PROPOSED MEASURE TO AVOID CONFUSION – .ARCHI TLD

StartingDot is the Registry Operator of the .ARCHI generic Top Level Domain string (gTLD) since March 31, 2014. .ARCHI is exclusively developed for the community of architects. .ARCHI is operated with the support of the International Union of Architects (UIA).

The UIA was founded in 1948, UIA is the most representative professional organization of architects and the only global network of architecture, covering 120 countries and territories through its members sections.

To address the confusion concerns cited by the relevant governments regarding the use of second-level domains (SLDs) in .ARCHI, StartingDot, has (i) implemented a restricted registration policy for .ARCHI and (ii) established an Anti-Abuse Policy that mitigates the potential confusion addressed by the governments. Based on the above, StartingDot has:

- Developed and implemented a restricted registration policy for .ARCHI included in the .ARCHI Domain Name Policy ("".ARCHI DNP""). According to the .ARCHI DNP, a .ARCHI domain name can only be registered by:

  - *an individual professional architect or an architecture firm registered as a member of a International Union of Architects ("UIA") Member Section (i.e., ; either a Member Section or an Allied Member Section of UIA as defined in UIA Bylaw Section II.3. The current list of UIA Member Sections and Allied Member Section is available in section "What is UIA?" on UIA website); or*

  - *an architecture-related organization (such as schools, museums, professional media, etc.) listed on a dedicated list defined by the APAC (i.e., Archi Policy Advisory Committee which is the supervising and regulatory body of the .ARCHI Domain) in collaboration with the UIA and the UIA Member Sections, and available on the Registry website.*

- Made public on StartingDot's website (www.startingdot.com) the abovementioned .ARCHI DNP;

- Included the .ARCHI DNP in the StartingDot Registry – Registrar Agreement (RRA) signed with all the appointed preferred registrars for .ARCHI;

- Included the registration criteria for .ARCHI in the Registry Agreement signed between StartingDot and ICANN; and

- Enforced the .ARCHI DNP by monitoring existing registrations on a random basis. StartingDot performs quarterly controls of .ARCHI registrations and ensures that

registrants meet the eligibility criteria established in the .ARCHI DNP. StartingDot has also developped an Anti-Abuse Policy published on its website, which establishes StartingDot's actions in case of an abuse of the .ARCHI domain space.

- Made public on StartingDot's website (www.startingdot.com) the abovementioned Anti-Abuse Policy which also contains specific text with regards to domain names that correspond to a country code described in the ISO 3166-1 alpha-2 standard.

This .ARCHI DNP would prevent governments from registering domains in the .ARCHI TLD since they do not fall under one of the categories, established in the registration policy, able to register a .ARCHI SLD.

This exclusion shall clearly designate to users that .ARCHI is a restricted space in which all second level domains are registered by and for members of the UIA or that have been approved by the APAC.

Finally, as stated in the Anti-Abuse Policy, should a Registrant fail to comply with the Anti-Abuse Policy, the domain name may be subject to cancellation or other penalty measures (domain being locked, placed on hold, transferred or deleted). Thus, all Registrants in the .ARCHI gTLD, have an obligation to avoid confusion with two letter country codes and we have clear penalties for any failure to do so.