

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?

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Charter

Milestones

Chair

Editors

Homework repository

Alternative frameworks

Descriptions of existing
implementations