



Newsletter

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Istanbul Bosphorus Summit (ICP) designates Dr. Talal Abu-Ghazaleh to establish “The Future We Want World Council”



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The seventh annual Bosphorus Summit convened in Istanbul designated its Honorary President Dr. Talal Abu Ghazaleh with the task of implementing its decision to establish the “The Future We Want World Council”.

The nearly two thousand participants, who attended the 3-day conference, included a large number of officials from many countries, political leaders, academics, business representative and the media.

They discussed the goals of sustainable development, endorsing the necessity of its realization through consolidated joint effort of governments, business, civil society, private sector and the academia.

The patronage of the Summit by of H.E President Recep T. Erdogan, as well as his inaugural speech has elevated the stature of the gathering as an international cooperation platform ongoing for the last seven years.

During the meeting, the project for establishing “The Future We Want World Council” received warm support form a number of speakers and as a result, the project was unanimously adopted. The purpose of the project is to outline new foundations for a new world, free from the conflicts and the wars, that have been obstructing development in our present day world, particularly in the areas of education, economy, health, environment and security.

The project also aims at creating a vision for a new world order where peace, prosperity, stability would prevail, and where human potential would be totally mobilized towards the achievement of such goals, within a framework of

international cooperation governed by the rule of law.

Following that, the conference has approved a mechanism for the council’s function and its membership, recommending that the project be presented to the new U.N secretary General for his Honorary Presidency, noting his international status and humanitarian credentials.

The conference also approved the formation of 5 working groups addressing: religion, armament, education, I.T, and discrimination.

Consequently, Dr. Talal Abu- Ghazaleh, has received an official authorization from the summit Secretary General to take the necessary implementation steps including the formation of the envisaged Council from well-known world personalities who at a later stage will agree on an action plan.

<http://www.tagorg.com/news.aspx?id=18930>

TAG-Domains Introduces .SO Domain Name Registration

AMMAN - Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Domain Names (TAG-Domains), an ICANN accredited Registrar, announces that it has recently started providing domain name registration services under the country-code Top-Level Domain of Somalia (.SO).

Domain name disputes related to .SO domain names are handled by the Arbitration Center of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in accordance with the Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP). It is noteworthy that TAG-Domains provides online registration services through its website www.tag-domains.com for the extensions “.com, .net, .org, .name, .qa, .ae, شبكة, and now .so”, and covers all other extensions through our local offices and partners.

Our charges for registering a .SO domain name is \$85.

For more information about .SO registration, please contact TAG-Domains at: info@tag-domains.com

Largest ccTLDs by Number of Reported Domain Names



Total ccTLD domain name registrations were approximately 142.7 million in the fourth quarter of 2016, with an increase of 2.6 million domain name registrations, or a 1.8 percent increase compared to the third quarter of 2016.^{1,2}

ccTLDs increased by approximately 4.3 million domain name registrations, or 3.1 percent, year over year.^{1,2} Without including .tk, ccTLD domain name registrations increased approximately 2.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2016, a 1.7 percent increase compared to the third quarter of 2016 and ccTLDs increased by approximately 8.0 million domain name registrations, or 6.9 percent, year over year.

The top 10 ccTLDs, as of Dec. 31, 2016, were .cn (China), .tk (Tokelau), .de (Germany), .uk (United Kingdom), .ru (Russian Federation), .nl (Netherlands), .br (Brazil), .eu (European Union), .au (Australia) and .it (Italy).

As of Dec. 31, 2016, there were 293 global ccTLD extensions delegated in the root, including Internationalized

Domain Names (IDNs), with the top 10 ccTLDs composing 64.7 percent of all ccTLD domain name registrations.

<http://www.verisign.com/assets/domain-name-report-Q42016.pdf>

Did Apple Spend \$1.5 Million Dollars to Acquire iCloud.net?

Apple has acquired the domain name icloud.net.

There is a story in AppleInsider.com, that “a tipster told AppleInsider that Apple paid some \$1.5 million for the domain, but the transaction is not confirmed.”

