Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

Two-Character Name Allocation Proposal

Technical description of Proposed Service:

Permit the introduction of two-character .gop domains, while reserving two-letter domains that correspond to the two letter country code names.

Consultation

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

Not Applicable

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

Not Applicable

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

consultations with registries and registrars were not needed. We have noticed however than this service request has been submitted by many other registries. We would like to associate ourselves with their requests to release two character domains.
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?:

*The .gop domain name is being primarily marketed to individuals and groups that identify with the Republican Party. All 50 states in the United States use two character abbreviations for example the abbreviation, for example Ohio is OH.*

*Every state has an organized Republican State Party and offering two character domain names would allow these State Parties (except for those that correspond to a country code) use these domain names for websites. These groups have contacted us regarding using these domain names for their websites, and unfortunately we have to explain that they cannot use state abbreviations at the moment.*

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

*We are unaware of any objections to this service. We look forward to reviewing concerns raised during the public comment period.*

**Timeline**

Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service:
As soon as possible.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

."gop intends to responsibly promote the use of two character domain names by individuals and organizations who are committed to building websites that have strong commitments to marketing, quality, creativity, and desire to launch a website in a timely manner.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

."gop will conduct all necessary testing required, including any testing required prior to approval.

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

Not applicable.

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

."gop Registry Agreement Specification 5(2) 

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_

**Contract Amendments**

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

_**Specification 5(S) should be modified to allow two character domain names, except for those with corresponding country codes.**_

**Benefits of Service**

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

_The use of two character domain names will result in increased usage, and awareness of .gop domain names, and all domain names in the new gTLD program. It will also allow for increased choice for registrants and internet community in general._

**Competition**

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

_.gop believed that the use of two character domain names will positively impact competition and choice in the new gTLD marketplace._

How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?: 
New registrations of domain names by high quality registrants.

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

The following registry operators currently offer or have applied to offer two-character domain name registrations at the second level:

Afilias Limited (.INFO), NeuStar, Inc (.BIZ), RegistryPro, Ltd. (.PRO), Public Interest Registry (.ORG), DotAsia Organisation Ltd. (.ASIA), Telnic Ltd. (.TEL), Fundacio puntCAT (.CAT), Tralliance (.TRAVEL), DotCooperation LLC (.COOP), EmployMedia LLC (.JOBS), Global Name Registry LTD (.NAME)

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?:

Our registry services provider, Minds and Machines will provide the technical ability to register these names.

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?:

Not applicable.

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

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:

We are not aware of any affect to the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems.

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

No technical concerns have been raised to our knowledge.

Other Issues

Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service:

Any intellectual Property considerations raised by the service are addressed by the established rights protection mechanisms (UDRP, URS)

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


List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

Not applicable.

Any other relevant information to include with this request:

We would like to reiterate that this service will benefit registrants and the internet using community as a whole by increasing competition and choice for domain names.