

# **National & Regional Cyber-Defense: an Integrated Caribbean Strategy**

**CTU Ministerial**

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## **The short version:**

Know and control your borders

Be self-reliant within your borders

Establish trust relationships with your peers

# Know and Control your Borders

In the Internet, your border is your perimeter of control.

This is not a simple shape, like your physical border.

It's a complex set of circuits and devices with multiple kinds and layers of access.

Within your perimeter, you have ultimate control of the circuits and devices; outside, your adversaries may.

Accurately knowing where the border of your control lies is the first step in controlling its interior.

# Know and Control your Borders

Your perimeter of control will expand as a function of your strength, and contract in response to threats.

At a minimum, when you are in the time of greatest distress, planning and forethought will give you a redoubt, a minimum perimeter of absolute control beyond which you cannot be compressed, and within which you have the set of tools you need to begin pressing your perimeter outwards again.

# Know and Control your Borders

Establishing and maintaining control requires complete knowledge of the terrain. In cybersecurity, your adversary dwells in crannies of your systems that are unknown to you.

Circuits, routers, and servers are each specific and comprehensible devices.

Your knowledge of the terrain they define must be direct and literal, not by abstraction or analogy, as the differences between models and reality form those crannies in which an adversary takes control.

# Be Self-Reliant Within your Borders

Internet Exchange Points, IXPs, are the sources of Internet bandwidth.

Most Caribbean bandwidth flows through NOTA, the NAP of the Americas, here in Miami, or Equinix Ashburn, near Washington D.C.

Increasingly, Caribbean countries are establishing their own IXPs, so they are no longer entirely dependent upon their connection to Miami.

# Be Self-Reliant Within your Borders

Domain name resolution, people's ability to find things on the Internet, depends upon a hierarchy of domain name servers.

In order to find and communicate with a server sitting right next to you, you still need to be able to first talk to a root nameserver, and a TLD nameserver.

Increasingly, Caribbean countries are moving to host their own root and TLD nameservers on-island, allowing them autonomy from international fiber.

# Be Self-Reliant Within your Borders

Build human and infrastructural capacity domestically.

“Direct foreign investment” means export of capital; that investment demands its return. Debt and the export of capital are strategic weaknesses.

Law enforcement dependence upon foreign-owned carriers for intercept capability means that law enforcement leaks information internationally, and may be the last to gain access to intercepted intelligence.



# Establish Trust Relationships

CERTs are the hub of trust relationships

Law-enforcement to ISP

Defense to CERT

Government to government

“Culture of Security”

