New gTLD Program Update

Application Evaluation Progress

6 September 2012
Webinar Information

• Session is being recorded
  — Play back is available on the microsite at the end of the webinar

• Q&A session at the end
  — Use Q&A pod on Adobe Connect to submit questions
  — We will alternate questions on the phone and in the Q&A pod

• Dial-in is available to attendees with no access to Adobe Connect, and for questions
  — US toll-free +1-888-858-9225; US toll: +1-646-746-3050
  — Access code: 18375932
Questions

To ask a question:

• Dial in using one of these numbers:
  – US toll-free +1-888-858-9225; US toll: +1-646-746-3050
  – Other numbers: 
    Access code: 18375932
    Press “10” to be added to the queue for questions

• Submit a question in the Adobe Connect Q&A pod
Agenda

1. Application statistics
2. Application change requests
3. Application comments
4. Evaluation progress
5. Clarifying question pilot
6. Batching / Metering
7. New gTLD sessions in Toronto
8. Key dates
Application Statistics as of September 5

- **Withdrawals**
  - Completed: 4
  - In-process: 3

- **Objections filed**: 0

- **Change requests**
  - 57 submitted
  - Process for evaluating changes posted

- **Number of application comments submitted**: 6687
Application Change Requests

• Process and criteria for evaluating change requests posted

• Amended applications held for 30 days to allow for comments (Application Comment Forum)

• Approved changes will be publicly posted

• Changes made to the confidential portions of the application will not be posted

• Application change requests are being processed

• Plan to post first approved changes next week
Application Comments

• Purpose: make application comments available to the evaluators

• Application Comment Forum open for the duration of new gTLD program

• Comments received by September 26 will be forwarded to the designated panel for consideration

• Evaluators will seek clarification from the applicant if comments impact scoring
Application Comment Statistics

Total comments: 6,687

- String Similarity: 1386
- Registry Services: 2497
- Geographic Names: 234
- Community Priority: 891
- Community Objection: 426
- Background Screening: 378
- Other Topics: 875
## Evaluation Progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panel</th>
<th>Target Completion</th>
<th>Apps Assigned</th>
<th>Apps in Evaluation</th>
<th>Preliminary App Results¹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial</td>
<td>Jun-13</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical and Operations</td>
<td>Jun-13</td>
<td>602</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographic Names</td>
<td>Nov-12²</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>String Similarity³</td>
<td>Oct-12</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>824</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registry Services</td>
<td>Jan-13</td>
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<td>all</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>DNS Stability</td>
<td>Oct-12</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>all</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ These numbers represent completed applications or applications with queued clarifying questions. They are subject to change due to application comments and/or change requests.

² Geographic Name evaluation is targeted to be completed by Nov-12, but applicants will receive more time to supply the letters of support.

³ String Similarity statistics are based on unique string counts, not total applications.
Clarifying Question Pilot

• Purpose: to ensure questions developed by the evaluators are clear, concise and consistent

• A large number of applications will receive CQs

• Dates:
  — Questions and survey sent on August 31
  — Answers due to ICANN by 23:59 UTC on September 17

• Number of participants: 41

• Participation or non-participation does not impact processing of application
Clarifying Question Pilot: Approach

• Evaluators issue CQs where required to give a passing score e.g., evaluators will issue clarifying questions on questions with an opportunity to score 2 points if additional points are needed to pass an application

• Pilot responses will not be treated as part of the application and will not count toward scoring

• Participants need not take formal actions to obtain documentation such as LoCs, security policies, or financial statements

• Two-week timeframe to respond or comment on questions

• ANSWER THE SURVEY QUESTIONS
Frequent Clarifying Question Topics

• Technical
  — EPP extension documentation for IDNs (Question 25)
  — Security policy (Question 30)
  — DNSSEC practice statement (Question 43)

• Financial
  — Sufficient evidence for conservative costs (Question 47)
  — Sufficient evidence of conservative funding/revenue, particularly segregation of funds (Question 48)
  — Financial instrument must be unconditional (Question 50)
Batching / Metering

• Goals of batching/metering:
  – Effective management of the evaluation process
  – Release of evaluation results according to a predictable schedule
  – Delegation of TLDs at a rate consistent with root zone scaling discussions

• Comment period:
  – July 29 through August 19
  – 101 comments received

• Batching / Metering consultation on September 12
Input on Batching / Metering

• Prioritize evaluation or delegation by category, e.g.,
  – AGB-defined: IDN, Geographic name, and Community
  – Proposed by commenters: Uncontested, developing countries, diversity-promoting, public interest, closed registry, brands, true generic

• Other suggestions:
  – Opt-out / applicant-selected timing
  – Group like applications together
  – Prioritize by readiness to contract / launch
  – Round robin selection by category or regions
  – Prioritize by number of clarifying questions
  – Others
Metering / Batching Status Update

- July 31 – August 20: comment period
- August 21 – October 1: develop proposed solutions with community
- September 12: batching / metering consultation
- October 17: public session on batching at Toronto meeting
- See roadmap at
New gTLD Sessions in Toronto

- IDN
  - Workshop on label generation rule set process
  - IDN variant update
- Universal acceptance of all TLDs
- Trademark Clearinghouse
- Uniform Rapid Suspension
- Batching update
- New gTLD program update
- Journalist forum on new gTLDs
Key Program Dates

- September 26, 2012: application comments period closes
- October 2012 (or shortly thereafter): GAC early warning expected
- 12 January 2013: objection period closes
- April 2013: GAC communicates considerations on GAC advice
- June/July 2013: all initial evaluations complete (seeking additional efficiencies)

Note: the dates on this slide are target dates and may change
Thank You