Routing update: 32-bit AS numbers

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The most important application of autonomous system (AS) identifiers is their usage in the inter-domain routing. These identifiers have been 16-bit numbers from the beginning. Because of the growth of the Internet (and the increasing amount of autonomous systems) the 16-bit range will soon be exhausted. The most convenient solution is to expand AS numbers to 32 bits. This paper presents how to do this.