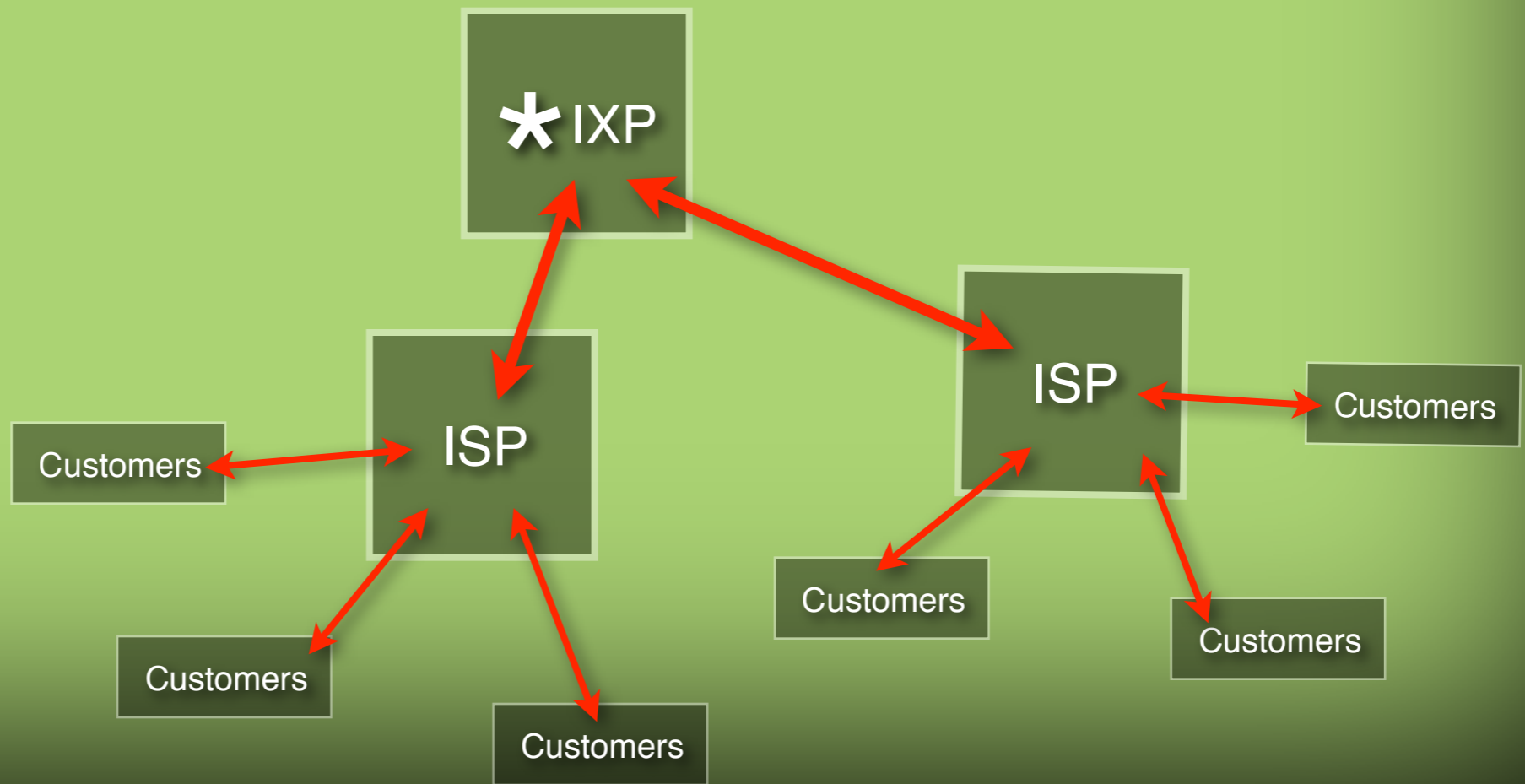
# Critical Infrastructure Checklist

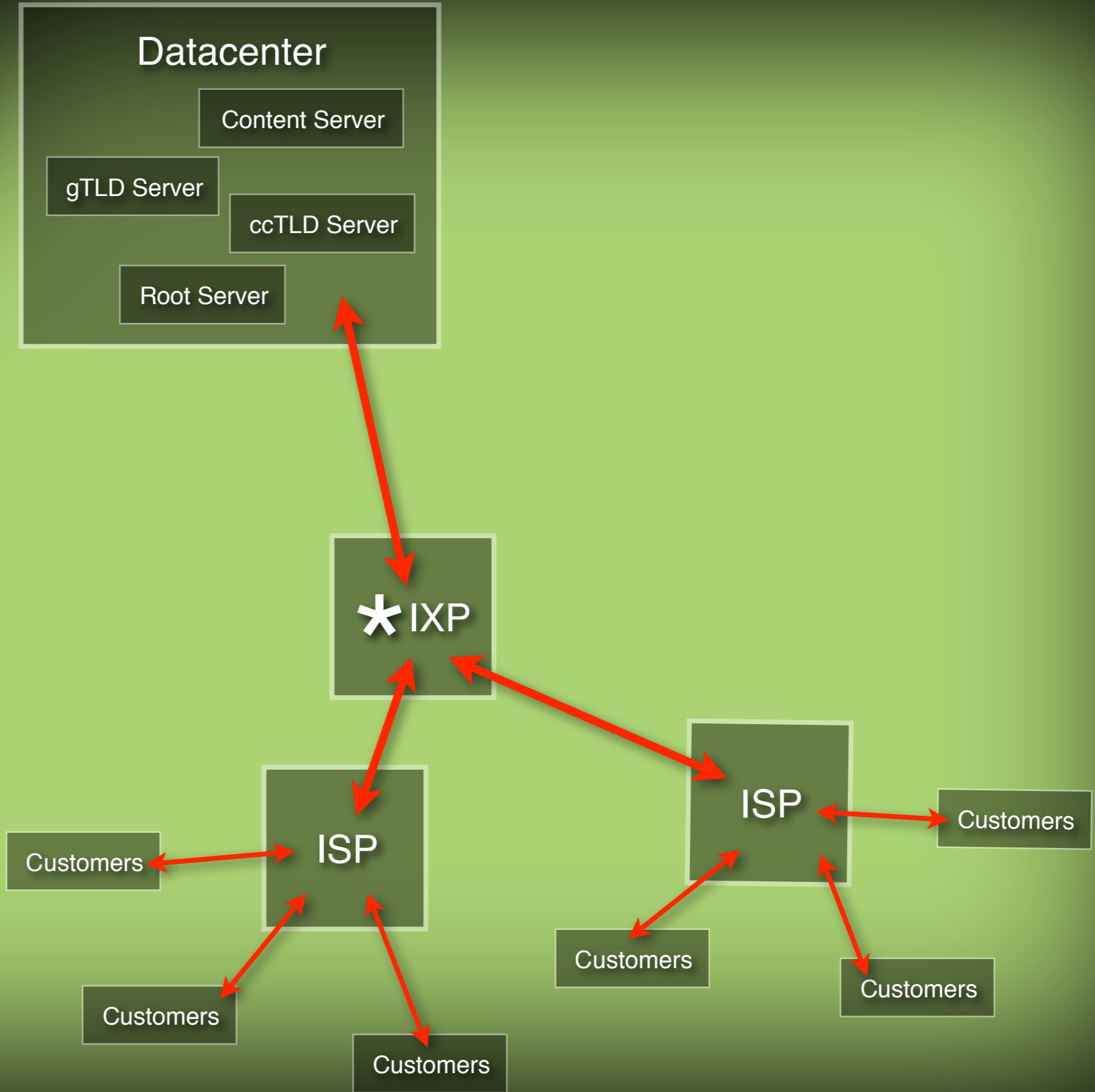
- ✓ Domestic IXP on-island. Redundant pair eventually.
- ✓ Your own ccTLD nameservers on-island and at major IXPs on the other side of your international circuits.
- ✓ Root nameserver on-island. Multiple when possible.
- ✓ DNSSEC sign your national ccTLD.
- ✓ Use DANE to bootstrap a national Certificate Authority.
- ✓ Neighbors' ccTLDs and other TLD nameservers of interest on-island, at your IXP, connected to your ISPs.
- ✓ Datacenters adjacent to your IXP.
- ✓ DDoS sinks on both sides of your international circuits.
- ✓ Redundant fiber paths both on-island and to major IXPs bordering the region.

