Overview of gTLD Transfers

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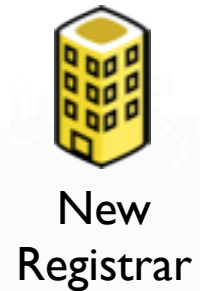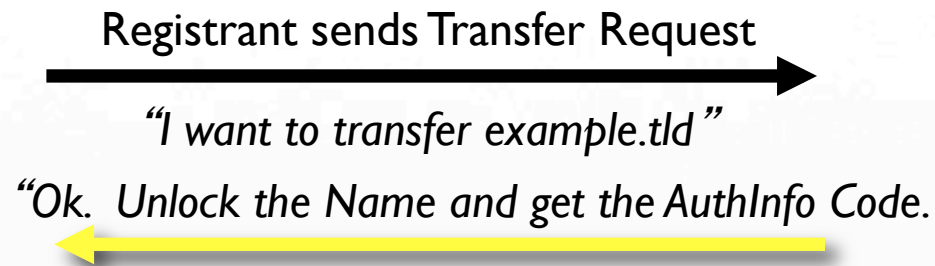
Purpose of IRTP

- IRTP is critical to supporting a competitive registration marketplace

- Allows registrants to "vote with their feet" if they are unhappy with their Registrar

- Provides standardized process for varied registrar systems & processes.

- Also sometimes used in conjunction with a "change of control"
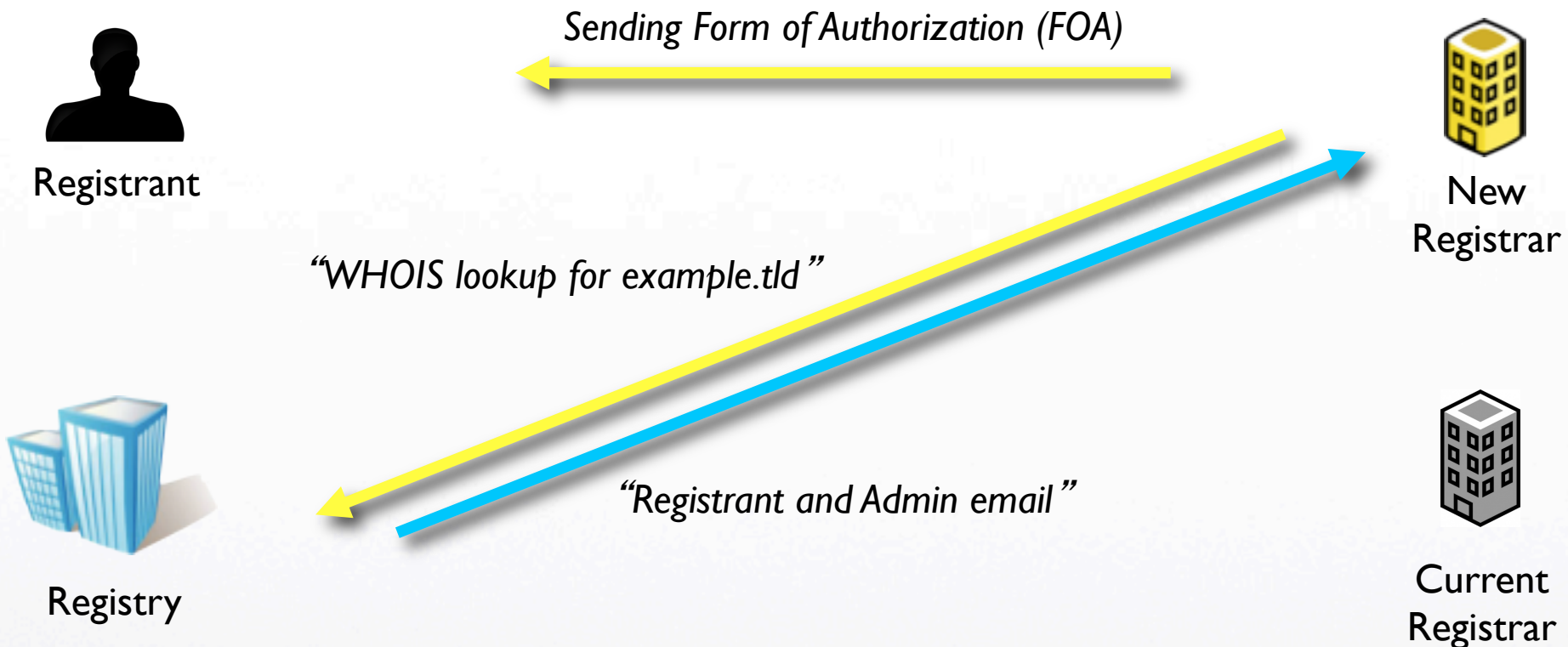
Definitions / Acronyms

- IRTP: Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy. a.k.a. "Transfer."

