

Registry Registration Data Directory Services Consistent Labeling and Display Policy

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", and "MAY" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119, which is available at <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>.

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") 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. 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. 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
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.

¹ 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](#).

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.

| 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 |
| 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 |

8. 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 |

9. In responses to domain name object queries the following field² MUST be included before the footer ">>> Last update of Whois database: <date and time> <<<".

² 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)

- URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>

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

Not To Be Deployed Before: 1 November 2016

Author
Deleted: <#>The implementation of an RDAP service in accordance with the "[RDAP Operational Profile for gTLD Registries and Registrars](#)" is required for all gTLD registries in order to achieve consistent labeling and display. - [...](#) [1]

Author
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Implementation Notes

1. On 27 April 2015, ICANN published an [Advisory](#) in response to questions from both registries and registrars regarding the applicable Registration Data Directory Services (commonly known as WHOIS) specifications. Registry Operators should continue to consult this Advisory to be in compliance with their registry agreement.
2. The policy includes a "Not To Be Deployed Before date" that indicates the earliest date a Registry Operator is permitted to deploy in production the changes to its RDDS services described in this policy. This date is included to give ICANN time to update its compliance tools with the new requirements in the policy prior to the "Effective Date".
3. The following section describes example outputs for the query objects:

Domain Name Data:

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

Domain Name: EXAMPLE.TLD
Registry Domain ID: D1234567-TLD
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
Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited
Registry Registrant ID: 5372808-ERL
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-ERL
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-ERL
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
Tech Phone: +1.1235551234
Tech Phone Ext: 1234
Tech Fax: +1.5555551213
Tech Fax Ext: 93
Tech Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD
Name Server: NS01.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
Name Server: NS02.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD
DNSSEC: signedDelegation
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>
>>> Last update of WHOIS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<

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](#) 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).