

Using BGP Communities



ISP Workshops

Multihoming and Communities

- ❑ The BGP community attribute is a very powerful tool for assisting and scaling BGP Policies and BGP Multihoming
- ❑ Most major ISPs make extensive use of BGP communities:
 - Internal policies
 - Inter-provider relationships (MED replacement)
 - Customer traffic engineering

Using BGP Communities

- Four scenarios are covered:
 - Use of RFC1998 traffic engineering
 - Extending RFC 1998 ideas for even greater customer policy options
 - Community use in ISP backbones
 - Customer Policy Control (aka traffic engineering)

RFC1998



An example of how ISPs use
communities...

RFC1998

- ❑ Informational RFC
- ❑ Describes how to implement loadsharing and backup on multiple inter-AS links
 - BGP communities used to determine local preference in upstream's network
- ❑ Gives control to the customer
 - Means the customer does not have to phone upstream's technical support to adjust traffic engineering needs
- ❑ Simplifies upstream's configuration
 - simplifies network operation!

RFC1998

- ❑ RFC1998 Community values are defined to have particular meanings
- ❑ ASx:100 `set local preference 100`
 - Make this the preferred path
- ❑ ASx :90 `set local preference 90`
 - Make this the backup if dualhomed on ASx
- ❑ ASx :80 `set local preference 80`
 - The main link is to another ISP with same AS path length
- ❑ ASx :70 `set local preference 70`
 - The main link is to another ISP

RFC1998

- ❑ Upstream ISP defines the communities mentioned
- ❑ Their customers then attach the communities they want to use to the prefix announcements they are making
- ❑ For example:
 - If upstream is AS 100
 - To declare a particular path as a backup path, their customer would announce the prefix with community 100:70 to AS100
 - AS100 would receive the prefix with the community 100:70 tag, and then set local preference to be 70

RFC1998

❑ Sample Customer Router Configuration

```
router bgp 130
  neighbor x.x.x.x remote-as 100
  neighbor x.x.x.x description Backup ISP
  neighbor x.x.x.x route-map as100-out out
  neighbor x.x.x.x send-community
!
ip as-path access-list 20 permit ^$
!
route-map as100-out permit 10
  match as-path 20
  set community 100:70
!
```

RFC1998

❑ Sample ISP Router Configuration

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor y.y.y.y remote-as 130
  neighbor y.y.y.y route-map customer-policy-in in
!
! Homed to another ISP
ip community-list 7 permit 100:70
! Homed to another ISP with equal ASPATH length
ip community-list 8 permit 100:80
! Customer backup routes
ip community-list 9 permit 100:90
!
```

RFC1998

