Proof of Concept Report for .coop TLD

Covering: Phase 5—July 1, 2002 – April 17, 2003

Attachment 21 sets out the following requirement:

"1.5 Phase 5 Effectiveness - within 180 days after the start of Phase 5, Sponsor shall provide the following information and reports to ICANN.

1.5.1 The date registrar applications were first made available to ICANN-Accredited Registrars.

1.5.2 A list of all ICANN-Accredited Registrars submitting applications to Sponsor to become authorized in the Sponsored TLD, the date the application was submitted to the Sponsor, and the disposition or status of the application (e.g. accepted, rejected).

1.5.3 For each authorized ICANN-Accredited Registrar, provide a breakdown of the total number of domain names randomly transferred by Sponsor.

1.5.4 For each authorized ICANN-Accredited Registrar, provide a breakdown of the total number of domain names transferred pursuant to registrant choice.

1.5.5 A summary of complaints received from registrants, if any, regarding the transfer of their domain names to authorized ICANN-Accredited Registrars.

1.5.6 A summary of any significant technical difficulties encountered during the implementation of registrars."

        "

1.5.1 The date registrar applications were first made available to ICANN-Accredited Registrars.

Registrar Application information was published on the www.nic.coop site on July 1, 2002. Email notification of availability was sent to all ICANN-accredited registrars at that time. Information included an Application Form, Credit Application Form, .Coop Background Information, Technical Specifications, .Coop Registration Agreement, .Coop TLD Accreditation Agreement and EPP Modifications for the .Coop TLD. All information was provided in both Word and PDF format for easy accessibility.

1.5.2 A list of all ICANN-Accredited Registrars submitting applications to Sponsor to become authorized in the Sponsored TLD, the date the application was submitted to the Sponsor, and the disposition or status of the application (e.g. accepted, rejected).

Registrar Name	Application Submitted	Disposition
Poptel	8/9/02	Accepted – Live on 10/1/02
Register.it	7/31/02	Accepted
Secura	7/25/02	Accepted – Live on 1/16/03
Cydentity	11/15/02	Accepted
CORE	10/4/02	Accepted – Live on 1/16/03

1.5.3 For each authorized ICANN-Accredited Registrar, provide a breakdown of the total number of domain names randomly transferred by Sponsor.

To encourage registrars to support .coop registrations, a requirement was made that only registrars that submitted their application by August 15, 2002, would be eligible for the random distribution of names that had been registered under the initial registration effort by the .coop registry. Only three registrars submitted their applications by that date – Poptel, Register.it and Secura. Although the registry operator was diligent in working with these registrars to secure a commitment to activate registration, only the Poptel registrar was able to activate on the original target date of October 1, 2002. In order to ensure that registrants did have options for their registrar during a reallocation process, the registry extended the time for eligible registrars to become active. The second eligible registrar was able to activate on January 16, 2003. At that time, the other eligible registrar declined to move forward with activation of .coop registrations. Therefore random allocation of registrants took place with the two eligible registrars on April 16, 2003. This schedule allowed the registry to allow registrants to select a registrar prior to allocation.

Randomly reallocated registrants:

Poptel   389 registrants

Secura   388 registrants

1.5.4 For each authorized ICANN-Accredited Registrar, provide a breakdown of the total number of domain names transferred pursuant to registrant choice.

Poptel   1937 registrants

Secura   54 registrants

1.5.5 A summary of complaints received from registrants, if any, regarding the transfer of their domain names to authorized ICANN-Accredited Registrars.

The registry received one specific complaint that a registrant had selected one registrar but ended up with a registrar different than selected. Research reflected that the registrar assigned was indeed the one selected – although clearly this was not the desired result. DotCoop allowed a transfer after the 60 day waiting period with no renewal fee required to address this issue.

Another complaint was the lack of choice among registrars since only two qualified. The registry provided information to those registrants about our efforts to secure registrars and continuing efforts in that area. DotCoop publicizes the availability of each new registrar so that registrants are aware of newer options.

Many registrants were confused by the need for this effort. Even though the registry operator set up a very simple radio button process to allow online selection, many registrants had questions on why the process was required and required a significant amount of direct registry and registrar support (as reported) to provide the needed information.

1.5.6 A summary of any significant technical difficulties encountered during the implementation of registrars.

There were no specific difficulties in the implementation by the registry operator of the software to support multiple registrars. In fact the entire process was very smooth considering the unique reallocation process that was required.

However, difficulties were encountered because of the need for registrars to support the EPP extensions that allow the maintenance of the Sponsor information that is used for .coop verification as required by the ICANN agreement. Although minimal information is requested at the time of registration and the registrar is not required to provide maintenance support for this data, it is still a deviation from the standard data required and therefore adds complexity to the implementation, development of unique front-end interfaces and testing. In addition, it requires specialized support knowledge so that staff can answer

questions specific to these issues that registrants or potential registrants may have.

Submitted by

DotCooperation LLC, Sponsor of the .coop TLD