

# Top 10 Questions About the Next-Generation Registration Directory Service (RDS)

Expert Working Group on gTLD  
Directory Services (EWG)  
16-17 September, 2014



# Webinar Agenda

- Introduction
- Top 10 Questions about the RDS proposed by the EWG's Final Report
- Resources and Next Steps
- Q&A

***Download These Slides:  
[https://www.icann.org/news/  
announcement-2014-08-25-en](https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2014-08-25-en)***

## About the EWG

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- Formed to break decade-long impasse
  - Members brought diverse expertise and experiences to bear on this complex problem
  - Discussed issues frankly, participated individually, and sought compromises
- Working together to find an answer to the ICANN Board's question

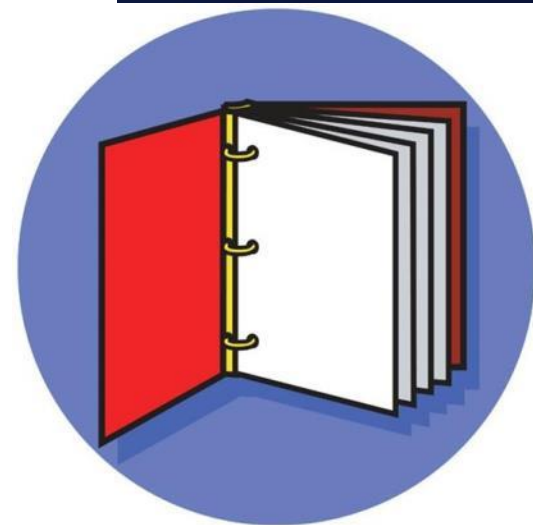
***Is there an alternative to today's WHOIS to better serve the global Internet community?***



# EWG's Final Report

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- Details a proposed next-generation **Registration Directory Service (RDS)**
- Strikes a balance between
  - **Accuracy**
  - **Access**
  - **Privacy**
  - **Accountability**
- Collects, validates and discloses gTLD data for **permissible purposes only**
- Safeguarded through a new paradigm of **purpose-driven gated access**



***Download Report:***  
***<https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=48343061>***

# Top 10 Questions About the RDS



***Based on FAQs:  
[https://community.icann.org/  
display/WG/EWG+FAQs](https://community.icann.org/display/WG/EWG+FAQs)***

# 1) What makes the RDS different?

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- WHOIS provides one-size-fits-all public access to anonymous users
  - Little accountability or abuse remedies
  - Limited individual privacy protection or ability to conform to differing laws
  - Limited ability to ensure data integrity
  - Lack of security and auditing capabilities
  - Cumbersome contact management
  - Inefficient communication
- The proposed RDS was designed to address these WHOIS shortcomings

think  
different.

## 2) Did the EWG choose a centralized model for the RDS?

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- The EWG evaluated several possible models against defined criteria

POSSIBLE MODELS	Collection	Storage	Copy	Access
Current WHOIS	RR	RR/Ry	n/a	RR/Ry
Federated	RR & V	RR/Ry & V	n/a	RDS
Synchronized *	RR & V	RR/Ry & V	RDS	RDS
Regional	RR & V	RR/Ry & V	Regional	RDS
Opt-Out	RR & V	RR/Ry & V	Optional	RDS
Bypass	RR & V	RR & V	RDS	RDS