```
route-map customer-policy-in permit 10
  match community 7
  set local-preference 70
!
route-map customer-policy-in permit 20
  match community 8
  set local-preference 80
!
route-map customer-policy-in permit 30
  match community 9
  set local-preference 90
!
route-map customer-policy-in permit 40
  set local-preference 100
!
```

RFC1998

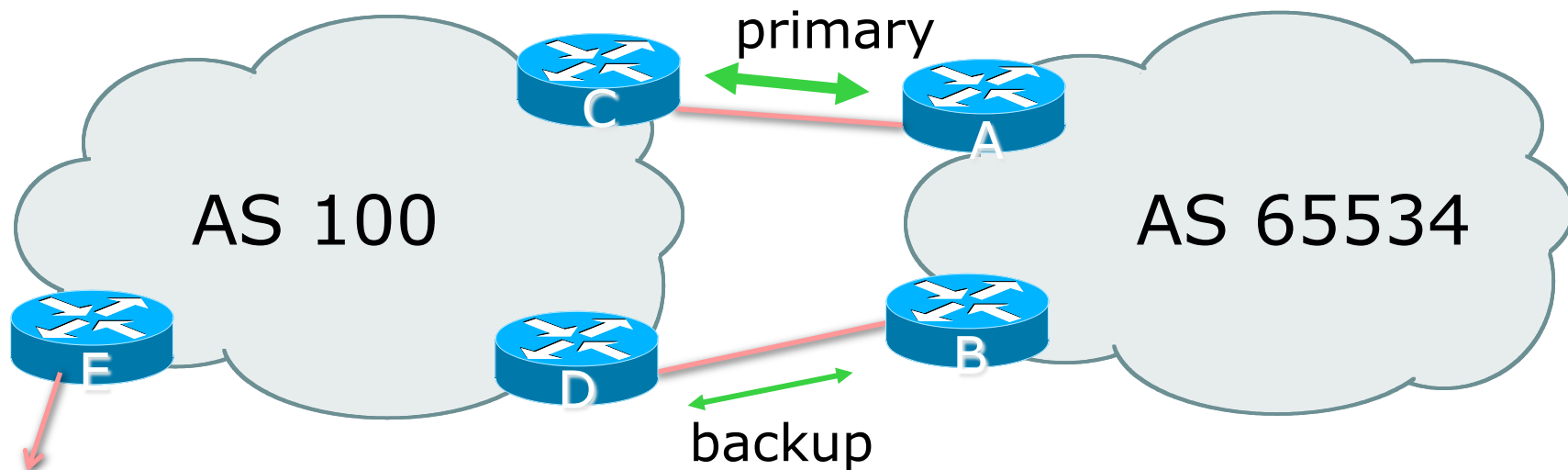
- ❑ RFC1998 was the inspiration for a large variety of differing community policies implemented by ISPs worldwide
- ❑ There are no “standard communities” for what ISPs do
- ❑ But best practices today consider that ISPs should use BGP communities extensively for multihoming support of traffic engineering
- ❑ Look in the ISP AS Object in the IRR for documented community support

RFC1998 Example



Two links to the same ISP, one
link primary, the other link
backup

Two links to the same ISP



- ❑ AS100 proxy aggregates for AS 65534

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

- ❑ Announce /19 aggregate on each link
 - primary link makes standard announcement
 - backup link sends community
- ❑ When one link fails, the announcement of the /19 aggregate via the other link ensures continued connectivity

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

❑ Router A Configuration

```
router bgp 65534
  network 121.10.0.0 mask 255.255.224.0
  neighbor 122.102.10.2 remote-as 100
  neighbor 122.102.10.2 description RouterC
  neighbor 122.102.10.2 prefix-list aggregate out
  neighbor 122.102.10.2 prefix-list default in
!
ip prefix-list aggregate permit 121.10.0.0/19
ip prefix-list default permit 0.0.0.0/0
!
```

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

❑ Router B Configuration

```
router bgp 65534
  network 121.10.0.0 mask 255.255.224.0
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 remote-as 100
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 description RouterD
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 send-community
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 prefix-list aggregate out
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 route-map routerD-out out
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 prefix-list default in
  neighbor 122.102.10.6 route-map routerD-in in
!
```

..next slide

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

```
ip prefix-list aggregate permit 121.10.0.0/19
ip prefix-list default permit 0.0.0.0/0
!
route-map routerD-out permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list aggregate
  set community 100:90
route-map routerD-out permit 20
!
route-map routerD-in permit 10
  set local-preference 90
!
```

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

❑ Router C Configuration (main link)

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 122.102.10.1 remote-as 65534
  neighbor 122.102.10.1 default-originate
  neighbor 122.102.10.1 prefix-list Customer in
  neighbor 122.102.10.1 prefix-list default out
!
ip prefix-list Customer permit 121.10.0.0/19
ip prefix-list default permit 0.0.0.0/0
```

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

❑ Router D Configuration (backup link)

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor 122.102.10.5 remote-as 65534
  neighbor 122.102.10.5 default-originate
  neighbor 122.102.10.5 prefix-list Customer in
  neighbor 122.102.10.5 route-map bgp-cust-in in
  neighbor 122.102.10.5 prefix-list default out
!
ip prefix-list Customer permit 121.10.0.0/19
ip prefix-list default permit 0.0.0.0/0
!
..next slide
```

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

