

## **.nz NEWSLETTER – August 2012**

### **DNSSEC**

The deployment of DNSSEC across the .nz unmoderated second level domains was completed during August, with the signing of co.nz. The deployment schedule in <http://nzrs.net.nz/dns/dnssec> has been updated to include the moderated second level domains. The deployment will be completed by mid September.

There are now 26 signed domains under .nz that can be fully validated.

A DNSSEC Friendly Criteria has been developed to identify Registrars that meet a higher level of service relative to offering DNSSEC services in the .nz space. Information about this can be found here: <http://dnc.org.nz/dnssec>

Two sets of FAQs have been prepared to provide information tailored to Registrants and Registrars respectively. Registrant information is available at <http://dnc.org.nz/story/dns-security-faq> and more technical information specifically for registrars is at <http://dnc.org.nz/story/dnssec-registrars-faq>

### **:: Domain Name Commission ::**

#### **New second level domain - .kiwi.nz**

At their meeting on Friday 17 August, the InternetNZ Council approved the creation of a new second level .nz domain - .kiwi.nz.

This is only the first step however, as to finally "go live" as a new second level, a threshold of 500 registrations has to be achieved within a month of when registrations start being taken. Under the current policy, provisional registrations must start being taken within a month of the Council's decision. The details around the provisional registration period are detailed in the Second Level Domains Policy (<http://dnc.org.nz/content/secondleveldomains.html>). The relevant sections are copied below.

.kiwi.nz marks the first time we have worked through this version of the 2LD policy in creating a new, open second level.

Provisional registrations will commence at 10am on Tuesday 11 September 2012. There will be an outage prior to this to prepare the SRS for .kiwi.nz.

NZRS have developed processes at the registry end to manage .kiwi.nz provisional registrations meaning registrars submit registrations in their usual way. There are some things that registrars need to be aware of however.

During the provisional registration phase, domain names:

- Can only be registered for a maximum term of three months;
- Will be recorded on the register with all applicable details, as for any other domain name;

- Will be locked after registration to prevent any changes being made to the record;
- Will not be delegated to the DNS.

Given this approach varies from usual domain name registrations, registrars will need to have specific terms and conditions to cover the .kiwi.nz provisional registrations. A draft set of terms and conditions that registrars might want to use to cover these specific registrations has been emailed out. If you use these, please ensure you complete the appropriate areas to reflect how you plan to operate.

You do not need to use these but if you choose not to please ensure that you cover off the term that will apply for your registrations, how much you will charge, whether you will or won't refund if the threshold is not met, and that the registrant understands the conditions under which they are seeking a .kiwi.nz domain name at this time.

You will need to advise DNCL of the terms and conditions that you propose to use. Please email these to [registrar@dnc.org.nz](mailto:registrar@dnc.org.nz) or provide a link if they are located on your website.

Registrars will be notified by NZRS when the registration threshold has been met and .kiwi.nz declared active. At that time, domain names registered will be unlocked and delegated to the DNS. Registrars will then be able to offer registrations in .kiwi.nz in the same way as their usual domain name registrations. If the threshold of 500 registrations is not met within a month of the commencement of the provisional registration period, the domain will not be created and all names provisionally registered will be cancelled. No refund of registration fees paid will be made to registrars in this situation.

If you have any questions about any aspect of this please email us. We hope that registrars will contact their existing customers to advise them of this new .nz domain name opportunity.

## **DNCL Second Level Public Consultation Workshops**

Have your say on the future of the New Zealand domain name space

The New Zealand Domain Name Commission Limited (DNCL) invites members of the public to attend a consultation workshop the proposal to extend the .nz domain name space.

Tuesday 4 September 5.00-6.30pm, James Cook Hotel, Wellington

Meetings have been held in Dunedin, Christchurch and Auckland.

If you are unable to attend the face-to-face meeting, an online meeting will be held.

Wednesday 5 September 5.00-6.30pm, at [www.R2.co.nz/20120905](http://www.R2.co.nz/20120905)

Your views are important. The public workshops are your chance to hear about and question the proposals in a face-to-face setting with the Domain Name Commissioner.

More information on this consultation is available in the story below.

Places are limited. Please RSVP to the DNC team at [info@dnc.org.nz](mailto:info@dnc.org.nz) or phone 04 495 2110

## **DNCL Second Level Consultation and Submissions**

The Domain Name Commission is proposing to extend the .nz domain name space by allowing anybody to register domain names at the 'second level'. This has the potential to significantly alter New Zealand's domain name space so it's important we get your views.

