

Letter of Motivation
Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review
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SSAC / AC member

I volunteer to serve on the “Security, Stability and Resiliency of the DNS Review” Team to contribute to ICANN’s continued success.

My day job is CEO of Dynamic Network Service, Inc., a United States company and a medium-sized ICANN-accredited registrar. However, we are mostly a DNS provider, serving millions of individuals/small-businesses, thousands of enterprise customers, and over a dozen TLDs. More than half of our customers are outside of the United States. We operate several of the world’s largest unicast and anycast authoritative and recursive DNS networks, having built each from the ground up. None of our networks have had outages or SLA events since their inception, the earliest of which created in 2001. We have been exposed to myriad of issues present when running a large network: abuse, attacks, natural security interests, and law enforcement interests. This background is a microcosm of the threats of the Internet.

Over the past decade, I have served in a number of technical and business roles both at the company and in industry organizations. My most relevant experience comes from evaluating, running, and improving DNS networks from the physical to application layers and constantly asking: how can they fail and how to avoid or mitigate those failures. This work has ranged from the early days of physical infrastructure selection and server installation by hand to network architecture and crafting policies to oversee network operations. I’ve participated or completed security and risk mitigation regimes like PCI Compliance for data security, SAS 70 for process management, and TRUSTe for data privacy. I’ve participated in the IETF standards process through co-authoring a standards draft. This background has given me an extensive look at how to run, design, manage, and evaluate interoperable networks that don’t fail.

Since my first ICANN meeting in 2004, I have been awed and excited by the power of collaboration within the community. I have been a member of SSAC since 2008 and currently co-chairing the GNSO/SSAC International Registration Data Working Group. Additionally, I have served on the Root Scaling Study Team steering committee, represented Dyn Inc. at the Registrar’s Stakeholder’s Group, contributed to several SSAC reports, and participated in the GNSO Registration Abuse Policies Working Group. I do this to work with some of the most talented people in the world, share what I have learned, and collaborate on some of the most important work to strengthen the Internet.

Outside of this industry experience, I serve as a trustee of the Community College System of New Hampshire, made up of seven colleges, thousands of staff and faculty, and over 10,000 students. In this capacity, I have overseen the transition of the System from direct state control to self-governance, additionally serving on the governance committee. I believe this experience is particularly applicable to the ICANN multi-stakeholder model as it continues to establish its self-governance.

Dyn Inc.’s success has allowed me to give back and contribute to ICANN. Ensuring security, stability, and resiliency of the DNS is at the core of ICANN’s mission and my skillset is unique to making that mission more successful.