



12 June 2013

Mr. David Tennenhouse  
Corporate Vice President, Technology Policy  
Microsoft Corporation  
One Microsoft Way  
Redmond, WA 98052-6399

- VIA EMAIL -

Dear Mr. Tennenhouse:

ICANN thanks Microsoft for its letter dated 6 June 2013 with reference to ICANN's actions regarding dotless domains. We appreciate the concerns you have raised and address them at greater length below.

Regarding the amendment to the .search application, we would like to clarify that such an amendment does not imply ICANN's approval of the dotless domain name registry service. The amendment to the application is an administrative procedure designed to keep applications up-to-date. The dotless domain name registry service has not yet been considered, as the application is still being evaluated by the third party evaluation panels that take into consideration such updated information (<https://gtldresult.icann.org/application-result/applicationstatus/applicationdetails/1319>).

The dotless domain study is being conducted in order to provide a report on the technical, policy and legal issues, if any, related to implementing SAC053 and the potential options for mitigating such issues. As you may be aware, the public consultation on SAC053 (<http://forum.icann.org/lists/sac053-dotless-domains/>) resulted in multiple comments, both in favor of and against it, being received. As such, and in order to provide the Board with additional information, we have commissioned a study on the issues raised in SAC053. Whether or not there are options to mitigate the security and stability issues is one of the matters of the investigation, and assuredly this dotless domain study report will receive impartial and thorough consideration.

Microsoft's offer of further dialogue on technical aspects of the dotless domain issue is very welcomed. We have contracted a security firm to conduct the study and with your permission would like to have them contact Microsoft's engineers to better understand the issues reported in SAC053 and in relation to Microsoft software and dotless domain names.

Thank you for your participation in ICANN's multistakeholder model. We value your feedback and look forward to hearing from you should you have any questions or additional discussions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cyrus Namazi", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Cyrus Namazi  
Vice President, DNS Industry Engagement