

# **Route Injection and Spam**

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# A Note About The Format of This Talk and A Disclaimer

- I've prepared this talk in some detail so that it can be followed by those not present when the talk was originally given, and to minimize the need for the audience to jot down notes; doing so also help keep me on track.
- **Disclaimer: all opinions expressed in this document are strictly my own.**
- **Independently verify any/all data presented.**

# **I. IP Addresses, Routing, and the Connections You See**

# "Where Did *THAT* Traffic Come From?"

- A fundamental task performed in most every spam investigation is attributing network traffic to a responsible party. That's not always easy.
- Miscreants obviously want to hide and avoid attribution, and have been known to employ a variety of strategies and techniques in an effort to hinder backtracking.
- For example, it is well known that open proxies or spam zombies may be used in an effort to keep an investigator from successfully "working back upstream" to the ultimate source of spam traffic, and similarly everyone has seen forged headers or other misleading data that may be provided as part of a spam message's headers, just to mention a couple of approaches.
- In general, however, most investigators **DO** "rely on" the IP address of a system that directly connects to a trusted host<sup>4</sup>.

# For Example...

- Assume you saw a connection on your mail server to port 25 from 128.223.142.13...
- If you checked the DNS for that address on a Unix box, or if you checked whois, you'd associate that address with UO:

```
% host 128.223.142.13
13.142.223.128.in-addr.arpa domain name pointer darkwing.uoregon.edu.
% host darkwing.uoregon.edu
darkwing.uoregon.edu has address 128.223.142.13
```

```
% whois -h whois.arin.net 128.223.142.13
OrgName:      University of Oregon
OrgID:        UNIVER-193
Address:      1225 Kincaid St
City:         Eugene
StateProv:    OR
PostalCode:   97403-1212
[etc]
```

# In Reality, However...

- **Just because some IP addresses are shown as having been assigned or allocated to someone doesn't mean that they're the ones actually USING those addresses.**
- For example, a spammer may be able to arrange to have a third party ISP announce ("route") a range of IP addresses which they don't legitimately control. That announcement can be persistent, or temporary (e.g., brought up just long enough for a spam run and then withdrawn), a processes commonly known as "address space hijacking."
- **Address space hijacking may have important implications for antispam activities which rely on the backtracking of observed connections.**
- **If you've not verifying the routing of the TCP connections at the time IP addresses of interest were used, you may end up going after the wrong party.**

# The Feds Are Also Focused on IP Usage and Attribution Information

- The belief that if you "know" an IP (and a timestamp/time zone) you "should" be able to tell who's associated with that address is also reflected in **ISP customer record retention requirements** mentioned as part of...
  - The Attorney General's remarks at the NCMEC:  
[www.usdoj.gov/ag/speeches/2006/ag\\_speech\\_060420.html](http://www.usdoj.gov/ag/speeches/2006/ag_speech_060420.html)
  - Congresswoman Diana DeGettes's ISP data retention requirement amendment:  
[energycommerce.house.gov/108/Markups/04262006/degette\\_001\\_XML.PDF](http://energycommerce.house.gov/108/Markups/04262006/degette_001_XML.PDF)
  - EU/International data retention programs  
[www.epic.org/privacy/intl/data\\_retention.html](http://www.epic.org/privacy/intl/data_retention.html)
- **It is probably important that policy makers understand that apparent Internet traffic sources should not be taken at face value; route hijacking must also be considered.**<sub>7</sub>

## **II. A "Hand Waving" Introduction To Routing**

# What Do You Mean by "Routing?"

- A "route" can (informally) be thought of as the **path** that network traffic takes as it proceeds from its source to its destination. Anyone who's used the **traceroute** command has seen examples of network paths. For example, lets trace to 128.223.142.13 from a looking glass server in Seattle (for a list of looking glass sites see <http://www.traceroute.org>):

```
Tracing the route to darkwing.uoregon.edu (128.223.142.13)
 0  so-3-0-0.gar1.Seattle1.Level3.net (209.0.227.133)  0 ms  4 ms  0 ms
 1  ge-11-1.hsa2.Seattle1.Level3.net (4.68.105.103)  [AS 3356]  0 ms
    ge-10-2.hsa2.Seattle1.Level3.net (4.68.105.135)  [AS 3356]  0 ms
    ge-11-1.hsa2.Seattle1.Level3.net (4.68.105.103)  [AS 3356]  0 ms
 2  nero-gw.Level3.net (63.211.200.246)  [AS 3356]  12 ms  4 ms  4 ms
 3  ptck-core2-gw.nero.net (207.98.64.138)  [AS 3701]  4 ms  4 ms  4 ms
 4  eugn-core2-gw.nero.net (207.98.64.1)  [AS 3701]  8 ms  4 ms  8 ms
 5  eugn-car1-gw.nero.net (207.98.64.165)  [AS 3701]  8 ms  8 ms  8 ms
 6  uonet8-gw.nero.net (207.98.64.66)  [AS 3701]  4 ms  8 ms  4 ms
 7  ge-5-1.uonet2-gw.uoregon.edu (128.223.2.2)  [AS 3582]  8 ms  8 ms  8 ms
 8  darkwing.uoregon.edu (128.223.142.13)  [AS 3582]  8 ms  4 ms  8 ms
```

# Looking At That Traceroute...

- That traceroute shows the hop-by-hop path that traffic took going from a host in Seattle to 128.223.142.13. Because that traceroute was done from a "looking glass" running on a router, besides showing us "normal" traceroute stuff (such dotted quads and the host names for each hop in the path), it **also** shows us some **additional** numbers, e.g.: **"AS 3356," "AS 3701,"** and **"AS 3582."**
- Those numbers represent the "autonomous systems" through which network traffic might pass when going from our source host to our destination host. **AS3356** represents Level3, **AS3701** represents NERO (Oregon's higher education network), and **AS3582** represents the U of O. That is a perfectly reasonable path for traffic to take in this case.
- Traffic from a different destination will likely take a different path. For example, what about traffic from Switzerland?

# Traceroute From a Site in Switzerland

Tracing the route to darkwing.uoregon.edu (128.223.142.13)

```
1 switch.rt1.gen.ch.geant2.net (62.40.124.21) [AS 20965] 4 ms 0 ms 0 ms
2 so-7-2-0.rt1.fra.de.geant2.net (62.40.112.22) [AS 20965] 8 ms 8 ms 16 ms
3 abilene-wash-gw.rt1.fra.de.geant2.net (62.40.125.18) [AS 20965] 128 ms 124 ms
  112 ms
4 nycmng-washng.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.84) [AS 11537] 112 ms 108 ms 108 ms
5 chinng-nycmng.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.82) [AS 11537] 132 ms 132 ms 128 ms
6 iplsnng-chinng.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.77) [AS 11537] 144 ms 132 ms 136 ms
7 kscyng-iplsnng.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.81) [AS 11537] 152 ms 160 ms 140 ms
8 dnvrng-kscyng.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.13) [AS 11537] 164 ms 156 ms 152 ms
9 snvang-dnvrng.abilene.ucaid.edu (198.32.8.1) [AS 11537] 184 ms 176 ms 176 ms
10 pos-1-0.core0.eug.oregon-gigapop.net (198.32.163.17) [AS 4600] 192 ms 188 ms
  192 ms
11 uo-0.eug.oregon-gigapop.net (198.32.163.147) [AS 4600] 192 ms 200 ms 212 ms
12 ge-5-1.uonet1-gw.uoregon.edu (128.223.2.1) [AS 3582] 192 ms 188 ms
  ge-5-1.uonet2-gw.uoregon.edu (128.223.2.2) [AS 3582] 192 ms
13 darkwing.uoregon.edu (128.223.142.13) [AS 3582] 192 ms 188 ms 192 ms
```

- Now the path we see is **AS20965** (Geant), to **AS11537** (I2) to **AS4600** (the Oregon Gigapop) to **AS3582** (UO). If we checked other sites, we'd see still other paths, but in each case we could use the ASNs we see to compactly represent the path.

