



Update on new gTLD program and related projects

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MENOG 10
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Dubai, UAE

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Agenda

New gTLD program

IDN variant TLDs

Universal acceptance of all TLDs

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New gTLD program

An initiative that enables the introduction of generic top-level domain names (both ASCII and IDN) into the domain name space.

Already launched

2012

January							February							March							April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31					29							29	30	31					29	30					

TAS was taken offline on 12 April at 11:30am UTC

What happened

- A technical issue in the system allowed a limited number of users to view a limited number of other users' file names and user names in certain scenarios.
- Daily updates:
<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/>
- FAQ:
<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/tas/interruption-faqs>

Next steps

- Once application window closes ICANN will
 - Check all applications for essential completeness
 - Announce applied for strings and information about applicants

Next steps

- Application comment period (~2-month window)
- Objection period (~7-month window)
- Initial evaluation
 - Applications passing initial evaluation may move directly to delegation
 - Failed applications may request extended evaluation
- In cases of objections, dispute resolutions, or string contention, other processes apply

Applicant support program

- **Third-party pro-bono services**
 - Connecting those seeking and offering pro-bono services
 - Directory maintained on ICANN website
- **Financial assistance**
 - ICANN's applicant support fund (\$2,000,000)
 - Qualified candidates get reduction on application fee (\$185K down to \$47K)
 - Independent Support Applicant Review Panel (SARP) to review applicants

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New gTLD program

For more updates:

<http://newgtlds.icann.org>

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Universal acceptance of TLDs

What is universal acceptance?



- Making sure software universally accepts all domains (including IDNs)
- Not about policy on what TLDs are “allowed”
- Problem when software checks user input against fixed list of TLDs, TLD character length, and other incomplete or outdated criteria

Examples

<http://example.com>

12:37 PM

<http://اتصالات.امارات>

12:37 PM

<http://جامعة-تيوك.السعودية>

12:37 PM



Examples

Permanent Home Address Line 1*:

Permanent Home Address Line 2:

City*:

Zip Code*: -

Note: You must be a U.S. resident

SSN*: - -

Date of Birth*: / / (MM/DD/YYYY)
You must be 18 or older, 19 in Al

Mother's Maiden Name*:

E-mail Address: @ .

State*: CA

to P.O.

be cons

- aero
- biz
- com
- coop
- edu
- gov
- info
- mil
- museum
- name
- net
- org
- pro
- us

ICANN's activities to date

- Created discussion forum and dedicated webpage
 - <http://www.icann.org/en/topics/TLD-acceptance/>
- Posted TLD verification tool
 - <https://github.com/icann>
- Consultations with community
- Technical recommendations

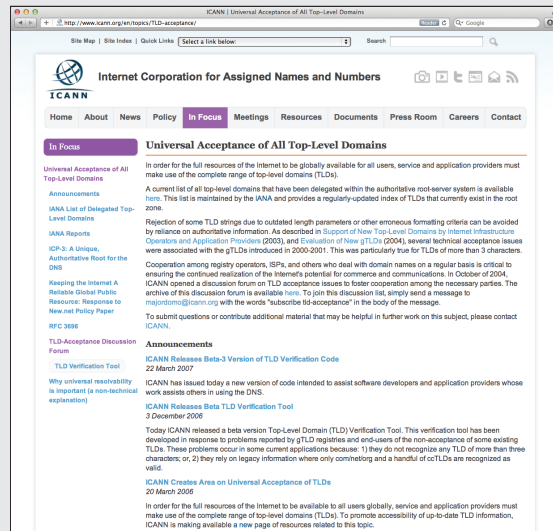
Technical recommendations

- Do you need to check domain validity?
 - If not, don't do it. Rethink why you do it.
- If so, is it an online application?
 - If so, use a DNS query which is instant and up-to-date, don't rely on a fixed list.
- Last case scenario
 - Use a fixed list of TLDs, but make sure it has an update mechanism (e.g. once per day)

