AFNIC

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CEO, AFNIC

ccNSO, June 24th, 2008
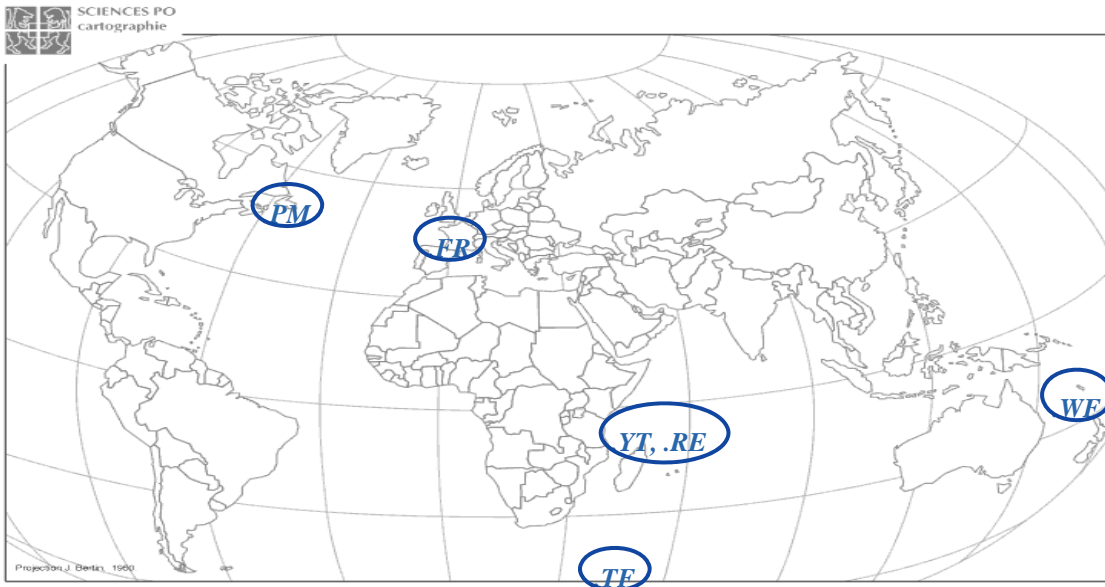
Overview

- **AFNIC Organization Model**

  - **Actors**

  - **Missions**

  - **Activities**

  - **Figures and trends of *.fr***

- **Current projects**

  - **Operations and interfaces**

  - **Achievements**

  - **Future work**

- **Conclusion**

.FR Organization Model

AFNIC

Key facts about AFNIC

- **AFNIC is the ccTLD manager of** *.fr* **(France),** *.re* **(Réunion Island),** *.tf, .pm, .wf, .yt*.

- **Private-sector, not for profit organisation (Association loi 1901) founded in 1997 by the French Government and INRIA (The French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control)**

- **Membership open to all stakeholders**

- **43 employees, located in Saint Quentin en Yvelines (near Paris)**

- **Budget approx. 6 M€, and approx. 1 200 000 domain names managed.**

AFNIC

Registrars | **Registrants** | **International**

comité de concertation

comité de concertation

comité de concertation

Conseil d'administration de l'AFNIC

1

2

2

2

3

Secteur privé
5 élus

Secteur public
5 nommés

Direction
Personnel : support technique

Ministères
Télécoms
Industrie
Recherche

INRIA

Internal Governance of AFNIC

- **General Assembly of members (once a year)**

- **Board of Directors**
  - Twice a year + some "extraordinary online sessions" using an electronic voting system

- **Consultative Committees (twice a year each)**
  - Place for exchanges between AFNIC and its members on important ongoing matters and strategic orientations that may then be submitted to the Board of Directors
  - *"Registrars Consultative Committee"*: Registrars members of AFNIC
  - *"Users Consultative Committee"*: members either Legal entities or Individuals

- **Working groups with Registrars (several times a year)**
  - Technical: for technical exchanges on procedures and developments
  - Legal: for administrative and legal affairs
  - Marketing and Communication: joint actions with Registrars for *.fr* promotion

- **Workshops/seminars (on demand)**
  - During specific projects or on a specific topic

