

20 October 2023

ICANN Final Determination

Re: Notice of Registry Operator Request for Termination of Registry Agreement - .volkswagen

On 19 June 2023, Volkswagen Group of America Inc. notified ICANN org of its intent to terminate the .volkswagen Registry Agreement entered into on 14 May 2015. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, Registry Operator may terminate the Registry Agreement for any reason upon one hundred eighty (180) calendar day advance notice.

Pursuant to the terms of Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN org consulted with Volkswagen Group of America Inc. to assess whether to transition operation of the .volkswagen top-level domain (TLD) to a successor Registry Operator.

On 08 September 2023, ICANN org made a preliminary determination that operation of the .volkswagen TLD need not be transitioned to a successor Registry Operator based on the following rationale:

1. .volkswagen qualifies as a .Brand TLD.
2. Transitioning the TLD is not necessary to protect the public interest.

On 08 October 2023, after a 30-day period for comments by interested parties, no comments were received. Pursuant to Section 4.4(b) of the Registry Agreement, ICANN org will proceed to terminate the .volkswagen Registry Agreement by 16 December 2023.

In conformance with Section 4.5 of the Registry Agreement (as modified by Section 6 of Specification 13 for this .Brand TLD), ICANN org may not delegate the TLD to a successor registry operator for a period of two years without Registry Operator's consent, which shall not be unreasonably withheld, conditioned or delayed.

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