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Geneva, 3-4 March 2003

**DOCUMENT FOR ccTLD WORKSHOP**

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# Workshop on Member States' Experience with ccTLDs

Geneva, 3 – 4 March 2003

*“Singapore Experience”*

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# Singapore Experience

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# Introduction

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- Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC) Pte Ltd
- The .SG Domain Registry
- Wholly owned subsidiary of Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA)

# History of SGNIC

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- Early 1990s, .SG domain space was delegated to Technet Unit, National University of Singapore (NUS)
- November 1995, National Computer Board (NCB) took over the registry functions from Technet
- SGNIC was incorporated in June 1997 as a wholly owned subsidiary of NCB
- NCB merged with Telecommunication Authority of Singapore (TAS) = IDA

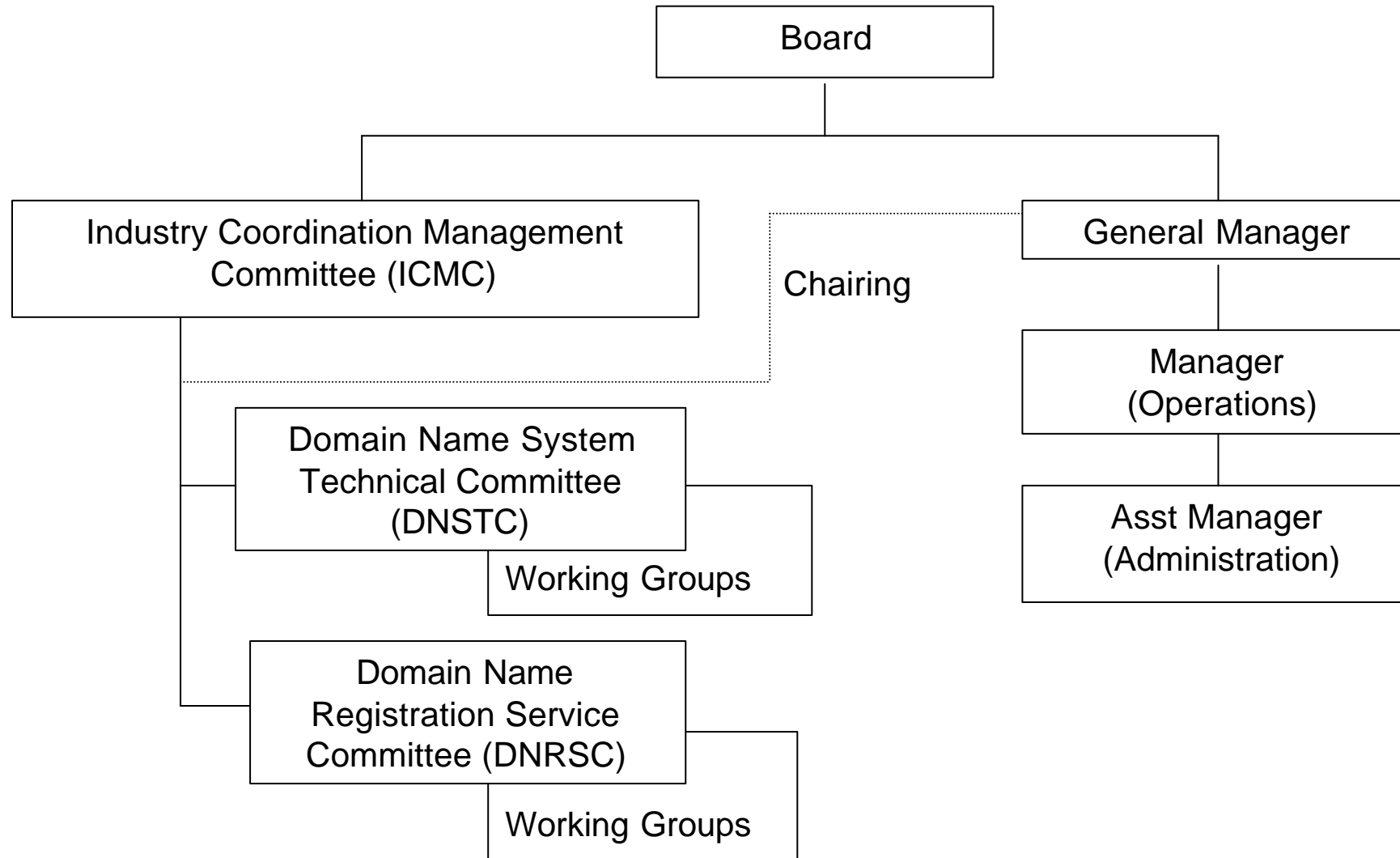
# Role of SGNIC

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- Runs the .SG Domain Registry
  - Maintains name servers for .SG Top Level Domain (TLD) and Second Level Domain (SLD) so that all .SG domains are visible on the Internet
  - Maintains database information on all .SG domain names
- Set domain name registrations policies

