

## **2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement**

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## Registrar Accreditation Agreement

This REGISTRAR ACCREDITATION AGREEMENT (this “Agreement”) is by and between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a California non-profit, public benefit corporation (“ICANN”), and [Registrar Name], a [Organization type and jurisdiction] (“Registrar”), and shall be deemed made on \_\_\_\_\_, at Los Angeles, California, USA.

**1. DEFINITIONS.** For purposes of this Agreement, the following definitions shall apply:

1.1 “Account Holder” means the person or entity that is paying for the Registered Name or otherwise controls the management of the registered name, when that person or entity is not the Registered Name Holder.

1.2 “Accredited” or “Accreditation” means to identify and set minimum standards for the performance of registration functions, to recognize persons or entities meeting those standards, and to enter into an accreditation agreement that sets forth the rules and procedures applicable to the provision of Registrar Services.

1.3 “Affiliate” means a person or entity that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, Controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, the person or entity specified.

1.4 “Affiliated Registrar” is another Accredited registrar that is an Affiliate of Registrar.

1.5 “Applicable Registrar Family” means, with respect to Affiliated Registrars, such Affiliated Registrar as a group.

1.6 “Consensus Policy” has the meaning set forth in the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification attached hereto.

1.7 “Control” (including the terms “controlled by” and “under common control with”) means the possession, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management or policies of a person or entity, whether through the ownership of securities, as trustee or executor, by serving as an employee or a member of a board of directors or equivalent governing body, by contract, by credit arrangement or otherwise.

1.8 “DNS” refers to the Internet domain-name system.

1.9 The “Effective Date” is \_\_\_\_\_.

1.10 The “Expiration Date” is \_\_\_\_\_.

1.11 “gTLD” or “gTLDs” refers to the top-level domain(s) of the DNS delegated by ICANN pursuant to a registry agreement that is in full force and effect, other than any country code TLD (ccTLD) or internationalized domain name (IDN) country code TLD.

1.12 “gTLD Zone-File Data” means all data contained in a DNS zone file for the registry, or for any subdomain for which Registry Services are provided and that contains Registered Names, as provided to nameservers on the Internet.

1.13 “Illegal Activity” means conduct involving use of a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar that is prohibited by applicable law and/or exploitation of Registrar’s domain name resolution or registration services in furtherance of conduct involving the use of a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar that is prohibited by applicable law.

1.14 “Personal Data” refers to data about any identified or identifiable natural person.

1.15 “RDDS Accuracy Program Specification” means the RDDS Accuracy Program Specification attached hereto, as updated from time to time in accordance with this Agreement.

1.16 “RDDS Specification” means the Registration Data Directory Services Specification attached hereto, as updated from time to time in accordance with this Agreement.

1.17 “Registered Name” refers to a domain name within the domain of a gTLD, whether consisting of two (2) or more (e.g., john.smith.name) levels, about which a gTLD Registry Operator (or an Affiliate or subcontractor thereof engaged in providing Registry Services) maintains data in a Registry Database, arranges for such maintenance, or derives revenue from such maintenance. A name in a Registry Database may be a Registered Name even though it does not appear in a zone file (e.g., a registered but inactive name).

1.18 “Registered Name Holder” means the holder of a Registered Name.

1.19 The word “registrar,” when appearing without an initial capital letter, refers to a person or entity that contracts with Registered Name Holders and with a Registry Operator and collects registration data about the Registered Name Holders and submits registration information for entry in the Registry Database.

1.20 “Registrar Approval” means the receipt of either of the following approvals:

1.20.1 The affirmative approval of Applicable Registrars accounting for 90% of the Total Registered Names Under Management by the Applicable Registrars; provided that, for purposes of calculating the Total Registered Names Under Management by Applicable Registrars, the Total Registered Names Under Management by each Applicable Registrar Family shall not exceed the Total Registered Names Under Management of the Applicable Registrar Family that is the fifth largest Applicable Registrar Family (measured by number of Registered Names Under Management), both for purposes of the numerator and the denominator; or

1.20.2 The affirmative approval of 50% plus one of the Applicable Registrars that participate in the process to approve or disapprove (i.e. vote for or against, but not abstain or otherwise fail to vote) a proposed amendment under Section 6, and the affirmative approval of Applicable Registrars accounting for 66.67% of the Total Registered Names Under Management by all Applicable Registrars; provided that, for purposes of calculating the Total Registered Names Under Management by Applicable Registrars, the Total Registered Names Under Management by each Applicable Registrar Family shall not exceed the total Registered Names Under Management of the Applicable Registrar Family that is the fifth largest Applicable Registrar Family (measured by number of Registered Names Under Management), both for purposes of the numerator and the denominator. An example of these calculations is set forth in Appendix 1 attached hereto.

1.21 “Registrar Services” means the services subject to this Agreement provided by a registrar in connection with a gTLD, and includes contracting with Registered Name Holders, collecting registration data about the Registered Name Holders, and submitting registration information for entry in the Registry Database.

1.22 “Registry Data” means all Registry Database data maintained in electronic form, and shall include gTLD Zone-File Data, all data used to provide Registry Services and submitted by registrars in electronic form, and all other data used to provide Registry Services concerning particular domain name registrations or nameservers maintained in electronic form in a Registry Database.

1.23 “Registry Database” means a database comprised of data about one or more DNS domain names within the domain of a registry that is used to generate either DNS resource records that are published authoritatively or responses to domain-name availability lookup requests or RDDS queries, for some or all of those names.

1.24 A “Registry Operator” is the person or entity then responsible, in accordance with an agreement between ICANN (or its assignee) and that person or entity (those persons or entities) or, if that agreement is terminated or expires, in accordance with an agreement between the US Government and that person or entity (those persons or entities), for providing Registry Services for a specific gTLD.

1.25 “Registry Services,” with respect to a particular gTLD, shall have the meaning defined in the agreement between ICANN and the Registry Operator for that gTLD.

1.26 A “Reseller” is a person or entity that participates in Registrar’s distribution channel for domain name registrations (a) pursuant to an agreement, arrangement or understanding with Registrar or (b) with Registrar’s actual knowledge, provides some or all Registrar Services, including collecting registration data about Registered Name Holders, submitting that data to Registrar, or facilitating the entry of the registration agreement between Registrar and the Registered Name Holder.

1.27 “Restricted Amendment” means (i) an amendment of the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification or (ii) the term of this Agreement as specified in Section 5.1, as such term may be extended pursuant to Section 5.2.

1.28 A Registered Name is “sponsored” by the registrar that placed the record associated with that registration into the registry. Sponsorship of a registration may be changed at the express direction of the Registered Name Holder or, in the event a registrar loses Accreditation, in accordance with then-current ICANN Specifications and Policies.

1.29 “Specifications and/or Policies” include Consensus Policies, Specifications (such as the RDDS Accuracy Program Specification) referenced in this Agreement, and any amendments, policies, procedures, or programs specifically contemplated by this Agreement or authorized by ICANN’s Bylaws.

1.30 “Term of this Agreement” begins on the Effective Date and continues to the earlier of (a) the Expiration Date, or (b) termination of this Agreement.

1.31 “Total Registered Names Under Management” means the total number of Registered Names sponsored by all Applicable Registrars as reflected in the latest monthly reports submitted to ICANN by Registrars.

1.32 “WHOIS Accuracy Program Specification” refers to the RDDS Accuracy Program Specification and is included in this Section 1 for purposes of external documents linking to this Agreement using this definition.

1.33 “Working Group” means representatives of the Applicable Registrars and other members of the community that the Registrar Stakeholder Group appoints, from time to time, to serve as a working group to consult on amendments to the Applicable Registrar Agreements (excluding bilateral amendments pursuant to Section 6.9).

## **2. ICANN OBLIGATIONS.**

2.1 Accreditation. During the Term of this Agreement and subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, Registrar is hereby Accredited by ICANN to act as a registrar (including to insert and renew registration of Registered Names in the Registry Database) for gTLDs.

2.2 Registrar Use of ICANN Name, Website and Trademarks. ICANN hereby grants to Registrar a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free license during the Term of this Agreement (a) to state that it is Accredited by ICANN as a registrar for gTLDs, and (b) to link to pages and documents within the ICANN website. Subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Logo License Specification attached hereto, ICANN hereby grants to Registrar a non-exclusive, worldwide right and license to use the Trademarks (as defined in the Logo License Specification). No other use of ICANN's name, website or Trademarks is licensed hereby. This license may not be assigned or sublicensed by Registrar to any other party, including, without limitation, any Affiliate of Registrar or any Reseller.

2.3 General Obligations of ICANN. With respect to all matters that impact the rights, obligations, or role of Registrar, ICANN shall during the Term of this Agreement:

- 2.3.1 exercise its responsibilities in an open and transparent manner;
- 2.3.2 not unreasonably restrain competition and, to the extent feasible, promote and encourage robust competition;
- 2.3.3 not apply standards, policies, procedures or practices arbitrarily, unjustifiably, or inequitably and not single out Registrar for disparate treatment unless justified by substantial and reasonable cause; and
- 2.3.4 ensure, through its reconsideration and independent review policies, adequate appeal procedures for Registrar, to the extent it is adversely affected by ICANN standards, policies, procedures or practices.

2.4 Use of ICANN Accredited Registrars. In order to promote competition in the registration of domain names, and in recognition of the value that ICANN-Accredited registrars bring to the Internet community, ICANN has ordinarily required gTLD registries under contract with ICANN to use ICANN-Accredited registrars, and ICANN will during the course of this agreement abide by any ICANN adopted Specifications or Policies requiring the use of ICANN-Accredited registrars by gTLD registries.

### **3. REGISTRAR OBLIGATIONS.**

3.1 Obligations to Provide Registrar Services. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar agrees that it will operate as a registrar for one or more gTLDs in accordance with this Agreement.

3.2 Submission of Registered Name Holder Data to Registry. During the Term of this Agreement:

3.2.1 As part of its registration of Registered Names in a gTLD, Registrar shall submit to, or shall place in the Registry Database operated by, the Registry Operator for the gTLD the following data elements:

- 3.2.1.1 The name of the Registered Name being registered;
- 3.2.1.2 The IP addresses of the primary nameserver and secondary nameserver(s) for the Registered Name;
- 3.2.1.3 The corresponding names of those nameservers;
- 3.2.1.4 Unless automatically generated by the registry system, the identity of Registrar;
- 3.2.1.5 Unless automatically generated by the registry system, the expiration date of the registration; and

3.2.1.6 Any other data the Registry Operator requires be submitted to it.

The agreement between the Registry Operator of a gTLD and Registrar may, if approved by ICANN in writing, state alternative required data elements applicable to that gTLD, in which event, the alternative required data elements shall replace and supersede Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.6 stated above for all purposes under this Agreement but only with respect to that particular gTLD. When seeking approval for alternative required data elements, the data elements set forth in Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.6 should be considered suggested minimum requirements.

3.2.2 Within seven (7) days after receiving any updates from the Registered Name Holder to the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.2, 3.1.2.3, and 3.2.1.6 for any Registered Name that Registrar sponsors, Registrar shall submit the updated data elements to, or shall place those elements in the Registry Database operated by, the relevant Registry Operator.

3.2.3 In order to allow reconstitution of the Registry Database in the event of an otherwise unrecoverable technical failure or a change in the designated Registry Operator, within ten (10) days of any such request by ICANN, Registrar shall submit an electronic database containing the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.6 for all active records in the registry sponsored by Registrar, in a format specified by ICANN, to the Registry Operator for the appropriate gTLD.

3.3 Public Access to Data on Registered Names. During the Term of this Agreement:

3.3.1 At its expense, Registrar shall provide an RDAP Directory Service (as defined in the RDDS Specification) (accessible via both IPv4 and IPv6) providing free public query-based access to up-to-date (i.e., updated at least daily) data concerning all active Registered Names sponsored by Registrar in any gTLD. Until otherwise specified by a Consensus Policy, such data shall consist of the following elements as contained in Registrar's database:

3.3.1.1 The name of the Registered Name;

3.3.1.2 The names of the primary nameserver and secondary nameserver(s) for the Registered Name;

3.3.1.3 The identity of Registrar (which may be provided through Registrar's website);

3.3.1.4 The original creation date of the registration;

3.3.1.5 The expiration date of the registration;

3.3.1.6 The name and postal address of the Registered Name Holder;

3.3.1.7 The name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and (where available) fax number of the technical contact for the Registered Name; and

3.3.1.8 The name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and (where available) fax number of the administrative contact for the Registered Name.

The agreement between the Registry Operator of a gTLD and Registrar may, if approved by ICANN in writing, state alternative required data elements applicable to that gTLD, in which event, the alternative required data elements shall replace and supersede Subsections 3.3.1.1 through 3.3.1.8 stated above for all purposes under this Agreement but only with respect to that particular gTLD.

3.3.2 Upon receiving any updates to the data elements listed in Subsections 3.3.1.2, 3.3.1.3, and 3.3.1.5 through 3.3.1.8 from the Registered Name Holder, Registrar shall promptly update its database used to provide the public access described in Subsection 3.3.1.

3.3.3 Registrar may subcontract its obligation to provide the public access described in Subsection 3.3.1 and the updating described in Subsection 3.3.2, provided that Registrar shall remain fully responsible for the proper provision of the access and updating.

3.3.4 Registrar shall abide by any Consensus Policy that requires registrars to cooperatively implement a distributed capability that provides query-based RDDS search functionality across all registrars. If the RDDS service implemented by registrars does not in a reasonable time provide reasonably robust, reliable, and convenient access to accurate and up-to-date data, Registrar shall abide by any Consensus Policy requiring Registrar, if reasonably determined by ICANN to be necessary (considering such possibilities as remedial action by specific registrars), to supply data from Registrar's database to facilitate the development of a centralized RDDS database for the purpose of providing comprehensive Registrar RDDS search capability.

3.3.5 In providing query-based public access to registration data as required by Subsections 3.3.1 and 3.3.4, Registrar shall not impose terms and conditions on use of the data provided, except as permitted by any Specification or Policy established by ICANN. Unless and until ICANN establishes a different Consensus Policy, Registrar shall permit use of data it provides in response to queries for any lawful purposes except to: (a) allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission by e-mail, telephone, postal mail, facsimile or other means of mass unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations to entities other than the data recipient's own existing customers; or (b) enable high volume, automated, electronic processes that send queries or data to the systems of any Registry Operator or ICANN-



Accredited registrar, except as reasonably necessary to register domain names or modify existing registrations.

3.3.6 In the event that ICANN determines, following analysis of economic data by an economist(s) retained by ICANN (which data has been made available to Registrar), that an individual or entity is able to exercise market power with respect to registrations or with respect to registration data used for development of value-added products and services by third parties, Registrar shall provide third-party bulk access to the data subject to public access under Subsection 3.3.1 under the following terms and conditions:

3.3.6.1 Registrar shall make a complete electronic copy of the data available at least one (1) time per week for download by third parties who have entered into a bulk access agreement with Registrar.

3.3.6.2 Registrar may charge an annual fee, not to exceed US\$10,000, for such bulk access to the data.

3.3.6.3 Registrar's access agreement shall require the third party to agree not to use the data to allow, enable, or otherwise support any marketing activities, regardless of the medium used. Such media include but are not limited to e-mail, telephone, facsimile, postal mail, SMS, and wireless alerts.

3.3.6.4 Registrar's access agreement shall require the third party to agree not to use the data to enable high-volume, automated, electronic processes that send queries or data to the systems of any Registry Operator or ICANN-Accredited registrar, except as reasonably necessary to register domain names or modify existing registrations.

3.3.6.5 Registrar's access agreement must require the third party to agree not to sell or redistribute the data except insofar as it has been incorporated by the third party into a value-added product or service that does not permit the extraction of a substantial portion of the bulk data from the value-added product or service for use by other parties.

3.3.7 To comply with applicable statutes and regulations and for other reasons, ICANN may adopt a Consensus Policy establishing limits (a) on the Personal Data concerning Registered Names that Registrar may make available to the public through a public-access service described in this Subsection 3.3 and (b) on the manner in which Registrar may make such data available. Registrar shall comply with any such Consensus Policy.

