MEMBER NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

.(au) 
AU (Australia) joins CENTR as an Associate Member  
The CENTR General Assembly held in Brussels voted in favour of the application to Associate Membership from the Australian ccTLD (.au) overseen by auDA.

.(be) 
What does the Cookie Act mean for online users and webmasters?  
As from 1 October, the new Telecommunications Act, passed in the Belgian Parliament in June, becomes effective. The Act also includes a number of requirements in relation to cookies and the way they are used on the Internet. When it comes to tracking cookies, online users are required to give explicit permission.

.(co) 
CA Members Elect New Board Members  
The Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) is pleased to announce the results of its 2012 Board of Directors election. CIRA’s Election Returning Officer, Richard Vickers, tabulated votes from 3508 ballots cast by .CA Members.

.(cz) 
TV Spots to Raise Awareness about the Internet  
Czech Television starts broadcasting a series of educational videos What’s Internet For. The project, backed up by the CZ.NIC Association, aims at educating the public in the Internet, domains, Internet services and related technologies.

.(ee) 
Heiki Sibul appointed new director of Estonian Internet Foundation  
The chairman of the supervisory board of the EIF, says that Sibul is a highly experienced manager under whose aegis Estonia became the first country in the world to launch e-voting.

.(eu) 
EURid and UNESCO speak at IGF meeting in Baku  
EURid and UNESCO will share their latest report on the global uptake of Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs) at the 7th Internet Governance Forum (IGF) meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan on 6 November 2012.

.(fr) 
Afnic is not obliged to take precautionary measures  
Afnic welcomes the decision of the Paris Court of Appeal upholding its practice. The case involved 129 domain names infringing the rights of 13 companies. The companies sought redress only against the registrar and Afnic, without holding the owners of the aforementioned domain names liable for the infringement.

.(nl) 
Draft report on Domain Name Debate 2012 now available  
SIDN organised the Domain Name Debate 2012 at the Koninklijke Schouwburg in The Hague. Main themes in focus were Public access to the Whois and Dropcatching.

.(nz) 
z Registrations at the second level  
The Domain Name Commission is consulting on a proposal to extend.nz by allowing registrations directly at the ‘second-level’.

.(pt) 
500,000 domains under registration .PT  
On October 11th, .PT reached 500,000 domain name registrations.

Workshop DNSSEC in Porto

.(ru) 
Russia’s major Internet projects of 2012 are new gTLD-oriented  
On October 18, a session themed “Invest into the Future: The prospective projects of the Russian Internet in 2012” was held at Russian Internet Week 2012.

.(ua) 
The 2nd Ukrainian domain industry UAdom in Kiev December  
The purpose of the event is to evaluate prospects and trends of the domain market.

.(uk) 
Consultation on new .uk domain name service  
The proposed service aimed at businesses would potentially offer shorter domain names registered at the second level as well as a comprehensive package of security features available.

Recent CENTR Reports
- ICANN45 Meeting Report
- CENTR Report on RIPE65
- 48th General Assembly Minutes
- Survey: Publication of Registry Zone
Below is a short summary of selected responses from the above mentioned survey. CENTR Members have access to full results.

Does your Registry provide a list of recently registered domain names?
- No: 24
- Yes: 5

87% of these respondents stated they do not plan to provide this service in the future. 13% stated they may consider the service in the future.

100% of those that have recently registered list have that list publicly available.

Does the Registry provide a full list of registered domain names?
- No: 25
- Yes: 4

Most do not plan to offer this service in the future. Reasons as to why can be found in the full report available to those who completed the survey.

Most respondents (3/4) who provide this service do it on an agreement basis and not publicly.

Does the Registry provide a list of recently deleted domain names?
- No: 26
- Yes: 3

76% of those who do not offer the service do not plan to offer it in the future.

100% of those that have recently deleted list have that list publicly available.

Does the Registry provide a list of soon to be deleted domain names?
- No: 24
- Yes: 5

Of those not offering the service, 1 stated they plan to offer in the future. 15 (68%) stated they do not plan to offer and 6 (27%) stated they may offer.

Of those that offer the service, 4 stated the list is public and 1 stated it is available under agreement.

**CENTR Statistics**

Source: CENTR domain counter, ccTLD Registry websites) and hosterstats.com for gTLDs

**DOMAIN COUNTER:**

64,148,536

OCTOBER 2012

*CENTR Full Members*

This count represents a growth of 0.66% from the previous month. The largest contribution to this growth in absolute value was .RU in percentage terms the highest growth over the month was the ccTLD .cy with 3.4% (net growth over the month)
Afnic welcomes the decision of the Paris Court of Appeal upholding its practice.

Background: a summons had been served to Afnic and to one of its registrars by 13 French companies concerning the registration of 129 domain names infringing the companies’ rights. The companies sought redress only against the registrar and Afnic as the Registry for the .fr TLD, without holding the owners of the aforementioned domain names liable for the infringement.

Besides the fact that the registrar was accused of allowing the registration of the aforementioned domain names, the Registry for the .fr TLD was accused of:

- not having proceeded to suspend or block the domain names as soon as the summons had been served;
- allowing individuals to anonymously register a domain name under the .fr TLD.

The decision on appeal of October 19, 2012 by the Paris Court of Appeal upheld the ruling of the Paris Ordinary Court of First Instance of August 26, 2009, and in particular:

- Regarding the anonymity of Whois data, both at the Ordinary Court of First Instance and on appeal, Afnic’s liability was excluded, and its anonymous registration procedure was upheld by the Court of Appeal of Paris.
- Concerning the suspension and blocking of the domain names, the Paris Court of Appeal confirmed that Afnic committed no fault in not blocking and in not suspending the domain names. The Court of Appeal further ruled that:

- Article L.45 of the French Electronic Communications and Telecommunications Act “does not oblige [the Registry] to suspend or block domain names or, in general, to take precautionary measures in cases of pre-litigation or litigation, any more than it grants [the Registry] the right to do so”.

- “the reputed nature of certain trademarks not having been retained by the Ordinary Court of First Instance, if, therefore, Afnic had implemented suspensive or blocking measures on simple request by the holders of the trademarks, it could have been accused with even greater justification of having restricted freedom of trade, and held liable for same”.

Afnic welcomes this decision which upholds its practices.

For these various reasons, even though the legal framework for domain names under the .fr TLD has changed, Afnic does not implement suspensive or blocking measures on simple request from third parties.

Afnic reminds rights holders that they have several options for resolving disputes over domain names with extensions for which it is responsible:

- Afnic implements any court order applicable to it
- The procedure for lifting anonymity is both free of charge and quick to implement (it takes less than 5 days) as described here: http://www.afnic.fr/en/dispute-resolution/tools-and-procedures/personal-data-disclosure-request-form-5.html
- The Syreli procedure, which enables right holders to request the transfer or deletion of a domain name within 60 days: https://www.syreli.fr/

See Original Article

UPCOMING EVENTS

8th November: CENTR Workshop at IGF “Around the ccTLDs world: The Journey Continues”
Baku, Azerbaijan

27-28 November: APTLD 61st Members Meeting
Taipei, Taiwan

29 - 30 November: 9th CENTR Marketing workshop – Florence, Italy

If you would like to contribute an article to this newsletter, please contact patrick@centr.org