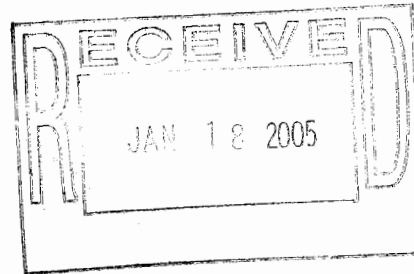


GWG

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Dr. Paul Twomey
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Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601
USA



Klaus Metz
Systemadministrator

Tel. (05 61) 7 00 01-420
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Metz@GWG-Kassel.de

Dear Dr. Twomey,

Kassel, 13.01.2005

as ICANN will soon be evaluating proposals from registries vying to take over operation of the .net TLD, I wanted to express my support for DENIC, the registry operator for .de in Germany.

I know you've received letters from some suggesting that any change in the .net registry operator is risky. While the continued stability, security and performance of .net must absolutely be maintained, there are others besides Verisign who have proven to be technically competent and fully capable – DENIC is a fine example of this. DENIC has more than a decade of experience running what has become the second largest registry in the world, and it has done so without a single technical breakdown in its history. ICANN can rest assured that the performance levels and reliability of .net would be maintained or even exceeded if it were to transition the operation of .net to DENIC.

We also believe it is wise to increase competition among registry operators – in order to foster increased innovation around new DNS technologies and services, and to bring down the prices of domain names. History has taught us that monopoly situations are not good for users, and with more qualified registries on the playing field, we all stand to benefit in the long run.

DENIC has proven itself to be a technically capable and competent registry, and we fully support DENIC in its bid to become the next .net registry operator.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Klaus Metz".

i. A. Klaus Metz

Gemeinnützige
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gesellschaft der
Stadt Kassel mbH

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Geschäftsführer
Peter Ley

Sitz Kassel
Amtsgericht Kassel
HRB 2022