

Feedback sought on proposed new approach to .nz domain name privacy

DNCL is seeking comment on the proposed introduction of a new WHOIS privacy option for .nz domain name registrants.

Registrants' full contact details have always been publicly displayed in the WHOIS, but DNCL believes the status quo is no longer appropriate.

DNCL has already run two public consultations on this subject. Based on comments received, feedback is now sought on what an alternative privacy-aware approach might look like when it comes to dealing with registrant contact information.

Many of those submitting in the first two rounds have supported the need for a privacy mechanism for registrants in genuine need to have personal details withheld; for example where their personal safety is at risk.

DNCL has heard through the submission process that privacy, especially for reasons of personal safety, is a major concern for many registrants. A third public consultation has been launched proposing a process that would see registrants able to apply to have their details withheld. This is one option, and DNCL is interested in hearing from people what other options might look like.

DNCL wants to make it as easy as possible for people to withhold contact details they're concerned about, but not to make it easy for scammers, harassers and phishers to withhold their details so they can harm other people.

Through the submission process, DNCL is looking for interested parties to help guide it in striking an appropriate balance. More information can be found at <https://dnc.org.nz/consultation-whois-review-process>.

The deadline for making a submission is 7 June 2016. Comments can be sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz, or by post to PO Box 11881 Wellington 6142.

Registering reserved .nz names

DNCL is proposing to amend clause 9.2 of Operations and Procedures policy to clarify the date that reserved names need to be registered by.

Currently clause 9.2 states, *“Two years after 30 September 2014 all reserved names that have not been registered may be released and become available to any Registrant on a first come, first served basis”*.

This clause is not clear as to what will happen to names after that time, given the use of the word ‘may’. The proposal is to amend clause 9.2 to read:

“All reserved names that have not been registered two years after the final date for reservations, namely 30 March 2017, will be released and become available to any Registrant on a first come, first served basis”.

This change clarifies the situation for both registrants and registrars. The date of 30 March 2017 allows registrants time to consider whether they want to register the reserved name or not and registrars time to contact their customers to assist in the registration process.

Comments can be sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz, or by post to PO Box 11881 Wellington 6142. Submissions should be received by 2 June 2016.

.nz domain name management recognised in new MoU

In early May, InternetNZ signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment on the management of the .nz country code top level domain.

The MoU clarifies their respective roles in the management of .nz. It also sets clear rules regarding how InternetNZ manages .nz on behalf of the Internet community and explains how any issues or problems that do arise would be resolved.

The MoU gives the public confidence that the management of .nz will always be expected to serve the best interests of all Internet users in New Zealand. More information can be found at <https://internetnz.nz/news/nz-domain-name-management-recognised-new-mou>

Statistics

In April 2016, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 656,607 to 657,918, a net increase of 1,311. Figures as of 30 April 2016:

	31 Mar 16	30 Apr 16	Creates	Renews	Net Change
.nz	105,623	106,295	2,546	9,465	672
.ac.nz	2,272	2,269	25	348	-3
.co.nz	481,216	482,055	7,264	61,816	839
.cri.nz	7	7	0	1	0
.geek.nz	1,061	1,056	4	236	-5
.gen.nz	1,209	1,201	2	287	-8
.govt.nz	1,030	1,030	2	1,026	0
.health.nz	229	229	0	211	0
.iwi.nz	98	100	2	9	2
.kiwi.nz	5,474	5,372	37	429	-102
.maori.nz	960	956	9	107	-4
.mil.nz	30	30	0	8	0
.net.nz	25,849	25,760	224	3,592	-89
.org.nz	28,003	28,007	265	3,577	4
.parliament.nz	11	11	0	11	0
.school.nz	3,535	3,540	21	899	5
TOTAL	656,607	657,918	10,401	82,022	1,311

Note: these figures do not include names in 'pending release' status. They incorporate all active domain names in the .nz register. For more statistics, see <https://dnc.org.nz/statistics>

Availability

Availability %	SLA	Feb 16	Mar 16	Apr 16
SRS	99.9	100	100	100
Whois	99.9	100	99.98	99.99
DNS	100	100	100	100

SRS Response times

Performance figures on the production environment for the previous three months:

Avg Response time (in seconds)	SLA Target	Feb 16	Mar 16	Apr 16
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.04	0.04	0.03
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.32	0.35	0.36
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.45	0.41	0.42
Get Message	≤0.5	0.16	0.15	0.15
Whois	≤0.5	0.15	0.14	0.13
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	9,408	11,339	11,498
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	1,438	2,514	2,341
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.18	0.16	0.16

Server DNS % Availability

	Feb 16	Mar 16	Apr 16
NS1	100	100	100
NS2	100	100	100
NS3	100	100	100
NS4	100	100	100
NS5	100	100	100
NS6	100	100	100
NS7	100	100	100

Unscheduled Outages during April 2016

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	No unscheduled outages
WHOIS Unscheduled	4 minutes
DNS Unscheduled	No unscheduled outages

Scheduled Outages during April 2016*

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	No scheduled outages
SRS Emergency Scheduled	No scheduled outages
WHOIS Scheduled	No scheduled outages

* Registrars are reminded to check their systems, if required, after any scheduled outage.

Any Comments?

If you have any questions or concerns about the SRS, please don't hesitate to contact us. For registry or technical matters, contact Dave Baker at support@nzrs.net.nz or on 04 931 6970. For all other matters, contact Debbie Monahan at info@dnc.org.nz

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