



TRANSMITTED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL, FACSIMILE AND COURIER

14 September 2012

Mr. Laurent Escart
AB CONNECT SARL (IANA ID# 1378)
2, avenue des Deportes de la Resistance
Aix-en-Provence 13100
France

E-mail: laurent@hosteur.com
Fax Number: + 33 4 42294418

**RE: NOTICE OF BREACH OF REGISTRAR ACCREDITATION AGREEMENT
AND IMPENDING REGISTRAR ACCREDITATION AGREEMENT
NON-RENEWAL**

Dear Mr. Escart:

Please be advised that as of 14 September 2012, AB CONNECT SARL ("AB Connect") is in breach of its Registrar Accreditation Agreement ("RAA") with the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN") dated 20 September 2007 ("RAA"). This breach results from:

- Repeated failure to escrow gTLD registration data pursuant to Section 3.6 of the RAA.

ICANN sent AB Connect six compliance notices in 2012 regarding its repeated failure to comply with ICANN's data escrow requirements, which resulted in a notice of breach being issued to AB Connect on 30 July 2012
<http://www.icann.org/en/news/correspondence/burnette-to-escart-30jul12-en>.

Although AB Connect cured this breach on 23 August 2012, by escrowing gTLD registration data with Iron Mountain Intellectual Property Management, Inc. ("Iron Mountain"), AB Connect missed the next two scheduled escrow deposits on 30 August 2012 and 6 September 2012. Please refer to the attachment for details regarding ICANN's effort to bring AB Connect into compliance with Section 3.6 of the RAA.

Washington, DC	1101 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 930	Washington, DC 20005	USA	T +1 202 570 7240	F +1 202 789 0104
Los Angeles	12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300	Los Angeles, CA 90994	USA	T +1 310 823 9358	F +1 310 823 8649
Brussels	6 Rond Point Schuman, Bt. 5	B-1040 Brussels	BELGIUM	T +32 2 234 7870	F +32 2 234 7848
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ICANN requests that AB Connect cure this breach before the expiration of its RAA on 19 September 2012, by taking the following actions:

- Deposit gTLD registration data on a weekly basis to Iron Mountain and ensure the deposits meet the required specifications.

If AB Connect fails to cure this breach before 19 September 2012, ICANN will not renew AB Connect's RAA.

In the event that AB Connect deposits registration data before 19 September 2012 and the RAA is renewed, ICANN will continue to monitor AB Connect's data escrow deposit practices for the next six months, until 13 March 2013, to ensure that AB Connect complies with the requirements of Section 3.6 of the RAA. If AB Connect fails to comply with the requirements of Section 3.6 of the RAA over the next six months, this letter shall serve as ICANN's notice of breach and ICANN may immediately commence all escalated compliance options available to it under the terms of the RAA, including RAA termination.

If you have questions or require assistance, please contact Stacy Burnette at stacy.burnette@icann.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M Serad".

Maguy Serad
Vice President
Contractual Compliance

Cc: John O. Jeffrey, General Counsel and Secretary
Tim Cole, Senior Director, Registrar Relations
Pam Little, Senior Director, Asia Pacific
Stacy Burnette, Director, Contractual Compliance



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ATTACHMENT

Chronology:

Date of Notice	Deadline for Response	Details
14 Mar 12	21 Mar 12	ICANN sent first compliance notice to primary contact laurent@hosteur.com requesting registrar deposit data with Iron Mountain, the last deposit having been on 15 February 2012. There was no resolution and registrar did not contact ICANN.
26 Mar 12	30 Mar 12	ICANN sent second compliance notice to primary contact laurent@hosteur.com requesting registrar to deposit data with Iron Mountain. No resolution or contact from registrar.
29 Mar 12		ICANN staff called the primary contact office number, but no answer. ICANN staff also called Mr. Escart's mobile at (REDACTED) and left a message. Mr. Escart sent email to his assistant, Maria Dimova, cc'ing ICANN staff, requesting that Maria handle the issue.
30 Mar 12	5 Apr 12	ICANN staff sent Maria Dimova copies of ICANN's compliance notices and requested that she resolve the issue by 5 April 2012.

Date of Notice	Deadline for Response	Details
		There was no reply and still no data deposited.
10 Apr 12	16 Apr 12	<p>ICANN sent third compliance notice to primary contact laurent@hosteur.com requesting that registrar deposit data.</p> <p>Resolved 17 April. Data deposited.</p>
27 Jun 12	4 Jul 12	<p>ICANN sent two first compliance notices to primary contact laurent@hosteur.com requesting registrar to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resolve invalid deposit issue; and 2. Resolve usage of incorrect logo issue. <p>No resolution of either issue, nor did registrar contact ICANN about these issues.</p>
5 Jul 12	11 Jul 12	<p>ICANN sent second compliance notices to primary contact laurent@hosteur.com requesting registrar to resolve invalid deposit issue and resolve usage of incorrect logo issue. No resolution on either issue, nor was there any contact from the registrar.</p>
12 Jul 12	13 Jul 12	<p>Two ICANN staff members contacted registrar's primary contact number, +33 4 27042805. The calls were not answered and there was no availability to leave a voice message.</p> <p>ICANN staff contacted secondary contact</p>

Date of Notice	Deadline for Response	Details
		Jean-Daniel Guillain at +33 6 12722082 who advised ICANN staff that he sent the second and third compliance notices to AB Connect's IT department to resolve.
12 Jul 12	19 Jul 12	ICANN sent third compliance notice to primary contact laurent@hosteur.com requesting registrar to resolve invalid deposit issue and resolve usage of incorrect logo issue. Registrar resolved the usage of incorrect logo issue. However, registrar has not resolved the invalid deposit issue, nor has Compliance, as at 19 July 2012, received any communication from registrar to advise that they have/or will resolve the issue.
30 Jul 12		ICANN sent notice of breach to registrar based on registrar's failure to escrow gTLD registration data as required by Section 3.6 of the RAA and failure to timely pay accreditation fees.
24 Aug 12		AB Connect cured outstanding breaches.
14 Sep 12		Registrar is in breach of Section 3.6 of the RAA due to its failure to timely escrow gTLD registration data.