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AFNIC's three main goals

- **1) Excel in registry operations**

- **2) Open, transparent and efficient governance of the TLD**

- **3) Contribute to the development of the Information Society**

  - Including promoting co-operation and co-development with other countries within our competence scope:
    - **International College of AFNIC (http://www.afnic.fr/afnic/international/college_en)**
    - Advanced training activity (FFTI2) on Internet technologies
    - Co-development promotion (*Codev-NIC* software, jointly with .CI and .MG)
    - Main actions in 2007
      - Training session (FFTI2) in October, Nouakchott, Mauritania
      - Contributed to 2 workshops at the IGF (November, Rio, Brazil)

AFNIC

.fr Charter

- **Territoriality (a relation is required with the French territory)**

- **Naming conventions (charter)**
  - Right to name
    - *Until 11/05/2004* : Only the Moral Holder of a "registered mark" was allowed to register name(s) in relation with that mark
    - After 11/05/2004: right to name dropped

- **Holder status**
  - Before 20/06/2006
    - Only allowed to Moral Holder
  - After 20/06/2006
    - Allowed to Moral Holder, Personal Holder and Associations,
    - Private person "anonymous" in the Whois

- **Fundamental terms (submitted to specific registration rules)**
  - Reserved names
    - *Singular rights since 17/05/2005* : the Reserved Names can be allocated only under particular conditions (e.g. transfer) bound by the owner identity and their rights (ie names of French cities)
  - Prohibited terms
    - They cannot be allocated (due to their nature) without the agreement of the AFNIC's Board of Directors

- **Technically well installed/managed zone (check of DNS quality)**

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.FR Registry's core system

- **Infrastructure**
  - Main network site: Saint Quentin en Yvelines, near Paris (dual-homed)
  - Full native IPv6 support in production since 2003
  - Fully administrated by internal staff
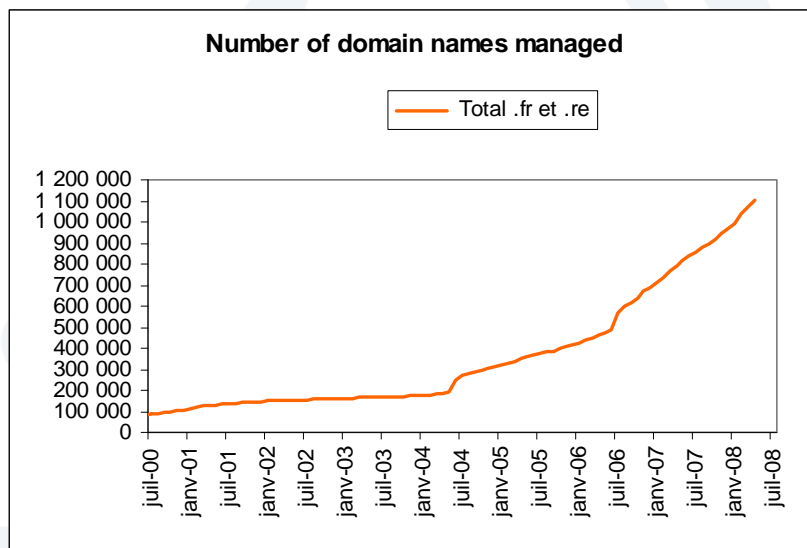 - 2 successful landrushes in 2004 and 2006

