

DOCUMENT FOR ccTLD WORKSHOP

Source: CNRS/CETP and AFNIC
Title: Archives of ccTLD IANA information

Please note that the full document is not yet available

Abstract

Who are ccTLD Managers? How many are they? When ccTLDs registration occurred? How it happen? What events are related to the ccTLD creation? Where are records of registration? Who is in charge of the custodianship of this patrimony of the world?

Were the assessments or public audits of the ccTLD IANA database made over time and published? Do we have any document assessing the status of the ccTLD IANA database when transferred from the SRI NIC to the NSFNET project, or later in 1993 from the NSF to InterNIC (NSI)? In the end of 1998 after Jon Postel passing away? In February 2000 when the first purchase order for IANA function has been sent by the DoC to ICANN?

Some of the questions above have answers, some could have, but the comprehensive ccTLD Book of Genesis, documenting registration of all 240+ entries does not exist.

The preamble to the ccTLD IANA function is related to the archives of the ccTLD IANA database. The ccTLDs cover the whole world. The ccTLDs' IANA database is the history of the Internet creation, part to the world patrimony. Without those fundamental records providing information on all past ccTLD history and all changes ever recorded no much trust can be built for the future. In addition to the duty and responsibility of keeping historical archives, the analysis of documents from ccTLDs registrations could be an extraordinary lesson on international deployment of the Internet, not less interesting than the discovery of continents and countries half millennium ago.

It is time to admit than the ccTLDs' issues will take time. The establishing and maintaining policies for the ccTLD IANA function is a complex and long term matter. While trying to imagine the structure for the "ccTLD IANA Maintenance Agency", we could take lessons from the ISO 3166/MA history and difficulties:

"In addition a mechanism for the maintenance of the new standard had to be developed because user acceptance for this kind of standard critically depends on its being up to date."

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