



Bio of Mark James Elkins

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Mark was born and educated in the UK. He attended Queen Mary College (London University) from 1979 to 1983. From that very first day at university – Mark has been working on Unix based computer systems. He moved to South Africa in 1984.

After twelve years at Olivetti Systems and Networks, he started his own company (Posix Systems) and has been involved in Computer Communications since 1986.

He acquired the administered of the “CO.ZA” Domain name administration system on behalf of UniForum S.A. from 1995. Today, the CO.ZA Domain has over a million Domain Names and is by far the largest Domain in Africa.

Achievements include

- CCIE (Cisco Engineer) No.1992, 6 June 1996
- Running IPv6 at Posix Systems since January 2007
- DNSSEC at Posix Systems since 2010
- IPv6 based presentations at the 2009 IGF
- Chair Person of the South African IPv6 Task force committee
- Member of the IoD (Institution of Directors) 2011
- A previous Board member of AFRINIC
- A previous AFRINIC ASO-AC representative
- ICANN DNSSEC Program Committee Member

Posix Systems is one of the original members of ISPA South Africa (Member Number: L003) and Mark contributes by means of presentations to its yearly i-Week conference.

By being involved with the ZACR, Mark provides DNS/DNSSEC training in South Africa.

Mark is also involved in the DNSSEC management of the local ccTLD's domains, such as ZA, CO.ZA and of the gTLD's that are run locally.

Mark was involved as the technical leader in the ICANN project – a DNS Study of Africa (dnsafrica.study) – to collect statistics of all African ccTLD Domains.

Mark is (or was) also involved with SAFNOG, ISOC, AfNOG, AfrISPA and AfPIF.

He is a past Board Member of COZA-Cares, a non-profit organisation that is involved with ICT in Schools.

Posix Systems provides both connectivity and hosting. Initially, connectivity was by Dial-Up modems. This has been superseded to aDSL Services and now Fibre (FTTH) connectivity. The Hosting side scales from simple Domain Name registration (using EPP), includes Web Hosting up to full Machine and Rack hosting services.

The PDP Co-Chair Position

How Mark intends to contribute to the PDWG in particular and the Region's Policy Development Process (PDP) in General.

Mark is and has historically been an active member regarding policy development in AFRINIC. The first policy introduced by Mark was /48 IPv6 address blocks for End Users. He has been regularly involved in a number of policies since then. Mark has not been shy of the Policy Day at AFRINIC neither is he a stranger on the PDP Mailing Lists. Mark is also an active Internet Service Provider so understands the role that Policies play regarding numbering resources. He is level headed and the majority of people consider him to be a sane, logical and fair voice especially when there are troubled waters. Mark is also eager to contribute to the community as a PDP Co-Chair.