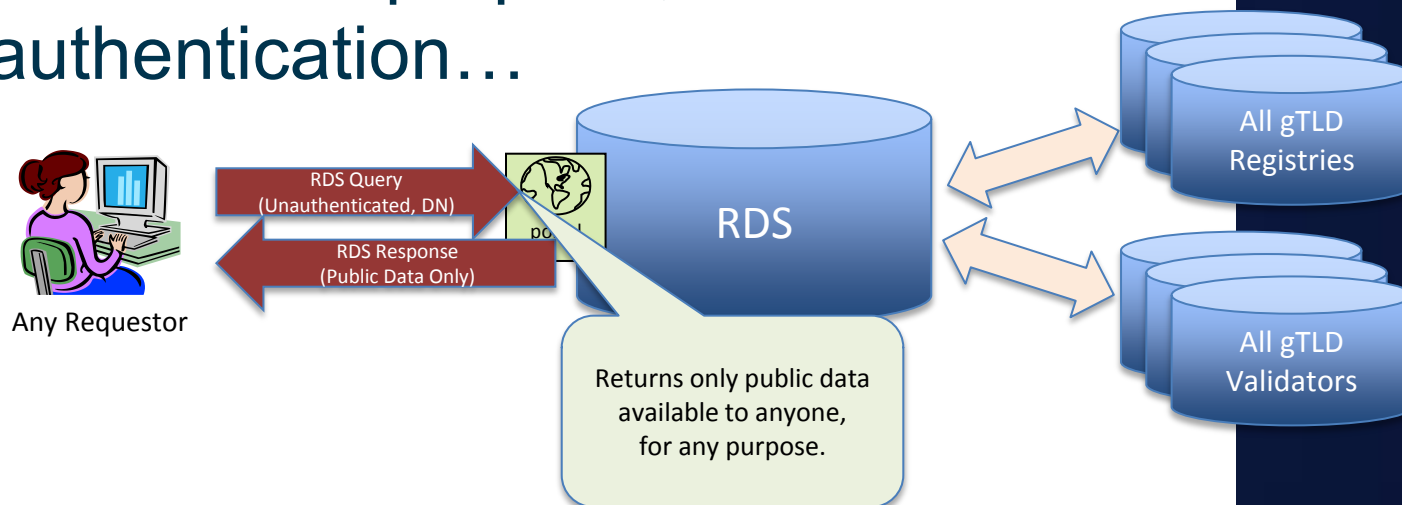
- After rigorous analysis of factors – including cost – the EWG chose the Synchronized RDS (SRDS)

\* Formerly known as the Aggregated RDS (ARDS)



### 3) Does the RDS eliminate free public access to data?

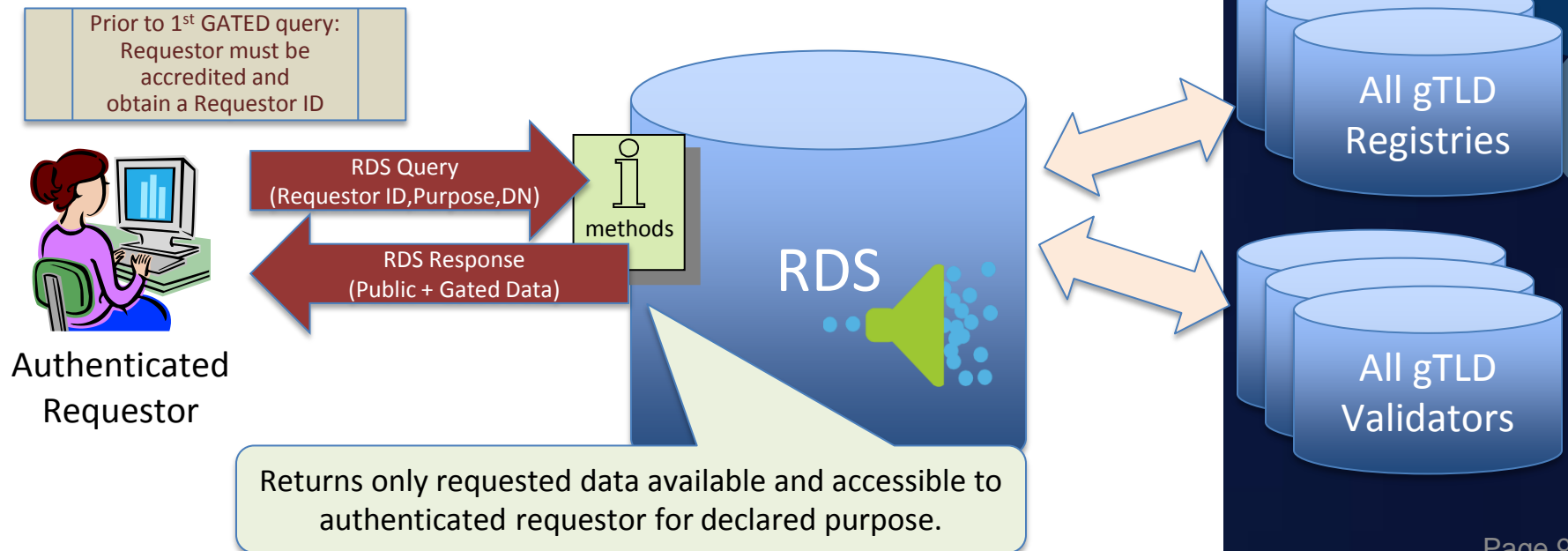
- Some registration data would remain public to promote Internet stability and meet basic DNS needs
- This minimum public data would still be accessible by anyone, for any permissible purpose, without authentication...



