



.NET Successor Selection

prepared for the ICANN Meeting

Mar del Plata

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.NET Successor Selection Process

- The Legal requirement to re-bid comes from the existing .net contract.
<http://www.icann.org/tlds/agreements/verisign/net-index.htm>
- Process for selecting the successor operator was presented to and approved by Board <http://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-29jun04.htm>
- Criteria were based on a GNSO recommendation <http://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-10aug04.htm> and an RFP published <http://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-10aug04.htm>
- Bids were received from 5 applicants:
<http://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-19jan05.htm>

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- A full evaluation of the applications was conducted by an independent third party, Telcordia. www.telcordia.com
- Telcordia issued a report ranking the applicants
<http://www.icann.org/announcements/announcement-28mar05.htm>
- As contemplated, we are receiving questions and comments regarding the evaluation and undergoing a process with the independent evaluation team.
- The Board will consider all of the elements in the process prior to approving an agreement.

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- ICANN received five applications
 - Afilias
 - CORE++
 - DENIC
 - Sentan
 - VeriSign
- The independent evaluator found that all 5 applicants were capable of running .NET. This is a major tribute to the maturity of the sector. It is also an important factor in the considerations for the New gTLD policy.

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- Based upon the rankings published in the independent evaluators report, and in accordance with the published procedure, ICANN has commence negotiations with VeriSign.
- In the meantime, ICANN is coordinating response to applicant questions.
 - Independent evaluator will respond to questions as appropriate
 - All questions and answers will be posted to maintain process transparency.