**UK IPv6 Council** 



# IPv6 only hosting at datacenter light



**Nico Schottelius** 



#### **About Nico Schottelius**

- Working & hacking in IT since 1998
- Build first IPv6 only ChaosVPN in Germany around 2000
- CEO of ungleich glarus ag since 2017
- MSc Computer Science (Focus Information Security) from ETH Zurich

## Data Center Light (www.datacenterlight.ch)

- Reuse of old factory halls
  - Don't build new, don't tear down
- Passively cooled
  - o Low density
  - $_{\odot}$  Supported by thick walls
- Powered by hydropower
  - From the on site power plant
- 100% Open Source
- 100% IPv6
- Main product: (managed) VM Hosting





## Starting in 2017: IPv4, IPv6 or Dual stack?

- Starting position
  - $_{\odot}$  RIPE LIR with a /22 (1024 IPv4 addresses) for starting
- Objective
  - $_{\odot}$  Grow towards thousands of VMs
- Options
  - Focus on IPv6
  - $_{\odot}$  Buy more IPv4 on the market





Building a data center on IPv4 is like building a diesel car. It works, it sells, but it really is not sexy.





## Stage 1 setup: the nice & naïve approach

- IPv6 only
- Add IPv4 via NAT64 on border routers
- Use NAT64 in both directions
  - $_{\odot}$   $\,$  outgoing: mapping to our prefix
  - $_{\odot}$  incoming: mapping to servers/VMs





# Stage 1 challenges (2017)

- Services binding only to 0.0.0.0 fail
  - Most can be changed
  - o Some can't
    - Binding to 0.0.0.0 works, IF you have a loopback interface...!
    - Using proxies like nginx/haproxy to work around this
- Some services have hard coded (!!!) IPv4 addresses
  - DNS64 is never used
  - Completely breaks all assumptions
- Minor (outdated) software problems
- Would have been too good to be true...!



## Stage 2: Make life easy for customers (2018)

- Most customers liked our stage 1 approach
- However: some customers did not understand it at all
- Changing VMs: all dual stack
- Only hardware with IPv4: routers
- Switches, servers, storage: IPv6 only



## Stage 2 challenges

- Changing to PXE/Netboot
  - Some firmware does not support DHCPv6
  - Introduce separate boot network
  - After booting up, the operating system only acquires IPv6
- Dualstack VMs: IPv4 scarcity bites us
  - Strong tension between sales & infrastructure operators
- How to continue?



# Stage 3: IPv6 only experience (2018)

- Launched <u>https://ipv6onlyhosting.com</u>
  - No incoming NAT64
  - Only reachable by IPv6
- IPv6 networking
  - $_{\odot}$  1 IPv6 address by default
  - $_{\odot}$  1 /64 per VM on request
- IPv6 VPN
  - 1 /48 per tunnel
  - Used world wide (CH,US,KR,CN,DE,...





## Stage 4: IPv6 on steroids (2019/2020)

- Remove IPv4 netboot (done)
- Remove IPv4 on VMs (in progress)
- Add IPv6 routing per VM (in progress)
- Infrastructure offers layer 7 IPv4 translations (partially done)
- Open Source IPv6 first cloud stack (in progress)

#### **Smart NAT64**

- Static 1:1 mappings are not helpful
- Need to have 1:n mappings
- Introducing: proxy based IPv4
  - http proxy: ok
  - https (!) proxy: ok
  - $_{\odot}$  smtp "proxy": ok
  - o dns "proxy": ok
  - $_{\odot}$  ssh "proxy": ok
  - Smart layer7 Layer 3 http(s) proxy



HTTPS (V1:OPENNING UP)

□ungleich



HTTPS (V2:TCP)





#### IPv6 Fun: IPv6 VPNs

- ping6 nico.ungleich.cloud
- Same IPv6 address anywhere in the world → "mobile IPv6"
- Carrying a /48 on the notebook
- Instant IPv6 enabler for networks (advertise a /64 on wifi)



#### More of this?

- Drop us a line at ipv6@ungleich.ch
- Chat about IPv6 at https://IPv6.chat
- Hack on IPv6 @ Hack4Glarus: https://hack4glarus.ch (20191129 .. 20191201)
- Write about IPv6 on https://IPv6.blog
- Work IPv6 only at https://IPv6.work

