

INTA Comments on Proposed Rights Protection Mechanisms in New gTLDs

The International Trademark Association (INTA) is pleased to provide comments on the “Proposed Rights Protection Mechanisms in New gTLDs”

INTA is concerned that ICANN has apparently rejected the Implementation Recommendation Team’s (IRT) recommendations relating to the Globally Protected Marks List and use of the string similarity algorithm, without proposing alternative mechanisms to meet the policy objectives of the proposals. INTA understands that several of the IRT’s recommendations, as modified by staff, have been sent for consideration to the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO). INTA will continue to provide input into that process through its participation in the Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC), and will not comment on the staff proposals at this time. However, INTA expects that ICANN will issue the GNSO Council recommendations on these topics for public comment, so they can be properly considered by the community, as called for by the Board’s October 12, 2009 letter. INTA believes that additional solutions are necessary, beyond those already proposed, if trademarks are to be adequately protected in a large scale expansion of new gTLDs.

Thank you for considering our views on these important issues. If you have any questions regarding our submission, please contact Claudio DiGangi, External Relations Manager, Internet & the Judiciary at: cdigangi@inta.org

ABOUT INTA

The International Trademark Association (INTA) is a 131-year-old not-for-profit association of over 5,900 member organizations from over 190 countries. One of INTA’s key goals is the promotion and protection of trademarks as a primary means for consumers to make informed choices regarding the products and services they purchase. During the last decade, INTA has served as a leading voice for trademark owners in the development of cyberspace, including as a founding member of ICANN’s Intellectual Property Constituency.