

.nz NEWSLETTER – January 2010

:: Domain Name Commission ::

Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) – Countdown to launch

Tēnā koutou katoa

The DNC office has been working towards the implementation of IDNs in the .nz space. Registrants will soon be able to use IDNs to correctly display Māori language words and names when they are used in .nz domain names.

The initial registration phase of IDNs in .nz will be handled during a sunrise registration period, which will run from Monday 6 April until Monday 6 July 2010. During this time registrants of current .nz domain names will be able to apply for variants of their names including the characters ā, ē, ī, ō and ū which feature in the Māori language. Names which meet the policy will be registered when the IDN system is launched. For more information please view the policy [here](#).

We will be running articles about IDNs in .nz in this newsletter every month until the launch date for first-come, first-served IDN registrations on Wednesday 26 July 2010.

If you are unfamiliar with macrons or are unsure how to enter these characters into your browser or into any other application, you may need to download some new keyboard software. If you are using a Windows based system you should head [here](#) to download and install Microsoft's Māori Keyboard. There are a range of solutions for Linux users, such as the MI-nz keyboard software which is compatible with the KDE release. Please note this software may not work with all versions of Linux. For a wider range of solutions for operating systems please visit [this](#) page.

We wish to make the introduction of IDNs in .nz as easy as possible for the end user, so if you have any suggestions of helpful software or articles please feel free to send your thoughts to info@dnc.org.nz

2009 Calendar year statistics – Comparison with previous years

The table below outlines the growth within the .nz domain name space. Figures are taken from the end of each calendar year, and are shown for the last 5 years. They show continued expansion in the total number of .nz names, with the rate of growth having peaked in 2006.

| Year | Total Domain names | Annual name increase | Annual name % increase |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2009 | 381964 | 33195 | 9.52 |
| 2008 | 348769 | 34716 | 11.05 |
| 2007 | 314053 | 52770 | 20.20 |
| 2006 | 261283 | 51356 | 24.46 |
| 2005 | 209927 | 35866 | 20.61 |

Statistics

In December, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 380,015 to 381,964, a net increase of 1,949.

Figures as at 31 December 2009:

| | <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 | 1,718 | 1,713 | 26 | 316 | -5 |
| .co | 328,098 | 329,928 | 5,763 | 57,397 | 1,830 |
| .cri | 15 | 15 | 0 | 3 | - |
| .geek | 935 | 941 | 17 | 210 | 6 |
| .gen | 1,244 | 1,247 | 15 | 306 | 3 |
| .govt | 1,019 | 1,021 | 2 | 938 | 2 |
| .health | 87 | 97 | 10 | 0 | 10 |
| .iwi | 70 | 70 | 0 | 12 | - |
| .maori | 566 | 554 | 4 | 76 | -12 |
| .mil | 21 | 21 | 0 | 3 | - |
| .net | 21,414 | 21,437 | 333 | 3,994 | 23 |
| .org | 21,872 | 21,959 | 317 | 3,963 | 87 |
| .parliament | 7 | 7 | 0 | 7 | - |
| .school | 2,949 | 2,954 | 22 | 1,204 | 5 |
| TOTAL | 380,015 | 381,964 | 6,509 | 68,429 | 1,949 |

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 ::

Availability

| Availability % | SLA | October | November | December |
|----------------|-------|---------|----------|----------|
| SRS | 99.90 | 100 | 99.91 | 100 |
| Whois | 99.90 | 100 | 99.92 | 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 | October | November | December |
|--|------------|---------|----------|----------|
| Domain Details Query | ≤0.5 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Domain Update | ≤0.8 | 0.33 | 0.28 | 0.22 |
| Domain Create | ≤0.8 | 0.39 | 0.33 | 0.26 |
| Get Message | ≤0.5 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.03 |
| Whois | ≤0.5 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.10 |
| Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's) | N/A | 3225 | 3,075 | 2,461 |
| Whois Server Queries (volume 000's) | N/A | 515 | 537 | 622 |
| UDAI Valid Query | ≤0.5 | 0.12 | 0.13 | 100 |

Server DNS % Availability

| | October | November | December |
|-----|---------|----------|----------|
| 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 December 2009

| Outage Type | Total Duration |
|-------------------|----------------|
| SRS Unscheduled | 7 seconds |
| WHOIS Unscheduled | 0 |
| DNS | 0 |

Scheduled Outages during December 2009

| Outage Type | Total Duration |
|-----------------|----------------|
| SRS Scheduled | 0 |
| Whois Scheduled | 0 |

SRS IDN Changes

The implementation of IDN compatibility within the SRS is well underway. A 'beta version' of the IDN code changes is available on the SRS RPS test system and Registrars should test their systems in this environment as soon as possible and no later than by the middle of February 2010. Details of the SRS RPS test system and IDN changes for Registrars can be obtained by contacting NZRS Support.

Planned Scheduled Outages

31st January 2010 7:00 - 9:00 am NZDT

During the next maintenance window on 31st January, NZRS will be doing some regular maintenance and they will be switching the SRS front end site from Wellington back to Auckland.

28th February 2010 7:00 - 9:00 am NZDT

For the **SRS release 4.0**, scheduled for 28th February, NZRS will migrate **IDN functionality** to the SRS production system. The upgrade includes changes that are not backward compatible and Registrars may need to adjust their systems to work properly.

IDN compatibility has been released to the RPS testing system and NZRS recommends Registrars to test their systems against the release before the upgrade to version 4.00 on the 28th February.

Even if Registrars do not plan to support IDNs they need to test their systems to ensure their systems will be functioning correctly after the upgrade.

Details of SRS releases and planned scheduled outages can be found on the NZRS website. <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 or on 04 931 6970. For all other matters, contact Debbie Monahan at info@dnc.org.nz.

Please Note

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