

Registry Registration Data Directory Services Consistent Labeling and Display Policy

As of [INSERT Registration Data Policy Effective Date] this Policy was updated to reflect changes required to implement the Registration Data Policy. The previous version of this policy may be found here: [insert link to the previous version].

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "NOT RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in BCP 14 [[RFC2119](#)] [[RFC8174](#)] when, and only when, they appear in all capitals, as shown here.

Section 1 of this policy details technology-agnostic requirements that apply to all Registration Data Directory Services.

Section 2 of this policy details implementation requirements pertaining to WHOIS (available via port 43) and web-based Whois directory services only.

1. Registry Operators, SHALL implement the following requirements:
 - 1.1. The URL of the ICANN RDDS Inaccuracy Complaint Form MUST be included in the RDDS output of domain name object queries:
 - URL of the ICANN RDDS Inaccuracy Complaint Form:
<https://www.icann.org/wicf/>
 - 1.2. If a value is shown for the fields "Registry Admin/Tech/Billing/Registrant ID:", the value MUST be the Repository Object Identifier (ROID) for the contact object as specified in RFC 5733.
 - 1.3. Additional RDDS fields MAY be included in RDDS output without further approval by ICANN. The additional field MUST NOT: include browser executable code (e.g., Javascript); provide confidential information of any sort; or cause a negative impact to the security, stability, or resiliency of the Internet's DNS or other systems. Prior to deployment, Registry Operator SHALL provide the list of all additional RDDS fields to ICANN. Registry Operator SHALL provide to ICANN any changes to the list of additional RDDS fields prior to deploying such changes.

2. Registry Operators SHALL implement the following requirements in conjunction with Section 1 of Specification 4 of the "[Base Registry Agreement approved on 9 January 2014](#)" ("Base Registry Agreement") or subsequent amendments thereto in order to comply with WHOIS (available via port 43) and web-based directory services requirements.
 - 2.1. In responses to domain name object queries the below fields MUST be included either (1) immediately after the "Registrar IANA ID" field or (2) immediately before the last field ("URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>") in the following order:
 - Registrar Abuse Contact Email
 - Registrar Abuse Contact Phone
 - 2.2. If shown, the "Reseller" field MUST appear immediately before the "Domain Status" field.
 - 2.3. If shown, the value of the "Reseller" field MUST be the name of the organization, in the case where the Reseller is a legal entity, or the name of a natural person.
 - 2.4. If shown, the "Registrar Registration Expiration Date" field MUST appear immediately after the "Registry Expiry Date" field.
 - 2.5. The value section (i.e., right-hand side of the colon) of the following fields MUST follow the below format specifications:
 - "Registrar Abuse Contact Email" (as defined in the EPP RFCs for email fields)
 - "Registrar Abuse Contact Phone" (as defined in the EPP RFCs for phone fields)
 - "Reseller" is defined as token (see Extensible Markup Language 1.1)
 - "Registrar Registration Expiration Date" (as defined in the EPP RFCs for date fields)
 - 2.6. Registry Operator MUST update the name of keys in the output of the domain name, name server, and registrar objects as follows. The following table shows keys that are renamed from their original version in Specification 4 of the Base Registry Agreement. All other specifications (e.g. format specifications of the value section) remain unchanged.

| Original key in Specification 4 of the Base Registry Agreement | New key name | Object query where the key appears |
|--|--------------|------------------------------------|
| | | |

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|--|
| Domain ID | Registry Domain ID | domain name |
| WHOIS Server | Registrar WHOIS Server | domain name, registrar, nameserver |
| Referral URL | Registrar URL | domain name, registrar, nameserver |
| Sponsoring Registrar | Registrar | domain name |
| Sponsoring Registrar IANA ID | Registrar IANA ID | domain name |
| Registrar Name | Registrar | registrar |
| Registrant ID | Registry Registrant ID | domain name |
| Admin ID | Registry Admin ID | domain name |

| | | |
|---------|------------------|-------------|
| Tech ID | Registry Tech ID | domain name |
|---------|------------------|-------------|

- 2.7. If the "Billing Contact" is shown, Registry Operator MUST update the name of the key in the output of the domain name as defined below. All other specifications (e.g. format specifications of the value section) continue to apply.

| Original key in the WHOIS Advisory | New key name | Object query where the key appears |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------------|
| Billing ID | Registry Billing ID | domain name |

- 2.8. The URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form¹ MUST be included before the footer ">>> Last update of Whois database: <date and time> <<<".