```
!  
ip community-list 90 permit 100:90  
!  
<snip>  
route-map bgp-cust-in permit 30  
  match community 90  
  set local-preference 90  
route-map bgp-cust-in permit 40  
  set local-preference 100  
!
```

Two links to the same ISP (one as backup only)

- ❑ This is a simple example
- ❑ It looks more complicated than the same example presented earlier which used local preference and MEDs
- ❑ But the advantage is that this scales better
 - With larger configurations, more customers, more options, it becomes easier to handle each and every requirement

Service Provider use of Communities



RFC1998 was so inspiring...

Background

- ❑ RFC1998 is okay for “simple” multihoming situations
- ❑ ISPs create backbone support for many other communities to handle more complex situations
 - Simplify ISP BGP configuration
 - Give customer more policy control

ISP BGP Communities

- ❑ There are no recommended ISP BGP communities apart from
 - RFC1998
 - The five standard communities
 - ❑ www.iana.org/assignments/bgp-well-known-communities
- ❑ Efforts have been made to document from time to time
 - totem.info.ucl.ac.be/publications/papers-elec-versions/draft-quoitin-bgp-comm-survey-00.pdf
 - But so far... nothing more... ☹
 - Collection of ISP communities at www.onesc.net/communities
 - NANOG Tutorial: www.nanog.org/meetings/nanog40/presentations/BGPcommunities.pdf
- ❑ ISP policy is usually published
 - On the ISP's website
 - Referenced in the AS Object in the IRR

Typical ISP BGP Communities

- ❑ X:80 `set local preference 80`
 - Backup path
- ❑ X:120 `set local preference 120`
 - Primary path (over ride BGP path selection default)
- ❑ X:1 `set as-path prepend X`
 - Single prepend when announced to X's upstreams
- ❑ X:2 `set as-path prepend X X`
 - Double prepend when announced to X's upstreams
- ❑ X:3 `set as-path prepend X X X`
 - Triple prepend when announced to X's upstreams
- ❑ X:666 `set ip next-hop 192.0.2.1`
 - Blackhole route - very useful for DoS attack mitigation

Sample Router Configuration (1)

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor y.y.y.y remote-as 130
  neighbor y.y.y.y route-map customer-policy-in in
  neighbor z.z.z.z remote-as 200
  neighbor z.z.z.z route-map upstream-out out
!
ip community-list 1 permit 100:1
ip community-list 2 permit 100:2
ip community-list 3 permit 100:3
ip community-list 4 permit 100:80
ip community-list 5 permit 100:120
ip community-list 6 permit 100:666
!
ip route 192.0.2.1 255.255.255.255 null0
```

Customer BGP

Upstream BGP

Black hole route
(on all routers)

Sample Router Configuration (2)

```
route-map customer-policy-in permit 10
  match community 4
  set local-preference 80
!
route-map customer-policy-in permit 20
  match community 5
  set local-preference 120
!
route-map customer-policy-in permit 30
  match community 6
  set ip next-hop 192.0.2.1
!
route-map customer-policy-in permit 40
...etc...
```

Sample Router Configuration (3)

```
route-map upstream-out permit 10
  match community 1
  set as-path prepend 100
!
route-map upstream-out permit 20
  match community 2
  set as-path prepend 100 100
!
route-map upstream-out permit 30
  match community 3
  set as-path prepend 100 100 100
!
route-map upstream-out permit 40
...etc...
```

IP/MPLS Products from Sprint

https://www.sprint.net/index.php?p=policy_bgp

Google

Apple Smart Bookmarks Popular (59) Philip Networking Miscellaneous TinyURL!

IP/MPLS Products from Sprint

WHAT YOU CAN CONTROL

AS-PATH PREPENDS

Sprint allows customers to use AS-path prepending to adjust route preference on the network. Such prepending will be received and passed on properly without notifying Sprint of your change in announcements.

Additionally, Sprint will prepend AS1239 to eBGP sessions with certain autonomous systems depending on a received community. Currently, the following ASes are supported: 1668, 209, 2914, 3300, 3356, 3549, 3561, 4635, 701, 7018, 702 and 8220.

String	Resulting AS Path to ASXXX
65000:XXX	Do not advertise to ASXXX
65001:XXX	1239 (default) ...
65002:XXX	1239 1239 ...
65003:XXX	1239 1239 1239 ...
65004:XXX	1239 1239 1239 1239 ...

String	Resulting AS Path to ASXXX in Asia
65070:XXX	Do not advertise to ASXXX
65071:XXX	1239 (default) ...
65072:XXX	1239 1239 ...
65073:XXX	1239 1239 1239 ...
65074:XXX	1239 1239 1239 1239 ...

