

## **.nz NEWSLETTER – November 2009**

**:: Domain Name Commission ::**

### **Consultation on Second Level Domains Policy Review**

InternetNZ, through Domain Name Commission Limited (DNC), is currently reviewing the existing Second Level Domains (2LD) policy. The current policy can be seen at [http://dnc.org.nz/content/second\\_level\\_domains.pdf](http://dnc.org.nz/content/second_level_domains.pdf)

This policy was last reviewed over 2003-2004 when a Working Group put out papers for public consultation. These papers sought comment on a number of issues including introducing registrations in .nz at the second level and the process for creating a new second level domain. The review resulted in changes to the process of creating a new second level domain but did not introduce .nz registrations at the second level.

Since that last review, three new second level domains have been added to the .nz space - .bank.nz, .parliament.nz and .health.nz. All three new second level domains are moderated ones. There have been no new open 2LDs since .geek.nz back in 2003, under the previous policy.

The 2LD Policy sets out the general rules regarding the structure of the .nz domain name space. Appendices to the policy provide the application forms for new 2LDs and a schedule of fees.

Currently the policy includes:

- The list of open and moderated second level domains, defining the communities of interest reflected in the .nz 2LD structure
- The criteria for new 2LDs and the process undertaken upon application for a new open or moderated second level domain
- The procedure for closing an existing 2LD

We welcome comment on any aspect of the policy. Submissions can be sent by email to [policies@dnc.org.nz](mailto:policies@dnc.org.nz), by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to PO Box 11881, Wellington 6142. As submissions are received they will be published on the DNC website at <http://www.dnc.org.nz/2LD-review09>. Submissions should be received by midday on Wednesday 27 January 2010.

### **Minutes of DNCL Board Meeting - 5 October 2009**

The minutes of the DNCL Board meeting held on 5 October 2009 are available. [.html](#) and [.pdf](#).

## Internationalised Domain Names (IDN) project – ‘IDN Friendly Status’

The DNC office is currently working through the various requirements needed as we get closer to the launch of IDN registrations in the .nz space.

One of the aspects of the implementation of IDNs in .nz is the implementation of an ‘IDN Friendly Status’ tag for .nz authorised Registrars. This idea was put forward by Registrars at the Registrar Advisory Group (RAG) meeting in September last year.

Some criteria mentioned at the RAG meeting included using macronised characters in all forms of communications with registrants and providing links the Māori keyboard software.

We welcome all suggestions and feedback on what could be involved with the IDN friendly status. If you have any thoughts on what this status could consist of please send them into us via [info@dnc.org.nz](mailto:info@dnc.org.nz).

### Statistics

In October, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 374,099 to 377,341, a net increase of 3,242.

Figures as at 31 October 2009:

	<i>Active names as at 1 October</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 October</i>	<i>New registrations October</i>	<i>Renewals October</i>	<i>Net Growth</i>
.ac	1703	1,716	31	340	13
.co	322888	325,743	7250	60649	2855
.cri	15	15	0	3	-
.geek	912	926	21	198	14
.gen	1239	1242	15	305	3
.govt	1005	1014	10	920	9
.health	45	74	29	0	29
.iwi	69	69	0	16	-
.maori	569	567	20	84	-2
.mil	22	22	0	4	-
.net	21127	21,268	422	4114	141
.org	21565	21,738	386	4225	173
.parliament	7	7	0	7	-
.school	2933	2,940	27	1173	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>374099</b>	<b>377,341</b>	<b>8,211</b>	<b>72,038</b>	<b>3,242</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 ::**

### **Satisfaction Survey**

Thanks to all of you that took part in our biennial satisfaction survey, which has had a record number of responses. At the time of printing the prize winners have not been notified but we will provide details in a future newsletter. Thank you also for the many comments that you have made that can be shared with us.

We will be looking now at what further improvements we can make and how to follow up on the suggestions given.

### **Office Move**

With the lease on our old premises expiring we have moved to new premises just around the corner along with the rest of the InternetNZ group. Our new offices are two thirds the size, cheaper, better serviced and designed to support a closer working relationship amongst the group. The new address is

Level 9  
Grand Arcade Tower  
16 Willis Street  
Wellington

If you are in the area and would like to meet us then please give us a call or drop us an email, our number remains the same and is given below.

### **Conferences**

We are also happy to meet in person at any of the conferences we occasionally attend. In the next few months, a number of us will be at linux.conf.au in Wellington, our CEO, Jay Daley, and CTO, Dave Baker will be at the APTLD/APNIC/APRICOT meeting in March in Kuala Lumpur and Jay will be at the ICANN meeting in March in Nairobi.

If you would like to meet us at any of these events then please drop us a line.

### **Project Programme**

This month saw the completion of a major upgrade of the SRS and DNS infrastructure. The hardware and operating system at our primary site in Albany has been successfully updated. In the first few days of running on the new platform, the performance of the SRS is showing signs of improvement in the transaction response times. The full impact of the upgrade should be seen in the response time statistics published next month.

We are currently planning our project programme for next year, which will incorporate feedback from the satisfaction survey, but if you have any other suggestions then please let us know.

### **Availability**

Availability %	SLA	August	September	October
<b>SRS</b>	99.90	99.58	99.98	100
<b>Whois</b>	99.90	99.58	100	100
<b>DNS</b>	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	August	September	October
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.04	0.04	0.05
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.37	0.33	0.33
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.38	0.37	0.39
Get Message	≤0.5	0.04	0.05	0.05
Whois	≤0.5	0.10	0.09	0.09
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	2,661	3,053	3225
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	367	481	515
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.14	0.12	0.12

## Server DNS % Availability

	August	September	October
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 October 2009

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

## Scheduled Outages during October 2009

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Scheduled	4 hours
Whois Scheduled	4 hours

## **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.

## **SRS Releases / Planned Scheduled Outages**

SRS 3.06 was released in the maintenance window at the end of November. In this release we made a change to the validation rules for DNS 'Glue Records'. Previously if you needed 'Glue Records' you had to have IPv4 and/or IPv6 addresses. With this change two name servers are still required but you can have either IPv4 or IPv6 addresses or combination of the two.

For more information check <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](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**

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](mailto:unsubscribe@dnc.org.nz).