

# Codepoints in I-Ds

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# What Happens?

- An I-D is stable
- People want to implement
- Code points are “suggested” in the I-D

# What Could Possibly Go Wrong?

- Implementations are done
- Interop tests are held
- Product is released
- Product is shipped
- Function is deployed
  
- RFC publication process goes ahead
- IANA allocates **different** codepoints
  - For example, because of another allocation

# A Recent Example from MPLS

- Not singling anyone out for punishment
- Two mature drafts using the same registry
  - One draft requests early allocation (RFC 4020)
    - IANA allocates code points
  - Other draft is older
    - Contains “suggested” codepoints
    - It has been deployed using those codepoints
    - There is an overlap with the values already allocated
- In theory...
  - You implement and deploy an I-D at your own risk

# How is this Unpicked?

- Fortunately only one of the I-Ds is implemented and deployed
- Fortunately we caught this early
- Will need to work with IANA
  - Simply sort out the codepoints and re-register

# What Should Happen?

- Do not identify unregistered codepoints in I-Ds
  - There is never any need
    - Interop tests can use private values
  - I-Ds should say “TBD” and leave it to IANA
- Do early allocation where needed
  - RFC 4020 (and draft-iana-rfc4020bis coming soon)
  - It is simple (but it does expire)
- Actions
  - Authors and WG chairs check now
    - Do you have codepoints in your I-Ds?
    - Either remove them or get early allocation
    - Do it soon
  - WG chairs (or secretaries)
    - Check IANA sections in all new I-Ds

# What Else Could We Do?

- WGs could maintain a web page of “very early temporary allocations”
  - For example
    - <http://trac.tools.ietf.org/wg/ccamp/trac/wiki>
- Such codepoints are NOT official allocations
  - You cannot rely on them
- But this does help avoid confusion and overlap