

.nz NEWSLETTER – APRIL 2005

:: DNC OFFICE ::

In March the number of active .nz domain names increased from 179,149 to 182,095, a net increase of 2,946.

NZOC Meeting

The minutes for the .nz Oversight Committee (NZOC) meeting held on Monday 14 March 2005 are available at: http://dnc.org.nz/content/minutes_NZOC_14_Mar_05.pdf

Whois Policy

The revised new Whois Server Policy is due to come into effect on Monday 9 May 2005.

Following two rounds of public consultation the Whois Working Group (WG) completed their review of the policy earlier this year.

Key features of the new policy include:

- No change to the information displayed as a result of a WHOIS query or in the rules regarding bulk access to WHOIS and use of wildcard searches
- A clear statement that InternetNZ holds copyright over all the information in the .nz register and that all parties displaying WHOIS information must also display any notices sent by the SRS
- Specific clauses regarding the protection of WHOIS data including the right to shut down the service if the integrity of the .nz register is at risk

A copy of the new policy is available at: http://dnc.org.nz/content/WHOIS_wef9May05.pdf

Domain Name Dispute Resolution Working Group

Note from Rick Shera, Chair of the Working Group:

On 24 March 2005, the Dispute Resolution Working Group met to discuss the submissions received from the latest round of public consultation. The majority of submissions were in favour of a dispute resolution process being implemented for .nz domain names and the Working Group agreed with this position.

As a result of discussions at the meeting, the Working Group agreed that we should proceed with developing and implementing a policy and process based on the Nominet UK model with amendments to suit the local internet requirements.

The next stage of the process is for the .nz Oversight Committee to agree with the decision of the Working Group and approve the project required to implement it. A paper has been written to NZOC that sets out the reasons for the Working Group decision and seeks approval to start the project.

This paper can be read at http://dnc.org.nz/content/WG_to_NZOC_re_DRP.pdf (or text version at http://dnc.org.nz/content/WG_to_NZOC_re_DRP.txt)

Reminder: Application for a new Second Level Domain – parliament.nz

As advised previously, an application has been received to create a new, moderated second level domain (2LD) – parliament.nz. A copy of the application, and the proposed moderation policy, can be seen at http://dnc.org.nz/content/parliament_application.pdf.

Comments are sought on this application, and on the moderation policy that will be used to accept registrations. The consultation is due to end on 5 May.

Submissions should be made by email to 2LD@dnc.org.nz. They may also be made by fax to +64 4 4952115 or by post to Office of the Domain Name Commissioner, InternetNZ, PO Box 11881, Wellington, New Zealand. Submissions close at **5pm on Thursday 5 May 2005**.

For an overview and further information about the review go to the DNC website: <http://dnc.org.nz/parliament-application>. All submissions received will be published on that page.

Financial Year Domain Name Statistics

The InternetNZ financial year ended on 31 March, with a 22% growth of active .nz domain names since 31 March 2004.

Over the last 12 months there has been a growth of 32,826 domain names, this is the highest financial year numerical growth since 2000/2001 when there was a numerical growth of 32,456.

As the figures in the table below demonstrate, the growth in domain names during the last 12 months is higher than the growth recorded for the previous financial year ending 31 March 2004.

A complete summary of the Financial Year Domain Name Statistics is available at:

http://dnc.org.nz/content/fy_stats.html

	Year to 31 March 2004	Year to 31 March 2005
Annual Growth	24,324	32,826
Annual Growth Rate	19%	22%
Average Monthly Increase	2,027	2,736

Statistics

Figures as at 31 March 2005:

	<i>Active names as at 1 March</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 March</i>	<i>New registrations March</i>	<i>Renewals March</i>	<i>Change over month</i>
.ac	984	995	20	266	11
.co	152214	154721	4072	44902	2507
.cri	25	25	0	9	0
.geek	655	675	23	129	20
.gen	932	930	12	270	-2
.govt	742	746	4	225	4
.iwi	53	53	0	14	0
.maori	380	371	11	46	-9
.mil	17	17	0	10	0
.net	10447	10648	311	2693	201
.org	10355	10555	267	2870	200
.school	2345	2359	29	1099	14
TOTAL	179149	182095	4749	52533	2946

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

:: .nz REGISTRY SERVICES ::

The measurements of system availability have been improved and now track to a finer level than was previously undertaken. This has had the effect of outages of several seconds now being noted.

The Registrar section of the NZRS website has been enhanced to include details and statistics related to that Registrar.

SRS Availability

System availability for March was 99.90%, against the SLA standard of 99.9%

SRS Availability	January	February	March
%	99.95	98.64	99.90

SRS Response Times

Response time performance figures on the production environment for the previous three months were:

Avg Response time (in seconds)	January	February	March
Domain Details Query	0.51	0.40	0.52
Domain Update	0.38	0.39	0.43
Domain Create	0.46	0.24	0.44
GetMessage performance	0.37	0.35	0.40
GetMessage (volume 000's)	42	35	40
Whois	0.18	0.17	0.18
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	922	1007	1422
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	282	122	295
UDAI Valid Query	0.24	0.24	0.26

DNS Availability

DNS Availability	January	February	March
%	100	100	100

Unscheduled Outages

There were ten unscheduled outages during March with a total outage time of 45 minutes and 52 seconds.

Date	Duration	Description
Mar 6 10:12	41 minutes, 4 seconds	Series of micro outages – issue with front-end replication
Mar 10 00:30	82 Seconds	Outage caused by aberrant network behaviour
Mar 11 00:30	62 Seconds	Outage caused by aberrant network behaviour
Mar 21 16:55	14 Seconds	Outage caused by aberrant network behaviour
Mar 29 11:46	17 seconds	These outages were caused by aberrant network behaviour
Mar 29 11:47	23 seconds	
Mar 29 11:50	24 seconds	
Mar 29 14:48	22 seconds	This outage was caused by the front end replication stopping (automatically restarted)
Mar 30 09:56	20 seconds	This outage was caused by the front end replication stopping (automatically restarted)
Mar 31 16:22	24 Seconds	Outage caused by aberrant network behaviour

Most of the system unavailability was on 6 March when a series of micro outages (outages of less than a minute duration) took place between 10.12am and 9.47 pm. These outages resulted from a problem with the auto-restart script for the front end replication when the master process failed while the sub-process continued to run. The system correctly detected the anomalous situation but failed to kill the sub-processes before attempting a restart, resulting in the front-end replication restarting repeatedly. The operation of the system was also affected by the interaction of the new processes with the old ones. A code fix was implemented in the 20 March code release that addresses the problem of sub-processes not being killed.

Scheduled Outages and Updates

The maintenance window on 20 March was utilised and SRS upgraded to Release 1.18

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 Nick Griffin at support@nzrs.net.nz. For all other matters, contact Debbie Monahan at info@dnc.org.nz.

Please Note

If you would like to be notified of future updates, please use the [SUBSCRIBE](#) function on the DNC site and select the category 'Newsletters'.