Commercial and Business Users Constituency Comments

The Commercial and Business Users Constituency [BC] has three relevant documents, which address the "BC" positions on new gTLDs. These documents are on the www.bizconst.org site maintained by the constituency. The 'BC' has also often spoken publicly in the ICANN public forums, about the introduction of new gTLDs.

Commercial and business users are first and foremost concerned about the stability of the global Internet. Introduction of new gTLDs must be done in a responsible, controlled manner, while taking into account the interests of all responsible stakeholders. Stability of the Internet is not simply a question of technical aspects, but must also take into account user confusion, consumer fraud, and other factors.

Commercial and business users are both large corporations and very small companies – but the commonality of all members is that they provide a range of services, via the Internet, to users – whether businesses, non commercial, government, or individuals – and collectively, they deliver services to all five regions of ICANN.

In summary, the view of the "BC" is:

- stability of the Internet must remain the first, and guiding principle
- stability is not limited to technical issues but must also address consumer/user acceptance/confusion and other relevant policy concerns
- introduction of new gTLD processes must be fully self funding including costs of evaluation, litigation, escrow, recovery, etc. so as not to burden the existing gTLD providers/users.
- new entrants/new gTLDs must have a responsible plan for escrow, etc.
- AND, the existing providers must also be required to have escrow, etc.
- new domain names should expand the space, not clone it
- new domain names should be introduced in a slow, managed, and controlled manner, with a responsible, thoughtful process which is documented/published
- the 'BC' believes that sponsored, restricted names make more sense, since they expand the names spaces, limit cloning, limited defensive registrations – and strongly recommend that the evaluation of new gTLDs study be concluded and incorporated into any process for further introduction of new gTLDs.
- New domain names should adhere to all ICANN policies, but in all cases, include UDRP and an open and publicly available WHOIS
- The 'BC' believes that the evaluation of the existing proof of concept gTLDs must be taken into account before moving forward with a new "round", however the 'BC' supports a small number of new gTLDs in an interim phase, with the assumption these will be included in the "proof of concept" evaluation round –the BC has recommended up to three new gTLDs in this interim period, but accepting that these may be introduced as single introductions. Adherence to key principles for these new names is essential. The BC supports the recommendations presented by the March 25, 2003 document related to criteria, with some

comments/recommendations for moderation. For instance, financial viability is not an "assured" thing for any company/organization. Escrow, and other relevant requirements should be uniformly applied to all gTLDs, including the existing gTLDs. Sponsorship is a key concern to the 'BC' since we prefer sponsored gTLDs. The BC believes that both non profit and for profit sponsors are appropriate respondents to any bid to ICANN. {This summary is not intended to fully represent the BC views on the March 25 document.]

- IDNs are a priority and must be taken into account in any new "round" of gTLDs as a priority. A standards based approach, fully supported by ICANN must be a priority.
- The "BC" is especially concerned about situations that require defensive registrations.

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