3.3.8 Registrar shall meet or exceed the requirements set forth in the RDDS Specification.

3.3.9 Until the WHOIS Services Sunset Date (as defined in the RDDS Specification), Registrar shall, at its expense, provide web-based WHOIS and, with respect to any

gTLD operating a “thin” registry, a port 43 WHOIS service (each accessible via both IPv4 and IPv6) providing free public query-based access to up-to-date (i.e., updated at least daily) data concerning all active Registered Names sponsored by Registrar in any gTLD. Until otherwise specified by a Consensus Policy or a Temporary Policy, such data shall consist of at least the elements described in Subsection 3.3.1.1 through 3.3.1.8 as contained in Registrar’s database and in the format set forth in Subsection 1.4 of the RDDS Specification.

### 3.4 Retention of Registered Name Holder and Registration Data.

3.4.1 For each Registered Name sponsored by Registrar within a gTLD, Registrar shall collect and securely maintain, in its own electronic database, as updated from time to time:

3.4.1.1 the data specified in the Data Retention Specification attached hereto for the period specified therein;

3.4.1.2 The data elements listed in Subsections 3.3.1.1 through 3.3.1.8;

3.4.1.3 the name and (where available) postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and fax number of the billing contact;

3.4.1.4 any other Registry Data that Registrar has submitted to the Registry Operator or placed in the Registry Database under Subsection 3.2; and

3.4.1.5 the name, postal address, e-mail address, and voice telephone number provided by the customer of any privacy service or licensee of any proxy registration service, in each case, offered or made available by Registrar or its Affiliates in connection with each registration. Effective on the date that ICANN fully implements a Proxy Accreditation Program established in accordance with Section 3.14, the obligations under this Section 3.4.1.5 will cease to apply as to any specific category of data (such as postal address) that is expressly required to be retained by another party in accordance with such Proxy Accreditation Program.

3.4.2 During the Term of this Agreement and for two (2) years thereafter, Registrar (itself or by its agent(s)) shall maintain the following records relating to its dealings with the Registry Operator(s) and Registered Name Holders:

3.4.2.1 In electronic form, the submission date and time, and the content, of all registration data (including updates) submitted in electronic form to the Registry Operator(s);

3.4.2.2 In electronic, paper, or microfilm form, all written communications constituting registration applications, confirmations, modifications, or terminations and related correspondence with Registered Name Holders, including registration contracts; and

3.4.2.3 In electronic form, records of the accounts of all Registered Name Holders with Registrar.

3.4.3 During the Term of this Agreement and for two (2) years thereafter, Registrar shall make the data, information and records specified in this Section 3.4 available for inspection and copying by ICANN upon reasonable notice. In addition, upon reasonable notice and request from ICANN, Registrar shall deliver copies of such data, information and records to ICANN in respect to limited transactions or circumstances that may be the subject of a compliance-related inquiry; provided, however, that such obligation shall not apply to requests for copies of Registrar's entire database or transaction history. Such copies are to be provided at Registrar's expense. In responding to ICANN's request for delivery of electronic data, information and records, Registrar may submit such information in a format reasonably convenient to Registrar and acceptable to ICANN so as to minimize disruption to Registrar's business. In the event Registrar believes that the provision of any such data, information or records to ICANN would violate applicable law or any legal proceedings, ICANN and Registrar agree to discuss in good faith whether appropriate limitations, protections, or alternative solutions can be identified to allow the production of such data, information or records in complete or redacted form, as appropriate. ICANN shall not disclose the content of such data, information or records except as expressly required by applicable law, any legal proceeding or Specification or Policy.

3.4.4 Notwithstanding any other requirement in this Agreement or the Data Retention Specification, Registrar shall not be obligated to maintain records relating to a domain registration beginning on the date two (2) years following the domain registration's deletion or transfer away to a different registrar.

3.5 Rights in Data. Registrar disclaims all rights to exclusive ownership or use of the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.1 through 3.2.1.3 for all Registered Names submitted by Registrar to the Registry Database for, or sponsored by Registrar in, each gTLD for which it is Accredited. Registrar does not disclaim rights in the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.4 through 3.2.1.6 and Subsections 3.3.1.3 through 3.3.1.8 concerning active Registered Names sponsored by it in each gTLD for which it is Accredited, and agrees to grant non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free licenses to make use of and disclose the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.4 through 3.2.1.6 and 3.3.1.3 through 3.3.1.8 for the purpose of providing a service or services (such as a RDDS service under Subsection 3.3.4) providing interactive, query-based public access. Upon a change in sponsorship from Registrar of any Registered Name in each gTLD for which it is Accredited, Registrar acknowledges that the registrar gaining sponsorship shall have the rights of an owner to the data elements listed in Subsections 3.2.1.4 through 3.2.1.6 and 3.3.1.3 through 3.3.1.8 concerning that Registered Name, with Registrar also retaining the rights of an owner in that data. Nothing in this Subsection prohibits Registrar from (1) restricting bulk public access to data elements in a manner consistent with this Agreement and any Specifications or Policies or (2) transferring rights it claims in data elements subject to the provisions of this Subsection 3.5.

3.6 Data Escrow. During the Term of this Agreement, on a schedule, under the terms, and in the format specified by ICANN, Registrar shall submit an electronic copy of the data described in Subsections 3.4.1.2 through 3.4.1.5 to ICANN or, at Registrar's election and at its expense, to a reputable escrow agent mutually approved by Registrar and ICANN, such approval also not to be unreasonably withheld by either party. The data shall be held under an agreement among Registrar, ICANN, and the escrow agent (if any) providing that (1) the data shall be received and held in escrow, with no use other than verification that the deposited data is complete, consistent, and in proper format, until released to ICANN; (2) the data shall be released from escrow upon expiration without renewal or termination of this Agreement; and (3) ICANN's rights under the escrow agreement shall be assigned with any assignment of this Agreement. The escrow shall provide that in the event the escrow is released under this Subsection, ICANN (or its assignee) shall have a non-exclusive, irrevocable, royalty-free license to exercise (only for transitional purposes) or have exercised all rights necessary to provide Registrar Services.

3.7 Business Dealings, Including with Registered Name Holders.

3.7.1 In the event ICANN adopts a Specification or Policy that is supported by a consensus of ICANN-Accredited registrars as reflected in the Registrar Stakeholder Group (or any successor group), establishing or approving a Code of Conduct for ICANN-Accredited registrars, Registrar shall abide by that Code of Conduct.

3.7.2 Registrar shall abide by applicable laws and governmental regulations.

3.7.3 Registrar shall not represent to any actual or potential Registered Name Holder that Registrar enjoys access to a registry for which Registrar is Accredited that is superior to that of any other registrar Accredited for that registry.

3.7.4 Registrar shall not activate any Registered Name unless and until it is satisfied that it has received a reasonable assurance of payment of its registration fee. For this purpose, a charge to a credit card, general commercial terms extended to creditworthy customers, or other mechanism providing a similar level of assurance of payment shall be sufficient, provided that the obligation to pay becomes final and non-revocable by the Registered Name Holder upon activation of the registration.

3.7.5 At the conclusion of the registration period, failure by or on behalf of the Registered Name Holder to consent that the registration be renewed within the time specified in a second notice or reminder shall, in the absence of extenuating circumstances, result in cancellation of the registration by the end of the auto-renew grace period (although Registrar may choose to cancel the name earlier).

3.7.5.1 Extenuating circumstances are defined as: UDRP action, valid court order, failure of a Registrar's renewal process (which does not include failure of a registrant to respond), the domain name is used by a nameserver that provides DNS service to third-parties (additional time may be required to migrate the records managed by the nameserver), the registrant is subject to

bankruptcy proceedings, payment dispute (where a registrant claims to have paid for a renewal, or a discrepancy in the amount paid), billing dispute (where a registrant disputes the amount on a bill), domain name subject to litigation in a court of competent jurisdiction, or other circumstance as approved specifically by ICANN.

3.7.5.2 Where Registrar chooses, under extenuating circumstances, to renew a domain name without the explicit consent of the registrant, the registrar must maintain a record of the extenuating circumstances associated with renewing that specific domain name for inspection by ICANN consistent with clauses 3.4.2 and 3.4.3 of this registrar accreditation agreement.

3.7.5.3 In the absence of extenuating circumstances (as defined in Section 3.7.5.1 above), a domain name must be deleted within 45 days of either the registrar or the registrant terminating a registration agreement.

3.7.5.4 Registrar shall provide notice to each new registrant describing the details of their deletion and auto-renewal policy including the expected time at which a non-renewed domain name would be deleted relative to the domain's expiration date, or a date range not to exceed ten (10) days in length. If a registrar makes any material changes to its deletion policy during the period of the registration agreement, it must make at least the same effort to inform the registrant of the changes as it would to inform the registrant of other material changes to the registration agreement (as defined in clause 3.7.7 of the registrars accreditation agreement).

3.7.5.5 If Registrar operates a website for domain name registration or renewal, details of Registrar's deletion and auto-renewal policies must be clearly displayed on the website.

3.7.5.6 If Registrar operates a website for domain registration or renewal, it should state, both at the time of registration and in a clear place on its website, any fee charged for the recovery of a domain name during the Redemption Grace Period.

3.7.5.7 In the event that a domain which is the subject of a UDRP dispute is deleted or expires during the course of the dispute, the complainant in the UDRP dispute will have the option to renew or restore the name under the same commercial terms as the registrant. If the complainant renews or restores the name, the name will be placed in Registrar HOLD and Registrar LOCK status, the RDDS contact information for the registrant will be removed, and the RDDS entry will indicate that the name is subject to dispute. If the complaint is terminated, or the UDRP dispute finds against the complainant, the name will be deleted within 45 days. The registrant retains the right under the existing redemption grace period provisions to recover

the name at any time during the Redemption Grace Period, and retains the right to renew the name before it is deleted.

3.7.6 Registrar shall not insert or renew any Registered Name in any gTLD registry in a manner contrary to (i) any Consensus Policy stating a list or specification of excluded Registered Names that is in effect at the time of insertion or renewal, or (ii) any list of names to be reserved from registration as required by the specific Registry Operator for which Registrar is providing Registrar Services.

3.7.7 Registrar shall require all Registered Name Holders to enter into an electronic or paper registration agreement with Registrar including at least the provisions set forth in Subsections 3.7.7.1 through 3.7.7.12, and which agreement shall otherwise set forth the terms and conditions applicable to the registration of a domain name sponsored by Registrar. The Registered Name Holder with whom Registrar enters into a registration agreement must be a person or legal entity other than Registrar, provided that Registrar may be the Registered Name Holder for domains registered for the purpose of conducting its Registrar Services, in which case Registrar shall submit to the provisions set forth in Subsections 3.7.7.1 through 3.7.7.12 and shall be responsible to ICANN for compliance with all obligations of the Registered Name Holder as set forth in this Agreement and Specifications and Policies. Registrar shall use commercially reasonable efforts to enforce compliance with the provisions of the registration agreement between Registrar and any Registered Name Holder that relate to implementing the requirements of Subsections 3.7.7.1 through 3.7.7.12 or any Consensus Policy.

3.7.7.1 The Registered Name Holder shall provide to Registrar accurate and reliable contact details and correct and update them within seven (7) days of any change during the term of the Registered Name registration, including: the full name, postal address, e-mail address, voice telephone number, and fax number if available of the Registered Name Holder; name of authorized person for contact purposes in the case of an Registered Name Holder that is an organization, association, or corporation; and the data elements listed in Subsections 3.3.1.2, 3.3.1.7 and 3.3.1.8.

3.7.7.2 A Registered Name Holder's willful provision of inaccurate or unreliable information, its willful failure to update information provided to Registrar within seven (7) days of any change, or its failure to respond for over fifteen (15) days to inquiries by Registrar concerning the accuracy of contact details associated with the Registered Name Holder's registration shall constitute a material breach of the Registered Name Holder-registrar contract and be a basis for suspension and/or cancellation of the Registered Name registration.

3.7.7.3 Any Registered Name Holder that intends to license use of a domain name to a third party is nonetheless the Registered Name Holder of record and is responsible for providing its own full contact information and for

providing and updating accurate technical and administrative contact information adequate to facilitate timely resolution of any problems that arise in connection with the Registered Name. A Registered Name Holder licensing use of a Registered Name according to this provision shall accept liability for harm caused by wrongful use of the Registered Name, unless it discloses the current contact information provided by the licensee and the identity of the licensee within seven (7) days to a party providing the Registered Name Holder reasonable evidence of actionable harm.

3.7.7.4 Registrar shall provide notice to each new or renewed Registered Name Holder stating:

3.7.7.4.1 The purposes for which any Personal Data collected from the applicant are intended;

3.7.7.4.2 The intended recipients or categories of recipients of the data (including the Registry Operator and others who will receive the data from Registry Operator);

3.7.7.4.3 Which data are obligatory and which data, if any, are voluntary; and

3.7.7.4.4 How the Registered Name Holder or data subject can access and, if necessary, rectify the data held about them.

3.7.7.5 The Registered Name Holder shall consent to the data processing referred to in Subsection 3.7.7.4.

3.7.7.6 The Registered Name Holder shall represent that notice has been provided equivalent to that described in Subsection 3.7.7.4 to any third-party individuals whose Personal Data are supplied to Registrar by the Registered Name Holder, and that the Registered Name Holder has obtained consent equivalent to that referred to in Subsection 3.7.7.5 of any such third-party individuals.

3.7.7.7 Registrar shall agree that it will not process the Personal Data collected from the Registered Name Holder in a way incompatible with the purposes and other limitations about which it has provided notice to the Registered Name Holder in accordance with Subsection 3.7.7.4 above.

3.7.7.8 Registrar shall agree that it will take reasonable precautions to protect Personal Data from loss, misuse, unauthorized access or disclosure, alteration, or destruction.

3.7.7.9 The Registered Name Holder shall represent that, to the best of the Registered Name Holder's knowledge and belief, neither the registration of

the Registered Name nor the manner in which it is directly or indirectly used infringes the legal rights of any third party.

3.7.7.10 For the adjudication of disputes concerning or arising from use of the Registered Name, the Registered Name Holder shall submit, without prejudice to other potentially applicable jurisdictions, to the jurisdiction of the courts (1) of the Registered Name Holder's domicile and (2) where Registrar is located.

3.7.7.11 The Registered Name Holder shall agree that its registration of the Registered Name shall be subject to suspension, cancellation, or transfer pursuant to any Specification or Policy, or pursuant to any registrar or registry procedure not inconsistent with any Specification or Policy, (1) to correct mistakes by Registrar or the Registry Operator in registering the name or (2) for the resolution of disputes concerning the Registered Name.

3.7.7.12 The Registered Name Holder shall indemnify and hold harmless the Registry Operator and its directors, officers, employees, and agents from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs, and expenses (including reasonable legal fees and expenses) arising out of or related to the Registered Name Holder's domain name registration.

3.7.8 Registrar shall comply with the obligations specified in the RDDS Accuracy Program Specification. In addition, notwithstanding anything in the RDDS Accuracy Program Specification to the contrary, Registrar shall abide by any Consensus Policy requiring reasonable and commercially practicable (a) verification, at the time of registration, of contact information associated with a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar or (b) periodic re-verification of such information. Registrar shall, upon notification by any person of an inaccuracy in the contact information associated with a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar, take reasonable steps to investigate that claimed inaccuracy. In the event Registrar learns of inaccurate contact information associated with a Registered Name it sponsors, it shall take reasonable steps to correct that inaccuracy.

3.7.9 Registrar shall abide by any Consensus Policy prohibiting or restricting warehousing of or speculation in domain names by registrars.

3.7.10 Registrar shall publish on its website(s) and/or provide a link to the Registrants' Benefits and Responsibilities Specification attached hereto and shall not take any action inconsistent with the corresponding provisions of this Agreement or applicable law.

3.7.11 Registrar shall make available a description of the customer service handling processes available to Registered Name Holders regarding Registrar Services, including a description of the processes for submitting complaints and resolving disputes regarding the Registrar Services.



3.7.12 Nothing in this Agreement prescribes or limits the amount Registrar may charge Registered Name Holders for registration of Registered Names.

