

Dialup Roaming BOF

Glen Zorn

glennz@microsoft.com

Agenda

- ☐ Agenda bashing
- ☐ Overview
- ☐ Strawman framework
- ☐ Should a new working group be formed?
- ☐ Interest?
 - ☐ mailing list
 - ☐ charter
 - ☐ milestones
 - ☐ chair
 - ☐ editors
 - ☐ homework repository

Agenda Bashing

☐ Comments?

Overview

- ❑ What is dialup roaming?
- ❑ What are the benefits?
- ❑ What are some possible disadvantages?
- ❑ Who cares?
- ❑ Implementation status/buzz

What is Dialup Roaming?

“The ability to use any one of multiple Internet service providers (ISPs), while maintaining a formal, customer-vendor relationship with only one.”

What Are the Benefits?

- ☐ Enhanced ability to travel and maintain connectivity (can dial in to a Montreal ISP using the account from a local ISP)
 - ☐ Can get to the Internet
 - ☐ Can get to the corporate intranet
- ☐ Ability to keep your local IP address, even when dialing in to another provider
 - ☐ Combination of tunneling and dialup roaming
- ☐ Improved coverage within your local area?

What Are Some Possible Disadvantages?

❑ Service quality impacts

❑ Added complexity for existing networks

- ❑ Authentication proxy

- ❑ Phone book synchronization apparatus

❑ More unpredictable loading patterns

- ❑ INET conferences leads to busy signals for Montreal providers?

❑ Security Issues

❑ Increased mobility leads to crime (Bonnie & Clyde)

- ❑ Theft of service

- ❑ Ability of malevolent individuals to reach corporate intranets

- ❑ Issues partially addressed by token card support?

Who Cares?

- ☐ You?

- ☐ Why are you here?

- ☐ What aspects of this problem matter to you?

- ☐ First guess of interested parties:

- ☐ Local or Regional Internet Service Providers

- ☐ National Internet Service Providers

- ☐ Businesses?

- ☐ Users?

Implementation Status/Buzz

- ❑ Two press releases in last two months indicating existing or planned roaming services
 - ❑ Asia Online (implemented today)
 - ❑ US RBOC (planned)
- ❑ Private conversations indicate at least half a dozen ISPs interested/at various stages of planning
- ❑ This is a problem that seems to have “legs”
 - ❑ Interest could more widespread than initially thought
 - ❑ Scalability, interoperability could become an issue if not addressed early on

Should a New Working Group Be Formed?

- ❑ Arguments against a new working group
- ❑ Arguments for a new working group
- ❑ Interest?

Arguments Against a New Working Group

- ❑ Implementing dialup roaming may not require new protocols
 - ❑ Proxy issues can be taken care of in an informational RFC
 - ❑ Tunneling, mobility issues already handled in existing working groups
 - ❑ Accounting record standardization not in the realm of the IETF
- ❑ Phone book synchronization can be handled without a new protocol
 - ❑ Replicate phone books via existing protocols (RDIST, HTTPS, etc.)
 - ❑ Phone book compilation handled via PERL scripts

Arguments For a New Working Group

- ☐ While the pieces may not be new, their interaction is novel and worth working on
- ☐ Possibility of incompatible/proprietary implementations should be avoided
- ☐ Dialup roaming problem is fundamental to the operation of the Internet, should be addressed in the IETF

Arguments For a New Working Group (cont'd)

- ❑ File replication approaches to phone book synchronization will not scale
- ❑ Imagine 100 providers in a roaming association
 - ❑ Remember /etc/hosts files? FidoNet Nodelists?
 - ❑ Phone book files could get large and unwieldy
 - ❑ Propagation process could be unreliable (rollback needed)
 - ❑ Incompatible implementations could limit roaming arrangements

Interest?

- ☐ Mailing list
- ☐ Charter
- ☐ Milestones
- ☐ Chair
- ☐ Editors
- ☐ Homework repository
 - ☐ Alternative frameworks
 - ☐ Descriptions of existing implementations