Exploring IPv6 Industry Issues & Challenges at IEEE ICC 2012

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The long-awaited upgrade of the Internet's main communications protocol took a momentous leap last month when Akami, the world's largest content delivery network (CDN), officially offered IPv6 services to its entire customer base. The company, which carries between 20 to 30 percent of the world's daily Internet Web traffic, spent nearly two years adapting 100,000 servers based across 71 different countries to support the next generation Internet Protocol.

This is a significant global accomplishment given that the central pool of IPv4 addresses is essentially depleted. As a result, 2012 is expected to see an accelerated effort by content providers and distribution channels to extend IPv4 and its limited support of only 4.3 billion devices with the massive capacities of IPv6 and the potential to accommodate a virtually unlimited amount of Internet uses and users.

However, the adoption process has been slow in most global sectors with Europe and North America lagging far behind Asia. This is unacceptable for such advanced nations, many of which are deeply entrenched in the implementation of the latest cloud computing and Smart Grid technologies, while boasting broadband filtration rates that reach nearly 80 percent in some of these countries.

On Thursday, June 14, I will have the extreme privilege of addressing the latest issues surrounding IPv6's global deployment at the IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC) to be held from June 10 – 15 at the newly-opened, $17 million Ottawa Convention Centre. During this session titled the "The IPv6 Internet: Impact on ISPs, Enterprise Networking & Cloud Computing," I will join several noted, international colleagues in a lively, provocative forum designed to foster the ongoing stability and growth of Internet Protocol–based ICT within every mobile, office and home environment.

Participating in the discussion will be Yves Poppe, Director of Business Development IP Strategy at Tata Communications, Canada, who will address "The Impact of IPv6 on the Large ISPs;" Jacques Latour, Director of Information Technology at CIRA, who will speak about "The Imapct of IPv6 on the Enterprise;" and Serge Caron, Senior Director, Information Services and Technology, ITD, CIOB, Treasury Board

Secretariat for the Government of Canada, who will comment extensively about "IPv6 Deployment Recommendations for ICT."

Each of these panelists were specifically selected due to their long-term IPv6 commitment and varied perspectives on industry and government. In addition, IEEE ICC 2012 is the ideal venue for such a forum given that we will be joined at the event by more than 2,000 industry professionals, scientists, academics and government officials attending nearly 1,500 separate presentations highlighting the entire range of global voice, data, image and multimedia technologies. Themed "CONNECT – COMMUNICATE – COLLABORATE,"

IEEE ICC is also one of the few premier international conferences focused solely on the advancement of wireless and wireline communications worldwide.

As the chairperson of one of 18 Industry Forums being held in Ottawa, I not only invite telecommunications authorities worldwide to learn more about the importance of modernizing the global Internet infrastructure, but also to explore the latest and newest research in areas such as social networking and its impact on the quality of life, enabling the next wave of cloud services and the future of in-home communications for inspiring better health and fuller lives.

For more information on IEEE ICC 2012, please visit http://www.ieee-icc.org/2012 [1] or feel free to contact Heather Ann Sweeney of IEEE ComSoc at h.sweeney@comsoc.org [2]. Furthermore, all website visitors are also invited to network with colleagues and peers, share their professional experiences or address IEEE ICC 2012 issues through the conference's Facebook, Linkedin and Twitter pages.

Posted by Janine E. Mooney, Editor

May 03, 2012

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