


# Gathering the Children DS'

An Experiment

by Mark Elkins <[mje@posix.co.za](mailto:mje@posix.co.za)>

ICANN-69 - Oct 2020

---



# Context

---

Management of the EDU.ZA zone...

- For post-school non-University Domain names
- Closed space, used by only the above
- DNSSEC Signed and IDN enabled (ISO 8859-1)
- 150+ Domains (since 2010) – 8 are Signed
- Totally Web based management & WHOIS

# DNSSEC Management

(before) Registrars/Registrants can...

- Send an Update via the Web interface (needs manual validation)
- Provide a unique TXT string in their zone (automagical update)

# DNSSEC Management

Registrars/Registrants can now...

- Simply sign their domain and include the correct CDS records in the zone
- Newly signed Domains, Trust Chain completed after 3 days
- Existing signed Domains acted upon daily

# DNSSEC Management

A php script runs at 3am, digs every domain for CDS, existing signed via DNSSEC aware resolver, all non-signed via TCP to the first listed Nameserver.

- CDS 0 0 0 0 – will remove all DS records
- Mirrors the CDS to DS records
- New CDS records are recorded and if no changes after three days, are deemed to be valid

# Other consequences

The “dig” uncovers any Nameserver anomalies

```
gcol.edu.za: Error: dig +nofail +tcp  
@nippy.foo.co.za +short gcol.edu.za cds
```

```
dig: couldn't get address for 'nippy.foo.co.za':  
not found
```

# Current log

---

CDS-poll.php: 2020-09-30 01:05:01 CDS Poll of 'edu.za' - 153 domains

centralislamichschool.edu.za: 1×CDS, 12 sec

dnssec.edu.za: 1×CDS, 15 sec

gcetc.edu.za: 2×CDS, 24 sec

**nic.edu.za: 1×CDS, 51 sec**

**nic.edu.za: ID:584: SQL update "cds1stat=3,"**

parkme.edu.za: 2×CDS, 62 sec

sae.edu.za: 2×CDS, 73 sec

twpacademy.edu.za: Error - Dig gave ";; communications error to 129.232.248.30#53: connection reset"

whois.edu.za: 2×CDS, 93 sec

xn--caf-dma.edu.za: 1×CDS, 93 sec

--- Zone scan took 93 seconds - 0 DS changes ---

Thank you

---

Questions?

Mark Elkins

[mje@posix.co.za](mailto:mje@posix.co.za)

---