# Organisation Set-Up



# SGNIC Domain Names

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- Total number of domain names registered as at 1 February 2003 is 33,395:

COM.SG (commercial entities) – 28,720

ORG.SG (non-commercial entities) – 1,286

NET.SG (network providers) - 144

GOV.SG (government organisations) - 267

EDU.SG (educational institutions) - 161

PER.SG (personal domain names) -2817



# Projects Implemented

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## Registry-Registrar (SgR2R)

- Aim: To encourage service innovation and to increase the availability of choice to domain name holders
- Implemented on 1 January 2003
- Accredited an initial group of five registrars to register com/org/net/edu/per.sg domain names with SGNIC
- Accredited Ministry of Finance (MOF) to be the registrar to handle 'gov.sg' registrations
- Migration to SgR2R to be completed by December 2003

# Projects Implemented



## Singapore Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (SDRP)

- An alternative dispute resolution process for resolving domain name disputes involving .sg registrants in a faster and cost-effective way
- Developed under an MOU signed among:
  - Singapore Network Information Centre (SGNIC)
  - Singapore Mediation Centre (SMC)
  - Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC)
  - Singapore Institute of Arbitrators (SIArb)
- Implemented on 1 January 2002

# Projects Implemented



## SDRP (cont'd)

- Based on the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (UDRP) adopted by ICANN in Oct 1999
- Consistent with the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) guidelines on “ccTLDs Best Practices” (Feb 2001) for protection of intellectual property in the domain name system:
  - Effective Registration Agreement
  - Reliable contact details
  - Alternate means for resolving disputes with minimum requirements

# Projects Implemented



## SDRP (cont'd)

### Highlights of SDRP

- Joint Secretariat set up by SMC and SIAC to deal with complaints from a party against a .sg domain name registrant
- An Administrative Panel will be appointed by the Joint Secretariat to resolve the dispute
- Complainant invited to consider settling dispute through mediation

# Projects Implemented



## SDRP (cont'd)

### Highlights of SDRP

- If the parties do not agree to mediation or if mediation does not lead to a settlement of the dispute, then the Administrative Panel will decide the dispute
- SGNIC will implement the decision made by the Administrative Panel

# Projects Implemented



## SDRP (cont'd)

### Difference between UDRP, WIPO ADR, WIPO (Best Practices for ccTLDs) and SDRP

	UDRP	WIPO ADR	WIPO (Best Practices for ccTLDs)	SDRP
Mediation Process	Does not provide for mediation.	Does not provide for mediation. Procedure provides for settlement between parties before Admin Proceeding decides the dispute.	Does not provide for mediation.	<b>Mediation</b> as part of the dispute resolution mechanism.
Scope of Applicable Disputes	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to trademark or service mark.	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to trademark or service mark.	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to trademark or service mark.	Scope of applicable disputes to situation where domain name is identical or confusingly similar to <b>name</b> , in addition to trademark or service mark.
Bad Faith Registration and/or Usage	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered <b>AND</b> used in bad faith.	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered <b>AND</b> used in bad faith.	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered <b>AND</b> ( <b>recommended to be replaced by OR</b> ) used in bad faith.	Evaluation of complaint covers a situation where domain name has been registered <b>OR</b> used in bad faith.

# Projects Implemented



## SDRP (cont'd)

### Proceedings under SDRP

Domain Name(s)	Date Commenced	Date Decided	Status/Panel Decision
Mtv.com.sg	29 Jan 02	15 Apr 02	Registrant to retain domain name
Teletext.com.sg	1 Mar 02	25 Jun 02	Registrant to retain domain name
Google.com.sg Googles.com.sg	26 Sep 02	30 Oct 02	Domain Names be transferred to complainant
Samsungmobile.com.sg	23 Dec 02	22 Feb 03	Domain Name be transferred to complainant

# Future Projects/Directions

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## Internationalized Domain Name (IDN)

- Standardisation and implementation of IDN System
- Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) adopted IDN standard
- Develop a Singapore coding standard for the representation of Chinese and Tamil characters in the IDN System environment



# Future Projects/Directions



## IPv6

- Current Status in Singapore
  - R & D Effort
  - Monitoring IPv6 Development
- SGNIC
  - Formation of Domain Name System Technical (DNST) Committee to study IPv6
  - Representations from ISPs, Research and Education Institutions and IDA

# Future Projects/Directions

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## Relaxation of Registration Rules

- Create more second level domain?
  - e.g. xxx.biz.sg, xxx.open.sg
- Allow registration at second level?
  - e.g. xxx.sg
- Industry consultation

# Future Projects/Directions

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## Spamming

- A proliferation of spam in recent years
- Proposed measures to prevent spam:
  - Educate & raise awareness among consumers
  - Work with industry players (ISPs, mobile, network operators & their overseas counterparts) on prevention
  - Work with target marketers & advertising standard authority to develop a code of practice against spam

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***Thank You***