

Guide to Presenting at the FTL

Introduction

This guide contains a series of suggestions on how to give a successful presentation at the LACNIC Technical Forum.

Who can present at the LTF?

Generally speaking, presenters are members of the community whose work is related to TCP/IP network administration, management, operation and research. There are no restrictions based on age, sex, religion, race, language, sexual preference, country of residence or any other status. Presenters must be able to present their work in person during the event.

How to present at the FTL

The first step for presenting at the LACNIC Technical Forum is to submit a presentation proposal along with a photo and a brief biography (less than 100 words) within the period specified in the call presentations. How proposals are to be submitted will be specified during this period.

Applicants must also specify the type of presentation they would like to present:

- Short presentation: 10-minute presentation plus 5 additional minutes for questions
- Full-length presentation: 25-minute presentation plus 5 additional minutes for questions

The work submitted by each applicant will be evaluated by the Program Committee, that will decide which proposals will be accepted. If a proposal is accepted, the second step is to work on the final presentation according to the selected format. The final presentation must be consistent with the initial abstract that was submitted and must meet the requirements listed below.

Once a proposal is accepted, the presenter will be assigned a time slot during the conference. The Committee will group presentations according to common themes and eventually according to their difficulty or degree of expertise.

What topics can be presented at the FTL?

The topic of the presentation must be geared towards and respect the spirit of LACNIC, namely, regional Internet development. The following is a non-exhaustive list of the topics of interest to the community:

- Operation of IP networks (success stories, best practices, etc.)
- Internet protocols (routing, switching, etc.)
- Domain Name System (DNS)
- Interconnection of autonomous systems (peering, IXPs, CDNs, etc.)
- IPv6: transition, deployment, advances
- Measurements, tools and analysis of protocols and Internet in general
- Security, mitigation of attacks
- Protocols and experiences related to the Internet of Things (IoT)
- Infrastructure and transport
- Value-added services such as VPNs, distributed systems, cloud computing, etc.
- Research and education
- Task programming and automation in networks and/or services

Presenting solutions to problems related to these topics is strongly encouraged. Interesting case studies that share experiences in network operation will be preferred over other presentations.

Presentations are should be interactive and encourage audience participation, keeping in mind that there an open microphone is always available as well as an online chat system through which participants can submit their questions.

Presentations specifics

In light of prior experience, the Program Committee recommends estimating 60-120 seconds per slide, including titles. In other words, the various presentation formats should not exceed the following number of slides:

- Short presentation: 7 to 12 slides
- Full-length presentation: 15 to 25 slides

LACNIC events are attended by an average of 500 participants, and sessions are held in very large conference rooms. Participants should be able to see the presentations from any part of the room. With this in mind, we recommend that presentations follow the guidelines specified below:

- Clean, simple layout
 - The colors and contrast used for the presentation should allow attendees to read the contents clearly from a distance
 - Minimum font size: 28 pt
 - Avoid saturating slides with an excessive amount of text
 - Avoid unnecessary graphics that might distract the audience
 - Animations should be designed in such a way that the slide can be understood without them, for example, when the presentation is exported to PDF format
- Addressing and configuration examples:

- The use of IPv6 addressing as defined in RFC 3849 is recommended for any examples. If using IPv4, the use of addressing as defined in RFC 5737 is recommended. Recommended ASN ranges for BGP systems are those of RFC 5398.
- It is advisable to use examples of configurations for different vendors or pseudo-code (not necessarily limiting the examples to one particular operating system).
- If you wish to provide ready-to-use configuration blocks, we recommend publishing these blocks on sites such as GitHub or similar.
- Accepted formats: Portable Document Format (PDF) is the only format accepted by the committee responsible for evaluating the proposals. If a presentation is accepted, the author may ask to use other formats to improve visualization. This must be agreed with LACNIC based on the visualization software that will be available at the event.
- Company logos should be displayed on the first and last slides in a measured way. The use of logos that completely cover a slide is discouraged in any part of the presentation.
- Authors retain copyright of their material but authorize LACNIC to publish their documents on a public website of LACNIC's choosing.
- In no case will presentations of a commercial nature or presentations containing commercial messaging be accepted (including those of the presenter's own company or organization).
- Slides/pages should be numbered to make it easier to reference them.

Presentations should be in English, Spanish or Portuguese, which should also be the languages used by the presenters. Simultaneous interpretation for these languages will be available during the conference.