



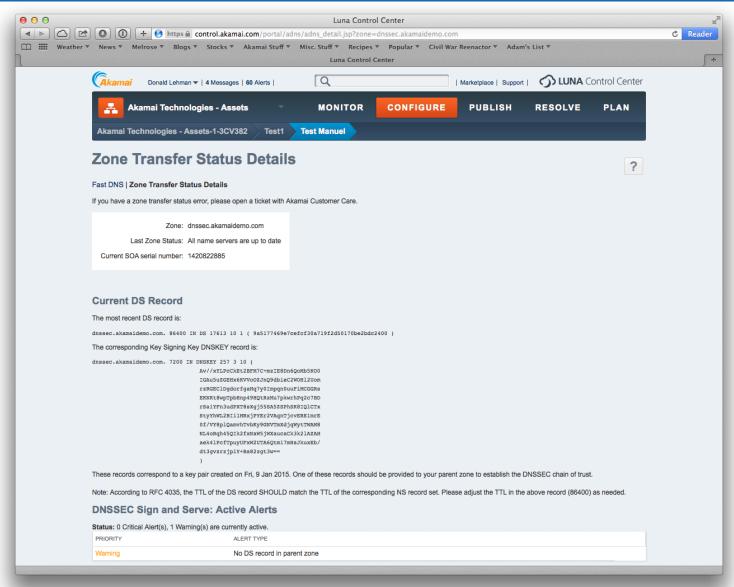


DNSSEC & Third-Party Operators

David C Lawrence | DNSSEC Workshop | 11 February 2015 tale@akamai.com

The Current Problem

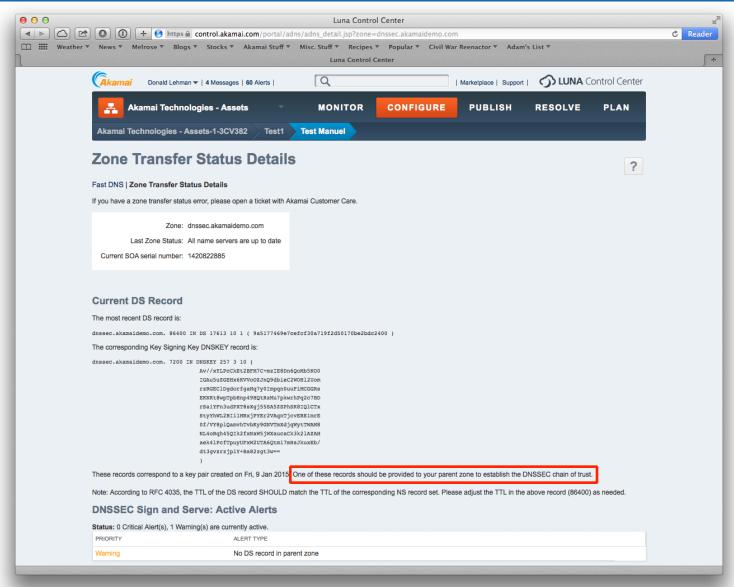






The Current Problem

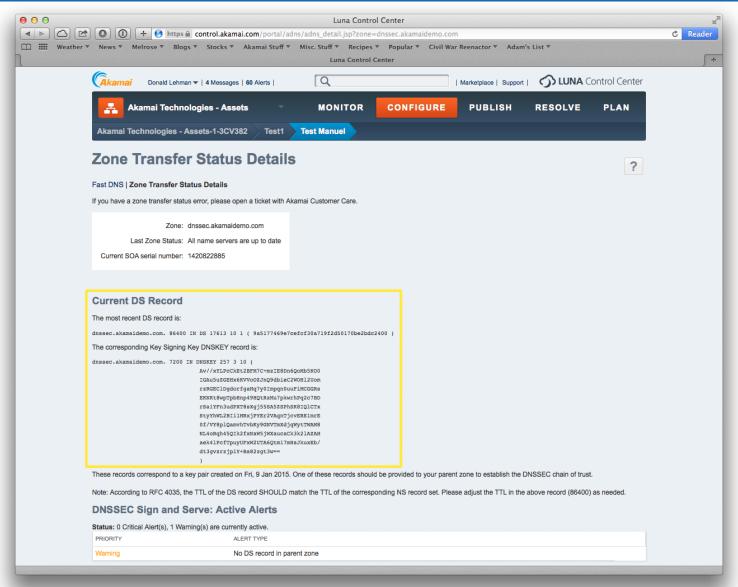






The Current Problem







The RRR Model







The RRR Model's Missing Element







The RRR Model's Missing Element





Third-party operators are second-class citizens Not formally acknowledged as constituents













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- Operator update problem has existed nearly since the DNS began
- Mattered less in the past:
 - Smaller, more technical community
 - Nameserver records rarely changed





