

Public Interest Registry to Upgrade .ORG

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.ORG is the first registry to support the new EPP protocol standard

RESTON, VA - January 20, 2005 - The Public Interest Registry (PIR), operator of the .ORG generic top-level domain (gTLD), today announced that it is the first major registry to upgrade its system to EPP 1.0 for exclusive use in support of RFCs 3730 through 3735, which outline the approved standard version of the Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP). Earlier versions of EPP have been used by many of the world's most advanced registries to transact with registrars, the commercial retailers of domain names.

"A key component of PIR's mission is to provide the highest standards of excellence for the .ORG domain. Paramount to this goal is ensuring that our registry is compliant with the most advanced industry standards so that we may provide exemplary service to both registrars and the non-commercial community we serve," said Edward G. Viltz, President and CEO of PIR. "Our prioritization in upgrading the .ORG registry is intended to underscore PIR's commitment to utilizing the most current standards and superior technology in the management of the .ORG Registry. We are appreciative of the support received by Afiliis in the attainment of this milestone"

Today's announcement follows a history of improvements that PIR has brought to .ORG since taking over its stewardship. These include:

- + transitioning over 130 registrars from the legacy protocol onto the newest technology available;
- + improving security of domain ownership through centralizing and password-protecting contact information with the registry;
- + accelerating DNS service resulting in faster name resolution and DNS update time (from 12 hours to less than 5 minutes);
- + protecting registrants by launching the Redemption Grace Period (RGP) service to provide registrants an additional 30 days to reclaim their domain if it is incorrectly deleted;
- + launching .ORG's first global advisory committee;
- + Introducing .ORG German Language Internationalized Domain Names.

.ORG domains are available from 149 ICANN-accredited registrars. A list of .ORG-authorized registrars is available at: <http://www.pir.org/register/>

About .ORG

The .ORG domain, which has come to be associated with non-commercial activities, is the Internet's third largest "generic" or non-country specific top-level domain with over 3 million domain names registered worldwide. In 2002, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) Board of Directors selected ISOC's proposal

from among 11 organizations bidding to operate the .ORG top-level domain. PIR assumed control of the registry on January 1, 2003.

About PIR:

Public Interest Registry (<http://www.pir.org>) is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit corporation created by the Internet Society (ISOC) to manage the .ORG domain. PIR's mission is to manage the .ORG Domain in an exemplary manner, while educating and empowering the global non-commercial community to utilize the Internet more effectively and, concurrently, to take a leadership position among Internet stakeholders on policy and related issues on behalf of the .ORG community. PIR is based in Reston, Virginia.

- 1 [RFC 3730 http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3730.txt?number=3730](http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3730.txt?number=3730)
[RFC 3731 http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3731.txt?number=3731](http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3731.txt?number=3731)
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