

# Maintaining Top-Level Domain Health

Naela Sarras, Amy Creamer, James Mitchell, Adiel A. Akplogan

Webinar  
24 August 2022



# Welcome and Opening Remarks

Agenda Item 1

# Our Team



**Naela Sarras**

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# Presenters



**Amy Creamer**

Director of IANA Operations, ICANN



**James Mitchell**

Director of IANA Technical Services, ICANN



**Adiel A. Akplogan**

Vice President of Technical Engagement,  
ICANN

# Agenda

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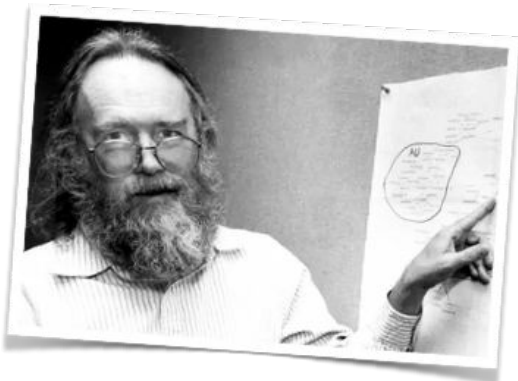
- Welcome and Opening Remarks
- Internet Assigned Numbers Authority (IANA) process for making Top-Level Domain (TLD) changes, keeping records up to date and what to do in the case of an emergency
  - About the IANA Functions
  - How to Submit a Root Zone Change Request
  - Keeping Your Contact Information Up to Date
  - Contacting IANA in case of an emergency
  - Domain Name System Security Extensions (DNSSEC) Key Rollovers
- Knowledge-sharing and Instantiating Norms for Domain Name System and Naming Security (KINDNS) Requirements for TLD Operators
- Q&A/Open discussion

# IANA process for making TLD changes, keeping records up to date and what to do in the case of an emergency

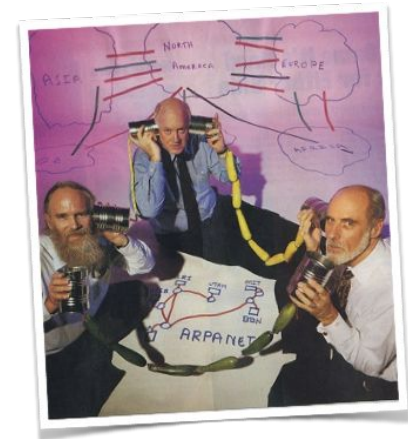
## Agenda Item 2

# What are the IANA functions?

- The record keeper for the unique names and numbers used by Internet technologies to interoperate
- The IANA functions pre-date ICANN. In 1998, ICANN was established to be the home of the IANA functions
- The unique identifiers include protocol parameters, Internet numbers and domain names
- The IANA team maintains these records according to policies adopted by Internet names, numbers and protocol standards communities

