Open Source For an Open Internet

ISC Subscriber News

2023 Q2

Important updates for ISC's BIND 9, ISC DHCP, and Kea DHCP support subscribers.

DNS News

- [BIND 9.18 is now an Extended Support Version](#). We encourage all users to upgrade to this version, which is not only stable but also better-performing than BIND 9.16. Before migrating, we recommend reviewing the KB article on [Changes to be aware of when moving from BIND 9.16 to BIND 9.18](#).
- The [BIND Significant Features](#) KB article has been updated recently, highlighting some feature deprecations coming in our next stable version.
- We have a new [KB article on the BIND option to take advantage of kernel load-balancing of server sockets](#) on systems which support it.
- Matthijs Mekking is giving a talk at [RIPE 86](#) on **DNSSEC Multi-signer Models.**

Packaging

We are considering a long-term plan to replace our operating system packages with [OCI-compliant](#) container images, but of course we will continue releasing open source tarballs as well. If your organization relies on ISC's packages and you are not planning to adopt containers, please let us know. We do recommend [ISC packages](#) over those from the operating system distributors, because we patch our packages for subscribers prior to the public release of security vulnerabilities. Please contact Vicky Risk at vicky@isc.org or open a support ticket in your queue to discuss this issue.

Kea/DHCP News

Coming this Summer - Kea 2.4.0

The newest stable Kea branch, [Kea 2.4.0](#), is currently planned for release at the end of June 2023. We are busy putting on the finishing touches, including updating our security scanning, reviewing, improving the documentation, and working on creating a Docker container image. As always, the team is also working on several priority requests from Kea support customers.

- **Free Leases Queue** (FLQ) - Until now, Kea always tried to allocate the next address in the pool, iterating through the pool in order of increasing address. [The FLQ is a new address allocation strategy.](#) When selected, Kea generates a list of all possible leases on startup and keeps it in memory. This allocator is suitable when DHCP servers work with nearly depleted pools, and the time to find an available lease via other allocators becomes too long.

DHCPv4. In Kea 2.3.7 we added DHCPv6 leasequery by address for DHCPv6 prefix delegations.

- **Facilitating classification with templates** - this new KB article delves into how to use this new convenience feature of Kea. Our June webinar will cover the new Kea Class Templates.

Stork updates

Meanwhile, we are making progress implementing the ability to manage Kea configuration via **Stork**. Stork recently added a graphical wizard for adding host reservations, including option assignment. Now, we are working on using Stork to facilitate migrating from a local Kea configuration to a shared configuration backend. Stork will also soon support administrator authentication via LDAP!

New Migration Resources for ISC DHCP Users

Our May webinar discussed the process of migrating your DHCP infrastructure from ISC DHCP to Kea. We have recently developed an experimental Python script for migrating your active lease data, KeaMA-keases, which should help your clients preserve their existing leases despite the transition to a new DHCP server.

Meet an ISC Engineer!
It's time to say "hi" to our newest support engineer, Darren Ankney!

Kea Webinar Series

Our spring webinar series has been focusing on tips for Kea users. The first four sessions have already taken place; all of the videos are posted on our YouTube channel. Consider joining us live on June 7 to learn about how to use the new dynamic templates in Kea.

- Using Stork to manage Kea
- Configuring vendor options in Kea
- Netbox and Kea DHCP
- Migrating to Kea from ISC DHCP
- June 7, 2023 - Using the new dynamic templates in Kea

We post recordings for all of our webinars for offline viewing, but the hands-on labs are only available during the live sessions. Click HERE to view the scheduled dates and times, and to register for the series.

Hope to see you soon!

We're at RIPE 86 in Rotterdam this week, where we co-sponsored a DNS hackathon! Or come see us at NANOG 88 in Seattle in June, where ISC is sponsoring one of the lunches.

ISC is now on Mastodon! Please follow us at **https://fosstodon.org/@iscdotorg**!

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