



ICANN Registry Request Service

Ticket ID: A0N4K-5L7K8

Registry Name: Top Level Design, LLC

gTLD: ART, DESIGN, GAY, PHOTOGRAPHY, WIKI

Status: ICANN Review

Status Date: 2014-06-18 13:00:24

Print Date: 2014-06-18 16:43:10

Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

Additional IDN Tables for .wiki & .ink

Technical description of Proposed Service:

Top Level Design LLC, a contracted party with ICANN for registry services for the .wiki and .ink TLDs, initially identified Latin and Arabic IDN tables for SLDs in its applications for each TLD.

We would like to add the functionality for an additional 7 IDN tables, for both .wiki and .ink:

- * Greek*
- * Japanese*
- * Korean*
- * Cyrillic*
- * Hebrew*
- * Thai*
- * Lao*

CentralNic provides backend registry services for Top Level Design LLC, and these IDN tables can be individually downloaded from CentralNic's website: https://manage.centralnic.com/support/idn_tables

PLEASE NOTE that the attached .zip file contains IDN tables that differ from those available via the above link, these versions will take precedence for Greek, Thai, and Lao given that they exclude points forbidden by IDNA2008.

Please note that this RSEP request has been updated; we had previously also sought expansion to Chinese IDNs but have delayed this functionality as we prepare for the required IDN variants. It is our understanding that when an IDN in Simplified Chinese is registered, the equivalent version in Traditional Chinese must be reserved (and vice versa). The development of this functionality will take some time, and so we will submit a Chinese specific RSEP separately. We are aware of RFC 3743 which provides a common framework for internationalised domain names using Chinese, Japanese and Korean (CJK) characters. However, as of writing, neither the Japanese or Korean IDN tables (respectively published by the .JP and .KR registries) define any variants and so we do not believe that introduction of these languages needs to be delayed until the framework for Chinese language IDNs is in place.



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TO BE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR, Variant IDNs (as defined in the Registry Operator's IDN tables and IDN Registration Rules) will be blocked from registration.

Consultation

Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?:

We are aware of our backend registry provider, CentralNic, enabling these additional IDN functionalities for ccTLDs, such as .pw and .la, and a number of third level registry services, such as .co.com, .cn.com, etc.

a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?:

Not applicable.

b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:

Consultations were not required as CentralNic's capabilities have already been recognized by the registrar community.

However, consultations that were done confirmed that our potential partners around the world are interested in having additional IDN capabilities deployed for .wiki and .ink to better serve their customers. We spoke with numerous registrars that were interested in IDNs being supported; given their enthusiasm for this service we thought it was prudent to also enable further IDN tables at this time.



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c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

Technical consultations were not required as CentralNic's capabilities have already been recognized across the ICANN community.

However, when speaking with non-registrar companies, such as those involved in international brand protection, and other domain name service providers, we confirmed that there was significant interest in offering SLD registration in additional languages/scripts.

d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

Not applicable; our consultations with registrars and non-registrar companies confirmed that the end-users they serve were interested in these additional services.

e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

As noted above, in questions (b) and (c), both registrars and non-registrars would endorse this service.

f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were(or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?:

We have received no negative feedback in any of our consultations. We see this service as a fulfillment of our role as a service provider to the global internet, and one that caters to end-users and companies in their native languages/scripts. The only objectors would potentially be our direct competitors, that is, other registries; however, we do not think that any of our



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competitors would object to this service and would instead defer to the spirit of serving a global Internet and providing top-tier service across our industry.

Timeline

Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service:

We will immediately implement following approval from ICANN.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

Additional IDN tables will be offered in accordance with Version 3.0 of ICANN's Guidelines for the Implementation of Internationalized Domain Names as published on ICANN's website. IDN tables for each script and/or language will be published on CentralNic's website and submitted to the IANA for publication in the Repository of IDN Practices.

The SRS supports the IDN extension for EPP and registrars may use this extension to signal which IDN table an IDN domain name corresponds to; however use of this extension is optional, and the SRS will automatically determine the appropriate table if the extension is omitted from the <create> command.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

The IDN tables to be offered are, for the most part, derived from tables published by other ccTLD and gTLD registries in the Repository of IDN Practices on the IANA website. These tables have in general been assembled by experts in the languages to which they refer, and have been subject to public scrutiny for some time. Furthermore, they have been in use with CentralNic's ccTLDs and ccSLDs for many years. As a result we have confidence that they are of a high quality, and making them available under .wiki and .ink will have little impact.

Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.:



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References:

o Guidelines for the Implementation of Internationalized Domain Names:

o <http://www.icann.org/en/resources/idn/idn-guidelines-02sep11-en.htm>

o The IDNA2008 protocol:

o RFC 5890, 5891, 5892, 5893, 5894, 5895

o CentralNic IDN tables:

o https://manage.centralnic.com/support/idn_tables

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

The "Approved Services" section, in Exhibit A of the Registry Agreement. Therein, in section 2.3, we have been recognized as providing for Latin and Arabic registrations at the second and lower levels.

We seek to expand this with additional IDN tables, specified in the Proposed Service section of this request.

The Registry Agreements for .wiki and .ink would be impacted in the exact same manner.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN:

None.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?:

None.

Contract Amendments

Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service:



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Section 2.3 of Exhibit A, Approved Services, of the the Registry Agreements for both .wiki and .ink will need to be expanded to include the following:

2.3.3 Greek Script

2.3.4 Japanese Language

2.3.5 Korean Language

2.3.6 Cyrillic Script

2.3.7 Hebrew Language

2.3.8 Thai Language

2.3.9 Lao Language

Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

Registration will be allowed at the second and lower levels to a large and diverse population around the world that does not speak or use a Latin or Arabic based language/script. This will allow our TLDs, .wiki and .ink, to serve a global Internet and compete with similar offerings from other registries.

Competition

Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.:

The positive effects on competition will allow us to offer our TLDs, .wiki and .ink, to populations that are not served by Latin or Arabic domain registration. There will be no negative effects on competition, and it will only increase the visibility, use, and innovation of new Internet resources.

How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?:

The markets will be global in nature, and spread across the countries using the 8 additional scripts we are seeking to provide for. The TLDs themselves, .ink and .wiki, are both generic in nature and could be applied to a number of different industries



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within each market.

What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?:

Most other accredited registry operators offer IDN registration at the second and lower level.

In view of your status as a registry operator, would the introduction of your proposed Registry Service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?:

No. Their capabilities will not be effected.

Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed Registry Service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide.:

Our backend registry provider, CentralNic, offers all technical registry services to Top Level Design LLC - and will do so for the implementation of these additional IDN tables as well.

Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please describe the communications.:

We have not spoken to competitive registries about the potential services. It is largely assumed that all registry operators will offer some degree of IDN-supported registration, and we are mainly seeking to expand our offerings to compete with these other operators.

As noted in the description of our Consultations, we have spoken with registrar partners that will see their capabilities to serve non-Latin or Arabic based languages and peoples expanded. They have specifically requested that we offer these further capabilities to increase their own reach and market offerings.

Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).:



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Not applicable.

Security and Stability

Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?:

No.

Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems:

It will not impact any of these areas.

Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?:

No. These services have already been deployed effectively for other CentralNic properties without issue.

Other Issues

Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service:

None.

Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?:



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No.

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

None.

Any other relevant information to include with this request:

No.