

.nz NEWSLETTER – January 2009

:: DNC ::

Registrars Advisory Group (RAG) Elections – Nominations Closed

Nominations for the RAG election have now closed.

Those nominated are listed below along with a small bio for each nominee. Bios are listed in no particular order.

As we only have three open spaces and seven nominations, an election will be held. Each .nz authorised registrar will have one vote. Further information regarding the voting process will be sent early next week.

For more information on the RAG group a background article has been posted at <http://dnc.org.nz/content//ragbackground.html> .

Richard Clark

Richard has been working commercially as a developer, network and systems administrator since 1996. An IT generalist with a particular focus on software development, Richard has gained enormous experience working with a variety of corporates and government departments with everything from usability theory through to full-scale software and network implementations.

Richard runs Red Spider, a software and networks firm specialising in difficult, high performance and custom work. He is also responsible for SimpleName, a fully-automated .nz registrar, and brings a wealth of practical experience in design and implementation with the SRS to this role.

Simon Stokes

Simon is currently the COO for Modica which is a .nz registrar through subsidiary OneSquared. Bio follows:

Simon has over 25 years experience in the IT industry covering operations, on-site installations, pre-sales consultancy, and solutions design in both the UK and New Zealand, much of this time at senior management level. Simon has a passion for bridging the divide between the technicalities of complex systems and real-world user experience.

Formerly Internet Systems Product Development Manager for TelstraClear and currently Chief Operations Officer for Modica Group, Simon has a broad knowledge and experience of ISP and hosting operations.

Simon co-founded Modica's ISP subsidiary OneSquared in 2002.

Andrew Scott

Andrew is the General Manager of Domainz, Qualified BSc (hons), MIPENZ, C Eng, MIET.

He has held leadership positions in New Zealand for last 12 years, all of these in IT, and has a career spanning 30 years in Information Technology.

Daniel Williams

(NZ Dip. Bus. NZIM Adv. Dip. Mgmt.)

Daniel is the Managing Director of Web Drive, a web hosting and domain management company that was established in 1997, and Internet Services Group, which maintains the hosting brands Openhost, Webbase and Domains4Less. Collectively the group manages a total of 50,000 Domain names across .nz and gTLD. Originally a reseller of Domainz, Web Drive became an authorised .nz registrar when the NZSRS was opened up in 2003.

Stephen Hogg

(B.Tech)

Steve is the Technical Director of Web Drive and Internet Services Group and has been instrumental in the design and development of a .nz reseller system in use by over 400 resellers in New Zealand. Along with Daniel Williams, Steve has been a company director since 1997 with over 12 years experience in the .nz Internet space.

Peter Mott

Peter is the ccTLD manager for .aq [Antarctica] and owns wholesale hosting provider swizzle.co.nz

Pioneered Windows web hosting in New Zealand in 1996 by creating retail host 2day.com and had a very active role in bringing about the .nz shared registry model to replace the draconian monopoly registrar operated by InternetNZ in its formative years.

Peter is a person who is well known for getting things done and speaking his mind.

Rowan Smith

Rowan is a Senior Technical Analyst in the Government Technology Services (GTS) group of the State Services Commission. GTS manages the registry for .govt.nz domains.

Rowan has worked on web projects since 1996, and has focussed exclusively on government use of the Internet since 2001. He has had substantial involvement in the New Zealand Government Web Standards, starting with membership of the Web Guidelines Working Group in 2003.

Rowan has also been involved in international standards processes via W3C, Standards New Zealand, and ISO. In 2007-8 Rowan led the NZ government technical analysis of the proposed OOXML standard and represented government on the New Zealand OOXML working group.

Rowan also has a strong interest in IPv6 and participated in the MED-led IPv6 working group.

DNCL Board Meeting - Minutes

The DNCL board meeting was held on Monday 15 December. The minutes of this meeting are now available. They can be viewed in either [.html](#) or [.pdf](#) format.

Statistics

In December, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 347,969 to 348,769, a net increase of 800.

Figures as at 31 December 2008:

	<i>Active names as at 1 December</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 December</i>	<i>New registrations December</i>	<i>Renewals December</i>	<i>Net Growth</i>
.ac	1654	1662	18	341	8
.co	299318	299986	4704	56710	668
.cri	15	15	0	4	0
.geek	860	865	14	200	5
.gen	1205	1211	18	299	6
.govt	978	979	2	890	1
.iwi	65	64	0	14	-1
.maori	520	534	22	73	14
.mil	17	16	1	10	-1
.net	20286	20299	312	3457	13
.org	20225	20309	290	3441	84
.parliament	5	5	0	5	0
.school	2821	2824	18	1191	3
TOTAL	347969	348769	5399	66635	800

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 ::

Nick Griffin signs off

This is the last newsletter that I will be involved with. I would like to thank the staff of NZRS, Registrars and the various stakeholders who I have worked with over the past 6 1/2 years in providing the SRS and DNS services.

NZRS replaces .nz name server

New Zealand Registry Services (NZRS) announced that the authoritative name server NS7.DNS.NET.NZ for the .nz Domain Name System (DNS) has been replaced.

The replacement is part of a wider project aimed at improving the .nz DNS infrastructure. There is no impact on the .nz DNS as a result of the change and the new IP address for NS7.DNS.NET.NZ is 202.46.188.130.

Bringing the server under NZRS' control will lead to greater reporting and monitoring of the .nz name servers. It will also enable the smoother addition of servers to other parts of the network, if required.

NZRS General Manager Nick Griffin thanks Telecom for its solid management of the .nz name server to-date.

Availability

SRS production system availability:

	SLA	October	November	December
SRS Availability %	99.90	99.91	99.99	100
Whois	99.90	99.91	100	100
DNS	100	100	100	100

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

Avg Response time (in seconds)	SLA Target	October	November	December
Domain Details Query	≤1.5	0.03	0.03	0.02
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.41	0.42	0.34
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.49	0.50	0.43
GetMessage performance	≤0.8	0.04	0.04	0.03
Whois	≤0.8	0.12	0.12	0.10
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	2836	2647	2734
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	396	349	342
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.8	0.15	0.15	0.13

1. DNS

Server % Availability

	October 08	November 08	December 08
NS1	100	100	100
NS2	100	100	100
NS3	100	100	100
NS4	100	100	100
NS5	100	100	100
NS6	100	99.97	100
NS7	100	100	100

NS7 was successfully changed from the Grace and favour arrangement with Telecom to NZRS.

Unscheduled Outages

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	111 seconds
WHOIS Unscheduled	0
DNS	0

2.

Scheduled Outages

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	0
Whois Scheduled	0

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