Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

Request to Add Chinese IDN to Registry

Technical description of Proposed Service:

CEOTLD Pty Ltd, Registry Operator of the .CEO top level domain, propose an amendment to its Registry Agreement with ICANN, allowing registrant to register and use Second level labels in their own language and script. .CEO would like to provide registration of domain names in the following languages and seeks approval to add IDNs as follows: Chinese-CN, Chinese-TW, Chinese-HK. The Registry Operator shall follow the latest IDN Implementation Guidelines (http://www.icann.org/en/topics/idn/idn-guidelines-02sep11-en.htm) released by ICANN, and shall comply with specifications of IETF protocols on IDNs in applications. Regarding IDN variants, Registry Operator will handle them as follows: By default variant IDNs (as defined in the Registry Operator’s IDN tables and IDN Registration Rules) will be blocked from registration. Variant IDNs may be activated when requested by the sponsoring Registrar of the canonical name as described in the IDN Tables and IDN Registration Rules. Active variant IDNs must be provisioned in the TLD’s DNS zone file as zone cuts using the same NS resource records as the canonical name. Activation of IDN variants will be made possible but by default they will be blocked and reserved. Attached you will find the IDN table as provided by Neustar.

Consultation

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

CEOTLD Pty Ltd is willing to provide IDNs as this is already the case by existing TLD registry operators (Legacy as well as new gTLDs). CEOTLD Pty Ltd is seeking the addition of the above-mentioned IDNs to facilitate the communication in their native languages.

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

.ceo TLD is not a Sponsored TLD
b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:

Not Applicable


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

Not Applicable


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

Not Applicable


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

CEOTLD Pty Ltd recently visited China with the goal of Chinese registrars offering .CEO to their customer base. As such, we have received an abundance of requests from eligible registrars that would welcome the implementation of Chinese IDNs.

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

As long as the registration and resolutions of IDN labels on second level is in accordance with IETF standards, CEOTLD Pty Ltd does not see any reasons why a constituency group would object to offering registration of domain names in more languages, as this is already the case in other TLDs.

Timeline

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

CEOTLD Pty Ltd intends to offer these languages as soon as ICANN approves this request.
Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

CEOTLD Pty Ltd would propose the registration of Chinese IDN domain names in the same manner as it is currently mentioned in the eligibility requirement policies.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

The IDN tables are already supported by our technical backend operator, Neustar, and already in use by already accepted TLDs. As such, the services required have already been approved by ICANN and passed Pre-Delegation Testing. Neustar, the registry services provider for .CEO, as well as for other TLDs, has conducted all necessary testing and will continue to ensure appropriate implementation. Neustar has IDN experience. In addition to its IDN work in gTLDs, Neustar has also done specific work with IDNs at the country level. Neustar is an invited member of the Chinese Domain Name Consortium (CDNC) and coordinates closely with members of the consortium to design and execute on the latest advances in deployment of Chinese scripts across several languages that use the scripts. As an IDN leader, Neustar brings the following experience and capabilities to the table: Demonstrated ability to support IDNs in among others, the world’s major languages and scripts; Compliance with the Internationalizing Domain Names in Applications (IDNA) standards; Active involvement in IDN community, development, and standards groups; Demonstrated ability to support IDNs with variant characters and normalization routines, and ; Demonstrated ability to formulate and publish IDN tables and policies, in coordination with language and script authorities. Neustar will maintain the resolution for all registered IDNs transparently in the same manner as all ASCII (i.e., LDH -- \"Letter, Digit, Hyphen\") domains. In the implementation of the IDN registration and resolution services, Neustar will adhere to the relevant IETF standards, including RFCs 5890, 5891, 5892, and 5893, as well as the ICANN IDN Implementation Guidelines (including the 3.0 version announced for implementation on 22 November 2011: http://www.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-3-22nov11-en.htm).

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

RFCs 5890, 5891, 5892, and 5893, as well as the ICANN IDN Implementation Guidelines (including the 3.0 version announced for implementation on 22 November 2011: http://www.icann.org/en/announcements/announcement-3-22nov11-en.htm).

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:
ICANN Registry Request Service
Ticket ID: K4E8U-2H7D1
Registry Name: CEOTLD Pty Ltd
gTLD: .ceo
Status: ICANN Review
Status Date: 2015-07-23 15:28:09
Print Date: 2015-07-23 15:28:15

Registry Agreement Exhibit A, Approved Services, section 4. Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs)

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

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:

CEOTLD Pty Ltd requests the addition of languages (Chinese-CN, Chinese-TW, Chinese-HK,) to exhibit A, Approved Services, of the registry Agreement and the possibility to list permitted IDNs to the .CEO. The Registry Operator may offer registration of IDNs at the second and lower levels provided that Registry Operator complies with the IDN-related requirements.

Registry Operator may offer registration of IDNs in the languages/scripts described in the Technical Description of Proposed Service (IDN Tables and IDN Registration Rules will be published by the Registry Operator as specified in the ICANN IDN Implementation Guideline).

Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

The increase in available languages for domain name registration provides registrants the ability to register domain names that are more meaningful and specific to the region in which they live and operate. By providing the opportunity to register domain names in additional languages, CEOTLD Pty Ltd seeks to broaden consumer choice in the world marketplace, expects to better serve its end users and provides better experience

Competition

Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.: 
CEOTLD Pty Ltd does not anticipate any competition issue neither positive nor negative. Legacy TLD registry operators have been permitted to offer IDNs for their TLDs.

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

These additional languages would give CEOTLD Pty Ltd the opportunity to reach current end users in their native languages.

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

Legacy TLD registry operators and some new gTLD operator are already permitted to offer IDN registration in their TLDs and new gTLDs as well. A list can be found on the IANA website: http://www.iana.org/domains/idn-tables.

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?:

No. Neustar is the current technical backend Operator and will provide the necessary operational and technical capabilities to register IDN labels in the languages for this request.

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?:

Yes. We had discussion, while meeting with registrars in China, who informed us that International Domain Names is of essence for end users.

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
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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:

None will be impacted

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

No

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?:

Our proposed service does not contain intellectual property exclusive to our gTLD registry

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

None

Any other relevant information to include with this request:
None