



.NZ Newsletter – January 2013



2013 Greetings



Firstly, we would like to say ‘Happy New Year’ to all our readers. We hope that you enjoyed a safe and celebratory holiday break.

This year, one of the goals of the DNC and NZRS is to increase general awareness of the .nz domain name space. As part of these efforts, we want to engage more with – and educate – the media, industry participants, and general public about domain names, the benefits of having one, and how to easily get one.

While trying to promote the .nz domain name space, we will also maintain our good relationship with authorised registrars by keeping them informed of changes, and by listening to their views when formulating new policies and processes.

In line with all of these objectives, we are striving for our monthly newsletters to have more interesting and relevant content for you. We hope you enjoy this material and that it helps you feel more informed about the exciting and ever-changing online environment that you are an important part of.

Vikram Kumar resigns from InternetNZ

For those of you who don’t know, both the DNC and NZRS are subsidiaries of InternetNZ, a non-profit incorporated society. InternetNZ is New Zealand’s leading Internet advocacy organization. Their vision is “an open and uncaptureable Internet”.

This month Vikram Kumar announced that he would be leaving InternetNZ, after leading the organisation through three years of major change.

2012-13 was the second best year for .nz domain name growth in the last five years

From January 1, 2012, to January 1, 2013, .nz domain names have grown 10.20%. This is up from 10% the year before. The best year of growth in the last five years was 2010-2011, where .nz domain names grew 10.81%.

Domain Name Commissioner Debbie Monahan says this growth is likely to be a reflection of more people going online and the increased trust people have for .nz domain name endings.

“A lot of the reason why .nz is growing is because of the work registrars do promoting it. This is great to see and I hope we’ll continue to see growth as time goes on,” she says.

Why report all these statistics?

For regular readers of this newsletter, the monthly reporting of facts and figures may seem excessive. However, transparency about how the registry is both being managed and is performing has been an important part of our culture since the beginning. In fact, reporting these monthly statistics is part of the Service Level Agreement that exists between the NZRS and DNC. These agreements are also regularly reviewed so as to ensure best practice methods are being used.

Ultimately, the SLA states that the NZRS must regularly report on:

- Registry availability and outages
- The registration and cancellations of domain names
- Registry response times
- Zone pushes
- Denial of Service Attacks.

Under the agreement, the DNC can also assess the NZRS's performance by auditing:

- Server security (both physical and network security)
- Server host logs
- Capacity plans.

To read the full Service Level Agreement between DNS and NZRS visit:
http://dnc.org.nz/content/SLA_8_August_2011.pdf

Time for your annual WHOIS check-up?

Just like visiting the doctor or dentist once a year isn't a bad idea, neither is checking your WHOIS information. A simple check of any website you have – or one you're registering for a client – can save you time, money and aggravation in the long run.

For registrars: If you become aware that the contact details for a .nz domain name may be wrong, then you are obliged to chase up your customers to correct any inaccurate information displayed in the register. The registrant's contact details do not necessarily need to be a residential address, but they must enable contact.

For registrants: If your contact details on the WHOIS page are incorrect, please tell your registrar to update the information.

For the general public: If you see incorrect details on someone else's domain name, please inform the registrar. If they are unable to reach the domain name holder we will look into the matter once we are informed. Correct details are important because, in some situations, when a registrant is unable to be contacted we will cancel the domain name.

How to check your details

Visit www.dnc.org.nz and use the 'search domains' tool on the top left-hand corner of the page. Your details should show as the Registrant Contacts. It is important that you check that you still have access to the e-mail address listed on the record. This is the address that your registrar will use to communicate with you about the registration, so it is critical that you receive these messages.

Statistics

In December, the number of active .NZ domain names increased from 515,987 to 517,037, a net increase of 1050.

Figures as at 31 December 2012:

	1 December 12	31 December 12	New Registrations December	Renewals December	Net Change
.ac	1,979	1,986	21	315	7
.co	441,981	443,017	5,854	61,480	1,036
.cri	13	13	0	1	0
.geek	1,200	1,199	11	255	-1
.gen	1,414	1,411	8	304	-3
.govt	1,114	1,115	1	1,083	1
.health	149	149	0	146	0
.iwi	77	77	1	14	0
.kiwi	7,685	7,601	114	444	-84
.maori	1,134	1,143	10	93	9
.mil	36	36	0	9	0
.net	28,407	28,487	436	3,665	80
.org	27,496	27,498	218	3,499	2
.parliament	9	9	0	9	0
.school	3,293	3,296	15	1,191	3
TOTAL	515,987	517,037	6,689	72,508	1,050

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>

Availability

Availability %	SLA	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12
SRS	99.9	100	99.96	100
Whois	99.9	100	100	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	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.01	0.01	0.01
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.20	0.20	0.21
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.23	0.25	0.24
Get Message	≤0.5	0.04	0.05	0.05
Whois	≤0.5	0.08	0.08	0.08
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	7085	6997	6576
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	1015	1021	1069
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.10	0.10	0.10

Server DNS % Availability

	Oct 12	Nov 12	Dec 12
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 2012

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	No unscheduled outages
WHOIS Unscheduled	No unscheduled outages
DNS	0

Scheduled Outages during December 2012

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	5hours
SRS Emergency Scheduled	0
Whois Scheduled	5hours

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 or on 04 931 6970. 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