.nz NEWSLETTER – March 2007

:: DNC OFFICE ::

In February the number of active .nz domain names increased from 264,711 to 268,744, a net increase of 4,033.

NZOC Meeting

A meeting of NZOC was held on Thursday 1 of March. Minutes of this meeting are at http://www.dnc.org.nz/content/Minutes_1_March_07.pdf . Points discussed at the NZOC meeting include:

- *Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) Working Group*

NZOC considered the responses received after a call for Expressions of Interest for membership of a Working Group to look at issues around the introduction of IDN in the .nz domain name space. The Working Group will comprise Richard Currey (NZOC Deputy Chair and Convenor of the Working Group), Dave Moskovitz, Nick Wallingford, Sam Vilain and Karaitiana Taiuru. It is anticipated that the group will hold an initial meeting around June 2007.

- *Registering, Managing and Cancelling (RMC) Policy Review*

NZOC discussed the submissions received, together with the views of registrars when the matter was discussed at the recent Registrar Advisory Group meeting.

Proposed changes to the policy relating to operational matters and generally updating the policy were accepted and will be processed. An amended policy containing these changes will be presented to the next meeting.

In respect of the proposals that would involve changes to the registration policy principles, NZOC acknowledged that these represented a radical departure from the current 'first come, first served', open registration approach. Careful consideration of the issues is required.

Though the last consultation paper asked people to consider and comment on the operational implementation of the possible policy changes, not a lot of detailed information was received. NZOC considers it important that the operational implications are identified and that all parties are given a chance to comment not only on the policy principles but also on the potential time, cost and liability implications of any change to the current registration process.

There was discussion that the proposal to publicly notify new registrations, and have the five day registration grace period act as a notification period for objections, was in conflict with the Zone Transfer Policy. NZOC agreed that there was insufficient reason in the proposal to justify overriding the Zone Transfer Policy so this proposal would not proceed any further. It was also agreed that the proposal to require payment in advance of registering a domain name was not commercially practical and will also not proceed.

In respect of the other proposals consulted on, NZOC considered it was important that these be explored further. Therefore, NZOC have agreed that a further discussion paper should be prepared that considers in detail the scenarios if any, or all, of the proposals are adopted. An outline of the paper is to be presented at the next meeting.

.bank.nz – Application for a new Moderated Second Level Domain (2LD)

An application has been received to create a new, moderated second level domain (2LD) – .bank.nz. A copy of the application, and the proposed moderation policy, can be seen at http://dnc.org.nz/content//bank_application.pdf. A text version is also available at http://dnc.org.nz/content//bank_application.txt.

Comments are sought on this application, and on the moderation policy that will be used to accept registrations. In particular, comment is sought on how the application meets the criteria for a new 2LD, namely that the 2LD:

- Represents an identifiable, significant community of interest; where:
    - o   'significant' can mean either quantitatively or qualitatively; and
    - o   the community of interest can be defined in a clear written statement
- Represents an on-going and long-lived community of interest
- Does not conflict with, duplicate or cause confusion about, any existing 2LD, and is a useful addition to the current DNS hierarchy
- Uses a name to represent the domain that is a obvious derivative of a word that properly describes the community of interest or a complete word.
- Does not bring the .nz domain name space in disrepute

Submissions should be made by email to 2ld@dnc.org.nz . They may also be made by fax to +64 4 495 2115 or by post to Domain Name Commission, PO Box 11881, Wellington, New Zealand. All submissions will be published at http://dnc.org.nz/bank-application. All submissions should be received by midday on Thursday 29 March.

Statistics
Figures as at 28 February 2007:

	Active names as at 1 February	Active names as at end 28 February	New registrations February	Renewals February	Net Growth
.ac	1278	1286	25	287	8
.co	226309	229688	5822	48572	3379
.cri	18	18	0	4	0
.geek	835	848	29	193	13
.gen	1066	1080	24	284	14
.govt	884	889	6	601	5
.iwi	57	58	1	13	1
.maori	458	459	9	86	1
.mil	21	21	0	12	0
.net	15747	16070	519	3212	323
.org	15441	15716	401	3119	275
.parliament	2	2	0	2	0
.school	2595	2609	18	1078	14
TOTAL	264711	268744	6854	57463	4033

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 ::

During February changes were implemented around the release of domain names. The DNS Technical Architectural Panel to review and consider the future architecture of the .nz DNS.

SRS Availability

SRS Availability	SLA	December	January	February
%	99.90	99.97	99.98	99.96

SRS Response Times

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

Avg Response time (in seconds)	SLA Target	December	January	February
Domain Details Query	≤1.5	0.03	0.03	0.03
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.44	0.46	0.45
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.20	0.57	0.49
GetMessage performance	≤0.8	0.03	0.03	0.02
Whois	≤0.8	0.10	0.10	0.10
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	1,743	1,934	1,872
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	296	258	277
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.8	0.14	0.14	0.14

DNS Availability

DNS Availability	SLA	December	January	February
%	100	100	100	100

Whois Availability

Whois Availability	SLA	December	January	February
%	99.90%	99.99	99.98	99.96

Unscheduled Outages

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	956 seconds (16 mins and 5 secs)
WHOIS Unscheduled	865 seconds (14 mins and 25 secs)

Scheduled Outages and Updates

The March scheduled outage window will occur on 25 March 07:00 – 09:00 and will be used to install equipment for the IPv6 project.

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'.