String	Resulting AS Path to ASXXX in Europe
65050:XXX	Do not advertise to ASXXX
65051:XXX	1239 (default) ...
65052:XXX	1239 1239 ...
65053:XXX	1239 1239 1239 ...
65054:XXX	1239 1239 1239 1239 ...

More info at https://www.sprint.net/index.php?p=policy_bgp

Policies & Procedures – Routing Policies – NTT America – www.us.ntt.net

<http://www.us.ntt.net/support/policy/routing.cfm> Reader

Apple Smart Bookmarks Popular (59) Philip Networking Miscellaneous TinyURL!

Policies & Procedures – Routing P...

BGP customer communities

Customers wanting to alter local preference on their routes.

NTT Communications BGP customers may choose to affect our local preference on their routes by marking their routes with the following communities:

Community	Local-pref	Description
(default)	120	customer
2914:450	96	customer fallback
2914:460	98	peer backup
2914:470	100	peer
2914:480	110	customer backup
2914:490	120	customer default
2914:666		blackhole

Customers wanting to alter their route announcements to other customers.

NTT Communications BGP customers may choose to prepend to all other NTT Communications BGP customers with the following communities:

Community	Description
2914:411	prepends o/b to customer 1x
2914:412	prepends o/b to customer 2x
2914:413	prepends o/b to customer 3x

Customers wanting to alter their route announcements to peers.

NTT Communications BGP customers may choose to prepend to all NTT Communications peers with the following communities:

Community	Description
2914:421	prepends o/b to peer 1x
2914:422	prepends o/b to peer 2x
2914:423	prepends o/b to peer 3x
2914:429	do not advertise to any peer
2914:439	do not advertise to any peer outside region

Note: If used, 655xx:nnn (see below) overrides the 2914:42x communities.

Customers wanting to alter their route announcements to selected peers.

NTT Communications BGP customers may choose to prepend to selected tier 1 peers with the following communities, where *nnn* is the tier 1 peer's ASN:

Community	Description
-----------	-------------

ISP Example: NTT

More info at www.us.ntt.net/about/policy/routing.cfm

ISP Example: Verizon Europe

```
aut-num:          AS702
descr:            Verizon Business EMEA - Commercial IP service provider in Europe
<snip>
remarks:          -----
                  Verizon Business filters out inbound prefixes longer than /24.
                  We also filter any networks within AS702:RS-INBOUND-FILTER.
                  -----
                  VzBi uses the following communities with its customers:
                  702:80      Set Local Pref 80 within AS702
                  702:120    Set Local Pref 120 within AS702
                  702:20     Announce only to VzBi AS'es and VzBi customers
                  702:30     Keep within Europe, don't announce to other VzBi AS's
                  702:1       Prepend AS702 once at edges of VzBi to Peers
                  702:2       Prepend AS702 twice at edges of VzBi to Peers
                  702:3       Prepend AS702 thrice at edges of VzBi to Peers
                  -----
                  Advanced communities for customers
                  702:7020    Do not announce to AS702 peers with a scope of
                  National but advertise to Global Peers, European
                  Peers and VzBi customers.
                  702:7001    Prepend AS702 once at edges of VzBi to AS702
                  peers with a scope of National.
                  702:7002    Prepend AS702 twice at edges of VzBi to AS702
                  peers with a scope of National.
<snip>
```

← And many more!

ISP Example: Telia

```
aut-num:          AS1299
descr:            TeliaSonera International Carrier
<snip>
remarks:          -----
remarks:          BGP COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR AS1299 TRANSIT CUSTOMERS:
remarks:
remarks:          Community Action (default local pref 200)
remarks:          -----
remarks:          1299:50 Set local pref 50 within AS1299 (lowest possible)
remarks:          1299:150 Set local pref 150 within AS1299 (equal to peer, backup)
remarks:
remarks:          European peers
remarks:          Community Action
remarks:          -----
remarks:          1299:200x All peers Europe incl:
remarks:
remarks:          1299:250x Sprint/1239
remarks:          1299:251x Savvis/3561
remarks:          1299:252x NTT/2914
remarks:          1299:253x Zayo/Abovenet/6461
remarks:          1299:254x FT/5511
remarks:          1299:255x GBLX/3549
remarks:          1299:256x Level3/3356
<snip>
remarks:          Where x is number of prepends (x=0,1,2,3) or do NOT announce (x=9)
```

