

.nz NEWSLETTER – October 2011

:: Domain Name Commission ::

NZRS as a gTLD registrar

At a previous meeting of the Registrar Advisory Group (RAG) some registrars suggested that there would be value to them if NZRS was a gTLD registrar as that would enable registrars to have a seamless interface to register both .nz and gTLD domain names. Some of the reasons raised for their interest in this were issues they faced in dealing with some overseas registrars and the systems operated in the gTLD space.

There has been some discussion between NZRS and DNCL around this topic since that RAG meeting. There is some thought that there could be value to New Zealand registrants in offering such a service as we would seek to operate any gTLD registrar services to the same standards as .nz, protecting the rights of registrants.

It is considered timely to go back to registrars and seek their views as to whether there would be any interest in NZRS looking into ICANN registrar accreditation and offering registration services for .nz authorised registrars to use. Please note that the only proposal NZRS might consider is for NZRS to become a wholesale gTLDs registrar that only accepts .nz registrars as customers. It would not be appropriate for NZRS to be a retail registrar offering general registration services to registrants, so this option will not be considered.

If there is interest expressed then work will be done on evaluating the costs, risks and benefits of such a service. The community will be consulted should any work be done on this initiative.

Please send any comments you have on this to Jay Daley, the NZRS Chief Executive, at jay@nzrs.net.nz, copied to policies@dnc.org.nz. Comments can be sent at any time but it would be useful to have them by the end of November 2011 so we can incorporate these into our planning for next year.

.nz Policy Reviews - ZTP and RMC

As part of the ongoing review of .nz policies, two policies are now being reviewed.

The policies being reviewed are the Zone Transfer Policy and the Registering, Managing and Cancelling Domain Names Policy.

The submission period for both policies ended on Monday 3 October 2011. The submission received for the Registering, Managing and Cancelling Domain Names Policy is published at <http://dnc.org.nz/story/nz-policy-reviews-ztp-and-rmc>

Statistics

In September, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 453,180 to 456,744, a net increase of 3,564.

Figures as at 30 September 2011:

	<i>Active names as at 1 September</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 September</i>	<i>New registrations September</i>	<i>Renewals September</i>	<i>Net Growth</i>
.ac	1,864	1,875	38	346	11
.co	392,913	396,018	8358	63447	3105
.cri	13	13	0	1	0
.geek	1,075	1,086	31	235	11
.gen	1,358	1,370	24	276	12
.govt	1,091	1,097	6	1059	6
.health	139	141	2	124	2
.iwi	76	76	0	17	0
.maori	636	642	15	118	6
.mil	33	33	0	8	0
.net	25,312	25,526	567	3890	214
.org	25,511	25,689	461	3882	178
.parliament	8	8	0	8	0
.school	3,151	3,170	28	1281	19
TOTAL	453,180	456,744	9,530	74,692	3,564

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 ::

DNSSEC

The Production Readiness testing of DNSSEC has been completed and we are ready to begin deployment. Lateral Security has provided us with the Key Generation Procedure auditing report, detecting only minor issues. Changes have been made to resolve these issues. The report will soon be published on our website.

Detailed below are the dates for deployment of DNSSEC for the .nz zone.

Date	Task	Description
22-May-11	SRS began accepting DS records	Both SRS and EPP interfaces are capable of receiving DS records for the third level domains. Those records won't be published until the corresponding second level domain is signed
18-Nov-11	Key Generation	The keys needed to sign the .nz zone and the second level zones will be generated according to procedure. This will be a once-a-

		year task.
21-Nov-11	signed .nz zone is published with obscured keys	The .nz nameservers will start serving a signed version of the .nz zone, but with the DNSKEY records obfuscated to prevent their use as trust anchors.
Nov-11	Deployment results are analyzed and decision to submit DS record to the root is taken	Over the next two weeks, we will be analyzing the behaviour of the system while serving a signed zone. This will enable us to determine if it's safe to proceed with the DNSSEC deployment schedule.
9-Dec-11	DNSKEY records for .nz are unobscured	The obfuscation of DNSKEY records in the .nz zone will be reverted, making their real content visible in the zone. It's not advisable to use them as trust anchors.
9-Dec-11	DS records for .nz are submitted to the root	NZRS requests a change to the Root Zone Management to add the DS records for the .nz zone.
16-Dec-11	.nz DS records are published in the root zone	If all the checks pass, the Root Zone Management should make the changes requested visible around this date

The most recent version of the DNSSEC Practice Statement for .nz, is [Version 1.2](#). No further issues have been raised by the community.

If you have any questions, please contact Dave or Sebastian on support@nzrs.net.nz

EPP

We have deployed a functioning version of the SRS EPP interface to the SRS production system.

If there are any registrars that would like to use the EPP interface on the test or production system then please contact Dave or Pearl on support@nzrs.net.nz

RIK Deprecation Announcements

With the 5.16 release of the RIK, the following will be removed from the RIK:

RIK Libs:

SRS/NativeData/*.pm	SRS/XML/LibXML.pm
SRS/Client/XMLTranslator.pm	SRS/Action.pm
SRS/Common/Data/Error.pm	SRS/AutoRestart.pm
SRS/Common/Data/ErrorInfo.pm	SRS/Error.pm
SRS/Common/Data/ValidPostalCCs.pm	SRS/Logger.pm
SRS/Error/Repository.pm	SRS/LogMessageGenerator.pm
SRS/Logger/Apache.pm	SRS/NativeData.pm
SRS/Logger/Stream.pm	SRS/UDAI.pm
	SRS/XML.pm

CPAN libs:

Date::Calc	Sys::Syslog
Devel::StackTrace	List::MoreUtils

Command Line Clients:

SRSCliant (In favour of SRSCliant2)

For more information please refer to the document [RIK changes 5.09](#)

RIK Redevelopment Project

The project to update the Registrar Information Kit (RIK) has been completed. SendJSON, sendXML and SRSCClient2 clients have been introduced and command-line options standardised.

The most recent version of the RIK is 5.15, released 29th September, with minor changes.

Detailed information available at: <http://nzrs.net.nz/notices/updates>

Availability

Availability %	SLA	July 11	Aug 11	Sept 11
SRS	99.90	99.99	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	July 11	Aug 11	Sept 11
Domain Details Query	≤0.5	0.02	0.01	0.02
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.20	0.21	0.21
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.25	0.25	0.24
Get Message	≤0.5	0.03	0.03	0.03
Whois	≤0.5	0.06	0.05	0.05
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	8,527	8,148	8693
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	962	1,006	945
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.5	0.10	0.10	0.10

Server DNS % Availability

	July 11	Aug 11	Sept 11
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 September 2011

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

Scheduled Outages during September 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

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