DNS security Issues within ICANN's remit

Patrick Vande Walle, ALAC / ISOC Luxembourg

Saturday, 28 February 2009





This is not just about technology

- Commercial aspects
- Human behaviour





DNS Security issues

- Technological issues with DNSSec
 - What do we do until the root gets signed ?
 - ITAR, DLV?
 - DNS response rewriting
 - Systems that rewrite DNS answers may fail with DNSSec
- In transit modifications: like wildcards in the TLDs (Sitefinder)





DNS Security (cont)

- Political issues with DNSSec
 - Who signs the root ? One signer, multiple ones ?
 - To whom are they accountable and how ?
 - Censorship
 - How do we prevent some abusing their authority to highjack the DNS?
 - Whois can also be a security issue, if it exposes identity of vulnerable people





DNS Security

- Commercial issues with DNSSec
 - Deploying and maintaining a DNSSec infrastructure does have a cost
 - For registries, registrars, DNS service providers (ISPs, etc)
 - Not a one-off, but recurring cost
 - Will this cost be passed on to registrants and if so, how ?





Registration-level security

- Domain Name Hijacking
- Domain transfer pitfalls
- Erroneous delete
- Typo-squatting
- Fast Flux





Thank you

