

Internationalized Domain Names



Tina Dam
Director, IDN Program

1 April 2008

Agenda

- Are we there yet?
- Other top IDN question from end-users
- IDN TLD wiki (“.test”)
- Protocol revision status
- Processes within ICANN
 - IANA, IDN ccTLDs and gTLDs
- IDN Guidelines
 - From ICANN and very importantly local developments

Are we there yet?

- IDNs have existed as SLD since 2003
 - under protocol standards
- The community also needs IDN TLDs
 - 北京大学.中国
 - [xn--1IQ90lc7FzpC.xn--fiQs8S]
- Technical and Policy work underway to provide the **fully localized solution**
 - Technical standard under revision
 - New allocation processes underway
 - existing processes does not work for IDNs

If I have registered [idn.tld] then will I also be the registrant of [idn.idn-tld] ?

- Policy considerations
 - related to IP rights vs. competition options
 - difficult to do meaningful translation of existing strings
- GNSO Policy:
 - No precedence for existing registries
 - Objection rights exists for confusingly similarity
- ccTLD operators and GAC are considering needs for IDN ccTLD aliasing solution
- If requested then technical solution is needed

Status of the .test wiki

Script	Language	SLD.TLD U-labels	SLD A-label	TLD A-label
Arabic	Arabic	مثال.إختبار	xn--mgbh0fb	xn--kgbechtv
Arabic	Persian	مثال.آزمایشی	xn--mgbh0fb	xn--hgbk6aj7f53bba
Chinese, simplified	Chinese	例子.测试	xn--fsqu00a	xn--0zwm56d
Chinese, traditional	Chinese	例子.測試	xn--fsqu00a	xn--g6w251d
Cyrillic	Russian	пример.испытание	xn--e1afmkfd	xn--80akhbyknj4f
Devanagari	Hindi	उदाहरण.परीक्षा	xn--p1b6ci4b4b3a	xn--11b5bs3a9aj6g
Greek	Greek	παράδειγμα.δοκιμή	xn--hxajbheg2az3al	xn--jxalpdlp
Hangul	Korean	실례.테스트	xn--9n2bp8q	xn--9t4b11yi5a
Hebrew	Yiddish	דאָס צו פּרױבירן	xn--fdbk5d8ap9b8a8d	xn--deba0ad
Kanji Hirigana, and Katakana	Japanese	例え.テスト	xn--r8jz45g	xn--zckzah
Tamil	Tamil	உதாரணம்.பரிட்சை	xn--zkc6cc5bi7f6e	xn--hlcj6aya9esc7a

Status of the .test wiki

- Purpose of the IDNwiki:
 - Introduce users to IDN TLDs
 - Applications test environment for usability
 - Registry information about user problems
- Conduct an experiment with IDN TLDs
 - not a pre-requisite for production in root zone
 - no registrations are available
- Functions as a “normal wiki”, user access

Status of the .test wiki

- Adding new “features”
 - New languages:
 - Amharic (4th level under idn.icann.org)
 - Hebrew (2nd level under existing TLD)
 - coming: Thai (4th level)
 - process available for others languages
 - DNSSEC signing the zones
 - exploring IDN email addition
 - experimental status of technical standard

IDNwiki Access

- IDNwiki can be accessed at:
 - <http://idn.icann.org>
 - Thanks to users, moderators, and wiki staff,
 - includes useful information about IDN
 - in all available languages
 - Please:
 - Visit the site
 - Try IDNs
 - Report on results
 - Use information
 - Add information

Status of the IDNA revision

- Proposed revision at IETF
 - from extremely hard working participants
- Unicode version independent
 - Three categories by procedure not table
 - Protocol-valid (some w/ contextual rules)
 - Disallowed
 - Unassigned
- Attempting to plan for educational sessions on the difference between protocol versions
 - One short initial session tomorrow morning
 - John Klensin and Cary Karp

Status of IDNA revision

Basis in RFC4690, describing issues

- [draft-klensin-idnabis-issues-07.txt](#)
 - overall rationale and explanation
- [draft-klensin-idnabis-protocol-04.txt](#)
 - registration vs. resolution
- [draft-faltstrom-idnabis-tables-05.txt](#)
 - category operations procedure
 - not table, but holds Unicode-5.0 result for reference
- [draft-alvestrand-idna-bidi-04.txt](#)
 - to allow combining marks at end of string, by test

IANA management of IDN TLDs

- Process for insertion of IDN TLDs in root
 - exists for test domains only (IDN .test)
 - Developed w/ RSSAC & SSAC recommendations
 - need review, revision, and implementation
 - includes emergency removal procedure
 - for test IDN TLDs only
 - Initial review scheduled by IANA staff
 - Before 30 June 2008
 - Result to be published publicly

ICANN Processes

Country-code IDN TLDs – Fast Track

- Deploy non-contentious ccTLD equivalents quickly
- Where demand/readiness exists
- Don't wait for full ccNSO PDP
- Tomorrow, half day session on policy issues and methodology

Country-code IDN TLDs – Long Term

- Full policy that caters for all
- Follows the full ccNSO Policy Development Process
- Issues paper scheduled for publication by ICANN Paris meeting (Jun08)

New Generic TLDs

- New ongoing policy for new gTLDs
- Includes internationalized domains
- Focus on non-ASCII squatting & confusingly similarity solutions

Same
Start
Time

IDN Guidelines

- ICANN IDN Guidelines
 - Need revision to follow IDNA revision
 - Developed by ccTLD and gTLD registry operators
- Local community guidelines, such as
 - Informal ‘Arabic script’ meeting last two days
 - Briefing of results found tomorrow morning
 - language experts participate in IDNA review
 - Review of PVALID characters
 - In addition to protocol, a need for:
 - local registration policies and variant tables

Summary – everything is under-way

- Protocol – general validity of character and in some extend string validity
- IDN Guidelines – implementation of protocol, and global rules for scripts and languages
- Local Directions – local rules for scripts and languages
- Registry testing and implementations
- Application testing and implementations
- Allocation and Delegation Procedures
- Registry, Registrar, Reseller, Registrant

Outreach, Education, Information

**Thank You for Your Time
Questions?**