# Policy & Regulatory Checklist

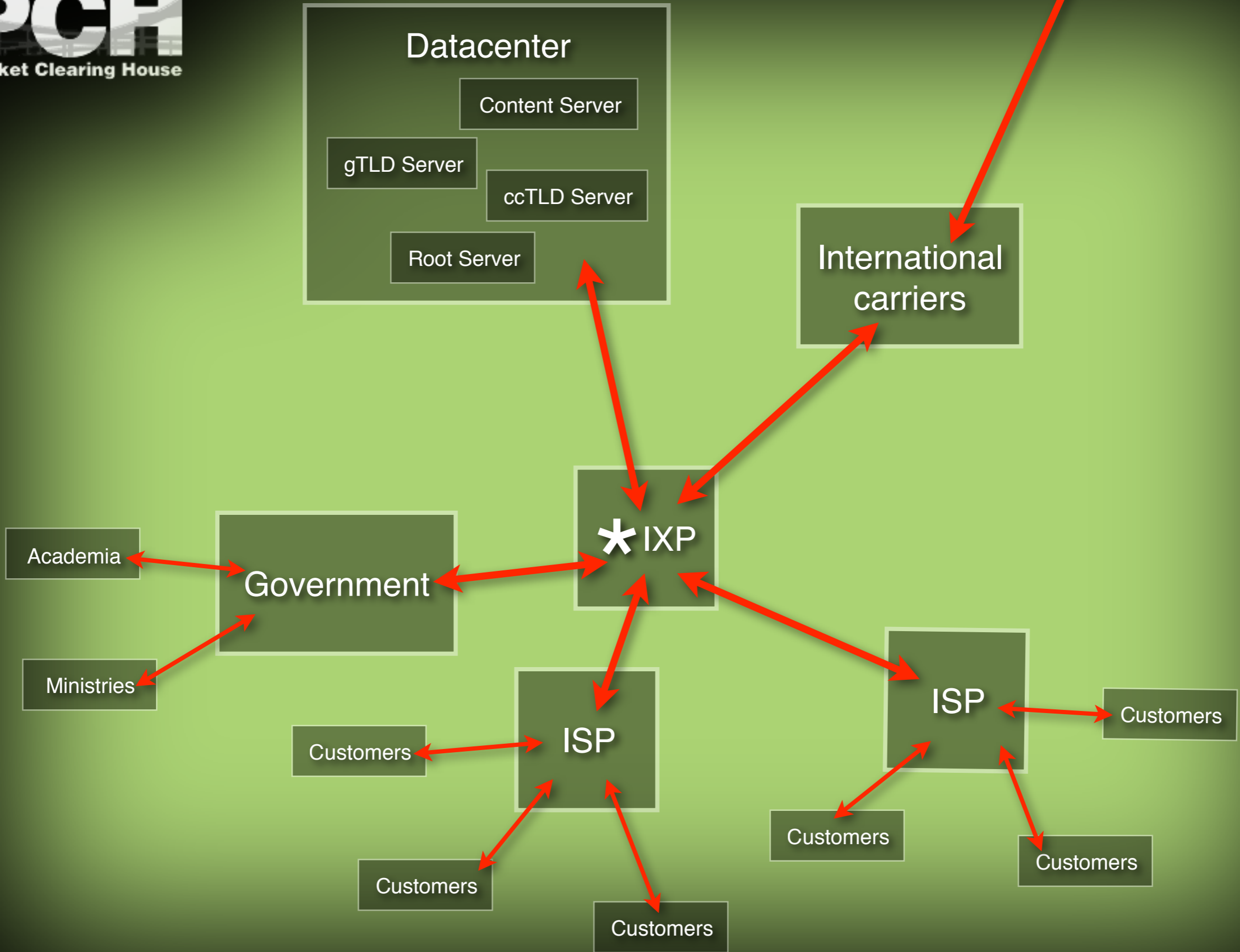
- ✓ Avoid over-spending and gold-plating.
- ✓ Encourage international content to mirror at your IXP.
- ✓ Maintain a competitive domestic marketplace in all services.  
Regulate only constrained common goods. Use class licenses rather than individual licenses by default.
- ✓ Encourage your ISPs to do business in neighboring countries, and welcome their ISPs to do business in yours. Together you'll boot-strap into larger markets.
- ✓ Adopt or ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime.
- ✓ Be aware of and participate in Internet governance, don't let others speak in your stead, and don't get used as a disposable pawn in other people's fights.



