



Newsletter

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Jordan Reduces Domain Name Registration Fees



AMMAN - Jordan National Information Technology Center announced that new official fees for registering country code domain names have been applied in Jordan as of July 1, 2017.

The new official fees, which include top and second level domain names, have been reduced by 50% from the prior fees.

The new official fees for registering a top level domain name became JD50 (US\$ 71) instead of JD100 (US\$ 142), and the new official fees for registering a second level domain name became JD25 (US\$ 35) instead of JD50 (US\$ 71). In light of the above, our total charges for registering a top level domain name in Jordan are US\$ 130 (exclusive of VAT), and US\$ 90 (exclusive of VAT) for the second level domain name.

For more information, please contact AGIP Jordan office at: jordan@agip.com

Source: AGIP

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Kuwaiti CITRA Begins Domain Name Registration

KUWAIT CITY - The Communication and Information Technology Regulatory Authority (CITRA) in Kuwait recently announced that it started receiving applications for domain name registration.

It is worth mentioning that Authority's new internal procedures are now in place, and there are no processing or policy changes.

Therefore, our clients are kindly requested to continue sending their instructions regarding the registration of new domain names, so that we can register them directly with the new registry.

For more information or inquiries, please contact us at: kuwait@agip.com, info@tag-domains.com

Source: AGIP

ICANN Publishes Updated gTLD Marketplace Health Index



LOS ANGELES - The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) announced that it published an update to the gTLD Marketplace Health Index (Beta), which presents statistics and trends related to generic top-level domains (gTLDs).

The gTLD Marketplace Health Index (Beta) was first published in July 2016. ICANN plans to publish these statistics twice a year to track progress against its goal of supporting the evolution of the domain name marketplace to be robust,

stable and trusted. A community Advisory Panel is working with ICANN to refine the Index in preparation for publishing version 1.0.

Source: ICANN

Rightside, Donuts Merger Gets the Green Light from ICANN

New top-level domain registry operators, Rightside Group, Ltd. (NASDAQ:NAME) and Donuts Inc. have received ICANN's express consent on their merger plans announced in June. As part of the announced agreement, Donuts will acquire Rightside for \$10.60 per share in an all-cash tender offer, for an aggregate purchase price of approximately \$213MM. The Merger Agreement was unanimously approved by Rightside's Board of Directors following a comprehensive review of strategic and financial alternatives that Rightside announced in the first quarter of 2017. Analyzing the acquisition, Andrew Allemann from Domain Name Wire writes: «Rightside had to sell. There was no question that Rightside was going to be acquired or go private in some way. After selling eNom to Tucows for \$83.5 million earlier this year, the company was just too small to remain public. It also had lots of pressure to perform... It had to sell eNom because it was about to lose its biggest customer.»

Source: Circleid

Domain Growth Slows a lot in Quarter 1

By: Kevin Murphy

The growth of the domain name industry slowed in the first quarter, numbers published by Verisign reveal. According to its latest Domain Name Industry Brief, the domain universe grew to 330.6 million in Q1.

That's an increase of 1.3 million names on Q4 2016, a 0.4% sequential increase, and 11.8 million names, 3.7% growth, compared to Q1 2016. In the Q4 DNIB, Verisign reported industry growth of 0.7% and 6.8% respectively. The only change on the list of the top 10 TLDs was that .nl and .xyz switched places (.xyz is now in 10th place, with 5.6 million names, but this rank will not last long).

ccTLDs in general did not match the growth of the overall market. There were approximately 143.1 million ccTLD domains at the end of March, up 0.3% sequentially and 1.7% year over year, both substantially smaller numbers than reported in Q4. The free ccTLD .tk, which has been responsible for huge swings in recent reports, is reported to have declined by about 100,000 names to 18.6 million.

Excluding .tk, the growth rate of ccTLDs was better — 0.5% sequentially and 3.9% compared to the year-ago quarter.

Verisign's data is largely based on zone files for gTLDs and independent researcher ZookNic for ccTLDs.

Source: Domainincite

PayPal Sells X.com Back to Its Previous Owner, Elon Musk

PayPal's corporate communications director confirmed that the company has sold the domain X.com back to its previous owner, Elon Musk. Elliot Silver from DomainInvesting.com reports: «X.com is one of the few single letter .com domain names, and I would argue that it is one of the most valuable domain names. ... I recently detected a Whois change involving the X.com domain name. For many years, X.com was registered to PayPal Inc., Amanda Miller, Director of Corporate Communications at PayPal, confirmed that the company sold the domain name [back to its previous owner, Elon Musk]. ... Because PayPal is a publicly traded company, and because I presume this domain name is likely worth into the 8 figures, it is possible that there will be a subsequent SEC filing that mentions the sale of this domain name.»

Source: Circleid

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