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Information

June 5, 2015

By Email

ICANN
To the attention of:

Members of the ICANN Board
and

Mr Akram Atallah,
President, Global Domains Division

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536

Dear Members of the ICANN Board of Directors and Mr Atallah,

Re: Recent Data Exposure Issues in the New gTLD Applicant and GDD portals

I am writing to you on behalf of Travel Reservations SRL (formerly, Despegar Online SRL), Donuts Inc. (and its subsidiary applicant Spring McCook, LLC), Famous Four Media Limited (and its subsidiary applicant dot Hotel Limited), Fegistry LLC, Minds+Machines Group Limited (formerly, Top Level Domain Holdings Limited), and Radix FZC (and its subsidiary applicant DotHotel Inc.).

My clients are all applicants for the .HOTEL gTLD and express their deep concern about a recent data exposure issue that occurred in the New gTLD Applicant and GDD portals. Specifically, the user credentials of one person (D. Krischenowski) were used to conduct over 60 searches that resulted in over 200 unauthorized access incidents across an unknown number of TLDs. In this way, sensitive and confidential business information concerning several of the .HOTEL applicants was obtained. This matter is of direct concern to my clients; the situation is all the more worrying as D. Krischenowski, the holder of the user credentials, is associated with competing TLD applicants, including a competing applicant for .HOTEL, HOTEL Top-Level-Domain s.a.r.l. ('HOTEL sarl'), to which priority status has been granted and which forms the subject of discussion in a pending Independent Review Process.

The limited information that has so far become available shows that the user was deliberately looking for sensitive and confidential business information concerning competing applicants.

Allocating a critical Internet resource to an applicant associated with fraudulent action is a serious risk to the public interest that requires appropriate action by ICANN.

My clients request full information concerning this data exposure issue and the actions that have been taken by ICANN to limit damages for the affected parties. In particular, I would ask you to provide me with the following information:

- What was the precise nature of the security issue?
- When did the security issue occur?
- How could the security issue occur?
- How could the security issue have been avoided?
- How was the security issue discovered?
- Who raised the security issue?
- How did the security issue come to ICANN's attention?
- What actions did ICANN take after being informed of the security issue?
- How does ICANN enforce the portal's terms and conditions in case of obvious breach?
- What are the concrete actions that ICANN undertook vis-à-vis D. Krischenowski?

Please also send me a copy of the terms and conditions to which D. Krischenowski agreed and of the correspondence with D. Krischenowski and his legal counsel. Needless to say that a mere statement by a legal counsel denying improper or unlawful action is an insufficient ground for ICANN to refrain from taking further action.

My clients ask for full transparency and appropriate measures by ICANN.

We appreciate your attention to and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Flip Petillion