



The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers

24 September 2013

Mr. Craig Schwartz  
Community TLD Applicant Group (CTAG)

Dear Mr. Craig Schwartz:

On behalf of ICANN's New gTLD Program, thank you for the letter from the Community TLD Applicant Group (CTAG) of 17 July 2013, concerning new gTLD launch and eligibility criteria. We appreciate that you have taken the time to write to us, and we have posted your letter to the New gTLD correspondence page (<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/correspondence/ctag-to-willett-17jul13-en.pdf>).

As you may be aware, ICANN has worked to develop and document the Rights Protection Mechanism (RPM) Requirements for the Sunrise and Claims services referred to in Specification 7 to the Registry Agreement. The draft documentation published in April has undergone revisions based on community feedback and was posted for public comment on 6 August 2013 (<http://www.icann.org/en/news/public-comment/rpm-requirements-06aug13-en.htm>).

A number of new trademark protections were developed by the community with the goal of providing protection for verified legal rights in the New gTLD Program. ICANN is implementing these protections with the intent that new gTLD registry operators should have discretion to implement their TLD startup phases in accordance with their own business and operational models, so long as they are consistent with the minimum requirements and the rights protection objectives are met appropriately.

As your letter relates to these topics, we will take this feedback into account in considering the comment received. Thank you for your communication and your participation in ICANN's multi-stakeholder process.

Sincerely,

Christine A. Willett  
Vice President, gTLD Operations