3.8 Domain-Name Dispute Resolution. During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar shall have in place a policy and procedures for resolution of disputes concerning Registered Names. Until ICANN adopts an alternative Consensus Policy or other Specification or Policy with respect to the resolution of disputes concerning Registered Names, Registrar shall comply with the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (“UDRP”) identified on ICANN's website (<https://www.icann.org/consensus-policies>), as may be modified from time to time. Registrar shall also comply with the Uniform Rapid Suspension (“URS”) procedure or its replacement, as well as with any other applicable dispute resolution procedure as required by a Registry Operator for which Registrar is providing Registrar Services.

3.9 Accreditation Fees. As a condition of Accreditation, Registrar shall pay Accreditation fees to ICANN. These fees consist of yearly and variable fees.

3.9.1 Registrar shall pay ICANN a yearly Accreditation fee in an amount established by the ICANN Board of Directors, in conformity with ICANN's bylaws and articles of incorporation. This yearly Accreditation fee shall not exceed US\$4,000. Payment of the yearly fee shall be due within thirty (30) days after invoice from ICANN, provided that Registrar may elect to pay the yearly fee in four (4) equal quarterly installments.

3.9.2 Registrar shall pay the variable Accreditation fees established by the ICANN Board of Directors, in conformity with ICANN's bylaws and articles of incorporation, provided that in each case such fees are reasonably allocated among all registrars that contract with ICANN and that any such fees must be expressly approved by registrars accounting, in the aggregate, for payment of two-thirds of all registrar-level fees. Registrar shall pay such fees in a timely manner for so long as all material terms of this Agreement remain in full force and effect, and notwithstanding the pendency of any dispute between Registrar and ICANN.

3.9.3 For any payments thirty (30) days or more overdue, Registrar shall pay interest on late payments at the rate of 1.5% per month or, if less, the maximum rate permitted by applicable law from later of the date of the invoice or the date the invoice is sent pursuant to Section 7.6 of this Agreement. On reasonable notice given by ICANN to Registrar, accountings submitted by Registrar shall be subject to verification by an audit of Registrar's books and records by an independent third-party designated by ICANN that shall preserve the confidentiality of such books and records (other than its findings as to the accuracy of, and any necessary corrections to, the accountings).

3.9.4 The Accreditation fees due under this Agreement are exclusive of tax. All taxes, duties, fees and other governmental charges of any kind (including sales, turnover, services, use and value-added taxes) that are imposed by or under the

authority of any government or any political subdivision thereof on the Accreditation fees for any services, software and/or hardware shall be borne by Registrar and shall not be considered a part of, a deduction from, or an offset against such Accreditation fees. All payments due to ICANN shall be made without any deduction or withholding on account of any tax, duty, charge, or penalty except as required by applicable law, in which case, the sum payable by Registrar from which such deduction or withholding is to be made shall be increased to the extent necessary to ensure that, after making such deduction or withholding, ICANN receives (free from any liability with respect thereof) a net sum equal to the sum it would have received but for such deduction or withholding being required.

3.10 Insurance. Registrar shall maintain in force commercial general liability insurance or similar liability insurance as specified by ICANN with policy limits of at least US\$500,000 covering liabilities arising from Registrar's registrar business during the Term of this Agreement.

3.11 Obligations of Registrars under common controlling interest. Registrar shall be in breach of this Agreement if:

3.11.1 ICANN terminates an Affiliated Registrar's accreditation agreement with ICANN (an "Affiliate Termination");

3.11.2 Affiliated Registrar has not initiated arbitration challenging ICANN's right to terminate the Affiliated Registrar's accreditation agreement under Section 5.8 of this Agreement, or has initiated such arbitration and has not prevailed;

3.11.3 the Affiliate Termination was the result of misconduct that materially harmed consumers or the public interest;

3.11.4 a second Affiliated Registrar has pursued, after the Affiliate Termination, the same course of conduct that resulted in the Affiliate Termination; and

3.11.5 ICANN has provided Registrar with written notice that it intends to assert the provisions of this Section 3.11 with respect to Registrar, which notice shall identify in reasonable detail the factual basis for such assertion, and Registrar has failed to cure the impugned conduct within fifteen (15) days of such notice.

3.12 Obligations Related to Provision of Registrar Services by Third Parties. Registrar is responsible for the provision of Registrar Services for all Registered Names that Registrar sponsors being performed in compliance with this Agreement, regardless of whether the Registrar Services are provided by Registrar or a third party, including a Reseller. Registrar must enter into written agreements with all of its Resellers that enable Registrar to comply with and perform all of its obligations under this Agreement. In addition, Registrar must ensure that:

3.12.1 Its Resellers do not display the ICANN or ICANN-Accredited Registrar logo, or otherwise represent themselves as Accredited by ICANN, unless they have written permission from ICANN to do so.

3.12.2 Any registration agreement used by reseller shall include all registration agreement provisions and notices required by the ICANN Registrar Accreditation Agreement and any ICANN Consensus Policies, and shall identify the sponsoring registrar or provide a means for identifying the sponsoring registrar, such as a link to the ICANN Registration data lookup tool (<https://lookup.icann.org>).

3.12.3 Its Resellers identify the sponsoring registrar upon inquiry from the customer.

3.12.4 Its Resellers comply with any ICANN-adopted Specification or Policy that establishes a program for accreditation of individuals or entities who provide proxy and privacy registration services (a "Proxy Accreditation Program"). Among other features, the Proxy Accreditation Program may require that: (i) proxy and privacy registration services may only be provided in respect of domain name registrations by individuals or entities Accredited by ICANN pursuant to such Proxy Accreditation Program; and (ii) Registrar shall prohibit Resellers from knowingly accepting registrations from any provider of proxy and privacy registration services that is not Accredited by ICANN pursuant the Proxy Accreditation Program. Until such time as the Proxy Accreditation Program is established, Registrar shall require Resellers to comply with the Specification on Privacy and Proxy Registrations attached hereto.

3.12.5 Its Resellers' customers are provided with a link to an ICANN webpage detailing registrant educational information, as detailed in subsection 3.16 below.

3.12.6 In the event Registrar learns that a Reseller is causing Registrar to be in breach of any of the provisions of this Agreement, Registrar shall take reasonable steps to enforce its agreement with such Reseller so as to cure and prevent further instances of non-compliance.

3.12.7 Its Resellers shall publish on their website(s) and/or provide a link to the Registrants' Benefits and Responsibilities Specification attached hereto and shall not take any action inconsistent with the corresponding provisions of this Agreement or applicable law.

Registrar shall use commercially reasonable efforts to enforce compliance with the provisions of the agreement between Registrar and any Reseller that relate to the provisions of Registrar Services.

3.13 Registrar Training. Registrar's primary contact as identified in Subsection 7.6 below or designee (so long as the designee is employed by Registrar or an Affiliated Registrar) shall complete a training course covering registrar obligations under ICANN policies and agreements. The course will be provided by ICANN at no expense to Registrar, and shall be available in an online format.

3.14 Obligations Related to Proxy and Privacy Services. Registrar agrees to comply with any ICANN-adopted Specification or Policy that establishes a Proxy Accreditation Program. Registrar also agrees to reasonably cooperate with ICANN in the development of such program. Until such time as the Proxy Accreditation Program is established, Registrar agrees to comply with the Specification on Privacy and Proxy Registrations attached hereto.

3.15 Registrar Self-Assessment and Audits. Registrar shall complete and deliver to ICANN on a schedule and in the form specified by ICANN from time to time in consultation with registrars a Registrar self-assessment. Registrar shall complete and deliver to ICANN within twenty (20) days following the end of each calendar year, in a form specified by ICANN a certificate executed by the president, chief executive officer, chief financial officer or chief operating officer (or their equivalents) of Registrar certifying compliance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. ICANN may from time to time (not to exceed twice per calendar year) conduct, or engage a third party to conduct on its behalf, contractual compliance audits to assess compliance by Registrar with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Any audits pursuant to this Section 3.15 shall be tailored to achieve the purpose of assessing compliance, and ICANN will (a) give reasonable advance notice of any such audit, which notice shall specify in reasonable detail the categories of documents, data and other information requested by ICANN, and (b) use commercially reasonable efforts to conduct such audit in such a manner as to not unreasonably disrupt the operations of Registrar. As part of such audit and upon request by ICANN, Registrar shall timely provide all responsive documents, data and any other information necessary to demonstrate Registrar's compliance with this Agreement. Upon no less than ten (10) days' notice (unless otherwise agreed to by Registrar), ICANN may, as part of any contractual compliance audit, conduct site visits during regular business hours to assess compliance by Registrar with the terms and conditions of this Agreement. ICANN shall not disclose Registrar confidential information gathered through such audits except as required by applicable law, legal proceedings, or as expressly permitted by any Specification or Policy (including ICANN's Documentary Information Disclosure Policy, as such policy may be amended from time to time); provided, however, that, except as required by applicable law or legal proceedings, ICANN shall not release any information that Registrar has marked as, or has otherwise designated in writing to ICANN as, a "confidential trade secret," "confidential commercial information" or "confidential financial information" of Registrar. If any applicable law, legal proceeding or Specification or Policy permits such disclosure, ICANN will provide Registrar no less than fifteen (15) days' notice of its intent to disclose such information, unless such notice is prohibited by law or legal proceeding. Such notice shall include to whom and in what manner ICANN plans to disclose such information.

3.16 Link to Registrant Educational Information. ICANN has published an educational webpage summarizing the terms of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement and related Consensus Policies (as of the date of this Agreement, located at: <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/benefits-2013-09-16-en>). Registrar shall provide a link to such webpage on any website it may operate for domain name registration or renewal clearly displayed to its Registered Name Holders at least as clearly as its links to

policies or notifications required to be displayed under ICANN Consensus Policies. ICANN may, in consultation with registrars, update the content and/or URL for this website.

3.17 Registrar Contact, Business Organization and Officer Information. Registrar shall provide to ICANN and maintain accurate and current information as specified in the Registrar Information Specification to this Agreement. In addition, Registrar shall publish on each website through which Registrar provides or offers Registrar Services the information specified as requiring such publication in the Registrar Information Specification. Registrar shall notify ICANN within five (5) days of any changes to such information and update Registrar's website(s) within twenty (20) days of any such changes.

3.18 Registrar's Abuse Contact and Duty to Investigate Reports of Abuse.

3.18.1 Registrar shall maintain an abuse contact to receive reports of abuse involving Registered Names sponsored by Registrar, including reports of Illegal Activity. Registrar shall publish an email address to receive such reports on the home page of Registrar's website (or in another standardized place that may be designated by ICANN from time to time). Registrar shall take reasonable and prompt steps to investigate and respond appropriately to any reports of abuse.

3.18.2 Registrar shall establish and maintain a dedicated abuse point of contact, including a dedicated email address and telephone number that is monitored 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to receive reports of Illegal Activity by law enforcement, consumer protection, quasi-governmental or other similar authorities designated from time to time by the national or territorial government of the jurisdiction in which Registrar is established or maintains a physical office. Well-founded reports of Illegal Activity submitted to these contacts must be reviewed within 24 hours by an individual who is empowered by Registrar to take necessary and appropriate actions in response to the report. In responding to any such reports, Registrar will not be required to take any action in contravention of applicable law.

3.18.3 Registrar shall publish on its website a description of its procedures for the receipt, handling, and tracking of abuse reports. Registrar shall document its receipt of and response to all such reports. Registrar shall maintain the records related to such reports for the shorter of two (2) years or the longest period permitted by applicable law, and during such period, shall provide such records to ICANN upon reasonable notice.

3.19 Additional Technical Specifications to Implement IPV6, DNSSEC and IDNs. Registrar shall comply with the Additional Registrar Operations Specification attached hereto.

3.20 Notice of Bankruptcy, Convictions and Security Breaches. Registrar will give ICANN notice within seven (7) days of (i) the commencement of any of the proceedings referenced in Section 5.5.8. (ii) the occurrence of any of the matters specified in Section 5.5.2 or Section 5.5.3 or (iii) any unauthorized access to or disclosure of registrant account

information or registration data. The notice required pursuant to Subsection (iii) shall include a detailed description of the type of unauthorized access, how it occurred, the number of registrants affected, and any action taken by Registrar in response.

**3.21 Obligations of Registrars Affiliated with Registry Operators.** In the event Registrar is Affiliated with any Registry Operator or back-end registry operator (an “Affiliated Relationship”) during the Term of this Agreement, Registrar shall comply with all ICANN Specifications and Policies that may be developed from time to time with respect to such Affiliated Relationships, and will notify ICANN within thirty (30) days of the occurrence of the event that created the Affiliate relationship (e.g., the closing of any merger, acquisition or other transaction, or the execution of any agreement, in each case, giving rise to such Affiliated Relationship).

**3.22 Cooperation with Emergency Registry Service Providers.** In the event that ICANN transitions the operation of a registry for a gTLD in which Registrar sponsors Registered Names to an emergency registry service provider, Registrar shall cooperate in all reasonable respects with such emergency registry service provider, including by entering into a registry-registrar agreement with such provider necessary to effect the transition and by providing all Registered Name Holder data reasonably requested by such emergency operator for the purpose of facilitating an efficient transition of the registry for the gTLD.

#### **4. PROCEDURES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OR REVISION OF SPECIFICATIONS AND POLICIES.**

**4.1 Compliance with Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies.** During the Term of this Agreement, Registrar shall comply with and implement all Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies in existence as of the Effective Date found at <https://www.icann.org/consensus-policies>, and as may in the future be developed and adopted in accordance with the ICANN Bylaws, provided such future Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies are adopted in accordance with the procedures and relate to those topics and subject to those limitations set forth in the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification to this Agreement.

#### **5. TERM, TERMINATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION.**

**5.1 Term of Agreement.** This Agreement shall be effective on the Effective Date and shall have an initial term running until the Expiration Date, unless sooner terminated.

**5.2 Renewal.** This Agreement and Registrar’s Accreditation will be renewed for successive periods of five (5) years upon the Expiration Date and the expiration of each successive five-year term thereafter under the terms and conditions of this Agreement, unless:

5.2.1 at the time of such renewal, Registrar no longer meets the ICANN registrar Accreditation criteria then in effect;

5.2.2 Registrar is not in compliance with its obligations under this Agreement at the time of the Expiration Date or at the expiration of any successive five (5) year term thereafter;

5.2.3 Registrar has been given notice by ICANN of three (3) or more material breaches of this Agreement within the two (2) years preceding the Expiration Date or the date of expiration of any successive five (5) year term thereafter; or

5.2.4 this Agreement has terminated prior to the Expiration Date or the expiration date of any successive five (5) year term thereafter.

In the event Registrar intends to renew this Agreement pursuant to this Section 5.2, Registrar shall provide ICANN written notice thereof during the period that is no more than ninety (90) days and no less than sixty (60) days prior to the Expiration Date and each successive five (5) year term thereafter. The provision of such notice shall not be a condition to renewal hereunder. Pursuant to its customary practices (as may be modified by ICANN), ICANN will provide notice to Registrar of the Expiration Date and the date of expiration of any subsequent term hereunder.

5.3 Right to Substitute Updated Agreement. In the event that, during the Term of this Agreement, ICANN adopts a revised form Registrar accreditation agreement (the "Updated RAA"), Registrar (provided it has not received (i) a notice of breach that it has not cured or (ii) a notice of termination or suspension of this Agreement under this Section 5) may elect, by giving ICANN written notice, to enter into the Updated RAA. In the event of such election, Registrar and ICANN shall as soon as practicable enter into the Updated RAA for the term specified in the Updated RAA, and this Agreement will be deemed terminated.

5.4 Termination of Agreement by Registrar. This Agreement may be terminated before its expiration by Registrar by giving ICANN thirty (30) days written notice. Upon such termination by Registrar, Registrar shall not be entitled to any refund of fees paid to ICANN pursuant to this Agreement.

5.5 Termination of Agreement by ICANN. This Agreement may be terminated before its expiration by ICANN in any of the following circumstances:

5.5.1 There was a material misrepresentation, material inaccuracy, or materially misleading statement in Registrar's application for Accreditation or renewal of Accreditation or any material accompanying the application.

