



Syndicat de la Librairie Française

Le président

Dr. Steve Crocker, Chairman of the board
Mr. Cherine Chalaby, chair of the new gTLD Committee
Mrs. Karen Lentz, Business, research and content
ICANN
12025 Waterfront drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094

Paris, 04 February 2013

Re: Objection to closed gTLDs

Dear Mrs. Lentz,
Dear Dr. Crocker, Dear Mr. Chalaby,

The SLF (Syndicat de la Librairie Française), is the main Booksellers Association in France with more than 650 independent bookshops in membership, representing 14 000 booksellers & employees.

Considering the application process launched by ICANN for granting exclusive closed gTLDs, we would like to draw ICANN members' attention on the disastrous impact this decision would have on the development of new online business models for the delivery of cultural services, as such as e-books. It is of paramount importance that both users and bookselling businesses are able to operate and compete on a level playing field. The exclusivity granted to the winning applicant of a generic gTLD ".book" or ".books" would de facto strengthen the position of the biggest bidder to have sole use of the GTLD in the book industry. It would then be anti-competitive, very much discourage innovation and new entrants and be detrimental to the whole of the book industry.

The SLF supports the position of EIBF (European & International Booksellers Federation) and is therefore asking ICANN not to offer for sale a generic gTLD for .book and other similar words in general usage .

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. De Monchalin', written in a cursive style.

Yours Sincerely
Matthieu De Monchalin
President