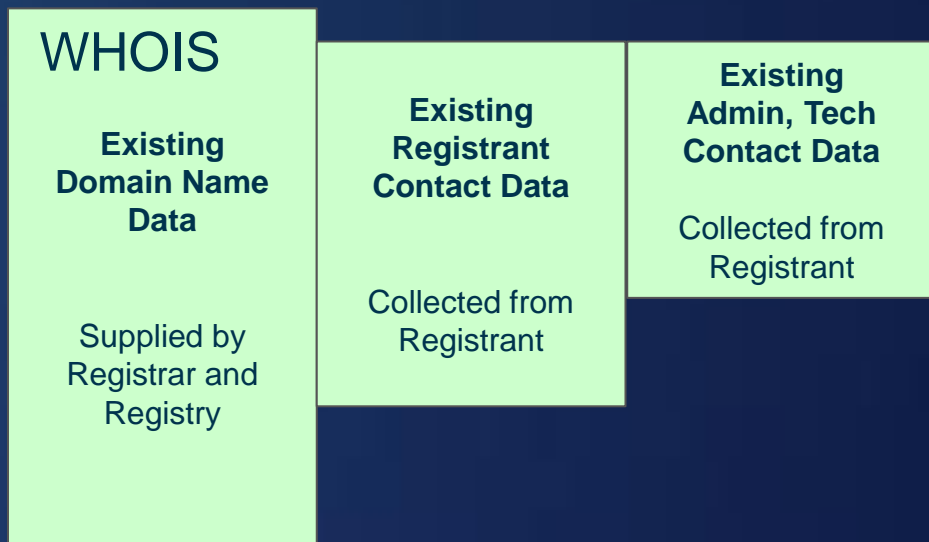


## 4) What would I need to do to access gated RDS data?

- In the RDS, data is collected and disclosed for permissible purposes
- Requestors and their data needs vary; so would gated access policies

