Internet Governance

Paul Vixie <<u>paul@vix.com</u>> Philadelphia – October 2002

Overview

- Resources
- "Stakeholders"
- Rebels
- Loyals

Resources

- IP Addresses (V4 and V6)
- Domain names (ccTLD, gTLD)
- AS Numbers (eg, AS3557)
- Protocol Numbers (TCP=6)

"Stakeholders" (1)

- If...
 - you hold/use/own/control a resource
 - your business is in allocating resources
 - you are a legislative policy wonk
 - you have too much time on your hands
- ...then you too can be a "stakeholder"!

"Stakeholders" (2)

- ICANN
- US DoC
- IETF
- CORE
- RIR's
- TLD's

- EFF
- Ralph Nader
- Lunatic fringe
- Root server operators
- ICANNWatch
- Network owners

Rebels

- ICANN tries to be all things to all "stakeholders", with predictable results
- Folks who don't get the recognition or power they want/need/crave can *rebel*
- If consensus inertia is higher than rebellion inertia, then the rebels become marginal
- Otherwise time drags on until a newer or better consensus is found

Loyals

- Some of us just want the system to *work* and are willing to ignore the stench of it all
- RIR's and RSO's are prime examples
- IETF is less coherent but tends to be loyal
- Rebels see us as the empire's stormtroopers, or lapdogs, or dupes, or worse
- "Powers that be" are uneasy about us

What's coming next?

- The grownups are onto us kids now, and are thinking about taking away our toys
- But the kids built the toys and are the only ones who can use them safely
- And the "kids" aren't really kids any more, and the "grownups" never were grownups
- This situation is unique in human history, in that the answer *matters so much!*