

31 May 2013

Re: ARI Registry Services Public Comments on the Whois Information Status Policy

ARI Registry Services welcomes the opportunity to provide public comments specifically in relation to the following:

Definition of EPP status codes¹

In order to assist Whois users better understand the status codes used by registry operators and registrars, ARI Registry Services requests that the status description link optionally resolve to a resource maintained by the registry operator, where the use of the status does not accurately fit the descriptions in the linked document. The description "It is an uncommon status that is usually enacted during legal disputes or when your domain is subject to deletion" is not accurate for those registry operators that use serverHold status to indicate minimum delegation requirements have not been satisfied (e.g. zone reachability tests). Alternatively, ICANN can review and update the EPP status code document, taking into consideration use cases introduced by registry operators of new gTLDs.

Requirement 1

Requirement 1 of the Draft Whois Information Status Policy states that:

1. *Registrars and registry operators who include domain name registration statuses in Whois output must:*
 - a. *only refer to the statuses by their respective EPP status codes;*
 - b. *provide a link or URL next to each EPP status code that directs to an ICANN web page describing and defining EPP status codes. The URL for this page is [URL]. Although not mandatory, the URL should link to the HTML anchor for the respective EPP code on this page; and*
 - c. *include in their Whois output the following message: "For more information on Whois status codes, please visit [URL]."*

ARI Registry Services requests that port-43 Whois output comply with sub-requirements a) and c) only. It is the opinion of ARI Registry Services that the requirement to provide links alongside each status value (illustrated below) reduces usability and ease of consumption for Whois users. Adoption of this consensus policy will result in each gTLD using a consistent set of status codes, and each response containing a link to descriptions of the status values; these, with consideration to the comment above, should reduce the likelihood of user confusion.

Domain Name: EXAMPLE.TLD
Domain ID: D1234567-TLD
WHOIS Server: whois.example.tld
Referral URL: <http://www.example.tld>
Updated Date: 2009-05-29T20:13:00Z
Creation Date: 2000-10-08T00:45:00Z
Registry Expiry Date: 2010-10-08T00:44:59Z

¹ [<http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registrars/transfers/epp-status-codes-30jun11-en.pdf>]

Sponsoring Registrar: EXAMPLE REGISTRAR LLC

Sponsoring Registrar IANA ID: 5555555

Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited <http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registrars/transfers/epp-status-codes-30jun11-en.pdf>

Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited <http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registrars/transfers/epp-status-codes-30jun11-en.pdf>

Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited <http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registrars/transfers/epp-status-codes-30jun11-en.pdf>

Domain Status: serverUpdateProhibited <http://www.icann.org/en/resources/registrars/transfers/epp-status-codes-30jun11-en.pdf>

Registrant ID: 5372808-ERL

Registrant Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT

Registrant Organization: EXAMPLE ORGANIZATION

Registrant Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET

Registrant City: ANYTOWN

Registrant State/Province: AP

Registrant Postal Code: A1A1A1

Registrant Country: EX

Registrant Phone: +1.5555551212

Registrant Phone Ext: 1234

Registrant Fax: +1.5555551213

Registrant Fax Ext: 4321

Registrant Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD

Domain Name:EXAMPLE.COM

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Support for other languages

Where the URL and EPP status code description is maintained by ICANN, ARI Registry Services requests ICANN provide this policy in other languages. Arabic content should be available for the launch of new gTLDs using the Arabic script, and other languages should be considered in consultation with registry operators from both existing and new gTLDs.