Tags is a <u>beta feature</u> introduced in 2013

  - Implemented RIPE-REGISTRY-RESOURCE and RIPE-USER-RESOURCE

- Tags are included in dump files and REST API responses

- Not returned in queries (by default) and query flags not in use

- Tags are no longer updated (not every resource is tagged)

- Should Whois Tags be deprecated?

  - Remove query flags and existing tags

  - Expect Impact Analysis to follow on db-wg

White Pages

- "White Pages" Feature introduced after <u>RIPE 56</u> (2008)
  - Easy reference to persons with a significant presence in the industry
  - Avoids deletion of person objects (unreferenced object cleanup)
- RIPE NCC also maintains an exclusion list for cleanup job
  - Atlas anchor contacts
  - Domain registry contact details
  - Reserved names (e.g. used in documentation, monitoring, internal use)
  - Individual request (user's own data)
- Should White Pages be deprecated?
  - Move white pages persons to exclusion list, review exclusion process

Questions ?

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