- **DNS**
  - 8 NS's (4 in France + 4 abroad)
  - 3 NS's supporting IPv6
  - 1 Anycast NS (outsourced)
  - 1 NS on 3 Internet Exchange Points (IXP) in Paris (SFINX, FreeIX, ParIX)
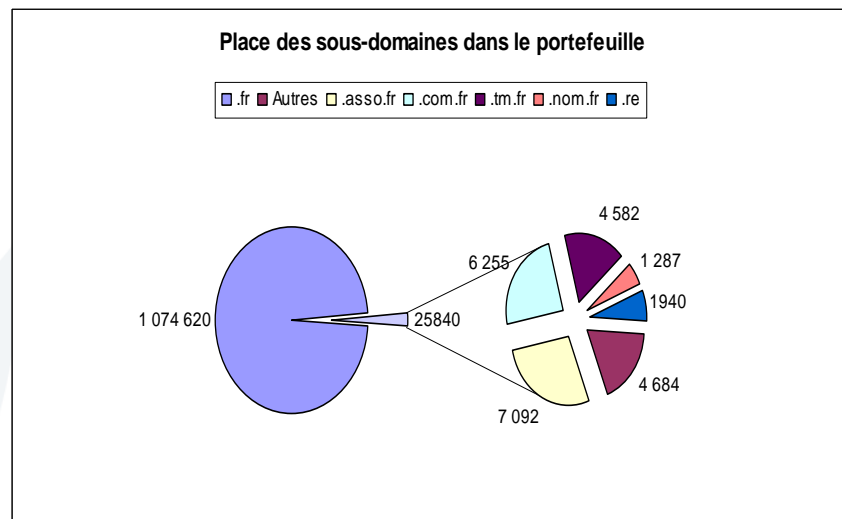
- **Database**
  - Logical and Physical mirror (remote site)
  - Source of data for whois info and DNS zone files (script-generated)

AFNIC

Figures and trends of *.fr*

- **1 000 000** domain names reached on 11 Jan 2008
- Around 1 200 000 today
- **+40 %** increase in 2007
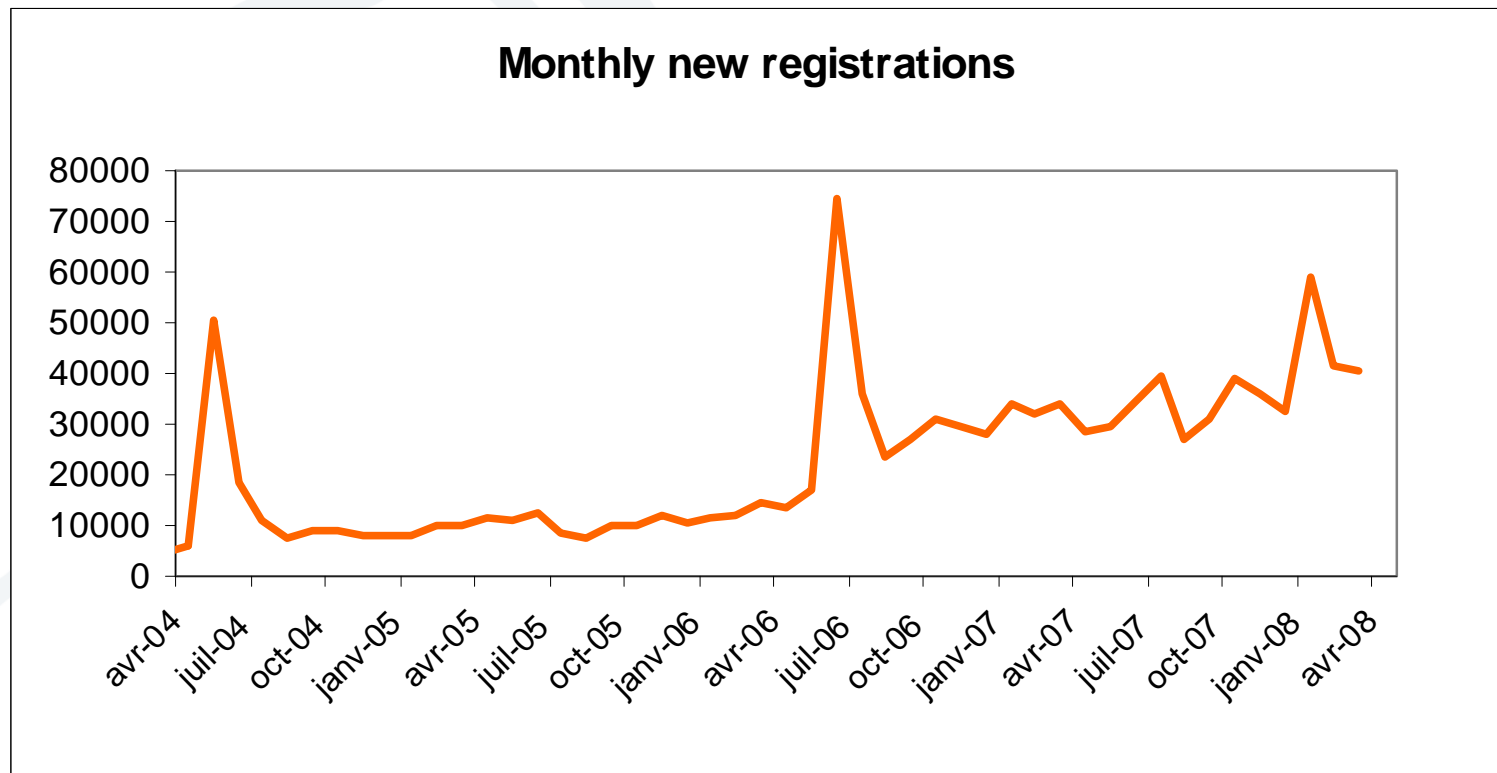- Prices starting at **4,80 €** excl. VAT

