

.nz NEWSLETTER – January 2007

:: DNC OFFICE ::

.nz Statistics

In December the number of active .nz domain names increased from 257,872 to 261,283, a net increase of 3,411.

DNC Staff Update

There have been a few changes around the DNC office this month. Our original Disputes Support Officer, Hilary Pope, has left and her position has been taken up by Jayne Boyle.

Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) – Expressions of Interest for Working Group

The .nz Oversight Committee (NZOC) is establishing a working group to consider the implementation of IDNs into the .nz domain name space.

We are now seeking expressions of interest from people who would like to be part of the IDN working group.

The IDN issue for .nz domain names has been raised due to the five macrons which feature in the Māori language. These cannot be expressed in domain names without the use of IDNs.

The Working Group (WG) will identify and report any issues regarding the implementation of IDNs in the .nz space to the .nz Oversight Committee (NZOC).

Roles and responsibilities of the WG include:

- Evaluate RFC documents, such as <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc4290.txt> and <http://www.rfc-editor.org/rfc/rfc4690.txt> .
- Identify technical matters associated with IDNs and propose possible solutions.
- Determine policy implications of IDN implementation and propose alternatives to the current .nz policies and procedures.

For more information please refer to the terms of reference for the IDN working group which can be seen at http://dnc.org.nz/content//IDN_WG_Terms_of_Reference.pdf .

If you are interested in being part of the Working Group, please send an email by **midday Tuesday 20th February** to info@dnc.org.nz including a brief description of your background and why you are interested in being involved. NZOC will look at all expressions of interest and decide on the members of the Working Group at their meeting on 1 March 2007.

Registering, Managing and Cancelling (RMC) Policy Review – Extended Second Consultation Period

A consultation paper regarding the review of the Registering, Managing and Cancelling Domain Names Policy has been published and public comments are being sought. The paper can be seen at <http://dnc.org.nz/blue-2ndconsult>.

This consultation has a particular focus on obtaining views of whether there should be any change to the current registration requirements, as proposed in two of the submissions received after the first round of consultation (<http://dnc.org.nz/rmc-review>).

Currently the .nz space operates on a 'first come first served' basis with no restrictions on who can register in the open second level domains. If some of the proposals suggested in the submissions are accepted, there will be changes to this principle and the involvement of both registrars and the DNC in the actual registration of domain names and their use. Given this, it is considered important that a wide range of views are obtained.

The consultation period has now been extended until **midday on Wednesday 14 February 2007**. Submissions can be sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz, by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington. As submissions are received they will be published on the DNC website at <http://dnc.org.nz/rmc-2ndconsult>.

Statistics

Figures as at 31 December 2006:

	<i>Active names as at 1 December</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 December</i>	<i>New registrations December</i>	<i>Renewals December</i>	<i>Net Growth</i>
.ac	1252	1268	23	281	16
.co	220423	223345	4835	47862	2922
.cri	18	18	0	4	0
.geek	837	832	9	182	-5
.gen	1063	1065	10	295	2
.govt	874	878	4	676	4
.iwi	56	56	1	16	0
.maori	460	458	7	81	-2
.mil	21	21	0	9	0
.net	15276	15524	429	3058	248
.org	15009	15220	316	2992	211
.parliament	2	2	0	2	0
.school	2581	2596	18	1088	15
TOTAL	257872	261283	5652	56546	3411

Note: these figures do not include names in the 'pending release' status. They incorporate all active domain names in the .nz register. For more statistics, see <http://dnc.org.nz/statistics>

:: .nz REGISTRY SERVICES ::

Welcome to 2007, we trust that you all had a great break and are now getting back into things.

Last year NZRS undertook the Technical and Business Systems Review (TBSR). This review made recommendations on the technical aspects of the SRS and DNS. The general tone of the report is that the systems work well and will continue to meet the requirements of the .nz space for some time. We have started the planning to implement the recommendations from that review, and will be making modifications and adding some new features to parts of the systems over the next 12-18 months. One of those new features is the development of IPv6 DNS and Whois services. This project will result in the rollout of an experiential IPv6 service for the DNS and Whois and will be developed over the next 6 months.

We will provide updates as this and other projects are developed.

SRS Availability

SRS Availability	SLA	October	November	December
%	99.90	99.97	99.96	99.97

SRS Response Times

Response time performance figures on the production environment for the previous three months were:

Avg Response time (in seconds)	SLA Target (From 1 May 2006)	October	November	December
Domain Details Query	≤1.5	0.03	0.04	0.03
Domain Update	≤0.8	0.45	0.46	0.44
Domain Create	≤0.8	0.48	0.53	0.20
GetMessage performance	≤0.8	0.03	0.03	0.03
Whois	≤0.8	0.12	0.11	0.10
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	N/A	1,691	1,568	1,743
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	N/A	217	238	296
UDAI Valid Query	≤0.8	0.15	0.16	0.14

DNS Availability

DNS Availability	SLA	October	November	December
%	100	100	100	100

Whois Availability

Whois Availability	SLA	October	November	December
%	99.90%	99.97	99.96	99.99

Unscheduled Outages

Outage Type	Total Duration
SRS Unscheduled	790 seconds (13 minutes and 10 secs)
WHOIS Unscheduled	658 seconds (10 mins and 58 secs)

Scheduled Outages and Updates

There were no scheduled outages in December.

The SRS Upgrade to version 1.38 is scheduled to occur Sunday 25th February 07:00 – 09:00

Any Comments?

If you have any questions or concerns about the SRS, please don't hesitate to contact us. For registry or technical matters, contact Nick Griffin at support@nzrs.net.nz. For all other matters, contact Debbie Monahan at info@dnc.org.nz.

Please Note

If you would like to be notified of future updates, please use the SUBSCRIBE function on the DNC site and select the category 'Newsletters'.