Whois Task Force III
(insert hollywood sequel joke here....)

Improving Accuracy of Collected Data
Members include:

- Sarah Deutsch (Commercial & Business Users Constituency)
- Ken Stubbs (gTLD Registry Constituency)
- Greg Ruth (Internet Service & Connectivity Providers Constituency)
- Fran Wellings (Non-commercial Users Constituency)
- Ross Rader (gTLD Registrar Constituency)
- Brian Darville, chair (Intellectual Property Constituency)
- Terry Clark (Intellectual Property Constituency)
- Kiyoshi Tsuru (Intellectual Property Constituency)
- Vittorio Bertolla (At Large Advisory Committee)
- Brian Cute, alternate (gTLD Registrar Constituency)

...plus other alternates and advisors as required.
Description of Work

The main issues associated with data quality include:

- verification of data at the time of registration
- ongoing maintenance of data during the period of registration
- protecting against deliberate submission of false information
Description of Work

• Collect information regarding current gTLD Registrars practices

• Collect information regarding current technologies and practices of online service providers

• Craft a “data verification” best practices document.

• Identify implementation issues
Interim Report of the Task Force: Summary of work thus far...

- Designed a series of surveys of Whois Data Accuracy practices targeted at:
  - ccTLDs registries
  - Registrars
  - online service providers
    - Financial institutions, telcos, online retail & ecommerce providers, cellular providers, internet service providers, certificate authorities, web hosting companies, internet industry associations, online content providers...many others
Survey Overview

- Surveys sought to discover;
  - Steps taken to verify the accuracy of data collected
  - Possible human resource implications
    - Extra or dedicated headcount?
  - Level of automation in use
  - At what stage is the data verified?
  - What steps are taken when inaccuracies are suspected?
  - Direct financial costs associated with verification
    - outsourcing arrangements
    - technology licenses
  - Overview of relevant local or regional laws with a bearing on the issues.
Interim Report of the Task Force: Summary of work thus far…

- Results:
  - Small number of results back from registrars
  - Still awaiting input from ccTLD managers via CENTR
  - Unexpected challenges related to OSPs
Challenges…

• the Task Force requested e-mail responses to the survey by February 16, 2004.
• only one response received as of February 25, 2004.
Challenges...

It turns out that there are privacy concerns related to the data we were seeking...
Another approach…

The data we seek exists within these four walls.

Getting at it requires us to be more creative with our approach.

Asking, Listening, Dialog…ing?

(And other bits of hard work!)
looking for a dialog on a new approach to obtaining the information that we seek.

i.e. do you know, or are you associated with a company that is in the position to provide us with the information that we seek.

Presentations

Bernard Turcotte, President – CIRA
Mark McFadden, ASO Address Council