

.nz NEWSLETTER – May 2012

DNSSEC

The deployment of DNSSEC across the .nz second level domains is scheduled to begin in June, starting with .geek.nz.

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 ::

Application for a new 2LD - .kiwi.nz

An application has been received to create a new, open, second level domain (2LD) - .kiwi.nz. Copies of the application can be seen at

.pdf - http://dnc.org.nz/content/kiwi_nz.pdf
.html - http://dnc.org.nz/content/kiwi_nz.html

Comments are sought on this application. 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:
'significant' can mean either quantitatively or qualitatively; and
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 an 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 sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz, by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington.

Submissions close at 5pm on Tuesday 29 May 2012. All submissions will be published at <http://dnc.org.nz/story/application-new-2ld-kiwinz> as they are received.

Proposed amendments to the .nz Authorisation Agreement

DNCL is seeking the views of Registrars, and other interested parties, on proposed amendments to the current Authorisation Agreement that DNCL signs with authorised .nz Registrars. The amendments add a new clause to the Agreement relating to .nz domain name take down requests.

Details of the proposed amendments are [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Proposed authorisation agreement amendments.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Proposed_authorisation_agreement_amendments.pdf).

The addition of a take down clause is considered appropriate given the increase in reported incidents overseas where domain names have been taken out of the DNS, or cancelled, on the request of law enforcement or other agencies, rather than on the basis of a properly obtained court order making clear directives in respect of the domain name/s involved.

Our intention in adding this clause is to clarify that Registrars are not expected to respond to take down demands from law enforcement in the absence of a clear court order seeking that action. If Registrars receive such a demand, they 'should' forward it to the Domain Name Commission for action with DNCL working with the appropriate agencies to resolve the matter. DNCL will accept the legal liability and support Registrars put in a difficult position.

DNCL does not condone criminal activity but considers that, like in our general legal system, due process needs to be followed and decisions made by appropriate judicial bodies. This stance was outlined in a post on the InternetNZ website which can be seen at <http://internetnz.net.nz/news/blog/2011/Takedown-domain-names-%E2%80%93-rule-law-and-due-process>. It is also supported by legal advice we have received and which can be read at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/Take down domain names lawyers.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Take_down_domain_names_lawyers.pdf).

Our position is that we will work with law enforcement and other appropriate entities to assist them in their inquiries and offer them our knowledge of the subject matter. DNCL will not, however, cancel domain names merely on the request of those agencies. DNCL will respond to an appropriate court order clearly outlining the domain name at issue and the action to be taken. DNCL is also ready to assist any party that may be seeking such a court action to ensure that the order obtained is appropriate for DNCL to take the required action. The proposed amendments to the Authorisation Agreement clarify that DNCL are also prepared to take these actions on behalf of Registrars where they have received such a request directly.

Comments should be sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz, by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington. Comments on these proposed changes should be by Monday, 29 May 2012.

Zone Transfer Policy Amendments Notification

This is to advise of an update to the [Zone Transfer Policy](#) (ZTP) to govern the use of the zone data by .nz. The amended policy is now in effect.

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 30 April 2012:

	1 April 12	30 April 12	New registrations April	Renewals April	Net Growth
.ac	1,934	1,929	36	285	-5
.co	414,389	417,188	7,943	62,247	2,799
.cri	13	14	1	1	1
.geek	1,142	1,148	27	243	6
.gen	1,386	1,381	28	259	-5
.govt	1,114	1,117	4	1,082	3
.health	145	147	2	131	2
.iwi	78	79	1	10	1
.maori	678	691	27	91	13
.mil	33	34	1	10	1
.net	27,023	27,229	558	3,806	206
.org	26,475	26,552	351	3,558	77
.parliament	8	9	1	8	1
.school	3,270	3,285	28	1,186	15
TOTAL	477,688	480,803	9,008	72,917	3,115

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 ::

Customer Satisfaction Survey 2012

Every two years NZRS conducts a survey of registrars to measure satisfaction with our services and to help us plan future developments. Participation is generally good and this year has seen another increase in participation and we wish to thank all those that generously gave of their time to participate.

The results are again very good with satisfaction rating remaining over 90%. We also have considerable information on our services and planned developments that will help us improve further. We should also like to thank those of you that took the time to provide comments, which were extensive, as they give us significant insight into your requirements.

Once again we are publishing our results, in an aggregated and anonymised form. None of the comments are included to ensure that no respondents can be identified.

if you wish to comment on this survey or the issues raised by it then please feel free to contact Jay Daley, our Chief Executive, on jay@nzrs.net.nz or +64 4 931 6977.

[Download the Customer Survey Results](#) (pdf, 500 kb)

SRS

We have updated our CPAN libraries (community Perl modules) that are required to use the command line client programs (sendJSON, sendXML SRSCient2). 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 5.21, 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

DNS

The upgrade of all five .nz nameservers located across New Zealand was successfully completed during March and the first week of April. We are now focusing our efforts on continuing the DNSSEC deployment for the second level domains.

Availability

Availability %	SLA	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 12
SRS	99.90	99.96	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	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 12
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.01	0.01	0.01
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.22	0.20	0.19
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.25	0.23	0.23
Get Message	≤0.5	0.04	0.04	0.03
Whois	≤0.5	0.04	0.04	0.05
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	10,475	8,611	8,613
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	887	973	925
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.09	0.08	0.08

Server DNS % Availability

	Feb 12	Mar 12	Apr 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 April 2011

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	74 seconds
WHOIS Unscheduled	0
DNS	0

Scheduled Outages during April 2011

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	2 hours
SRS Emergency Scheduled	0
Whois Scheduled	2 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 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