Number of domain names managed

Total .fr et .re

Place des sous-domaines dans le portefeuille

■ .fr ■ Autres □ .asso.fr □ .com.fr ■ .tm.fr □ .nom.fr ■ .re

4 582
6 255
1 287
1 074 620
25840
1940
4 684
7 092

Données de janvier 2008

AFNIC

Average monthly creations

Average 2005 : 11 772 creations / month
Average 2006 : 27 881 creations / month
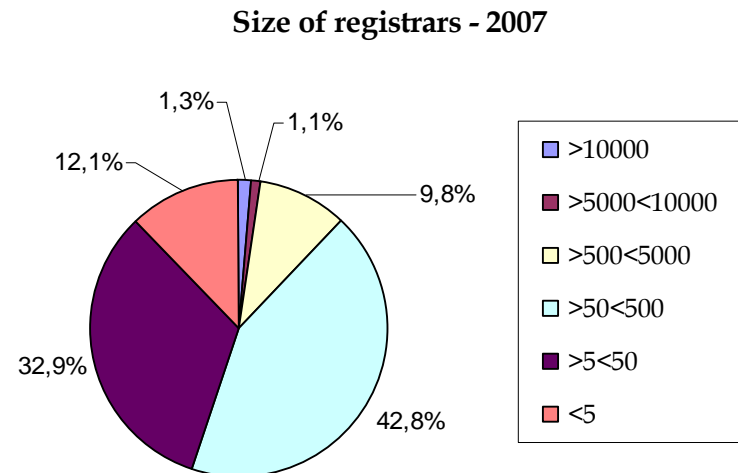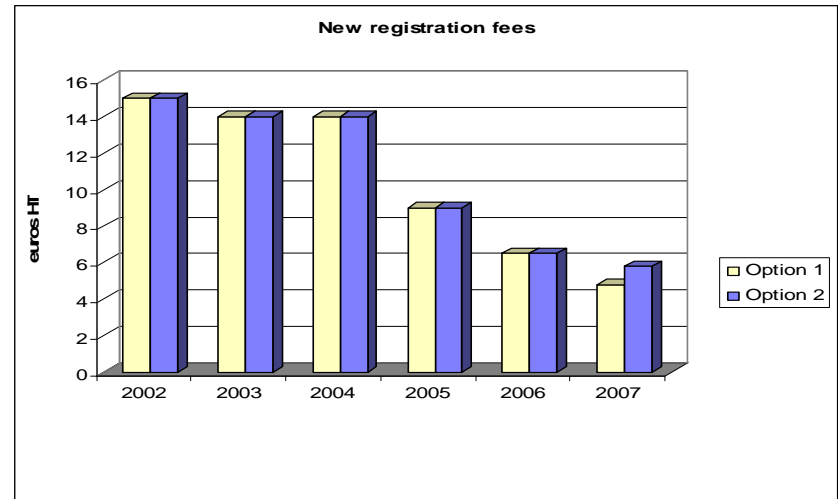**Average 2007 : 33 172 creations / month**

Monthly new registrations

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Impact on the Registrar side

- **AFNIC has a Registrar-only distribution model**

  – Prices have fallen since 2002 (less than 5 €)

