



Ref:	WSP	Version:	3.1
Title:	WHOIS Policy		
Date Issued:	2 May 2011		
Status:	CURRENT		

*This policy is issued by Domain Name Commission Limited (DNC or Domain Name Commission) on behalf of [InternetNZ](#), Internet New Zealand Incorporated.*

## WHOIS POLICY

### 1. Statement of Purpose

- 1.1 This policy sets out the availability and acceptable use of data from the .nz domain name register.
- 1.2 “WHOIS service” in this policy refers to data provided by the shared registry system (“SRS”) for members of the public to view or use, being the record associated with a specified domain name. It includes the information provided by any party accessing the WHOIS server maintained by New Zealand Domain Name Registry Ltd (trading as .nz Registry Services “NZRS”), regardless of that party’s relationship with NZRS or the Domain Name Commission Limited (“DNCL”).
- 1.3 “Registrant Info Service” in this policy refers to the search function by which data from the .nz domain name register is provided in relation to a specific search by Registrant name.

### 2. Background

- 2.1 InternetNZ has the ultimate responsibility within New Zealand for the .nz domain name space, and maintains a shared registry system (“SRS”) for the management of .nz domain name registrations. InternetNZ has appointed the DNC to manage and administer the .nz domain name space on behalf of InternetNZ.
- 2.2 The SRS provides a single register for registering domain names and associated technical and administrative information. .nz Registry Services (“NZRS”) operates the registry and WHOIS service.
- 2.3 Information held in the .nz domain name register is public information, and is made available to the public through the WHOIS service. There is also an additional service, the “Registrant Info Service”, which is available only in the particular circumstances outlined in Section 7 of this policy.

### **3. Principles**

- 3.1 The WHOIS service will provide public access to the information in the .nz domain name register, by responding to a query relating to a specific domain name.
- 3.2 WHOIS information is provided to allow people to conduct searches on the identity and contact details of registrants and technical contacts, in case they need to be contacted in respect of their domain name.
- 3.3 WHOIS information is not provided for the commercial benefit of any person or entity. Any use of WHOIS which results in a targeted contact campaign, or is an attempt to obtain a copy of the .nz register, is prohibited.
- 3.4 WHOIS information will be available for all domain name records.
- 3.5 InternetNZ holds copyright over all information in the .nz register, including all WHOIS information.
- 3.6 The DNC retains the right to protect the integrity of the .nz domain name register by appropriately managing and, if necessary, restricting access to the WHOIS service as set out in section 6.
- 3.7 Access to the WHOIS service will be restricted only to protect the integrity of the service, or for short-term operational reasons.
- 3.8 Any person or entity may provide a public WHOIS service, so long as they comply with the requirements of this policy.
- 3.9 The DNC will provide a public WHOIS service through the DNC website at <http://dnc.org.nz/>
- 3.10 Registrant Info Service searches are provided to enable:
  - 3.10.1 Searches by registrants seeking a list of their own .nz domain names ; and
  - 3.10.2 Searches that have the sole purpose of supporting a Dispute Resolution Service complaint.
- 3.11 Registrant Info Service searches will be restricted to the particular circumstances outlined in Section 7 of this policy.

### **4. WHOIS records**

- 4.1 The WHOIS service will respond to a WHOIS query for a specified domain name. If the domain name is registered, the details as set out in 4.2 will be available. If the domain name is not registered, the WHOIS service will show that it is available for registration.
- 4.2 The following details will be available in response to a WHOIS query:
  - Domain Name;
  - Registration status;
  - Date registered;
  - Date registered/billed until;

- Date last modified;
  - Include in DNS;
  - Registrar of Record (including contact details);
  - Registrant Contact Details;
  - Administrative Contact Details;
  - Technical Contact Details;
  - Name Servers;
  - Domain Signed;
- and, if applicable:
- DS Records;
  - Date cancelled;
  - Date locked.

4.3 If information other than the availability of the queried domain name is displayed, then:

4.3.1 the information displayed must be that provided by the WHOIS service; and

4.3.2 any notices sent by the SRS must be displayed in full along with the data in the WHOIS record.

## **5. WHOIS Server**

5.1 NZRS maintains the WHOIS server on the .nz database.

5.2 The WHOIS server will provide access to the details listed in the .nz register, as described in 4.2 above.

5.3 The WHOIS server will not accept wild card searches.

## **6. WHOIS data protection**

6.1 WHOIS data is made available for the convenience of registrants and interested parties. Conditions apply to its use, and the notices included with any WHOIS query response apply to the data at all times.

6.2 A range of monitoring procedures will be maintained on the WHOIS server to detect any inappropriate use of the server. These procedures are designed to detect and prevent a wide range of inappropriate use and as a matter of policy are not published, in order to maintain their effectiveness.

