Registries Stakeholder Group Statement

Proposed Top-Level Domain String for Private Use

Date statement submitted: 21 March 2024

Reference url:
https://www.icann.org/en/public-comment/proceeding/proposed-top-level-domain-string-for-private-use-24-01-2024

Background[1]

The IANA has made a provisional determination that ".INTERNAL" should be reserved for private-use and internal network applications. Prior to review and approval of this reservation by the ICANN Board, IANA is seeking feedback on whether the selection complies with the specified procedure from SAC113, and any other observations that this string would be an inappropriate selection for this purpose.

Documents for input
- **Identification of a top-level domain for private use (pdf, 37.28 KB)**

Related RySG Comments
- **RySG comment on the Proposed Procedure for Selecting a Top-Level Domain String for Private Use** (February 2023)

Registries Stakeholder Group Comment

The Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed use of ".INTERNAL" for private use. The RySG agrees with IANA's determination that ".INTERNAL" meets the criteria outlined in Section 4.1 of the document and supports the selection of this string, inline with "SAC113: SSAC Advisory on Private-Use TLDs" which recommends that the ICANN Board ensure a string is identified and reserved at the top level of the Domain Name System (DNS) for private use.

The RySG recognizes that many companies use the string ".INTERNAL" in a manner similar to that described in SAC113. Note that ".INTERNAL" is currently the highest ranked undelegated Top-Level Domain on the ICANN DNS Magnitude statistics page, indicating that this string is already widely in use. If ".INTERNAL" were to be delegated, there would be widespread consequences to a myriad of users. Having a TLD like ".INTERNAL" reserved for private use will help avoid potential name collision issues that would have a negative impact on security and stability.

From a procedural standpoint, the RySG noted in our previous comments that the trigger for the process to consider a string for private use was unclear and attention should be paid to where and how those

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[1] Background: intended to give a brief context for the comment and to highlight what is most relevant for RO's in the subject document – it is not a summary of the subject document.

decisions are made. The RySG seeks clarity on what the trigger for any future process for designating a string for private use would be?

The RySG thanks IANA and others that contributed to this work.

Summary of Submission:

The Registries Stakeholder Group (RySG) agrees with IANA's determination that ".INTERNAL" meets the criteria and supports the selection of ".INTERNAL" to be reserved at the top level of the Domain Name System (DNS) for private use.