- **Approx. 1000 Registrars.**

  – 10 Registrars account for 62% market share
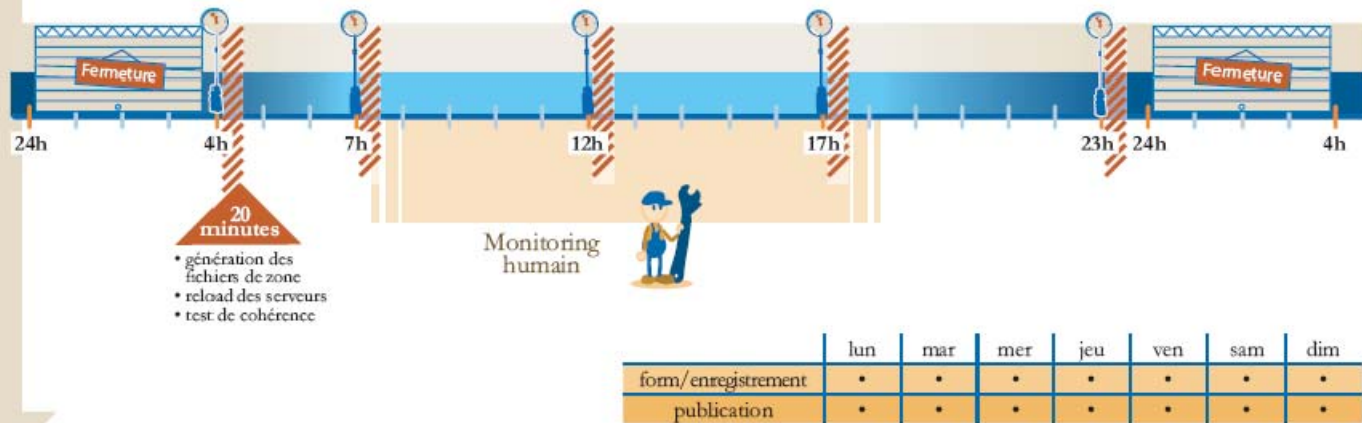
  – 100 Registrars account for 91%

New registration fees

Size of registrars - 2007

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Government relations

- ## Latest executive order (Decret) from Government in Feb. 2007:
    - Competitive process to be organised before appointment of .fr (and other French territories) registry
        - Currently still in preliminary phase : public consultation on general directions for French TLDs management open till… June 24th !
    - New rules related to domain name registrations
        - Main rules of .fr Charter endorsed ;
        - Extended protection granted to local and national authorities and institutions
    - New powers conferred to French ccTLD managers in terms of dispute resolution
        - Ability to block, transfer, cancel illicit registrations
        - Liability regime remains to be further defined

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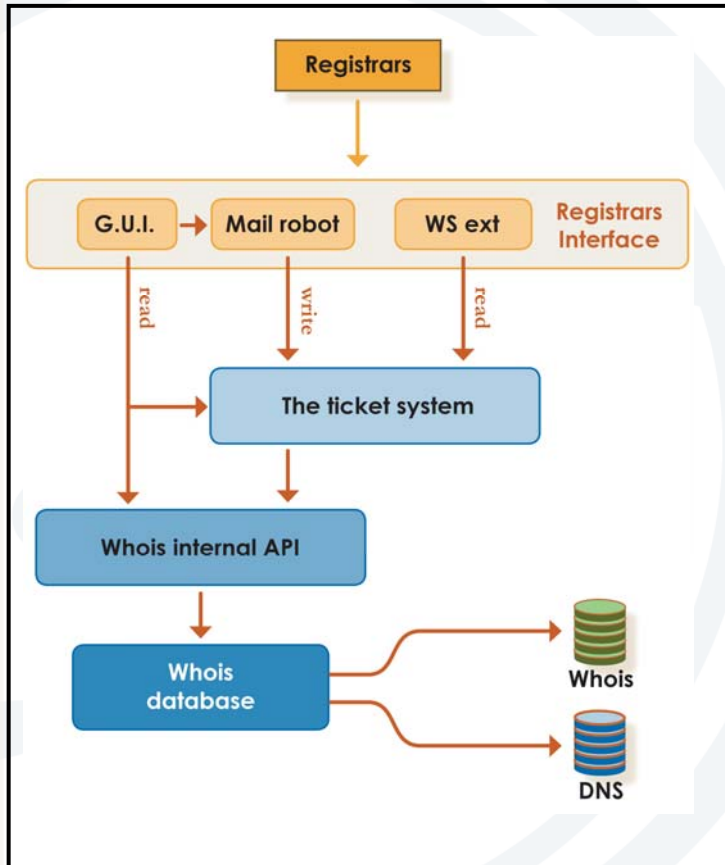
Current projects

