

# Domain auctions in .CZ

## TechDay @ ICANN 81 Istanbul

Jaromír Talíř • 11.11.2024

# Why?

- We delete hundreds of expired domains daily
- Most attractive domains has always been subject of fight by domainers
- Historically, inline with our strategy, we have always fought back against this practice
  - Stop deleting domains at one time but spread it equally to whole day
  - EPP requests limits and paying for extra requests
- 5 years ago .EE launched auctions system
  - We observed carefully their approach and decided this is the best way to go

# When?

- 2022 – introduction to members and registrars
- 2023 – most of development
  - Extension to open source registry FRED
  - Integration into our registrant portal called DomainBrowser
  - Information landing page
  - Documentation
- 2024
  - April – public test with preselected domains
  - May 1<sup>st</sup> – publication of first list of auctioned domains
  - May 16<sup>th</sup> – 12:00 first auction

# What?

- We auction right to register domain (not domain itself)
- All deleted domains (expired, delete by registrar, deleted because court decision,...)
  - Domain is enlisted on public list for 15 days before auction
  - Status “In auction” is displayed in WHOIS
  - Over these 15 days, court order may stop the auction

|             |                                        |
|-------------|----------------------------------------|
| Domain name | aza.cz                                 |
| Status      | Enlisted to an <a href="#">auction</a> |

| Ongoing auctions 10/401 |       | Future auctions 10/5910 |       |                 |        |
|-------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|-----------------|--------|
| Domain                  | Chars | Bids                    | Price | Start date      | Action |
| <a href="#">ajp.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/14/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">ccv.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/18/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">cyl.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/16/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">dwl.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/20/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">ell.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/08/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">fjx.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/13/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">fxt.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/21/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">qcs.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/18/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">hkm.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/17/2024 noon |        |
| <a href="#">ifv.cz</a>  | 3     | 0                       | 0 CZK | 11/16/2024 noon |        |

# Who?

- For abuse prevention we need strong user verification guaranteed by digital identity
- Czech citizens and legal persons can use our own MojID
  - For citizens, highest validation demanding linking with citizen registry is required
- Natural persons from EU can use their own eIDs via eIDAS network
  - We have some auctioneers from PL, SK, EE
- Non Europeans are already required to have contact in EU by our registration rules so they can rely on this contact

Login with MojID 

Login with EU eID



# Where?

- All the information are published at <https://aukce.nic.cz/en/>
- Auction run inside registrant portal at <https://www.domenovyprohlizec.cz/>

 My domains

 My name server sets

 My key sets

 Domain auctions

 Ongoing auctions

 Future auctions

 My auctions

 Ended auctions

 Warning

 My contact

 Help

 Český

## Ongoing auctions

New auctions that can be attended start at 12:00 every day and end the same day at 21:00.

 Clear

Search 

| Domain  | Round | Characters  | Bids  | Price  | Ends in | Action                                                                                    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">aza.cz</a>                                                                   | 1.    | 3                                                                                              | 3                                                                                        | 700 CZK                                                                                   | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">triax.cz</a>                                                                 | 1.    | 5                                                                                              | 4                                                                                        | 400 CZK                                                                                   | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">hezkysex.cz</a>                                                              | 1.    | 8                                                                                              | 1                                                                                        | 300 CZK                                                                                   | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">aadamacnost.cz</a>                                                           | 1.    | 12                                                                                             | 1                                                                                        | 100 CZK                                                                                   | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">legalevent.cz</a>                                                            | 1.    | 10                                                                                             | 1                                                                                        | 100 CZK                                                                                   | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">aaazamkovky.cz</a>                                                           | 1.    | 11                                                                                             | 0                                                                                        | 0 CZK                                                                                     | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">acehealth.cz</a>                                                             | 1.    | 9                                                                                              | 0                                                                                        | 0 CZK                                                                                     | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">adluto.cz</a>                                                                | 1.    | 6                                                                                              | 0                                                                                        | 0 CZK                                                                                     | 5 hours |  Bid   |
| <a href="#">advokacie-milovice.cz</a>                                                    | 1.    | 18                                                                                             | 0                                                                                        | 0 CZK                                                                                     | 5 hours |  Bid  |
| <a href="#">advokati-milovice.cz</a>                                                     | 1.    | 17                                                                                             | 0                                                                                        | 0 CZK                                                                                     | 5 hours |  Bid |

