AP Registry Database

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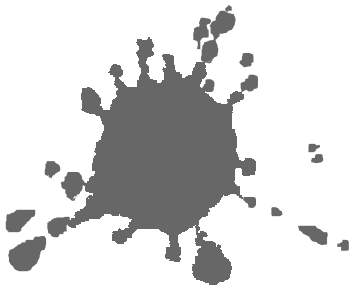
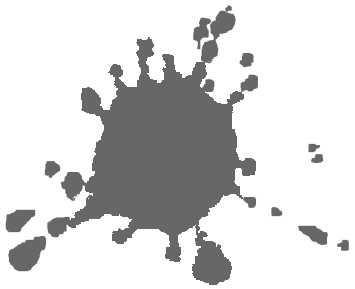


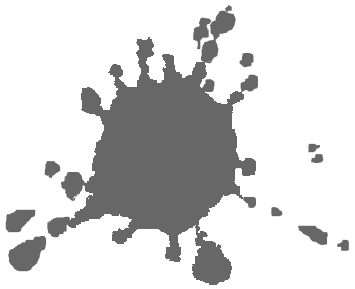
The Situation

- AP Region registry database in terrible shape
  - Incomplete data
  - Delegated blocks with no information



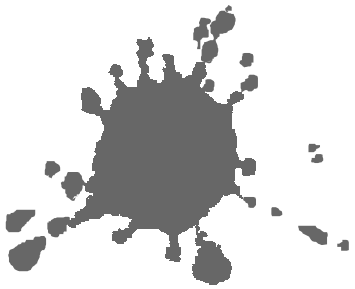
More Specifically

- Rwhois software disfunctional
  - Dumps core often
  - No secondaries
- Delegated model may be disfunctional
  - Whois databases not kept up to date
  - Whois database not even running



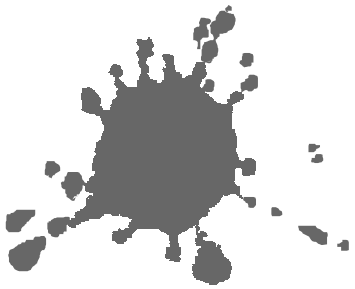
How Did This Happen?

- Original idea:
  - Delegate authority to blocks of addresses
  - Organization delegated to would keep data up-to-date
- Why it doesn't work:
  - Rwhois simply does not yet work
  - Maintaining the whois database has low priority



Alternatives

- Fix Rwhois
  - Need a programmer
  - Need an incentive to help people keep their database up to date.
- Use RIPE database
  - Does not allow for delegations
  - Does support email updates

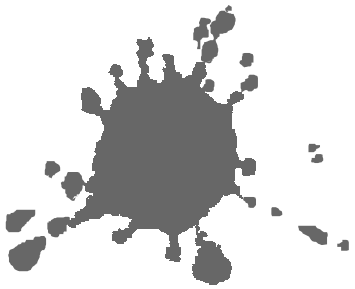


Recommendation

- Use RIPE database until Rwhois is functional
  - RIPE database is well tested and supported
  - Automatic updates with authentication supported
  - Brings APNIC in line with RIPE
- National whois server can contain local language support
  - APNIC database is the global access point

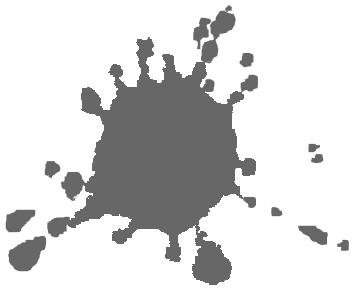
Implications

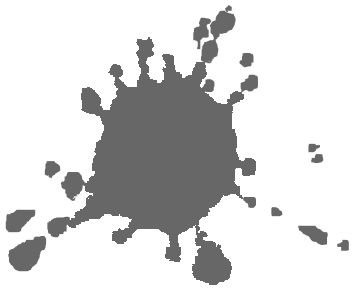
- Only authoritative database is APNIC
  - Addresses are not assumed assigned until they appear in the APNIC database
- Eventual move to Rwhois
  - Assuming further rwhois development
    - What to do about local language?
- Delegation of requests will still occur



The Future

- Delegated registries are a good idea
  - As long as software and organization works
  - Rwhois should be the long term goal
    - or any other delegatable directory service
- Convergence of registries would be nice



Summary

- Rwhois is very broken
- Both RIPE and Rwhois databases currently running
- Migrating to rely on RIPE database
- Rwhois will be an experimental service