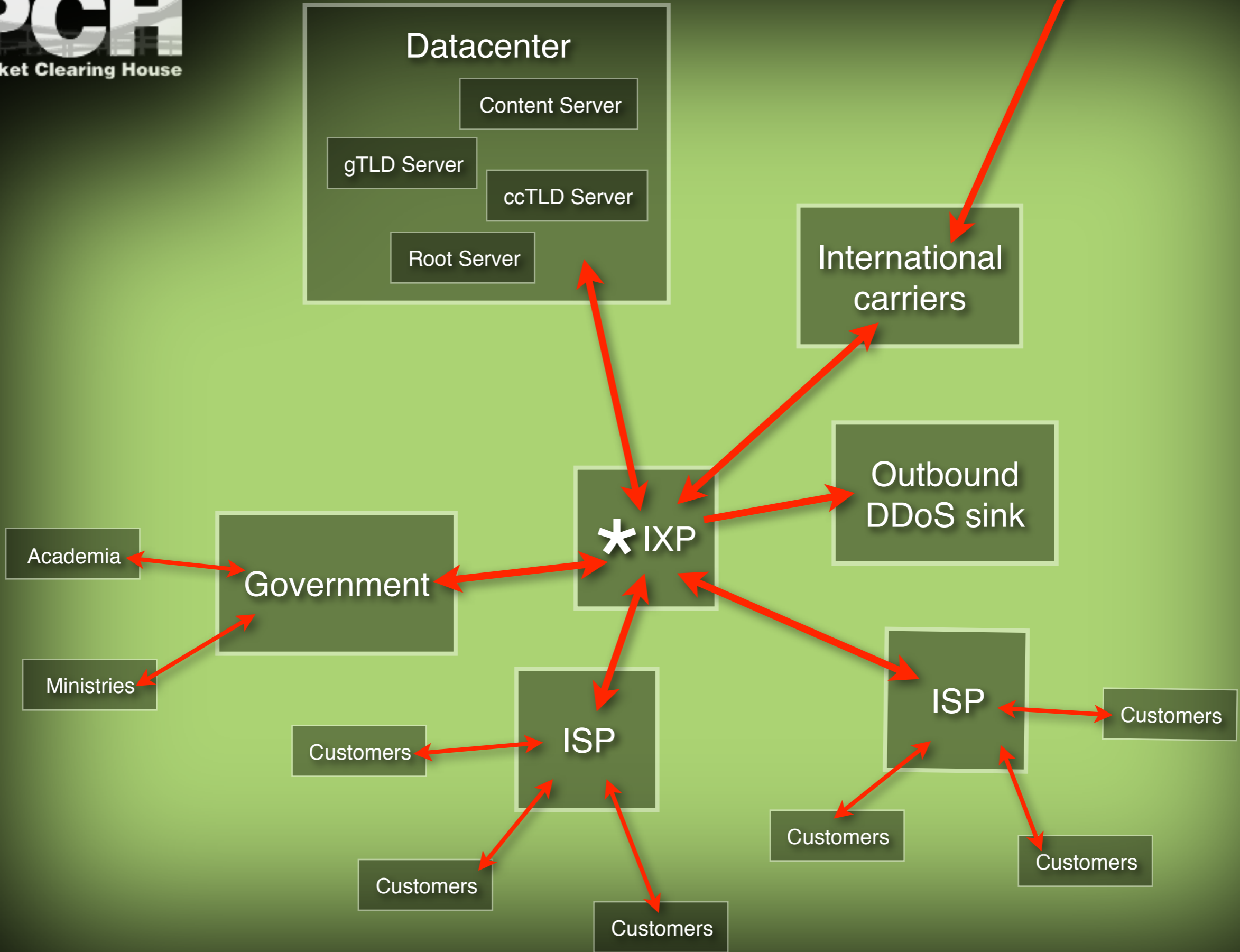


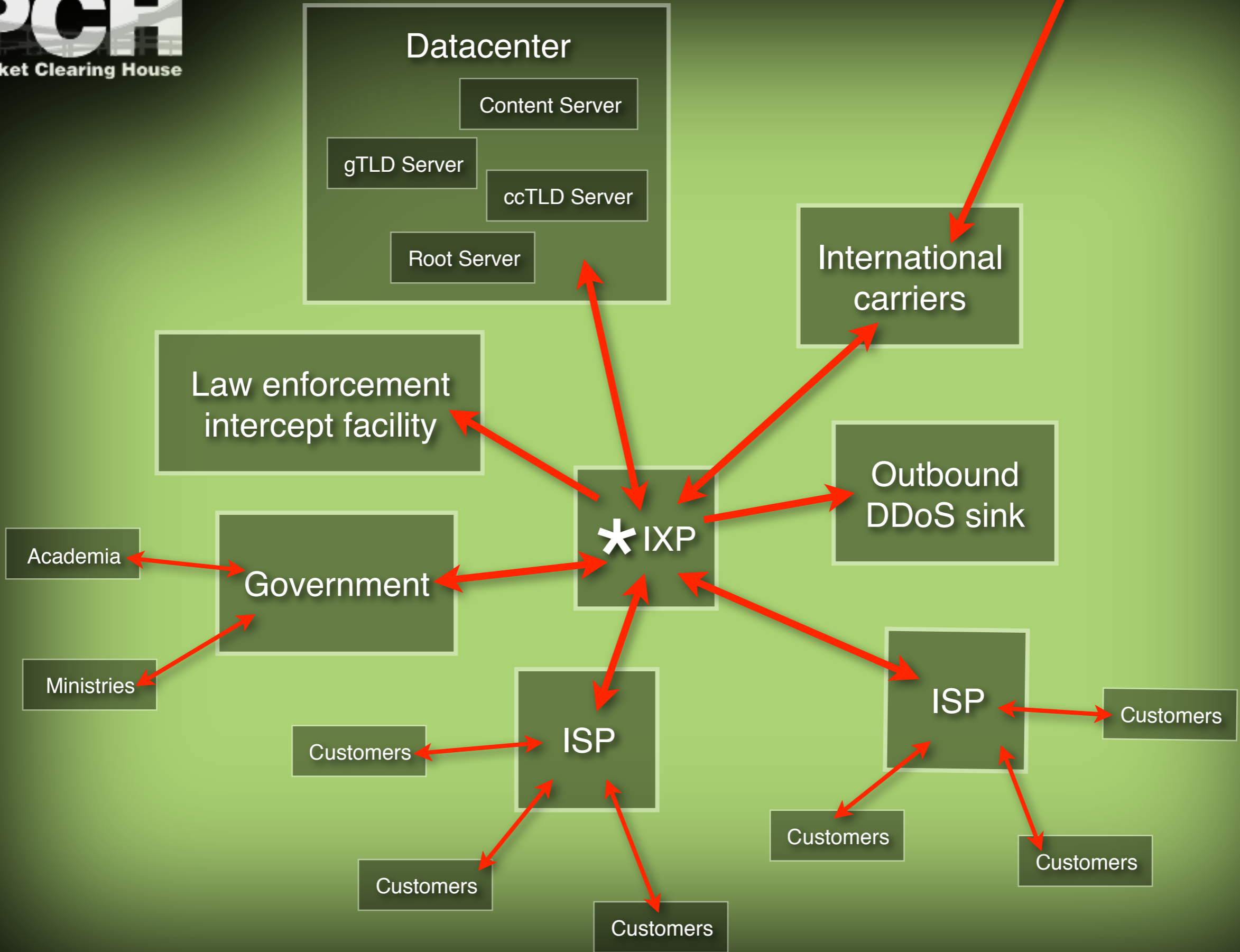


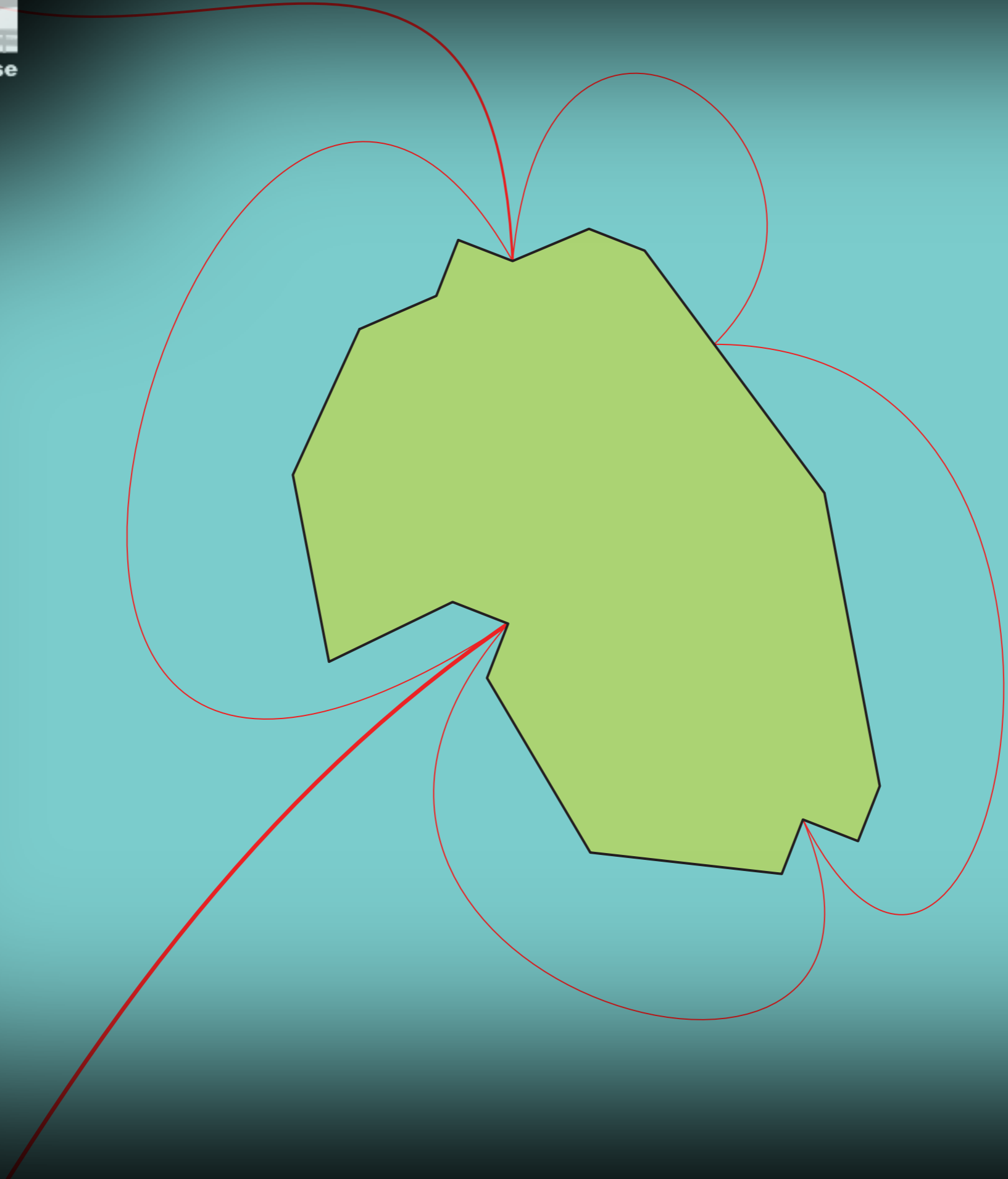




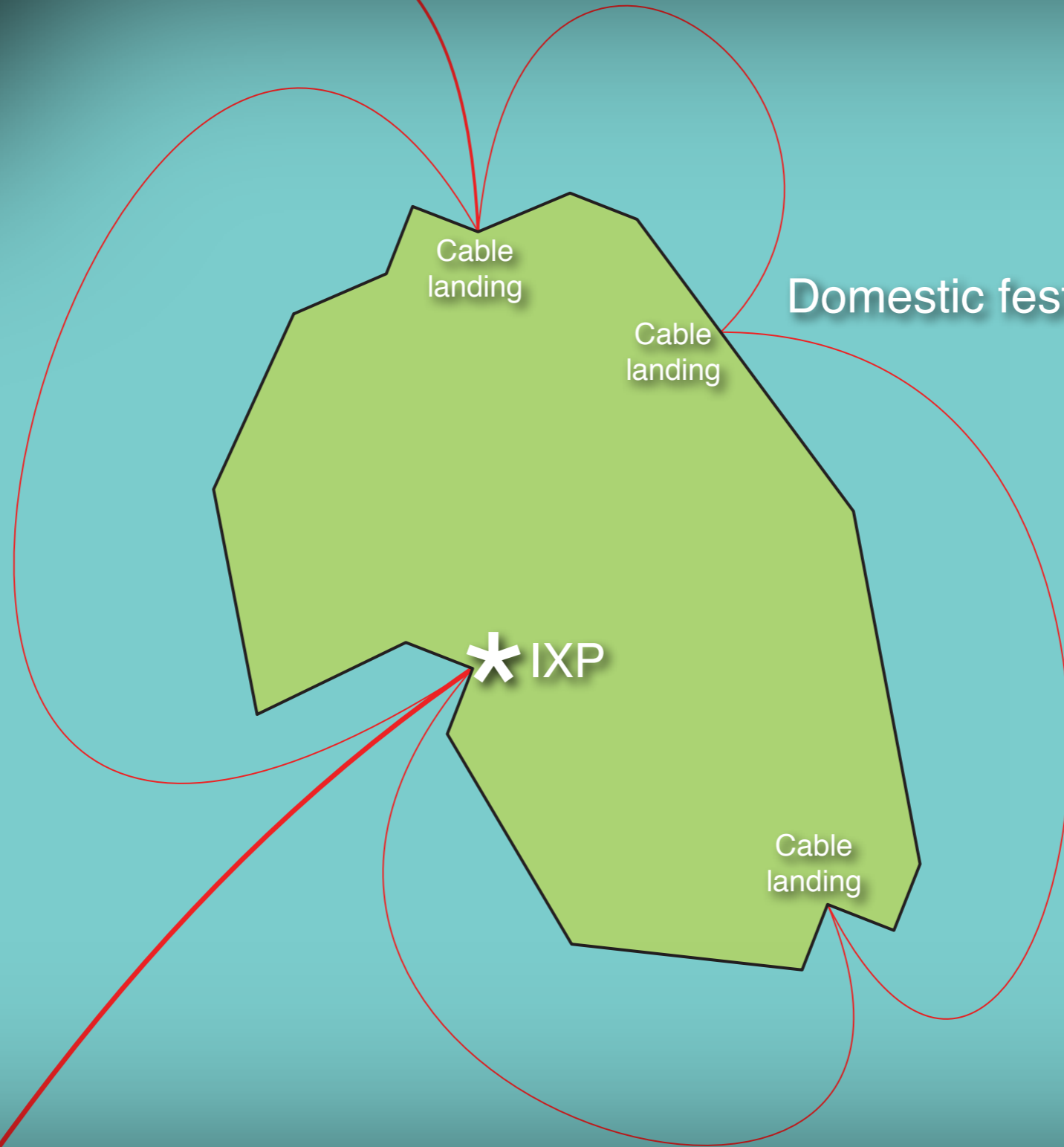








Regional cable



Domestic festoon cable

Cable landing

Cable landing

\* IXP

Cable landing

Branch from international cable



International cable

Regional cable

Festoon cable

\* IXP

Festoon cable

\* IXP

Regional cable

Branching unit

Branching unit

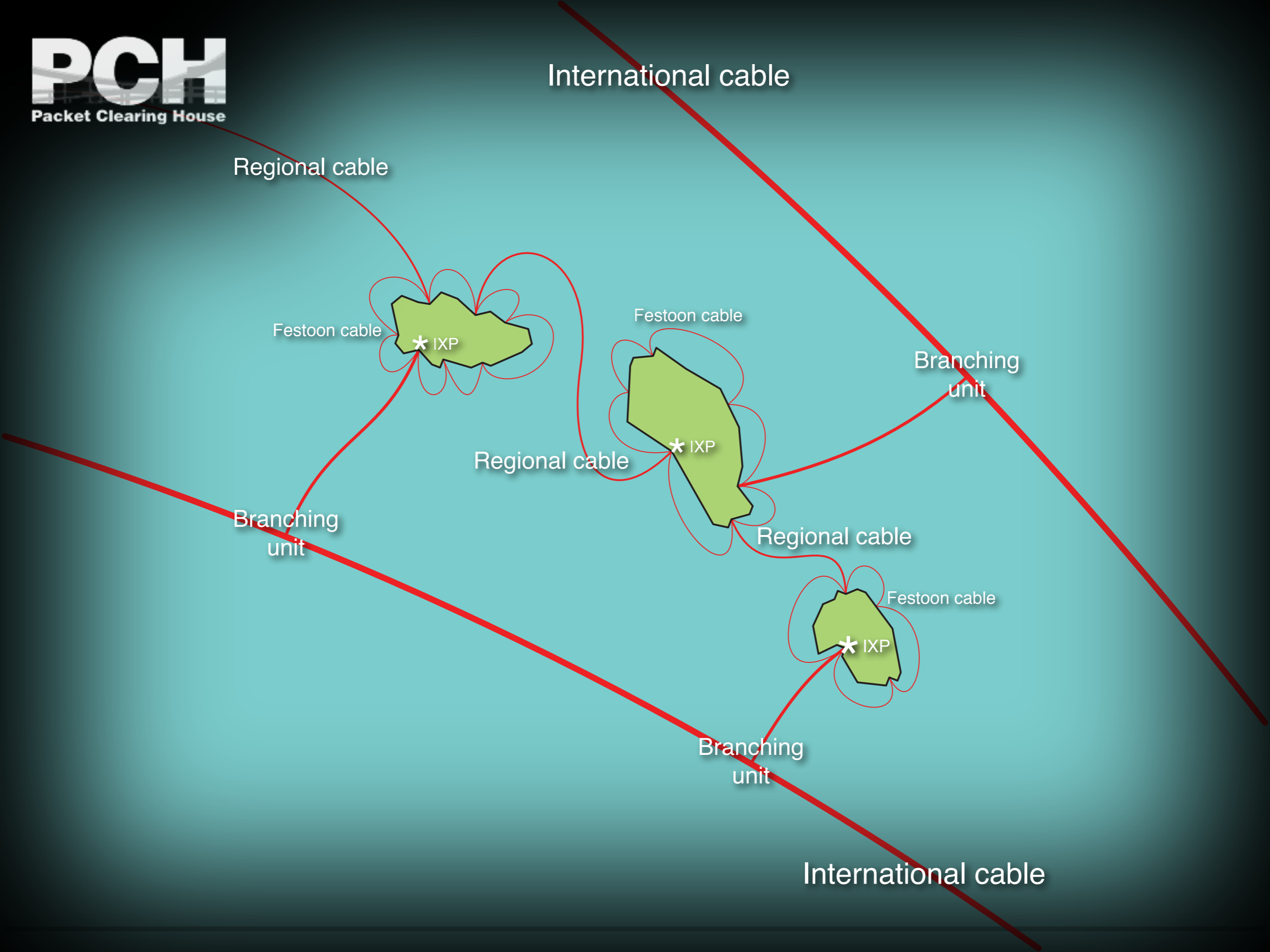
Regional cable

Festoon cable

\* IXP

Branching unit

International cable

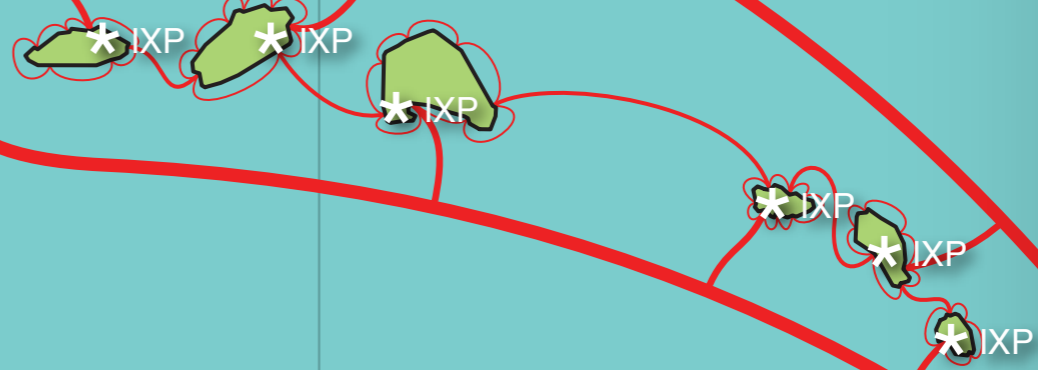