# What Is An ASN?

- An Autonomous System Number is a number assigned to a group of network addresses managed by a particular network operator which share a common routing policy.
- Most ISPs, large corporations, and university networks have an ASN. For example, Google uses AS15169, Sprint uses AS1239, Intel uses AS4983, and so on. Some large networks with particularly complex routing policies may have multiple ASNs; others, with simple routing policies and only a single upstream network provider, may have none (their network blocks get announced using their upstream provider's ASN).
- You may want to think of an ASN as a number that "maps to" or represents a particular provider or network. ASNs are nice to work with because in most cases a given entity will only have one, no matter how many IP addresses or netblocks or customers they may have.

# ASNs are New to Me. How Do I Translate the ASNs I See to Names?

- You can look ASNs up in the ARIN, RIPE, APNIC, LACNIC, AFRINIC, JPNIC, TWNIC (etc.) whois databases, just like IP addresses, either checking with a whois client or via the web whois interface provided by each of those registrars.
- If you don't find an ASN in the ARIN whois (for example), you may be redirected appropriately, or you may just need to try the other regions (e.g., check RIPE, check APNIC, check LACNIC, etc., etc.), until you finally get a match.
- Usually you'll preface the actual number with AS when looking it up, e.g., AS3582, but if you have difficulty getting a match with the AS included as a literal part of the query, try querying on just the actual AS number itself (this can help when the ASN you're trying to map is part of a range of ASNs documented via a single entry in the database).

# Example of Looking Up an ASN

- Assume, for example, we want to know who owns AS20965:

```
% whois -h whois.ripe.net AS20965
[snip]
aut-num:        AS20965
as-name:        GEANT
descr:          The GEANT IP Service
[snip]
role:           DANTE Operations
address:        City House, 126-130 Hills Road
address:        Cambridge CB2 1PQ, UK
phone:          +44 1223 371300
fax-no:         +44 1223 371371
[snip]
```

# The Origin AS; Detecting Hijacking

- Coming back to the traceroutes we did from Seattle and Switzerland, in each case the **last AS** in the path was the same: **AS3582**. That's the "origin AS."
- In our case, 128.223.142.13 belonged to UO and AS3582 also belonged to UO, so we can feel fairly comfortable that the 128.223.142.13 address was being used by an appropriate party. If bad traffic was seen from 128.223.142.13, UO should indeed be the ones to hear about it.
- But what if we'd seen some other AS other than 3582?  
**If/when a network address block gets hijacked, the ASN we'd normally expect to see ends up getting replaced with a different ASN, the ASN of the network that's injecting an unauthorized route for the hijacked netblock.**
- **Are YOU checking the ASNs that are associated with the IPs connecting to YOUR email servers?**

# Doing IP==>ASN Checks *En Masse*

- While doing a traceroute from a looking glass is a handy way of illustrating the concept of network paths and ASNs, it won't scale as a solution for checking millions (or even thousands!) of IP addresses per hour.
- Fortunately, a more scalable option is available – you can simply query the \$REVIP.asn.routeviews.org zone via DNS for txt records, either with dig or with host, or via equivalent programmatic calls. For example, to check to see what ASN is associated with 128.223.142.13, you'd say:  

```
% host -t txt 13.142.223.128.asn.routeviews.org  
13.142.223.128.asn.routeviews.org text "3582" "128.223.0.0" "16"
```

  
(Non-routed IPs return a magic "AS" value of 4294967295)
- For those who want to run that ASN zone from one or more local DNS servers, you can transfer a copy of that zone from ftp://archive.routeviews.org/dnszones/originas.zone (bzip2 compressed copies are also available in that same directory)

# What's that "128.223.0.0" & "16"?

- *The routeviews data shown in the example on the previous page provided an ASN, but it also returned two other values: "128.223.0.0" & "16" – what are those all about?*
- Those values show the **origin address** and the **CIDR length** (see RFC1519 for more information about CIDR notation) associated with the most specific encompassing prefix.
- Routing rules in the global routing table normally don't specify routes on a host-by-host basis, they normally work with larger chunks. Those chunks are normally referred to as "prefixes."
- In our example, the most specific route encompassing 128.223.142.13 was 128.223.0.0/16, or the range of addresses beginning at 128.223.0.0 and going through 128.223.255.255 (65,536 addresses in all).
- Note: checking just 128.223.142.13 won't flag any more specific routes present for other IPs in 128.223.0.0/16.

# Common CIDR Prefix Lengths

- /8 ==> 16,777,216 addresses
- /9 ==> 8,388,608
- /10 ==> 4,194,304
- /11 ==> 2,097,152
- /12 ==> 1,048,576
- /13 ==> 524,288
- /14 ==> 262,144
- /15 ==> 131,072
- /16 ==> 65,536
- /17 ==> 32,768
- /18 ==> 16,384
- /19 ==> 8,192
- /20 ==> 4,096
- /21 ==> 2,048
- /22 ==> 1,024
- /23 ==> 512
- /24 ==> 256
- /25 ==> 128
- /26 ==> 64
- /27 ==> 32
- /28 ==> 16
- /29 ==> 8
- /30 ==> 4
- /31 ==> 2
- /32 ==> 1

# Where Does The IP To ASN Zone Data Come From?

- The IP to ASN zone is produced by Routeviews, a project that Dave Meyer has here at the University of Oregon. See <http://www.routeviews.org/>
- A publicly available command line interface is also available:

```
% telnet route-views.routeviews.org
Username: rviews
route-views.oregon-ix.net> show ip bgp 128.223.142.13
BGP routing table entry for 128.223.0.0/16, version 686953
Paths: (50 available, best #35, table Default-IP-Routing-Table)
  Not advertised to any peer
  1221 4637 3356 3701 3582
    203.62.252.26 from 203.62.252.26 (203.62.252.26)
      Origin IGP, localpref 100, valid, external
  2905 701 3356 3701 3582
    196.7.106.245 from 196.7.106.245 (196.7.106.245)
      Origin IGP, metric 0, localpref 100, valid, external
[etc]
```

# Interpreting Routeviews CLI Output

- Routeviews shows network paths from 50 different points on the Internet (just like our two sample traceroutes, which differed when run from Seattle and from Switzerland)
- Just like our sample traceroutes, the **LAST (rightmost) ASN** shown is the one that will usually be the one of interest
- Sometimes we do care about who's **UPSTREAM** of the last ASN; using the command language interface makes it easy to see that, too. See the Routeviews aspath zone:

```
% host -t txt 13.142.223.128.aspath.routeviews.org
13.142.223.128.aspath.routeviews.org text "22388 11537 4600 3582"
"128.223.0.0" "16"
```

- Other CLI queries are also possible via routeviews, e.g.:

```
route-views.oregon-ix.net> show ip bgp regex _3582$
```

will show a list of all prefixes originated by AS3582

# Why Does Routeviews Bother Showing Routing Data from 50 Sites?

- Hosts on the Internet may be multihomed (multihoming is the practice of connecting to the Internet via multiple service providers). For example, a large corporation may purchase connectivity from Level3, from Sprint, and from Cogent in an effort to get provider diversity and redundancy. When you do a traceroute from the one site to the other site, you'll only see ONE such path into a site.
- The Routeviews CLI shows you the paths into a site from 50 different locations, thereby maximizing the chance that you'll see multiple (all? most?) different routes into a site of interest, thereby giving you a better sense of how that site is connected to the Internet at large. Instead of saying, "That site connects to the Internet via Level3," you may learn that it connects via Level3, AND Sprint AND Cogent, for example.

