

.nz NEWSLETTER – NOVEMBER 2003

:: DNC Office ::

Summary of the .nz market

Since the last newsletter, 2 registrars have been authorised and 2 have connected. This means there are now 46 parties authorised as registrars, with 41 of those connected to production and offering .nz registration and management services.

The level of active .nz domain names increased from 137,078 to 139,381, a net increase of 2,303. The .maori.nz second level domain again shrank slightly in its thirteenth month in operation.

Domain Names NZ

Domain Names Australia, the company trading here as Domain Names NZ, has been taken to court by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) and by auDA, .au Domain Administration Ltd, over their activities in sending out notices for business. The case was heard in the Federal Court in Melbourne last Wednesday, 19 November. The decision of Finkelstein J was reserved and should be known later this year.

As far as we are aware, no one who has paid money to Domain Names NZ has had the domain name involved registered. If you know of anyone who has paid for a domain name through Domain Names NZ, please ask them to contact us at info@dnc.org.nz.

We appreciate the efforts registrars and others have made to alert the public to this problem.

Statistics

Figures as at 31 October 2003:

	<i>Active names as at 1 October</i>	<i>Active names as at end 31 October</i>	<i>New registrations October</i>	<i>Renewals October</i>	<i>Change over month</i>
.ac	797	802	15	135	5
.co	116159	118134	3292	24487	1975
.cri	27	27	0	0	0
.geek	593	600	22	91	7
.gen	828	834	11	156	6
.govt	687	697	9	136	10
.iwi	45	46	1	11	1
.maori	308	302	10	41	-6
.mil	15	15	0	3	0
.net	7689	7822	241	1306	133
.org	7875	8028	199	1464	153
.school	2055	2074	23	688	19
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>137078</i>	<i>139381</i>	<i>3823</i>	<i>28518</i>	<i>2303</i>

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 ::

On 2nd November the prime location for the hosting of the SRS was moved from Wellington to Albany. This move went well however there have been two small outages associated with this move in the first week.

NZRS has undertaken a Customer Satisfaction Survey and will be sharing a summary of the outcomes with Registrars after this has been received.

Scheduled Outages and Updates

There were no general outages during October. SRS availability was 100% for the month. Although there were outages at the WIX, the majority of registrars (from around NZ and offshore) were able to maintain operation.

SRS Availability	August	September	October
%	99.84	100	100

October period response time performance figures on the production environment were:

Avg Response time (in seconds)	August	September	October
Domain Details Query	0.268	0.308	0.315
Domain Update	0.340	0.270	0.306
Domain Create	0.578	0.410	0.417
GetMessage performance	0.433	0.443	0.388
GetMessage (volume)	38,793	70,617	57,776
Whois	0.200	0.215	0.189
Whois queries at back end including Registrar (volume)	1,070,777	1,016,290	611,506
Whois Server Queries (volume)	645,403	908,019	218,383
UDAI Valid Query	0.172	0.172	0.172

The SRS was upgraded to release 1.6 on 18 October. The upgrade went well with only a couple of registrars affected due to a naming issue of the new primary servers.

WHOIS

The total number of whois queries decreased from 1,016,290 to 611,506. Levels around the 600,000 were last obtained back in May 2003. The rate limiting of non-whitelist IP numbers (non-registrars, as registrars are automatically whitelisted) has been tightened and improved monitoring and reporting of usage has been implemented.

Three IP addresses were blacklisted in October, two of which have since been reinstated after satisfactory explanations, and undertakings of future activity, were received.

Moving the primary SRS site to Albany

The move to Albany was undertaken on 2nd November. There were some minor issues over the next two days including an outage on 4 November of approx 7 minutes.

Replication Review

Work on the development of the recommendations is underway and will be completed over the next 3 months.

NZRS Schedules the Release of the Shared Registry System as Open Source.

When the Shared Registry System (SRS) was developed in 2002, it was developed with the use of Open Source tools. Since going live in October 2002, NZRS has undertaken a continuous improvement programme of improvements to the SRS.

The SRS has proved itself to be a reliable and robust system which is currently supporting 42 registrars, 141,000 domain names and 12 2nd level domains.

NZRS is pleased to announce that it will be releasing the SRS Source Code under a GPL Open Source Licence on 30 January 2004.

NZRS General Manager, Nick Griffin will be making further announcements regarding the release of the SRS, if you would like to receive these announcements please register your interest at:

www.nzrs.net.nz

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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