# How?

- Auction starts on day 16 after deletion at 12am and normally ends at 9pm
- It is open auction so everybody see current highest bid
- Minimal price is 100CZK (~4USD), minimal raise grows with current bid
- If there is a bid in last 5min, auction is extended to 5 min from last bid until 9am next day when it officially ends
- Bidder can:
  - Set maximum accepted price – system will automatically put minimal bid up to this price
  - Put visible bid in any amount

## AUCTION

[Back to auction](#)Follow 

2 bidding

It ends for  05:34:57

## aza.cz (1st auction round)

Current price\* 700 CZK

Minimum bid\* 800 CZK

Your offer 

You bid\* 0 CZK

Your offer that you are willing to pay. You can bid more than the minimum amount. The bid is binding and cannot be cancelled.

CZK

Bid

Maximum amount you are now willing to pay (limit) 

Your limit\* 0 CZK

The system will automatically bid the lowest possible amount for you (according to the minimum bid table) so that your offer is the highest. The system will only bid up to your limit in this way. The limit can be increased at any time before the end of the auction.

CZK

Set limit

If you bid and win, you will have to pay for the priority right to register the domain and then register the domain with your chosen registrar.

[How do auctions work?](#)

\* All prices include VAT.

[Why are user names of participants hidden?](#)

## Bidding history

3 bids, 2 bidding

| Date                     | Action type                                                                                       | User     | Price   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
|                          | Automatic bid    | User1    | 700 CZK |
| Nov 7, 2024, 12:22:29 PM | Manual bid                                                                                        | User2  | 600 CZK |
| Nov 7, 2024, 12:00:04 PM | Automatic bid  | User1  | 500 CZK |

# Future auctions

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## Future auctions

Upcoming auctions that cannot be auctioned yet, but you can already set the maximum amount (limit) you are willing to pay. ⓘ

| <div>Clear</div>                                          |            |            |              |                                                                                     |                           | Search                                                                              |  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Domain                                                    | Characters | Your limit | Start date   | Action                                                                              |                           |                                                                                     |  |
| <a href="#">aaa-baterie.cz</a>                            | 11         | 0 CZK      | Nov 14, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">aaapole.cz</a>                                | 7          | 0 CZK      | Nov 19, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">aaapuda.cz</a>                                | 7          | 0 CZK      | Nov 19, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">aaronshospitality.cz</a>                      | 17         | 0 CZK      | Nov 14, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">abecedavyzivny.cz</a>                         | 13         | 0 CZK      | Nov 11, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">abipro.cz</a>                                 | 6          | 0 CZK      | Nov 20, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">abi-prose.cz</a>                              | 9          | 0 CZK      | Nov 20, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">absolutbar.cz</a>                             | 10         | 0 CZK      | Nov 13, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">absprint.cz</a>                               | 8          | 0 CZK      | Nov 22, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">ab-vino.cz</a>                                | 7          | 0 CZK      | Nov 17, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">acclomac.cz</a>                               | 8          | 0 CZK      | Nov 13, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">accoach.cz</a>                                | 7          | 0 CZK      | Nov 14, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">acig.cz</a>                                   | 4          | 0 CZK      | Nov 22, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">acloud.cz</a>                                 | 6          | 0 CZK      | Nov 17, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <a href="#">acojakoo.cz</a>                               | 8          | 0 CZK      | Nov 13, 2024 |  | <a href="#">Set limit</a> |  |  |
| <div>&lt;&lt; &lt; 1 to 15 of 5910 &gt; &gt;&gt; 15</div> |            |            |              |                                                                                     |                           |                                                                                     |  |

# My auctions

- My domains
- My name server sets
- My key sets
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- Ongoing auctions
- Future auctions
- My auctions
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- Warning
- My contact
- Help
- Česky

