

IDN-OSS Project

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IDN and NeuLevel

- NeuLevel has recognized the need for application plug-ins to realize the benefit of IDN work by any registry
 - Web browsers, email clients, IM, etc.
- Need for a project to implement plug-ins that is
 - Open source, external to NeuLevel
 - Community controlled and developed
 - Standards compliant, not registry-specific

Chartering IDN-OSS

- NeuLevel collaboration with James Seng to begin IDN-OSS
 - Conceived at ICANN Montreal
 - Discussion between Richard Tindal and James Seng
- James Seng wrote business plan, kick-started the project.
- Advisory Council: Vint Cerf, Mark Davis, Martin Dürst, John Klensin, and Paul Hoffman
- Project is hosted by Internet Systems Consortium

IDN Open Source Software Project

- Goals
 - Develop open source, standards-compliant software to enable IDN functionality in applications
 - Target web browser initially – Internet Explorer
 - Provides a bridge until IDN functionality is native to applications
- Timeline
 - Summer 2003: Project begins
 - Fall 2003: ISC begins hosting project
 - Spring 2004: First IE plug-in released
 - Summer 2004: Internal code improvements

IDN-OSS Products

- IDNTool
 - Performs IDNA ToASCII and ToUnicode operations.
 - Useful for developers, domain administrators, etc.
 - Uses JPNIC idnkit library internally
- Plug-in for Internet Explorer
 - Allows users to navigate using IDN URLs – by typing into address bar or clicking on links.
 - New name: ***echIDNA***
 - Uses JPNIC idnkit library internally
- Both products released under BSD License

IDN-OSS echIDNA Status

- Basic feature - 75% complete
- Planned features:
 - Less Punycode-leakage
 - UI improvements
 - Outlook Express support
 - Outlook support
 - Support for programs that embed the IE browser engine within it, e.g., WinAmp, Windows Media Player
 - Auto update

IDN-OSS What's Next

- Expect
 - A more stable echIDNA
 - CVS repository
 - Shorter release cycle
 - Outlook & Outlook Express plug-in
 - Web site revamp (section for end users)

Joining the IDN-OSS Effort

- Project is open to all
- Get involved by:
 - Funding the project
 - Testing / patching the software
 - Documentation and translation
 - Feedback / Suggestions
 - Spreading the word
 - Design a Mascot (logo) for echIDNA

Contact details

Project web page: <http://idn.isc.org/>

Project convener: James Seng <james@seng.cc>

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THANK YOU!