Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

Limited Release of IOC, IRC, and IGO names

Technical description of Proposed Service:

Donuts Inc. ("Donuts") would like to provide for the registration and activation of domain names that are reserved under the applicable registry agreements, Specification 5, Section 5 (International Olympic Committee; International Red Cross and Red Crescent) & Section 6 (Intergovernmental Organizations) in the limited circumstance when the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the International Red Cross and Red Crescent (IRC), or the specific Intergovernmental Organization (IGO) consents to the registration and activation of their corresponding name(s) or acronym(s).

ICANN strictly interprets the current registry agreement as prohibiting the registration and activation of these reserved domain names even to the very organizations for which such protections were put in place to protect. Therefore, none of these organizations currently are permitted to register any of their names in any new TLD registry.

To address this untenable situation, which punishes the IOC, the IRC and the IGOs, Donuts seeks to change its contracts in the Donuts-operated TLDs listed below to permit the IOC, the IRC and IGOs to consent to the registration and activation of the protected names reserved.

Sections 5 and 6 of Specification 5 of the Registry Agreement should be amended to mirror the language in Section 4 (Country and Territory Names), which permits countries to approve of the release of their names:

"provided that the reservation of specific country and territory names (including their IDN variants according to the registry operator IDN registration policy, where applicable) may be released to the extent that Registry Operator reaches agreement with the applicable government(s)." Specification 5, Section 4

We seek a contract change to address the situation in which the IOC, the IRC or an IGO wishes to register a name for its own use or consent to the registration of its name. We understand that the Board, the GAC and the GNSO are working to solve the larger policy issue related to the reservation of these names, but while that is pending ICANN is preventing the registration of names by the very parties the reservations are intended to protect.

For example, when we sought a waiver from ICANN of the reservation of a specific IGO name in order for that IGO to register and use that name, ICANN summarily rejected the request, stating as follows:
"IGO full names and acronyms are currently required to be reserved pursuant to Specification 5 of the Registry Agreement. This requirement resulted from actions taken by the ICANN Board New gTLD Program Committee to address GAC advice by providing protection for identified IGO names and acronyms before the launch of any new gTLDs. (See NGPC Resolutions 2013.07.02.NG03 2013.07.02.NG06, 2013.07.17.NG01 2013.07.17.NG03, and 2014.01.09.NG03 2014.01.09.NG04).

The GNSO Council has also addressed the topic of appropriate protections for IGO full names and acronyms, and adopted consensus policy recommendations on the matter. With respect to protections for the full names of IGOs, the Board adopted the GNSO consensus policy recommendations, and ICANN is in the process of developing an implementation plan for the policy in consultation with the GNSO.

With respect to protections for the acronyms of IGOs, the GNSO policy recommendations differ from the GAC advice. The Board requested additional time to consider these policy recommendations, and decided to facilitate discussions among the relevant parties to reconcile any remaining differences. These consultations are ongoing.

Until further direction is provided by the Board on IGO acronyms, and until the consensus policy recommendations on IGO full names are implemented, registry operators must continue to reserve these labels."

Accordingly, we are compelled to file this request to enable us to provide registration services to these entities.

Donuts-operated TLDs:

academy
accountants
agency
apartments
associates
bargains
bike
bingo
boutique
builders
business
cab
cafe
camera
camp
ICANN Registry Request Service
Ticket ID: E2H2Z-2N9S2
Registry Name: Binky Lake, LLC (.VENTURES)
gTLD: .VENTURES
Status: ICANN Review
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guide
guru
healthcare
hockey
holdings
holiday
house
immo
industries
institute
insure
international
investments
jewelry
kitchen
land
lease
legal
life
lighting
limited
limo
loans
maison
management
marketing
mba
media
memorial
money
movie
network
partners
parts
photography
photos
pictures
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pizza
place
plumbing
plus
productions
properties
recipes
reise
reisen
rentals
repair
report
restaurant
run
sarle
school
schule
services
shoes
show
singles
soccer
solar
solutions
style
supplies
supply
support
surgery
systems
tax
taxi
team
technology
tennis
theater
tienda
Consultation

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

We have discussed with various parties this issue and ICANN's failure to waive the reservation of specific names in the case where it is the specific IGO that wants its name. The reaction seems to be the same--that of denial. ICANN instead should try to facilitate these registrations and not block them.