## My auctions

| Finished                                                |               | Watching 2 |          | Bidding                             |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------|------------|----------|-------------------------------------|--------|
| <input type="text" value="Clear"/>                      |               |            |          | <input type="text" value="Search"/> |        |
| Domain ↓                                                | Characters ↑↓ | Bids ↑↓    | Price ↑↓ | Start date ↑↓                       | Action |
| <a href="#">beauty-face.cz</a>                          | 11            | 0          | 0 CZK    | Nov 17, 2024                        |        |
| <a href="#">aaa-baterie.cz</a>                          | 11            | 0          | 0 CZK    | Nov 14, 2024                        |        |
| <div>&lt;&lt; &lt; 1 to 2 of 2 &gt; &gt;&gt; 15 ▼</div> |               |            |          |                                     |        |

\* All prices include VAT.

[How do auctions work?](#)

[Why are user names of participants hidden?](#)

# Rules

- Maximum 50 auctions active for one user
- Maximum 100 watched auctions for one user
- Winner has 7 days to pay
  - By not paying he is obliged to pay penalty at the same amount as price
  - Also such user is banned from any other auction (currently ~ 8 banned users)
- After paying user has 7 days to register domain via selected registrar
- If user won't pay or register domain, such domain goes into another round of auction (maximum 5 times)
- Domains without bid (or after 5 rounds of auctions) are released next day at random time

# Domain registration

- Domain that was paid can be registered via any registrar that supports auctions
  - Registrars must correctly interpret responses for check\_domain EPP commands
- It is required to use contact handle of the user signed in registrant portal during auction – registration to another contact handle is not possible
  - We wanted to minimize amount of work for registrars

## List of registrars

### Direct domain registration with priority right

| Registrar                                 | Domain registration after auction |                        |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| <a href="#">WEDOS Internet, a.s.</a>      | <a href="#">Registration</a>      | <a href="#">Manual</a> |
| <a href="#">Web4U s.r.o.</a>              | <a href="#">Registration</a>      | <a href="#">Manual</a> |
| <a href="#">ZONER a. s. (CZECHIA.com)</a> | <a href="#">Registration</a>      | <a href="#">Manual</a> |
| <a href="#">INTERNET CZ, a.s.</a>         | <a href="#">Registration</a>      | <a href="#">Manual</a> |
| <a href="#">Seonet Multimedia s.r.o.</a>  | <a href="#">Registration</a>      |                        |