- Transfer Contact: Authorized to approve the transfer, either the Registrant or Admin Contact listed in the WHOIS for the name.

- New Registrar: The "Gaining Registrar" that will receive the Transferred name.

- Current Registrar: The "Losing registrar" that is the current "registrar of record" for the Tranferring name.

- FOA: Form of Authorization - electronic or paper confirmation of the transfer by the Transfer Contact.

- AuthInfo: A unique "code" assigned to the domain name that must be provided to the Registry when requesting the Transfer.

A "Pristine" Transfer

Registrant

Registrant sends Transfer Request

"*I want to transfer example.tld*"

"*Ok. Unlock the Name and get the AuthInfo Code.*"

New
Registrar

Registrant initiates transfer at the New Registrar
New Registrar provides instructions.

A "Pristine" Transfer

Sending Form of Authorization (FOA)

Registrant

"WHOIS lookup for example.tld"

New
Registrar

"Registrant and Admin email"

Registry

Current
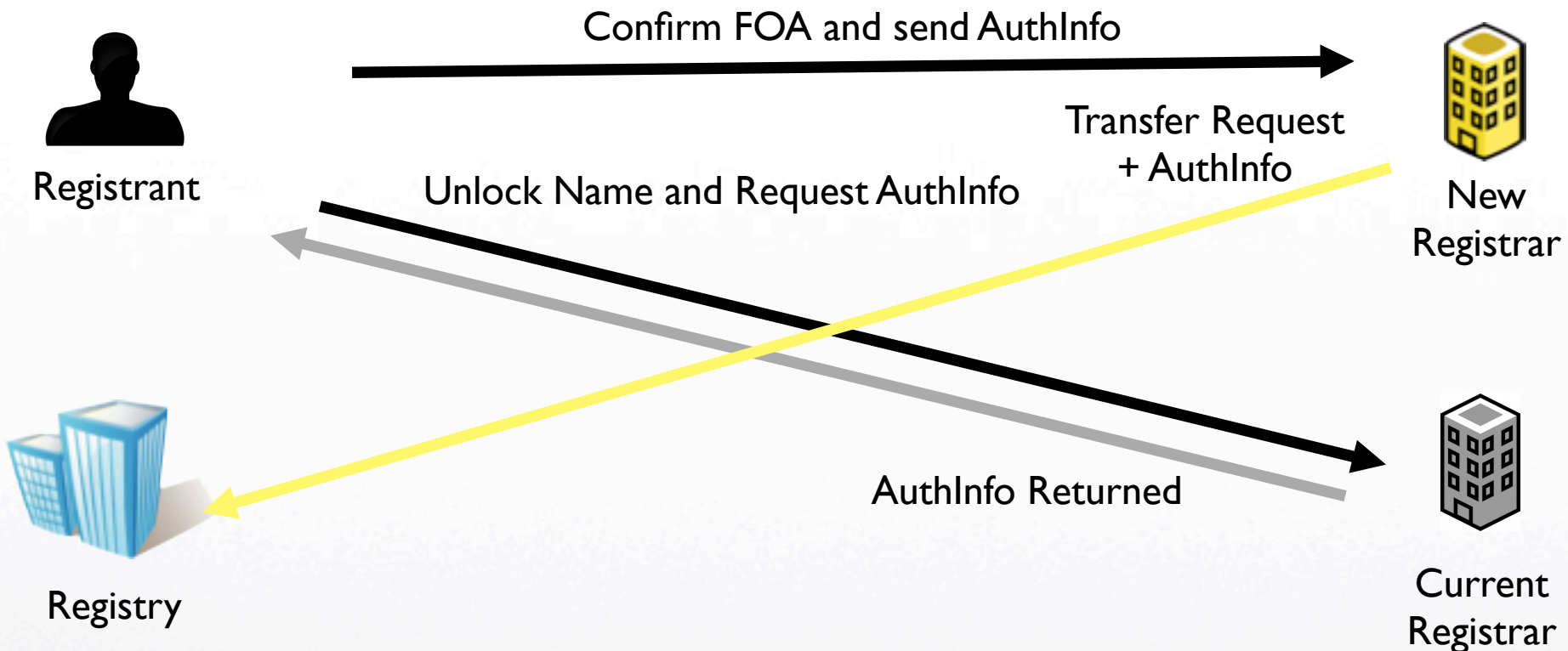Registrar

w Registrar performs a WHOIS lookup to get Registrar
r Admin email
m of Authorization (FOA) is sent to Transfer Contact

A "Pristine" Transfer

Confirm FOA and send AuthInfo

Transfer Request + AuthInfo

Registrant

Unlock Name and Request AuthInfo

New Registrar

AuthInfo Returned

Registry

Current Registrar

trant unlocks domain name and requests AuthInfo Code

nfo is returned by current ("losing") registrar. This cannot be delayed

ably denied.

trant sends FOA and AuthInfo to New Registrar

Registrar requests transfer and sends AuthInfo to Registry.

