

Amendment of Utilisation in Soft Landing

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@JordiPalet

(jordi.palet@theipv6company.com)

Summary of the problem

The Soft-Landing utilisation criteria is preventing organisations that may have multiple sites, redundancy or high-availability needs to achieve that, because section 5.4.6.1 states that 90% of the previous allocations or assignments must have been used.

For example, an end-user member may have received a /24 for a Data Centre and now is setting up new Data Centres. Current policy will not allow that until 90% of the first Data Centre prefix is utilised.

Another example may be an ISP, with multiple BGP PoPs, setting up 464XLAT in the network, with NAT64 devices in each PoP for high-availability purposes. Normally it will announce a /22-/24 in each PoP, even if all the addresses are not being used simultaneously all the time, so 90% utilisation is not allowing that deployment offering high-availability to the subscribers.

Addressing the problem

This proposal suggests that the utilisation criteria should allow cases such as those in the previous examples and similar ones.

Because the 3 million IPv4 recovered addresses, this change will not create an immediate drain of the AFRINIC pool, and instead, can help to increase the number of DCs and high-availability, IPv6 deployment and better connectivity for the region.

The proposal also rewords the existing 2 paragraphs, without changing their meaning, in order to improve clarity.

Proposed Text (1)

5.4.6.1 In order to receive IPv4 allocations or assignments during the Exhaustion Phase, the LIR or End User must have used at least 90% of all previous allocations or assignments (including those made during both the Current Phase and the Exhaustion Phase)

In the case of new LIRs or End Users with no previous allocations or assignments, this requirement does not apply to their first allocation or assignment request.

5.4.6.1 As a condition precedent to the receipt of any IPv4 allocation or assignment during the Exhaustion Phase, a Local Internet Registry (“LIR”) or End User shall demonstrate utilisation of not less than ninety per cent (90%) of all prior IPv4 allocations or assignments received, including those made during both the Current Phase and the Exhaustion Phase.

The foregoing requirement shall not apply to the first allocation or assignment request submitted by a new LIR or End User having no previous IPv4 allocations or assignments.

Notwithstanding the above, the utilisation requirement may be waived in respect of network operators seeking additional IPv4 resources for demonstrated key technical purposes, which can be illustrated to not be practically serviceable or giving rise to technical constraints affecting the operator’s existing resource pool. Non-limiting examples are redundancy and high-availability deployments, IPv6 transition mechanisms, or expansion to new sites. In such circumstances, the relevant request shall be treated as a first allocation or assignment request for the purposes of this provision. The request justification must be sufficiently documented, in such way that AFRINIC can verify the compliance with the provided justification.

References

- In other regions, all IPv4 addresses have been exhausted and it seems that the equivalent to the soft-landing is not any more an issue, because most of the existing members only can access IPv4 addresses via transfers.

IA Inputs