



Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Domains



Newsletter

Issue 1 - April 2016

We welcome you to our first monthly newsletter. You will find it rich with new and helpful information, events, news and article related to Domains Names industry in the region and globally.

About TAG-Domains:

Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Domains (TAG-Domains), is a subsidiary of Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP), a member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), and an ICANN - Accredited Registrar.

TAG-Domains is an accredited Registrar for (.qa) (قطر), (.Shabaka) (شبكة), (.ae), (.PW) and (.om).

TAG-Domains is one of the few accredited registrars in the Arab region which covers Generic Top Level Domain Name (gTLDs) services, Country Code Top Level Domain Names (ccTLDs) services, Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) registration services, Web hosting & Email Account services, Trademark Clearing House (TMCH) services, and Domain Name portfolio management and consultation.

In this Issue:

- About TAG-Domains
- AGIP Egypt Office Hosts First Domain Names Legal Track Workshop
- About AGIP
- ICANN Announced the Release of «Middle East DNS Study»
- Amazon Files Appeal on Rejected Domain (.amazon)
- Oman (.OM) ccTLD and Typosquatting

AGIP Egypt Office Hosts First Domain Names Legal Track Workshop



Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) - Egypt Office in cooperation with DNS Entrepreneurship Center, National Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (NTRA) and Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) organized the first Domain Names Legal Track Workshop.

The two days workshop hosted legal department employees, EG Registry and Trademark Lawyers. It focused on domain names disputes resolution, Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP), and trademarks and domain names protection from potential threats in addition to the abuse of trademarks online.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) expert in the field of DNS Disputes resolution Dr. Luca Barbero presented the UDRP, while AGIP and TAGLegal experts Ms. Passant Abaza and Ms. Mona Adel discussed the trademark registration importance, procedures and the alternatives for DNS dispute resolution for ccTLDs.

Commenting on her participation in this workshop, Ms. Passant Abaza, AGIP trademark deputy manager and quality control officer said: “It was a great honor for me to participate in such a workshop which aimed to raise the awareness to the importance of protecting intellectual property rights; it’s about protecting brand to create identity in the market.”

About AGIP:

A member of Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Organization (TAG-Org), Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP), is the leader in Intellectual Property protection services in the world. AGIP provides an extensive range of IP services for the protection, commercialization and enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights, covering patents, trademarks, designs, copyrights and domain names.

Source: AGIP

ICANN Announced the Release of “Middle East DNS Study”

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) announced the publication of the final report on the Domain Name System (DNS) for the Middle East and Adjoining Countries (MEAC). “Middle East DNS Study” was completed after receiving feedback on the initial draft, which was published before the ICANN54 meeting in Dublin.

It is worth mentioning that Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) has been selected by the ICANN as a member of EURid Consortium, which responsible for conducting this study in the Middle East and Adjoining Countries (MENAC).

AGIP submitted its suggestions and recommendations on how to improve the ecosystem of the Internet infrastructure within the region, and what business models can be adopted in the domain names industry.

Source: ICANN

Amazon Files Appeal on Rejected Domain (.amazon)

Amazon has appealed the rejection of its proposed (.amazon) new gTLD.

The company told ICANN that it has invoked the Independent Review Process, after 18 months of informal negotiations proved fruitless.

Amazon’s (.amazon) application was controversially rejected by ICANN in May 2014, due to advice from the Governmental Advisory Committee.

The GAC, by a consensus, has told ICANN that (.amazon) should be rejected.

South American nations that share the Amazonia region of the continent had said the string was “geographic” and should therefore be unavailable to the US-based company.

The word (Amazon) is not protected by ICANN’s geographic string rules, because it is not the name of a region, and was only rejected due to governmental interference.

The GAC’s decision came only after the US, which has been preventing consensus in order to protect one of its biggest native internet companies, decided to step aside.

Amazon has been in ICANN’s Cooperative Engagement Process, an informal set of talks designed to avoid the need for too many lawyers, since July 2014.

Those talks have now ended and Amazon has told ICANN that an IRP is incoming, according to ICANN documentation.

Source: Domain Incite

Oman (.OM) ccTLD and Typosquatting

By: Mahmoud Lattouf/ TAG-Domains Executive Director

During the past few weeks, we have witnessed an increasing number of registrations and typosquatting cases under the Omani ccTLD (.OM). Typosquatters choice of the .OM TLD is not arbitrary; misspell a .COM domain name and click enter, you might end up at its .OM version, which may contain malware, the case for a leading cloud file hosting service.

While Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP) is an ICANN and a .OM accredited registrar, we make sure that all received registration requests for .OM are verified, however, not all registrars follow the same procedures.

Endgame, an Information Security Company has published its research on .OM typosquatting campaign; it has listed over 300 instances of typosquatting cases, and the number might increase overnight. The campaign is targeting 300 well-known organizations, which indicates the aggressive nature of such a campaign.

We have reached out to Oman's Telecommunication Regulatory Authority (TRA), .OM Registry Operator, and they are aware of these incidents. They are currently taking extra measures to avoid similar incidents and to resolve existing ones.

In all cases, we advise our clients to register their brands under the .OM ccTLD to avoid being victim of such campaigns, and if you found out that your brand has been already registered by a third party, please let us know so we can take appropriate action with Oman's TRA.

Please feel free to contact us at: info@tag-domains.com