A "Pristine" Transfer

Registrant

Losing Registrar FOA

New Registrar

Registry

Notification of Transfer Pending

Current Registrar
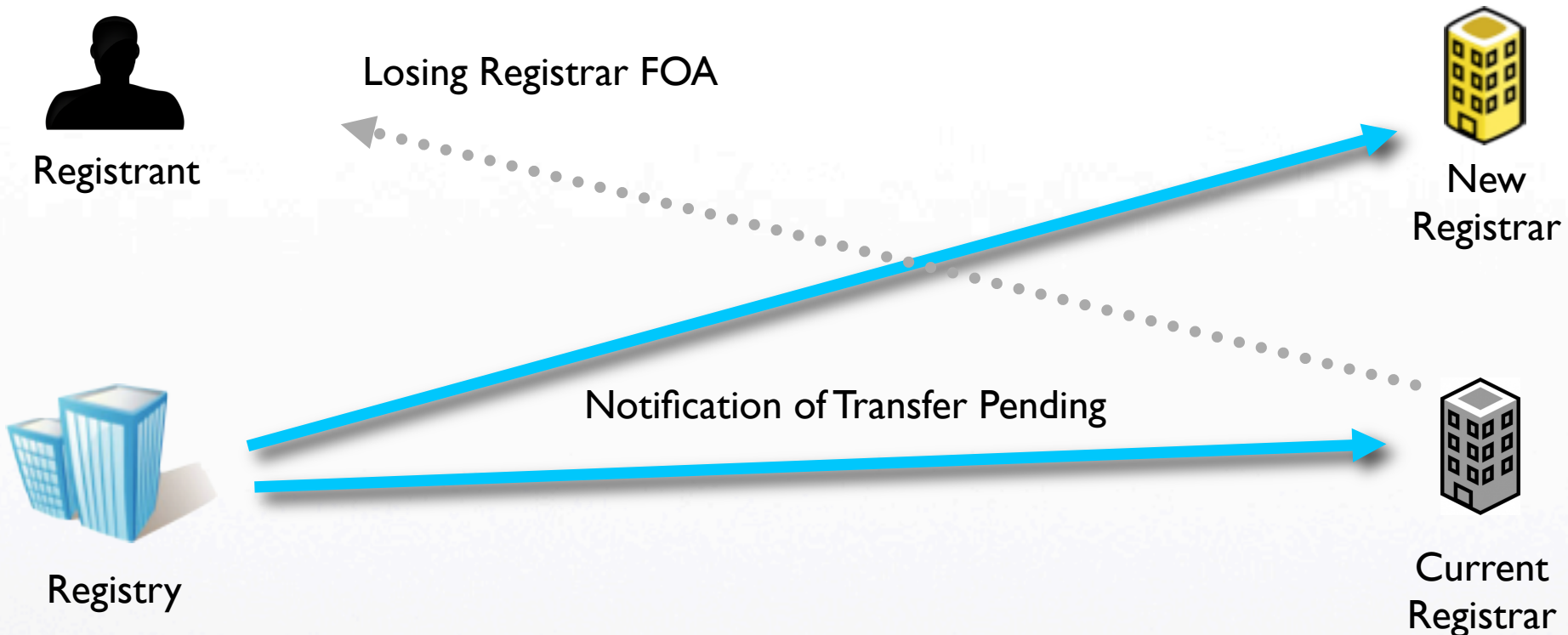
...ing name is unlocked and AuthInfo is valid, the Registry sends notice t...
...r is Pending.

... Registrar may (must) send FOA to Registrant. Transfer is not depend...
...p.

...5 days with no objections ("NACK"), the transfer is complete

Exception Cases

- If the Registrant does not accept the FOA or provide the AuthInfo, the New Registrar cannot request the transfer.

- If the Name is Locked or the AuthInfo is invalid, then the Registry will reject the tranfser.

- Losing Registrar can reject ("NACK") the transfer for one of the acceptable "Reasons for Denial."

- What if the Registrant and Admin Contact disagree? The Registrant FOA overrides.

Reasons for Denial

as of Nov 2011

1. Evidence of Fraud

2. UDRP Action

3. Court Order

4. Reasonable dispute over the identity of the Transfer Contact

5. Non-payment for **previous** registration period

6. Express written object from the Transfer Contact

7. Domain Name was already "locked" *

8. Transfer was requested within 60 days of creation date

9. Transfer was requested within 60 days or previous transfer

What about disputes?

- Disputes regarding transfers can be resolved by several methods, in escalating time / cost:

- Discussion between the Registrant and Admin Contact to resolve any conflicting FOAs.

- Losing and Gaining Registrar working with pre-transfer Registrant to resolve / reverse the transfer.

- Filing a "Transfer Dispute Resolution Policy" (TDRP) with the appropriate registry.

- Court action