5.5.2 Registrar:

5.5.2.1 is convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction of a felony or other serious offense related to financial activities, or is judged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have:

5.5.2.1.1 committed fraud,

5.5.2.1.2 committed a breach of fiduciary duty, or

5.5.2.1.3 with actual knowledge (or through gross negligence) permitted Illegal Activity in the registration or use of domain names or in the provision to Registrar by any Registered Name Holder of inaccurate registration data; or

5.5.2.1.4 failed to comply with the terms of an order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction relating to the use of domain names sponsored by Registrar;

or is the subject of a judicial determination that ICANN reasonably deems as the substantive equivalent of any of the foregoing; or

5.5.2.2 is disciplined by the government of its domicile for conduct involving dishonesty or misuse of funds of others; or

5.5.2.3 is the subject of a non-interlocutory order issued by a court or arbitral tribunal, in each case of competent jurisdiction, finding that Registrar has, directly or through an Affiliate, committed a specific violation(s) of applicable national law or governmental regulation relating to cybersquatting or its equivalent; or

5.5.2.4 is found by ICANN, based on its review of the findings of arbitral tribunals, to have been engaged, either directly or through its Affiliate, in a pattern and practice of trafficking in or use of domain names identical or confusingly similar to a trademark or service mark of a third party in which the Registered Name Holder has no rights or legitimate interest, which trademarks have been registered and are being used in bad faith.

5.5.3 Registrar knowingly employs any officer that is convicted of a misdemeanor related to financial activities or of any felony, or is judged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have committed fraud or breach of fiduciary duty, or is the subject of a judicial determination that ICANN reasonably deems as the substantive equivalent of any of the foregoing and such officer is not terminated within thirty (30) days of Registrar's knowledge of the foregoing; or any member of Registrar's board of directors or similar governing body is convicted of a misdemeanor related to financial activities or of any felony, or is judged by a court of competent jurisdiction to have committed fraud or breach of fiduciary duty, or is the subject of a judicial determination that ICANN reasonably deems as the substantive equivalent of any of the foregoing and such member is not removed from Registrar's board of directors or similar governing body within thirty (30) days of Registrar's knowledge of the foregoing.

5.5.4 Registrar fails to cure any breach of this Agreement within twenty-one (21) days after ICANN gives Registrar notice of the breach.



5.5.5 Registrar fails to comply with a ruling granting specific performance under Sections 5.7 or 7.1.

5.5.6 Registrar has been in fundamental and material breach of its obligations under this Agreement at least three (3) times within a twelve (12) month period.

5.5.7 Registrar continues acting in a manner that ICANN has reasonably determined endangers the stability or operational integrity of the Internet after receiving three (3) days' notice of that determination.

5.5.8 (i) Registrar makes an assignment for the benefit of creditors or similar act; (ii) attachment, garnishment or similar proceedings are commenced against Registrar, which proceedings are a material threat to Registrar's ability to provide Registrar Services for gTLDs, and are not dismissed within sixty (60) days of their commencement; (iii) a trustee, receiver, liquidator or equivalent is appointed in place of Registrar or maintains control over any of Registrar's property; (iv) execution is levied upon any property of Registrar, (v) proceedings are instituted by or against Registrar under any bankruptcy, insolvency, reorganization or other laws relating to the relief of debtors and such proceedings are not dismissed within thirty (30) days of their commencement, or (vi) Registrar files for protection under the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. Section 101 et seq., or a foreign equivalent or liquidates, dissolves or otherwise discontinues its operations.

5.6 Termination Procedures. This Agreement may be terminated in circumstances described in Subsections 5.5.1 through 5.5.6 above only upon fifteen (15) days written notice to Registrar (in the case of Subsection 5.5.4 occurring after Registrar's failure to cure), with Registrar being given an opportunity during that time to initiate arbitration under Subsection 5.8 to determine the appropriateness of termination under this Agreement. This Agreement may be terminated immediately upon notice to Registrar in circumstances described in Subsections 5.5.7 and 5.5.8.

5.7 Suspension.

5.7.1 Upon the occurrence of any of the circumstances set forth in Section 5.5, ICANN may, in ICANN's sole discretion, upon delivery of a notice pursuant to Subsection 5.7.2, elect to suspend Registrar's ability to create or sponsor new Registered Names or initiate inbound transfers of Registered Names for any or all gTLDs for a period of up to a twelve (12) months following the effectiveness of such suspension. Suspension of a Registrar does not preclude ICANN's ability to issue a notice of termination in accordance with the notice requirements of Section 5.6.

5.7.2 Any suspension under Subsections 5.7.1 will be effective upon fifteen (15) days written notice to Registrar, with Registrar being given an opportunity during that time to initiate arbitration under Subsection 5.8 to determine the appropriateness of suspension under this Agreement.

5.7.3 Upon suspension, Registrar shall notify users, by posting a prominent notice on its web site, that it is unable to create or sponsor new gTLD domain name registrations or initiate inbound transfers of Registered Names. Registrar's notice shall include a link to the notice of suspension from ICANN.

5.7.4 If Registrar acts in a manner that ICANN reasonably determines endangers the stability or operational integrity of the Internet and upon notice does not immediately cure, ICANN may suspend this Agreement for five (5) working days pending ICANN's application for more extended specific performance or injunctive relief under Subsection 7.1. Suspension of the Agreement under this Subsection may, at ICANN's sole discretion, preclude Registrar from (i) providing Registration Services for gTLDs delegated by ICANN on or after the date of delivery of such notice to Registrar and (ii) creating or sponsoring new Registered Names or initiating inbound transfers of Registered Names for any gTLDs. Registrar must also post the statement specified in Subsection 5.7.3.

5.8 Resolution of Disputes Under this Agreement. Subject to the limitations set forth in Section 6 and Section 7.4, disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement, including (1) disputes arising from ICANN's failure to renew Registrar's Accreditation and (2) requests for specific performance, shall be resolved in a court of competent jurisdiction or, at the election of either party, by an arbitration conducted as provided in this Subsection 5.8 pursuant to the International Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"). The arbitration shall be conducted in English and shall occur in Los Angeles County, California, USA. Except as set forth in Section 7.4.5, there shall be one (1) arbitrator agreed by the parties from a list of AAA arbitrators, or if parties do not agree on an arbitrator within fifteen (15) days of the AAA request that the parties designate an arbitrator, the AAA shall choose and appoint an arbitrator, paying due regard to the arbitrator's knowledge of the DNS. The parties shall bear the costs of the arbitration in equal shares, subject to the right of the arbitrator to reallocate the costs in their award as provided in the AAA rules. The parties shall bear their own attorneys' fees in connection with the arbitration, and the arbitrator may not reallocate the attorneys' fees in conjunction with their award. The arbitrator shall render its decision within ninety (90) days of the conclusion of the arbitration hearing. In the event Registrar initiates arbitration to contest the appropriateness of termination of this Agreement by ICANN pursuant to Section 5.5 or suspension of Registrar by ICANN pursuant to Section 5.7.1, Registrar may at the same time request that the arbitration panel stay the termination or suspension until the arbitration decision is rendered. The arbitration panel shall order a stay: (i) upon showing by Registrar that continued operations would not be harmful to consumers or the public interest, or (ii) upon appointment by the arbitration panel of a qualified third party to manage the operations of Registrar until the arbitration decision is rendered. In furtherance of sub-clause (ii) above, the arbitration panel is hereby granted all necessary authority to appoint a qualified third-party to manage the operations of Registrar upon Registrar's request and if the panel deems it appropriate. In selecting the third-party manager, the arbitration panel shall take into consideration, but shall not be bound by, any expressed preferences of Registrar. Any order granting a request for a stay must be issued within fourteen (14) days after the filing of the arbitration. If an order granting a request

for a stay is not issued within fourteen (14) days, ICANN has the right to proceed with the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 5.5 or suspension of Registrar pursuant to Section 5.7.1. In the event Registrar initiates arbitration to contest an Independent Review Panel's decision under Subsection 4.3.3 sustaining the ICANN Board of Director's determination that a specification or policy is supported by consensus, Registrar may at the same time request that the arbitration panel stay the requirement that it comply with the policy until the arbitration decision is rendered, and that request shall have the effect of staying the requirement until the decision or until the arbitration panel has granted an ICANN request for lifting of the stay. In all litigation involving ICANN concerning this Agreement (whether in a case where arbitration has not been elected or to enforce an arbitration award), jurisdiction and exclusive venue for such litigation shall be in a court located in Los Angeles, California, USA; however, the parties shall also have the right to enforce a judgment of such a court in any court of competent jurisdiction. For the purpose of aiding the arbitration and/or preserving the rights of the parties during the pendency of an arbitration, the parties shall have the right to seek temporary or preliminary injunctive relief from the arbitration panel or in a court located in Los Angeles, California, USA, which shall not be a waiver of this arbitration agreement.

5.9 Limitations on Monetary Remedies for Violations of this Agreement. ICANN's aggregate monetary liability for violations of this Agreement shall not exceed an amount equal to the Accreditation fees paid by Registrar to ICANN under Subsection 3.9 of this Agreement during the preceding twelve-month period. Registrar's monetary liability to ICANN for violations of this Agreement shall be limited to Accreditation fees owing to ICANN under this Agreement and, except in the case of a good faith disagreement concerning the interpretation of this agreement, reasonable payment to ICANN for the reasonable and direct costs including attorney fees, staff time, and other related expenses associated with legitimate efforts to enforce Registrar compliance with this agreement and costs incurred by ICANN to respond to or mitigate the negative consequences of such behavior for Registered Name Holders and the Internet community. In the event of repeated willful material breaches of the agreement, Registrar shall be liable for sanctions of up to five (5) times ICANN's enforcement costs, but otherwise in no event shall either party be liable for special, indirect, incidental, punitive, exemplary, or consequential damages for any violation of this Agreement.

## **6. AMENDMENT AND WAIVER.**

6.1 If the ICANN Board of Directors determines that an amendment to this Agreement (including to the Specifications referred to herein, unless such Specifications expressly do not permit amendment thereto) and all other registrar agreements between ICANN and the Applicable Registrars (the "Applicable Registrar Agreements") is desirable (each, a "Special Amendment"), ICANN may adopt a Special Amendment pursuant to the requirements of and process set forth in this Section 6; provided that a Special Amendment may not be a Restricted Amendment.

6.2 Prior to submitting a Special Amendment for Registrar Approval, ICANN shall first consult in good faith with the Working Group regarding the form and substance of such

Special Amendment. The duration of such consultation shall be reasonably determined by ICANN based on the substance of the Special Amendment. Following such consultation, ICANN may propose the adoption of a Special Amendment by publicly posting such amendment on its website for no less than thirty (30) calendar days (the "Posting Period") and providing notice of such proposed amendment to the Applicable Registrars in accordance with Section 7.6. ICANN will consider the public comments submitted on a Special Amendment during the Posting Period (including comments submitted by the Applicable Registrars).

6.3 If, within one hundred eighty (180) calendar days following the expiration of the Posting Period (the "Approval Period"), the ICANN Board of Directors approves a Special Amendment (which may be in a form different than submitted for public comment, but must address the subject matter of the Special Amendment posted for public comment, as modified to reflect and/or address input from the Working Group and public comments), ICANN shall provide notice of, and submit, such Special Amendment for approval or disapproval by the Applicable Registrars. If, during the sixty (60) calendar day period following the date ICANN provides such notice to the Applicable Registrars, such Special Amendment receives Registrar Approval, such Special Amendment shall be deemed approved (an "Approved Amendment") by the Applicable Registrars, and shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement on the date that is sixty (60) calendar days following the date ICANN provided notice of the approval of such Approved Amendment to Registrar (the "Amendment Effective Date"). In the event that a Special Amendment does not receive Registrar Approval, the Special Amendment shall be deemed not approved by the Applicable Registrars (a "Rejected Amendment"). A Rejected Amendment will have no effect on the terms and conditions of this Agreement, except as set forth below.

6.4 If the ICANN Board of Directors reasonably determines that a Rejected Amendment falls within the subject matter categories set forth in Section 1.2 of the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification, the ICANN Board of Directors may adopt a resolution (the date such resolution is adopted is referred to herein as the "Resolution Adoption Date") requesting an Issue Report (as such term is defined in ICANN's Bylaws) by the Generic Names Supporting Organization (the "GNSO") regarding the substance of such Rejected Amendment. The policy development process undertaken by the GNSO pursuant to such requested Issue Report is referred to herein as a "PDP." If such PDP results in a Final Report supported by a GNSO Supermajority (as defined in ICANN's Bylaws) that either (i) recommends adoption of the Rejected Amendment as Consensus Policy or (ii) recommends against adoption of the Rejected Amendment as Consensus Policy, and, in the case of (i) above, the Board adopts such Consensus Policy, Registrar shall comply with its obligations pursuant to Section 4 of this Agreement. In either case, ICANN will abandon the Rejected Amendment and it will have no effect on the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this Section 6.4, the ICANN Board of Directors shall not be required to initiate a PDP with respect to a Rejected Amendment if, at any time in the twelve (12) month period preceding the submission of such Rejected Amendment for Registrar Approval pursuant to Section 6.3, the subject matter of such Rejected Amendment was the subject of a concluded or otherwise abandoned or terminated PDP that did not result in a GNSO Supermajority recommendation.

6.5 If (i) a Rejected Amendment does not fall within the subject matter categories set forth in Section 1.2 of the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification, (ii) the subject matter of a Rejected Amendment was, at any time in the twelve (12) month period preceding the submission of such Rejected Amendment for Registrar Approval pursuant to Section 6.3, the subject of a concluded or otherwise abandoned or terminated PDP that did not result in a GNSO Supermajority recommendation, or (iii) a PDP does not result in a Final Report supported by a GNSO Supermajority that either (a) recommends adoption of the Rejected Amendment as Consensus Policy or (b) recommends against adoption of the Rejected Amendment as Consensus Policy (or such PDP has otherwise been abandoned or terminated for any reason), then, in any such case, such Rejected Amendment may still be adopted and become effective in the manner described below. In order for the Rejected Amendment to be adopted, the following requirements must be satisfied:

6.5.1 the subject matter of the Rejected Amendment must be within the scope of ICANN's mission and consistent with a balanced application of its core values (as described in ICANN's Bylaws);

6.5.2 the Rejected Amendment must be justified by a Substantial and Compelling Reason in the Public Interest, must be likely to promote such interest, taking into account competing public and private interests that are likely to be affected by the Rejected Amendment, and must be narrowly tailored and no broader than reasonably necessary to address such Substantial and Compelling Reason in the Public Interest;

6.5.3 to the extent the Rejected Amendment prohibits or requires conduct or activities, imposes material costs on the Applicable Registrars, and/or materially reduces public access to domain name services, the Rejected Amendment must be the least restrictive means reasonably available to address the Substantial and Compelling Reason in the Public Interest;

6.5.4 the ICANN Board of Directors must submit the Rejected Amendment, along with a written explanation of the reasoning related to its determination that the Rejected Amendment meets the requirements set out in subclauses (i) through (iii) above, for public comment for a period of no less than thirty (30) calendar days; and

6.5.5 following such public comment period, the ICANN Board of Directors must (i) engage in consultation (or direct ICANN management to engage in consultation) with the Working Group, subject matter experts, members of the GNSO, relevant advisory committees and other interested stakeholders with respect to such Rejected Amendment for a period of no less than sixty (60) calendar days; and (ii) following such consultation, reapprove the Rejected Amendment (which may be in a form different than submitted for Registrar Approval, but must address the subject matter of the Rejected Amendment, as modified to reflect and/or address input from the Working Group and public comments) by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the ICANN Board of Directors eligible to vote on such

matter, taking into account any ICANN policy affecting such eligibility, including ICANN's Conflict of Interest Policy (a "Board Amendment").

Such Board Amendment shall, subject to Section 6.6, be deemed an Approved Amendment, and shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement on the date that is sixty (60) calendar days following the date ICANN provided notice of the approval of such Board Amendment to Registrar (which effective date shall be deemed the Amendment Effective Date hereunder). Notwithstanding the foregoing, a Board Amendment may not amend the registrar fees charged by ICANN hereunder, or amend this Section 6.

