

# 2022 Q2

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

## BIND 9 DNS News

The current BIND versions (as of May 2022) are 9.16.29 (ESV), and 9.18.3 (stable). Some of the new features coming soon to 9.18 include:

- A major update to [Catalog Zones](#), adding new features and achieving interoperability with open source implementations from NLNET and CZNIC by implementing the [latest IETF draft](#). Note that catalog zone validity-checking is now stricter; otherwise, catalog zones that worked with earlier BIND versions should still operate.
- DNS extended errors 3 (Stale Answer) and 19 (Stale NXDOMAIN Answer) were added to responses, per [RFC 8914](#).

We are working on a major update to the BIND Administrator Reference Manual (ARM), led by Ron Aitchison, author of [ProDNS and BIND](#) and curator of the [zytrax.com](#) website. We will be adding a lot more cross-references, updating the sample configurations, and providing, we hope, better guidance on "advanced" topics such as RPZ, wildcards, and security. We also plan to finally absorb the separate DNSSEC guide into the ARM.

## Kea/DHCP News

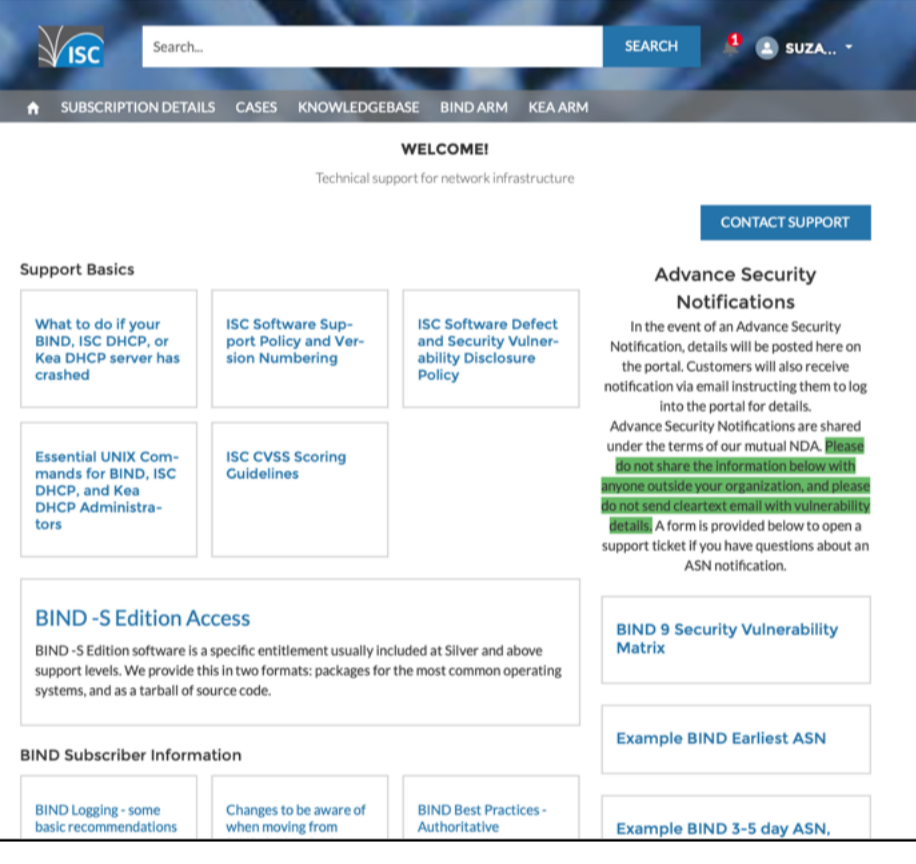


We expect to release Kea 2.2.0, a new stable branch, in July. We will continue supporting Kea 1.8 until we bring out 2.2.0, so you will always have two stable versions to choose from. Recent and upcoming new features for Kea include:

- A new [DDNS-Tuning premium hook](#), which allows the administrator to customize the DDNS behavior on a per-client basis, including calculating the domain name to use with an expression. This was added to Kea 2.1.5.
- A new ["Limits" subscriber hook](#), which will provide rate-limiting based on client class. This will mitigate the sort of DDOS that becomes possible when an entire class of devices is "poorly behaved." The hook will also provide lease limits, a popular feature of ISC DHCP, which are useful for service differentiation.
- [Role-based access control \(RBAC\)](#) is a new hook we are developing, which will permit limiting access to some API commands based on administrative privileges. When we release 2.2.0, it will be offered as a new Enterprise level hook for Silver and Gold subscribers. There is a beta version included in Kea 2.1.6.
- [Stork](#) is gaining the ability to add configuration to Kea servers it manages. Stork will be able to add host reservations into a backend database, using the host-commands hook. This feature is relatively simple to implement because there is no contention with other administrators, but we do plan to develop this capability further.

The abrupt change in the CentOS project left us with no way to create packages for users of CentOS8 and similar systems for Kea 2.0.2. We realize this caused problems for Kea users who had moved to RHEL8: we resumed building packages for RHEL8 starting with Kea 2.0.3.

## Updates from Support



We are migrating our support management system to **Salesforce**. We are looking for a few customers to beta-test this with us in the coming weeks, and if all goes well, we plan to roll this out to the rest of our support customers later this summer.

With the new system, you will still be able to open and update tickets via email or via a portal, and you will also be able to change your case status. The new support portal will provide our customers with convenient access to information on premium software, ISC technical videos, and other content. We plan to enable you to view and manage more of your own information, including any files you have shared with ISC, your list of current support contacts, and your subscription renewal dates as well.

This change will help us better track our SLA adherence, keep longer-running tickets moving forward, and send you updates, such as Advance Security Notifications. Since this system is hosted and supported by a large and capable SaaS provider, we believe it also improves our business continuity profile, for your benefit.

## Meet an ISC Engineer!



Tom Krížek, ISC Quality Assurance Engineer, uses Arch btw.

We are delighted to present our newest staff member, Tom Krížek. Get to know him [here!](#)

## ISC Webinars

All our webinars are recorded and available for viewing on ISC's [YouTube](#) and [BrightTALK](#) channels and on our [website](#). If you would like to be notified of new webinars, please sign up for our [training-info](#) mailing list, or monitor our social media ([Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Twitter](#)) or website. Recent topics have included:

- [Optimizing Kea DHCP Performance](#)
- [Governing the Ungovernable: Root Server Operator Governance](#)
- [ISC's Advance Security Notification Process](#)

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