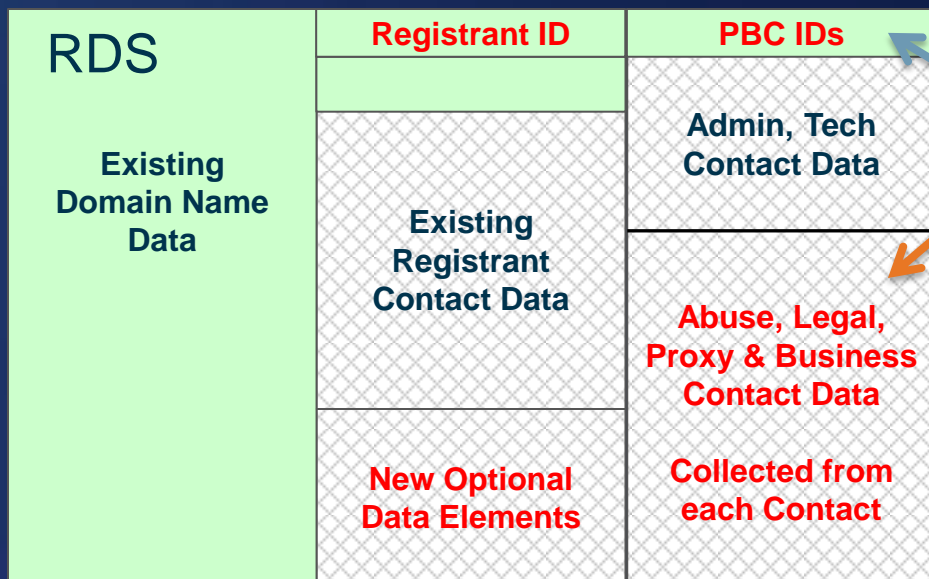


# 5) What new data will the RDS collect?



## Today's WHOIS

- Entirely Public Data
- Entirely Anonymous Access
- Registrants Cannot Provide Contemporary/Alternate Data
- Contacts Cannot Prevent Inaccurate or Fraudulent Use

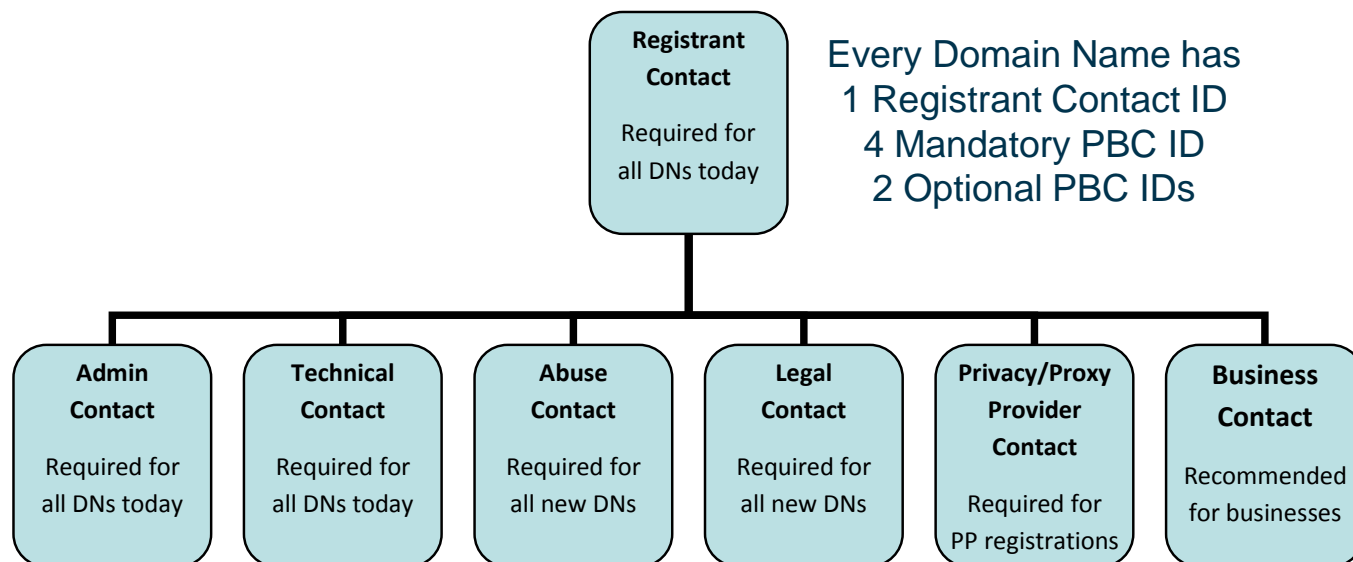


## Purpose-Driven RDS

- Minimum Public Data – *Most Data Gated By Default!*
- Contact Data is Validated
- IDs link Contact Data to Registered Domain Names
- Purpose-Based Contacts (PBCs) Manage Own Data

