

# NETWORK TRUTHS, FALLACIES & PRINCIPLES

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JOHN HARRINGTON INOG: : 7

# INTRO

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



# GOAL

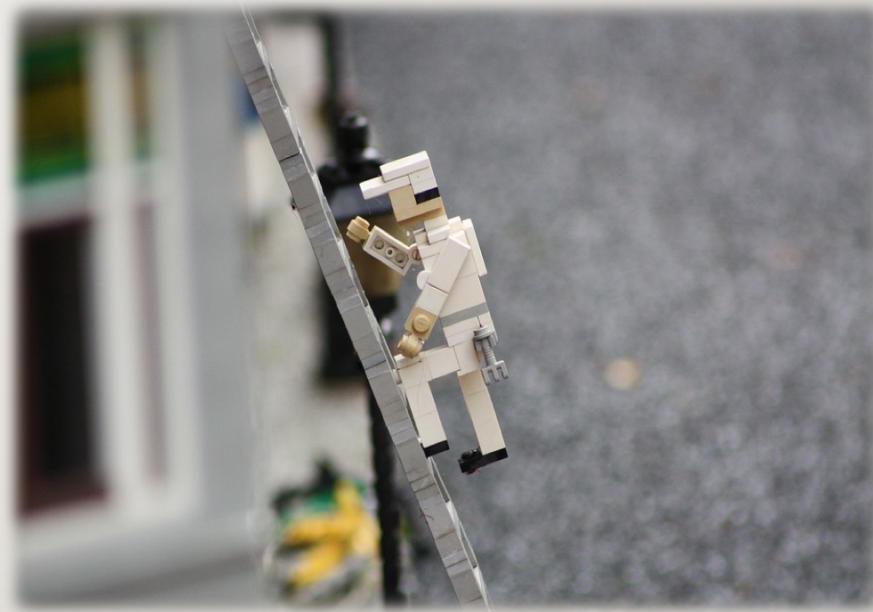
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- Share existing resources & lessons learned
- Prompt deeper thinking & debate
- Make more effective decisions
- Happier engineers

# PRINCIPLES DRIVE EFFECTIVENESS

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- 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

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- 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

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- 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

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



PRINCIPLES  
FOR OURSELVES

# EVERYTHING IS A BUSINESS CASE

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



# CHESTERTON'S FENCE

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



# DESIGN WITH EMPATHY

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



# AUTOMATE PROCESS – NOT PROBLEMS

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



# TAKEAWAY

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- 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?

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Contact me @NetworkSherpa

My blog is: [thenetworksherpa.com](http://thenetworksherpa.com)

# RESOURCES

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- <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc1925>
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallacies\\_of\\_distributed\\_computing](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fallacies_of_distributed_computing)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Chesterton%27s\\_fence](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Chesterton%27s_fence)
- <http://www.mythencyclopedia.com/Fi-Go/Gordian-Knot.html>