Recommendation 2: Single WHOIS Policy

Implementation Briefing for RDS2 Review Team

ICANN

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RDS/WHOIS1 Review Team's Recommendation 2: Single WHOIS Policy

Board should oversee creation of a single WHOIS policy document, and reference it in agreements with Contracted Parties. In doing so, ICANN should clearly document the current gTLD WHOIS policy as set out in the gTLD Registry & Registrar contracts & Consensus Policies and Procedure.

ICANN Board Action

The Board directs the CEO to create and maintain a single public source that compiles current gTLD WHOIS requirements for gTLD registries, registrars and registrants (including consensus policies and contractual conditions).

ICANN Board Rationale for Board Action

- The Board notes that there is not a comprehensive gTLD WHOIS policy that addresses all of the issues raised in the Review Team report and in SAC055. There is a set of existing contractual conditions that have been developed over time by negotiation between ICANN and registries and registrars, and a small set of consensus policies that address some aspects of the management of domain name registration data. These presently available conditions and policies should be publicly available from one source.

- The fundamental questions of the purpose of collecting and maintaining gTLD registration data have not been addressed through a successful policy PDP (see footnotes 1 & 2 on previous GNSO work).

Single WHOIS Policy Implementation Activities

Single WHOIS webpage

ICANN org created and launched the [Single Webpage for ICANN RDS/WHOIS-Related Policies and Contract Provisions](#) in 2013.

The page provides the text and links to all RDS/WHOIS-related policies and contractual provisions. This webpage is updated annually.

GNSO PDP on gTLD Registration Data Directory Services

See written briefing for "Recommendation 1 - Strategic Priority" for information on the GNSO PDP on gTLD Registration Data Directory Services.

Estimated ICANN Org Time Spent for Implementation

Implementation of the Single WHOIS Policy web page required 3 FTEs for approximately 2 days, and one additional FTE for approximately 7 days.

Useful Links

RDS/WHOIS REVIEW TEAM 1
- WHOIS Policy Review Team Final Report
  https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2015-08-24-en
- ICANN Action Plan For the WHOIS Policy Review Team Final Report
  https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/implementation-action-08nov12-en.pdf
- Quarterly WHOIS recommendations implementations statuses updated quarterly and published on WHOIS Review Wiki page
  https://community.icann.org/display/WHO/WHOIS+Review+Implementation+Home

WHOIS Webpages
- WHOIS Information Microsite
  https://whois.icann.org/en
- WHOIS Knowledge Center
  https://whois.icann.org/en/knowledge-center
- WHOIS Information Microsite Uptime Statistics
  https://www.icann.org/accountability-indicators
- Single Webpage for ICANN RDS/WHOIS-Related Policies and Contract Provisions
  https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/whois-policies-provisions-2013-04-15-en

WHOIS Policy Work
- WHOIS Policy Review Team Final Report
  https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2015-08-24-en
- ICANN Action Plan for the WHOIS Policy Review Team Final Report
  https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/implementation-action-08nov12-en.pdf
- Quarterly WHOIS recommendations implementations statuses updated quarterly and published on WHOIS Review Wiki page
  https://community.icann.org/display/WHO/WHOIS+Review+Implementation+Home
- RDAP Webpage
  https://www.icann.org/rdap
- GNSO Thick WHOIS PDP and Implementation Status
  https://gnso.icann.org/en/group-activities/active/thick-whois
  and https://community.icann.org/display/TWCPI/Thick+Whois+Policy+Implementation