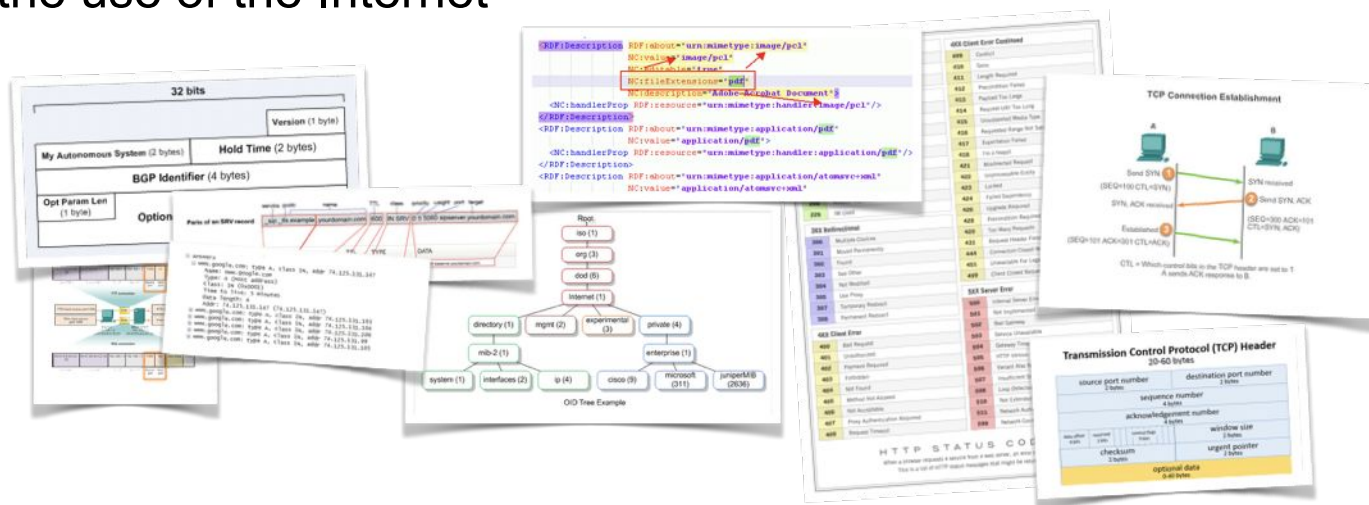


Jon Postel (L) started the IANA; with Steve Crocker and Vint Cerf (R)



# Why do the IANA functions exist?

- Coordinating the Internet unique identifier systems is needed to ensure the Internet interoperates globally
- If Internet-connected devices do not use the same system of identifiers and numbers to communicate to each other, the system will not interoperate (i.e. speak a common language)
- The authoritative registries are used by vendors, service providers, businesses, application developers and others to innovate and expand the use of the Internet





## The IANA Department does

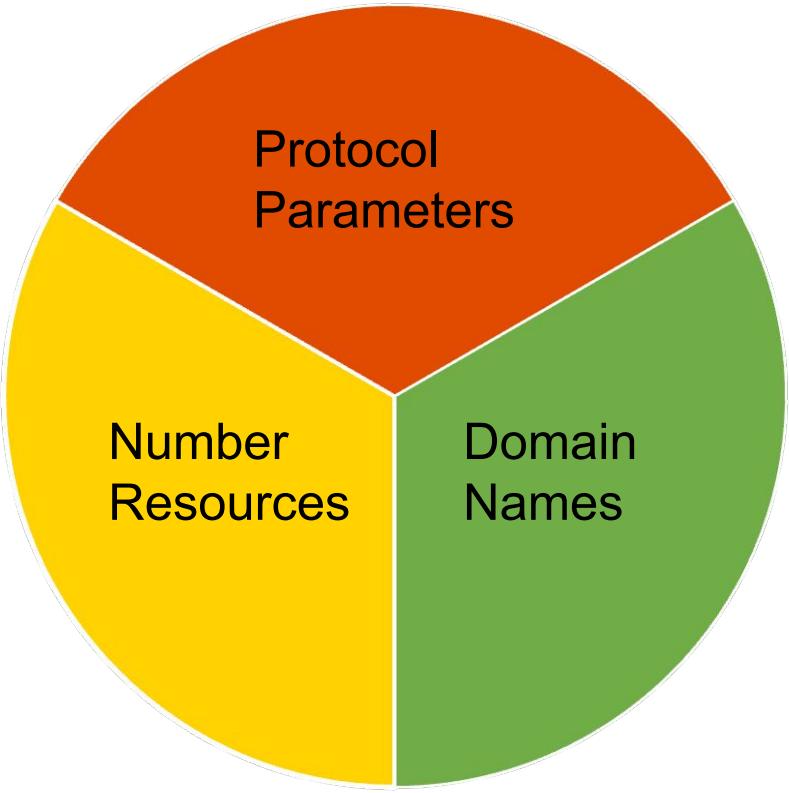
- ✓ Create registries based on policies from the community
- ✓ Maintain existing registries
- ✓ Allocate number resources
- ✓ Publish all registries for general public use

