

## 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 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.

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 case the Reseller for the name is a legal entity, or a natural person name otherwise.
5. If shown, the "Registrar Registration Expiration Date" field MUST appear immediately after the "Registry Expiry Date" field.
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 its original version in Specification 4 of the Base Registry Agreement. All other specifications in the Whois Advisory (e.g. format specifications of the value section) remain unchanged.

Original key in Specification 4 of the 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, name server
Referral URL	Registrar URL	domain name, registrar, name server
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 keys in the output of the domain name as defined as follows. The following table shows keys that are renamed from its original version in the Whois Advisory. All other specifications in the WHOIS Advisory (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 field MUST be included before the footer ">>> Last update of Whois database: <date and time> <<<".

- 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 field "Registry Admin/Tech/Billing/Registrant ID:" refers 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 Registry Agreement).
12. 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.
13. 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 and update the list of all the additional fields supported to ICANN.

**Effective Date:** 1 February 2017.

The Registry Operators for the .COM, .NET and .JOBS gTLDs shall be subject to this Policy upon the Policy Effective Date for the transition from thin to thick.

## 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 the Registry Agreement.
2. 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 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 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).