



## TAG-Domains Becomes an Accredited Registrar for Sudan Country-code Top-Level Domain (.SD)

KHARTOUM - Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Domain Names (TAG-Domains), a subsidiary of Abu-Ghazaleh Intellectual Property (AGIP), and an Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) accredited registrar, reached another milestone and became an accredited registrar for the country code top-level domain (ccTLD) of Sudan (.SD).

This accreditation from the Sudan Internet Society (SIS) authorizes TAG-Domains to add (.SD) to its existing list of ccTLDs and gTLDs accreditation: (.com) (.net) (.org) (.name) (.qa), (.قطر), (.om), (.shabaka), (.شبكة), (.ae) and (.pw).

TAG-Domains is one of the few accredited registrars in the Arab region which offers gTLDs, ccTLDs and IDNs services including registration, management, renewals and transfers.

In this regard, and demonstrating its commitment to provide its clients with high-quality services coupled with competitive charges, TAG-Domains reduced its charges for registration and renewal of (.SD) domain. For more information, please contact TAG-Domains at [info@tag-domains.com](mailto:info@tag-domains.com)

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## **TAG.Global Holds DNS and Cybersecurity Workshop**

AMMAN – Talal Abu-Ghazaleh Global (TAG.Global) held a workshop about Domain Name System (DNS) and Cybersecurity, in cooperation with the Information and Communications Technology Association of Jordan (Int@j) and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), in Amman, Jordan, September 24, 2019.

The workshop shed light on the DNS security landscape by exploring some of the recent attacks that have harmed the domain names system.

The event, which brought together registries, registrars, registrants, ccTLDs, new gTLD applicants, service providers and brand owners, was a good opportunity to build bridges between the DNS industry's key players and world's experts in this field by sharing experiences and best practices in the domain name industry at a global level.

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## **WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center Issues First Decision under UA-DRP**

KIEV - Following the entry into force of the .UA Domain-Name Dispute-Resolution Policy (UA-DRP) on March 19, 2019, the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center, which administers the UA-DRP proceedings, recently issued its first Administrative Panel decision on a .UA domain name. A complaint was filed with the Center on April 10, 2019, and the Administrative Panel decision is dated July 7, 2019.

### **The Parties**

The complainant was OPPO Pte. Ltd, a Chinese consumer electronics and mobile communications company. According to recent ratings, OPPO is one of the top smartphone brands in China and worldwide. The complainant owns numerous OPPO trademark registrations around the world, including international registrations valid in Ukraine.

The respondent is a Ukrainian citizen Alexander Leonidovich Shirkov, who has a certain level of control over the website [www.nis.ua](http://www.nis.ua) providing IT services and selling various products, including smartphones. Moreover, the respondent also administered the “OPPO Community Ukraine” Facebook page.

### **The Background**

The case relates to the second-level domain name <oppo.ua>, registered by the respondent on July 31, 2015 based on his license for the Ukrainian trademark registration No. 201789 for OPPO, owned by a Hong Kong

company, related to the respondent. The respondent claimed that the trademark was registered in order to register the corresponding domain name to promote the complainant's products and create an online forum for OPPO fans.

The disputed domain name led to a website the content of which was modified several times. At one point, it redirected to [www.nis.ua](http://www.nis.ua). Finally, on the date the complaint was filed, the website's home page only showed the word "OppO" and the tooltip included the words "OPPO – officially in Ukraine" in the Russian and Ukrainian languages.

The Panel concluded that the respondent's promotional activities were unauthorized and that the OPPO fan forum never existed at the disputed domain name. Instead, the website showed the name and the tooltip affiliated with the complainant, as well as links directing to other websites selling similar products.

### **The Decision and Current Domain Name Status**

The Panel's decision affirmed that:

The disputed domain name is confusingly similar to the complainant's trademark (paragraph 4 (a) (i) of the UA-DRP);

The respondent does not have legitimate interests or rights to the disputed domain name (paragraph 4 (a) (ii) of the UA-DRP); and

The disputed domain name was registered and used in bad faith (paragraph 4 (a) (iii) of the UA-DRP).

The Panel therefore ordered the transfer of the <oppo.ua> domain name to the complainant.

<oppo.ua> still led to the home page containing the word "OppO", while the domain name's WHOIS information still includes respondent's details.

The eligibility criteria for registration of second-level .UA domains that complainants must meet significantly limits the number of potential disputes, and make it obvious why only one case was considered under the UA-DRP, after almost six months since the policy entered into force. At the same time, a significant rise in the number of disputes is expected when the extension of the UA-DRP to third-level .UA domain names is approved, which is expected by the end of 2019.

*Source: PETOŠEVIĆ*

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