“TechCrunch was also unable to corroborate financial details. When asked about the domain takeover, Apple declined requests for comment.

“Shortly before iCloud launched in 2011, Apple was rumored to have paid \$4.5 million to Swedish software company Xcerion for the iCloud.com domain.

The actual amount was later revealed to be closer to \$5.2 million, making the currently rumored \$1.5 million figure for iCloud.net a bargain.”

“Why Apple decided to purchase iCloud.net after nearly six years is unclear. TechCrunch speculates the move might be related to Apple’s rumored video and image sharing app. The product, which is supposedly set for launch later this year, is akin to established sharing services Snapchat and Instagram in that it will allow users to record video, apply filters and send the resulting content to contacts or upload it to existing networks like Facebook or Twitter.

Whatever Apple’s motive, the iCloud.net social network that has been in operation since 2011 is no longer active and all data associated with the erstwhile site will be expunged on Mar. 1.”

<https://www.thedomains.com/2017/02/21/apple-spend-1-5-million-dollars-acquire-icloud-net/>

Data.world Gets \$19 Million Funding



Slowly but surely, businesses that use new top level domain names are becoming more common.

Austin, Texas-based Data.world has snagged \$19 million in funding, bringing its total capital raised to \$32.7 million.

The company bills itself as a “social network for data people.” It was founded by Brett Hurt, who previously founded Bazaarvoice.

DataWorld.com is an existing business that provides SAP consulting and integration services. We can imagine that the owner of DataWorld.com gets a number of inquiries meant for Data.world.

.World is one of Donuts’ top level domains.

<http://domainnamewire.com/2017/02/21/data-world-gets-19-million-funding/>

India's Biggest Bank Switches to dot-brand

State Bank of India has announced plans to migrate all of its web sites to its new dot-brand gTLD.

The company has been responsible for .sbi since it was delegated by ICANN last April, but bank.sbi is its first live domain name.

Currently, while bank.sbi is live and resolving, the old domain sbi.co.in appears to still be its primary address.

However, SBI said “all of the bank’s internet presence shall soon be migrated to the .sbi gTLD”.

There will be a period of crossover while customers get used to the change, it said in a press release.

The bank said: “a gTLD site like .sbi conveys an assurance to the customer that the site is authorized, genuine and is not an inappropriate or phishing site”.

The move is perhaps significant given that SBI is state-owned, and one might expect some level of nationalism when it comes to domain choice.

But SBI, India’s largest bank with \$490 billion in assets under management, is not the first bank to say it plans to use its dot-brand as its primary TLD.

BNP Paribas, the world’s biggest non-Chinese bank, uses .bnpparibas for almost everything, particularly in its native France. It has three domains in the Alexa top 100,000 most-visited web sites.

Others with dot-brands in use include Barclays and Citi.

<http://domainincite.com/21559-indias-biggest-bank-switches-to-dot-brand>

ICANN to Proceed with .AFRICA Delegation After Court Order



A court in LA has turned down a request to prevent ICANN from delegating .AFRICA, which means it may go live soon

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) announced that the California Superior Court has turned down DotConnectAfrica's (DCA's) motion for injunction to stop the delegation of the .AFRICA gTLD to ZA Central Registry (ZACR).

It has been over two years since ZACR won its application for .AFRICA and signed its Registry Agreement with ICANN. DotConnectAfrica, the only other applicant, was rejected because it had no African government support. They sued ICANN for fraud, after alleging that ICANN broke its own rules and was partial to ZACR from the outset.

All new gTLD applicants have to undertake the "Covenant Not to Sue" in the New gTLD Applicant Guidebook. In dismissing the motion for injunction, the court found the Covenant to be legally enforceable. Superior Court Judge Howard Halm ruled: "DCA's claims against ICANN for fraud and unfair business practices are likely to be barred. As a result, DCA cannot establish that it is likely to succeed on the merits."

ICANN said that it will now follow its normal processes towards delegation, raising hopes that the new gTLD will go live soon.

<https://news.webhosting.info/icann-to-proceed-with-africa-delegation-after-court-order/>

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