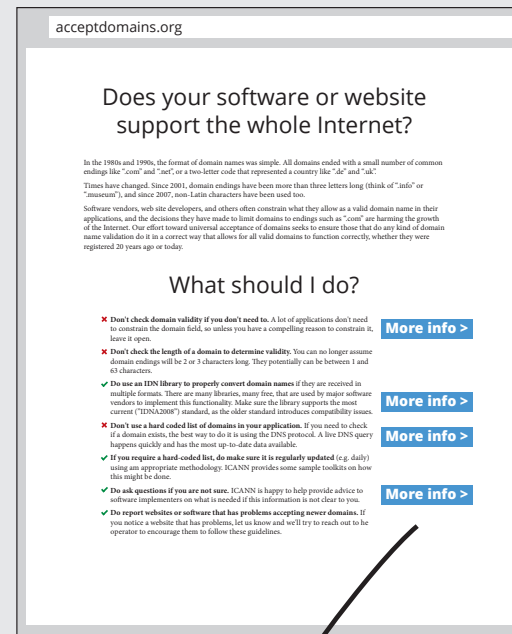
Draft outreach materials

Collateral Proposal

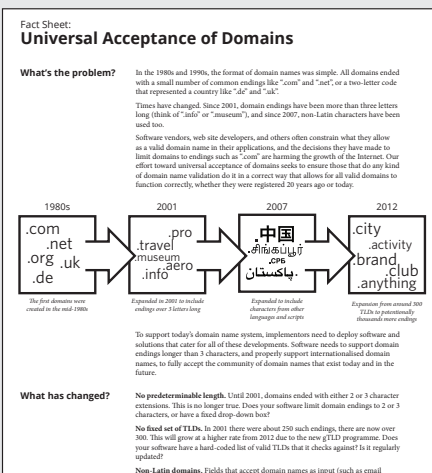
Existing Project Pages



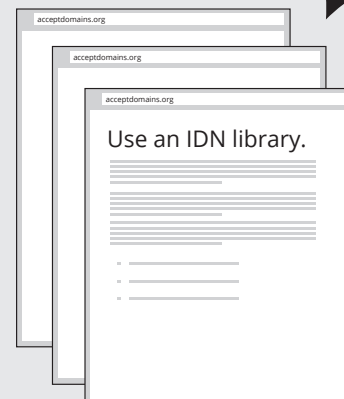
New Dedicated Microsite



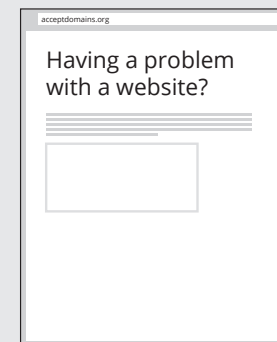
New Fact Sheet



Specific technical info pages on individual topics



Form for end-users to report broken software and websites



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Universal acceptance of TLDs

*Send comments and suggestions to
tld-acceptance@icann.org*

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IDN variant issues project

Identifying issues related to the use of IDN variant TLDs and creating glossary of related terms

Variant issues project (VIP)

- Phase I: Script case studies
 - Six teams: Arabic, Chinese, Cyrillic, Devanagari, Greek, Latin
 - Comprised of community experts
 - Case study teams completed reports in October 2011

Variant issues project (VIP)

- Phase II: Integrated issues report
 - Summarizes and synthesizes issues identified by case study teams
 - Identifies areas where further work could be pursued

Integrated issues report: key highlights

- Definition of the term 'variant
- Range of possible variant cases
- Establishing variant labels
- User experience considerations
- Potential additional work

What is a “variant”?

