

NETWORK TRUTHS, FALLACIES & PRINCIPLES

JOHN HARRINGTON INOG: : 7

INTRO

- About me:
 - Network consultant/Blogger
- Interested in effectiveness
- ... and happiness

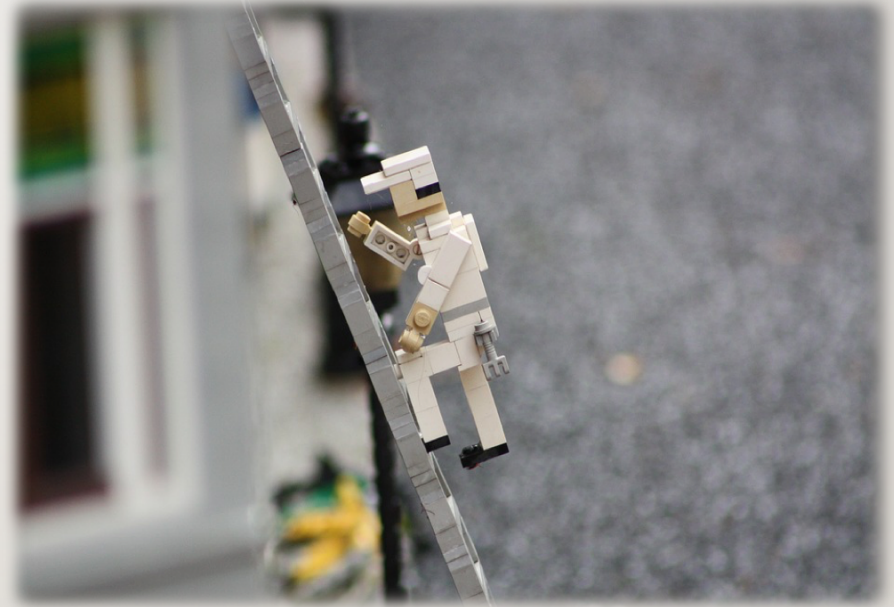


GOAL

- Share existing resources & lessons learned
- Prompt deeper thinking & debate
- Make more effective decisions
- Happier engineers

PRINCIPLES DRIVE EFFECTIVENESS

- Avoid narrow focus on efficiency
- Benefit from others mistakes
- Improve communication



12 TRUTHS OF NETWORKING - RFC 1925

FOR THE COMMUNITY



Image: [Kenny Louie](#)
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RFC 1925 - TWELVE TRUTHS / MY TOP 4

- It's easier to move a problem around than solve it.
- Every old idea will be proposed again with a different name.
- One size never fits all.
- With sufficient thrust, pigs fly just fine. However....

FALLACIES FOR YOUR USERS



Image: [julochka cc2.0](#)

8 FALLACIES OF DISTRIBUTED COMPUTING

1. The network is reliable.
2. Latency is zero.
3. Bandwidth is infinite.
4. The network is secure.
5. Topology doesn't change.
6. There is one administrator.
7. Transport cost is zero.
8. The network is homogeneous.

LEARNINGS

- NB: You still own network quality
- A tool for setting expectations
- Springboard for new ideas



PRINCIPLES FOR OURSELVES

EVERYTHING IS A BUSINESS CASE

- Decision maker's motivation?
- Hint - It's almost always money
- Uptime, change success, or growth
- 'This is cool!' => project denied



CHESTERTON'S FENCE

- Don't tear it down until you understand it.
- Corollary - Gordian Knot



DESIGN WITH EMPATHY

- Ease burden on our peers
- Beauty of low-maintenance networks
- Good for you also...
- Avoids rework, questions, pages, hassle



AUTOMATE PROCESS – NOT PROBLEMS

- Can't describe process ...
- but automate it already!
- Document existing process
- Optimise process... then automate.



TAKEAWAY

- Wisdom of others, truths and fallacies.
- Reflect on your own hard-won knowledge
- Leverage that into greater effectiveness
- Increase your happiness!

THANK YOU - ANY QUESTIONS?

Contact me @NetworkSherpa

My blog is: thenetworksherpa.com

RESOURCES

- <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc1925>
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallacies_of_distributed_computing
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Chesterton%27s_fence
- <http://www.mythencyclopedia.com/Fi-Go/Gordian-Knot.html>