## The IANA Department does not

- ✗ Create or interpret policies
- ✗ Determine what can be a domain name
- ✗ Choose TLD managers

# Service Areas

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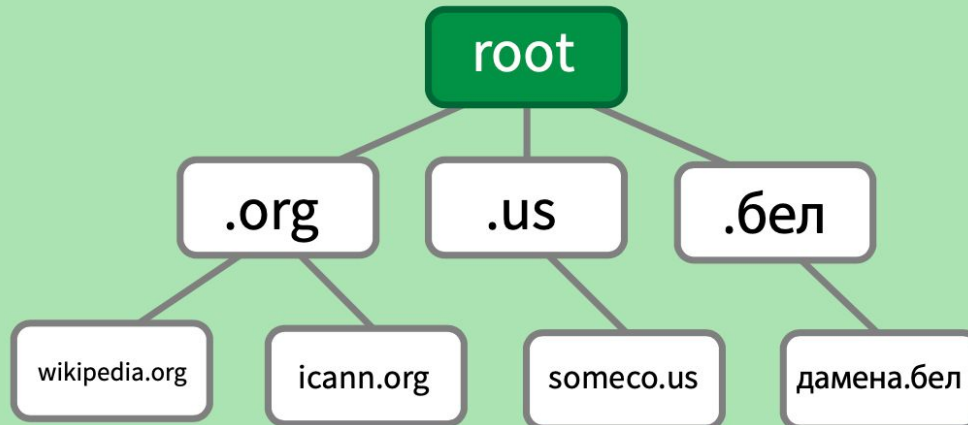


# Domain Name Space

## Unique Identifiers

### Domain Name System

#### Domain Name Space



# How to Submit a Root Zone Change Request

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- **Web Service**

- Primary method to submit changes is online through the Root Zone Management System (RZMS) at <https://rzm.iana.org>

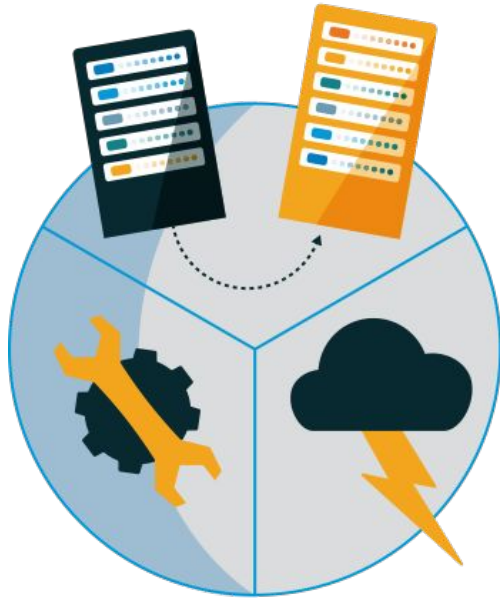
- **Email:**

- If there are issues accessing RZMS, send an email to [<root-mgmt@iana.org>](mailto:root-mgmt@iana.org) using the online template at <https://iana.org/domains/root/manage>

- **Application Programming Interface (API) – Coming Soon**

- Programmatic interface to submit and interact with the RZMS
- First version targeted for bulk operations (e.g., RSPs with large portfolios)

# The Change Request Process



## Event Triggers Request

An event such as a change in TLD operator, routine maintenance (technical or staffing change) or a natural disaster triggers the need for a change request.

### REGISTRY ENTRY FOR .HAMBURG

#### Operator

**Hamburg Top-Level-Domain GmbH**  
Gertigstrasse 28, Hamburg, 22303  
Germany

#### Contacts

**Oliver Joachim Sueme**  
Hamburg Top-Level-Domain GmbH  
Gertigstrasse 28, Hamburg, 22303  
Germany  
Email: os@dothamburg.de  
Voice: +49 40 27806736  
Fax: +49 40 380 89 810

**Martin Schlicksbier**  
TLD-BOX Registrydienstleistungen  
Jakob-Haringer-Strasse 8  
5020 Salzburg  
Austria  
Email: iana@tld-box.at  
Voice: +43 662 2345 48730