6.6 Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6.5, a Board Amendment shall not be deemed an Approved Amendment if, during the thirty (30) calendar day period following the approval by the ICANN Board of Directors of the Board Amendment, the Working Group, on the behalf of the Applicable Registrars, submits to the ICANN Board of Directors an alternative to the Board Amendment (an "Alternative Amendment") that meets the following requirements:

6.6.1 sets forth the precise text proposed by the Working Group to amend this Agreement in lieu of the Board Amendment;

6.6.2 addresses the Substantial and Compelling Reason in the Public Interest identified by the ICANN Board of Directors as the justification for the Board Amendment; and

6.6.3 compared to the Board Amendment is: (a) more narrowly tailored to address such Substantial and Compelling Reason in the Public Interest, and (b) to the extent the Alternative Amendment prohibits or requires conduct or activities, imposes material costs on Affected Registrars, or materially reduces access to domain name services, is a less restrictive means to address the Substantial and Compelling Reason in the Public Interest.

Any proposed amendment that does not meet the requirements of subclauses 6.6.1 through 6.6.3 in the immediately preceding sentence shall not be considered an Alternative Amendment hereunder and therefore shall not supersede or delay the effectiveness of the Board Amendment. If, following the submission of the Alternative Amendment to the ICANN Board of Directors, the Alternative Amendment receives Registrar Approval, the Alternative Amendment shall supersede the Board Amendment and shall be deemed an Approved Amendment hereunder (and shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement on the date that is sixty (60) calendar days following the date ICANN provided notice of the approval of such Alternative Amendment to Registrar, which effective date shall be deemed the Amendment Effective Date hereunder), unless, within a period of sixty (60) calendar days following the date that the Working Group notifies the ICANN Board of Directors of Registrar Approval of such Alternative Amendment (during which time ICANN shall engage with the Working Group with respect to the Alternative Amendment), the ICANN Board of Directors by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members of the ICANN Board of Directors eligible to vote on such matter, taking into account any

ICANN policy affecting such eligibility, including ICANN's Conflict of Interest Policy, rejects the Alternative Amendment. If (A) the Alternative Amendment does not receive Registrar Approval within thirty (30) days of submission of such Alternative Amendment to the Applicable Registrars (and the Working Group shall notify ICANN of the date of such submission), or (B) the ICANN Board of Directors rejects the Alternative Amendment by such two-thirds vote, the Board Amendment (and not the Alternative Amendment) shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement on the date that is sixty (60) calendar days following the date ICANN provided notice to Registrar (which effective date shall be deemed the Amendment Effective Date hereunder). If the ICANN Board of Directors rejects an Alternative Amendment, the board shall publish a written rationale setting forth its analysis of the criteria set forth in Sections 6.6.1 through 6.6.3. The ability of the ICANN Board of Directors to reject an Alternative Amendment hereunder does not relieve the Board of the obligation to ensure that any Board Amendment meets the criteria set forth in Section 6.5.1 through 6.5.5.

6.7 In the event that Registrar believes an Approved Amendment does not meet the substantive requirements set out in this Section 6 or has been adopted in contravention of any of the procedural provisions of this Section 6, Registrar may challenge the adoption of such Special Amendment pursuant to the dispute resolution provisions set forth in Section 5.8, except that such arbitration shall be conducted by a three-person arbitration panel. Any such challenge must be brought within sixty (60) calendar days following the date ICANN provided notice to Registrar of the Approved Amendment, and ICANN may consolidate all challenges brought by registrars (including Registrar) into a single proceeding. The Approved Amendment will be deemed not to have amended this Agreement during the pendency of the dispute resolution process.

6.8 Registrar may apply in writing to ICANN for an exemption from the Approved Amendment (each such request submitted by Registrar hereunder, an "Exemption Request") during the thirty (30) calendar day period following the date ICANN provided notice to Registrar of such Approved Amendment.

6.8.1 Each Exemption Request will set forth the basis for such request and provide detailed support for an exemption from the Approved Amendment. An Exemption Request may also include a detailed description and support for any alternatives to, or a variation of, the Approved Amendment proposed by such Registrar.

6.8.2 An Exemption Request may only be granted upon a clear and convincing showing by Registrar that compliance with the Approved Amendment conflicts with applicable laws or would have a material adverse effect on the long-term financial condition or results of operations of Registrar. No Exemption Request will be granted if ICANN determines, in its reasonable discretion, that granting such Exemption Request would be materially harmful to registrants or result in the denial of a direct benefit to registrants.

6.8.3 Within ninety (90) calendar days of ICANN's receipt of an Exemption Request, ICANN shall either approve (which approval may be conditioned or consist

of alternatives to or a variation of the Approved Amendment) or deny the Exemption Request in writing, during which time the Approved Amendment will not amend this Agreement.

6.8.4 If the Exemption Request is approved by ICANN, the Approved Amendment will not amend this Agreement; provided, that any conditions, alternatives or variations of the Approved Amendment required by ICANN shall be effective and, to the extent applicable, will amend this Agreement as of the Amendment Effective Date. If such Exemption Request is denied by ICANN, the Approved Amendment will amend this Agreement as of the Amendment Effective Date (or, if such date has passed, such Approved Amendment shall be deemed effective immediately on the date of such denial), provided that Registrar may, within thirty (30) calendar days following receipt of ICANN's determination, appeal ICANN's decision to deny the Exemption Request pursuant to the dispute resolution procedures set forth in Section 5.8.

6.8.5 The Approved Amendment will be deemed not to have amended this Agreement during the pendency of the dispute resolution process. For avoidance of doubt, only Exemption Requests submitted by Registrar that are approved by ICANN pursuant to this Article 6 or through an arbitration decision pursuant to Section 5.8 shall exempt Registrar from any Approved Amendment, and no Exemption Request granted to any other Applicable Registrar (whether by ICANN or through arbitration), shall have any effect under this Agreement or exempt Registrar from any Approved Amendment.

6.9 Except as set forth in Section 4, Subsection 5.3, this Section 6, Section 7.4 and as otherwise set forth in this Agreement and the Specifications hereto, no amendment, supplement or modification of this Agreement or any provision hereof shall be binding unless executed in writing by both parties, and nothing in this Section 6 or Section 7.4 shall restrict ICANN and Registrar from entering into bilateral amendments and modifications to this Agreement negotiated solely between the two parties. No waiver of any provision of this Agreement shall be binding unless evidenced by a writing signed by the party waiving compliance with such provision. No waiver of any of the provisions of this Agreement or failure to enforce any of the provisions hereof shall be deemed or shall constitute a waiver of any other provision hereof, nor shall any such waiver constitute a continuing waiver unless otherwise expressly provided. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Section 6 or Section 7.4 shall be deemed to limit Registrar's obligation to comply with Section 4.

6.10 Notwithstanding anything in this Section 6 to the contrary, (a) if Registrar provides evidence to ICANN's reasonable satisfaction that the Approved Amendment would materially increase the cost of providing Registrar Services, then ICANN will allow up to one-hundred eighty (180) calendar days for the Approved Amendment to become effective with respect to Registrar, and (b) no Approved Amendment adopted pursuant to Section 6 shall become effective with respect to Registrar if Registrar provides ICANN with an irrevocable notice of termination pursuant to Section 5.4.



## **7. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.**

7.1 Specific Performance. While this Agreement is in effect, either party may seek specific performance of any provision of this Agreement in the manner provided in Section 5.8, provided the party seeking such performance is not in material breach of its obligations.

7.2 Handling by ICANN of Registrar-Supplied Data. Before receiving any Personal Data from Registrar, ICANN shall specify to Registrar in writing the purposes for and conditions under which ICANN intends to use the Personal Data. ICANN may from time to time provide Registrar with a revised specification of such purposes and conditions, which specification shall become effective no fewer than thirty (30) days after it is provided to Registrar. ICANN shall not use Personal Data provided by Registrar for a purpose or under conditions inconsistent with the specification in effect when the Personal Data was provided. ICANN shall take reasonable steps to avoid uses of the Personal Data by third parties inconsistent with the specification.

### 7.3 Assignment; Change of Ownership or Management.

7.3.1 Except as set forth in this Section 7.3.1, either party may assign or transfer this Agreement only with the prior written consent of the other party, which shall not be unreasonably withheld. If ICANN fails to expressly provide or withhold its consent to any requested assignment (an "Assignment Request") of this Agreement by Registrar within thirty (30) calendar days of ICANN's receipt of notice of such Assignment Request (or, if ICANN has requested additional information from Registrar in connection with its review of such request, sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of all requested written information regarding such request) from Registrar, ICANN shall be deemed to have consented to such requested assignment. Notwithstanding the foregoing, (i) ICANN may assign this Agreement without the consent of Registrar upon approval of the ICANN Board of Directors in conjunction with a reorganization, reconstitution or re-incorporation of ICANN upon such assignee's express assumption of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, (ii) Registrar may assign this Agreement without the consent of ICANN to a wholly-owned subsidiary of Registrar upon such subsidiary's express assumption of the terms and conditions of this Agreement, and (iii) ICANN shall be deemed to have consented to an Assignment Request in which the assignee associated with such Assignment Request is a party to a Registrar Accreditation Agreement with ICANN on the terms set forth in this Agreement (provided that such assignee is then in compliance with the terms and conditions of such Registrar Accreditation Agreement in all material respects), unless ICANN provides to Registrar a written objection to such Assignment Request within ten (10) calendar days of ICANN's receipt of notice of such Assignment Request pursuant to this Section 7.3.1.

7.3.2 To the extent that an entity acquires a Controlling interest in Registrar's stock, assets or business, Registrar shall provide ICANN notice within seven (7) days of such an acquisition. Such notification shall include a statement that affirms that

Registrar meets the Specification or Policy on Accreditation criteria then in effect, and is in compliance with its obligations under this Agreement. Within thirty (30) days of such notification, ICANN may request additional information from Registrar establishing compliance with this Agreement, in which case Registrar must supply the requested information within fifteen (15) days. Any disputes concerning Registrar's continued Accreditation shall be resolved pursuant to Section 5.8.

#### 7.4 Negotiation Process.

7.4.1 If either the Chief Executive Officer of ICANN ("CEO") or the Chairperson of the Registrar Stakeholder Group ("Chair") desires to discuss any revision(s) to this Agreement, the CEO or Chair, as applicable, shall provide written notice to the other person, which shall set forth in reasonable detail the proposed revisions to this Agreement (a "Negotiation Notice"). Notwithstanding the foregoing, neither the CEO nor the Chair may (i) propose revisions to this Agreement that modify any Consensus Policy then existing, (ii) propose revisions to this Agreement pursuant to this Section 7.4 on or before June 30, 2014, or (iii) propose revisions or submit a Negotiation Notice more than once during any twelve month period beginning on July 1, 2014.

7.4.2 Following receipt of the Negotiation Notice by either the CEO or the Chair, ICANN and the Working Group shall consult in good faith negotiations regarding the form and substance of the proposed revisions to this Agreement, which shall be in the form of a proposed amendment to this Agreement (the "Proposed Revisions"), for a period of at least ninety (90) calendar days (unless a resolution is earlier reached) and attempt to reach a mutually acceptable agreement relating to the Proposed Revisions (the "Discussion Period").

7.4.3 If, following the conclusion of the Discussion Period, an agreement is reached on the Proposed Revisions, ICANN shall post the mutually agreed Proposed Revisions on its website for public comment for no less than thirty (30) calendar days (the "Posting Period") and provide notice of such revisions to all Applicable Registrars in accordance with Section 7.6. ICANN and the Working Group will consider the public comments submitted on the Proposed Revisions during the Posting Period (including comments submitted by the Applicable Registrars). Following the conclusion of the Posting Period, the Proposed Revisions shall be submitted for Registrar Approval and approval by the ICANN Board of Directors. If such approvals are obtained, the Proposed Revisions shall be deemed an Approved Amendment by the Applicable Registrars and ICANN, and shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement upon sixty (60) calendar days' notice from ICANN to Registrar.

7.4.4 If, following the conclusion of the Discussion Period, an agreement is not reached between ICANN and the Working Group on the Proposed Revisions, either the CEO or the Chair may provide the other person written notice (the "Mediation Notice") requiring each party to attempt to resolve the disagreements related to the Proposed Revisions through impartial, facilitative (non-evaluative) mediation in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth below. In the event that a

Mediation Notice is provided, ICANN and the Working Group shall, within fifteen (15) calendar days thereof, simultaneously post the text of their desired version of the Proposed Revisions and a position paper with respect thereto on ICANN's website.

7.4.4.1 The mediation shall be conducted by a single mediator selected by the parties. If the parties cannot agree on a mediator within fifteen (15) calendar days following receipt by the CEO or Chair, as applicable, of the Mediation Notice, the parties will promptly select a mutually acceptable mediation provider entity, which entity shall, as soon as practicable following such entity's selection, designate a mediator, who is a licensed attorney with general knowledge of contract law and, to the extent necessary to mediate the particular dispute, general knowledge of the domain name system. Any mediator must confirm in writing that he or she is not, and will not become during the term of the mediation, an employee, partner, executive officer, director, or security holder of ICANN or an Applicable Registrar. If such confirmation is not provided by the appointed mediator, then a replacement mediator shall be appointed pursuant to this Section 7.4.4.1.

7.4.4.2 The mediator shall conduct the mediation in accordance with the rules and procedures for facilitative mediation that he or she determines following consultation with the parties. The parties shall discuss the dispute in good faith and attempt, with the mediator's assistance, to reach an amicable resolution of the dispute.

7.4.4.3 Each party shall bear its own costs in the mediation. The parties shall share equally the fees and expenses of the mediator.

7.4.4.4 If an agreement is reached during the mediation, ICANN shall post the mutually agreed Proposed Revisions on its website for the Posting Period and provide notice to all Applicable Registrars in accordance with Section 7.6. ICANN and the Working Group will consider the public comments submitted on the agreed Proposed Revisions during the Posting Period (including comments submitted by the Applicable Registrars). Following the conclusion of the Posting Period, the Proposed Revisions shall be submitted for Registrar Approval and approval by the ICANN Board of Directors. If such approvals are obtained, the Proposed Revisions shall be deemed an Approved Amendment by the Applicable Registrars and ICANN, and shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement upon sixty (60) days' notice from ICANN to Registrar.

7.4.4.5 If the parties have not resolved the dispute for any reason by the date that is ninety (90) calendar days following receipt by the CEO or Chair, as applicable, of the Mediation Notice, the mediation shall automatically terminate (unless extended by agreement of the parties). The mediator shall deliver to the parties a definition of the issues that could be considered in

future arbitration, if invoked. Those issues are subject to the limitations set forth in Section 7.4.5.2 below.

7.4.5 If, following mediation, ICANN and the Working Group have not reached an agreement on the Proposed Revisions, either the CEO or the Chair may provide the other person written notice (an “Arbitration Notice”) requiring ICANN and the Applicable Registry Operators to resolve the dispute through binding arbitration in accordance with the arbitration provisions of Section 5.8, subject to the requirements and limitations of this Section 7.4.5.

7.4.5.1 If an Arbitration Notice is sent, the mediator’s definition of issues, along with the Proposed Revisions (be those from ICANN, Registrars or both) shall be posted for public comment on ICANN’s website for a period of no less than thirty (30) calendar days. ICANN and the Working Group will consider the public comments submitted on the Proposed Revisions during the Posting Period (including comments submitted by the Applicable Registrars), and information regarding such comments and consideration shall be provided to a three (3) person arbitrator panel. Each party may modify its Proposed Revisions before and after the Posting Period. The arbitration proceeding may not commence prior to the closing of such public comment period, and ICANN may consolidate all challenges brought by registrars (including Registrar) into a single proceeding. Except as set forth in this Section 7.4.5.1, the arbitration shall be conducted pursuant to Section 5.8.

7.4.5.2 No dispute regarding the Proposed Revisions may be submitted for arbitration to the extent the subject matter of the Proposed Revisions (i) relates to Consensus Policy, (ii) falls within the subject matter categories set forth in Section 1.2 of the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification, or (iii) seeks to amend any of the following provisions or Specifications of this Agreement: Sections 2, 4 and 6; subsections 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.14, 3.19, 3.21, 5.1, 5.2 or 5.3; and the Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies Specification, Data Retention Specification, RDDS Accuracy Program Specification, Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS) Specification or the Additional Registrar Operation Specification.