To the eastern seaboard

To Europe

NOTA  
Miami \*



To Brazil

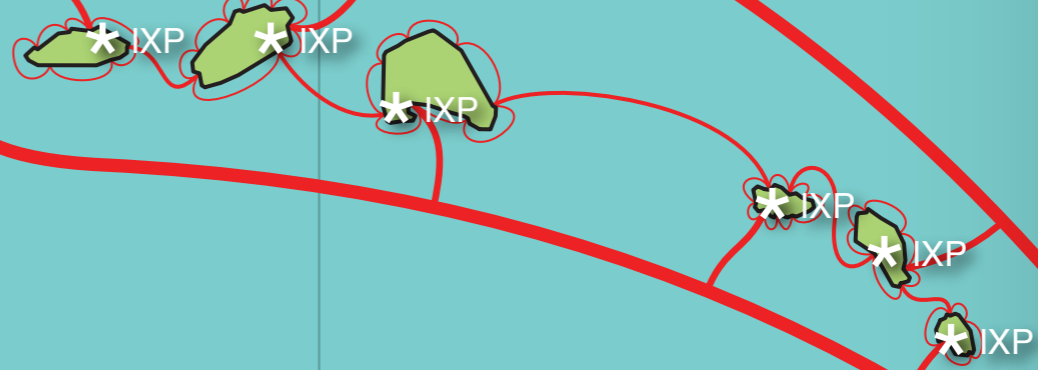
\* IXP



To the eastern seaboard

To Europe

NOTA \* DDoS Mitigation  
Miami \* Mainland anycast hosting

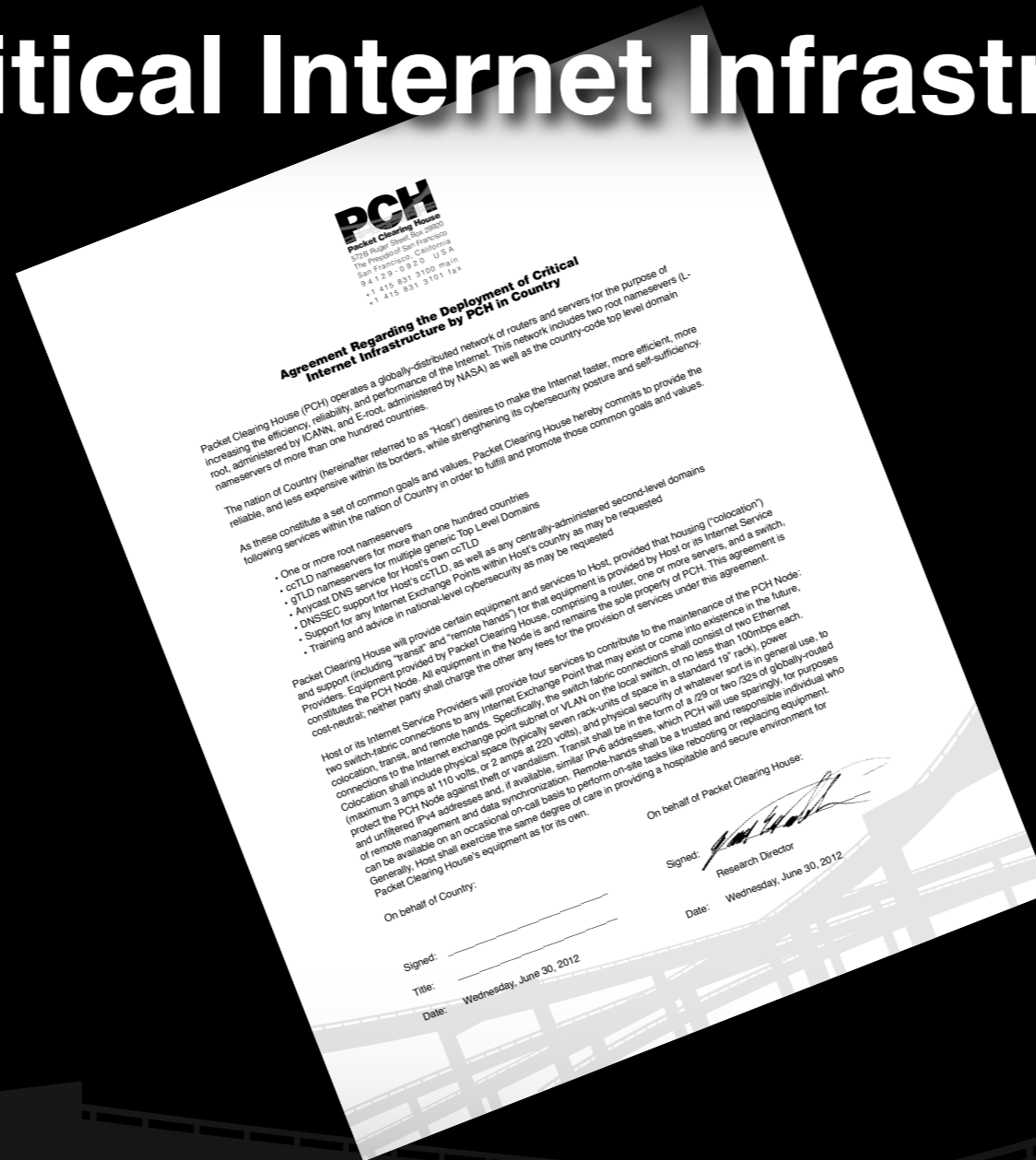


To Brazil

# Announcement

with Rodrigo de la Parra  
Vice President for Latin America  
ICANN

# Agreement Regarding the Deployment of Critical Internet Infrastructure



# Agreement Regarding the Deployment of Critical Internet Infrastructure

nameservers of more than one hundred countries.

