

Date: May 15, 2011

Expression of Interest from Will Shorter for the IDN Variant TLD Latin Case Study Team

I am employed by VeriSign, Inc. as Senior Manager, Product Management. I maintain product management responsibility for the .com and .net top-level domain name TLD registries, including Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs). In my capacity I set the software development roadmap, create technical requirements, and drive implementation of IDN standards and policies at the registry level.

From 1999 to 2000, prior to joining Verisign I provided technical support at Network Solutions registrar business supporting registrant inquires related to DNS, WHOIS, and other registrant related issues. I joined the Verisign registry in January 2001 shortly following the launch of the initial Verisign IDN testbed and worked closely with IDN registrars on their technical integration and implementation of IDNs for .com, and .net TLDs. I have extensive experience in the technical support, software logic, and systems integration of critical IDN Registry Services. During my time as Customer Service Supervisor at Verisign Registry I trained team members, handled escalations, developed knowledge base technical support documentation, and served as the team subject matter expert on the Shared Registration System, Internationalized Domain Name, and Managed DNS services. I have been a primary author of content for Verisign's EPP Reference Manual. The EPP Reference Manual is a guide for registrars to the EPP .com/.net Shared Registration System. The guide includes EPP protocol logic, operational configuration and requirements, domain name life cycle exhibits, and complete feature description of all .com/.net related technical services.

I have recently taken on a new role in support of the IDN Software Developers Consortium, and am familiar with the challenges of implementing variants at the second level. I look forward to the opportunity to join the IDN Variant TLD Latin case study group as a Registry/Registrar operations expert, and feel my operational background and experience will be beneficial to the group's charter.

Verisign is the registry operator for the .com, .net and .name gTLDs and also provides backend registry services in support of Employ Media for the .jobs gTLD. Verisign is also the registry operator for two ccTLDs, .cc for the Cocos and Keelings Islands and .tv for Tuvalu. Verisign provides certain IDN domain registration services (directly or through its subsidiaries) for a number of top-level domains including the following: .com; .net; .cc; .tv; .name. Regarding the pending introduction of new gTLDs, Verisign may apply directly for new gTLDs

(which may include IDN gTLDs and also may serve as a registry services provider in support of other applicants for new gTLDs (including IDN gTLDs).

In addition to registry agreements with ICANN for .com and .net, Verisign also has obligations to the U.S. Department of Commerce through a cooperative agreement that was initiated in 1993 and has been amended many times since then. Those obligations include providing the A and J root servers as well as support to ICANN in implementing changes in the root zone file. As such, Verisign is a member of the DNS Root Server System Advisory Committee and also works closely with IANA staff in the processing of root zone changes.

Verisign is a member of the Registries Stakeholder Group in the ICANN GNSO. As an employee who supports Verisign's naming services business, I may have access to Registry Sensitive information including information about registrars. With regard to Verisign's gTLD and ccTLD registration services businesses as well as other Verisign businesses, our customers and business associates have interests in various ICANN policy issues and may be members of various GNSO constituencies and/or supporting organizations. I am currently a member of the Joint ccNSO-GNSO IDN (JIG) WG and the Internationalized Registration Data (IRD) WG within ICANN.

I own shares of Verisign stock and hold options to purchase additional shares, but the amount of shares I currently own plus the potential shares I could possibly own if I exercised all options is a miniscule number relative to the total number of Verisign shares. In my personal capacity I have less than 5% of my net worth invested in companies that are involved in registration services for top level domains.