7.4.5.3 The mediator will brief the arbitrator panel regarding ICANN and the Working Group’s respective proposals relating to the Proposed Revisions.

7.4.5.4 No amendment to this Agreement relating to the Proposed Revisions may be submitted for arbitration by either the Working Group or ICANN, unless, in the case of the Working Group, the proposed amendment has received Registrar Approval and, in the case of ICANN, the proposed amendment has been approved by the ICANN Board of Directors.

7.4.5.5 In order for the arbitrator panel to approve either ICANN or the Working Group’s proposed amendment relating to the Proposed Revisions,

the arbitrator panel must conclude that such proposed amendment is consistent with a balanced application of ICANN's core values (as described in ICANN's Bylaws) and reasonable in light of the balancing of the costs and benefits to the business interests of the Applicable Registrars and ICANN (as applicable), and the public benefit sought to be achieved by the Proposed Revisions as set forth in such amendment. If the arbitrator panel concludes that either ICANN or the Working Group's proposed amendment relating to the Proposed Revisions meets the foregoing standard, such amendment shall be effective and deemed an amendment to this Agreement upon sixty (60) calendar days' notice from ICANN to Registrar and deemed an Approved Amendment hereunder.

7.4.6 With respect to an Approved Amendment relating to an amendment proposed by ICANN, Registrar may apply in writing to ICANN for an exemption from such amendment pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.8.

7.4.7 Notwithstanding anything in this Section 7.4 to the contrary, (a) if Registrar provides evidence to ICANN's reasonable satisfaction that the Approved Amendment would materially increase the cost of providing Registrar Services, then ICANN will allow up to one-hundred eighty (180) calendar days for the Approved Amendment to become effective with respect to Registrar, and (b) no Approved Amendment adopted pursuant to Section 7.4 shall become effective with respect to Registrar if Registrar provides ICANN with an irrevocable notice of termination pursuant to Section 5.4.

7.5 No Third-Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement shall not be construed to create any obligation by either ICANN or Registrar to any non-party to this Agreement, including any Registered Name Holder.

7.6 Notices and Designations. Except as provided in Section 4.4 and Section 6, all notices to be given under this Agreement shall be given in writing at the address of the appropriate party as set forth below, unless that party has given a notice of change of address in writing. Each party shall notify the other party within thirty (30) days of any change to its contact information. Any written notice required by this Agreement shall be deemed to have been properly given when delivered in person, when scheduled for delivery by internationally recognized courier service, or when delivered by electronic means followed by an affirmative confirmation of receipt by the recipient's email server. For any notice of a new Specification or Policy established in accordance with this Agreement, Registrar shall be afforded a reasonable period of time after notice of the establishment of such Specification or Policy is e-mailed to Registrar and posted on the ICANN website in which to comply with that specification, policy or program, taking into account any urgency involved. Notices and designations by ICANN under this Agreement shall be effective when written notice of them is deemed given to Registrar.

If to ICANN, addressed to:

Attention: Registrar Accreditation Notices  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
12025 Waterfront Drive, Suite 300  
Los Angeles, California 90094-2536 USA  
Telephone: +1 310 823-9358

With a required copy to: General Counsel  
Email: (As specified from time to time)

If to Registrar, addressed to:

[Registrar Name]  
[Courier Address]  
[Mailing Address]  
Attention: [contact person]  
Registrar Website URL: [URL]  
Telephone: [telephone number]  
e-mail: [e-mail address]

7.7 Dates and Times. All dates and times relevant to this Agreement or its performance shall be computed based on the date and time observed in Los Angeles, California, USA.

7.8 Language. All notices, designations, and Specifications or Policies made under this Agreement shall be in the English language.

7.9 Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

7.10 Entire Agreement. Except to the extent (a) expressly provided in a written agreement executed by both parties concurrently herewith or (b) of written assurances provided by Registrar to ICANN in connection with its Accreditation, this Agreement (including the specifications, which form part of it) constitutes the entire agreement of the parties pertaining to the Accreditation of Registrar and supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, negotiations and discussions, whether oral or written, between the parties on that subject.

7.11 Severability. If one or more provisions of this Agreement are held to be unenforceable under applicable law, the parties agree to renegotiate such provision in good faith. In the event that the parties cannot reach a mutually agreeable and enforceable replacement for such provision, then (a) such provision shall be excluded from this Agreement; (b) the balance of this Agreement shall be interpreted as if such provision were so excluded; and (c) the balance of this Agreement shall be enforceable in accordance with its terms.

\* \* \* \* \*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Agreement to be executed in duplicate by their duly authorized representatives.

**ICANN**

**[Registrar]**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

## RDDS ACCURACY PROGRAM SPECIFICATION

Registrar shall implement and comply with the requirements set forth in this Specification, as well as any commercially practical updates to this Specification that are developed by ICANN and the Registrar Stakeholder Group during the Term of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement.

1. Except as provided for in Section 3 below, within fifteen (15) days of (1) the registration of a Registered Name sponsored by Registrar, (2) the transfer of the sponsorship of a Registered Name to Registrar, or (3) any change in the Registered Name Holder with respect to any Registered Name sponsored by Registrar, Registrar will, with respect to RDDS information and the corresponding customer account holder contact information related to such Registered Name:
  - a. Validate the presence of data for all fields required under Subsection 3.3.1 of the Agreement in a proper format for the applicable country or territory.
  - b. Validate that all email addresses are in the proper format according to RFC 5322 (or its successors).
  - c. Validate that telephone numbers are in the proper format according to the ITU-T E.164 notation for international telephone numbers (or its equivalents or successors).
  - d. Validate that postal addresses are in a proper format for the applicable country or territory as defined in UPU Postal addressing format templates, the S42 address templates (as they may be updated) or other standard formats.
  - e. Validate that all postal address fields are consistent across fields (for example: street exists in city, city exists in state/province, city matches postal code) where such information is technically and commercially feasible for the applicable country or territory.
  - f. Verify:
    - i. the email address of the Registered Name Holder (and, if different, the Account Holder) by sending an email requiring an affirmative response through a tool-based authentication method such as providing a unique code that must be returned in a manner designated by Registrar, or
    - ii. the telephone number of the Registered Name Holder (and, if different, the Account Holder) by either (A) calling or sending an SMS to the Registered Name Holder's telephone number providing a unique code that must be returned in a manner designated by Registrar, or (B) calling the Registered Name Holder's telephone number and requiring the Registered Name Holder to provide a unique code that was sent to the Registered Name Holder via web, email or postal mail.



In either case, if Registrar does not receive an affirmative response from the Registered Name Holder, Registrar shall either verify the applicable contact information manually or suspend the registration, until such time as Registrar has verified the applicable contact information. If Registrar does not receive an affirmative response from the Account Holder, Registrar shall verify the applicable contact information manually, but is not required to suspend any registration.

2. Except as provided in Section 3 below, within fifteen (15) calendar days after receiving any changes to contact information in RDDS or the corresponding customer account contact information related to any Registered Name sponsored by Registrar (whether or not Registrar was previously required to perform the validation and verification requirements set forth in this Specification in respect of such Registered Name), Registrar will validate and, to the extent required by Section 1, verify the changed fields in the manner specified in Section 1 above. If Registrar does not receive an affirmative response from the Registered Name Holder providing the required verification, Registrar shall either verify the applicable contact information manually or suspend the registration, until such time as Registrar has verified the applicable contact information. If Registrar does not receive an affirmative response from the Account Holder, Registrar shall verify the applicable contact information manually, but is not required to suspend any registration.
3. Except as set forth in Section 4 below, Registrar is not required to perform the above validation and verification procedures in Section 1(a) through 1(f) above, if Registrar has already successfully completed the validation and verification procedures on the identical contact information and is not in possession of facts or knowledge of circumstances that suggest that the information is no longer valid.
4. If Registrar has any information suggesting that the contact information specified in Section 1(a) through 1(f) above is incorrect (such as Registrar receiving a bounced email notification or non-delivery notification message in connection with compliance with ICANN's WHOIS Data Reminder Policy or otherwise) for any Registered Name sponsored by Registrar (whether or not Registrar was previously required to perform the validation and verification requirements set forth in this Specification in respect of such Registered Name), Registrar must verify or re-verify, as applicable, the email address(es) as described in Section 1(f) (for example by requiring an affirmative response to a WHOIS Data Reminder Policy notice). If, within fifteen (15) calendar days after receiving any such information, Registrar does not receive an affirmative response from the Registered Name Holder providing the required verification, Registrar shall either verify the applicable contact information manually or suspend the registration, until such time as Registrar has verified the applicable contact information. If, within fifteen (15) calendar days after receiving any such information, Registrar does not receive an affirmative response from the customer paying for the Registered Name, if applicable, providing the required verification, Registrar shall verify the applicable contact information manually, but is not required to suspend any registration.

5. Upon the occurrence of a Registered Name Holder's willful provision of inaccurate or unreliable contact details as described in Subsection 3.7.7.1 of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement, its willful failure promptly to update information provided to Registrar, or its failure to respond for over fifteen (15) calendar days to inquiries by Registrar concerning the accuracy of contact details associated with the Registered Name Holder's registration, Registrar shall either terminate or suspend the Registered Name Holder's Registered Name or place such registration on clientHold and clientTransferProhibited, until such time as Registrar has validated the information provided by the Registered Name Holder.
6. The terms and conditions of this Specification shall be reviewed by ICANN in consultation with the Registrar Stakeholder Group on or about the first anniversary of the date that the form of the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement is first executed by a registrar.
7. Nothing within this Specification shall be deemed to require Registrar to perform verification or validation of any customer account holder information where the customer account holder does not have any Registered Names under sponsorship of Registrar.

# REGISTRATION DATA DIRECTORY SERVICES (RDDS) SPECIFICATION

## 1. Registration Data Directory Services.

### 1.1. Definitions.

- 1.1.1. **“Registration Data Access Protocol”** or **“RDAP”** is an Internet protocol that provides “RESTful” web services to retrieve registration metadata from Domain Name Registries and Regional Internet Registries.
- 1.1.2. **“RDAP Directory Services”** or **“RDAP-RDDS”** refers to a Registration Data Directory Service using the RDAP described in RFC 7481, RFC 7482, RFC 8521, RFC 9082 and RFC 9083, and its successor standards.
- 1.1.3. **“WHOIS-RDDS”** and **“WHOIS Data Directory Services”** refers to a Registration Data Directory Service using the RDAP described in STD 95 (<https://www.rfc-editor.org/refs/ref-std95.txt>), and its successor standards.
- 1.1.4. **“Registration Data Directory Services”** or **“RDDS”** refers to the collective of WHOIS Data Directory Services and RDAP Directory Services.
- 1.1.5. **“RDAP Ramp-Up Period”** means the period that ends 3 February 2024.
- 1.1.6. **“WHOIS Services Sunset Date”** means the date that is 360 days after the expiration of the RDAP Ramp-Up Period, provided that ICANN and the Registrar Stakeholder Group in the RAA may mutually agree to postpone the WHOIS Services Sunset Date. If either the Chief Executive Officer of ICANN (“CEO”) or the Chairperson of the Registrar Stakeholder Group (“Chair”) desires to discuss postponing the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, the CEO or Chair, as applicable, shall provide written notice to the other person, which shall set forth in reasonable detail the proposed postponement.

### 1.2. RDAP Directory Services

- 1.2.1. Registrar shall implement the most recent version of the RDAP Technical Implementation Guide and RDAP Response Profile posted at <https://icann.org/gtld-rdap-profile>. Registrar will implement new versions of the RDAP Technical Implementation Guide and RDAP Response Profile no later than one hundred eighty (180) calendar days after notification from ICANN.
- 1.2.2. Registrar shall provide lookup query support for:
  - 1.2.2.1. domain information as described in the section “Domain Path Segment Specification” of RFC 9082; and
  - 1.2.2.2. help information as described in the section “Help Path Segment Specification” of RFC 9082.

- 1.2.3. ICANN reserves the right to specify alternative formats and protocols approved as “Internet Standards” (as opposed to Informational or Experimental standards) through the applicable IETF processes with respect to registration data. Upon such specification, ICANN shall: (a) work collaboratively with gTLD registries and ICANN-accredited registrars to define all operational requirements necessary to implement the applicable standard; and (b) if applicable, initiate negotiations to define all reporting requirements (if any), and reasonable service level requirements commensurate with similarly situated services.

### **1.3. WHOIS Data Directory Services**

- 1.3.1. Until the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, Registrar will operate a WHOIS service in accordance with Subsection 3.3.9 of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement.
- 1.3.2. The format of responses shall follow a semi-free text format outlined below, followed by a blank line and a legal disclaimer specifying the rights of Registrar, and of the user querying the database.
- 1.3.3. Each data object shall be represented as a set of key/value pairs, with lines beginning with keys, followed by a colon and a space as delimiters, followed by the value.
- 1.3.4. For fields where more than one value exists, multiple numbered key/value pairs with the same key shall be allowed (for example to list multiple name servers). The first key/value pair after a blank line should be considered the start of a new record, and should be considered as identifying that record, and is used to group data, such as hostnames and IP addresses, or a domain name and registrant information, together.
- 1.3.5. Subject to the Interim Registration Data Policy for gTLDs as adopted by the ICANN Board in May 2019 and any other applicable Consensus and Temporary Policies, the fields specified in Subsection 1.4 below set forth the minimum output requirements.

### **1.4. Domain Name Data:**

1.4.1.1. **Query format:** whois -h whois.example-registrar.tld EXAMPLE.TLD

1.4.1.2. **Response format:**

Additional data elements can be added at the end of the text format outlined below. The data element may, at the option of Registrar, be followed by a blank line and a legal disclaimer specifying the rights of Registrar, and of the user querying the database (provided that any such legal disclaimer must be preceded by such blank line).

Domain Name: EXAMPLE.TLD

Registry Domain ID: D1234567-TLD  
Registrar WHOIS Server: whois.example-registrar.tld  
Registrar URL: http://www.example-registrar.tld  
Updated Date: 2009-05-29T20:13:00Z  
Creation Date: 2000-10-08T00:45:00Z  
Registrar Registration Expiration Date: 2010-10-08T00:44:59Z  
Registrar: EXAMPLE REGISTRAR LLC  
Registrar IANA ID: 5555555  
Registrar Abuse Contact Email: email@registrar.tld  
Registrar Abuse Contact Phone: +1.1235551234  
Reseller: EXAMPLE RESELLER<sup>1</sup>  
Domain Status: clientDeleteProhibited<sup>2</sup> https://icann.org/epp#clientDeleteProhibited  
Domain Status: clientRenewProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientRenewProhibited  
Domain Status: clientTransferProhibited https://icann.org/epp#clientTransferProhibited  
Registry Registrant ID: 5372808-ERL<sup>3</sup>  
Registrant Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT<sup>4</sup>  
Registrant Organization: EXAMPLE ORGANIZATION  
Registrant Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET  
Registrant City: ANYTOWN  
Registrant State/Province: AP<sup>5</sup>  
Registrant Postal Code: A1A1A1<sup>6</sup>  
Registrant Country: AA  
Registrant Phone: +1.5555551212  
Registrant Phone Ext: 1234<sup>7</sup>  
Registrant Fax: +1.5555551213  
Registrant Fax Ext: 4321  
Registrant Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD  
Registry Admin ID: 5372809-ERL<sup>8</sup>  
Admin Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT ADMINISTRATIVE  
Admin Organization: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT ORGANIZATION  
Admin Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET  
Admin City: ANYTOWN  
Admin State/Province: AP  
Admin Postal Code: A1A1A1  
Admin Country: AA  
Admin Phone: +1.5555551212  
Admin Phone Ext: 1234  
Admin Fax: +1.5555551213  
Admin Fax Ext: 1234  
Admin Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD  
Registry Tech ID: 5372811-ERL<sup>9</sup>  
Tech Name: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT TECHNICAL  
Tech Organization: EXAMPLE REGISTRANT LLC  
Tech Street: 123 EXAMPLE STREET  
Tech City: ANYTOWN  
Tech State/Province: AP  
Tech Postal Code: A1A1A1  
Tech Country: AA  
Tech Phone: +1.1235551234  
Tech Phone Ext: 1234  
Tech Fax: +1.5555551213  
Tech Fax Ext: 93  
Tech Email: EMAIL@EXAMPLE.TLD  
Name Server: NS01.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Data element may be deleted, provided that if the data element is used, it must appear at this location.

