

**Motivation Letter for ICANN Affirmation of Commitments Security, Stability & Resiliency Review Team – July 9, 2010 To: Mr. Rod Beckstrom & Ms. Heather Dryden**

**Ken Silva**, Sr. Vice President, & Chief Technology and Security Officer, VeriSign, Inc.  
21345 Ridgetop Circle, Dulles, VA 20166 USA  
Telephone +1 703-948-3432; email [ksilva@verisign.com](mailto:ksilva@verisign.com)

I am requesting the opportunity to serve the ICANN and Internet communities by serving on the 2010 ICANN Affirmation of Commitments Security, Stability & Resiliency Review Team (SSR RT). My qualifications are detailed in the attached CV with a few highlights and other pertinent information provided below.

As Chief Technology and Security Officer, I oversee VeriSign's mission critical Internet infrastructure that enables and protects billions of interactions every day across the world's voice and data networks. In this role, I oversee the network and information security for VeriSign's portfolio of digital infrastructure solutions that enable the world to securely communicate, conduct commerce and access the latest content. My responsibilities include oversight of the technical and network security for a definitive database of millions of Web addresses in .com and .net. Responding to more than 50 billion DNS queries daily, the platform provides authoritative routing support for every Web address ending with .com or .net. I also oversee the management of two of the world's 13 Internet root servers. Additionally, I coordinate the security oversight of the system that protects more than 750,000 Web servers with digital certificates, protecting the majority of secure Web sites on the Internet, including 93 percent of the Fortune 500 sites.

In the face of constant attacks and unprecedented growth, VeriSign has a 12-year unblemished record of preserving the security, stability & resiliency of the com/net infrastructure and our share of the root server network. During this time I have provided leadership of both physical and network security including contingency planning and developing and maintaining clear processes and have demonstrated my ability to analyze and interpret quantitative and qualitative evidence along with the capacity to draw evidence-based conclusions. With over 10 years experience working within the ICANN environment, I have a clear understanding of the technical and policy issues underlying the review team tasks. My adaptability and team player skills are demonstrated by my contributions as a member and leader in various key security organizations and my over 20 years experience in the telecommunications and security industries prior to joining VeriSign.

My reputation within VeriSign and the global Internet security industry mandates an unbiased application of my knowledge and expertise and I am committed to serve in that same neutral manner as one member of the SSR RT. I am committed to devoting the time required from October 1, 2010 and the subsequent 9 to 10 months estimated for completion of the review; moreover, VeriSign, as my employer, is fully supportive of that commitment.

I would count it a privilege to join with other security experts in evaluating and making recommendations regarding the effectiveness of ICANN's plans to deal with actual and potential challenges and threats as well as the extent to which those plans are sufficiently robust to meet future challenges and threats to the security, stability and resiliency of the Internet DNS.

I am requesting GNSO endorsement of my application and have attached the requisite information in that regard.

Respectfully,

Ken Silva

## GNSO Required Information

The applicant's full name, title, contact information and employer:

*Ken Silva, Sr. Vice President & Chief Technology and Security Officer, VeriSign, Inc.  
21345 Ridgetop Circle, Dulles, VA 20166 USA  
Telephone +1 703-948-3432; email ksilva@verisign.com*

The ICANN Geographic Region(s) in which the applicant is a citizen and a resident: **North America**

Identification of the GNSO stakeholder group, if any, to which the applicant feels most closely affiliated: **The Registries Stakeholder Group**

An attestation that the applicant is able and willing to commit an estimated average of about ten hours per week during the review period, in addition to participating in face to face review team meetings: **So attest.**

Identification of any financial ownership or senior management/leadership interest of the applicant in registries, registrars or other entities that are stakeholders or interested parties in ICANN or any entity with which ICANN has a transaction, contract, or other arrangement:

*I am Sr. Vice President & Chief Technology and Security Officer of VeriSign, Inc., the registry operator for the .com, .net, .name, .tv and .cc Internet top level domain names. I own shares of VeriSign stock and hold options to purchase additional shares, but the amount of shares I currently own plus the potential shares I could possibly own if I exercised all options is a miniscule number relative to the total number of VeriSign shares.*

*In addition to registry agreements with ICANN for .com and .net, VeriSign also has obligations to the U.S. Department of Commerce through a cooperative agreement that was initiated in 1993 and has been amended many times since then. Those obligations include providing the A and J root servers as well as support to ICANN in implementing changes in the root zone file. As such, VeriSign is a member of the DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee and also works closely with IANA staff in the processing of root zone changes.*

Indication of whether the applicant would be representing any other party or person on the review team and, if so, identification of that party or person:

*The intent would be to serve as a **neutral security expert** on the review team rather than a representative of the RySG or GNSO unless otherwise directed, but to the extent that it served the needs of the review team, I would share pertinent knowledge of the RySG and/or GNSO with the RT, and as needed would serve as a communication channel to and from the RySG and GNSO.*

A two to three paragraph statement about the applicant's knowledge of the GNSO community's structures and operations and any participation therein:

*I am very knowledgeable of the GNSO and its structures and organizations via my own participation in ICANN and especially via VeriSign's participants in the GNSO (Chuck Gomes, Keith Drazek, Pat Kane & Barbara Steele).*

A one to two paragraph statement about the applicant's specialized technical or other expertise of direct relevance to the responsibilities of the review team in question:

*I have over 30 years experience in security, stability and resiliency, including over 10 years directly related to the DNS, the Internet, the root server system, domain name registration systems and ICANN in general. Please refer to my CV.*