Dear Registrar,

The ICANN organization would like to notify you of upcoming changes to the way Iron Mountain, an ICANN-designated Data Escrow Agent, will verify and report the status of your data escrow deposits to ICANN org.

Iron Mountain is currently developing the integration to the Registration Reporting Interfaces (RRI) to provide notice of received and missed registrar data escrow (RDE) deposits to ICANN org, pursuant to the Registrar Data Escrow Specifications. These updates are in response to registrar feedback and will provide further consistency across deposits, improving interoperability where deposits are needed in transfers. The development work is scheduled to be completed by the end of June 2021.

To be clear, the contractual requirements for registrar’s data escrow have not changed. However, ICANN org understands that Iron Mountain will update its deposit verification process based on the RRI Specification, to ensure deposits comply with the Registrar Data Escrow Specification. As a result, some registrars may be required to make adjustments to their data escrow deposit. ICANN org will provide registrars a six-month grace period (estimated for January 2022) to allow for proper testing and implementation.

During this grace period, Iron Mountain will continue to provide its data escrow deposit result notifications to registrars based on its current processes for verification and reporting and will add results based on its new development. This will allow registrars to make the necessary adjustments to their deposit, if any, before the new verification is fully implemented by Iron Mountain. ICANN will continue to keep registrars informed as Iron Mountain progresses with its implementation.

In addition, registrars will have the option to opt in to report their deposits in RRI. This access allows for real-time access to any verification issues reported to ICANN by Iron Mountain. Further information can be found at the Registrar Data Escrow Reporting FAQ.

Kind Regards,
ICANN GDD Accounts and Services Team