The nation of Country (hereinafter referred to as “Host”) desires to make the Internet faster, more efficient, more reliable, and less expensive within its borders, while strengthening its cybersecurity posture and self-sufficiency.

As these constitute a set of common goals and values, Packet Clearing House hereby commits to provide the following services within the nation of Country in order to fulfill and promote those common goals and values.

- One or more root nameservers
- ccTLD nameservers for more than one hundred countries
- gTLD nameservers for multiple generic Top Level Domains
- Anycast DNS service for Host’s own ccTLD
- DNSSEC support for Host’s ccTLD, as well as any centrally-administered second-level domains
- Support for any Internet Exchange Points within Host’s country as may be requested
- Training and advice in national-level cybersecurity as may be requested

Packet Clearing House will provide certain equipment and services to Host, provided that housing (“colocation”) and support (including “transit” and “remote hands”) for that equipment is provided by Host or its Internet Service Providers. Equipment provided by Packet Clearing House, comprising a router, one or more servers, and a switch, constitutes the PCH Node. All equipment in the Node is and remains the sole property of PCH. This agreement is cost-neutral; neither party shall charge the other any fees for the provision of services under this agreement.

Host or its Internet Service Providers will provide four services to contribute to the maintenance of the PCH Node:

# Thanks, and Questions?

Copies of this presentation can be found  
in Keynote and PDF formats at:

**[http:// www.pch.net / resources / papers](http://www.pch.net/resources/papers)**

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