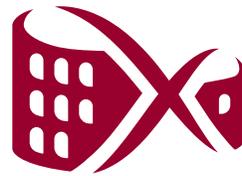


Telecom Italia re-peering



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WE DO CONNECTIONS

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Past

- Foreword: TIM aka Telecom Italia is two-headed:
 - AS6762, aka Sparkle, Global Network and Transit Provider;
 - AS3269, aka Interbusiness for the grey haired, TIM Domestic Network, the largest Italian eyeball ISP;
- Once upon a time (year 2000) AS3269 settlement free peering for Italy based networks was agreed for a 6 years time
- That agreement was extended then for 6 more years, and then ceased to be (July 2013). TIM kept infrastructure alive at some the Ixes, removing it from others.
- IX community was very concerned about that and reacted emotionally, fearing impacts on the peering echo system...
- ...But that was not the case, and Italian IXes grew strongly, spreading positive effects all over their respective coverage basins.
- In the meanwhile people on both sides kept talking each other, trying to find new ways to collaborate and be ready...

Present

- March 2020 – the world is changing
- Italy was the first country in Europe to have to deal with the virus
- The sudden increase of the Internet traffic has brought new challenges
- Solidarity between network operators and IXPs, made it possible to face the emergency.
 - In this scenario TIM (AS3269) has done its part
- “TIM re-peering”: the initiative started from the bottom. The good news was the close collaboration among the Italian IXPs and the availability and openness of TIM
- Key moments:
 - April 6th: free peering at MIX (Milan) and Namex (Rome)
 - May 7th: free peering at TOP-IX (Torino)
 - May 28th: free peering at VSIX (Padova)
- The initiative has been extended until next 31st December 2020

Observations & next

- Traffic below expectations: about 20% of deployed capacity in each IXP
- Good impact on latency from/to AS3269, welcomed from remote workers in most cases (if they have home connectivity with TIM)
- Only a 'crystal ball' would allow some predictions on what will happen from 2021. Italian scenario isn't boring with renewed interest of politics on communications (e.g. AccessCo as a merge of TIM last mile network with OpenFiber and other minor infrastructures)
- But some points are under discussion:
 1. Will TIM continue peering?
 2. If yes, will it maintain same Selective policy?
 3. If yes, will it extend IP PoPs?
 4. Additional services?

Thanks!