#### Technical configuration

NS a.dns.nic.hamburg (194.0.25.21 2001:678:20:0:0:0:0:21)  
NS b.dns.nic.hamburg (193.170.61.10 2001:62a:a:2000:0:0:0:10)  
NS c.dns.nic.hamburg (193.170.187.10 2001:62a:a:3000:0:0:0:10)  
DS 53866 8 2 AF2F53F6B523F31C04A741B3826D27CBAE16F4BA6F...  
DS 26479 8 1 1C9F5D68C413E8A9A2C8E1C1637B8A4DA2CA6827  
DS 26479 8 2 4A48334EF87D7FC156E886E5A2B2682FCF0679ED6FC...  
DS 53866 8 1 D26808AE1E19086BCF5FC88D59066C3AD22F2E56

#### Metadata

<http://www.dothamburg.de>  
whois.nic.hamburg

# 1

## Submit a Change Request



A TLD operator submits a change request to IANA. This is typically done through an automated web service IANA provides called the Root Zone Management System (RZMS).



<https://rzm.iana.org>

### Root Zone Management

Username

Password

Managers of top-level domains can log in to manage their delegation details in the root zone database. This includes the contact details, nameserver records and DS records for the domain. Supply your username and password to login.

**Forgot your username or password?**

Don't worry - you can [recover the username](#) or [reset the password](#) online.

**Delegating a new gTLD?**

[Start the process](#) using your delegation token provided by TAS.

[Privacy Policy and Terms of Service](#)

## 2 Technical Verification *if Applicable*



Technical checks are performed when there are technical changes in order to cross-verify that errors are not introduced into the system and negatively impact the root zone.

### Tech Checks

#### Requirement for Name Servers

- ✓ Minimum number of name servers
- ✓ Valid hostnames
- ✓ Name server reachability
- ✓ Answer authoritatively
- ✓ Network diversity
- ✓ Consistency between glue and authoritative data
- ✓ Consistency between delegation and zone
- ✓ Consistency between authoritative name servers
- ✓ No truncation of referrals
- ✓ Prohibited networks
- ✓ No open recursive name service
- ✓ Same source address
- ✓ DS record format
- ✓ Supported signing algorithm
- ✓ Supported digest type
- ✓ Matching DNSKEY records
- ✓ Validation of RRSIG

For more information on Technical Checks go to:  
<https://www.iana.org/help/nameserver-requirements>

### 3 Consent



IANA confirms consent from the appropriate parties. This is typically the administrative and technical contacts for most change requests.

\*If a contact is unresponsive or unable to consent to a change, the TLD manager can provide IANA with a letter to authorize the request and/or replace contacts.

#### Consent

- ✓ Existing contacts agree to change
- ✓ New contacts agree to their new responsibilities
- ✓ Other impacted TLDs agree



# 4

## Policy Review and Processing



IANA checks that the change request meets policy and contractual requirements. If issues are found, IANA clarifies them with the TLD operator.

### Regulatory

- ✓ Request meets legal requirements

### Transfer of responsibility

- ✓ Meets policy requirements for transfers (differs between ccTLDs and gTLDs)

### Well-formedness

- ✓ Supplied data is clear, well-formed and consistent

## 5 Supplemental Technical Verification if Applicable



For technical changes, another technical check is performed prior to implementation to cross-verify that errors are not introduced into the system and negatively impact the root zone.

### Tech Checks

#### Requirement for Name Servers

- ✓ Minimum number of name servers
- ✓ Valid hostnames
- ✓ Name server reachability
- ✓ Answer authoritatively
- ✓ Network diversity
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## 6

### Implement changes

Technical changes to the root zone are implemented. This includes applying a tamper-evident seal using DNSSEC, and distributing the updated root zone file to root server operators. The Root Zone Database is updated with the changes.



## Service Level Agreements (SLAs)

SLAs are metrics defined by the naming community for root zone management performance.

Each step in processing a change request has corresponding SLAs that the IANA function must meet.

