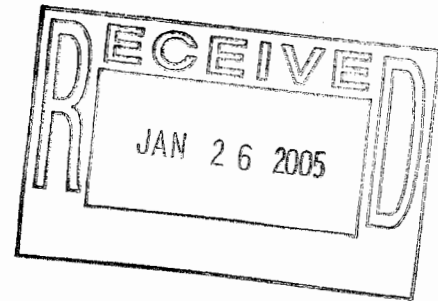


Variomedia IT-Service GmbH | Benzstrasse 22 | 14482 Potsdam

Dr. Paul Twomey
President & CEO
ICANN
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330

**Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601
USA**



.net endorsement

Dear Dr. Twomey,

01/20/2005

I understand that ICANN will soon be accepting proposals from various registries to take over operation of the .net TLD. I've had an opportunity to review many of the endorsement letters that are posted on your website, and as a registrar, I too agree that the stability and reliability of the domain name system is critical, and the evaluation of bids and the subsequent transition to another registry should be handled with great care.

That said, we have been working for several years now with DENIC, the registry operator for the more than 8 million .de domains in Germany, and we're entirely pleased with the superior job they've done operating .de. DENIC has proven their operational and technical capabilities time and time again. They've maintained the highest levels of performance and consistently delivered 100% uptime, without a single failure in its ten year history.

I understand DENIC is planning to submit a bid to run .net. The successful transition of .net to another registry is crucial to my business, and I believe DENIC would be an excellent choice as the next .net registry operator. Over the years, DENIC has set a high standard for dependable, stable and secure service, and I'm confident they'd bring the operational excellence they've exhibited managing .de to the future management of .net.

DENIC has become a trusted and reliable partner of ours, and I fully support them in their quest to become the next .net registry operator.

Sincerely,

VARIOMEDIA

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Marten Lehmann, CEO <http://www.variomedia.de>