- No commonly-agreed definition
- Used to refer to a number of different concepts
- Report continues to use the term in a loose sense
- More specific terms are recommended, e.g., “variant” with a qualifier to give more information

Classification of variants

- **Code point variants:** based on a relationship between code points
 - E.g., a single code point is a variant of another code point or sequence of code points
- **Whole-string variants:** based on a relationship between whole strings.
 - E.g., their meaning to a language community

Establishing variant labels

- Code point repertoire for the root zone
 - Identify code points that are allowed/disallowed for the zone
- Label generation rules
 - Identify code points that are variants of one another
- A prerequisite for implementing IDN variant TLDs

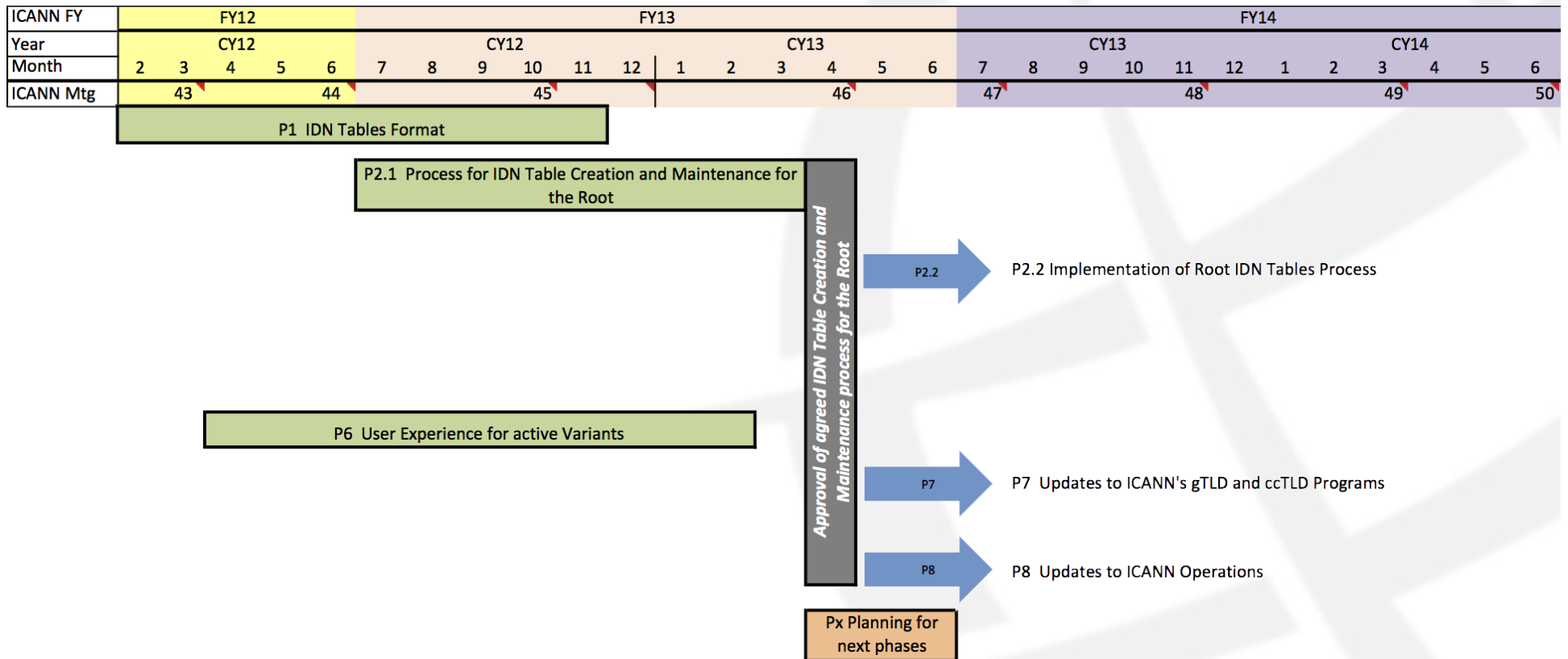
User experience consideration

Many types of users: system administrators, network operators, registries, registrars, registrants, software developers, law enforcement and security investigators, and end users.

Potential additional work

1. IDN tables format updated
2. Process for IDN table creation and maintenance for the root
3. User experience of active IDN variant TLDs
4. Update new ccTLD and gTLD programs
5. Update ICANN and IANA processes

Next steps



Updated draft project plan to be published soon

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Questions?