SLAs defined in the naming agreement can be found here: <https://pti.icann.org/agreements>

Metric	Threshold	Type	Compliance	Period
<b>Submission</b>				
Time for ticket confirmation to be sent to requester following receipt of change request via automated submission interface	≤ 60 secs	Max	95%	Month
<b>Technical Checks</b>				
Time to return results for technical checks following submission of request via automated submission interface	≤ 50 mins	Max	95%	Month
<b>Contact Confirmation</b>				
Time for authorization contacts to be asked to approve change request after completing previous process phase	≤ 60 secs	Max	95%	Month
<b>Review and Processing</b>				
Time to complete all other validations and reviews by Contractor and release request for implementation	≤ 5 days	Max	90%	Month

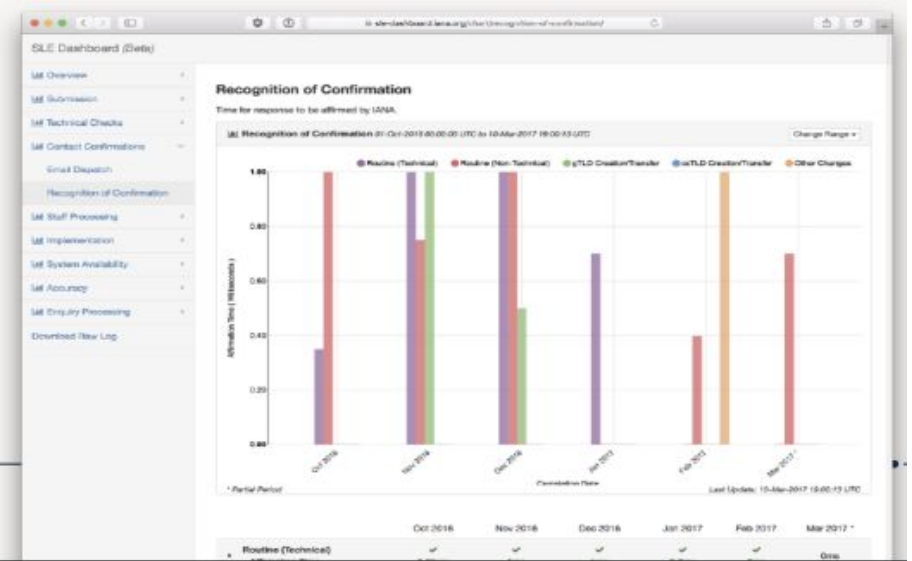
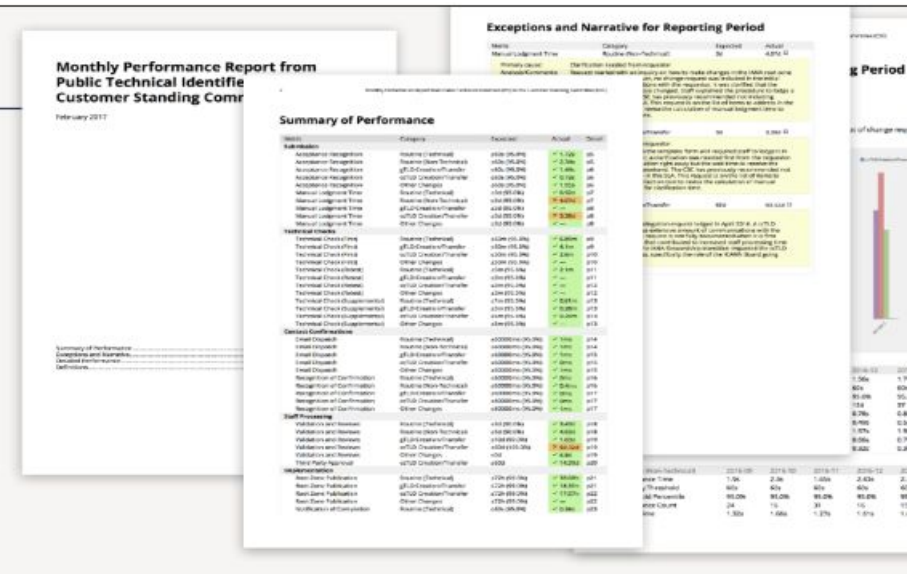
# Reporting on SLAs

