

# Update on Whois TF

March 25, 2007

# Objectives of the Task Force

- 1) Define the purpose of the Whois service. [complete]
- 2) Define the purpose of the Registered Name Holder, technical, and administrative contacts.
- 3) Determine what data should be available to the public. Determine how to access the data that is not available for public access.
- 4) Determine how to improve the process of notifying registrants of inaccurate Whois data, and the process of investigating and correcting inaccurate Whois data.
- 5) Determine how to resolve conflicts between contractual Whois obligations and local/national privacy laws. [complete]

# Current Status

- Final report of the TF recently published and sent to GNSO council
- OPOC proposal accepted as the majority (7-6) position
- Also included: special circumstances, supported by 3 of 6 constituencies

# OPOC Proposal

- Removes registrant street and city address from open unrestricted access
- Admin and tech contacts no longer available for open unrestricted access at the registrar or registry via WHOIS protocol and Web access
- Registries display information as currently for com/net
- a new “operational point of contact” which will be made available for open unrestricted access via registrars via WHOIS protocol and Web access
- Requires registrars to do more verification of new contact information if old information is found to be incorrect

# Opposition to OPOC

- Unclear on the scope responsibilities of the operational contact
- No job description for operational contact
- Timeframes on when to respond
- **What happens if OPOC fails to meet responsibilities**
- Circumstances where admin and tech and full registrant information held by the registrar would be provided, and no standard way to access
- Need more accurate admin and tech and full registrant

# Example : jordyn.info

Registrant:

Jordyn A. Buchanan



California, US

Domain name: jordyn.info

## Operational Contact

Register.com domain-registrar@register.com

575 Eighth Avenue

New York, NY 10018

US

+1.9027492701 Fax: +1.2125949876

# Special Circumstances Proposal

- Allows registrants to remove their contact information from Whois
  - Only if you have a reasonable belief that publishing the information will threaten your safety
  - General privacy concerns do not qualify
  - Your claim is evaluated by a neutral third party
- Prohibits “proxy services” currently offered by some registrars

# Opposition to Special circumstances

- Natural persons not engaging in commercial activity by default should not have their personal data displayed
- Not require third parties to make decision on special circumstances – registrars make that decision
- Want a charging model to cover costs of administration
- Proxy services may be appropriate



# Next Steps

- Council to consider policy--can vote, modify or approve further work (e.g. implementation work)
- ICANN staff prepared notes for the GNSO Council on the Task Force Recommendations to:
  - Identify issues for clarification
  - Identify issues for further discussion
  - Identify potential implementation issues
  - Suggest a framework for further development of the proposal