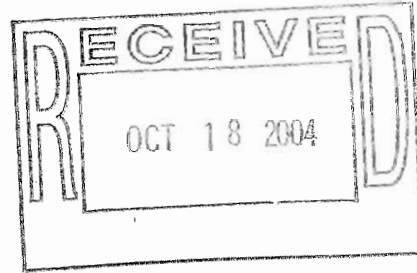


Sun Microsystems, Inc.
Mailstop UMPK10-247
10 Network Circle
Menlo Park, CA 94025
October 8 2004

Mr. Paul Twomey
President and CEO
ICANN Corporation
4676 Admiralty Way, Suite 330
Marina del Rey, CA 90292-6601



RE: .net TLD Operator



Dear Mr. Twomey,

I understand that ICANN will be issuing a Request for Proposal for the operation of the .net TLD, currently operated by Verisign. As a leading provider of hardware, software and services that rely on DNS for both external customers and internal use, successful operation of .net is critical to my business. In addition, it is also critical to the overall stability of the Internet.

A nominal degradation in the administration of .net jeopardizes core security systems across the Internet, as well as DNS interoperability which is paramount in executing identity services. Critical Sun initiatives and software - Java, Sun One and Project Liberty - rely on rapid .net resolution to identify other software objects, verify digital certificates, and execute identity authentication and authorization. Service interruptions could cause security vulnerabilities or software malfunctions and impede a myriad of on-line services from functioning. Therefore, it is critical that .net is administered at the highest service levels and that the underlying technology and infrastructure be secure.

As a provider of critical services, we understand the complexity of providing real-time services in a rapidly growing environment. From our level of visibility, Verisign has operated .net to virtually unmatched levels of reliability and consistently delivered excellent resolution. They have demonstrated their stewardship and expertise by enabling performance through the rapid growth of the Internet and the corresponding increased attacks on the system. In addition, they have expanded capabilities to address new and increasing uses of the Internet, and have taken leadership roles in standards organizations and innovation councils to further secure and stabilize the .net registry.

With a growing number of web services relying on DNS, performance and stability are essential. Please accept this communication as an endorsement of Verisign's continued performance in operating the .net TLD.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Schwartz
President and COO
Sun Microsystems, Inc.

cc:

The Honorable Donald L. Evans, Secretary of Commerce
Stratton Scavos, CEO Verisign, Inc