ICANN Registry Request Service

Ticket ID: K2B7Z-1V0Q3
Registry Name: Stable Tone Limited
gTLD: xn--rhqv96g
Status: ICANN Review
Status Date: 2016-01-28 16:35:41
Print Date: 2016-01-28 16:36:00

Proposed Service

Name of Proposed Service:

Additional IDN Tables for the .?? and .?? TLD Registries

Technical description of Proposed Service:

Stable Tone Ltd. (Stable Tone) is the Registry Operator for both the .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) TLD Registries would like to provide registration of IDN in additional scripts and/or languages. Technical implementation will be fully compliant with relevant IDN RFCs and in compliance with the ICANN IDN Guidelines.

Consultation

Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?:

Stable Tone has consulted with backend provider Neustar and the DotAsia Organisation (and Namesphere) for their expertise on IDN.

a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?:

Not applicable.

b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?:

The implementation is consistent with IDN implementations at Neustar accepted by registrars.

c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

Not applicable.

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d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

   Not applicable.

e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?:

   Non-English alphanumeric (ASCII) users.

f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were(or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?:

   Stable Tone does not see any reason why any stakeholder group would object the introduction of more IDN languages/scripts at the TLDs.

Timeline

Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service:

   An ICANN mandated Sunrise as well as a Special Sunrise for different languages was already conducted. The implementation of the new registry service will commence upon the completion of the RSEP. TMCH Trademark Claims support will be turned on for 90 days upon the implementation of additional IDN languages/scripts to the both the .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) TLD Registries.

Business Description

Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered:

   IDN registrations are procured via EPP and offered for registration through accredited registrars.

Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service:

   The proposed IDN languages/scripts have been in operation in other gTLDs operated by Neustar.

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Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.:

IDN Related RFCs:

RFC5890: Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (IDNA): Definitions and Document Framework

RFC5891: Internationalized Domain Names in Applications (IDNA): Protocol

RFC5892: The Unicode Code Points and Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (IDNA)

RFC5893: Right-to-Left Scripts for Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (IDNA)

RFC5894: Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (IDNA): Background, Explanation, and Rationale

The implementation is compliant with the relevant IDN RFCs.

Contractual Provisions

List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service:

Amendments to Exhibit A, Section 4 to add the new IDN languages/scripts.

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN:

None. Prior reporting already includes IDN reporting (Chinese IDNs).

What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?:

None.

Contract Amendments

Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service:

For both the .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) TLDs, the following amendments are proposed for the Registry Agreement, Exhibit A, Section 4.3:

4.3. Registry Operator may offer registration of IDNs in the following languages/scripts (IDN Tables and IDN Registration

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Rules will be published by the Registry Operator as specified in the ICANN IDN Implementation Guidelines):

4.3.1. Chinese (ZH)
4.3.2. Arabic (AR)
4.3.3. Danish (DA)
4.3.4. Finnish (FI)
4.3.5. French (FR)
4.3.6. German (DE)
4.3.7. Hungarian (HU)
4.3.8. Icelandic (IS)
4.3.9. Italian (IT)
4.3.10. Japanese (JP)
4.3.11. Korean (KR)
4.3.12. Latvian (LV)
4.3.13. Lithuanian (LT)
4.3.14. Norwegian (NO)
4.3.15. Polish (PL)
4.3.16. Portuguese (PT)
4.3.17. Russian (RU)
4.3.18. Spanish (ES)
4.3.19. Swedish (SV)

Benefits of Service

Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service:

Stable Tone aspires to be a global IDN registry offering IDN registrations of the world's languages and scripts to users around the world. The TLD strings "??" (U+4E16; U+754C) and "??" (U+5065; U+5EB7) in particular is already recognized in languages beyond the Chinese community. The addition of different languages allow registrants and users around the world speaking different languages to express their identity in their own language and script for .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) domain names.

Competition

Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.:

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Additional IDN languages/scripts offered by the .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) TLD Registries should have no negative effects on competition. It will allow Stable Tone to compete with other TLDs already offering the different languages/scripts for registration.

How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?:

Additional IDN languages/scripts would allow the .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) TLD Registries to provide services to different language communities around the world.

What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?:

Many TLD registries offer multiple language/script IDN registrations.

In view of your status as a registry operator, would the introduction of your proposed Registry Service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?:

No.

Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed Registry Service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide.:

Yes. Neustar as our backend registry services provider will provide the technical functionality for the registration of IDN in the proposed langauges/scripts. Namesphere as our frontend registry services provider will provide policy, administrative and market development assistance for the .?? (.xn--rhqv96g) and .?? (xn--nyqy26a) TLD Registries.

Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please describe the communications.:

Yes. Stable Tone has communicated with Neustar (our backend provider) and Namesphere (our frontend provider).

Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).:

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No.

Security and Stability

Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?:

No.

Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of reponses to Internet servers or end systems:

None.

Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?:

None relevant.

Our backend provider Neustar has been implementing Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) at the second level in a number of existing top-level domains, both gTLDs and ccTLDs, for nearly a decade. Neustar currently accepts registrations in many different languages, including, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, French, Spanish, and German to name a few. Each of the implementations have been done in accordance with ICANN IDN guidelines as well as all applicable RFCs. Neustar's tested and proven successful EPP extensions and toolkits are published on SourceForge and available for any third party to access.

Stable Tone will further support the Universal Acceptance initiative to advocate for the acceptance of IDN in applications and IT systems.

Other Issues

Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service:

No.

Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?:

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No.

List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service:

No additional disclaimers are introduced.

Any other relevant information to include with this request:

None.