

From: Matt Serlin <matt.serlin@markmonitor.com>

Date: Friday 7 September 2012 15:35

To: 'Bertrand de La Chapelle' <bdelachapelle@gmail.com>

Subject: RE: Call for input on: "Impact of new gTLDs on ICANN's structure"

Hi Bertrand,

Hope you had an enjoyable summer and things are well.

The impact of new gTLDs on the structure of the Registrar Stakeholder Group (RrSG) is a topic of discussion amongst the group currently and, speaking honestly, is something that we have been somewhat slow to react to. For example, we are currently reviewing our bylaws to ensure the integrity of the group remains as it was intended once new gTLDs are actually delegated and operational.

Primarily, the impact on the RrSG will be as follows in my view:

- Structural changes to the group which will ensure the SG continues to be a group focused on registrar-focused activities and policies. With cross-ownership of registrar and registry possibilities, we want to continue to have the RrSG be a strong voice for the end-user as registrars are the interface the majority of domain name holders interact with.
- The members of the RrSG have many operational concerns about how the introduction of new gTLDs will impact them with such a dramatic increase in the number of gTLDs available to registrars. We have been pushing for improvements to the on-boarding process to allow for streamlined access to new gTLDs as they launch and are hopeful those changes will ensure a smooth introduction of new gTLDs into the marketplace.
- Members of the RrSG are also concerned about how the introduction of new gTLDs will impact current (and proposed) policy development work within ICANN. The introduction of the Trademark Clearinghouse and Uniform Rapid Suspension are two examples of new policies coming along with the introduction of new gTLDs and registrars will be directly impacted by these. It is our sincere hope the policy development work done to date is successful in its implementation phase and future work is developed as needed once the new gTLD landscape is a reality.

· Finally, the RrSG is concerned about the ability of the ICANN Compliance Department to effectively manage the flood of new contracting parties which will become a reality over the next 18-24 months. Members of the RrSG have always been supportive of a strong compliance function within ICANN to ensure all parties are held to the same standards and players who are not living up to their commitments are no longer part of the ecosystem. This will become that much more important with the additional contracted parties which will enter the ICANN environment.

We look forward to continuing to discuss these items as a SG, the community, ICANN staff as well as the Board.

Please let me know if you have any additional questions or need further input.

Best regards,
Matt Serlin
Chair, Registrar Stakeholder Group