WHOIS – Data Elements – making a Difference

ICANN Carthage Meeting
October 2003
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Commercial and Business Users Perspectives on WHOIS

• Who we are
• Why WHOIS is important to Commercial and Business Users
• A real life example of day to day use of the WHOIS databases … and what data elements have been used….
Who are the Commercial and Business Users (BC)?

By charter, the BC encompasses a very disparate population of enterprises of all sizes, spread across all regions of the world. BC members are both very small companies and very large, as well as including a significant number of associations with very small to very large members.
How do Commercial and Business Users use WHOIS

- Network problems, spam, DDOS attacks/viruses, checking for availability of a possible new registration for a new service or product; dealing with conflicts between domain name registrations and trademarks, consumer protection issues; fraud problems, and in cooperation with Law Enforcement in other kinds of legal investigations.
A real “Case Example” of uses of data elements in WHOIS

• Many misunderstandings about who and how WHOIS is used.
• Lots of opinions. Few facts.
• Purpose of presentation today is to provide an illustration of a real situation involving WHOIS usage – gTLD WHOIS/RIR WHOIS.
Background to “the case”…

- Famous and well known brand
- .att
- Registered in many countries
- Domain names based on core brand
- Registered in generics, and in many ccTLDs
- Trusted brand; known for integrity and reliability.
The “case” – att-global.net

- Corporate Identity Theft
- Individual Identity Theft
- Consumer Fraud
- Trademark infringement
Resources – correct and complete data elements

Enforcement team – self help – WHOIS.

Accurate and complete WHOIS data elements for all contacts.
Thank you.

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