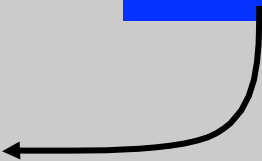


ISP Example:

BT Ignite

```
aut-num:      AS5400
descr:        BT Ignite European Backbone
<snip>
remarks:      The following BGP communities can be set by BT
remarks:      BGP customers to affect announcements to major peers.
remarks:
remarks:      5400:NXXX
remarks:      N=1          not announce
remarks:      N=2          prepend an extra "5400 5400" on announcement
remarks:      Valid values for XXX:
remarks:      000          All peers and transits
remarks:      500          All transits
remarks:      503          Level3 AS3356
remarks:      509          Telia AS1299
remarks:      510          NTT Verio AS2914
remarks:      002          Sprint AS1239
remarks:      003          Savvis AS3561
remarks:      004          C&W AS1273
remarks:      005          Verizon EMEA AS702
remarks:      014          DTAG AS3320
remarks:      016          Opentransit AS5511
remarks:      018          GlobeInternet Tata AS6453
remarks:      023          Tinet AS3257
remarks:      027          Telia AS1299
remarks:      045          Telecom Italia AS6762
remarks:      073          Eurorings AS286
remarks:      169          Cogent AS174
<snip>
```

And many
more!

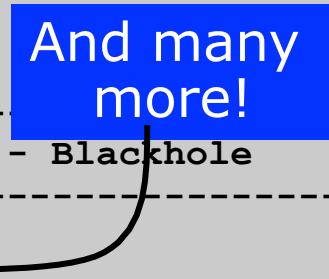


ISP Example:

Level3

```
aut-num:      AS3356
descr:        Level 3 Communications
<snip>
remarks:      -----
remarks:      customer traffic engineering communities - Suppression
remarks:      -----
remarks:      64960:XXX - announce to AS XXX if 65000:0
remarks:      65000:0   - announce to customers but not to peers
remarks:      65000:XXX - do not announce at peerings to AS XXX
remarks:      -----
remarks:      customer traffic engineering communities - Prepending
remarks:      -----
remarks:      65001:0   - prepend once   to all peers
remarks:      65001:XXX - prepend once   at peerings to AS XXX
remarks:      65002:0   - prepend twice  to all peers
remarks:      65002:XXX - prepend twice  at peerings to AS XXX
<snip>
remarks:      -----
remarks:      customer traffic engineering communities - LocalPref
remarks:      -----
remarks:      3356:70   - set local preference to 70
remarks:      3356:80   - set local preference to 80
remarks:      3356:90   - set local preference to 90
remarks:      -----
remarks:      customer traffic engineering communities - Blackhole
remarks:      -----
remarks:      3356:9999 - blackhole (discard) traffic
<snip>
```

And many
more!



Creating your own community policy

- ❑ Consider creating communities to give policy control to customers
 - Reduces technical support burden
 - Reduces the amount of router reconfiguration, and the chance of mistakes
 - Use previous ISP and configuration examples as a guideline

Using Communities for Backbone Scaling



Scaling BGP in the ISP
backbone...

Communities for iBGP

- ❑ ISPs tag prefixes learned from their BGP and static customers with communities
 - To identify services the customer may have purchased
 - To identify prefixes which are part of the ISP's PA space
 - To identify PI customer addresses
 - To control prefix distribution in iBGP
 - To control prefix announcements to customers and upstreams
 - (amongst several other reasons)

Service Identification

- ❑ ISP provides:
 - Transit via upstreams
 - Connectivity via major IXP
 - Connectivity to private peers/customers
- ❑ Customers can buy all or any of the above access options
 - Each option is identified with a unique community
- ❑ ISP identifies whether address space comes from their PA block or is their customers' own PI space
 - One community for each

