AGP Limits Policy - Implementing GNSO Recommendations

Initial Staff Implementation Report

10 June 2009

Introduction

This initial report fulfills the ICANN commitment to update the GNSO Council on the implementation of its recommendations for the <u>Add Grace Period (AGP) Limits Policy</u>. ICANN is committed to analyzing and reporting on the effects of the Policy to the GNSO at six-month intervals for two years after its implementation and the first report is due by 17 June 2009. The purpose of these reports is "to allow the GNSO to determine when, if ever, these recommendations and any ensuing policy require additional clarification or attention based on the results of the reports prepared by ICANN Staff."

Background

The AGP Limits Policy, an ICANN Consensus Policy, is the result of the GNSO Policy Development Process on Domain Tasting. This process concluded on 17 April 2008, with approval "by super majority vote a motion to discourage use of the "add grace period" (AGP), where domains can be returned within five days without cost, for domain tasting." The GNSO motion and its recommendations were adopted by the ICANN Board on 26 June 2008.

ICANN announced this new Policy and its implementation on 17 December 2008 after consultations with gTLD registries and ICANN-accredited registrars, the constituencies affected by the Policy. The advisory announced that implementation of the Policy would occur as soon as possible and no later than 31 March 2009.

All TLDs Currently in Compliance

All TLD operators that are required to comply with the Policy have done so, and details of their implementation are provided in Appendix A. For TLD operators that implemented the Policy by 1 April 2009 and have submitted their monthly registry report for that period, their report now contains the following additional reporting elements:

¹ This information from the 25 April 2008 GNSO Council Report to the Board is viewable at http://gnso.icann.org/issues/domain-tasting/domain-tasting-board-report-gnso-council-25apr08.pdf.

² Ibid

- Number of exemption requests
- Number of exemptions granted
- Number of names affected by granted exemption requests
- Number of AGP deletes (domains-deleted-grace) if this information is not currently defined in the operator's monthly reporting requirement

Registry and registrar specific information cannot be provided to the public or the GNSO community until three months after the latest applicable reporting period and therefore specific data will not be available until the next report.

Future ICANN Reporting Expectations

The next report is due to the GNSO by 17 December 2009, and will cover the period 17 December 2008 through 31 August 2009. The December 2009 report is planned to include the following information:

- Number of net new registrations and AGP deletes, on an aggregate basis for all Registrars combined, for each month from each Operator.
- A review of all exemption requests submitted during the reporting period and the Operator response (approval or denial) to each request and the rationale for that action.
- The names of Registrars that have reoccurring requests for special exemptions and the reasons for those exemptions.
- A Staff summary and analysis of observations of unexpected behaviors by Operators and/or Registrars that are perceived to be a result of the implementation of the new Policy.

Appendix A – Registry Implementation Schedule

TLD	Operator	Implementation Status
.AERO	Societe Internationale de Telecommunications Aeronautiques SC	Effective 1 May 2009; requested a one-month extension
.ASIA	DotAsia Organization	Effective 1 May 2009; requested a one-month extension
.BIZ	NeuStar, Inc.	Effective 1 June 2008 following 27 March 2008 Board approval of RSEP request on AGP Modifications
.CAT	Fundacio puntCAT	Effective 1 April 2009
.COM	VeriSign, Inc.	Effective 1 April 2009
.COOP	DotCooperation LLC	Effective 1 April 2009
.INFO	Afilias Limited	Effective 1 April 2009
.JOBS	Employ Media LLC	Effective 1 April 2009
.MOBI	mTLD Top Level Domain Ltd	Effective 1 May 2009; requested a one-month extension
.MUSEUM	Museum Domain Management Association International	Does not offer AGP
.NAME	VeriSign Information Services, Inc.	Effective 1 April 2009
.NET	VeriSign, Inc.	Effective 1 April 2009
.ORG	Public Interest Registry	Effective 1 April 2009
.PRO	Registry Services Corporation	Effective 1 April 2009
.TEL	Telnic Ltd.	Effective 1 March 2009
.TRAVEL	Tralliance Registry Management Company, LLC.	Effective 1 April 2009