



ICANN Registry Request Service

Ticket ID: D2M7U-4D2C8

Registry Name: VeriSign, Inc,

gTLD: .COM, .NET, .NAME

Status: ICANN Review

Status Date: 2009-07-01 13:53:59

Print Date: 2009-07-01 13:54:05

Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

Internationalized Domain Names ("IDN") DNS Updates - com/net

Technical description of Proposed Service:

This RSEP submission is a modification of the Rapid Zone Update Service, which was previously approved by ICANN in 2007.

The IDN DNS Update Service will enable customers to access incremental updates of a subset of the data associated with .com and .net TLDs which is already provided in the Rapid Zone Update Service (which is now called the Domain Name Zone Alert Service) (the "DNZA Service"). Such data consists of additions, deletions and modifications of IDN registrations, name servers, and IP addresses.

Consultation

Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?:

a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?:

Not Applicable

b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:



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VeriSign developed the IDN DNS Update Service per registrar request. VeriSign's account managers discussed the concept with the registrar community during on site visits and during VeriSign's "Registrar Days" regional events. VeriSign incorporated feedback from these discussions into the development process.

VeriSign received a positive response from the registrar community related to the IDN DNS Update Service offering. It will assist registrars by parsing out IDN DNS Update data as a subset of the full DNS updates available today through the DNZA Service.

c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

VeriSign has had continuing discussions with non-registrar companies who provide security services that assist with detecting domain names that may have been registered to facilitate illegal activities, such as phishing and spoofing.

d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

As noted above in (b) and (c) above, VeriSign consulted with both registrars and non-registrars.

e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

As noted in (c) above, both registrars and non-registrars would endorse the IDN DNS Updates Service.

f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were(or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?:

To date, no one has raised objections to the introduction of the IDN DNS Updates Service. Based on feedback, both registrars and non-registrars will likely use the data to build or enhance existing service offerings such as anti-phishing and trademark protection services. Because the IDN DNS Updates Service could be used to speed detection of spamming, phishing, pharming attacks, and other nefarious activity, those organizations and individuals who engage this type of activity would be the most likely to object to this service.



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Timeline

Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service:

VeriSign intends to implement the IDN DNS Updates Service within three (3) months of RSEP approval.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

The IDN DNS Updates Service will enable customers to access incremental updates of a subset of the data associated with .com and .net TLDs which is already provided in the Rapid Zone Update Service (which is now called the Domain Name Zone Alert Service) (the "DNZA Service"). Such data consists of additions, deletions and modifications of IDN registrations, name servers, and IP address.

Customers who would like to subscribe to the IDN DNS Updates Service must execute a service agreement which contains, among other things, a license grant and appropriate restrictions on use of the data. After execution by both parties, VeriSign will make the data available to customers through an aggregated file stored on a File Transfer Protocol ("FTP") server that Customer can access directly and download, after authenticating its username and password logon. This aggregated file (the "Aggregated File") will consist of consecutive files of incremental data. VeriSign updates the data within three (3) minutes, and produces a new Aggregated File, approximately every five (5) minutes. The Aggregated File will remain on the FTP server for no less than 72 hours.

Fees:

VeriSign intends to offer the IDN DNS Update Service under a similar two-tiered model as the one offered under the DNZA Service. The first tier will be available to registrars who intend to use the data for the purpose of providing core domain name services. The data will be provided under a restrictive license in exchange for a monthly fee. The second tier will be available to registrars and other customers who intend to develop value added services. The data will be provided under a more expansive license in exchange for a monthly fee.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:



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VeriSign has demonstrated the ability to deliver scalable and reliable registry services. The Quality Assurance Plan mirrors that of the DNZA Service which was previously approved by ICANN in 2007. Milestones for the IDN DNS Updates include:

*QA project plan created/maintained
Test Cases created and documented
Test Cases stored in central repository
Test cases reviewed by stakeholders
Automation of test cases where possible
Functional Testing Performed
Regular Status w/ testing metrics provided
Defects submitted to defect tracking tool
Application Security testing performed
Monitoring testing performed
Stability and failover testing performed
Performance Testing performed
Rollback testing performed
Regression testing performed if required
QA Certification and Exit notice provided*

Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.:

None applicable.

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

No contractual provisions will be impacted.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN:

The proposed service will have no impact on the reporting of data to ICANN.



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What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?:

The proposed service will have no effect on Whois.

Contract Amendments

Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service:

No contractual amendments will be required.

Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

The IDN DNS Updates Service is intended to help address the problem in the online industry of phishing, fraud, and identity theft. This worldwide problem is growing rapidly and threatening electronic commerce, financial services, and other services provided on the Internet. Criminal organizations use a variety of techniques to lure unsuspecting Internet users into revealing confidential information, including the method of registering misleading domain names that are similar to those of legitimate organizations.

VeriSign currently propagates changes to all DNS registrations within three (3) minutes. The IDN DNS Service would better enable customers to keep pace with the rapid rate at which these changes occur solely with respect to IDN registrations, name servers and IP address. According to several firms that provide anti-phishing services, access to such current information would improve their anti-phishing capabilities. VeriSign believes that this service will provide an additional tool to online security companies, ISPs, search engines, financial service companies, and other stakeholders in Internet services and security.

For these reasons, we believe that this service not only would meet a real demand, but would also help make the Internet more safe and secure. As previously noted, VeriSign anticipates offering the IDN DNS Updates Service to both registrar and non-registrar customers on a monthly fee basis. Like the DNZA Service, the IDN DNS Updates Service would in no way affect the availability or terms under which VeriSign provides access to the TLD Zone Files pursuant to its .com and .net Registry Agreements with ICANN.



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Competition

Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.:

The IDN DNS Updates Service would have no negative effects on competition. To the contrary, VeriSign believes that this service will encourage innovation in the industry, enhance the security services currently offered in the marketplace, better enable providers of security services to differentiate their services and compete more effectively, and give consumers more choices.

How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?:

VeriSign plans to offer the IDN DNS Updates Service to both registrars and non-registrars. These parties may include organizations who have currently executed the Zone File Access Agreement.

What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?:

Other TLD registry operators may choose to offer expedited data services which are similar to the IDN DNS Updates Service.

In view of your status as a registry operator, would the introduction of your proposed Registry Service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?:

No.

Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed Registry Service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide.:

No.



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Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please describe the communications.:

VeriSign has communicated with both registrars and non-registrars, as described in (b) and (c) above.

Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).:

VeriSign has no documents to submit.

Security and Stability

Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?:

No, the proposed service does not alter the storage and input of Registry Data

Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems:

The IDN DNS Updates Service will have no impact on throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of the responses to Internet servers or end systems.

Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?:

No technical concerns have been raised about the proposed service.

Other Issues



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Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service:

We are not aware of any Intellectual Property considerations.

Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?:

(1) Trademark or similar rights may exist or arise with respect to trade names or terminology used in connection with the proposed service. (2) Copyright protection may exist or arise in connection with code written or materials created in connection with the proposed service. (3) Certain information or processes related to the service may be confidential to VeriSign and/or subject to trade secret protection. (4) VeriSign is not aware of the issuance of any patents by any party with respect to the service.

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

VeriSign intends to include industry standard disclaimers, such as a disclaimer of all warranties with respect to the data, in the service agreement.

Any other relevant information to include with this request:

None.