

.nz NEWSLETTER – August 2009

:: Domain Name Commission ::

.nz Search Functionality

Currently it is only possible to search .nz domain names by a specific domain name using the WHOIS search. Comments are sought on a proposal to expand the .nz search functionality to include a search by registrant and also a wildcard-type search of a domain name. It is proposed to limit the nature and eligibility of the searches as outlined below.

Search by Registrant

- Nature of Search
 - i. This search would be restricted to a search by registrant name.
 - ii. A search would be for the name specified only but it would be possible for reasonable variants to be requested such as Robert and Bob or McLean and MacLean.
- Eligibility
 - i. Individuals would be able to search for a list of their own domain names with proof of identity.
 - ii. Organisations would be able to search for a list of their own domain names with requests accepted from Directors, Chief Executives or other persons that can demonstrate an authority to act.
 - iii. Agencies such as law firms, intellectual property advisors, accountants etc can search for a list on behalf of a client if they can show evidence of an authority to act on behalf of that person or organisation.
 - iv. Any person can search for a registrant where they intend to use the information as part of a Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) complaint, as per clause 5.1.3 of the [DRS policy](#) that allows the complainant to demonstrate that the respondent is engaged in a pattern of registrations.
- Cost
 - i. Free for people or organisations seeking a search for their own names, or where done by an agency on their behalf.
 - ii. A fee should be payable where the search is for use in a DRS complaint. This fee to be refunded if a corresponding, valid complaint is laid. The fee should be high enough to deter misuse of the process but low enough to not be an unfair barrier.

Wildcard-type Search of Domain Name

- Nature of Search
 - i. Variants of existing domain names for possible cyber or typo squatting; for example, wwwtrademe.co.nz or trdeme.co.nz.

- Eligibility
 - i. Registrants of an existing .nz domain name, or their authorised representative
 - ii. Search must relate to their domain name
 - iii. Different requests required for different domain names but multiple variants of one name possible

- Cost
 - i. Cost could be based on tiers – up to 20 variants searched for \$A, up to 40 for \$B and so on
 - ii. Eligibility is limited to only allow requests for variants of existing domain names. Therefore, fees should be based on cost recovery rather than any deterrent aspect. Fees would be evaluated once requirements, and therefore process and time, confirmed.

Comments are sought on the proposal to offer additional .nz search functions as outlined above. Any aspect of the nature, eligibility and cost is subject to consultation and input from the public. Based on submissions received, decisions will be made as to what, if any, additional search functions are added to .nz. If it is agreed that additional searches should be allowed, it will require a change to the current [WHOIS Policy](#). Changes will be drafted to that and will be the subject of a separate consultation.

Submissions can be sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz, by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington. As submissions are received they will be published on the DNC website at <http://www.dnc.org.nz/additional-search>. Submissions should be received by midday on Tuesday 27th October.

Dispute Resolution Service news

We've recently had a small spate of complaints which have been ruled invalid. If you are considering submitting a complaint to the .nz Dispute Resolution Service, please ensure that:

- *The Complainant is the entity or person that has rights in the name.* If you are assisting someone else with the complaint, then that person should be named as the Complainant, and you become the Complainant's representative. If you've been appointed as a representative, please ensure that you include a statement confirming your authorisation to act on behalf of the Complainant.

- *The Respondent is likewise correctly named.* The Respondent must be the person or entity named on the registry record - not the person that you think is the holder of the name. So, if the name on the record is an abbreviation of the entity, and you think you know who it refers to, then mention that in the body of the complaint. This is particularly important when it comes to company names which include the word "Limited". A limited liability company (eg 'X & Y Ltd.') is a legal "person" in its own right, and may be a different entity altogether from 'X & Y', which could simply be an unregistered partnership or trading name.

The Dispute Resolution Service team is happy to answer any questions about the dispute process, and can be contacted at info@dnc.org.nz.

Statistics

In July, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 362,349 to 366,031, a net increase of 3682.

Figures as at 31 July 2009:

	<i>Active names as at 1 July</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 July</i>	<i>New registrations July</i>	<i>Renewals July</i>	<i>Net Growth</i>
.ac	1650	1676	47	357	26
.co	312424	315703	7886	61918	3279
.cri	15	15	0	3	0
.geek	877	887	30	202	10
.gen	1216	1219	26	302	3
.govt	992	996	7	904	4
.health	3	4	1	0	1
.iwi	69	69	1	15	0
.maori	560	568	16	86	8
.mil	21	21	0	4	0
.net	20613	20774	479	4091	161
.org	21017	21192	434	4241	175
.parliament	6	7	1	6	1
.school	2886	2900	22	1224	14
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>362349</i>	<i>366031</i>	<i>8950</i>	<i>73353</i>	<i>3682</i>

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

:: .nz Registry Services ::

Project Programme

Following on from the success of our Technical and Business Systems Review (TBSR) we have moved to an annual Project Programme for systems and infrastructure development. This year we have recently finalised the Project Plan and we are publishing details below, but in following years it will take place in line with our budget cycle and be ready in the early part of the calendar year.

The list of projects includes:

- Implementation of EPP
- Postgres/Apache Upgrade
- Implementation of IDN
- Hardware Upgrade (12 servers)
- SRS Test Cluster
- DNSSEC Implementation
- DDOS Mitigation
- Hidden Primary (3rd)
- DNS Test Cluster
- DNS Monitoring/Reporting
- PGP Key Server
- NTP Server
- Intra-site Connection

For TBSR we were able to interview a number of you on your priorities and ideas, which were then incorporated into TBSR. With an annual programme such extensive consultation may not be possible and so we are interested in hearing from you on how would best like to engage with us and help us plan future developments.

Board Changes

After a number of years of exceptional service as both a Board member and Chair, Anne Urlwin has retired from the Board of NZRS. She is replaced as Chair by Donna Hiser, a long standing member of the Board. In addition we have a new director appointed to the Board, David Wright, who has many years experience as a Director and CEO in a variety of organisations.

Availability

Availability %	SLA	May	June	July
SRS	99.90	99.95	100	100
Whois	99.90	99.96	100	100
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	May	June	July
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.04	0.04	0.04
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.31	0.31	0.33

Domain Create	≤0.8	0.38	0.38	0.38
Get Message	≤0.5	0.03	0.04	0.05
Whois	≤0.5	0.10	0.09	0.09
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	2458	2349	2316
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	428	413	419
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.12	0.12	0.12

Server DNS % Availability

	May	June	July
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 July 2009

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	17 seconds
WHOIS Unscheduled	4 seconds
DNS	0

Scheduled Outages during July 2009

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	4 hours
Whois Scheduled	4 hours

SRS Releases / Planned Scheduled Outages

Sunday, 30th July 07:00 – 9:00 NZST (2 hours) SRS Release and maintenance.

Next scheduled outage: Sunday, 27th September 07:00 – 9:00 NZST (2 hours) SRS Release.

For more information check <http://www.nzrs.net.nz/notices/updates.shtml>

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. 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'. If you ever want to stop receiving our newsletter, please send an email with 'Unsubscribe' in the subject line to unsubscribe@dnc.org.nz.