# Last 30 days

## Statistics

Click on the number box to display a graph or other data

**119,888** CZK

Auction with the highest price in the last 30 days

**327**

Number of domains auctioned in the last 30 days

**139**

Number of active bidders in the last 30 days

**1,710** CZK

Daily average domain price in auction in the last 30 days

**559,225 / 416,249** CZK

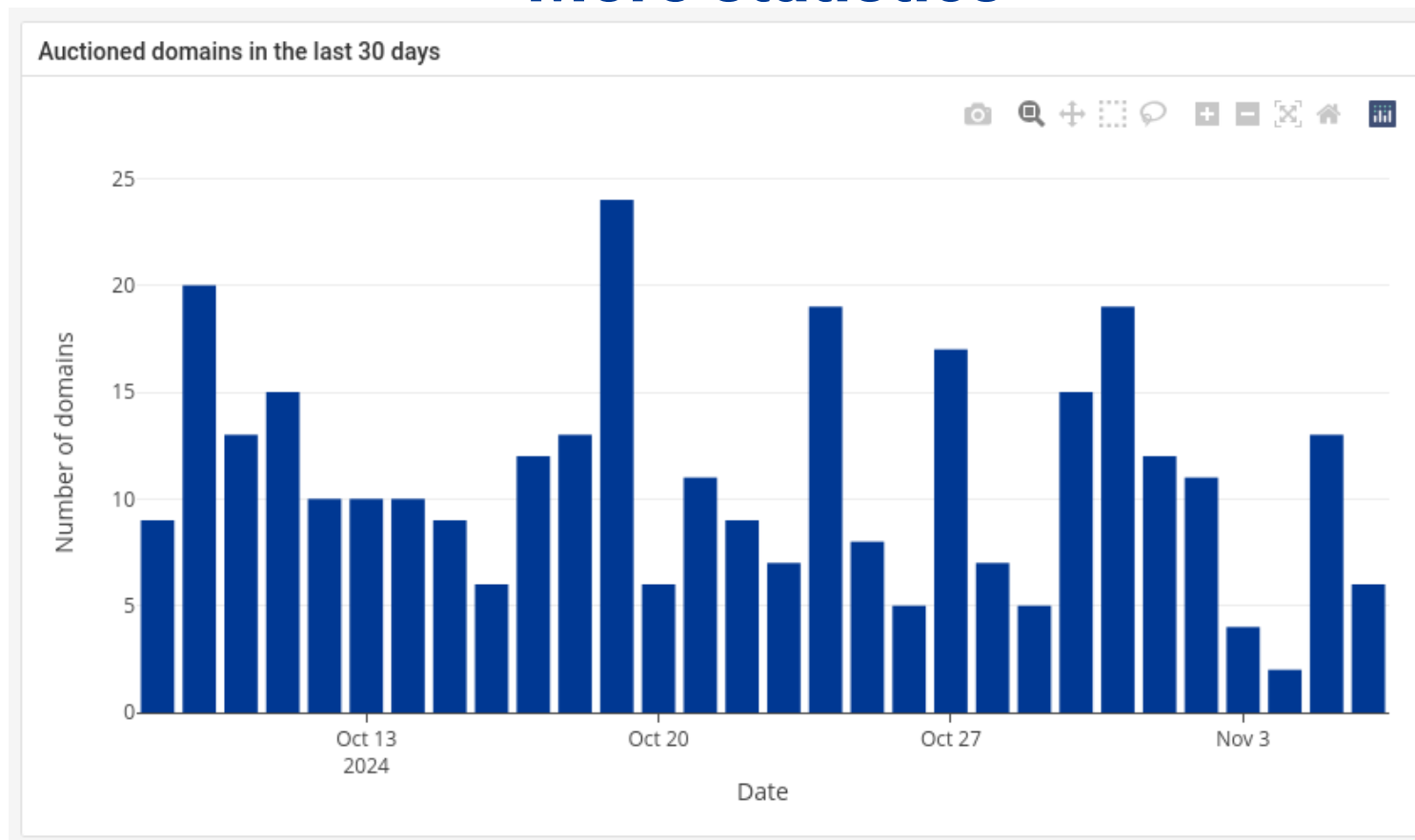
Auctioned / paid amount in the last 30 days