# ICMP, BGP and TCP/UDP Traffic

- Occasionally folks may find a situation where the path shown by traceroute (an ICMP-based tool) differs radically from the path shown in routeviews BGP data, or in other cases, actual TCP or UDP application traffic follows a radically different path than the path implied by BGP data. There may be multiple reasons for this, including (just to mention a few)
  - BGP reports the *signaling* path associated with routing update messages, which will usually be the same as the traffic *forwarding* path (but sometimes may not be)
  - Traffic may be selectively filtered, tunneled or otherwise handled in ways which can easily obfuscate or mislead
  - there are a number of other possible causes of anomalies.
- Nice discussion of this can be found in Mao et. al.'s "Towards an Accurate AS-Level Traceroute Tool,"

<http://www.acm.org/sigs/sigcomm/sigcomm2003/papers/p365-mao.pdf>

# One Last Note for This Section: ASN-tag Email As You Receive It

- Routing information is time sensitive/dynamic. If you wait to check the routing associated with an IP address, during that interval the routing may have changed, and you may tag a message with the wrong ASN. Therefore, add ASN tags to mail at the time the email is received. If it turns out you don't need the ASN info, it is just one more header you've added to the mail (and which you and your users can ignore); if you do need the data, you'll be dang glad it's there.
- Note: the ASN zone updates/reloads at 11:45 and 23:45 UTC; the plans is to increase that frequency in the future...
- Karsten Self has released the procmail code he uses to tag his incoming mail at delivery time with a X-ASN: header at <http://linuxmafia.com/~karsten/Download/procmail-asn-header>  
Similar things can be done for other MTAs/delivery agents,

# **III. Spammer Motivations for Doing Address Space Hijackings**

# Spammers and Legitimate Address Space

- Spammers have several problems when it comes to legitimate address space...
  - as quickly as they get new address space and begin to use it to spam, that space gets listed on block lists (at which point the usability of that space drops dramatically)
  - if spammers get address space legitimately, there's an administrative trail leading right back at 'em; very handy for law suits and criminal prosecutions!
  - requests for more address space need to be justified, and **"I've spammed heavily from all the address space I've currently got, and now that space is all block listed and worthless for sending more spam,"** usually won't "cut it"
  - spammers want to "fly under the radar" if they can, and mailing heavily from one's own IP space tends to stand out

# So What's a Spammer To Do?

- Well, we know that spammers will try to send their spam via spam zombies, but that's not working as well for them as it used to.
- Is there anything else they could do? Well, if you're a spammer and not particularly worried about doing bad things, the "expedient" thing to do might be to just take some IP addresses that don't belong to you (if you're accustomed to hijacking PCs and using them as spam zombies, hijacking network address blocks probably won't feel particularly daring).
- Heck, stealing otherwise unused address space may be LESS legally risky than hijacking PCs and turning them into zombies...

# Taking That Which Doesn't Belong to You *Is* Stealing, Right?

- Hijacking a netblock is clearly "wrong" and "bad," but a non-rhetorical, non-flip, truly serious question...  
*Is hijacking a not-otherwise-in-use netblock a **crime**? If so, is it a felony or misdemeanor? What **statute** is being violated? **How many** netblock hijackers have been successfully prosecuted to-date?*
- If hijacking a netblock is **NOT** a crime in the United States, should that be fixed? Would there be the willpower to actually prosecute a netblock hijacker (or would this be just yet another technical violation that never actually gets charged)?
- Will this require some really grotesque routing-based denial of service incident to motivate official attention and new law?
- And what about netblock hijackings **overseas**?

# Well, Even If Hijacking A Netblock Isn't Something That's Routinely Prosecuted...

- Wouldn't someone at least notice/care if a miscreant hijacked a prefix?
- Maybe yes, maybe no. It depends in part on what prefixes the miscreant announces, and how they use/announce it.

# Announcing an Already-Used Prefix

- If a miscreant announces an **already-used** prefix, this will typically end up being noticed because at least some legitimate traffic will be diverted from its intended destination, and connectivity to the normal hosts using that prefix will break.<sup>1</sup> Of course, one could imagine a miscreant **intentionally** announcing an already-used prefix as part of a denial of service attack, or as part of an effort to obtain traffic to sniff, etc. (see RFC4272 at 1-2) but for the purpose of this spam-oriented discussion, we'll disregard those possibilities.
- Given that the miscreant wants to "fly below the radar," his/her quest becomes one of finding an address block, or at least part of an address block, that's not currently in use.

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1. How much traffic will be diverted depends on whether the unauthorized user announces a prefix that is of the same specificity or granularity as the real user or one or more more-specific prefixes, as well as a variety of other factors. 29

# Unallocated/Reserved Space?

- Some folks may assume that when we talk about address space that's "not currently in use" we're talking about IP address space that's reserved or which has yet-to-be-allocated by IANA ("bogon space").
- See <http://www.iana.org/assignments/ipv4-address-space> and <http://www.cymru.com/Documents/bogon-list.html>
- Unallocated/reserved space would not work well for stealthy spammer use because unallocated/reserved space is well documented, widely filtered, and any use of that space will typically be quickly noticed and publicized (see the next slide for examples where unallocated/reserved space is reportedly in use, generally/presumably with no malicious intent).

# <http://thyme.apnic.net/ap-data/2006/10/19/0400/mail-global>

## Prefixes from private and non-routed address space (Global)

```
-----  
Prefix          Origin AS      Description  
198.18.0.0/15   8895          KACST/ISU Riyadh Autonomous S
```

## Advertised Unallocated Addresses

```
-----  
Network         Origin AS      Description  
132.0.0.0/10    721           DLA Systems Automation Center  
137.0.0.0/13    721           DLA Systems Automation Center  
158.0.0.0/13    721           DLA Systems Automation Center  
172.33.1.0/24   7018          AT&T WorldNet Services  
192.44.0.0/24   5501          Fraunhofer Gesellschaft  
192.44.0.0/19   702           UUNET - Commercial IP service  
192.70.164.0/24 25689         National Research Council of  
192.84.205.0/24 719           LANLINK autonomous system  
192.172.0.0/19  721           DLA Systems Automation Center  
192.249.0.0/20  3450          University of Tennessee, Knox
```

# Forgotten/Ignored Prefixes

- Most persistent hijackings are associated with forgotten/ignored "zombie" network prefixes which bad guys notice, "resurrect," and then begin to use as their own.
- Forgotten/ignored prefixes are often the result of legacy address allocation provided to a now-out-of-business company. When that company folded or was acquired, if its address space was no longer required, it should have been returned to ARIN/RIPE/APNIC/etc. (e.g., see <http://www.arin.net/policy/nrpm.html> at 8.1) but often the employees of a company in "freefall" have other, more personal, priorities.
- Since the now-out-of-business company doesn't exist any more, and thus has no networking staff, and thus no one to notice/complain that its IP address space is being used w/o authorization, the hijackers have the addresses they want.<sup>32</sup>

# Another Possibility: Underutilized Prefixes

- Underutilized prefixes arise when an entity has access to more address space than it currently needs. When that's the case, a miscreant may "borrow" a chunk of that address space that's not currently being actively used, and begin to advertise that space via a more specific route for the hijacker's own nefarious purposes.
- So what's the role of ISPs when it comes to preventing the announcement of unauthorized prefixes?

## **IV. Hijacked Blocks and the ISP**

# "Uh, I've Got 'My Own' Address Space"

- Most ISPs are careful to only announce their own IP address space, or provider independent portable address space legitimately controlled by their customers, filtering all other prefixes which may be seen from a downstream customer.
- ISP validation of customer prefixes often focuses on obtaining a **letter of authorization** from the customer, plus checking **whois** for each prefix the customer wants to use, and/or requiring customer registration of those blocks in a suitable **routing registry**, e.g., see for example:
  - "Adding a BGP Customer"  
<http://www.he.net/adm/addingbgpcustomer.html>
  - "BGP Techniques for Internet Service Providers"  
<http://www.nanog.org/mtg-0405/pdf/smith.pdf> at slide 146
  - "Routing Registry Route Object"  
[savvis-rr.savvis.net/Routing\\_Registry/routeobjectinfo.htm](http://savvis-rr.savvis.net/Routing_Registry/routeobjectinfo.htm)

