

# 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].

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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.

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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.

Deleted: Registry Operators, with the exception of .com, .jobs and .net1, SHALL implement these 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. The Registry Operators of .com, .jobs and .net MAY implement sections of this policy in conjunction with Section 1 of Specification 4 of the Base Registry Agreement that are relevant to a thin Registry.

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.

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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

**Deleted:** 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

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

**Deleted:** 2. In responses to domain name object queries the following fields are considered optional and should be treated as described in clarification 1 of the "Advisory: Clarifications to the Registry Agreement, and the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) regarding applicable Registration Data Directory Service (Whois) Specifications" ("WHOIS Advisory"):  
 ■ Registrar Registration Expiration Date  
 ■ Reseller

**Deleted:** 3. If shown, the "Reseller" field MUST appear immediately before the "Domain Status" field.  
 4. 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.  
 5. If shown, the "Registrar Registration Expiration Date" field MUST appear immediately after the "Registry Expiry Date" field.  
 6. The value section (i.e., right-hand side of the colon) of the following fields MUST follow the below format specifications:  
 a. "Registrar Abuse Contact Email" (as defined in the EPP RFCs for email fields)  
 b. "Registrar Abuse Contact Phone" (as defined in the EPP RFCs for phone fields)  
 c. "Reseller" is defined as token (see Extensible Markup Language 1.1)  
 d. "Registrar Registration Expiration Date" (as defined in the EPP RFCs for date fields)  
 7. 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.

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 Form MUST be included before the footer ">>> Last update of Whois database: <date and time> <<<".

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**Deleted:** 9. In responses to domain name object queries the following field<sup>2</sup> MUST be included before the footer ">>> Last update of Whois database: <date and time> <<<".

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10. A Registry Operator that is permitted to provide redacted RDDS output in its registry agreement MAY treat the following fields as optional regardless of the existence of data in the Registry's Shared Registration System (SRS) as described in clarification 1 of the WHOIS Advisory. The redacted RDDS output MUST be consistent with the relevant RDDS provisions in the Registry Operator's registry agreement

- Registry Registrant/Admin/Tech ID
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Name
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Organization
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Street
- Registrant/Admin/Tech City
- Registrant/Admin/Tech State/Province
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Postal Code
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Country
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Phone
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Phone Ext
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Fax
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Fax Ext
- Registrant/Admin/Tech Email

11. The fields "Registry Admin/Tech/Billing/Registrant ID:" refer to the Repository Object Identifier (ROID) for the contact object as specified in RFC 5733 (called Admin/Tech/Registrant ID in Specification 4 of the Base Registry Agreement).

12. Registry Operator MAY output additional RDDS fields, as defined in the WHOIS Advisory, without further approval by ICANN. The key and the value of each 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.

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.

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- 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.

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- **Query format:** whois EXAMPLE.TLD
- **Response:**

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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](#)

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**Deleted:** 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: 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  
Reseller: EXAMPLE RESELLER1  
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 Admin ID: 5372809-EXAMPLE  
Admin Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT ADMINISTRATIVE  
Admin Organization: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT ORGANIZATION  
Admin Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET  
Admin City: ANYTOWN  
Admin State/Province: AP  
Admin Postal Code: A1A1A1  
Admin Country: AA  
Admin Phone: +1.5555551212  
Admin Phone Ext: 1234  
Admin Fax: +1.5555551213  
Admin Fax Ext: 1234  
Admin Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD  
Registry Tech ID: 5372811-EXAMPLE  
Tech Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT TECHNICAL  
Tech Organization: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT LLC  
Tech Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET  
Tech City: ANYTOWN  
Tech State/Province: AP  
Tech Postal Code: A1A1A1  
Tech Country: AA

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 <<<  
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### 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 <<<  
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#### 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

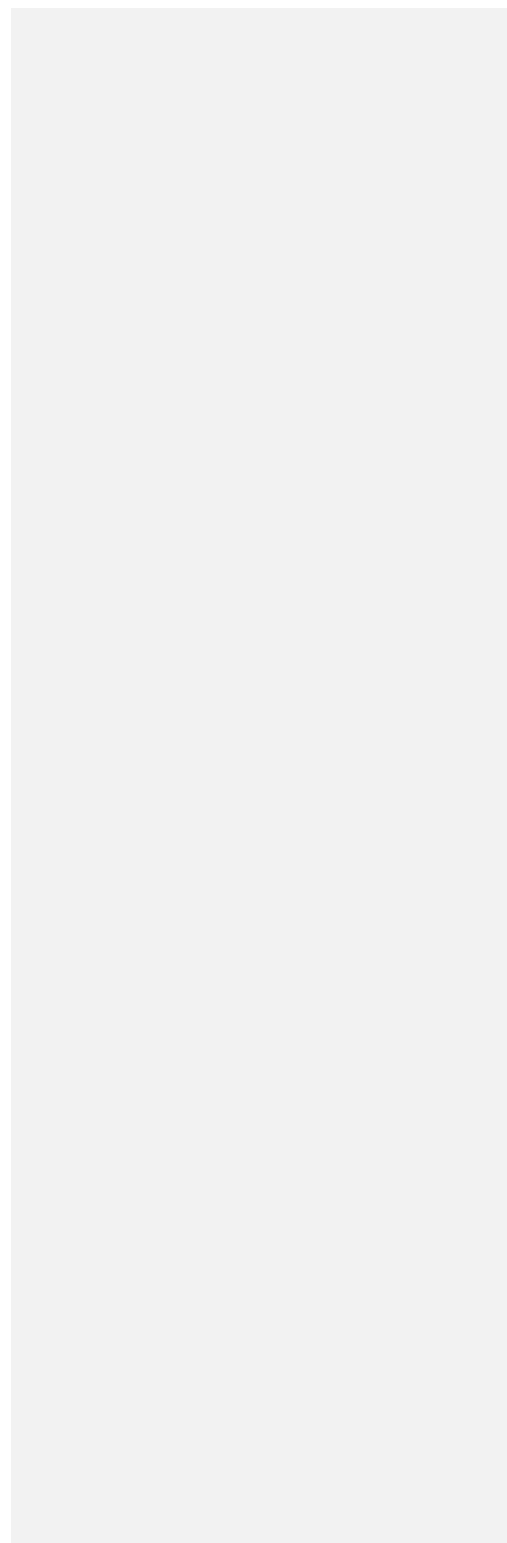
Email: joeregistrar@example-registrar.tld  
Admin Contact: Jane Registrar  
Phone Number: +1.3105551214  
Fax Number: +1.3105551213  
Email: janeregistrar@example-registrar.tld  
Technical Contact: John Geek  
Phone Number: +1.3105551215  
Fax Number: +1.3105551216  
Email: johngeek@example-registrar.tld  
>>> Last update of WHOIS 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 WHOIS 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).

**Deleted:** <sup>1</sup> The Registry Operators of .com, .jobs and .net are expected to be required to implement the requirements set forth in this Policy as part of their transition from thin to thick registries pursuant to the implementation of the [Thick Whois GNSO PDP Recommendations adopted by the ICANN Board on 7 February 2014](#).<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> 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)