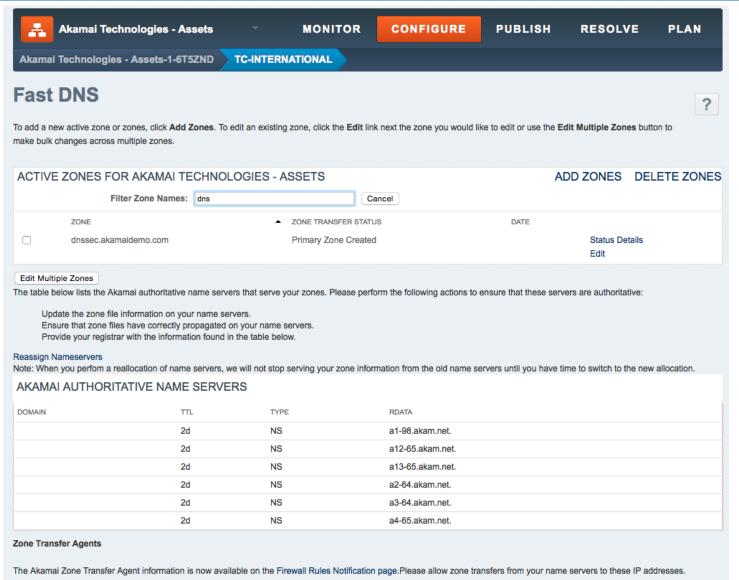


- Operator update problem has existed nearly since the DNS began
- Mattered less in the past:
 - Smaller, more technical community
 - Nameserver records rarely changed
- Now another obstacle to DNSSEC adoption



The Original Problem

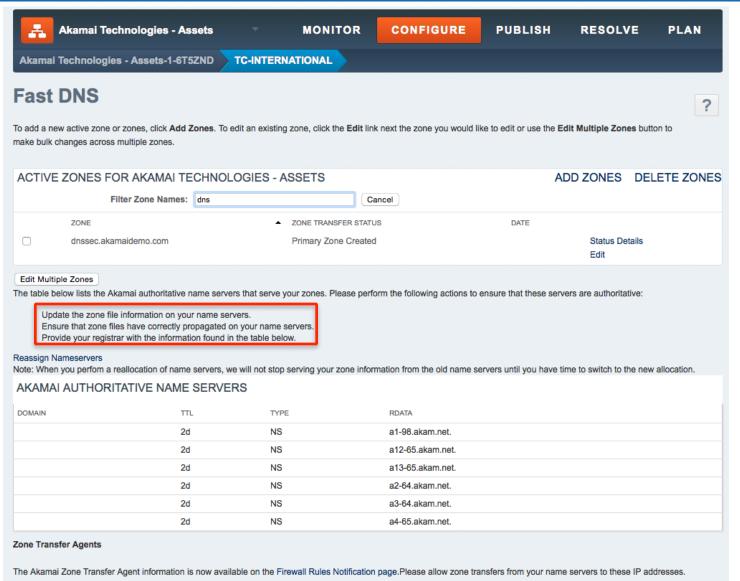






The Original Problem







The Consequences





Unnecessary Delays

Manual intervention by the registrant to make registrar updates might be as quick as minutes, but is known to be sometimes as long as days, weeks, or even more.



Broken Resolution

Several forms of human error — typos, cut-and-paste mistakes, unconfirmed changes, etc — can result in the domain becoming unresolvable for some or all clients.



Diminished Resilience

Customers have been known to either enter incomplete lists of authorities, or "re-brand" them as their own, such that they wouldn't track address updates of their actual authorities. Operators are more constrained regarding changes they can make.



Increased Workload

Additional work not only for the customer, but for everyone who has to deal with problems that arise, including their users and other DNS operators.



The Options





Tell Operators to Become Registrars

Perhaps an acceptable solution to some operators, but others have no interest in being in the registrar business just to address this problem. Fully one fifth of the Alexa Top 500 domains are casually observed to be run by non-registrar operators.



Operators Interface With Registrars

Historically many registrars have shown little interest in supporting DNS changes, with it taking until the 2013 ICANN Registrar Accreditation Agreement to compel them to have some way of relaying DNSSEC data. Very hard to tell where to send updates.



Operators Interface With Registries

Preferential, from a simplicity standpoint. Fewer entities to deal with, and registries have typically had more interest in supporting DNS innovation. Complicated by the Registry/Registrant barrier. Likely would involve updates via EPP rather than DNS.



Do nothing

This is, of course, always an option. Continue the status quo with all of the downsides that entails.



Relevant Work



- CSYNC https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-hardaker-dnsop-csync
 - Intended to allow nameserver delegation records and addresses to be pulled up to the parent via DNS polling.
 - Explicitly not intended for initial delegation configuration ("bootstrapping").
 - Cumbersome in large registries.
 - Doesn't use EPP pipeline for registry updates.
- CDS / CDNSKEY https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7344
 - Like CSYNC for DNSSEC records
 - Similar limitations with regard to bootstrapping, polling, scaling and EPP.
- UPDATE https://tools.ietf.org/html/draft-andrews-dnsop-update-parent-zones
 - Uses existing, well-deployed protocol, but in a new context.
 - Expects registrars to translate updates to EPP instructions.
 - Attempts to address the problem of finding the correct registrar to contact.
- None of the above remotely attempt to address business relationships, and how to establish that a given operator is acting with appropriate consent on behalf of the registrant. This is ICANN's purview.



In Summary



Operators need a way to insert and maintain registry data.

Protocol work is needed, but only goes so far.

3 ICANN policy changes are necessary to succeed.