A monthly report compares IANA performance against the SLAs. This performance report is available online here:

[iana.org/performance/csc-reports](http://iana.org/performance/csc-reports)

Our Dashboard provides real-time reporting of performance metrics and can be viewed at:

[sle-dashboard.iana.org](http://sle-dashboard.iana.org)



# Keeping Contact Information Up to Date

## Current Root Zone Database record

### Delegation Record for .ABUDHABI

(Generic top-level domain)

#### Sponsoring Organisation

**Abu Dhabi Systems and Information Centre**  
Abu Dhabi Systems & Information Centre  
International Tower Al Karama Street  
Abu Dhabi  
United Arab Emirates

#### Administrative Contact

**Khadeeja Mohsen Al Faqeeh**  
Abu Dhabi Systems & Information Centre  
International Tower Al Karama Street  
Abu Dhabi  
United Arab Emirates  
**Email:** adtld@adsic.abudhabi.ae  
**Voice:** +97126961146  
**Fax:** +97126717333

#### Technical Contact

**Manager Systems, ae Domain Administration**  
Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of UAE  
Al Waheeda street Al Memzar  
P.O.Box 116688  
Dubai  
United Arab Emirates (AE)  
United Arab Emirates  
**Email:** gtldsupport@aeda.ae  
**Voice:** +97142300018  
**Fax:** +97142300011

#### Management Organisation "ccTLD Manager"/"Registry Operator"

Legal entity responsible for the TLD, and empowered to replace the existing administrative and technical contacts

#### Administrative Contact

Listed in the WHOIS, and cross-authorizes all changes to the TLD regardless of type.

#### Technical Contact

Listed in the WHOIS, and cross-authorizes all changes to the TLD regardless of type.

- Update your contact information through the change process we outlined earlier.
- Or send an email to [root-mgmt@iana.org](mailto:root-mgmt@iana.org) for assistance.

# Why Keep Your Contact Information Up to Date?

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- All change requests must be approved by the administrative and technical contacts
  - Keep names/emails current so approvals happen swiftly
- WHOIS – ensure public facing contact information is current and reachable
- Keep in alignment with country code top-level domain (ccTLD) policies/generic top-level domain (gTLD) contracts

# In Case Of An Emergency

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- An emergency is when a TLD is no longer resolving.
- If possible submit your change request via RZMS first.
- Call our 24x7 call center. They will take your contact details and our staff will call you back as soon as possible to talk to you about how to best handle your emergency.
- Our regular email is [root-mgmt@iana.org](mailto:root-mgmt@iana.org) for any questions!



# Upcoming: Upgrade to RZMS

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- Find out more about the upgrade and new features at ICANN75
  - Join IANA on Tuesday, 20 Sept, at 10:30 a.m. MYT (Malaysia Time)
- Additional information about the upcoming updates is available here:
  - FAQs: <https://www.iana.org/help/rzm-answers>
  - Blog:  
<https://www.icann.org/en/blogs/details/ushering-in-the-next-generation-of-root-zone-management-19-05-2022-en>

# DNSSEC Key Rollovers

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- Technical checks ensure proposed changes are consistent with the authoritative servers.
- Authoritative servers must reflect proposed changes prior to submitting a change request.
- Double-KSK Rollovers meet these requirements.

# DNSSEC Key Rollovers

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- Don't rely on the technical check service to catch all errors
- Plan for the rollover to take time
- Avoid going unsigned
- Design your system with the next rollover in mind

# DNSSEC Key Rollovers

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- We are looking to understand your operational requirements
- IANA is planning the next evolution of the technical check service
- ICANN DNS Symposium 2022

# KINDNS Requirements for TLD Operators

## Agenda Item 3

# Q&A/Open discussion

Agenda Item 4



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