

Volunteer Team on Action Item regarding “Original Registration Date” Discussion Summary – Updated 18 September 2017

- **Background:** *“Original Registration Date” is a proposed new data element recommended by the EWG Final Report (pages 49 and 57). According to the [Poll](#), 77% supported the agreement that the Original Registration Date must be supported for inclusion in the RDS. However, 19% explicitly did not support this proposed agreement. Several WG members were unsure on what “Original Registration Date” was referring to.*

- **Action Item:** Volunteer team to assist with proposing an alternative WG agreement regarding “Original Registration Date” to help the WG discuss and reach rough consensus with respect to this data element. Ideally, output will include a brief definition of the proposed data element(s), requirements for RDS support and collection of the proposed data element(s), and rationale explaining who would use proposed data element(s) for what purpose(s).

Background

- The Original Registration Date is *“the exact time and date when a particular string of characters in a particular TLD was first registered regardless of its Registry Object ID (ROID) and/or registry operator”* (page 57 of the EWG Report). The team reached consensus not to include “Original Registration Date” because of the risk of both false-positive and false-negative data in such a field, as well as concerns that it is outside of the domain lifecycle as commonly understood.

There was consensus that there is a desire to know whether a current domain object has a name that has ever been registered as a different domain object for legitimate purposes, which may include domain name control, domain name purchase or sale, academic/public interest DNS research, regulatory and contractual enforcement, criminal investigation and DNS abuse mitigation as well as legal action. Currently, this information is available from third-party sources, but some expressed the need to develop the RDS in a way that ensures historical information is made available for legitimate purposes such as abuse mitigation.

The team reached a compromise consensus that the best way to address the “Original Registration Date” is through a “previous string occurrence” or “deletion” counter, which indicates whether a given current domain name object in the registry is *known* to share a domain name with a different (prior, now deleted) object, and if so, to include the number of “hit counts”.

The team was not able to reach consensus last minute on whether to recommend a counter for internal (changes to the registrant name or registrant email) or external transfers (between registrars), but that it is something for the full group to review as it goes beyond the current mandate.