Effective Date: 1 August 2017

Implementation Notes

1. On 27 April 2015, ICANN published an [Advisory](#) in response to questions from both registries and registrars regarding the applicable WHOIS (available via port 43) and web-based Whois services. Registry Operators should continue to consult this Advisory to be in compliance with their registry agreement.
2. The following section describes example outputs for WHOIS (available via port 43) and web-based directory services query objects:

The examples below show how the data elements may appear in Whois (port 43) and web-based Whois, when required by ICANN Agreement or Policy.

A. Domain Name Data: Full transfer, not subject to redaction and showing a key with an empty value for non-available data

The following example has been generated using the following assumptions:

- Contact information is being transferred from the Registrar to Registry pursuant section 7.3 and 7.4 of the Registration Data Policy.
- The values are not subject to the redaction requirements in section 9.2 of the Registration Data Policy.
- Registry Operator does not support Registrar Registration Expiration Date or Reseller data elements; therefore, there is no data in the Registry database for these two data elements.
- Registry Operator is including the key for data elements where no data is available for the data elements pursuant to section 1 of Addendum I of the Registration Data Policy.
- Domain name is delegated, DNSSEC-signed, and glue records exist.

- **Query:** whois EXAMPLE.TLD

- **Response:**

Domain Name: EXAMPLE.TLD
Registry Domain ID: D1234567-EXAMPLE
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.example-registrar.tld
Registrar URL: http://www.example-registrar.tld
Updated Date: 2009-05-29T20:13:00Z
Creation Date: 2000-10-08T00:45:00Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2010-10-08T00:44:59Z
Registrar Registration Expiration Date:
Registrar: EXAMPLE REGISTRAR LLC
Registrar IANA ID: 5555555
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: email@registrar.tld
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.1235551234
Reseller:
Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientDeleteProhibited>
Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientRenewProhibited>
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited>
Registry Registrant ID: 5372808-EXAMPLE
Registrant Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT
Registrant Organization: EXAMPLE ORGANIZATION
Registrant Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET
Registrant City: ANYTOWN
Registrant State/Province: AP
Registrant Postal Code: A1A1A16
Registrant Country: AA

Registrant Phone: +1.5555551212
Registrant Phone Ext: 12347
Registrant Fax: +1.5555551213
Registrant Fax Ext: 4321
Registrant Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD
Registry Tech ID: 5372811-EXAMPLE
Tech Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT TECHNICAL
Tech Phone: +1.1235551234
Tech Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD
Name Server: NS01.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server: NS02.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server IP Address: 192.0.2.123
Name Server IP Address: 2001:0DB8::1
DNSSEC: signedDelegation
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>
>>> Last update of RDDS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<
...

B. Domain Name Data: Full transfer, subject to redaction

The following example has been generated using the following assumptions:

- Contact information is being transferred from the Registrar to the Registry pursuant section 7.3 and 7.4 of the Registration Data Policy.
- The values are subject to the redaction requirements in section 9.2 of the Registration Data Policy.
- Registry Operator does not support Registrar Registration Expiration Date or Reseller data elements; therefore, there is no data in the Registry database for these two data elements.
- Registry Operator is not showing the field for data elements where no data is available for the data elements pursuant to section 1 of Addendum I of the Registration Data Policy.
- Domain name is delegated, DNSSEC-signed, and glue records exist.
- **Query:** whois EXAMPLE.TLD
- **Response:**

Domain Name: EXAMPLE.TLD
Registry Domain ID: REDACTED
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.example-registrar.tld
Registrar URL: <http://www.example-registrar.tld>
Updated Date: 2009-05-29T20:13:00Z
Creation Date: 2000-10-08T00:45:00Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2010-10-08T00:44:59Z
Registrar: EXAMPLE REGISTRAR LLC
Registrar IANA ID: 5555555
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: email@registrar.tld
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.1235551234
Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientDeleteProhibited>
Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientRenewProhibited>

Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited>
Registry Registrant ID: REDACTED
Registrant Name: REDACTED
Registrant Organization: REDACTED
Registrant Street: REDACTED
Registrant City: REDACTED
Registrant State/Province: AP
Registrant Postal Code: REDACTED
Registrant Country: AA
Registrant Phone: REDACTED
Registrant Phone Ext: REDACTED
Registrant Fax: REDACTED
Registrant Fax Ext: REDACTED
Registrant Email: REDACTED
Registry Tech ID: REDACTED
Tech Name: REDACTED
Tech Phone: REDACTED
Tech Email: REDACTED
Name Server: NS01.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server: NS02.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server IP Address: 192.0.2.123
Name Server IP Address: 2001:0DB8::1
DNSSEC: signedDelegation
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>
>>> Last update of RDDS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<
...

