CENTR Meeting
Pisa
12-10-99

Louis Touton
Andrew McLaughlin
The Basic Bargain

ICANN =
Internationalization of Policy Functions for DNS and IP Addressing systems +
Private Sector (Non-governmental) Management
Status Quo Ante

Most Internet DNS and IP Address coordination functions performed by, or on behalf of, the US government

- Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
  - Information Sciences Institute (ISI) of University of Southern California
  - Stanford Research Institute (SRI)
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
  - IBM, MCI, and Merit
  - AT&T, General Atomics, Network Solutions, Inc.
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- US Department of Energy
Need for Change

- **Globalization** of Internet
- **Commercialization** of Internet
- Need for **accountability**
- Need for more **formalized management structure**
- Dissatisfaction with **lack of competition**
- Trademark/domain name **conflicts**
White Paper Principles

White Paper: new policy/management structure must promote 4 goals:

- Stability
- Competition
- Private, bottom-up coordination
- Representation
White Paper Implementation

- Internet community to form non-profit corporation meeting White Paper’s 4 criteria
- US Government (through Commerce Department) to transition centralized coordination functions
- Amendment of Network Solutions agreement to require competitive registrars in gTLD registries
- WIPO to recommend solutions for trademark/domain-name dilemma
Status of Transition from USG

• November 25, 1998 - ICANN recognized in MoU
• June, 1999 - Cooperative agreement among ICANN, US Government, root server operators
• November 10, 1999
  – ICANN and Network Solutions sign gTLD registry and registrar agreements
  – DoC transfers root authority over gTLDs to ICANN
• 2Q 2000 - Root server operator agreements
• September 30, 2000 - Target date for ICANN to settle all registry/registrar/root server relationships
So what does ICANN do?

Coordinates policies relating to the unique assignment of:

- Internet domain names (.com, .net, .fi, etc.)
- Numerical IP Address (192.0.34.34)
- Protocol Port and Parameter Numbers

Coordinates the Internet’s Root Server System
“...[O]verall policy guidance and control of the TLDs and the Internet root server system should be vested in a single organization that is representative of Internet users around the globe.”

[63 Fed. Reg. 31741, 31749 (June 10, 1998)]
Structure of ICANN
ICANN Staff

Current Staff:

- Interim President and CEO (Mike Roberts)
- Vice President/General Counsel (Louis Touton)
- CFO/Policy Director (Andrew McLaughlin)
- IANA staff (2.5 full-time)
  - Joyce Reynolds - Publications/RFC Editor
  - Josh Elliott - IANA
  - Suzanne Woolf - Network, Technical Operations, Root Server coordination
Geographic and Cultural Diversity

- Geographically diverse Board of Directors
  - Directors elected by Supporting Organizations
    - 4-Europe
    - 3-North America
    - 1- Latin America
    - 1-Asia/Pacific
  - At Large Directors - current
    - 4-North America
    - 3 Europe
    - 2-Asia Pacific
  - At Large Directors - future
    - 1 from each of 5 regions + 4 elected globally (in stages)
Geographic and Cultural Diversity

- Geographically diverse Supporting Organization councils
- Geographically diverse ICANN meetings
  - Singapore
  - Berlin
  - Santiago
  - Los Angeles
  - 2000 meetings: Africa, Japan, Europe
- Future efforts: Multiple languages; staff diversity
DNS Statistics

- Total Domain Names Worldwide: 8,196,117
  - .com - 4,967,688
  - .net - 683,652
  - .org - 474,230
  - ccTLDs - 2,064,229

- Growth Rate: 40,000 new registrations per week!
  - % of non-us registrations in gTLDs on the rise

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