Community Definitions

100:1000	AS100 aggregates
100:1001	AS100 aggregate subprefixes
100:1005	Static Customer PI space
100:2000	Customers who get Transit
100:2100	Customers who get IXP access
100:2200	Customers who get BGP Customer access
100:3000	Routes learned from the IXP

```
ip community-list 10 permit 100:1000
ip community-list 11 permit 100:1001
ip community-list 12 permit 100:1005
ip community-list 13 permit 100:2000
ip community-list 14 permit 100:2100
ip community-list 15 permit 100:2200
ip community-list 16 permit 100:3000
```

Aggregates and Static Customers into BGP

```
router bgp 100
  network 100.10.0.0 mask 255.255.224.0 route-map as100-prefixes
  redistribute static route-map static-to-bgp
!
ip prefix-list as100-block permit 100.10.0.0/19 le 32
!
route-map as100-prefixes permit 10
  set community 100:1000
!
route-map static-to-bgp permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list as100-block
  set community 100:1001
route-map static-to-bgp permit 20
  set community 100:1005
```

Aggregate community set

Aggregate subprefixes community set

PI community is set

Service Identification

- ❑ AS100 has four classes of BGP customers
 - Full transit (upstream, IXP and BGP customers)
 - Upstream only
 - IXP only
 - BGP Customers only
- ❑ For BGP support, easiest IOS configuration is to create a peer-group for each class (can also use peer-templates to simplify further)
 - Customer is assigned the peer-group of the service they have purchased
 - Simple for AS100 customer installation engineer to provision

BGP Customers – creating peer-groups

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor full-transit peer-group
  neighbor full-transit route-map customers-out out
  neighbor full-transit route-map full-transit-in in
  neighbor full-transit default-originate
  neighbor transit-up peer-group
  neighbor transit-up route-map customers-out out
  neighbor transit-up route-map transit-up-in in
  neighbor transit-up default-originate
  neighbor ixp-only peer-group
  neighbor ixp-only route-map ixp-routes out
  neighbor ixp-only route-map ixp-only-in in
  neighbor bgpcust-only peer-group
  neighbor bgpcust-only route-map bgp-cust-out out
  neighbor bgpcust-only route-map bgp-cust-in in
```

BGP Customers – creating route-maps

```
route-map customers-out permit 10
  match ip community 10
```

Customers only get AS100
aggregates and default route

```
route-map full-transit-in permit 10
  set community 100:2000 100:2100 100:2200
```

```
route-map transit-up-in permit 10
  set community 100:2000
```

Full transit go everywhere

```
route-map ixp-routes permit 10
  match ip community 10 12 13 14 16
```

Customers buying IXP
access only get aggregates,
static & full transit
customers and IXP routes

```
route-map ixp-only-in permit 10
  set community 100:2100
```

```
route-map bgp-cust-out permit 10
  match ip community 10 12 13 15
```

```
route-map bgp-cust-in permit 10
  set community 100:2200
```

Customers buying BGP customer
access only get aggregates,
static & full transit customers
and other BGP customers

BGP Customers – configuring customers

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor a.a.a.a remote-as 200
  neighbor a.a.a.a peer-group full-transit
  neighbor a.a.a.a prefix-list as200cust-in
  neighbor b.b.b.b remote-as 300
  neighbor b.b.b.b peer-group transit-up
  neighbor b.b.b.b prefix-list as300cust-in
  neighbor c.c.c.c remote-as 400
  neighbor c.c.c.c peer-group ixp-only
  neighbor c.c.c.c prefix-list as400cust-in
  neighbor d.d.d.d remote-as 500
  neighbor d.d.d.d peer-group bgpcust-only
  neighbor d.d.d.d prefix-list as500cust-in
```

Customers are placed into the appropriate peer-group depending on the service they paid for

Note the specific per-customer inbound filters

BGP Customers – configuring upstream

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor x.x.x.x remote-as 130
  neighbor x.x.x.x prefix-list full-routes in
  neighbor x.x.x.x route-map upstream-out out
```

!

```
route-map upstream-out permit 10
  match ip community 10 12 13
```

!