6.3 NZRS has primary responsibility for monitoring the use of the WHOIS service. In the event that NZRS discovers or suspects abuse of the service, they may take appropriate steps to restrict access to the service including (but not limited to) removing or limiting access to any IP address.

6.4 In extreme circumstances where the integrity of the .nz register is at risk, NZRS may shut down the WHOIS service without notice.

- 6.5 Where NZRS restricts access they will communicate their actions to the DNC as soon as practicable.
- 6.6 Where any abuse of the WHOIS server is detected the DNC reserves the right to take preventive action to prevent any further abuse, and/or to penalise the parties involved in perpetrating such abuse. Any such response can be instead of, or in addition to, any steps NZRS may take under clause 6.3 or 6.4.
- 6.7 The steps the DNC may take include, but are not limited to, the following:
- 6.7.1 removing or limiting any party's access to the WHOIS service on a permanent or temporary basis;
  - 6.7.2 suspending a registrar's access to the SRS;
  - 6.7.3 applying a sanction to a registrar under any applicable agreements or .nz policies.
- 6.8 At all times the priority of NZRS and the DNC under this policy will be to protect the security of the data in the .nz domain name register from unauthorised or abusive use, while as much as is practicable preserving public access to the WHOIS service.

## **7. Registrant Info Service**

- 7.1 Searches of the .nz domain name register by Registrant name are restricted to:
- 7.1.1 Searches by registrants seeking a list of their own .nz domain names; and
  - 7.1.2 Searches that have the sole purpose of supporting a Dispute Resolution Service complaint.
- 7.2 The procedure for making a search application is set out in Section B of this Policy,
- 7.3 Results returned from a Registrant Info Service search will be a list of domain names matching the Registrant name search criteria. This will be sent via email to the applicant's email address.
- 7.3 It is also possible to apply to the DNC to pre-register for Registrant Info Service searches for the purpose set out in clause 7.1.2. This option is directed at registrants who will make regular applications. A pre-registered party can provide their registration number to establish their identity, rather than having to prove their identity on each application. Form WHO3 should be used for applications for pre-registration.
- 7.4 All search applications will be recorded and any previous searches will be taken into account when deciding whether to approve the search application.
- 7.5 If the DNC believes on reasonable grounds that there has been an abuse of the information provided as a result of a Registrant Info Service search, then the relevant applicant may be permanently banned from using the Registrant Info Service. It may also result in formal complaints being laid with appropriate external agencies (for example the Privacy Commissioner).

## 8. General Information

- 8.1 A range of current information about .nz policies, registrant rights, and domain names in general is publicly available on the Internet at <http://dnc.org.nz>.
- 8.2 Additional information relevant to the interpretation and operation of this policy can be found in the following policies:
- 8.2.1 **RMC** (Registering, Managing and Cancelling Domain Names) policy available at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/registering\\_managing\\_cancelling.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/registering_managing_cancelling.pdf);
- 8.2.2 **RAR** (Roles and Responsibilities) policy which is available at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/roles\\_and\\_responsibilities.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/roles_and_responsibilities.pdf); and
- 8.2.3 **PRI** (Privacy Policy) which is available at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/privacy\\_policy.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/privacy_policy.pdf).
- 8.3 This policy operates subject to all applicable Internet technical standards.
- 8.4 If anyone has any questions regarding this document please email [policies@dnc.org.nz](mailto:policies@dnc.org.nz)

## SECTION B - PROCESS

### **Process for requesting a Registrant Info Service search for Registrant's own .nz domain names**

1. An application is made to the DNC on form WHO1.
2. Information required in the application will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - 2.1. Name and contact details of applicant;
  - 2.2 Details of the search parameter sought;
  - 2.3 Evidence as to the applicant's identity (for example, a photocopy of a driver's licence) and, where appropriate, evidence as to the applicant's authority to apply for a search on behalf of a company (for example, written authorisation signed by a director of the relevant company);
  - 2.4 An undertaking that any information provided as a result of a Registrant Info Service search is for the applicant's own use and will not be inappropriately disseminated.
3. The DNC will evaluate the application and make a decision as to whether the requested information should be released or not. The DNC may seek further information or evidence from the applicant as is considered necessary.
4. If the application is approved the information will be provided to the applicant. This will be sent via email to the applicant's email address.

**Process for requesting a Registrant Info Service for the purpose of supporting a DRS complaint**

1. An application is made to the DNC on form WHO2.
2. Information required in the application will include, but not be limited to, the following:
  - 2.1. Name and contact details of applicant;
  - 2.2 The domain name/s that are the subject of the proposed DRS complaint (limited to maximum of five).
  - 2.3 The registrant name/s on the register for the domain names/s specified in 2.2 above will be used as the search parameter;
  - 2.4 An undertaking that any information provided as a result of a Registrant Info Service search is for the exclusive purpose of supporting a DRS complaint and will not be used for any other purpose.
3. The DNC will evaluate the application and make a decision as to whether the requested information should be released or not. The DNC may seek further information or evidence from the applicant as is considered necessary.
4. If the application is approved the information is provided to the applicant. This will be sent via email to the applicant's email address.