<sup>2</sup> Note: all applicable statuses must be displayed in the Whois output.

<sup>3</sup> May be left blank if not available from Registry.

<sup>4</sup> For the Registrant, Admin and Tech contact fields requiring a “Name” or “Organization”, the output must include either the name or organization (or both, if available).

<sup>5</sup> All “State/Province” fields may be left blank if not available.

<sup>6</sup> All “Postal Code” fields may be left blank if not available.

<sup>7</sup> All “Phone Ext”, “Fax” and “Fax Ext” fields may be left blank if not available.

<sup>8</sup> May be left blank if not available from Registry.

<sup>9</sup> May be left blank if not available from Registry.

<sup>10</sup> All associated nameservers must be listed.

Name Server: NS02.EXAMPLE-REGISTRAR.TLD  
DNSSEC: signedDelegation  
DNSSEC: unsigned  
URL of the ICANN Whois Inaccuracy Complaint Form: <https://www.icann.org/wicf/>  
>>> Last update of WHOIS database: 2009-05-29T20:15:00Z <<<

- 1.4.2. The format of the following data fields: domain status, individual and organizational names, address, street, city, state/province, postal code, country, telephone and fax numbers (the extension will be provided as a separate field as shown above), email addresses, date and times must conform to the mappings specified in EPP RFCs 5730-5734 so that the display of this information (or values returned in WHOIS responses) can be uniformly processed and understood.

**1.5. WHOIS Data Directory Services after the WHOIS Services Sunset Date.** If Registrar continues to offer WHOIS Data Directory Services after the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, then Registrar shall comply with the following:

- 1.5.1. If Registrar continues to offer a WHOIS Data Directory Service available via port 43, Registrar shall do so in accordance with RFC 3912.
- 1.5.2. Personal Data included in registration data must be redacted in accordance with ICANN Consensus Policies and Temporary Policies;
- 1.5.3. Registrar must adhere to the requirements related to additional fields of the Consistent Labeling and Display Consensus Policy if they choose to add data fields.
- 1.5.4. If Registrar provides less registration data in WHOIS Data Directory Services than that available in the RDAP Directory Services, Registrar must add the following disclaimer in the WHOIS Data Directory Services output footer: "The registration data available in this service is limited. Additional data may be available at <https://lookup.icann.org/>."
- 1.5.5. After the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, in the event of a conflict between the WHOIS Data Directory Service requirements and the requirements of Consensus Policies or any Temporary Policy effective after the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, the Consensus Policies or Temporary Policy shall control, but only with respect to subject matter in conflict.
- 1.5.6. Until such time that updates are made and effective for Consensus Policies and procedures pursuant to the Phase 1 GNSO Consensus Policy recommendations of the Expedited Policy Development Process on the Temporary Specification for gTLD Registration Data, adopted by the ICANN Board in May 2019, as of the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, the following terms in such policies will be interpreted as follows:

1.5.6.1. “WHOIS”, “Whois”, “Whois service”, “Publicly accessible WHOIS”, and variations thereof shall be interpreted to refer to RDDS as defined in this Specification.

1.5.6.2. “Whois data”, “WHOIS information”, “Whois contact information”, “Whois query data”, “WHOIS output”, “Whois entry”, and variations thereof shall be interpreted to refer to registration data as referenced in this Specification.

**1.6. Cooperation with Transition Studies.** If ICANN initiates or commissions a study on the transition of WHOIS Data Directory Services to RDAP Data Directory Services, Registrar shall reasonably cooperate with such study, including by delivering to ICANN or its designee conducting such study, both quantitative and qualitative data related to its experience with its transition from WHOIS Data Directory Services to RDAP Data Directory Services. If the data request is beyond what the Registrar collects in the ordinary course of its operations and beyond the data that Registrar is required to collect and provide to ICANN pursuant to this Agreement, Registrar should voluntarily cooperate to provide the requested information or provide an explanation to ICANN why the Registrar is not able to provide the requested information. The terms of this section do not require Registrar to provide data to ICANN that is beyond what Registrar is obligated to provide ICANN pursuant to other sections of this Agreement. Any data delivered to ICANN or its designee pursuant to this Specification that is appropriately marked as confidential shall be treated as confidential information of Registrar, provided that, if ICANN or its designee aggregates and makes anonymous such data, ICANN or its designee may disclose such data to any third party. Following completion of the transition study for which Registrar has provided data, ICANN will destroy all data provided by Registrar that has not been aggregated and made anonymous.

## **2. Service Level Agreement for Registration Data Directory Services (RDDS)**

### **2.1. Definitions**

- 2.1.1. **IP address.** Refers to IPv4 or IPv6 addresses without making any distinction between the two. When there is need to make a distinction, IPv4 or IPv6 is used.
- 2.1.2. **Probes.** Network hosts used to perform tests (see below) that are located at various global locations.
- 2.1.3. **RTT.** Round-Trip Time or RTT refers to the time measured from the sending of the first bit of the first packet of the sequence of packets needed to make a request until the reception of the last bit of the last packet of the sequence needed to receive the response. If the client does not receive the whole sequence of packets needed to consider the response as received, the request will be considered unanswered.
- 2.1.4. **SLR.** Service Level Requirement is the level of service expected for a certain parameter being measured in a Service Level Agreement (SLA).

## 2.2. Service Level Agreement Matrix

2.2.1. Registrar shall meet or exceed each of the following SLRs related to the RDAP-RDDS\* services:

	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>SLR (monthly basis)</b>
<b>RDAP-RDDS*</b>	RDAP availability	≤ 864 min of downtime (≈ 98%)
	RDAP query RTT	≤ 4000 ms, for at least 95% of the queries
	RDAP update time	≤ 60 min, for at least 95% of the probes

\* These SLRs for RDAP-RDDS are not mandatory until the expiration of the RDAP Ramp-Up Period.

2.2.2. Registrar is encouraged to do maintenance for the different services at the times and dates of statistically lower traffic for each service. However, note that there is no provision for planned outages or similar periods of unavailable or slow service; any downtime, be it for maintenance or due to system failures, will be noted simply as downtime and counted for SLR measurement purposes.

2.2.3. Until the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, Registrar shall meet or exceed each of the following SLRs related to the WHOIS Data Directory Services:

	<b>Parameter</b>	<b>SLR (monthly basis)</b>
<b>WHOIS-RDDS</b>	WHOIS-RDDS availability	≤ 864 min of downtime (≈ 98%)
	WHOIS-RDDS query RTT	≤ 4000 ms, for at least 95% of the queries
	WHOIS-RDDS update time	≤ 60 min, for at least 95% of the probes

### 2.2.4. **RDDS**

#### 2.2.4.1. **RDAP-RDDS**

2.2.4.1.1. **RDAP Availability.** Refers to the ability of the RDAP-RDDS service for Registrar to respond to queries from an Internet user with appropriate data from the relevant registrar system. If 51% or more of the RDAP testing Probes see the RDAP-RDDS service as



unavailable during a given time, the RDAP-RDDS service will be considered unavailable.

- 2.2.4.1.2. **RDAP-query RTT.** Refers to the RTT of the sequence of packets from the start of an RDAP-RDDS testing probe's TCP connection to its end, including the reception of the HTTPS response for only one HTTPS request. If the RTT is 5 times or more the corresponding SLR/performance specifications, the RTT will be considered undefined.
  - 2.2.4.1.3. **RDAP Update Time.** Refers to the time measured from the receipt of an EPP confirmation to a transform command on a domain name, host or contact, up until at least 51% of the RDAP-RDDS testing Probes detect the changes made.
  - 2.2.4.1.4. **RDAP test.** Means one query sent to a particular IP address of one of the servers of the RDAP-RDDS service. Queries shall be about existing objects in the registrar system and the responses must contain the corresponding information otherwise the query will be considered unanswered. Queries with an RTT 5 times higher than the corresponding SLR will be considered as unanswered. The possible results to an RDAP test are: a number in milliseconds corresponding to the RDAP-query RTT or unanswered.
  - 2.2.4.1.5. **Measuring RDAP parameters.** Every 5 minutes, RDAP-RDDS probes will select one IP address from all the public-DNS registered "IP addresses" of the servers of the RDAP-RDDS service of Registrar being monitored and make an "RDAP test". If an RDAP test result is unanswered, the corresponding RDAP-RDDS service will be considered as unavailable from that Probe until it is time to make a new test.
  - 2.2.4.1.6. **Collating the results from RDAP-RDDS Probes.** The minimum number of verifiably working RDAP-RDDS testing Probes to consider a measurement valid is 10 at any given measurement period, otherwise the measurements will be discarded and will be considered "inconclusive"; during this situation no fault will be flagged against the SLRs.
  - 2.2.4.1.7. **Placement of RDAP-RDDS Probes.** ICANN will use commercially reasonable efforts to deploy probes for measuring RDAP parameters in data centers with carrier grade connectivity in each of the ICANN geographic regions.
- 2.2.4.2. **WHOIS-RDDS.** Until the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, Registrar shall comply with the provisions of this Subsection 2.2.4.2.

- 2.2.4.2.1. **WHOIS-RDDS availability.** Refers to the ability of all the WHOIS-RDDS services for Registrar to respond to queries from an Internet user with appropriate data from the relevant registrar system. If 51% or more of the WHOIS-RDDS testing probes see any of the WHOIS-RDDS services as unavailable during a given time, the WHOIS-RDDS will be considered unavailable.
- 2.2.4.2.2. **WHOIS query RTT.** Refers to the **RTT** of the sequence of packets from the start of the TCP connection to its end, including the reception of the WHOIS response. If the **RTT** is 5-times or more the corresponding SLR, the **RTT** will be considered undefined.
- 2.2.4.2.3. **Web-based-WHOIS query RTT.** Refers to the **RTT** of the sequence of packets from the start of the TCP connection to its end, including the reception of the HTTP response for only one HTTP request. If Registrar implements a multiple-step process to get to the information, only the last step shall be measured. If the **RTT** is 5 times or more the corresponding SLR, the **RTT** will be considered undefined .
- 2.2.4.2.4. **WHOIS-RDDS query RTT.** Refers to the collective of “**WHOIS query RTT**” and “**Web-based- WHOIS query RTT**”.
- 2.2.4.2.5. **WHOIS-RDDS update time.** Refers to the time measured from the receipt of an EPP confirmation to a transform command on a domain name, host or contact, up until the servers of the WHOIS-RDDS services reflect the changes made.
- 2.2.4.2.6. **WHOIS-RDDS test.** Means one query sent to a particular “**IP address**” of one of the servers of one of the WHOIS-RDDS services. Queries shall be about existing objects in the registrar system and the responses must contain the corresponding information otherwise the query will be considered unanswered. Queries with an **RTT** 5 times higher than the corresponding SLR will be considered as unanswered. The possible results to an WHOIS-RDDS test are: a number in milliseconds corresponding to the **RTT** or unanswered.
- 2.2.4.2.7. **Measuring WHOIS-RDDS parameters.** Every 5 minutes, WHOIS-RDDS probes will select one IP address from all the public-DNS registered “**IP addresses**” of the servers for each WHOIS-RDDS service of Registrar being monitored and make an “**WHOIS-RDDS test**” to each one. If an “**WHOIS-RDDS test**” result is unanswered, the corresponding WHOIS-RDDS service will be considered as unavailable from that probe until it is time to make a new test.

- 2.2.4.2.8. **Collating the results from WHOIS-RDDS probes.** The minimum number of active testing probes to consider a measurement valid is 10 at any given measurement period, otherwise the measurements will be discarded and will be considered inconclusive; during this situation no fault will be flagged against the SLRs.
- 2.2.4.2.9. **Placement of WHOIS-RDDS probes.** ICANN will use commercially reasonable efforts to deploy probes for measuring WHOIS-RDDS parameters in data centers with carrier grade connectivity in each of the ICANN geographic regions.

### **2.3. Covenants of Performance Measurement**

Registrar shall not interfere with measurement **Probes**, including any form of preferential treatment of the requests for the monitored services. Registrar shall respond to the measurement tests described in this Specification as it would do with any other request from Internet users (for RDDS).

## CONSENSUS POLICIES AND TEMPORARY POLICIES SPECIFICATION

### 1. Consensus Policies.

1.1. “*Consensus Policies*” are those policies established (1) pursuant to the procedure set forth in ICANN's Bylaws and due process, and (2) covering those topics listed in Section 1.2 of this document. The Consensus Policy development process and procedure set forth in ICANN's Bylaws may be revised from time to time in accordance with the process set forth therein.

1.2. Consensus Policies and the procedures by which they are developed shall be designed to produce, to the extent possible, a consensus of Internet stakeholders, including registrars. Consensus Policies shall relate to one or more of the following:

- 1.2.1. issues for which uniform or coordinated resolution is reasonably necessary to facilitate interoperability, security and/or stability of the Internet, Registrar Services, Registry Services, or the Domain Name System (“DNS”);
- 1.2.2. functional and performance specifications for the provision of Registrar Services;
- 1.2.3. registrar policies reasonably necessary to implement Consensus Policies relating to a gTLD registry;
- 1.2.4. resolution of disputes regarding the registration of domain names (as opposed to the use of such domain names, but including where such policies take into account use of the domain names); or
- 1.2.5. restrictions on cross-ownership of registry operators and registrars or Resellers and regulations and restrictions with respect to registrar and registry operations and the use of registry and registrar data in the event that a registry operator and a registrar or Reseller are affiliated.

1.3. Such categories of issues referred to in Section 1.2 shall include, without limitation:

- 1.3.1. principles for allocation of registered names in a TLD (e.g., first-come/first-served, timely renewal, holding period after expiration);
- 1.3.2. prohibitions on warehousing of or speculation in domain names by registries or registrars;
- 1.3.3. reservation of registered names in a TLD that may not be registered initially or that may not be renewed due to reasons reasonably related to (i) avoidance of confusion among or misleading of users, (ii) intellectual property, or (iii) the technical management of the DNS or the Internet (e.g., establishment of reservations of names from registration);
- 1.3.4. maintenance of and access to accurate and up-to-date information concerning Registered Names and name servers;

- 1.3.5. procedures to avoid disruptions of domain name registrations due to suspension or termination of operations by a registry operator or a registrar, including procedures for allocation of responsibility among continuing registrars of the Registered Names sponsored in a TLD by a registrar losing accreditation; and
- 1.3.6. the transfer of registration data upon a change in registrar sponsoring one or more Registered Names.

1.4. In addition to the other limitations on Consensus Policies, they shall not:

- 1.4.1. prescribe or limit the price of Registrar Services;
- 1.4.2. modify the limitations on Temporary Policies (defined below) or Consensus Policies;
- 1.4.3. modify the provisions in the Registrar Accreditation Agreement regarding terms or conditions for the renewal, termination or amendment of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement or fees paid by Registrar to ICANN; or
- 1.4.4. modify ICANN's obligations to not apply standards, policies, procedures or practices arbitrarily, unjustifiably, or inequitably and to not single out Registrar for disparate treatment unless justified by substantial and reasonable cause, and exercise its responsibilities in an open and transparent manner.

2. **Temporary Policies.** Registrar shall comply with and implement all specifications or policies established by the ICANN Board of Directors (the "**Board**") on a temporary basis, if adopted by the Board by a vote of at least two-thirds of its members, so long as the Board reasonably determines that such modifications or amendments are justified and that immediate temporary establishment of a specification or policy on the subject is necessary to maintain the stability or security of Registrar Services, Registry Services or the DNS or the Internet ("**Temporary Policies**").

2.1. Such proposed specification or policy shall be as narrowly tailored as feasible to achieve those objectives. In establishing any Temporary Policy, the Board shall state the period of time for which the Temporary Policy is adopted and shall immediately implement the Consensus Policy development process set forth in ICANN's Bylaws.

2.1.1. ICANN shall also issue an advisory statement containing a detailed explanation of its reasons for adopting the Temporary Policy and why the Board believes such Temporary Policy should receive the consensus support of Internet stakeholders.

