



sTLD Update

prepared for the ICANN Meeting

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

22 July 2004



ICANN Board Resolution (03-169)

...the Board directs the President to finalize and post no later than 15 December 2003 an open Request for Proposals for a limited number of new sTLDs, such final RFP to be based on the points of agreement indicated above...

ICANN Board Resolution (03-171)

...the selection process and implementation for sTLDs shall be evaluated and the results of such evaluation shall be utilized in the New gTLD process scheduled to be completed in 2004.

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Top Level Domain

- .asia
- .cat
- .jobs
- .mail
- .mobi
- .post
- .tel
- .tel
- .travel
- .xxx

Sponsor

- DotAsia Organisation, Ltd.
- Fundació puntCAT
- Society for Human Resource Mgt
- The Anti-Spam Community Registry
- Mobi JV
- Universal Postal Union
- Pulver.com
- Telname Limited
- The Travel Partnership Corporation
- The International Foundation for Online Responsibility

sTLD APPLICATION PROCESS

Review ICANN posted application materials



Apply for user-name and password



Complete on-line application



Independent evaluation



Technical & Commercial Negotiation



Agreements

PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED TIMELINE

- 16-31 March 2004: Review applications for completeness
- 1 April 2004: Public Comment opens on Part B
- 30 April 2004: Public Comment closes on Part B
- May – July 2004: Independent evaluation
- August 2004 and forward: sTLD commercial and technical contract negotiations

INDEPENDENT EVALUATION PANEL

- Panel Program Manager
- Three Separate Independent Panels
 - Technical Panel
 - Business / Financial Panel
 - Sponsorship / Community Panel
- Panel Characteristics –
 - An internationally diverse group of experts in their respective fields
 - Nine panel members
 - Representing eight countries located in Africa, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America

INDEPENDENT REVIEW CHARACTERISTICS

- Panels established and review begun in May 2004
- Blind, independent review – all communications are through the Project Manager:
 - between the panels and ICANN staff
 - between the panels and the applicants
- Each team has met six to eight times by teleconference
- Each panel posed a series of questions to each applicant to seek clarification
- Each panel will report separately, comparing information in the applications against the criteria described in the RFP

THE REMAINING PROCESS

- Independent Evaluation
 - The panels have compiled draft reports.
 - ICANN is currently seeking clarification in several areas.
 - The subsequent drafts will report on each of three areas for each applicant and be delivered to ICANN on an applicant-by-applicant basis.
- Communication to Applicants – ICANN will communicate evaluation reports directly to applicants in order to:
 - Move into technical and commercial negotiations
 - Request clarifying documentation relating to any potential deficiencies found through independent evaluation. After satisfaction of that request, technical and commercial negotiations may follow.

THE REMAINING PROCESS

- Upon completion of technical and commercial negotiation, successful applications will be presented to the ICANN Board with full information, i.e., application, answers to questions, and negotiations.
- Final decisions will be made by the ICANN Board authorizing the completion of agreement with the Sponsoring Organizations.

TIMING

- As completed reports are received from the Independent Evaluation Panel, each report will be managed through the process on an independent basis in order to expedite the processing of each application.
- First reports from the Independent Evaluation Panel will be delivered to an applicant two to four weeks. The Independent Evaluation Process is planned to complete by the end of July 2004 as scheduled.

DISCLOSURE

- At the close of the Independent Evaluation Process, ICANN will publish a detailed description of the the execution of that process and the identity of the evaluators.
- Some detailed information in the evaluations and negotiations may be held confidential at the request of applicants.
- Final reports describing the process and the results will be published by ICANN.