

Late Breaking News – IDN example.test Evaluation and New gTLD Process



Paul Twomey
President and CEO

20 October 2007



TWNIC-ICANN Regional Meeting
Taipei

Agenda

- Plan for IDNs
- Plan for new gTLDs

IDNs and IDN TLDs

- Milestones

- December 2006 – successful laboratory testing of punycode strings representing top level domains inserted into the root zone
- IETF leads efforts to finalize IDNA protocols
- October 2007 – IANA inserts IDNs into the root zone for evaluation of example.test in 11 languages

IDN evaluation of example.test

- First, watch –



- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RK49jK-olpU>

IDNs wikis

- Then, evaluate on wiki pages in Arabic, Persian, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Russian, Hindi, Greek, Korean, Yiddish, Japanese and Tamil –



– <http://idn.icann.org>

Process development for new gTLDs

- Issues surrounding this process are policy related
- ICANN multi-stakeholder consensus-building process essential to consideration of a multitude of complex issues
- ICANN's GNSO, ccNSO, and GAC leading process
- Consultation involves –
 - Package of principles, proposed policy recommendations and implementation guidelines for new gTLDs
 - Selection criteria for new top-level domains related to applicants, strings, and processes
 - Contractual conditions for new top-level domain operators
 - Proposed procedures for resolving objections to strings or applicants

Principles guiding new gTLDs

- Consensus on 7 guiding principles –
 - New gTLDs must be introduced in an orderly, timely and predictable way
 - Some new gTLDs should be IDNs – subject to the approval of IDNs being available in the root
 - Reasons for developing the process:
 - Demand for TLDs in ASCII and IDN format
 - New TLD application process will promote competition at all market levels and market arenas
 - Applications are to be evaluated against a set of **technical criteria** to minimize risk to Internet security, stability, interoperability

Principles guiding new gTLDs (cont)

- Consensus on 7 guiding principles –
 - Applicants are to receive a set of **capability criteria** to ensure their suitability to meet registry agreement obligations
 - **Operational criteria** are to be set out in registry agreement conditions to ensure compliance with ICANN policies

19 recommendations

- Consensus on 19 process development recommendations –
 1. ICANN must implement a process that allows the introduction of new TLDs
 2. Strings must not be confusingly similar to an existing TLD or reserved name
 3. Strings must not infringe on existing legal rights of others
 4. Strings must not cause technical instability
 5. Strings must not be a reserved word

19 recommendations (cont)

- Consensus on 19 process development recommendations –
 6. Strings must not be contrary to generally accepted legal norms
 7. Applicants must demonstrate technical capability to operate a registry service
 8. Applicants must demonstrate financial and organizational operational capability
 9. There must be a clear, prepublished application process using objective, measurable criteria

19 recommendations (cont)

- Consensus on 19 process development recommendations –
 10. A base contract must be provided to applicants at the beginning of the application process
 11. Applications will be rejected if an expert panel determines that there is substantial opposition to it from a significant portion of the community
 12. Dispute resolution and challenge process must be established before the process starts
 13. Applications must be initially assessed in rounds until the scale of demand is clear
 14. The initial registry agreement term must be of a commercially reasonable length

19 recommendations (cont)

- Consensus on 19 process development recommendations –
 15. There must be renewal expectancy
 16. Registries must apply existing consensus policies and adopt new consensus policies as they are approved
 17. The base contract must contain a clear compliance and sanctions process
 18. If an applicant offers an IDN service, then ICANN's IDN guidelines must be followed
 19. Registries must use only ICANN accredited registrars to register domain names

New market dynamic

- New choices for all market levels and market arenas
 - More top-level domains mean more competition, more options, and the possibility for more targeted or user-specific domain names
 - When coupled with IDNs, hundreds and, eventually, more than 1,000 new TLDs could be created
- New business models —
 - Telnic's .tel
 - .post
- Lots of room for innovation

New gTLD timeline

- Joint critical path for IDNs and new gTLDs
 - ccIDNs are being evaluated even now for this fast-track process
 - Once ccIDNs are in the root, gTLDs will follow
- Target deployment for both IDNs and gTLDs is 2008

GNSO workshop on new gTLD process

- ICANN Los Angeles meeting –
 - Monday, 29 October 2007
- Workshop will cover –
 - Progress so far
 - What remains to be done
 - Recommendations, implementation guidelines, base contract
 - Selection criteria and allocation criteria
 - Application process and environment

Thank You