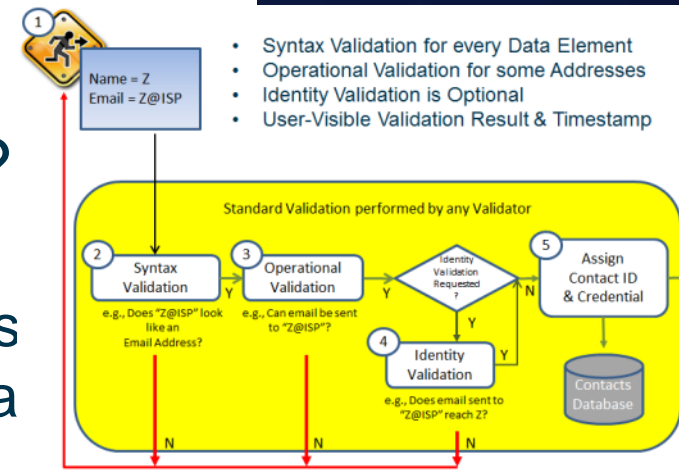
## 6) What are Contacts and Contact IDs?

- Contacts are reusable blocks of contact data, linked to domains by Contact IDs
  - Contact IDs (numbers) are public
  - Contact Data (names, addresses) is largely gated
- Improves accountability and reachability while giving everyone more control over personal data



## 7) How would the RDS improve data quality, privacy, and security?

- Gives Registrants and Contact Holders greater control over their personal data
- Applies standard validation to all data and option to further deter identity theft
- Uses Gated Access to deliver purpose-based access with greater accountability & security
- Uses “rules engine” to enforce RDS policy, harmonized with data protection & privacy laws
- Supports accredited privacy/proxy services and secure protected credentials for at-risk users



## 8) How does the RDS make life simpler for individual registrants?

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- In the RDS, Registrants will have
  - More visibility into what their data is used for
  - Ability to enter and update their data more easily
  - More flexibility and control over what data is public
  - Options to deter fraudulent use of their data
  - One place to see what RDS users can learn about them
- And greater assurance that
  - Privacy, data protection, security, and auditing policies will be uniformly applied
  - Access to data will be limited to those with a need to know
  - Requestors who access data will be held accountable



## 9) How would the RDS impact registrar and registry costs?

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- RDS should operate on a cost-recovery basis
- gTLD Registrars no longer obligated to collect or validate WHOIS contact data
  - Collect pre-validated Contact IDs from registrants
  - Contact validation, compliance, and data protection burdens shift to “Validators”
  - Registrar’s obligations focus on DNS-related data
- gTLD Registries no longer obligated to receive or disclose WHOIS contact data
  - Contact data storage and processing shift to “Validators”
  - Port 43 WHOIS obligations shift to the Synchronized RDS
  - Registries use EPP to supply updates to the SRDS

# 10) How would the RDS address WhoWas and Reverse WHOIS needs?

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- The Registration Directory Service (RDS) will handle
  - “Ordinary” RDS Queries about every gTLD domain name
  - Reverse Queries that search public and gated data elements across all gTLD domains
  - WhoWas Queries that return historical snapshots of both public and gated data
  - Enforcing requestor accreditation, authentication, authorization, and terms and conditions of RDS data use
- The entire RDS data set cannot be exported in bulk
- Third party service providers that use WHOIS bulk data today will be able to use this new RDS framework to
  - Query, process and deliver RDS data in innovative ways
  - Supplied only to accredited requestors with permissible purposes
  - Subject to terms and conditions of RDS data use

To learn more about the proposed RDS...

**Download Our Report:**

***<https://community.icann.org/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=48343061>***

**Read Our FAQs:**

***<https://community.icann.org/display/WG/EWG+FAQs>***

**Watch Our Videos:**

***<https://community.icann.org/display/WG/EWG+Multimedia+Frequently+Asked+Questions>***



## Next Steps

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- ICANN Board is now considering how to use EWG’s Final Report as a foundation for Board-requested GNSO Policy Development Process (PDP)
- At ICANN 51, Community Session on “all things WHOIS” will explore how to best structure PDP(s) for success
- All interested parties are invited to
  - Contribute ideas about PDP structure in LA
  - Provide feedback on RDS as part of PDP(s)

# Questions?

