

.nz NEWSLETTER – JULY 2005

:: DNC OFFICE ::

In June the number of active .nz domain names increased from 188,454 to 191,971, a net increase of 3,517. This is the second highest monthly increase in the last 12 months, the highest being in July 2004 when the net increase was 3,823.

Transfer to Another Registrar Policy Review

As advised previously the Transfer to Another Registrar (TAR) policy is currently under review.

The current policy can be seen at http://dnc.org.nz/content/transfer_registrar.pdf.

Public comment is sought on how the current transfer process operates and, in particular, on whether any additional validation steps should be introduced into the transfer procedure to improve the security of the process. The consultation is due to end on 28 July.

Comments can be sent by email to policies@dnc.org.nz by **5pm on Thursday 28 July 2005**. An overview of this review is at <http://dnc.org.nz/transfer-review> and all submissions received will be published on that page.

Roles and Responsibilities Policy Review

Following a review, a revised Roles and Responsibilities (RAR) policy is due to come into effect on 1 August 2005. The RAR policy can be read at http://dnc.org.nz/content/roles_and_responsibilities.pdf.

UDAI's

The DNC Office has recently dealt with several emails complaining that registrars have not provided a UDAI to a registrant. In most situations the UDAI has been provided when the DNC Office has reminded the registrar of their obligations but in one case the DNC ended up providing the registrant with the UDAI due to internal issues with the registrar.

Registrars are reminded that they are obliged to release UDAIs promptly to registrants when they have been requested. A UDAI cannot be withheld for any reason, including when money is owed to the registrar. Any complaints of registrars withholding UDAIs

will be followed up by the Compliance Officer. Registrars are encouraged to contact the DNC Office if they are having problems generating and supplying UDAlS.

Statistics

Figures as at 30 June 2005:

	<i>Active names as at 1 June</i>	<i>Active names as at end 30 June</i>	<i>New registrations June</i>	<i>Renewals June</i>	<i>Change over month</i>
.ac	1012	1012	22	263	0
.co	160056	163128	4567	43963	3072
.cri	25	25	0	3	0
.geek	703	696	15	103	-7
.gen	953	962	26	253	9
.govt	763	769	6	301	6
.iwi	53	53	0	13	0
.maori	371	382	20	41	11
.mil	17	17	0	12	0
.net	11111	11312	330	2659	201
.org	10999	11210	306	2926	211
.school	2391	2405	29	1029	14
TOTAL	188454	191971	5321	51566	3517

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

:: .nz REGISTRY SERVICES ::

SRS Availability

System availability for May was 99.97%, against the SLA standard of 99.9%

SRS Availability	April	May	June
%	99.94	99.84	99.97

SRS Response Times

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

Avg Response time (in seconds)	April	May	June
Domain Details Query	0.64	0.64	0.47
Domain Update	0.47	0.45	0.56
Domain Create	0.70	0.39	0.50
GetMessage performance	0.43	0.44	0.36
GetMessage (volume 000's)	46	45	38
Whois	0.20	0.21	0.17
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume 000's)	1355	1693	1657
Whois Server Queries (volume 000's)	303	386	346
UDAI Valid Query	0.29	0.28	0.24

DNS Availability

DNS Availability	April	May	June
%	100	100	100

Zone Pushes

After consultation with the Registrar Advisory Group (RAG) NZRS will be expanding the number of Zone pushes to be hourly, on the hour, from 25 July 9am.

Unscheduled Outages

There were seven unscheduled outages during June totalling 14 minutes and 50 seconds downtime.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Description</i>
Jun 3 09:57	32 Seconds	Off line micro outage
Jun 7 22:14	43 Seconds	Off line micro outage
Jun 9 02:09	06 Seconds	Off line micro outage
Jun 13 19:40	56 Seconds	Off line micro outage
Jun 16 03:21 and 11:00	10 minutes 58 Seconds	24 Read only micro outages combined
Jun 18 02:23	38 Seconds	Off line micro outage
Jun 20 10:00	57 Seconds	Off line micro outage

The outages on 16 June related to the activities of a registrar sending very large volumes of Domain Updates over a period of 12 hours. This high number of repetitive and sustained Domain Update requests produced an excessive load on the SRS servers and resulted in 24 separate micro outages of less than 2 minutes each.

NZRS asked the registrar to investigate and they reported on the cause of the problem. The registrar gave NZRS an assurance that it is being rectified. The monthly average response time for the Domain Update transaction increased as a result of this incident.

Scheduled Outages and Updates

The maintenance window for June was utilised on 26 June with the code release to 1.21. Additional scheduled outages took place on 12, 21 and 29 June to prepare, replace and switch the primary SRS site back to Albany.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Duration</i>	<i>Description</i>
12 June 07:00	2 hours	Auckland switch replaced and further diagnostics run on the gateway
21 June 18:00	2 hours	Motherboard replaced in Auckland gateway
26 June 07:00	2 hours	Scheduled maintenance window – code release 1.21
29 June 07:00	30 minutes	Primary site switched back to Auckland

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

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