



December 6, 2005

Paul Twomey, CEO  
Kurt Pritz, Senior Vice President  
John Jeffrey, General Counsel  
ICANN  
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330  
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601

DEC 12 2005

Dear Sirs:

On behalf of Yahoo!, I am writing to request that ICANN and its board consider altering appropriate policies to allow for the release of single letter domain names for commercial registrations; in our case specifically the "y.com" and "y.net" domains.

As you are aware, Yahoo! is one of the leading internet companies by any measure, with hundreds of millions of users throughout the world accessing a diverse array of internet services which we provide. Increasingly, Yahoo! is using the "Y!" mark to identify our services to Internet users, such as our new music product which is referred to as "Y! Music". As such, we would like to allow users to be able to access these services via the "y" domain name, if they should so choose. An important trend which we are considering here, and would ask you to consider, is that a large and increasing segment of Internet users are accessing services on mobile devices, such as cellular telephones, which often have limited or cumbersome keyboards for typing in domain names. We believe that it would be a significant benefit to these users to be able to access our services, and the services which we provide connections to through our portal, via as short a domain name as possible.

Our Network Engineering staff believes that the original technical reasons behind the single letter domain name reservation have been rendered obsolete, and our understanding is that ICANN technical staff concurs with this assessment, and has now recommended their release. We therefore feel that continuing to restrict access to these domain names serves no useful purpose, and instead has a detrimental effect on the Internet user population, for the reasons stated above.

Yahoo! is very interested in helping ICANN move forward quickly to establish a policy which allows Yahoo! and others to apply for and use those names. We understand that gTLD policy is needed to allow the names to be released and then allocated, we respect ICANN's process, and want to work with ICANN to ensure that it moves forward in an efficient and timely manner. As you know, Yahoo! is increasing y active in ICANN, as a member of the Business Constituency and the IP Constituency, and in this matter we stand ready to assist with this policy process in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

David Filo, Founder and Chief Yahoo!