Key features of the .nz proposals include:

- Registration of .nz domain names could be at the second or third levels on an ongoing basis.
- Existing second level domains (such as .co.nz) will remain and continue to be supported.
- There will be no impact on any currently registered .nz domain names.
- Registrations at the second level will be on a "first come, first served" basis, except during the Sunrise Period and where there are currently multiple registrations of the same name in different second level domains.
- The Sunrise Period will be a designated window, where existing .nz domain name holders (registrants) can register their domain name/s at the second level if they are the only one that has that name at the third level.
- If two or more domain name holders have the same name at the third level, no-one will be able to register that name at the second level unless they obtain the consent of the other third level name holders. Alternatively, if all agree, it could become a second level domain instead.
- A temporary amendment to the Dispute Resolution Service Policy to cover sub-domains of generic domain names registered at the second level.
- The above list is a very brief overview of the proposals.

The above list is a very brief overview of the proposals. The Consultation Paper at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second\\_Level\\_Consultation\\_Paper.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second_Level_Consultation_Paper.pdf) and [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second\\_Level\\_Consultation\\_Paper.html](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second_Level_Consultation_Paper.html) provides more detail about what is proposed. It also includes marked up versions of the main policies affected so that people can get an indication of how it may be implemented.

Each section of the Consultation Paper raises specific questions. Please respond to these questions or, more generally, to any of the issues raised through the online response form at [https://www.research.net/s/dnc\\_consultation1](https://www.research.net/s/dnc_consultation1).

Submissions can also be made by email to [policies@dnc.org.nz](mailto:policies@dnc.org.nz), by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington. The closing date for submissions is midday on Thursday 27 September 2012. These will be published on the consultation page as they are received.

## **DNCL Staff Changes**

The Domain Name Commission farewelled Paul McKitrick, Manager, Compliance & Security at the start of August. Paul has accepted a role with Microsoft, based in the US.

DNCL is currently recruiting for a Manager, Security and Technical Policy, to fill Paul's security role. Paul's compliance role will be filled by Josh Cookson, with his role now changing to Registrar Liaison and Compliance

## Statistics

In July, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 489,895 to 494,185, a net increase of 4,290.

Figures as at 31 July 2012:

	1 July 12	30 July 12	New registrations July	Renewals July	Net Growth
.ac	1,946	1,967	31	318	21
.co	425,194	428,773	9,822	65,757	3579
.cri	14	14	0	2	0
.geek	1,191	1,215	46	255	24
.gen	1,412	1,440	43	302	28
.govt	1,113	1,111	3	1,078	-2
.health	148	149	1	139	1
.iwi	79	77	0	12	-2
.maori	956	1,138	197	103	182
.mil	34	34	0	10	0
.net	27,642	27,898	649	3,921	256
.org	26,853	27,050	475	4,005	197
.parliament	9	9	0	9	0
.school	3,304	3,310	26	1,225	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>489,895</b>	<b>494,185</b>	<b>11,293</b>	<b>77,136</b>	<b>4,290</b>

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 ::

### SRS

The SRS SSL CA certificate (srs-ssl-ca-cert.crt) included in RIK releases prior to 5.24 is scheduled to be replaced on the 29th October 2012 by the new NZRS SSL CA chain. The new NZRS SSL CA certificates have been included in both the 5.24 and 5.25 releases of the RIK: certs/nzrs-ca-chain.pem. Version 5.25 of the RIK is available from: <http://nzrs.net.nz/notices/updates>

If you are using the current SRS CA certificate to validate the SRS SSL certificate then you should add the new NZRS CA certificate to your list of trusted CA's.

### Availability

Availability %	SLA	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12
SRS	99.90	100	100	99.98
Whois	99.90	100	100	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	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.01	0.02	0.01
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.17	0.18	0.19
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.20	0.22	0.24
Get Message	≤0.5	0.04	0.05	0.05
Whois	≤0.5	0.05	0.07	0.07
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	6552	5993	6265
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	1045	1016	1051
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.13	0.09	0.10

## Server DNS % Availability

	May 12	Jun 12	Jul 12
NS1	100	99.92	99.80
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 2012

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	426 seconds
WHOIS Unscheduled	372 seconds
DNS	0

## Scheduled Outages during July 2012

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	4 hours
SRS Emergency Scheduled	0
Whois Scheduled	4 hours

## Planned Scheduled Outages

Details of future SRS releases and planned scheduled outages can be found on our website

<http://nzrs.net.nz/notices/updates>

## **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](mailto:support@nzrs.net.nz) or on 04 931 6970. For all other matters, contact Debbie Monahan at [info@dnc.org.nz](mailto: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](mailto:unsubscribe@dnc.org.nz)