.nz NEWSLETTER – DECEMBER 2003

:: DNC Office ::

Season's Greetings from the DNC office. We all hope you have the chance to take some time away from work over the year's end, and return refreshed for 2004.

The office will be closed during the statutory holidays. If you need to contact the DNC over the break, please email any issues to info@dnc.org.nz. Email will be checked and urgent issues dealt with over the break.

Summary of the .nz market

Since the last newsletter, no registrars have been authorised or connected. This means there are now 46 parties authorised as registrars, with 41 of those connected to production and offering .nz registration and management services – the same as in the November newsletter.

The level of active .nz domain names increased from 139,381 to 141,165, a net increase of 1,784. The .geek.nz second level domain shrank slightly in its third month in operation. Monthly registrations were at their lowest since May 2003.

NZOC Meeting

The .nz Oversight Committee (NZOC) met on Monday 8 December. Formal minutes will be published shortly, but matters discussed included:

- NZRS (Nick Griffin and Carol Stigley – NZRS Chair) attended part of the meeting. Discussion included the outages in June and August, and related to the operation of plans associated with the move of the primary SRS site to Albany.

- NZOC agreed to adopt the draft Process on De-authorisation of a registrar policy (POD) as Version 2 of the policy. This was issued on 10 December. The policy is available at http://dnc.org.nz/content/process_on_deauthorisation.pdf for those interested.

- The ongoing review of the Zone File Transfer Policy was discussed, and NZOC established some policy principles to guide the drafting of a policy for consultation in the New Year.

- NZOC were briefed on the upcoming move to new premises in Willeston St.

2LD Policy Review

The 2LD working group met in December and agreed the basic points for a draft 2LD policy. This will be developed early next year and a draft policy will be circulated for consultation. Thank you to all those who made submissions to the first stage of the Review.

Statistics

Figures as at 30 November 2003:

	Active names as at 1 November	Active names as at end 30 November	New registrations November	Renewals November	Change over month
.ac	802	809	14	175	7
.co	118134	119666	3131	28782	1532
.cri	27	27	0	2	0
.geek	600	593	20	85	-7
.gen	834	843	14	155	9
.govt	697	698	3	183	1
.iwi	46	46	0	13	0
.maori	302	305	10	27	3
.mil	15	15	0	5	0
.net	7822	7976	274	1616	154
.org	8028	8103	177	1770	75
.school	2074	2084	20	761	10
TOTAL	139381	141165	3663	33574	1784

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 ::

As the year comes to a close we would like to wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

NZRS will be closed during the statutory holidays. Registrars can contact NZRS by the after hours contact number.

December Maintenance

The December maintenance window will be on <u>December 28 07:00 – 10:00</u>. This window is required to undertake the following work:

    a) Install an upgrade to registry only functionality.
    b) Update of OS and systems SW on the gateway.
    c) Reallocation of IP addresses for the Wellington site.
    d) Reboot all machines.

Scheduled Outages and Updates

System availability for November was 99.91%, against the SLA standard of 99.9%. There were three unscheduled outages during November, all resulting from the move on 2 November to Albany as the primary SRS servers.

On December 7 there were a series of network outages on the TelstraClear network that meant that the SRS was unavailable.

Work has been progressing on the preparation of SRS to be published as Open Source on 30th January.

SRS Availability	September	October	November
%	100	100	99.91

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

Avg Response time (in seconds)	September	October	November
Domain Details Query	0.308	0.315	0.369
Domain Update	0.270	0.306	0.265
Domain Create	0.410	0.417	0.475
GetMessage performance	0.443	0.388	0.485
GetMessage (volume)	70,617	57,776	42,817
Whois	0.215	0.189	0.196
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume)	1,016,290	611,506	352,796
Whois Server Queries (volume)	908,019	218,383	234,634
UDAI Valid Query	0.172	0.172	0.229

Unscheduled outages

As mentioned, there were three outages in November which left system availability at 99.91%.

	Outage 1	Outage 2	Outage 3
Date	3/11/2003	3/11/2003	18/11/2003
Time	08:57	09:55	14:47
Duration	7	10	22
Impact	High	High	High
Cause	Administrator error. In configuring the Whois server after the move to Albany	Complete fix was not applied at 08:57	Server Memory load. The front end replication exited after processing several very large transactions. Auto restart script did not activate correctly, creating a longer than normal restart time.
Action required	.	Correction of the problem created at 08:57	The autorestart script has been reviewed and has started normally at least once since the 18/11. The maximum memory limit has been increased for the front end replication running in Albany.

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

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