IPv6 @ IBM – an enterprise journey

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Market trend for IPv6

Mobile carriers have it...

Broadband carriers do it...

Content providers give it...

Operating systems use it...

Cloud wants it...

IoT needs it...







...and your ENTERPRISE still thinks it doesn't require it?

Getting started

Why?

- You install new products every day,
 with a lifetime of years! Have them support IPv6!
- Influence your costs for IPv6 through timing



How?

- Convince your CIO! Name technical champion & executive sponsor
- You can start small, and grow over time
- Focus on certification for new services
- Change buying guidelines
- Be an evangelist in your company

The goal: Get yourself 'more prepared' for IPv6

It all starts with an IPv6 address plan



Technology baseline

Transition architecture = now

- Native dual-stack transport = IPv4 & IPv6 in parallel
- IPv6 capable IP services, DNS & DHCPv6
- [Tunnel IPv6 across IPv4 only networks]
- Dual-stack Internet egress
- Network device management can still use IPv4
- End-points will choose best way to connect (RFC 6555, happy eyeballs)

Target architecture = future

- IPv6-only, a single stack network!
- Run IPv4 as a service (IPv4aaS) on top of it, where still needed
- Full management via IPv6 for all tools
- No more tunneling of IPv6



Spreading it around the globe

- Start with senior architects
 - make architectural decisions
 - develop solutions
- Test and certify in your lab
- Publish new configs / templates
- Start with a few pilot sites
- Ask delivery teams in the regions to apply
- Review for consistency, build a baseline (i.e. # of hours per device).

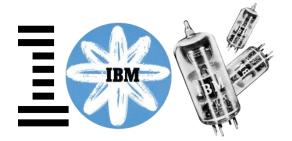
After some initial sites in a country, move to applying IPv6 in 'BAU'



Achievements inside IBM

- Solutions ready:
 - Dual-stack WAN transport
 - Small site VPN solution
 - LAN & Wireless LAN for end-users
 - Data center
 - IP services farms (DHCP, DNS & IPAM)
 - Internet gateway
 - Asset inventory for IPv6 roll-out tracking

- Production deployment:
 - >100 IBM sites globally, covering >100k IBMers
- Majority of production IPv6 traffic is destined for the Internet



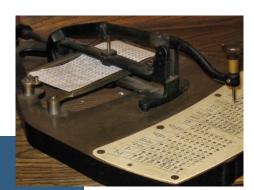
Tracking sites around the globe

Region	ASPAC	-								
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Count of Asset	Column Lab	els 🏋								
Row Labels	T		=					-	Gr Gr	and Total
⊕ Australia		14		2	6	2	2		2	28
⊕China		14	14	4	10	32	18		14	106
⊞India		48	6	2	16	44	12	2	18	148
⊕Japan			7	8	6	14	6	4	4	49
⊞ Korea, Republic	of of				2	2		2	2	8
⊞ Malaysia					2	4			4	10
⊞ New Zealand			2							2
⊕ Philippines		4			4				4	12
⊞ Singapore		2		2	4	2				10
⊞ Sri Lanka		2								2
⊞Taiwan		5	1							6
■ Viet Nam		4								4
Grand Total		93	30	18	50	100	38	8	48	385



- WAN transport
- LAN routing
- DHCP scopes

Manufacturer	Part Number	IP V4 Address	IP V6 Address	IP Version Configured	Region	Country	
CISCO SYSTEMS	C6832-10G-BUN	9.97	2620:1F7:	IPv4 + IPv6	ASPAC	Singapore	
CISCO SYSTEMS	C6832-10G-BUN	9.97.	2620:1F7:	IPv4 + IPv6	ASPAC	Singapore	
JUNIPER NETWORKS	QFX5100-48S-AFO	9.97.	2620:1f7:	IPv4 + IPv6	ASPAC	India	1
JUNIPER NETWORKS	QFX5100-48S-AFO	9.97	2620:1f7:	IPv4 + IPv6	ASPAC	India	1
CISCO SYSTEMS	WS-C4506E-S7L+96V+	9.97		IPv4 + IPv6	ASPAC	Singapore	



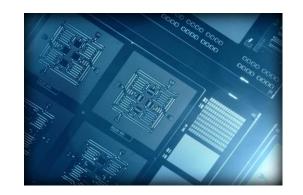
Technical difficulties on the way

Numerous bugs... you need to: Test, Test, Test!

A few 'nice ones':

- Configuring DHCP forwarding on a distribution layer device, but not having configured a DHCPv6 destination (server address) yet, led to a crashing forwarding daemon for both IPv4 & IPv6 Not really a graceful error-handling...
- When the 'any' keyword is used in an IPv6 ACL the firewall does not process that line or any subsequent lines until the access-group is removed and then reapplied. This affects only IPv6. IPv4 works correctly.
- WANx device corrupting BGP IPv6 peering hash (no bypass as in IPv4)

Lessons learned: Vendors treat your bug reports very different!



IPv6 challenges

Getting other technology towers to listen to IPv6
 Be an evangelist!



- Monitoring both IP stacks for availability
- IPv6-only is still difficult for enterprise use
 - IETF draft-lmhp-v6ops-transition-comparison
- Multi-homing with central egress plus local breakout (hybrid WAN)
 - i.e. see IETF work on PvD and SADR
 - IETF draft-ietf-rtgwg-enterprise-pa-multihoming

IBM CIO Network Engineering

Upcoming activities

- Remote access
- Embedding IPv6 into SDN-xx projects



- Pilot IPv6-only
- New opportunities?
- More tooling IPv6 aware
- Log parsing, machine learning & analytics to monitor dual-stack operation

Capture lifecycle opportunities, more IPv6 roll-out in 'BAU' mode



THANK YOU



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