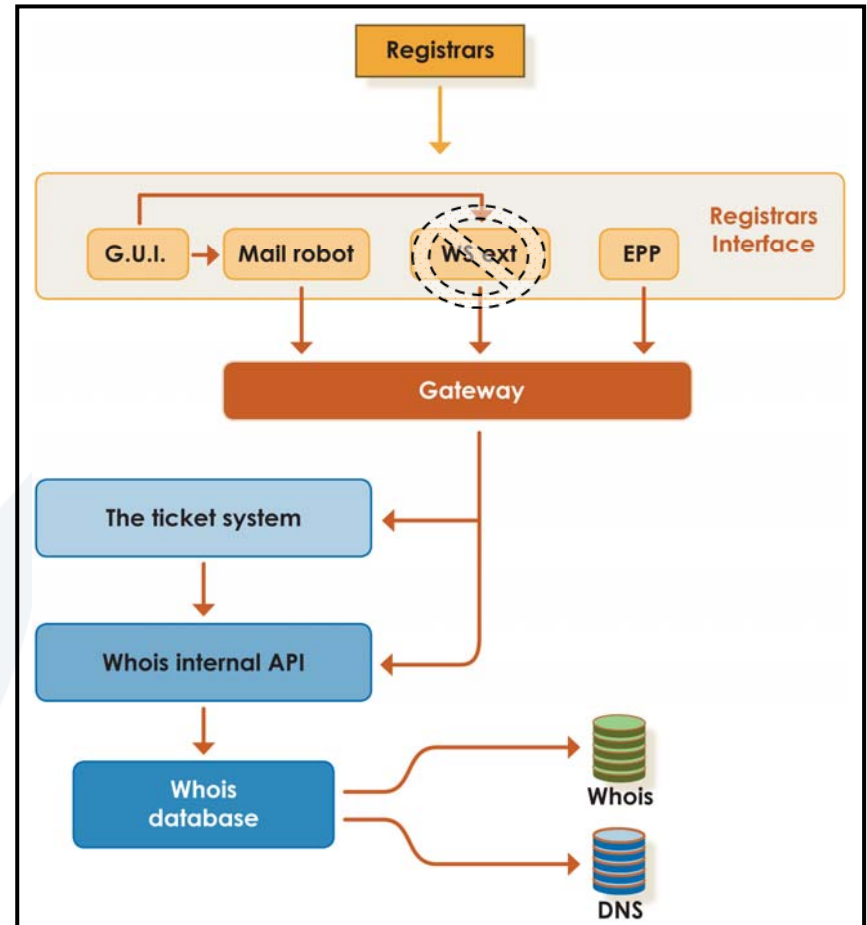# 24/7/365 project

- Widening of the registration service hour range
  - Before November 2007:
    - 5 days / week
    - Forms received outside office hours buffered and processed later
  - **Since November 2007 : 24/7/365**
  - Immediate communication towards registrars upon incidents:
    http://www.afnic.fr/operations
  - 24/7 Monitoring system (staff on duty beyond office hours)

EPP launch scheduled beginning 2009

Current model

Target model

Forthcoming services

- ## DNS service

  - Strengthening of DNS expertise
    - *Anycast* (internal)
    - Outsourcing a 2nd node (by a 2nd provider)
  - Strengthening of DNS secondary service (co-operation with other registries)

- ## Other projects :

  - New CRM functions: registrar scorecards, new billing and contact management system…
  - Setting service level standards
  - …

Conclusion

- **.FR Registry follows a multi-stakeholder organization model**
  - Registrars, domain holders, public and private sector, civil society

- **AFNIC has built a Registry system in conformance with International Standards and Best practices**
  - Deliver services with good QoS, in a secure and stable environment

- **Today's main focus is the preparation of .fr's competitive bid**