From: Samantha Demetriou
Sent: Monday, June 14, 2021
To: Göran Marby, Maarten Botterman
Subject: DNS Abuse Update: Framework on DGAs Associated with Malware and Botnets

Dear Göran and Maarten,

I hope this email finds you both well. I am writing to inform you about the Registries Stakeholder Group’s (RySG) recent publication of a Framework on Domain Generating Algorithms (DGAs) Associated with Malware and Botnets [rysg.info], which was jointly drafted by the RySG’s DNS Abuse Working Group and the GAC’s Public Safety Working Group (PSWG).

This Framework is designed to assist both law enforcement agencies and Registry Operators to better understand the unique challenges involved with mitigating malware and botnets associated with DGAs. The Framework informs Registry Operators how DGAs can be utilized by malicious actors to generate domain names that support and spread malware and botnets at a large scale, as well as the challenges associated with mitigating this threat. Most importantly, the Framework also serves as: (i) a resource for how Registry Operators can mitigate the DNS Abuse that results from such DGAs; and (ii) a resource for law enforcement to make their requests involving DGAs more implementable.

The publication of this Framework is an important achievement by the RySG’s DNS Abuse Working Group that will help equip Registry Operators to address a harmful and impactful form of DNS Abuse. This Framework was the result of very effective collaboration between the Working Group, the PSWG, and members of ICANN Org’s GDS and OCTO teams. This effort is a great example of the progress that can be achieved on DNS Abuse mitigation when members of the ICANN community and the Org come together, and the RySG’s DNS Abuse Working Group plans to continue to pursue similar collaborations in the future.

On behalf of the Working Group, I’d like to express our appreciation to our colleagues in the PSWG for their exceptional joint efforts on this document and for the input and support we received from ICANN Org staff members on this Framework. We look forward to continuing to work together.

Sincerely,
Samantha Demetriou
RySG Chair

cc:
PSWG Chairs Laureen Kapin, Cathrin Bauer-Bulst and Chris Lewis-Evans
RySG DNS Abuse Working Group Co-Chairs Brian Cimbolic and Jim Galvin
Becky Burr