# ISPs, Whois, and Hijacked Blocks

- Because conscientious providers check whois when asked to route a new customer prefix, some IP address hijackers create **new** companies with names that "look like" the name of the company that originally received the prefix they want to use. They then attempt to **socially engineer** the RIR into "updating" the whois data associated with the targeted prefix to use the look-alike company's contact information.
- Bad guys have historically also attempted to **mechanically update** whois data when that data is only secured by MAIL-FROM authentication, but this is now less commonly possible. See: <http://www.ripe.net/db/news/mailfrom.html>  
<http://www.apnic.net/meetings/14/sigs/db/minutes.html>  
[http://www.arin.net/CA/ca\\_faq.html](http://www.arin.net/CA/ca_faq.html)
- Nice historical discussion of mntner object security at [www.trustmatta.com/downloads/Matta\\_NIC\\_Security.pdf](http://www.trustmatta.com/downloads/Matta_NIC_Security.pdf)

# ISPs and Routing Registries

- Some ISPs require all customer prefixes to be registered in a routing registry ("RR"), either one run by the ISP itself, or in a community RR that serves a wider constituency.
- A list of routing registries is available online at <http://www.irr.net/docs/list.html>
- You can query the RADB at <http://www.radb.net/>
- RR's usually use "RPSL" to express objects in the database; see RFC2622 and RFC2650 for information about RPSL.
- Among other data, routing registries list routes (or route-sets) and the ASNs that should be originating those routes.
- When use of a RR is required, and that data is kept accurate and current, ISPs can use that data to mechanically build prefix filters (e.g., using tools from the IRRToolSet) and thus avoid accidentally accepting unauthorized/typo'd prefixes
- Unfortunately, use of RRs is not universally compulsory. 37

# Some Warning Signs for Customer IP Blocks

- Claims to have "bought" the IPs (blocks can't be bought/sold)
- **Recently updated** netblock, ASN or domain whois information, particularly if the resources were originally assigned long ago, back in legacy days (e.g., the 1990's).
- Whois email contact addresses using domains which do not exist, or use of contact addresses on free email providers
- Missing or inconsistent online corporate web presence.
- Corporation registration lapsed (or reporting overdue)
- Missing, invalid, or concealed phone # and street addresses, or use of mail forwarding service addresses or cell phone numbers.
- Limited upstream/downstream connectivity (e.g., ASN with one network block upstream of another ASN with just one or two network blocks); no obvious "real" customers

# ISPs as Trusted Gatekeepers

- The preceding slides should make you realize that ISPs play a **crucial role** in acting as trusted gatekeepers when it comes to preventing announcement of hijacked address blocks, but it is **not** clear that this is a legally binding obligation on the part of ISPs worldwide.
- ISP marketing types may attempt to steamroller inquiries and requests from operations for prefix verification. "The check cleared, right? Who cares about the IP addresses they want to use, anyhow? How do you know they AREN'T theirs??"
- Other ISPs may simply not do any BCP38 ingress filtering (allowing customers to advertise whatever prefixes they like).
- Another possibility is that some ISPs may not be controlled by the good guys any more. (If the bad guys have bought banks in the past, is there any reason why they might not also purchase an ISP in order to avoid pesky questions?) 39

# ISPs and "Defensively Deaggregated" Announcements

- One last thing that should be mentioned in the context of ISPs and route hijacking is what might be called "defensive deaggregation" of routes in an effort to prevent hijackers from announcing more specific routes.
- Recall that the most specific match in the routing table will be used. Thus, if you announce a nicely aggregated /19, but a hijacker announces two /20's, his more specific routes will "win" and traffic will flow toward his network rather than toward yours. To proactively discourage this, some providers intentionally deaggregate their own prefixes and announce "more specifics" (e.g., often a whole pile of /24's).
- Obviously, this is **NOT desirable** when it comes to containing routing table bloat, but a (perception) of private benefits may once again outweigh public costs.

# Route Filtering Policies

- If an ISP announces a pile of /24's, you might wonder what would keep a miscreant from simply announcing a larger pile of more specific /25's, etc. **ISP route filtering policies** normally kick in to help limit overly specific routes. Example: [http://www.ip-plus.net/technical/route\\_filtering\\_policy.en.html](http://www.ip-plus.net/technical/route_filtering_policy.en.html)
- Many providers ignore routes more specific than a /24
- It is also common for providers to reserve the right to aggregate (where feasible) more specific announcements they see from customers.
- Nonetheless, you should not be surprised to see LOTS of deaggregated prefixes announced, e.g., check out the CIDR Report: <http://www.cidr-report.org/> For example, on 20 Oct 2006, AS4134 could have announced 272 routes, but gave the Internet 1217 less-aggregated routes instead...

*[Stipulated: There are/can be legitimate technical reasons for announcing more specifics]*

# So Is Anyone Watching For Hijackings?

- It would be great if ARIN/RIPE/APNIC/LACNIC or some other technical body was watching the entire Internet's address space for hijackings, but in general they are neither charged nor equipped to generally do so (RIPE does deserve credit for running an ASN-by-ASN opt-in route monitoring service called myASN, however)
- To the best of my knowledge, the federal government also doesn't monitor the Internet routing table looking for hijackings, or if they do do so, they don't do so in any general/publicly advertised way.
- Just as in many things spam- or network security-related, private parties carry the load....:-)

# CompleteWhois, Spamhaus DROP, Etc

- For example, the **CompleteWhois** folks have a list of over 125 known or suspected netblock hijacks documented at <http://www.completewhois.com/hijacked/index.htm> ; see also the **Spamhaus DROP** (Do not Route Or Peer) Advisory Null List ( <http://www.spamhaus.org/drop/> ) and the **UNM Internet Alert Registry** ( <http://cs.unm.edu/~karlinjf/IAR/index.php> )
- Two other route monitoring resources are **RIPE's myASN** service (<http://www.ris.ripe.net/myasn.html>), and the Colorado State's **Prefix Hijack Alert System (PHAS)** <http://netsec.cs.colostate.edu/phas/>
- There are even commercial projects such as **Renesys' Routing Intelligence Service**, see [http://www.renesys.com/products\\_services/routing\\_intelligence.shtml](http://www.renesys.com/products_services/routing_intelligence.shtml)

# Who Has Announced Hijacked Netblocks Flagged by CompleteWhois?

- In order for a hijacked netblock to be useful, it needs to be announced by an ISP, at which point it becomes associated with that ISP's Autonomous System Number. The next slide shows ASNs that were listed by CompleteWhois as having announced one or more potentially hijacked netblocks.
- Couple of things to note:
  - some of those ASNs are familiar and unquestionably "white hat;" others may be comparatively unknown or may have less uniformly favorable reputations.
  - ASNs were mapped to entity names this Summer; it is possible that some ASNs have changed to an unrelated 3rd party since the time that they were listed (although most will have a stable assignment and usage history)

# ASNs from CompleteWhois' List

3491:	BTNA (VA)	14492:	DataPipe (NJ)
5042:	Discnet (CT)	15188:	Diali Internet (FL)
6216:	Turfway Park (KY)	16631:	Cogent (DC)
7438:	Telefonica Data Mexico	18747:	IFX Comm (FL)
7474:	SingTel Optus Pty Ltd (NSW Aus)	19151:	WV Fiber LLC (TN)
8001:	NAC (NJ)	20290:	Lynch Intl. (GA)
8121:	TCH Network Svcs. (CA)	20473:	NetTransactions (NJ)
8129:	CAI Wireless (VA)	21844:	The Planet (TX)
8143:	Publicom Corp. (FL)	22653:	Global Compass (GA)
8167:	TELESC (BR)	22938:	BigCity Networks (TX)
9723:	ISEEK Ltd. (Qld. Aus)	23131:	Starlan Comm. (NY)
9826:	iLink.net Ltd (HK)	23184:	Persona Comm. (Nfld. Can.)
9929:	China Netcom Corp. (CN)	23401:	NAC (NJ)
10741:	Wam Net Entr. Inc. (FL)	23352:	Server Central Network (IL)
10912:	Internap (GA)	25847:	ServInt Corp (VA)
13419:	2Access.net, Inc (OH)	26522:	Netwave Tech. Inc. (NY)
13768:	Peer1 (NY)	26797:	SIMRAD (Norway)
13953:	Bisco Industries Inc. (CA)		[continued next slide]

# ASNs from CompleteWhois' List

- 26857: Web Design House (NY)
- 26891: INGS (IN)
- 26978: Sterling Network Svcs (AZ)
- 27255: VMX, Inc. (NY)
- 27526: Endai Corp. (NY)
- 27595: InterCage, Inc. (CA)
- 28706: Stream TC (Ukraine)
- 29698: INVESTools Inc. (TX)
- 29713: ITV Direct Inc. (MA)
- 29761: OC3 Networks (CA)
- 29893: Bombay Co. (TX)
- 29994: Iskimaro (CA)
- 30080: Arnold Mag. Tech. (NY)

See the individual Completewhois listings for details associated with each ASN.

