17 April 2008

SAC029: SSAC Endorsement of Proposed amendment to the ORG Registry agreement, Security Extensions for the DNS - DNSSEC

SSAC has been integrally involved with the development and deployment of DNSSEC and considers deployment of DNSSEC an important security initiative. SSAC has reviewed PIR's request to be permitted to augment its ORG registry service with DNSSEC. We applaud PIR's initiative and look forward to the inclusion of DNSSEC in ORG.

We encourage ICANN to expedite your request and hope that ICANN's timely and positive response to PIR encourages other GTLDs to consider equivalent action.

SSAC also notes that the implementation of DNSSEC may reveal new modes of operational failure, including accidental publication of incorrectly signed or unsigned data which could result in the entire ORG tree vanishing from the view of entity that is doing a validation on that tree. This failure is well understood within the DNSSEC community, and SSAC calls attention to the condition as part of the care every organization must exert in the deployment and operation of DNSSEC. We urge PIR and other adopters of DNSSEC to study such issues carefully and seek guidance from those who have already implemented DNSSEC.

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Chairman, Security and Stability Advisory Committee