

dotkoeln registry
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Proposed Measure to Avoid Confusion with 2-Letter-SLDs – Registry Operator with Open Registration

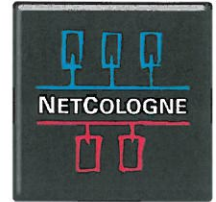
The .COLOGNE top-level domain is designed to serve the needs of the community of the City of Köln (english: Cologne) on the Internet by its own top-level domain. The local .COLOGNE domain names which are available with this TLD are concise and create a unique and individual identity for citizens, companies and institutions. Those providing and looking for information, goods and services in Köln can thus intuitively come together. The .COLOGNE domain names strengthen the feeling of community amongst citizens and visitors of Köln, improve communication and make interaction easier, thus providing a stimulus for innovation and development. Both for citizens and for non-citizens the City of Köln becomes more attractive as a place to visit, as a commercial location and as a place to live.

Protections

Registry Operator understands the concern that confusion may arise because of the delegation of 2-letter-SLDs that correspond to cc-TLDs, and in order to avoid such confusion is willing to offer the following:

Registry Operator will commit to:

- a) investigate any reports of misuse, including misleading or deceptive conduct, including those from the governments and provide a written report in response; and
- b) where, in Registry Operator's sole opinion, misuse has occurred, registry operator will seek to work indirectly with the sponsoring registrar and/or directly with the registrant to address the misuse.
- c) In the event that misuse continues to occur, the Registry Operator may, in its sole discretion, undertake direct action up to and including suspension or deletion of the domain name.



Furthermore, contained within our Acceptable Use Policy for the .COLOGNE TLD is the following text:

The Registrant of a domain name, as recorded in the Registry Service, will be responsible for:

- a. the use of their domain name;
- b. ensuring that the use of the domain name, where that domain name is a two letter Label that corresponds to a country code described in the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 standard, avoids confusion with the corresponding country code;

Should a Registrant fail to comply with the Acceptable Use Policy, the domain name may be cancelled, locked, placed on hold, transferred or deleted. Thus all Registrants in the TLDs, including ourselves, have an obligation to avoid confusion with two letter country codes and we have clear penalties for any failure to do so.

Yours sincerely



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