ICANN gTLD Registry Failover Project

Patrick Jones
Registry Liaison Manager
New Orleans, Louisiana
30 April 2008
Agenda, 2:30-3:30, 4:00-5:00

- Recap of Crystal City meeting and work to date
- Latest version of Registry Failover Plan (24 Apr 2008)
- 2009 Failover Exercise Ideas
- Setting Stage for Achieving a Final Plan by Paris
- 3:30 Break
- Discussion of Development of Data Escrow Spec
- Wrap up, Next Steps to Paris
Failover Plan Evolution

- Failover Project began in June 2006
- ICANN Sao Paulo – Consultations with Registries
- March 2007 – Registry Data Escrow Survey
- June 2007 – Registry Failover Report
- 20 Oct 2007 – Draft Failover Plan Published
Failover Plan Evolution

• Plan revised following ICANN Los Angeles
• 24-25 Jan 2008 – ICANN gTLD Failover Exercise
• 5 Feb 2008 – Updated Failover Plan Circulated
• Feb 2008 – ICANN Delhi Meeting
• Apr 2008 – Updated Data Transition Elements & Developing Data Escrow specification for new gTLDs
• June 2008 – ICANN Paris
Recap from Crystal City Meeting

• Agreement on overall goal of Failover Plan:
  – Protection of Registrants
  – Ensure confidence in the DNS

• Received suggestions for data transition, dealing with emergency situations; joint registry-ICANN failover exercise in future

• Positive input on process for dealing with situations once a registry has failed
Recap from Crystal City Meeting

• Suggestion for determining successor:
  – Publish call for expressions of interest & ask the community if anyone wants to take over the TLD
  – From those that expressed an interest, review for technical capacity
  – If there are multiple qualified applicants, an auction might be a possibility
  – If no one wants the TLD, provide notice to the community and shut down the TLD
24 April 2008 Update to Failover Plan

- Added clearer reference to goals (protection of registrants and ensuring confidence in the DNS)
- Added the suggestions from Crystal City meeting in transition section
- Removal of references to “non-voluntary transition”
- Other minor numbering changes

- Still looking for input on overall plan as it changed from Oct 07 draft to Feb 08 draft to Apr 08 draft
Failover Exercise 24-25 January 2008

- Internal ICANN exercise based on common tabletop exercise practices – used staff in 8 locations worldwide, examined 5 main scenarios:

1. Escalation of Temporary Failures
2. DNSSEC Compromise
3. IDN/Natural Disaster/Gov’t Takeover
4. Complex attack on Backend Operator
5. Bad acts of a registry
Failover Exercise 24-25 January 2008 -
Observations

- ICANN role during significant DNS events
- Definition of event and other terminology
- Supporting plans/procedures for an event
- Internal information flow during normal operations
- Registry transition procedures
- Other observations (temporary resolution-only service, data escrow)
Failover Exercise 24-25 January 2008 – Exercise Objectives

- Test staff actions based on the draft Failover Plan
- Train staff for crisis response based on certain failure situations
- Assess maturity of ICANN’s technical decision-making progress
- Provide clear, concise definitions and labels for each stage of the process
- Work toward achieving completion of Failover Plan in ‘07-08 Fiscal Year
Failover Exercise – 2009?

- Once the Failover Plan is generally agreed as acceptable, ICANN is interested in partnering with gTLD registries to conduct a failover exercise in 2009.
- Looking to group to provide input on conducting test
  - Scenario ideas
  - Timing of exercise
  - Scope
Data Escrow Specification

• Current Sections of the Registry Data Escrow Spec:
  – Schedule
  – Deposit Format
  – Deposit Transfer Process
  – Verification Procedures

Suggestions to look at Release Conditions, Terms & QA Testing

Looking for input from Registry Constituency on development of updated specification
Data Escrow Specification

• Identified need to update data escrow specification to become current
  – Need to fix language on escrow of DNSSEC material
  – Standardize format and process for delivery
  – Clarify release conditions
  – Streamline process for escrow
  – Recognition that current process is not sufficient to reconstitute a registry
Data Escrow Specification

- Staff is seeking registry input into creation of new spec that can be put into new gTLD base agreement
- Looking to work with a group to provide improvements for the spec between now and Paris
- Ideas for advancing the work forward