

## **.nz NEWSLETTER – June 2012**

### **DNSSEC**

The deployment of DNSSEC across the .nz second level domains began in June, starting with .geek.nz. During July, net.nz and org.nz will be signed.

In preparation for this NZRS has been activating DNSSEC for .nz's reverse zones during May.

A DNSSEC Friendly Criteria has been developed to identify Registrars that meet a higher level of service relative to offering DNSSEC services in the .nz space. Information about this can be found here: <http://dnc.org.nz/dnssec>

A DNS Security FAQ has been prepared for Registrants (<http://dnc.org.nz/story/dns-security-faq>) and a DNSSEC FAQ has been prepared for Registrars (<http://dnc.org.nz/story/dnssec-registrars-faq>).

Technical information related to the implementation including the second level domain deployment schedule is available here: <http://nzrs.net.nz/dns/dnssec>

### **:: Domain Name Commission ::**

#### **DNCL Second Level Consultation and Submissions**

The Domain Name Commission is proposing to extend the .nz domain name space by allowing anybody to register domain names at the 'second level'. This has the potential to significantly alter New Zealand's domain name space so it's important we get your views.

Key features of the .nz proposals include:

- Registration of .nz domain names could be at the second or third levels on an ongoing basis.
- Existing second level domains (such as .co.nz) will remain and continue to be supported.
- There will be no impact on any currently registered .nz domain names.
- Registrations at the second level will be on a "first come, first served" basis, except during the Sunrise Period and where there are currently multiple registrations of the same name in different second level domains.
- The Sunrise Period will be a designated window, where existing .nz domain name holders (registrants) can register their domain name/s at the second level if they are the only one that has that name at the third level.
- If two or more domain name holders have the same name at the third level, no-one will be able to register that name at the second level unless they obtain the consent of the other third level name holders. Alternatively, if all agree, it could become a second level domain instead.
- A temporary amendment to the Dispute Resolution Service Policy to cover sub-domains of generic domain names registered at the second level.
- The above list is a very brief overview of the proposals.

The above list is a very brief overview of the proposals. The Consultation Paper at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second\\_Level\\_Consultation\\_Paper.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second_Level_Consultation_Paper.pdf) and [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second\\_Level\\_Consultation\\_Paper.html](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Second_Level_Consultation_Paper.html) provides more detail about what is proposed. It also includes marked up versions of the main policies affected so that people can get an indication of how it may be implemented.

Each section of the Consultation Paper raises specific questions. Please respond to these questions or, more generally, to any of the issues raised through the online response form at [https://www.research.net/s/dnc\\_consultation1](https://www.research.net/s/dnc_consultation1).

Submissions can also be made by email to [policies@dnc.org.nz](mailto:policies@dnc.org.nz), by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington. The closing date for submissions is midday on Thursday 27 September 2012. These will be published on the consultation page as they are received.

### **Changes to .nz Authorisation Agreement and .nz Connection Agreement**

Registrars have been advised of the amendments to the .nz Authorisation Agreement, which can be seen on the consultation page at <http://dnc.org.nz/story/proposed-amendments-nz-authorisation-agreement>. The amended policy comes into effect one month after the date of notification.

We have also notified Registrars about changes to the .NZ CONNECTION AGREEMENT that they have with NZRS. The agreement has had two sets of changes. The first is a tidy up to clarify the language, simplify the ways to contact NZRS and to update the terminology. The second set of changes relates specifically to foreign registrars and the following two additional NZRS documents:

- Foreign Registrar Payment Terms Agreement
- Policy and Process for the Payment of Domain Name Fees by Foreign Authorised Registrars

These have now been incorporated into the agreement and the payment terms brought into line with those of domestic registrars by removing the requirement for a foreign registrar to maintain sufficient credit with us to pay three month's worth of invoices, as this is a clause we have not enforced for some time.

