Registry Failover Project

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Registry Failover Project

• ’06-07 ICANN Operational Plan 1.1.2- ICANN is to “establish a comprehensive plan to be followed in the event of financial, technical or business failure of a registry operator, including full compliance with data escrow requirements and recovery testing.”
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• Conducted significant outreach with registries, registrars, SSAC, ALAC, ccTLD managers & ccNSO, data escrow providers and others
• Studied lessons and examples from gTLDs and ccTLDs
• Incorporated GAC Principles related to registry failover
• Added registry failure, registry “best practices”, testing and transition planning into new gTLD process
Registry Failure Report

• Published 1 June 2007: examined critical functions of a registry, TLD transition, potential failure scenarios
• Established a comprehensive plan, working with experienced registries to develop best practices, and identified areas for further work
• Comments are still welcome: registry-failure-report@icann.org
Registry Failover Project

- In the event of registry failure, provide recovery & escrow of registration information
- Provide period of ongoing operations where a successor operator may be engaged; or
- Provide period of notice to registrants and community of impending closure
Next Steps

• Implementation of the comprehensive plan, including failover testing, in FY ’07-08
• Development of best practice guidelines that can be incorporated into the new gTLD process
• Formation of a joint advisory group including gTLD and ccTLD representatives
• Continued research on areas for further work (transition, DNSSEC implications, etc)
• Input from the community on ICANN’s role
Questions for Discussion

• What is ICANN’s role in the event of registry failure?
• Do TLDs need to exist in perpetuity?
• Should there be a process for removing a TLD from the root in the event that no successor operator can be designated?