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Root Server Management Transition Completion Agreement

This Root Server Management Transition Completion Agreement ("Agreement") is effective as of _____ 2006 by and on behalf of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers ("ICANN"), a California nonprofit public benefit corporation and VeriSign, Inc., ("VeriSign"), a Delaware corporation, and is entered into in conjunction with each of the Settlement Agreement, and the Registry Agreement, respectively, entered into between the parties as of this same date.

Whereas, the introduction of the cryptographic signature process in the DNS Security Extensions (DNSSEC) Protocol requires specific changes in the process of updating the root zone and the ARPA Top Level Domain (TLD) zone to enable DNSSEC to be introduced into the cycle; and

Whereas, ICANN and VeriSign wish to enter into this Agreement to set forth the parties' respective understandings, agreements and responsibilities with respect to the root name server system, the ARPA zone, and TLD registry master zone file data.

Therefore, ICANN and VeriSign agree that they shall:

- a. Collaborate with respect to operational and security matters relating to the secure and stable operation of the domain name system in order to develop and implement recommendations for improvements in those matters;

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- b. Work together regarding procedures and best practices for the operation of the root name server system;
- c. Work together to establish a timetable for the completion of the transition to ICANN of those technical coordination and management functions currently undertaken by VeriSign with respect to the ARPA TLD and the root zone system, in particular to enable ICANN to edit, sign and publish the root zone and ARPA zones commencing in 2006, with the understanding that this requires the cooperation and readiness of the full family of root server system operators, and with the further understanding that this transition of technical responsibilities will be conducted in consultation with the Internet Architecture Board and will not modify the guiding role of the Internet Architecture Board in the administration of the ARPA zone.;
- d. Establish procedures and milestones for the completion of the transition to ICANN of root and ARPA zone coordination as set forth in paragraph c. above, including editing, signing and publication;
- e. To work together to present a joint approach on paragraphs c. and d. above to the US Department of Commerce for joint discussion, planning and implementation, including appropriate contractual amendments, as necessary, by the three parties;
- f. Participate in an intensive collaborative technical project to facilitate the transition set forth with in paragraphs c. and d. above, including the creation of a high-level joint technical operations team to begin work in the first quarter of 2006, and to work together until the transition process is completed to give advice on design, implementation, and testing of the necessary systems and architecture for root and ARPA zone administration and publication; and
- g. Work together in such activities and endeavors as they deem suitable to achieve each of the above.

This Agreement shall be executed by the parties hereto as of the date first set forth above.

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

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Paul Twomey
President and CEO

VeriSign, Inc.

Mark McLaughlin
Senior Vice President and General Manager