AFNIC’s experience with Whois Policy
AFNIC Whois Policy

• Private registrants’ data is not displayed in the public Whois;
• AFNIC provides online web forms to enable any interested party to email the admin contact;
• Right owners or affected parties may request disclosure of registrant data (subject to checks by AFNIC)
Sample Whois output
Rationale

✓ Policy set up in 2006,
  ✓ data disclosure introduced end of 2007

✓ Legal framework:
  ✓ explicit reference to Privacy Act

✓ Written instruction by National Privacy Authority (CNIL)

✓ Registry policy to find right balance, through multistakeholder process
Impact on registry

• Basic facts:
  • Registry size: from 500,000 in 2006 to over 2 million names in 2011
  • About 35% registered for individuals
  • Registration open to French companies and individuals (mainly)
Data disclosure

Data disclosure requests

Average delay for handling request: 3.2 days
Contact the admin-c

Total number since Jan 11 : 976
Assessment

• All hell did NOT break loose
• Reinforced trust from private registrants into the domain name industry players
  • limited risk of unsolicited communications
• Customer feedback suggests that policy has positive impact on data accuracy
  • Not yet confirmed by research.
• Expenses impact on registry remains marginal
Merci !