

.nz NEWSLETTER – December 2005

:: DNC OFFICE ::

The DNC office would like to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season. The office will be closed on the statutory holidays. If you need to contact the DNC over the holiday period, please email any issues to info@dnc.org.nz

.nz Statistics

In November the number of active .nz domain names increased from 203,994 to 207,228, a net increase of 3,234. There were 5,606 new domain names registered over the month.

NZOC Meeting

A .nz Oversight Committee meeting was held on Thursday 15 December 2005. A copy of the minutes is available at http://dnc.org.nz/content/minutes_NZOC_15_Dec_05.pdf

Domain name registrar de-authorized

This was a sanction on a registrar. The following public statement was issued on 20 December 2005:

“A .nz registrar has been notified that it will lose its status as an authorised registrar.

Domain Name Commissioner Debbie Monahan said the move, against Domain Name Management Services Ltd (DNMSL), was to help ensure a fair and competitive market for those seeking .nz domain names.

The Domain Name Commissioner has been working with DNMSL for an extended period about whether DNMSL met the standards expected of a registrar.

Over the past 12 months there have been various breaches of required standards by DNMSL. These include registering customers' domain names to a company closely related to DNMSL and allowing that company to speculate in domain names, despite also being a DNMSL reseller. DNMSL received a sanction for both of those breaches. The company has also twice been suspended by the registry for technical breaches.

DNMSL will be the only registrar to have been de-authorized.

Ms Monahan said the move should not affect those with .nz domain names registered with DNMSL because the company can arrange with another registrar to take over the management of those names and the change does not affect the operation of the names. The Domain Name Commissioner's office will work with DNMSL on this process.

“Overall, we're well served by .nz registrars and they play a key role in the broader .nz system. In this one instance, however, a registrar has operated their business contrary to the guiding principles, including fair and transparent market competition, and we have had to revoke its registration,” Ms Monahan said.”

Revised Policy: Transfer to Another Registrar (TAR)

As of 12 December 2005, the revised Transfer to Another Registrar policy has come into affect. This can be seen at http://dnc.org.nz/content/transfer_registrar.pdf

Dispute Resolution Service

The draft policy for the Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) is available at; http://dnc.org.nz/content/draft_DRS_policy.pdf Public comment on this policy consultation closes at **midday on Thursday 5 January 2006**. Submissions should be emailed to policies@dnc.org.nz, or by fax to +64 4 4952115 or by post to PO Box 11881, Wellington. As submissions are received they will be published at <http://dnc.org.nz/drs-consultation>

The DRS is expected to operate in a three-tiered manner, with the first tier being informal mediation, the second tier being expert adjudication and the third being an appeal process. Mediation under the DRS involves the mediator facilitating telephone (and email) mediation between parties to a domain name dispute within a set time frame.

An Expert adjudication involves evaluation of the case, and preparation of a written decision within a set time frame. The decision is binding on both parties to the dispute and will be published in full on the Domain Name Commissioner's website.

Ten mediators and eight experts will be appointed to the inaugural panels. Applications for those positions are now open, and information is available at <http://dnc.org.nz/story/30233-29-1.html>

Statistics

Figures as at 30 November 05:

	<i>Active names as at 1 November</i>	<i>Active names as at end 30 November</i>	<i>New registrations November</i>	<i>Renewals November</i>	<i>Change over month</i>
.ac	1088	1099	20	249	11
.co	174049	177006	4870	43608	2957
.cri	25	25	0	5	0
.geek	667	683	21	129	16
.gen	937	944	20	242	7
.govt	799	810	11	234	11
.iwi	53	55	1	13	2
.maori	375	385	19	70	10
.mil	19	19	0	8	0
.net	11592	11653	358	2676	61
.org	11971	12119	265	2787	148
.school	2419	2430	21	1038	11
TOTAL	203994	207228	5606	21059	3234

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::

Christmas and New Year Break

The SRS and DNS will continue to be supported through the Christmas and New Year period.

The NZRS office will be operational on a skeleton staff basis on the business days during this period. Should Registrars wish to contact the Registry, they should use the after hours service as noted on the website.

Have a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all the team @ NZRS.

SRS Availability

System availability for November was 99.98%, against the SLA standard of 99.9%

SRS Availability	August	September	October	November
%	99.91	99.94	99.99	99.98

SRS Response Times

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

Avg Response time (in seconds)	August	September	October	November
Domain Details Query	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.04
Domain Update	0.59	0.62	0.55	0.50
Domain Create	0.63	0.73	1.06/0.57*	0.57
GetMessage performance	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.04
Whois	0.24	0.23	0.22	0.20
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	1,829	1,847	1,897	1,631
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	407	432	399	292
UDAI Valid Query	0.32	0.32	0.29	0.28

*this figure for Domain Create transaction time excludes the period from 00:25 to 00:45 hours, when the system is under load from registrars trying to secure names coming out of pending release.

NZRS have a Response Time Project and are working through issues surrounding the Domain Create and Domain Update transactions.

Unscheduled Outages

Over the month there were a number of micro outages of the SRS totalling 4 minutes and 41 seconds.

DNS Availability

DNS Availability	August	September	October	November
%	100	100	100	100

DNS Response Times

These figures are derived from the 'stress testing' of the name servers. 1201 UDP and 121 TCP transactions are used.

The measurements for NS1, NS2 and NS3 are taken by running the programme on the individual servers. No problems with response times have been reported.

DNS Server	Target Milli secs	June		July		August		September		October		November	
		UDP	TCP	UDP	TCP	UDP	TCP	UDP	TCP	UDP	TCP	UDP	TCP
NS1	<5.0 / <50.0	0.10	0.32	0.11	0.31	0.10	0.33	0.11	0.31	0.11	0.30	0.11	0.31
NS2	<5.0 / <50.0	0.17	0.32	0.11	0.33	0.11	0.35	0.11	0.32	0.11	0.32	0.11	0.35
NS3	<5.0 / <50.0	0.38	1.04	0.40	1.05	0.40	1.06	0.22	1.06	0.37	1.05	0.37	1.08

Scheduled Outages and Updates

The maintenance window for November was utilised.

There were two scheduled outages during November totalling 6 hours. The first, on 20 November was for the installation of an additional network connection in Wellington. The second was on 27 November and was to test the Disaster Recovery Plan.

Maintenance Windows

There is no scheduled outage in January 2006.

The first outage window in 2006 will be on 19 February 2006 from 07-00 to 09-00hrs

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'.