Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

2 characters ASCII labels

Technical description of Proposed Service:

Dot Global Domain Registry Ltd, Registry Operator of the .GLOBAL top level domain, propose an amendment to its Registry Agreement with ICANN, allowing for the immediate release of all two-character ASCII labels, including two character numbers and combinations of numbers and letters, that do not appear on the ISO 31661-1 alpha-2 list and for which there is no corresponding country-code operator.

Consultation

Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?:

Not Applicable

a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?:

Not Applicable

b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:

Consultations with registries and registrars were not undertaken. However, this service request has been submitted by many other registries and we would like to associate this request with their requests to release two character labels.

c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:
d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

We have had a number of potential registrants who have contacted ourselves (registry operator) and our accredited registrars, seeking to register two-character domain names. This suggests a high demand from potential registrants and end users for the release of such 2-character labels.


e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

Dot Global Domain Registry Ltd endorses the introduction of this service, along with the other registries that have previously requested this service. This service has been requested by numerous prospective partners and registrants. We are therefore of the opinion that this is a service that would benefit the internet at large.

f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were(or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?:

By the nature of this request, there should not be an objection to the release of these two-character labels given that these labels do not appear on the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 list and therefore do not correspond to a government or country-code operator.

Timeline

Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service:

As soon as possible after the approval of this request.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

These two-character labels will be offered in the same manner as all other domain names. Dot Global plan to promote competition by making certain labels available through auction, while others may be obtained through standard registrar
channels.

In addition, Dot Global Domain Registry Ltd also intend to reserve some of these labels for their own use.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

Afilias, the registry services provider for .GLOBAL, as well as for other TLDs, has conducted all necessary testing and will continue to ensure appropriate implementation.

Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant:

Not applicable.

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

Registry Agreement Specification 5, Section 2

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN:

We do not anticipate any effect on the reporting of data to ICANN as all two-character domain names would be subject to the same reporting that greater-than-two-character domain names are subject to.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?:

We do not anticipate an effect on WHOIS reporting.

Contract Amendments

Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service:

Registry Agreement Specification 5, Section 2 should be amended to read as follows: Two-character labels. All two-character ASCII labels specified in the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 standard shall be withheld from registration or allocated to Registry Operator at the second level within the TLD. Such labels may not be activated in the DNS, and may not be released.
registration to any person or entity other than Registry Operator, provided that such two-character label strings may be released to the extent that Registry Operator reaches agreement with the related government and country-code manager of the string as specified in the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 standard. Upon conclusion of Registry Operator’s designation as operator of the registry for the TLD, all such labels that remain withheld from registration or allocated to Registry Operator shall be transferred as specified by ICANN. Registry Operator may self-allocate and renew such names without use of an ICANN accredited registrar, which will not be considered Transactions for purposes of Section 6.1 of the Agreement. For avoidance of doubt, all two-character ASCII labels that do not appear on the ISO 31661-1 alpha-2 list may be made available for registration or allocation to Registry Operator.

Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

Registrants and end users will benefit from the availability of these two-character ASCII labels. These labels are short and memorable and will add to consumer choice and competition in the new gTLD marketplace.

Competition

Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain:

The release of these two-character ASCII labels will enhance competition. It will provide registrants with the ability to register attractive names that will help them compete in the Internet marketplace. It also will help new registries to compete with incumbent TLDs.

How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?

The domain name market

What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?

The following registry operators currently offer or have applied to offer two-character domain name registrations at the second level: Afilias Limited (.info), NeuStar, Inc (.biz), RegistryPro, Ltd (.pro), Public Interest Registry (.org), DotAsia Organisation Ltd. (.asia), Telnic Ltd. (.tel), Fundacio puntCAT (.cat), Tralliance (.travel), DotCooperation LLC (.coop),
In view of your status as a registry operator, would the introduction of your proposed Registry Service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?:

*Not to our knowledge.*

Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed Registry Service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide?:

*Our registry services provider, Afilias Ltd will provide the technical ability to register these names.*

Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please describe the communications.:  

*Not applicable.*

Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).?:

*No*

**Security and Stability**

Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?:

*No*

Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems:
We are not aware of any effect to the throughput, response time, consistency, or coherence of responses to internet servers or end systems.

Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?:

No technical concerns have been raised to our knowledge.

Other Issues

Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service:

Intellectual property considerations raised by the service are already addressed by the established rights protection mechanisms (including the UDRP and URS).

Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?:

No

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

Not applicable.

Any other relevant information to include with this request:

No