# Investigating a Prefix (Beyond Just Finding What ASN Is Announcing It)

- Unfortunately, it can be quite difficult to investigate a potentially hijacked prefix beyond finding the ASN that's announcing it:
  - whois data may be inaccurate/questionable
  - the announcing ISP may be less than cooperative if the hijacked block is associated with a lucrative/bad customer
  - just as netblocks can be hijacked, ASNs can also be hijacked/used without authorization
  - if you get "too close" the hijacked prefix may get replaced with a new one; rinse, lather, repeat
  - working route hijacking issues will likely require the involvement of your corporation's network engineers, and you need to understand that their perspective is different than yours (assuming your emphasis is anti-spam work)<sub>47</sub>

# The Network Engineer Perspective vs. The AntiSpam Perspective

- Network engineers view route hijacking risks differently than anti-spammers. Routing geeks generally worry about someone hijacking their own prefixes, or a customer trying to slide a hijacked prefix past the local NOC's staff.
- Anti-spammers, on the other hand, care about ANY hijacked netblock that may be used to emit spam, provide spammer DNS service, host spamvertised web sites, etc.
- Unfortunately, at least some antihijacking/route-monitoring projects focus on the routing geek perspective, NOT the anti-spam perspective, emphasizing direct notification about injected routes pertaining to just a small number of ASNs or netblocks. I suggest taking each project on its own merits, because each is valuable in different ways.

# **V. Transient Routing of Large Prefixes**

# What About Possible Short-Lived Hijackings of Large Prefixes?

- See "Short-Lived Prefix Hijacking on the Internet," by Peter Boothe, et. al. (Peter's with the UO CIS Department), <http://www.nanog.org/mtg-0602/pdf/boothe.pdf> which states that there were between **26 and 96 successful prefix hijackings in December 2005** (95% confidence level)
- Do spammers use those sort of short-lived prefix hijackings? Well, see "Understanding the Network Level Behavior of Spammers," A. Ramachandran and Nick Feamster, Georgia Tech, <http://www.nanog.org/mtg-0606/pdf/nick-feamster.pdf> :

*"Common short lived prefixes and ASes*

*61.0.0.0/8 4678*

*66.0.0.0/8 21562*

*82.0.0.0/8 8717"*

# How Would Announcing x/8 Work?

- Any traffic addressed to parts of x/8 which are NOT covered by some other route would go to a general route covering x/8.
- Because that's a very large announcement, any more specific announcement will be preferred over it; if you're someone who's legitimately announcing some smaller chunk of x/8 you'll never notice the larger covering announcement.
- Spammers announcing the large covering x/8 WILL have the ability to use onesie-tvosie addresses scattered throughout all the otherwise unrouted parts of "their" large prefix... no need to cluster all their spam traffic in a single, compact, easily-identified and easily-filtered range.
- "Nice" side effect: complaints will also often end up being directed to inappropriate parties, or just fall on the floor.
- This is obviously potentially very, very, evil.

# "Problems" of Advertising Large Blocks

- There's only a small number of /8's that can potentially be announced.
- If you know to look for those announcements, it is awfully easy to spot them.
- Once you know they exist, you can work on getting them filtered or otherwise eliminated at a technical level.
- Other bad guys can "take" "your" /8 by advertising more specific covering routes, such as /9's (or /10's, or /11's, etc.)
- There's one other issue that sometimes is raised when the possibility of doing transient announcement of large blocks comes up... damping.

# Damping

- If the bad guys inject a large covering route for a short period of time and then withdraw it, and then re-advertise it repeatedly, that activity may trigger **route-flap damping**. Damping holds down, or suppresses, an oscillating route for a period of time. See RFC2439, November 1998.
- Route-flap damping was introduced to improve the stability of the Internet core's routing table and to control the CPU load placed on core routers, and has been widely deployed.
- If spammers are rapidly introducing and withdrawing routes, per Feamster's talk, wouldn't they get damped? Maybe, maybe not. For example, the RIPE Routing Working Group has now recommended that ISPs NOT do damping any longer (see <http://www.ripe.net/ripe/docs/ripe-378.html>). See also <http://www.nanog.org/mtg-0210/ppt/flap.pdf>
- For now, let's just call this an open potential issue.

# What Do We Currently See Advertised For The Previously Mentioned /8 Prefixes...

```
% telnet route-views.oregon-ix.net
Username: rviews
route-views.oregon-ix.net>show ip bgp 61.0.0.0/8
% Network not in table
route-views.oregon-ix.net>show ip bgp 66.0.0.0/8
% Network not in table
route-views.oregon-ix.net>show ip bgp 82.0.0.0/8
% Network not in table
```

Remember, however: we're talking about potential **short-lived** announcements. Just because we're not seeing them **now** doesn't mean they weren't there **before** (or might not be there **later on**)... Hard to find an accurate crystal ball, but we do have a functioning rear view mirror... let's look at 61/8 as an example.

# Historical Routing Data

- Route-Views has both:
  - CLI format data (similar to what you'd see if you telnet'd to route-views) routing data archived back to November 1997 (see <http://archive.routeviews.org/oix-route-views/> ) and
  - MRT format routing data that goes back to October 2001.
- The easiest way to access at least a limited subset of that data is via Merit's web-based BGP-Inspect-Routeviews, see <http://bgpinspect.merit.edu/>
- Sample BGP-Inspect query form, and resulting output excerpts can be seen on the following slides...

BGP-Inspect - bgpinspect.merit.edu - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

http://bgpinspect.merit.edu/ Go

**Raw Data Analysis:** (Please select a peer, query type, AS/prefix, and time range)

Peer:

- 144.228.241.81 - Sprint
- 157.130.10.233 - UUNET-MCI
- 208.51.134.253 - Global X
- 129.250.0.11 - NTT-America-CA
- 193.251.245.6 - France-Telecom-NYC

Query Type:

- AS
- Prefix-Exact
- Prefix-More Specific

Query: (ASN or a.b.c.d/len)

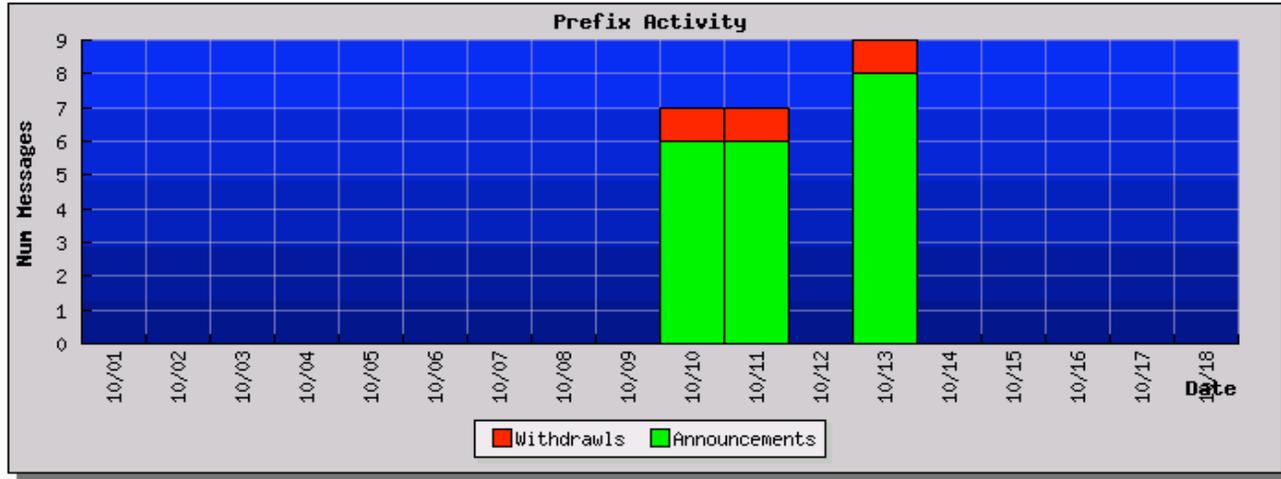
61.0.0.0/8

Date Start 2006 Oct 1 00 :  
00

Date End 2006 Oct 19 00 :  
00

Submit Query

**Peer: 193.251.245.6**  
**Prefix: 61.0.0.0/8**



**Query Summary Statistics**

Attribute	Value
Query Time Range Start	October 1, 2006, 12:00 am +0000
Query Time Range End	October 19, 2006, 12:00 am +0000
Total Update Messages	23
Total Announce Messages	20
Total Withdraw Messages	3

