



# IDN Implementation Guidelines

IDN Guidelines Working Group | ICANN57 | 5 November 2016

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# Background and Purpose

## ◎ Purpose

- Guidelines for second level IDN registration policies and practices
- Designed to address end-user concerns, e.g. user confusion

## ◎ Relevance

- For gTLD registries and registrars offering IDNs at the second level
- For IDN ccTLDs

## ◎ Status

- GNSO community requested for updating the Guidelines
  - Previous version ([3.0](#)) updated in 2011
- Currently being reviewed and updated by IDN Guidelines Working Group

# IDN Guidelines WG Members

	Name	Organization	SO/AC
1	Satish Babu	ISOC-TRV	<b>ALAC</b>
2	Wael Nasr	TLDVILLA LLC	<b>ALAC</b>
3	Mats Dufberg	IIS	<b>ccNSO</b>
4	Pablo Rodríguez	Puerto Rico TLD	<b>ccNSO</b>
5	Edmon Chung		<b>GNSO</b>
6	Christian Dawson	i2Coalition	<b>GNSO</b>
7	Chris Dillon		<b>GNSO</b>
8	Kal Feher	Neustar	<b>GNSO</b>
9	Dennis Tan	Verisign	<b>GNSO</b>
10	Jian Zhang	KNET	<b>GNSO</b>
11	Ram Mohan	Afilias	<b>SSAC</b>
12	Patrik Fältström (will only review work)		<b>SSAC</b>

# Current (Draft) Recommendations

# Summary of Items Covered by the Guidelines

1. Transition from IDNA2003 to IDNA2008
2. Terminology
3. Format of IDN Tables
4. Consistency of IDN Tables
5. User Acceptance
6. IDN Variants – Cont.
  
7. Similarity and Confusability of IDN Labels – TBD
8. Registration Data – TBD
9. EPP - TBD

# Transition from IDNA2003 to IDNA2008

1. Top-level domain (TLD) registries supporting Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) will do so in strict compliance with the requirements of the IETF protocol for Internationalized Domain Names in Applications, as defined in RFCs 5890, 5891, 5892, 5893, and 5894.
2. No code point permitted in IDNA2003 but disallowed in IDNA2008 will be accepted for registration regardless of the extent to which such code points appear in names registered prior to the protocol revision. The registrant of a domain that is no longer supported by IDNA2008 should be notified that there may be unanticipated consequences for a user attempting to reach it, and such names should be replaced, held, or deleted at registry initiative.

# Transition from IDNA2003 to IDNA2008

3. When a preexisting name requires a registry to make transitional exception to any of these Guidelines, the terms of that action will also be made readily available online, including the timeline for the resolution of such transitional matters. The excepted registrations themselves are, however, not part of this documentation. At the end of the transitional period, code points that are prohibited by IDNA2008 will not be permitted even by exception.
4. No label containing hyphens in the third and fourth positions will be registered unless it is a valid A-label, with reservation for transitional action in accordance with the preceding Guideline. Hyphens in these positions are explicitly reserved to indicate encoding schemes, of which IDNA is only one instantiation. These guidelines are not intended to assist with any other instantiations.



5. Relevant terminology used in the Guidelines is defined in Appendix A of this document with the intention that these definitions will be adopted by the community and used consistently across it.

# Format of IDN Tables

6. A registry will publish one or several lists of Unicode code points that are permitted for registration and will not accept the registration of any name containing an unlisted code point. Each such list will indicate the script or language(s) it is intended to support. If registry policy treats any code point in a list as a variant of any other code point, the variant rules and the policies attached to it will be clearly articulated.

# Format of IDN Tables

7. Label Generation Rules (LGR) must be placed in the IANA Repository for IDN Practices. Further, (a) Except as applicable in 7(b) below, Registries must use Label Generation Ruleset (RFC 7940) format to represent a LGR; (b) Registries with existing legacy IDN tables already present within the IANA Repository for IDN Practices at the time these guidelines are published, are encouraged to transition to the LGR format; (c) The LGR must include the complete repertoire of code points, any variants and any applicable whole-label evaluation rules which the registry uses to determine if a label is acceptable for registration.

# Consistency of IDN Tables

8. TLD registries are encouraged to collaborate on issues of shared interest, for example, by forming a consortium to coordinate contact with external communities, elicit the assistance of support groups, and establish global fora to address common current and emerging challenges in the development and use of IDNs.
  
9. TLD registries seeking to implement new IDN Tables or to modify existing ones may use available Reference Second Level LGRs as is or as a reference. IDN Tables may deviate from Reference Second Level LGRs. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Registry Operators seeking to implement LGRs (i.e. new or modifications of existing ones) that pose any security and/or stability issues will not be authorized to implement such LGRs.

# Consistency of IDN Tables

10. TLD registries offering registration of IDNs with the same language or script tag (RFC 5646) are encouraged to cooperate on the contribution to the development and update of the second level reference IDN tables with the goal of minimizing the difference between the reference table of that language or script and the implemented tables for the same language or script.

11. Any information fundamental to the understanding of a registry's IDN policies that is not published by the IANA will be made directly available online by the registry. This documentation will include references to the linguistic and orthographic sources used in establishing policies and code point repertoires. The registry should also encourage its registrars to call attention to these policies for all IDN registrants. If material is provided both via the IANA Repository of IDN Practices and other channels, the registry must ensure that its substance is concordant across all platforms.

12. IDN Variant Labels generated by an IDN Table or a LGR must be allocated to the same registrant or blocked.

# Next Steps



# Next Steps

- ⦿ Complete the draft guidelines for additional topics
  - IDN Variant Labels - continued
  - Similarity and Confusability of Labels
  - Registration Data
  - EPP
- ⦿ Release proposed guidelines for public comment
- ⦿ Finalize guidelines and publish

- ⦿ Email us at:
  - [idngwg@icann.org](mailto:idngwg@icann.org) or [IDNProgram@icann.org](mailto:IDNProgram@icann.org)
- ⦿ Visit us at:
  - IDN Program webpage: [www.icann.org/idn](http://www.icann.org/idn)
  - IDNGWG Wiki page: <https://community.icann.org/display/IDN/IDN+implementation+Guidelines>

# Engage with ICANN



## Thank You and Questions

Reach us at:

Email: [IDNProgram@icann.org](mailto:IDNProgram@icann.org)

Website: [icann.org/idn](http://icann.org/idn)



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