```
! IP prefix-list full-routes is the standard bogon
! prefix filter - or use a reputable bogon
! route-service such as that offered by Team Cymru
```

Aggregates, PI customers and full transit customers are announced to upstream

BGP Customers – configuring IXP peers

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor y.y.y.1 remote-as 901
  neighbor y.y.y.1 route-map ixp-peers-out out
  neighbor y.y.y.1 route-map ixp-peers-in in
  neighbor y.y.y.1 prefix-list AS901-peer in
  neighbor y.y.y.2 remote-as 902
  neighbor y.y.y.2 route-map ixp-peers-out out
  neighbor y.y.y.2 route-map ixp-peers-in in
  neighbor y.y.y.2 prefix-list AS902-peer in
!
route-map ixp-peers-out permit 10
  match ip community 10 12 13 14
!
route-map ixp-peers-in permit 10
  set community 100:3000
```

Aggregates, PI
customers full
transit and IXP
customers are
announced to
the IXP

Service Identification

- ❑ While the community set up takes a bit of thought and planning, once it is implemented:
 - eBGP configuration with customers is simply a case of applying the appropriate peer-group
 - eBGP configuration with IXP peers is simply a case of announcing the appropriate community members to the peers
 - eBGP configuration with upstreams is simply a case of announcing the appropriate community members to the upstreams
- ❑ All BGP policy internally is now controlled by communities
 - No prefix-lists, as-path filters, route-maps or other BGP gymnastics are required

What about iBGP itself?

- ❑ We've made good use of communities to handle customer requirements
 - But what about iBGP
- ❑ Most ISPs deploy Route Reflectors as a means of scaling iBGP
- ❑ In transit networks:
 - Core routers (the Route Reflectors) carry the full BGP table
 - Edge/Aggregation routers carry domestic prefixes & customers

iBGP core router/route reflector

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor rrc peer-group
  neighbor rrc descr Route Reflector Clients
  neighbor rrc remote-as 100
  neighbor rrc route-reflector-client
  neighbor rrc route-map ibgp-filter out
  neighbor rrc send-community
  neighbor ibgp-peer peer-group
  neighbor ibgp-peer Standard iBGP peers
  neighbor ibgp-peer remote-as 100
  neighbor ibgp-peer send-community
  neighbor n.n.n.a peer-group ibgp-peer
  neighbor n.n.n.b peer-group rrc
```

!

```
route-map ibgp-filter permit 10
  match community 10 11 12 13 14 15 16
```

!

The filter to restrict client iBGP to just domestic prefixes

Must NOT forget to send community to iBGP peers

Allow all prefixes coming from the domestic network & IXP

iBGP in the core

- Notice that the filtering of iBGP from the core to the edge is again achieved by a simple route-map applying a community match
 - No prefix-lists, as-path filters or any other complicated policy
 - Once the prefix belongs to a certain community, it has the access across the backbone determined by the community policy in force

Using Communities for Customers Policy



Giving policy control to
customers...

Customer Policy Control

- ❑ ISPs have a choice on how to handle policy control for customers
- ❑ No delegation of policy options:
 - Customer has no choices
 - If customer wants changes, ISP Technical Support handles it
- ❑ Limited delegation of policy options:
 - Customer has choices
 - ISP Technical Support does not need to be involved
- ❑ BGP Communities are the only viable way of offering policy control to customers

Policy Definitions

□ Typical definitions:

Nil	No community set, just announce everywhere
X:1	1x prepend to all BGP neighbours
X:2	2x prepend to all BGP neighbours
X:3	3x prepend to all BGP neighbours
X:80	Local pref 80 on customer prefixes
X:120	Local pref 120 on customer prefixes
X:666	Black hole this route please!
X:5000	Don't announce to any BGP neighbour
X:5AA0	Don't announce to BGP neighbour AA
X:5AAB	Prepend B times to BGP neighbour AA

Policy Implementation

- ❑ The BGP configuration for the initial communities was discussed at the start of this slide set
- ❑ But the new communities, X:5MMN, are worth covering in more detail
 - The ISP in AS X documents the BGP transits and peers that they have (MM can be 01 to 99)
 - The ISP in AS X indicates how many prepends they will support (N can be 1 to 9, but realistically 4 prepends is usually enough on today's Internet)
 - Customers then construct communities to do the prepending or announcement blocking they desire
- ❑ If a customer tags a prefix announcement with:
 - 100:5030 don't send prefix to BGP neighbour 03
 - 100:5102 2x prepend prefix announcement to peer 10

Community Definitions

- Example: ISP in AS 100 has two upstreams. They create policy based on previously slide to allow no announce and up to 3 prepends for their customers