view go bookmarks tools help			
http://bgpinspectmerit.edu/query.php			
+0000			
October 11, 2006, 9:24 am +0000	a	5511 209 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 11, 2006, 9:24 am +0000	a	5511 209 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 11, 2006, 9:26 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 11, 2006, 9:26 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 11, 2006, 9:26 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 11, 2006, 9:26 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 11, 2006, 9:27 am +0000	w	-	-
October 13, 2006, 3:07 am +0000	a	5511 209 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:07 am +0000	a	5511 209 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:08 am +0000	a	5511 209 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:09 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:09 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:09 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:09 am +0000	a	5511 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:10 am +0000	a	5511 1239 3356 7911 2516 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678 4678	-
October 13, 2006, 3:10 am +0000	w	-	-

# Some Notes About That Output

- The announcements you're seeing in that report are awfully brief (and thus most likely are not spam-related).
- Some ASNs are repeated in the reported routes; that's called "AS path prepending" and is generally done in an effort to force traffic *AWAY* from that route (for two equally specific routes, the one with the shorter path will usually get used)
- The last column (with dashes in it) is for community strings. Community strings are "tags" that get applied to routes by ISPs. The tags may signal the source of routes, or be used to control where routes get advertised, for example. Each ISP may use its own unique community string naming conventions. These conventions may be described on a public web page, in whois information for their ASN, or be company proprietary/undisclosed, or there may be no community tags at all.

# Working Directly With The Routeviews Zebra Format MRT Data

- While Merit's BGP-Inspect interface is convenient for casually looking at a month's worth of data at a time, sometimes you may want to look at historical routing data over a longer time span, or as part of a script.
- Thus, you should also know that in addition to collecting data in Cisco "show ip" CLI format, Route-Views also collects data in Zebra MRT format (for example, Route-Views collects data in that format via the Equinix Route-Views box).
- Marco d'Itri's Zebra Dump Parser tools can be convenient for working with MRT format data. For a copy of his tools, see: <http://www.linux.it/~md/software/zebra-dump-parser.tgz>

# For Example, Who's Announcing /9's?

- Assume you'd like to know who's announcing /9 network blocks. Install Marco d'Itri's Zebra Dump Parser tools if you've not already done so.
- Retrieve a sample mrt format dataset (mind the wrap!):  

```
% wget ftp://archive.routeviews.org/route-views.eqix/  
bgpdata/2006.10/RIBS/rib.20061017.1609.bz    <== large!
```
- Uncompress the dataset, run it through the parser, and show any slash nine's seen:  

```
% bzip2 -d rib.20061017.1609.bz2 | ./zebra-dump-parser.pl |  
sort | uniq | grep "\/9"    <== that's "backslash slash nine"!
```
- The output on the next page has been annotated for ease of interpretation

# Observed /9's (8,388,608 IPs each)

Prefix	ASN	ASN Name
4.0.0.0/9	3356	Level3
4.128.0.0/9	3356	Level3
12.0.0.0/9	7018	AT&T Worldnet
12.128.0.0/9	7018	AT&T Worldnet
17.0.0.0/9	714	Apple
17.128.0.0/9	714	Apple
8.0.0.0/9	3356	Level3
8.128.0.0/9	3356	Level3
63.0.0.0/9	31055	Consultix GmbH, Bremen DE
215.0.0.0/9	721	DOD

*Any one of those look... unusual... to you?*

*What about other prefixes seen from AS31055?*

# Potaroo BGP Update Log Data

BGP Update Log for AS 31055 - Mozilla Firefox										
File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help										
http://bgpupdates.potaroo.net/cgi-bin/generate_as_log?as=31055										
1161006296	23:44:56_16-Oct	1	1	0	0	0	+PT	211.128.0.0/9	<4637 9225 2516 209 286 31055>	[9225:666 9225:2097 9225:60952]
1161006310	23:45:10_16-Oct	0	0	0	0	0	-	211.128.0.0/9	<4637 9225 2516 209 286 31055>	
1161006776	23:52:56_16-Oct	1	0	0	0	1	+A	66.0.0.0/8	<4637 286 31055>	
1161006836	23:53:56_16-Oct	1	1	0	0	0	+P	66.0.0.0/8	<4637 209 286 31055>	
1161006836	23:53:56_16-Oct	1	0	0	0	1	+A	65.0.0.0/8	<4637 286 31055>	
1161006866	23:54:26_16-Oct	1	1	0	0	0	+P	66.0.0.0/8	<4637 2516 209 286 31055>	
1161006896	23:54:56_16-Oct	1	1	0	0	0	+PT	66.0.0.0/8	<4637 9225 2516 209 286 31055>	[9225:666 9225:2097 9225:60952]
1161006926	23:55:26_16-Oct	1	1	0	0	0	+P	65.0.0.0/8	<4637 209 286 31055>	
1161006926	23:55:26_16-Oct	1	0	0	0	1	+A	64.0.0.0/8	<4637 286 31055>	
1161006927	23:55:27_16-Oct	0	0	0	0	0	-	66.0.0.0/8	<4637 9225 2516 209 286 31055>	

## **VI. A Brief Exercise If We Have Time**

# Let's See Who's Announcing /8's

- Assume you're curious about who's announcing /8's. Recall that /8 network blocks represent 16,777,216 addresses, so these are pretty substantial number assets. (Also recall that /8's were mentioned as being used by spammers in Ramachandran and Feamster's NANOG talk.
- We'll assume that you'll follow the same data extraction approach we followed when we looked at the /9's earlier.
- You should see something like the data on the following page (I've annotated that data for your ease of review).

# /8's

3.0.0.0/8 80	<== General Electric's block, GE's ASN
4.0.0.0/8 3356	<== Level3's block, Level3's ASN
8.0.0.0/8 3356	<== Level3's block, Level3's ASN
10.0.0.0/8 16559	<== RFC1918 private address space, RealConnect, Inc. (Wash DC) ASN
12.0.0.0/8 7018	<== ATT's block, ATT's ASN
15.0.0.0/8 71	<== HP's block, HP's ASN
16.0.0.0/8 71	<== ditto
17.0.0.0/8 714	<== Apple's block, Apple's ASN
18.0.0.0/8 3	<== MIT's block, MIT's ASN
32.0.0.0/8 2686	<== ATT's block, ATT's ASN ( <b>AS2685-AS2694 RTech Contact email domain, redsiren.com, is owned by Getronics Intellectual Property BV, NL as of 18 May 05</b> )
33.0.0.0/8 721	<== DOD's block, DOD's ASN
35.0.0.0/8 237	<== Merit's block, Merit's ASN
38.0.0.0/8 174	<== PSI's block (actually Cogent now), Cogent's ASN
44.0.0.0/8 7377	<== Amateur Radio block, UCSD ASN (consistent POC info for both)
45.0.0.0/8 2381	<== Interop Show Network block, U Wisconsin-Madison ASN
53.0.0.0/8 31399	<== Cap Debis CCS, c/o Mercedes Benz, Stuttgart; Daimler Chrysler ASN
55.0.0.0/8 721	<== DOD's block, DOD's ASN
<b>57.0.0.0/8 2647</b>	<== **** "SITA" (FR)'s block, "SITA" (FR)'s ASN ****
126.0.0.0/8 17676	<== BBTec block, BBTech ASN
214.0.0.0/8 721	<== DOD's block, DOD's ASN

