

Transfer Policy Review PDP Working Group Working Session

Roger Carney, Working Group Chair 11 March 2023



What is the Transfer Policy?

ICANN consensus policy governing the procedure and requirements for registrants to transfer their domain names from one registrar to another.

- Goal: Enhanced domain name portability
 - greater consumer and business choice
 - > registrants may select the registrar that offers the best services and price for their needs
- Went into effect on 12 November 2004
- GNSO reviewed the policy once before, shortly after implementation

Issue Areas for the PDP

Charter Topics:

Group 1(a):

- Form of Authorization (including Rec. 27, Wave 1 FOA issues)
- AuthInfo Codes
- Denying (NACKing) Transfers

Group 1(b):

Change of Registrant (including Rec. 27, Wave 1 Change of Registrant issues)

Group 2:

- Transfer Emergency Action Contact
- Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy (including Rec. 27, Wave 1 TDRP issues)
- Reversing transfers
- ICANN-approved transfers

Status

- Project plan originally anticipated a phased approach to the work, with deliverables for each phase.
- Working Group produced a Phase 1A Initial Report, revised recommendations following public comment on the report, and conducted preliminary deliberations on Phase 1B topics.
- Project plan was revised to account for newly-found dependencies between topics. The group
 has consolidated work into a single phase, with an additional Initial Report planned covering
 all topics and a single Final Report.
- Discussion of Phase 2 (now Group 2) topics began in February 2023.
- The working group will return to Group 1 topics after developing preliminary outputs on Group 2 topics to ensure that any dependencies are taken into account.

Transfer Emergency Action Contact (TEAC)

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Registrars must establish a Transfer Emergency Action Contact ("TEAC") <u>for</u> <u>urgent communications relating to transfers.</u> (Transfer Policy, Section I.4.6)



May be designated as a **telephone number** or some other **real-time communication channel** (Sec. I.4.6.1)



Must generate a **non-automated response** by a human representative of the Gaining Registrar (Sec. I.4.6.2)



Responses are required within 4 hours, although final resolution of the incident may take longer. (Sec. I.4.6.3)



Channel is **reserved for Rrs, Rys, and ICANN org** (Sec. I.4.6.2)



Records of communications for this channel **must be retained** and documentation must be shared with ICANN and Rys upon request

Original Objectives of TEAC



24 x 7 x 365 access to registrar technical support staff for emergencies



Quickly reverse instances of domain name hijacking or transfer errors



Ensure registrar representative is **empowered to take action** on TEAC requests



Policy violation for non-responsive registrars

Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy (TDRP)

TDRP



Designed for **cases of invalid inter-registrar transfers**, where registrars are unable to resolve the issue amongst themselves



Must be filed by **Registrar (not Rt) within 12 months of invalid transfer** (TDRP Sec. 2.2)



Decided by **independent panelist(s)** appointed by the Provider (TDRP, Sec. 1.3)



Complainant must **pay fee to file a TDRP** (may be transferred to respondent in some instances) (TDRP, Sec. 3.3)



Documentation of improper transfer is required (TDRP, Sec. 3.1, 3.2)