### **Registrar Advisory Group Election**

Two new registrar representatives, Mark Goldfinch and Kim Lowton, were elected to the Registry Advisory Group (RAG). They join Quintin Russ, Lee Miller, Maria Brosnan and Glen Eustace.

RAG members offer advice and input to the DNC and the NZRS manager on issues that affect the .nz domain space. The members also offer advice on the preferred priority work areas. The RAG works as one point of contact between authorised registrars and the DNC and NZRS. It provides a forum for registrars to bring up issues that affect the .nz market and work to offer possible solutions. Input on technical issues will be provided via RAG, for example issues regarding the register, its interfaces and the .nz DNS as well as identifying possible SRS enhancements and modifications

For further information please consult the RAG terms of reference document which can be seen at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Registrar\\_Advisory\\_Group\\_TOR.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Registrar_Advisory_Group_TOR.pdf)

## Top Level Domain Principles

InternetNZ adopted the TLD principles at the last InternetNZ Council meeting.

1. Domain name markets should be competitive.
2. Choice for registrants should be maintained and expanded.
3. Domain registrations should be first come, first served.
4. Parties to domain registrations should be on a level playing field.
5. Registrant data should be public.
6. Registry / Registrar operations within a TLD should be split.
7. TLD policy should be determined by open multi-stakeholder processes.

An outline of these and a more detailed document are published at

<http://internetnz.net.nz/TLDPrinciples>

## Statistics

In April, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 477,688 to 480,803, a net increase of 3,115.

Figures as at 31 May 2012:

	1 May 12	31 May 12	New registrations May	Renewals May	Net Growth
.ac	1,929	1,944	41	326	15
.co	417,188	421,084	9,578	66,470	3,896
.cri	14	14	0	2	0
.geek	1,148	1,174	46	237	26
.gen	1,381	1,401	43	264	20
.govt	1,117	1,126	10	1,084	9
.health	147	147	0	133	0
.iwi	79	78	1	11	-1
.maori	691	926	260	102	235
.mil	34	34	0	11	0
.net	27,229	27,410	645	3,976	181
.org	26,552	26,723	434	3,828	171
.parliament	9	9	0	9	0
.school	3,285	3,288	26	1,210	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>480,803</b>	<b>485,358</b>	<b>11,084</b>	<b>77,663</b>	<b>4,555</b>

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 ::

### SRS

We have updated our CPAN libraries (community Perl modules) that are required to use the command line client programs (sendJSON, sendXML SRSCliet2). We recommend that any registrar that is using our CPAN libraries to download the latest version and the latest RIK from our website: <http://nzrs.net.nz/srs/rik>

The most recent version of the SRS and RIK is 5.22, released 29/04/2012, with several minor bug fixes. Detailed information available at: <http://nzrs.net.nz/notices/updates>

Registrars can choose to use any of the SRS clients, the EPP Interface, or both. If there are any Registrars that would like to try using the EPP interface on the test or production system, then please contact Dave or Pearl on: [support@nzrs.net.nz](mailto:support@nzrs.net.nz)

### Availability

Availability %	SLA	Mar 12	Apr 12	May 12
SRS	99.90	100	100	100
Whois	99.90	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	Mar 12	Apr 12	May 12
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.01	0.01	0.01
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.20	0.19	0.17
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.23	0.23	0.20
Get Message	≤0.5	0.04	0.03	0.04
Whois	≤0.5	0.04	0.05	0.05
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	8,611	8,613	6,552
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	973	925	1045
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.08	0.08	0.13

### Server DNS % Availability

	Mar 12	Apr 12	May 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 May 2012

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

## Scheduled Outages during May 2012

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	6.5 hours
SRS Emergency Scheduled	0
Whois Scheduled	6.5 hours

## 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](mailto:support@nzrs.net.nz) or on 04 931 6970. For all other matters, contact Debbie Monahan at [info@dnc.org.nz](mailto:info@dnc.org.nz).

## Please Note

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