[whois.arin.net]

OrgName: **SITA-Societe Internationale de Telecommunications Aeronautiques**  
OrgID: SIDTA  
Address: 112 Avenue Charles de Gaulle  
Address: Neuilly, 92522 Cedex  
Country: FR  
NetRange: 57.0.0.0 - 57.255.255.255  
**CIDR: 57.0.0.0/8**  
NetName: SITA-A  
NetHandle: NET-57-0-0-0-1  
NetType: Direct Assignment  
NameServer: NS1.**EQUANT.NET**  
NameServer: NS2.**EQUANT.NET**  
NameServer: NS3.**EQUANT.NET**  
**RegDate: 1993-06-21**  
**Updated: 2000-02-02**  
RTechHandle: SITA-NOC-ARIN  
RTechName: **SITA EQUANT** Network Operations Center  
RTechPhone: +33 4 92 96 63 66  
RTechEmail: **noc@sita.net**

\$ Information related to 'AS2647'

**aut-num:** AS2647  
**as-name:** SITA  
**descr:** SITA  
112 Avenue Charles de Gaulle  
Neuilly sur Seine, 92522  
FR

**admin-c:** [SEN01-RIPE](#)  
**tech-c:** [SEN01-RIPE](#)  
**admin-c:** [JC927-RIPE](#)  
**tech-c:** [JC927-RIPE](#)  
**mnt-by:** [ERX-AS2647-MNT](#)  
**changed:** [hostmaster@arin.net](#) 19930519  
**changed:** [hostmaster@arin.net](#) 19990625  
**changed:** [er-transfer@ripe.net](#) 20020821  
**source:** RIPE

**person:** Jimmy Chang  
**address:** Wisecom, Inc.  
2011 N Capital Avenue  
San Jose  
CA  
95132  
US

**phone:** +1 408 935 0888  
**nic-hdl:** JC927-RIPE  
**mnt-by:** [RIPE-ERX-MNT](#)  
**changed:** [hostmaster@arin.net](#) 19980310  
**changed:** [er-transfer@ripe.net](#) 20020821  
**source:** RIPE

**person:** SITA EQUANT Network Operations Center  
**address:** SITA EQUANT Network Operations Center  
Batiment Heraklion - 1041 Route des  
Dolines  
Valbonne - Sophia Antipolis, 06560  
FR

**phone:** +33 4 92 96 63 66  
**e-mail:** noc@sita.net  
**nic-hdl:** SEN01-RIPE  
**mnt-by:** [RIPE-ERX-MNT](#)  
**changed:** [hostmaster@arin.net](#) 20000503  
**changed:** [er-transfer@ripe.net](#) 20020821  
**source:** RIPE

# What Does the RADB Show Beyond the AS2647 whois data?

 <http://www.radb.net/cgi-bin/radb/advanced-query.cgi>

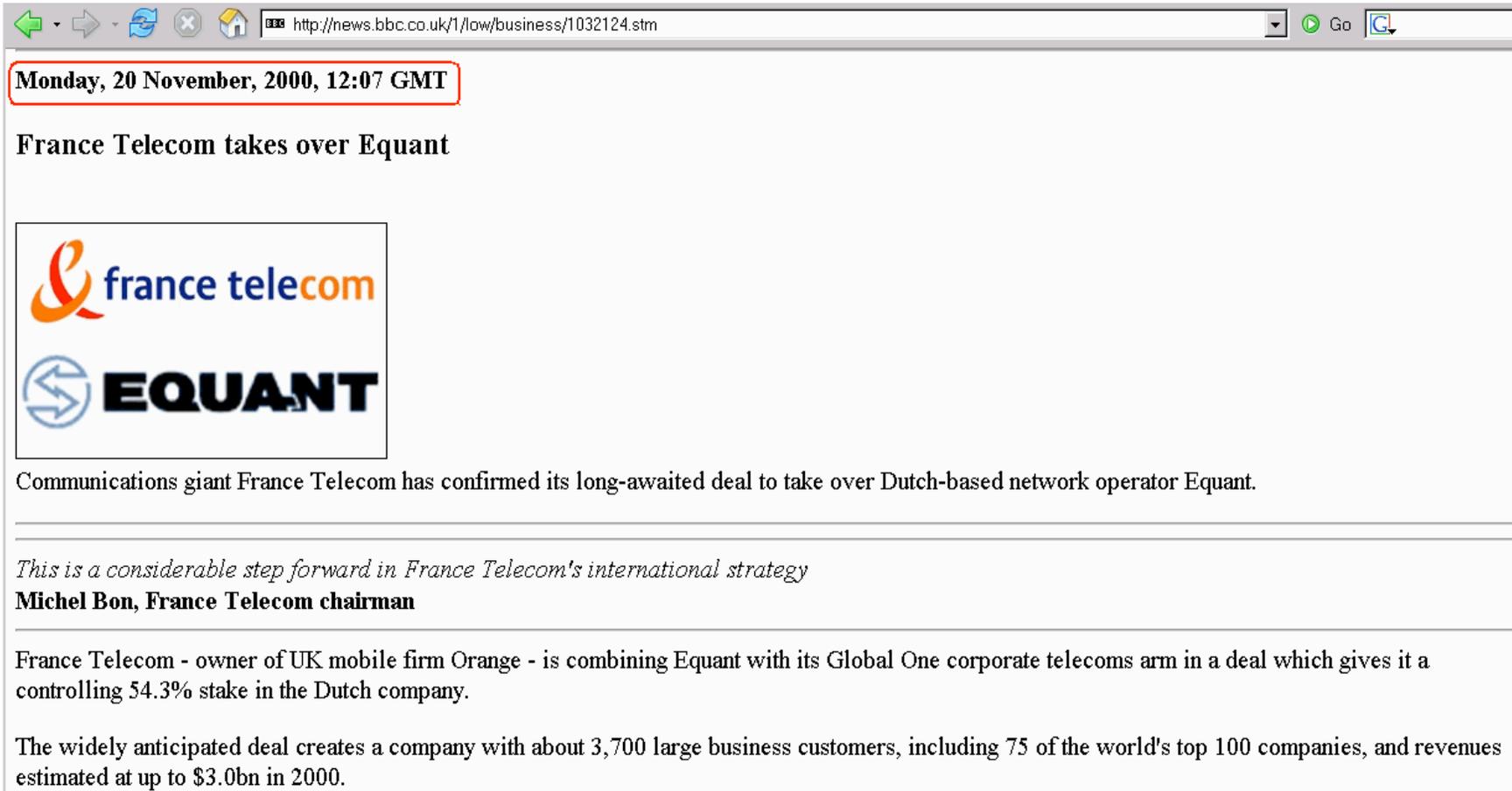
## Results for Whois Query:

**whois -h whois.radb.net ' AS2647'**

### Number of objects found: 2

```
aut-num: AS2647
as-name: EQUANT-NAM
descr: Equant AS for North and Central America
import: from AS5511 action pref= 100; accept ANY
import: from AS174 action pref= 95; accept AS174:AS-COGENT
import: from AS297 action pref= 95; accept AS297
import: from AS1659 action pref= 95; accept AS1659
import: from AS1785 action pref= 95; accept AS1785
import: from AS2548 action pref= 95; accept AS2548
import: from AS3491 action pref= 95; accept AS-CAIS
import: from AS3557 action pref= 95; accept AS-3557:AS-ISC
import: from AS4323 action pref= 95; accept AS4323
import: from AS4544 action pref= 95; accept
AS4544:AS-ALL-CUSTOMERS
import: from AS4565 action pref= 95; accept AS-EPOCH
import: from AS4725 action pref= 95; accept AS-4725
admin-c: RIPE27-RIPE
tech-c: RIPE27-RIPE
remarks: for operational issues, contact noc.peering@equant.com
for peering requests, contact peering@equant.com
for security issues, contact sirt@equant.com
notify: peering@equant.com
notify: internet.admin@equant.com
mnt-by: MAINT-AS2647
changed: internet.admin@equant.com 20050428
source: RADB
```

# France Telecom Buys Equant...



The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying a news article. The browser's address bar shows the URL 'http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/low/business/1032124.stm'. The page content includes a timestamp 'Monday, 20 November, 2000, 12:07 GMT' in a red-bordered box, followed by the headline 'France Telecom takes over Equant'. Below the headline is a graphic containing the logos for 'france telecom' (with an orange stylized 'f') and 'EQUANT' (with a blue circular logo). The main text of the article states that France Telecom has confirmed its deal to take over Equant, a Dutch-based network operator. A quote from Michel Bon, France Telecom chairman, is provided, along with details about the deal, including the creation of a company with 3,700 large business customers and revenues estimated at up to \$3.0bn in 2000.

