

Cherine Chalaby, Chair (ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee NGPC)
Patrik Fältström, Chair (Security and Stability Advisory Committee SSAC)
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300
Los Angeles, CA 90094-2536
USA

Berlin, den 11. August 2013

RE: Addressing the Consequences of Name Collisions

Dear Cherine,
Dear Patrik,

since consequences of the latest publications on name collisions are likely to have a tremendous economic impact on our .berlin gTLD application, we would like you to answer some questions regarding the study “Name Collision in the DNS”, the accompanying staff recommendation paper “New gTLD Collision Risk Management”, and the panel that reviewed DNS Stability of applied-for gTLD strings. The Applicant Guidebook states in respect to the DNS Stability Review:

2.2.1.3 DNS Stability Review

This review determines whether an applied-for gTLD string might cause instability to the DNS. In all cases, this will involve a review for conformance with technical and other requirements for gTLD strings (labels). In some exceptional cases, an extended review may be necessary to investigate possible technical stability problems with the applied-for gTLD string.

Note: All applicants should recognize issues surrounding invalid TLD queries at the root level of the DNS. Any new TLD registry operator may experience unanticipated queries, and some TLDs may experience a non-trivial load of unanticipated queries. For more information, see the Security and Stability Advisory Committee (SSAC)’s report on this topic at <http://www.icann.org/en/committees/security/sac045.pdf>. Some publicly available statistics are also available at <http://stats.l.root-servers.org/>.

ICANN will take steps to alert applicants of the issues raised in SAC045, and encourage the applicant to prepare to minimize the possibility of operational difficulties that would pose a stability or availability problem for its registrants and users. However, this notice is merely an advisory to applicants and is not part of the evaluation, unless the string raises significant security or stability issues as described in the following section.

The questions we have to you fall in 2 categories that are focused on 1) the DNS Stability Review panel and the 2) the DNS Name Collision:

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1) Questions regarding the DNS Stability Review panel

- a. Who has selected the panel for the DNS Stability Review and which persons performed the review?
- b. Which criteria were used to select the panel members?
- c. Which criteria were used for the DNS Stability assessment?
- d. Who did the briefing of the persons performing the DNS Stability Review?
- e. Which information was included in the briefing documents?
- f. What did a typical result of a DNS Stability Review look like?
- g. Have root server statistics been included in the review?
- h. With regard to our application for .berlin (1-902-9993), what was the specific result of the DNS Stability Review Panel for that string?

2) Questions regarding the DNS Name Collision study and ICANN staff recommendations

- a. Have similar studies regarding the DNS Name Collision performed before or after the introduction of new gTLDs in the 2000 and 2004 application rounds. If yes, what were the results? If no, have any incidences on name collisions and/or their consequences been reported to ICANN?
- b. It is known that the existing over 300 ccTLDs and gTLDs and 240 million SLDs face the same type of name collisions every day that are expected also for the about 1,200 new gTLDs and up to 50 million SLDs expected under them. Is this correct? Are there any statistics and reports on name collision available in regard to existing ccTLDs and gTLDs?
- c. Has Verisign's patent related to non-existing domain names (NXD) and web services like <http://domainscore.verisign-grs.com/> played any role in the DNS Name Collision study?

We appreciate to receive answers to our question no later than 20th August 2013.

Kind regards,



Dirk Krischenowski
Managing Director

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