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Open Source For an Open Internet

ISC Subscriber News

2022 Q4

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

Reacting to the worldwide inflationary cycle and corresponding decline in real wages, ISC chose to give all staff cost of living adjustments this fall. Consequently, we also need to increase our support prices slightly, and we will be increasing support subscription pricing with the 2023 renewal cycle. This is the first price increase we have had in at least eight years, and it reflects a direct increase in our costs.



DNS News

Release plans

- The December release drop will include BIND 9.19.8, 9.18.10, 9.16.36 & 9.16.36-S1.
- Per our existing security policy, we do not plan to issue another release with CVEs in it until the new year, to give you all a break! We may, of course, make an exception if we deem it necessary.
- For our -S edition users, we plan to bring out a new 9.18-S branch in January, and also declare 9.18 ESV at that point.

In other news

The BIND QA team is constantly investigating reports of issues that are difficult to verify, such as performance anomalies. They are currently working on benchmarking zone transfers at scale, measuring latency and looking for latency spikes. None of the currently available open source tools are suitable for this task, so we may have to extend them or develop others.

The constant churn among the OSes generate an ongoing work stream: recently we have been working on migrating our RPM packages to RHEL 9 and rebuilding our Dockers with patched OpenSSL versions.

We attended the joint [RIPE 85/DNS-OARC 39](#) workshop in October and the November ICANN IDS meeting in Brussels. Recordings from RIPE are [here](#) and IDS recordings are [here](#). IDS was focused on centralization and concentration of DNS resolution services, and concentration of authoritative services including TLD service providers. There is growing concern over how to implement required filtering in encrypted DNS streams, a problem that was foreseen but unfortunately largely ignored during the hype cycle for encrypted DNS.

We have a new [KB article](#) on collecting client queries for use in testing servers.



Kea/DHCP News

New Kea features in the development branch

Kea 2.3.3 includes documentation for the new template-classes, which is roughly equivalent to the "spawning classes" feature in ISC DHCP. This enables administrators to create separate classes for different device types requiring different options or lease times, in a scaleable way. One of the core use cases is to automatically assign new users specific lease limits. This feature is now documented and a KB article on using it is in development. Other significant new features in development include bulk lease query, and alternative address allocation algorithms.

We have been updating our Kea packages on Cloudsmith, adding Alpine packages and making all the package names consistent. If you are using our Kea 2.3 packages, please read [this KB article](#) on the new file naming conventions.

Our DHCP QA team has completed the RedHat certification process for Kea on RHEL 9, so we now have certification for RHEL 7, 8, and 9.

We are planning a spring 2023 webinar series focused on Kea; if you have a topic you are interested in hearing more about, we would love to know!

Memory Management in BIND 9

Users frequently ask us how to optimize BIND 9 memory usage, for the best performance with a "safe" amount of overhead. This is an impossible question to answer! The truth is, every installation is different and the answers are platform-specific. So how can you measure memory usage on *your* platform, and how can you adjust BIND memory usage if you need to? Find out at our December webinar!

- How should you measure BIND 9 memory usage (Authoritative and Resolver)?
- Why does BIND 9.16+ use more memory than older versions?
- What is jemalloc and how does it help with BIND 9 memory usage?
- What BIND features can you adjust to change BIND's memory usage?

Join us on December 15, 2022 at 18:00 UTC! Register [here](#)

Upcoming Holiday Schedule for ISC Support

ISC's support department will be closed for regular business on:

Friday, December 23

Monday, December 26

Friday, December 30

Normal-priority tickets opened on those days will be responded to on the first business day following our return.



Critical-priority tickets will, as always, be responded to based on your organization's critical-ticket SLA. Please contact your account manager if you have questions about your level of support from ISC.

Maybe we will see you on the road?

We plan to be at [NANOG 87](#) and the [DNS-OARC 40 Workshop](#) in Atlanta in February. We may also see you at [Fosdem '23](#) in the DNS devroom, or at [RIPE 86](#) in Rotterdam in May.

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

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