# Last 30 days

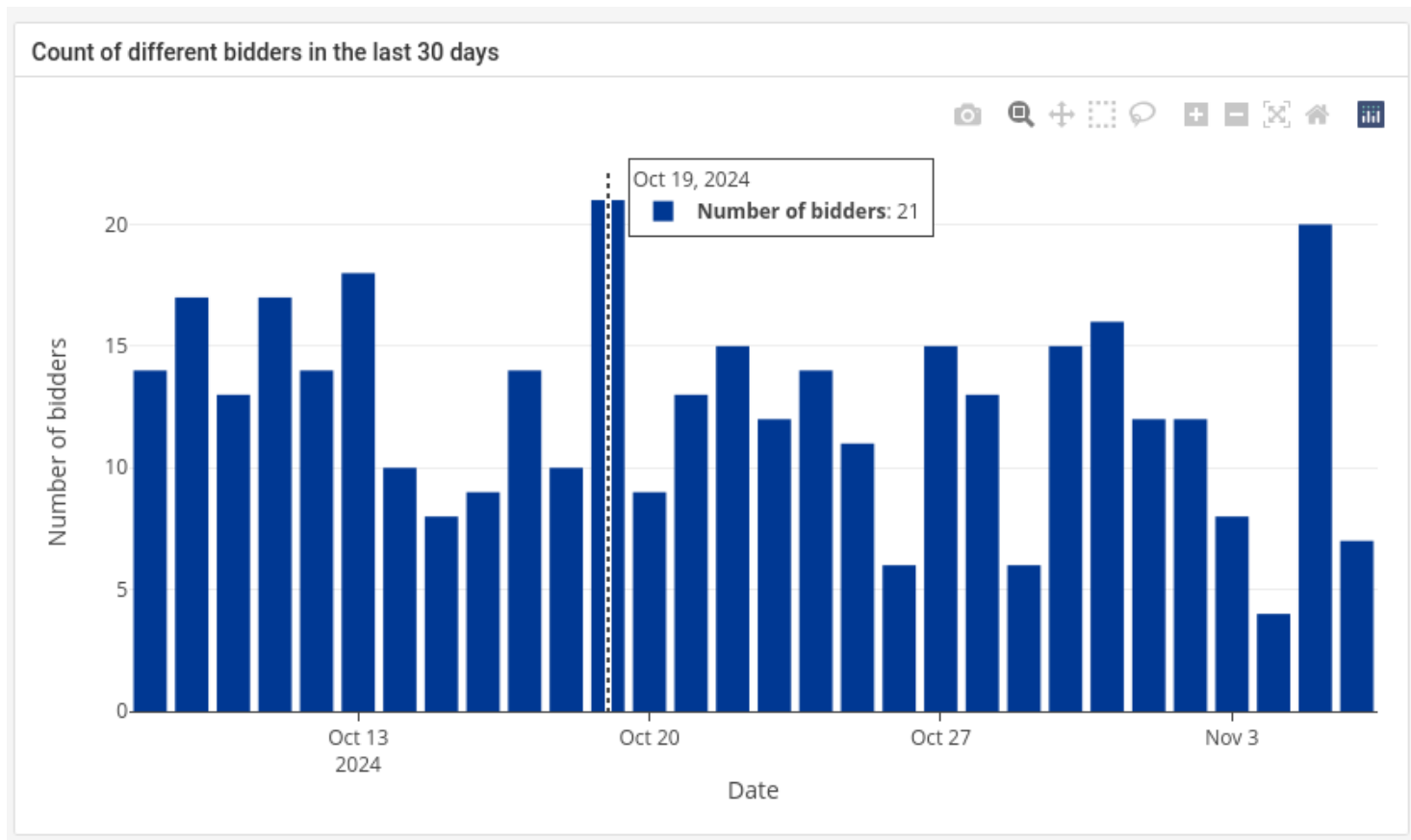
Auction with the highest price in the last 30 days

| Domain           | Price       |
|------------------|-------------|
| zuno.cz          | 119,888 CZK |
| mypage.cz        | 101,000 CZK |
| citarny.cz       | 31,589 CZK  |
| krestni-jmena.cz | 17,888 CZK  |
| mobilheimy.cz    | 15,000 CZK  |
| ticho.cz         | 13,000 CZK  |
| jobstore.cz      | 8,100 CZK   |
| kvalitavs.cz     | 7,559 CZK   |
| pyl.cz           | 6,166 CZK   |
| vase-chalupy.cz  | 6,022 CZK   |

# More statistics



# More statistics



# Comparison with .EE

- Blind or Open auction?
  - our choice was transparency
- Auctions at the release date or after delay?
  - safety check
- Registration to fixed contact handle or with allocation token?
  - how much work registrars need to do
- Allow simple account creation or stay with digital identity as the only option
  - reuse of our digital identity

# Digital Identity

- We build on top of RegelD project
  - <https://ripe84.ripe.net/presentations/120-RegelD-RIP84.pdf>
  - Requires existing contact in the registry that is linked to external eID
- Soon we will deploy update where contact in the registry is created after authentication (CZ.NIC as registrar)
- We explore possibility of integration of European Digital Identity Wallet as part of Large Scale Pilot co-financed by EU
- Side effect of this is growing number of verified registrants as mandated by NIS2

# Conclusion

- 6 months in production
  - Domains auctioned ~ 3000
  - Paid ~ 130 000 USD
- What next?
  - Digital identity and contact handle association
  - More registrars to promote auctions – potential co-marketing
  - UI/UX tweaks – How to list expired domains to display interesting ones (AI?)
  - Usage of this module by other registries with FRED?

# Thank you for watching!