Recommendations

RFC Editor Model
Version 2

Glenn Kowack

Transitional RFC Series Editor

IETF 79

November 8, 2010

Beijing, China

RiverOnce LLC

RFC Editor Model Version 1
How well has it worked?

- General structure of Model (RFC 5620) works

- Transition has gone very well
  - Success aided by the exceptional expertise, dedication, and focus of professional staff

- TRSE recommendations
  - Clarifications and tunings of Model
    - evolution not revolution
  - As expected, focus on "getting the RFC Series Editor job description right"

Major Observations and Recommendations

- RFC Series Editor role demands expertise in technical publications and their management
- RFC Series Editor responsible involving the community
- The RFC Editor (a set of functions) must be managed by a single person with the above skills

RFC Series Editor Skills

- Experience in and knowledge of
  - Technical writing
  - Technical publishing
  - Technical series development
- Technical (CS, networking) knowledge?
  - sufficient to lead technical editors
  - familiarity with basic concepts, vocabulary

Managing the RFC Editor Function

- Must be led by a single manager
  - Critical for accountability to community
  - Critical for "owning the problem"
  - Decisions informed by day to day work

- Reporting Structure
  - Reports to the IAB
    - works "at the pleasure of" the IAB
  - Production Center, Publisher, report to the Series Editor
    - RSE Coordinates with IAD for contractual issues
  - Independent Submissions not under Series Editor

- Nearly all day-to-day work delegated to contractors

RSE Decisions

- The Series Editor is responsible for engaging the community at the right level in the right way.
    - Requirement: balance professional initiative with community input
- RSAG helps RSE find the balance

Other Observations and Recommendations
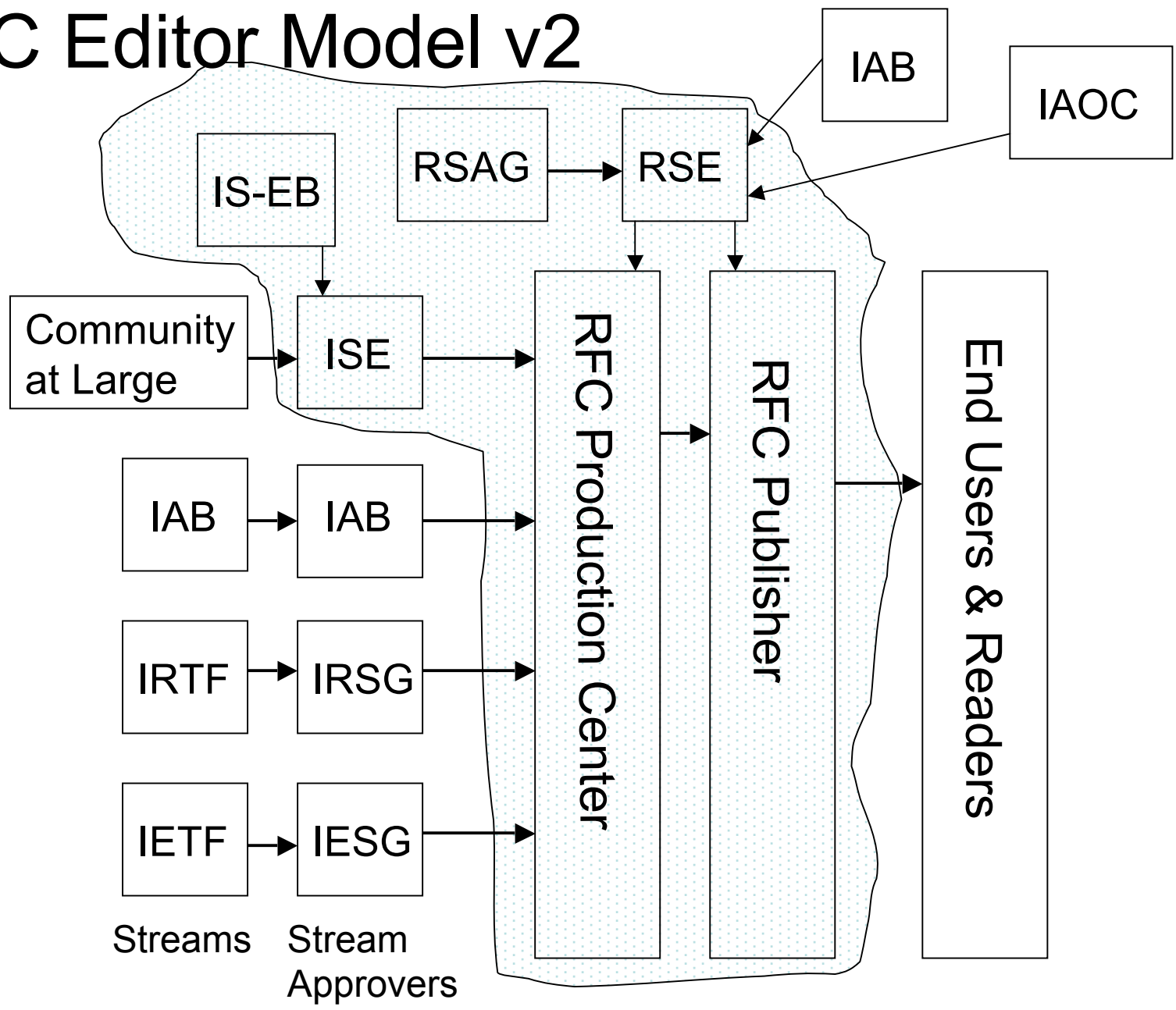
- Clarification: ISE is an <u>independent</u> part of the RFC Editor.
    - RSE does not directly participate in reviews of the ISE
    - RSE does not review ISE documents
- RFC Series Continuity, Quality
    - Responsible for Procedures Manual, Style Manual
- Reiterate: RFC Editor has no say over technical content of RFCs

Other Observations and Recommendations

- Recommendation: reinstate RFC Editor Stream capability
  - For publication of RFC Editor:
    - regular documents: e.g., Style Manual, 1K's RFCs
    - other commentary on series, quality, etc
  - Not formally within scope of recommendations
- RFC Editor service and quality viewed through
  - Production-side customers
  - Consumption-side customer

RFC Editor Model v2

IAB

IAOC

RSAG → RSE

IS-EB

Community at Large → ISE → RFC Production Center

IAB → IAB → RFC Production Center

IRTF → IRSG → RFC Production Center

IETF → IESG → RFC Production Center

RFC Publisher → End Users & Readers

Streams   Stream Approvers

RSE Hiring Process
Recommendation

- Challenge: maximize community leadership while getting sufficient expertise
- General Approach: streams (production-side customers) participants plus publications insight and expertise.
- Search Committee
  - 2 members appointed by Streams
    - 1 by IESG
    - 1 by IRSG/IS/IAB
  - 2 members appointed by RSAG
  - 1 member from <TBD>
- 2 advisors
  - HR professional - default to 'search' pro
  - RFC Series Editor