```
ip community-list 100 permit 100:5000
```

Don't announce anywhere

```
ip community-list 101 permit 100:5001
```

Single prepend to all

```
ip community-list 102 permit 100:5002
```

```
ip community-list 103 permit 100:5003
```

```
ip community-list 110 permit 100:5010
```

Don't announce to peer 1

```
ip community-list 111 permit 100:5011
```

```
ip community-list 112 permit 100:5012
```

```
ip community-list 113 permit 100:5013
```

```
ip community-list 120 permit 100:5020
```

```
ip community-list 121 permit 100:5021
```

Single prepend to peer 2

```
ip community-list 122 permit 100:5022
```

```
ip community-list 123 permit 100:5023
```

Creating route-maps – neighbour 1

```
route-map bgp-neigh-01 deny 10  
  match ip community 100 110
```

Don't announce these
prefixes to neighbour 01

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-01 permit 20  
  match ip community 101 111  
  set as-path prepend 100
```

Single prepend of these
prefixes to neighbour 01

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-01 permit 30  
  match ip community 102 112  
  set as-path prepend 100 100
```

Double prepend of these
prefixes to neighbour 01

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-01 permit 40  
  match ip community 103 113  
  set as-path prepend 100 100 100
```

Triple prepend of these
prefixes to neighbour 01

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-01 permit 50
```

All other prefixes
remain untouched

Creating route-maps – neighbour 2

```
route-map bgp-neigh-02 deny 10  
  match ip community 100 120
```

Don't announce these
prefixes to neighbour 02

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-02 permit 20  
  match ip community 101 121  
  set as-path prepend 100
```

Single prepend of these
prefixes to neighbour 02

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-02 permit 30  
  match ip community 102 122  
  set as-path prepend 100 100
```

Double prepend of these
prefixes to neighbour 02

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-02 permit 40  
  match ip community 103 123  
  set as-path prepend 100 100 100
```

Triple prepend of these
prefixes to neighbour 02

```
!  
route-map bgp-neigh-02 permit 50
```

All other prefixes
remain untouched

ISP's BGP configuration

```
router bgp 100
  neighbor a.a.a.a remote-as 200
  neighbor a.a.a.a route-map bgp-neigh-01 out
  neighbor a.a.a.a route-map policy-01 in
  neighbor b.b.b.b remote-as 300
  neighbor b.b.b.b route-map bgp-neigh-02 out
  neighbor b.b.b.b route-map policy-02 in
```

- ❑ The route-maps are then applied to the appropriate neighbour
- ❑ As long as the customer sets the appropriate communities, the policy will be applied to their prefixes

Customer BGP configuration

```
router bgp 600
  neighbor c.c.c.c remote-as 100
  neighbor c.c.c.c route-map upstream out
  neighbor c.c.c.c prefix-list default in
!
route-map upstream permit 10
  match ip address prefix-list blockA
  set community 100:5010 100:5023
route-map upstream permit 20
  match ip address prefix-list aggregate
```

□ This will:

- 3x prepend of blockA towards their upstream's 2nd BGP neighbour
- Not announce blockA towards their upstream's 1st BGP neighbour
- Let the aggregate through with no specific policy

Customer Policy Control

- ❑ Notice how much flexibility a BGP customer could have with this type of policy implementation
- ❑ Advantages:
 - Customer has flexibility
 - ISP Technical Support does not need to be involved
- ❑ Disadvantages
 - Customer could upset ISP loadbalancing tuning
- ❑ Advice
 - This kind of policy control is very useful, but should only be considered if appropriate for the circumstances

Conclusion



Communities

- ❑ Communities are fun! 😊
- ❑ And they are extremely powerful tools
- ❑ Think about community policies, e.g. like the additions described here
- ❑ Supporting extensive community usage makes customer configuration easy
- ❑ Watch out for routing loops!

Using BGP Communities



ISP Workshops