



SSAC review , Registry Transition Program

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Background, Terminology

Terminology:

- Registry operator
- Emergency registry operator
- Successor registry operator

- Objective of program is to protect registrants by ensuring registry services are operational to the greatest extent possible



Critical Registry Functions

- Transition processes must consider
 - DNS Resolution
 - Properly signed zone
(when DNSSEC present)
 - Shared Registry System (SRS), usually via EPP
 - Registration data publication service, usually via WHOIS
 - Registry Data Escrow

Questions SSAC is studying



- What does it mean to protect the registrant?
- What is the risk being addressed?
- What are the priorities for a transition?
 - DNS resolution services are critical
 - DNSSEC operations are critical
 - NS changes may be critical
 - Changes to existing registration data are less important
 - Creating and deleting domain names are less important

What triggers a transition?



- What exactly is downtime?
- What is the threshold for an emergency?
- Why are all existing triggers technical?
 - Business triggers could be considered as part of contractual relationship (perhaps an audit)

What is the basis for a transition?



- Do all registries need to be saved?
- What if the decision is wrong? How do you stop it? How do you appeal?
- What is the process for acting on an emergency when delay is intolerable?

Questions relating to processes



- Process seems to suggest existing operator is excluded once transitioned away
- Can critical functions be transitioned separately?
- Can we distinguish levels of harm and use that to drive priorities?

Questions regarding emergency operators



- Emergency operators are not permitted to accept billable transactions
 - Need for exceptions to act on security incidents, orders from law enforcement...
- Should there be a regular audit of successor and emergency registry operators?
 - Need to ensure they continue to have available the infrastructure necessary if needed?

Affect of transition on DNSSEC



- There must be a lower bound on signature lifetimes and related values to ensure time transition
- Need a key rollover when registry operator is changed
- Is moving to unsigned during the transition a sensible idea?

Data Escrow?



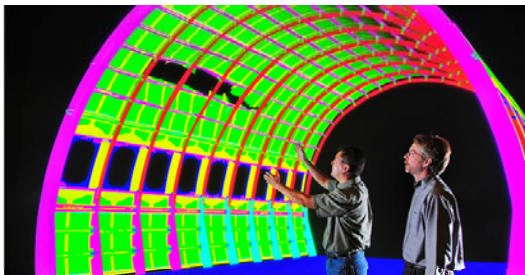
- Need to audit data escrow for quality
- Do we need to use the latest escrow deposit or do we audit back to find the best one?
- Is all critical information in the escrow? DNSSEC signing information?

Issue requiring further study



- Should have a testing process with a full failover except that the NS record is not changed.
- Restoring DNS resolution services needs to be the number one priority, but this requires DNS zone files to be escrowed separately.
- Registrant must keep the name during transition; need to check lock-down

Next step for SSAC



Working party will prepare report

SSAC member review

Publication prior to March 2011

ICANN meeting





Thank You and Questions



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