Form WHO1



*This form is issued by Domain Name Commission Limited (DNC or Domain Name Commission) on behalf of InternetNZ, Internet New Zealand Incorporated.*

## **APPLICATION FOR REGISTRANT INFO SERVICE SEARCH – OWN .NZ NAMES**

Please complete this form electronically, then print, sign, and return to The Domain Name Commission, at:

Domain Name Commission Limited  
P O Box 11881  
Wellington 6142  
New Zealand

**Complete this section if you are requesting information on behalf of an organisation:**

1. Name of organisation

2. Trading name (if applicable)

3. Name of contact person

**Complete this section if you are requesting information on behalf of an individual:**

4. Name

5. Date of birth

**All applicants to complete the following:**

6. Address

7. Phone (day)

8. Phone (mobile)

9. Phone  
(after hours)

10. Fax

11. Email

12. Evidence as to the applicant's identity and contact details (for example, a photocopy of a driver's licence) and, where appropriate, evidence as to the applicant's authority to apply for a search on behalf of a company (for example, written authorisation signed by a director of the relevant company);

Please describe the evidence that you are enclosing here, then attach to the hard copy of this form.

## 13. Search criteria requested

## 13. Declarations - please tick the following boxes, and sign your declaration below.

I declare that the information is for the purposes as defined in the  
.nz policies only;

I confirm that the information gained from this search will not be misused;

I confirm that I am requesting this search to confirm domain names for which I am the  
registrant;

**Or**

I have been authorised to make this search request on behalf of a client.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Form WHO2



*This form is issued by Domain Name Commission Limited (DNC or Domain Name Commission) on behalf of InternetNZ, Internet New Zealand Incorporated.*

## **APPLICATION FOR REGISTRANT INFO SERVICE SEARCH –.NZ NAMES FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICE COMPLAINT**

Please complete this form electronically, then print, sign, and return to The Domain Name Commission, at:

Domain Name Commission Limited  
P O Box 11881  
Wellington 6142  
New Zealand

1. Domain name/s to be subject to a DRS Complaint (maximum of 5)

**Complete this section if you are requesting information on behalf of an organisation:**

2. Name of organisation.

3. Trading name (if applicable)

4. Name of contact person.

**Complete this section if you are requesting information on behalf of an individual:**

5. Name

6. Date of birth

**All applicants to complete the following:**

7. Address

8. Phone (day)

9. Phone (mobile)

10. Phone  
(after hours)

11. Fax

12. Email

13. Evidence as to the applicant's identity and contact details (for example, a photocopy of a driver's licence) and, where appropriate, evidence as to the applicant's authority to apply for a search on behalf of a company (for example, written authorisation signed by a director of the relevant company);

Please describe the evidence that you are enclosing here, then attach to the hard copy of this form.

13. **Declarations - please tick the following boxes, and sign your declaration below.**

I confirm that I am requesting this search in order to complete a .nz Dispute Resolution Service complaint;

I confirm that the information gained from this search will not be misused;

**If applicable:**

I have been authorised to make this search request on behalf of a client in relation to a .nz Dispute Resolution Service complaint.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Form WHO3



*This form is issued by Domain Name Commission Limited (DNC or Domain Name Commission) on behalf of InternetNZ, Internet New Zealand Incorporated.*

## **APPLICATION FOR PRE-REGISTRATION FOR REGISTRANT INFO SERVICE SEARCHES FOR DRS COMPLAINT ASSISTANCE**

Please complete this form electronically, then print, sign, and return to The Domain Name Commission, at:

Domain Name Commission Limited  
P O Box 11881  
Wellington 6142

**Complete this section if you are requesting pre-registration on behalf of an organisation:**

1. Name of organisation

2. Trading name (if applicable)

3. Name of contact person

4. Names and details of employees if seeking to pre-register more than one person

**Complete this section if you are requesting pre-registration on behalf of an individual:**

5. Name

6. Date of birth

7. Occupation

**All applicants to complete the following:**

8. Address

9. Phone (day)

10. Phone (mobile)

11. Phone  
(after hours)

12. Fax

13. Email

14. Evidence provided in support of the applicant's role in DRS cases and why you are seeking pre-registration;

Please describe the evidence that you are enclosing here, then attach to the hard copy of this form.

15. Declarations - please tick one of the following boxes, and sign your declaration below.

a) I confirm that I am aware of the .nz policies, and undertake not to misuse the application process

b) I will only request information where I am duly authorised to act.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Print name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_