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

N/A

b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:

N/A

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

N/A

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

We have been approached by several IGOs seeking to register their corresponding name(s) in our TLDs. In such instances we find ourselves having to explain that a contractual provision meant to protect them incredulously results in their names being reserved indefinitely. There ought to be a process in place whereby the IOC, IRC, and IGOs are permitted to reach an agreement with the registry operator to register and activate their now-reserved names.

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

The IOC, IRC, and IGOs wishing to register and activate their corresponding name(s).

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

We do not foresee anyone justifiably objecting to a request that permits the IOC, IRC, or an IGO to consent to the use of their own names. The language sought to be added to Specification 5, Sections 5 and 6, currently is used to permit the limited release of reserved country and territory names. It has been vetted by the community and is familiar to registry operators. Requiring registry operators to reach an agreement with the IOC, IRC, or applicable IGO will ensure that protections remain in place while concurrently permitting the IOC, IRC, and IGOs to make beneficial use of an expanded TLD landscape.
Timeline

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

Once this change is approved, Donuts will work with the IOC, IRC, and any IGOs desiring to reach an agreement for the release of their corresponding names.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

When Donuts is approached by the IOC, IRC, and IGOs, we will endeavor to reach an agreement under which they may be permitted to use their corresponding name.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

N/A

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

N/A

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

Specification 5, Section 5 and Section 6

5. International Olympic Committee; International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. As instructed from time to time by ICANN, the names (including their IDN variants, where applicable) relating to the International Olympic Committee, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement listed at http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registries/reserved shall be withheld from registration or allocated to Registry Operator at the second level within the TLD. Additional International Olympic Committee, International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement names (including their IDN variants) may be
added to the list upon ten (10) calendar days notice from ICANN to Registry Operator. Such names may not be activated in the DNS, and may not be released for registration to any person or entity other than Registry Operator. Upon conclusion of Registry Operator's designation as operator of the registry for the TLD, all such names withheld from registration or allocated to Registry Operator shall be transferred as specified by ICANN. Registry Operator may self-allocate and renew such names without use of an ICANN accredited registrar, which will not be considered Transactions for purposes of Section 6.1 of the Agreement.

6. Intergovernmental Organizations. As instructed from time to time by ICANN, Registry Operator will implement the protections mechanism determined by the ICANN Board of Directors relating to the protection of identifiers for Intergovernmental Organizations. A list of reserved names for this Section 6 is available at http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registries/reserved. Additional names (including their IDN variants) may be added to the list upon ten (10) calendar days notice from ICANN to Registry Operator. Any such protected identifiers for Intergovernmental Organizations may not be activated in the DNS, and may not be released for registration to any person or entity other than Registry Operator. Upon conclusion of Registry Operator's designation as operator of the registry for the TLD, all such protected identifiers shall be transferred as specified by ICANN. Registry Operator may self-allocate and renew such names without use of an ICANN accredited registrar, which will not be considered Transactions for purposes of Section 6.1 of the Agreement.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN:

None.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?:

None.

Contract Amendments

Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service:

The contractual amendment being sought is highlighted in all caps in both Section 5 and Section 6 of Specification 5.

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Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

This change will benefit the IOC, IRC and IGOs by allowing those who wish to register their names in new TLDs to do so while continuing to protect the names/acronyms of those entities who may not wish to do so, pending the results of the policy process.

Competition
Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain:

*The change will have a positive effect on competition as it would enable the IOC, IRC and IGOs to take advantage of the growing choice and meaning now being offered in the domain name space. It creates new branding opportunities for these organizations that could help them reach a greater audience of Internet users around the world.*

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

*The service would be available to the IOC, IRC, and IGOs worldwide.*

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

*Legacy TLDs were unrestricted with regard to the registration of IOC, IRC, and IGO names and acronyms. Here, we simply seek the ability to register the IOC, IRC, and IGO names that we have been required to reserve with the consent of the applicable IOC, IRC, or IGO entity.*

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?:

*No.*

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.*

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:

*See above.*

Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service?
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If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential): 

No.

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:

N/A

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:

No.

Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?:

No.

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

N/A
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Any other relevant information to include with this request:

N/A