C. Domain Name Data: minimum required output

The following example has been generated using the following assumptions:

- Contact information is not being transferred from the Registrar to Registry pursuant section 7.3 and 7.4 of the Registration Data Policy.
- Registry Operator does not support Registrar Registration Expiration Date or Reseller data elements; therefore, there is no data in the Registry database for these two data elements.
- Registry Operator is not showing the field for data elements where no data is available for the data elements pursuant to section 1 of Addendum I of the Registration Data Policy.
- Domain name is delegated, DNSSEC-signed, and glue records exist.
- **Query:** whois EXAMPLE.TLD
- **Response:**

Domain Name: EXAMPLE.TLD
Registry Domain ID: REDACTED
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.example-registrar.tld
Registrar URL: <http://www.example-registrar.tld>
Updated Date: 2009-05-29T20:13:00Z

Creation Date: 2000-10-08T00:45:00Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2010-10-08T00:44:59Z
Registrar: EXAMPLE REGISTRAR LLC
Registrar IANA ID: 5555555
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: email@registrar.tld
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.1235551234
Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientDeleteProhibited>
Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientRenewProhibited>
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited <https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited>
Name Server: NS01.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server: NS02.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server IP Address: 192.0.2.123
Name Server IP Address: 2001:0DB8::1
DNSSEC: signedDelegation
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>
>>> Last update of RDDS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<
...

Registrar Data:

- **Query format: whois "registrar Example Registrar, Inc."**

- **Response format:**

Registrar: Example Registrar, Inc.

Street: 1234 Admiralty Way

City: Marina del Rey

State/Province: CA

Postal Code: 90292

Country: US

Phone Number: +1.3105551212

Fax Number: +1.3105551213

Email: registrar@example.tld

Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.example-registrar.tld

Registrar URL: <http://www.example-registrar.tld>

Admin Contact: Joe Registrar

Phone Number: +1.3105551213

Fax Number: +1.3105551213

Email: joeregistrar@example-registrar.tld

Admin Contact: Jane Registrar

Phone Number: +1.3105551214

Fax Number: +1.3105551213

Email: janeregistrar@example-registrar.tld

Technical Contact: John Geek

Phone Number: +1.3105551215

Fax Number: +1.3105551216
Email: johngeek@example-registrar.tld
>>> Last update of RDDS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<
...

Nameserver Data:

- **Query format:** whois "nameserver (nameserver name)", or whois "nameserver (IP Address)"
- **Response format:**
Server Name: NS1.EXAMPLE.TLD
IP Address: 192.0.2.123
IP Address: 2001:0DB8::1
Registrar: Example Registrar, Inc.
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.example-registrar.tld
Registrar URL: http://www.example-registrar.tld
>>> Last update of RDDS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<
...

Background:

This Consensus Policy is a product of policy implementation directed by [ICANN Board resolutions 2014.02.07.08 - 2014.02.07.09](#), which adopted the GNSO Council Policy Recommendations for a new Consensus Policy on Thick Whois.

Recommendation #1 of the Thick Whois Policy Development Process (PDP) Working Group (WG), adopted by the GNSO Council on 31 October 2013, states: "*The provision of thick Whois services, with a consistent labelling and display as per the model outlined in specification 3 of the 2013 RAA, should become a requirement for all gTLD registries, both existing and future.*"

The [Final Report](#) [PDF, 1.23 MB] of the Thick Whois Policy PDP WG further included in its Section 7.2 'Implementation Considerations' guidance related to the timeline and requirements for implementing the transition from thin to thick Whois. It specifically notes that "*The WG does emphasize that implementation of one part of the recommendation (for example, transition of existing thin gTLD registries to thick model) should not unnecessarily delay the implementation of another part of the recommendation (for example, the consistent labeling and display of such data)*".

As a consequence, ICANN staff and the Implementation Review Team (IRT) agreed that consistent labeling and display could be decoupled from the implementation of the transition from thin to thick.

ICANN submitted a [draft proposal for implementation of the consistent labeling and display requirement for Public Comment on 3 December 2015](#). After considering the community's feedback and in collaboration with the Thick Whois IRT, ICANN revised its proposal as reflected in this Consensus Policy.

It should be noted that ICANN's objective in implementing the GNSO Policy recommendations has been to minimize the impact to registrants, end users, contracted parties and to the overall Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS) systems by seeking to synchronize, where appropriate, this implementation with other related initiatives such as the adoption of the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP).

¹ Please note that this field updates the terminology and URL currently in use in Specification 3 of the 2013 RAA (as approved by the ICANN Board on 17 September 2013)