

Policy Documentation

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Editorial Policy

- Plain Text version is the official version
- Advantages
 - Accessibility
- Disadvantages
 - Stored on the APNIC FTP server – not really apparent
 - Document layout is a time consuming process
 - Not the document presented on website
 - Prone to error

Archiving and Versioning

- Advantages
 - Extremely important to transparency
 - Audit trail
- Disadvantages
 - No change log
 - Multiple ‘numbered documents’
 - Policy change requires
 - Production of 3 new documents, plus
 - changes to 2 metadata documents, plus
 - Change to HTML version and text version on website
 - Results in five published copies of the new policy

Metadata Example

apnic-017-v001.txt

```
Title:      APNIC Person Template Description

Short title:      person-template-descr
Document ref:     APNIC-017
Version:          001
Date of original publication: 1 August 1995
Date of this version: 1 August 1995
Review scheduled: n/a
Obsoletes:       APNIC-001
Status:          Obsolete
Comments:        Obsoleted by APNIC-025
```

Policy Archive

- Archival Versioning of all Official Documents
 - <ftp://ftp.apnic.net/public/apnic/archive/>
 - Metadata listing of archival documents
 - <ftp://ftp.apnic.net/public/apnic/archive/readme.txt>
- Store of active Official Documents
 - <ftp://ftp.apnic.net/public/apnic/docs/>
 - Metadata listing of documents
 - <ftp://ftp.apnic.net/public/apnic/docs/README.txt>

Five copies of the Policy

- A text file of the current document named for the short name of the document with a .txt extension
- A text file of the current document named for the short name of the document without a .txt extension
- An archived text file of the current version named for the document number of the document
- An html version of the document on the website. (not all numbered documents are available in html)
- A text version of the current document named for the document number of the document on the website
- But
 - Some documents are available in MS Word format
 - Some documents are ONLY available in Adobe PDF format

Five copies of each policy

- Environment Policy
- IPv4 Policy
- IPv6 Policy
- ASN Policy
- Transfer Policy
- Historical Resource Policy

Confusing and Inefficient

- Confusing?
 - The documentation process had to be shown to me three times before I could replicate it
- Transparent?
 - Not really so complicated community isn't aware of it

My Proposal

- Community support to review Editorial Policy
- Community support to reengineer document archive
- Community support to merge ALL resource policies into a single policy document
- Community support to investigate adoption of an alternate document format
 - PDF?
 - XML?
 - HTML?
- Proposal to be approved via the PDP