

IPv6 Security

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IPv4 network addresses are running out and the deployment of IPv6 networking in many places is now well underway. Some large IT distributed infrastructures, such as the Worldwide Large Hadron Collider Computing Grid, are starting to deploy dual-stack IPv6/IPv4 services to support IPv6-only clients. The IPv6 protocols involve new challenges for operational IT security. We have spent many decades understanding and fixing security problems and concerns in the IPv4 world. Many IT support teams have only just started to consider IPv6 security! The lack of maturity of IPv6 implementations together with all the additional complexities, particularly in a dual-stack environment, brings many new challenges.

The HEPiX IPv6 Working Group is producing guidance on best practices in this area. This talk will consider some of the security concerns in an IPv6 world and present the HEPiX IPv6 working group guidance both for the system administrators who manage IT services on distributed infrastructures and also for their related security teams.

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