Monday, 20 November, 2000, 12:07 GMT

## France Telecom takes over Equant



Communications giant France Telecom has confirmed its long-awaited deal to take over Dutch-based network operator Equant.

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*This is a considerable step forward in France Telecom's international strategy*  
**Michel Bon, France Telecom chairman**

---

France Telecom - owner of UK mobile firm Orange - is combining Equant with its Global One corporate telecoms arm in a deal which gives it a controlling 54.3% stake in the Dutch company.

The widely anticipated deal creates a company with about 3,700 large business customers, including 75 of the world's top 100 companies, and revenues estimated at up to \$3.0bn in 2000.



# Maybe Equant Is Now Orange?

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<http://www.orange.com/English/aboutorange/historyoforange6.asp?UID=>

---

[home](#) > [about Orange](#) > [history of Orange](#) > [history of Orange 6](#)

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## history of Orange

### **first for service value and innovation**

France Telecom's ambition is to be the first integrated telecoms operator in Europe and leader for convergence, delivering a 'New Experience of Telecoms' for its customers.

This includes the rebranding of Equant and Wanadoo on 1 June 2006 - forming part of an international strategy to use the Orange brand commercially for mobile, fixed-line, broadband, multi-play and business offerings. This means a simple, single-company experience for customers as well as an exciting new generation of enhanced communications and converged services.

# Sigh. So What ASNs Does Potaroo See Downstream of AS2647?

2647 SITA SITA Adjacency: 11 Upstream: 2 Downstream: 9

Upstream Adjacent AS list

- [AS3491](#) BTN-ASN - Beyond The Network America, Inc.
- [AS5511](#) OPENTRANSIT France Telecom

Downstream Adjacent AS list

- [AS11648](#) TCE-AS - Thomson Inc.
- [AS22232](#) IVERSON - Iverson Financial Systems, Inc.
- [AS13739](#) EQUITABLE - Equitable Life Assurance
- [AS32134](#) CG-US-AS1 - Cap Gemini America
- [AS36657](#) AVAGO-AS-AM - Avago Technologies U.S. Inc.
- [AS7768](#) TECHNICOLOR - Technicolor
- [AS6524](#) ASN-GE-IS-NAP - General Electric Company (GE)**
- [AS4979](#) GXS - Global eXchange Services
- [AS22422](#) G-TRADE - Global Execution Technology, Ltd.

[whois.arin.net]

OrgName: General Electric Company (GE)  
OrgID: GECG  
Address: Information Services (MC7D)  
Address: 401 N. Washington St.  
City: Rockville  
StateProv: MD  
PostalCode: 20850  
Country: US

**ASNumber: 6524**  
ASName: ASN-GE-IS-NAP  
ASHandle: AS6524  
Comment:  
RegDate: 1996-05-15  
**Updated: 1998-05-01**

RTechHandle: BS3030-ARIN  
RTechName: Suskind, Barry  
RTechPhone: +1-301-340-4667  
**RTechEmail: alf\_of\_melmak@yahoo.com**

# What Prefixes Does Potaroo See AS6524/"GE" Announce?

Rank	AS	AS Name	Current	Wthdwn	Aggte	Annce	Redctn	%
6714	<a href="#">AS6524</a>	ASN-GE-IS-NAP - General Electric Company	5	0	0	5	0	0.00%

```
AS 6524: ASN-GE-IS-NAP - General Electric Company (GE)
  Prefix (AS Path)      Aggregation Action
198.147.170.0/24      4637 5511 2647 6524
204.90.130.0/24       4637 5511 2647 6524
204.90.138.0/24       4637 5511 2647 6524
204.90.187.0/24       4637 5511 2647 6524
204.90.230.0/24       4637 5511 2647 6524
```

Advertisements that are fragments of the original RIR allocation (more specifics) originated by this AS.

```
AS6524 5 More Specifics 5 Total Advertisements ASN-GE-IS-NAP - General Electric Company (GE)
198.147.170.0/24 (198.147.170.0/23)
204.90.130.0/24 (204.90.128.0/17)
204.90.138.0/24 (204.90.128.0/17)
204.90.187.0/24 (204.90.128.0/17)
204.90.230.0/24 (204.90.128.0/17)
```

[whois.arin.net]

OrgName: GE Information Services, Inc.

OrgID: GEIS

Address: 100 edison park drive

City: Gaithersburg

StateProv: MD

PostalCode: 20878

Country: US

NetRange: 198.147.170.0 - 198.147.174.255

**CIDR: 198.147.170.0/23, 198.147.172.0/23, 198.147.174.0/24**

NetName: GEIS-198-BLK

NetHandle: NET-198-147-170-0-1

Parent: NET-198-0-0-0-0

NetType: Direct Allocation

**RegDate: 1993-06-04**

**Updated: 2000-04-07**

RTechHandle: ZG28-ARIN

RTechName: GE Information Services

RTechPhone: **+1-301-340-4000**

RTechEmail: genictech@ge.com

[whois.arin.net]

OrgName: Global eXchange Services  
OrgID: GES-54  
Address: 100 Edison Park Drive  
City: Gaithersburg  
StateProv: MD  
PostalCode: 20878  
Country: US  
NetRange: 204.90.128.0 - 204.90.255.255  
CIDR: 204.90.128.0/17  
NetName: GXS  
NetHandle: NET-204-90-128-0-1  
Parent: NET-204-0-0-0-0  
NetType: Direct Allocation  
NameServer: NS.**GXS.COM**  
NameServer: NS.GEIS.COM  
RegDate: **1994-09-12**  
Updated: **2005-06-06**  
OrgTechHandle: BVI3-ARIN  
OrgTechName: Vink, Ben  
OrgTechPhone: **+31-20-503-5591**  
OrgTechEmail: Ben.Vink@gxs.com

# GXS Acquired...



<http://www.internetnews.com/bus-news/article.php/1370601>

**June 24, 2002**

**GE Coughs Up Its B2B Unit**

By [Beth Cox](#)

Technology buyout fund Francisco Partners is acquiring General Electric's B2B e-commerce company, GE Global eXchange Services (GXS), in a deal valued at \$800 million as GE turns its focus toward its core businesses.

Fairfield, Conn.-based GE ([Quote](#), [Chart](#)) said it will retain a 10 percent stake in the business, and [Global eXchange](#) CEO Harvey Seegers will stay with the e-commerce company, which operates an e-commerce network with more than 100,000 trading partners.

Menlo Park, Calif.-based [Francisco Partners](#), with \$2.5 billion in capital, specializes in buyout and recapitalization investments in technology companies.

# So...

- 57/8: SITA? Equant? France Telecom? Orange? Someone else?
- AS2647: SITA? Equant? Wisecom? France Telecom? Orange? Someone else?
- AS6524: General Electric? Global Exchange Services? Francisco Partners? Someone else?
- **MY POINT: It can be *really* hard to figure out who is using a given address block, or who *should* be using a given address block, even for a block as large as a /8. Route injection/prefix hijacking is a real risk, but out-of-date/inaccurate whois data is also an important (if far less "cool") contributing issue.**

# Thanks for the Chance to Talk Today!

- Are there any questions?