Staff update on Domain Tasting, Transfer Policy and Whois

13 February 2008

Domain Tasting

- Initiated by ALAC request
- Staff prepared Issues Report 14 June 2007
- A dedicated WG for fact-finding delivered an Outcomes Report 4 October 2007
- Council voted on 31 October to:
  - Launch PDP
  - Encourage ICANN staff to apply the annual fee to all registrations

Domain Tasting, cont'd

- PDP Milestones
  - Initial Report based on Constituency Statements, posted 8 January 2008
  - Public comment period ended 28 January, 67 comments received
  - Draft Final Report prepared 8 February
  - A design group has proposed next steps, for Council deliberation in New Delhi

Domain Tasting, cont'd

- Proposed FY08-09 ICANN budget includes transaction fee for deletes within the AGP
- PIR registry restocking fee for .org
  - A 0.05 USD fee per delete for each registrar with 90%+ AGP deletes in relation to added registrations
  - Monthly deletes dropped from 2.4 million in May 2007 to 152,700 in June 2007
- Similar registry measures recently proposed
  - by NeuStar for .BIZ
  - by Afilias for .INFO

Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy Review

- A Working Group tasked to identify areas for improvements in the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy delivered a report in mid-2007.
- Council requested an Issues Report on four aspects relating to reasons for which a registrar may deny a request to transfer a domain name.
- The Issues Report was delivered on 19 October,
- On 20 November, the GNSO Council resolved on to launch a PDP on the four aspects covered by the Issues Report
- Four Constituency Statements have been received, remaining statements needed soon to enable the next step, an Initial Report

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Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy Review, cont'd

- In parallel with the PDP, the WG was revived to prioritize the 19 remaining issues on the list, NOT covered by the PDP.

- A prioritized list was delivered in January 2008

- A planning group was established by the Council to group the issues on this prioritized list in suitable suggested PDPs

- The planning group's work is ongoing, three issue sets for PDPs outlined.

WHOIS

- Currently no PDP underway
- On 31 October 2007 the GNSO Council decided that a comprehensive and objective understanding of key facts about WHOIS will benefit future GNSO policy development, and plans to ask ICANN staff to conduct several studies. The Council is soliciting suggestions for specific topics of study on WHOIS that community stakeholders recommend be conducted.
- Public comments are being sought until 15 February
- The Council will then decide the studies for which costs should be developed, for further decision-making.
- As of 6 February, approximately 9 suggestions for further study have been offered.

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WHOIS cont'd

Suggestions offered so far:

- Documented misuse of WHOIS data
- Nature and extent of privacy options available to shield personal information from display in WHOIS
- Responses by proxy services to notices alleging actionable harm
- Does current WHOIS enable greater competition in the DNS industry (offering privacy services)?
- Experience of ccTLD registries with different WHOIS policies to determine the impact of more restrictive data display policies
- Recoverability of domains in cases of domain theft
- Participation of certain registrars in spam abuse based on falsified WHOIS records
- Locking of WHOIS name searches by some registrars
- Stop the studies already

Thank You!

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