2.1.2. If the period of time for which the Temporary Policy is adopted exceeds 90 days, the Board shall reaffirm its temporary adoption every 90 days for a total period not to exceed one year, in order to maintain such Temporary Policy in effect until such time as it becomes a Consensus Policy. If the one year period expires or, if during such one year period, the Temporary Policy does not

become a Consensus Policy and is not reaffirmed by the Board, Registrar shall no longer be required to comply with or implement such Temporary Policy.

3. **Notice and Conflicts.** Registrar shall be afforded a reasonable period of time following notice of the establishment of a Consensus Policy or Temporary Policy in which to comply with such policy or specification, taking into account any urgency involved. In the event of a conflict between Registrar Services and Consensus Policies or any Temporary Policy, the Consensus Policies or Temporary Policy shall control, but only with respect to subject matter in conflict. For the avoidance of doubt, Consensus Policies that meet the requirements of this Specification may supplement or supersede provisions of the agreements between Registrar and ICANN, but only to the extent that such Consensus Policies relate to the matters set forth in Section 1.2 and 1.3 of this Specification.

## **SPECIFICATION ON PRIVACY AND PROXY REGISTRATIONS**

Until the date ICANN implements a Privacy and Proxy Accreditation Program as referenced in Section 3.14 of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement, Registrar agrees to comply, and to require its Affiliates and Resellers to comply, with the terms of this Specification. This Specification may not be modified by ICANN or Registrar.

1. Definitions. For the purposes of this Specification, the following definitions shall apply.
  - 1.1 “P/P Customer” means, regardless of the terminology used by the P/P Provider, the licensee, customer, beneficial user, beneficiary, or other recipient of Privacy Services and Proxy Services.
  - 1.2 “Privacy Service” is a service by which a Registered Name is registered to its beneficial user as the Registered Name Holder, but for which alternative, reliable contact information is provided by the P/P Provider for display of the Registered Name Holder’s contact information in the Registration Data Directory Service (RDDS) or equivalent services.
  - 1.3 “Proxy Service” is a service through which a Registered Name Holder licenses use of a Registered Name to the P/P Customer in order to provide the P/P Customer use of the domain name, and the Registered Name Holder’s contact information is displayed in the Registration Data Directory Service (RDDS) or equivalent services rather than the P/P Customer’s contact information.
  - 1.4 “P/P Provider” or “Service Provider” is the provider of Privacy/Proxy Services, including Registrar and its Affiliates, as applicable.
2. Obligations of Registrar. For any Proxy Service or Privacy Service offered by Registrar or its Affiliates, including any of Registrar’s or its Affiliates’ P/P services distributed through Resellers, and used in connection with Registered Names Sponsored by Registrar, Registrar and its Affiliates must require all P/P Providers to follow the requirements described in this Specification and to abide by the terms and procedures published pursuant to this Specification.
  - 2.1 Disclosure of Service Terms. P/P Provider shall publish the terms and conditions of its service (including pricing), on its website and/or Registrar’s website.
  - 2.2 Abuse/Infringement Point of Contact. P/P Provider shall publish a point of contact for third parties wishing to report abuse or infringement of trademarks (or other rights).
  - 2.3 Disclosure of Identity of P/P Provider. P/P Provider shall publish its business contact information on its website and/or Registrar’s website.

- 2.4 Terms of service and description of procedures. The P/P Provider shall publish on its website and/or Registrar's website a copy of the P/P Provider service agreement and description of P/P Provider's procedures for handling the following:
  - 2.4.1 The process or facilities to report abuse of a domain name registration managed by the P/P Provider;
  - 2.4.2 The process or facilities to report infringement of trademarks or other rights of third parties;
  - 2.4.3 The circumstances under which the P/P Provider will relay communications from third parties to the P/P Customer;
  - 2.4.4 The circumstances under which the P/P Provider will terminate service to the P/P Customer;
  - 2.4.5 The circumstances under which the P/P Provider will reveal and/or publish in the Registration Data Directory Service (RDDS) or equivalent service the P/P Customer's identity and/or contact data; and
  - 2.4.6 A description of the support services offered by P/P Providers to P/P Customers, and how to access these services.
- 2.5 Escrow of P/P Customer Information. Registrar shall include P/P Customer contact information in its Registration Data Escrow deposits required by Section 3.6 of the Agreement. P/P Customer Information escrowed pursuant to this Section 2.5 of this Specification may only be accessed by ICANN in the event of the termination of the Agreement or in the event Registrar ceases business operations.
3. Exemptions. Registrar is under no obligation to comply with the requirements of this specification if it can be shown that:
  - 3.1 Registered Name Holder employed the services of a P/P Provider that is not provided by Registrar, or any of its Affiliates;
  - 3.2 Registered Name Holder licensed a Registered Name to another party (i.e., is acting as a Proxy Service) without Registrar's knowledge; or
  - 3.3 Registered Name Holder has used P/P Provider contact data without subscribing to the service or accepting the P/P Provider terms and conditions.



## **DATA RETENTION SPECIFICATION**

1. During the Term of this Agreement, for each Registered Name sponsored by Registrar within a gTLD, Registrar shall collect and securely maintain in its own electronic database (as updated from time to time) the data specified below:
  - 1.1. Registrar shall collect the following information from registrants at the time of registration of a domain name (a "Registration") and shall maintain that information for the duration of Registrar's sponsorship of the Registration and for a period of two additional years thereafter:
    - 1.1.1. First and last name or full legal name of registrant;
    - 1.1.2. First and last name or, in the event registrant is a legal person, the title of the registrant's administrative contact, technical contact, and billing contact;
    - 1.1.3. Postal address of registrant, administrative contact, technical contact, and billing contact;
    - 1.1.4. Email address of registrant, administrative contact, technical contact, and billing contact;
    - 1.1.5. Telephone contact for registrant, administrative contact, technical contact, and billing contact;
    - 1.1.6. Data elements in any RDDS service notwithstanding if the data is redacted in the free public available RDDS response;
    - 1.1.7. Types of domain name services purchased for use in connection with the Registration; and
    - 1.1.8. To the extent collected by Registrar, "card on file," current period third party transaction number, or other recurring payment data.
  - 1.2. Registrar shall collect the following information and maintain that information for no less than one hundred and eighty (180) days following the relevant interaction:
    - 1.2.1. Information regarding the means and source of payment reasonably necessary for Registrar to process the Registration transaction, or a transaction number provided by a third party payment processor;
    - 1.2.2. Log files, billing records and, to the extent collection and maintenance of such records is commercially practicable or consistent with industry-wide generally accepted standard practices within the industries in which Registrar operates, other records containing communications source and destination information, including, depending on the method of

transmission and without limitation: (1) Source IP address, HTTP headers, (2) the telephone, text, or fax number; and (3) email address, Skype handle, or instant messaging identifier, associated with communications between Registrar and the registrant about the Registration; and

- 1.2.3. Log files and, to the extent collection and maintenance of such records is commercially practicable or consistent with industry-wide generally accepted standard practices within the industries in which Registrar operates, other records associated with the Registration containing dates, times, and time zones of communications and sessions, including initial registration.
2. If, based on the receipt of either (i) a written legal opinion from a nationally recognized law firm in the applicable jurisdiction that states that the collection and/or retention of any data element specified herein by Registrar is reasonably likely to violate applicable law (the "Opinion") or (ii) a ruling of, or written guidance from, a governmental body of competent jurisdiction providing that compliance with the data collection and/or retention requirements of this Specification violates applicable law, Registrar determines in good faith that the collection and/or retention of any data element specified in this Specification violates applicable law, Registrar may provide written notice of such determination to ICANN and request a waiver from compliance with specific terms and conditions of this Specification (a "Waiver Request"). Such written notice shall: (i) specify the relevant applicable law, the allegedly offending data collection and retention elements, the manner in which the collection and/or retention of such data violates applicable law, and a reasonable description of such determination and any other facts and circumstances related thereto, (ii) be accompanied by a copy of the Opinion and governmental ruling or guidance, as applicable, and (iii) be accompanied by any documentation received by Registrar from any governmental authority, in each case, related to such determination, and such other documentation reasonably requested by ICANN. Following receipt of such notice, ICANN and Registrar shall discuss the matter in good faith in an effort to reach a mutually acceptable resolution of the matter. Until such time as ICANN's Procedure for Handling Whois Conflicts with Privacy Law is modified to include conflicts relating to the requirements of this Specification and if ICANN agrees with Registrar's determination, ICANN's office of general counsel may temporarily or permanently suspend compliance and enforcement of the affected provisions of this Specification and grant the Waiver Request. Prior to granting any exemption hereunder, ICANN will post its determination on its website for a period of thirty (30) calendar days. Following such modification of ICANN's Procedure for Handling Whois Conflicts with Privacy Law, all Waiver Requests (whether granted or denied) shall be resolved pursuant to such modified procedures.
3. If (i) ICANN has previously waived compliance with the requirements of any requirement of this Data Retention Specification in response to a Waiver Request from a registrar that is located in the same jurisdiction as Registrar and (ii) Registrar is subject to the same applicable law that gave rise to ICANN's agreement to grant such waiver, Registrar may request that ICANN to grant a similar waiver, which request shall

be approved by ICANN, unless ICANN provides Registrar with a reasonable justification for not approving such request, in which case Registrar may thereafter make an Waiver Request pursuant to Section 2 of this Data Retention Specification.

4. Any modification of this Data Retention Specification to address violations of applicable law shall only apply during the period of time that the specific provisions of the applicable law giving rise to such violations remain in effect. If the applicable law is repealed or modified (or preempted) in a manner that would no longer prohibit the collection and/or retention of data and information as originally specified in this Data Retention Specification, Registrar agrees that the original version of this Specification will apply to the maximum extent permitted by such modified applicable law.

## **REGISTRAR INFORMATION SPECIFICATION**

Registrar shall provide to ICANN the information specified below, which shall be maintained in accordance with Section 3.17 of the Agreement. With regard to information identified below, ICANN will hold such information pursuant to the disclosure requirements set forth in Section 3.15 of the Agreement.

### **General Information**

1. Full legal name of Registrar.
2. Legal form of Registrar (e.g., LLC, Corporation, Government Body, Intergovernmental Organization, etc.).
3. The jurisdiction in which Registrar's business is registered for legal and financial purposes.
4. Registrar's business registration number and the name of the authority that issued this number.
5. Every business name and/or trade name used by Registrar.
6. Provide current documentation demonstrating that Registrar entity is legally established and in good standing. For proof of establishment, provide charter documents or other equivalent document (e.g., membership agreement) of the entity. If Registrar is a government body or organization, provide a certified copy of the relevant statute, governmental decision or other instrument under which the government body or organization has been established. With respect to an entity other than a government body or organization, where no such certificates or documents are available in Registrar's jurisdiction, an affidavit drafted and signed by a notary public or a legal practitioner duly qualified in the courts of Registrar's jurisdiction, declaring that the organization is established and in good standing, must be provided.
7. Correspondence address for Registrar.\* This address will be used for contractual purposes, and Registrar must be able to accept notices and service of legal process at this address. No Post Office boxes are allowed.
8. Primary phone number where Registrar can be reached for contractual purposes.
9. Primary Fax number where Registrar can be reached for contractual purposes.
10. Primary Email address where Registrar can be reached for contractual purposes.
11. If the location or address of Registrar's principal place of business is different from the address provided in 7, provide details including address, phone number, fax number and email address.\* Provide ICANN with current documentation demonstrating that Registrar is legally entitled to do business in the principal place of business.

12. Any other addresses where Registrar will be operated or managed, if different from either its principal place of business or correspondence address provided above. (If so, please explain.) Provide ICANN with current documentation demonstrating that Registrar is legally entitled to do business in each location identified.

13. Primary contact name:

Title

Address

Phone number

Fax number

Email address

14. URL, and Location of Port 43 WHOIS server. After the WHOIS Services Sunset Date, the location of Port 43 WHOIS server is only required to be provided if Registrar continues to offer Whois Data Directory Services.

15. One Registered Name sponsored by Registrar in any gTLD to be used by ICANN in monitoring port 43 WHOIS and RDAP. Regardless of the requirements in Section 3.17 of the Agreement, Registrar shall notify ICANN immediately of any change to this data. A failure to respond with registration data for this Registered Name in port 43 WHOIS and RDAP will be considered a failed RDAP and WHOIS-RDDS test.

### **Ownership, Directors and Officers Information**

16. Full name, contact information, and position of any persons or entities owning at least 5% of the ownership interest in Registrar's current business entity. For each person listed, please specify such person's percentage ownership.

17. Full name, contact information, and position of all directors of Registrar.

18. Full name, contact information, and position of all officers of Registrar.\* (Officer names and positions must be publicly displayed.)

19. Full name, contact information, and position of all senior management and other key personnel overseeing the provision of Registrar Services.

20. For every person or entity mentioned in the answers to questions 16 to 19, indicate if that person or entity:

a) within the past ten years, has been convicted of a felony or of a misdemeanor related to financial activities, or has been judged by a court to have committed fraud or breach of fiduciary duty, or has been the subject of a judicial determination that is similar or related to any of these;

b) within the past ten years, has been disciplined by any government or industry regulatory body for conduct involving dishonesty or misuse of funds of others;

c) is currently involved in any judicial or regulatory proceeding that could result in a conviction, judgment, determination, or discipline of the type specified in items 20(a) or 20(b); or

d) is the subject of a disqualification imposed by ICANN.

Provide details if any of the above events in (a)-(d) have occurred.

21. List all Affiliated Registrars, if any, and briefly describe the Affiliation.
22. For any entities listed in item 21, must provide information required in items 1-14 above.
23. List the ultimate parent entity of Registrar, if applicable.\*

### **Other**

24. Does Registrar or any of its Affiliates offer any Privacy Service or Proxy Service (as such terms are defined in the Specification on Privacy and Proxy Registrations)? If yes, list the entities or individuals providing the Privacy Service or Proxy Service.
25. For any entities listed in item 24, provide information required in 1-14 above.
26. Does Registrar utilize or benefit from the services of Resellers?
27. If yes, provide a list of all such Resellers known to Registrar. The information specified in this item 27 shall be made available to ICANN upon request. At such time as ICANN develops a secure method for the receipt and retention of such information, such information shall thereafter be provided to ICANN in accordance with Section 3.17 of the Agreement.

\* Items marked with "\*" must also be published on Registrar's website.

## **ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR OPERATION SPECIFICATION**

This Specification may be modified by ICANN from time to time after consultation with the Registrar Stakeholder Group (or its successor), provided that such updates are commercially practical with respect to the registrar industry, taken as a whole.

### **1. DNSSEC**

Registrar must allow its customers to use DNSSEC upon request by relaying orders to add, remove or change public key material (e.g., DNSKEY or DS resource records) on behalf of customers to the Registries that support DNSSEC. Such requests shall be accepted and processed in a secure manner and according to industry best practices. Registrars shall accept any public key algorithm and digest type that is supported by the TLD of interest and appears in the registries posted at: <https://www.iana.org/assignments/dns-sec-alg-numbers/dns-sec-alg-numbers.xml> and <https://www.iana.org/assignments/ds-rr-types/ds-rr-types.xml>. All such requests shall be transmitted to registries using the EPP extensions specified in RFC 5910 or its successors.

Registrar must show the DNSSEC-signed status of the domain name in the RDAP Directory Service. Registrar must show the DNSSEC parameters stored in Registrar database in the RDAP Directory Service.

### **2. IPv6**

To the extent that Registrar offers registrants the ability to register nameserver addresses, Registrar must allow both IPv4 addresses and IPv6 addresses to be specified.

### **3. IDN**

If Registrar offers Internationalized Domain Name (“IDN”) registrations, all new registrations must comply with RFCs 5890, 5891, 5892, 5893 and their successors. Registrar shall also comply with the IDN Guidelines at <https://www.icann.org/en/topics/idn/implementation-guidelines.htm> which may be amended, modified, or superseded from time to time. Registrar must use the IDN tables published by the relevant registry.

## **REGISTRANTS' BENEFITS AND RESPONSIBILITIES SPECIFICATION**

### **Domain Name Registrants' Rights:**

1. Your domain name registration and any privacy/proxy services you may use in conjunction with it must be subject to a Registration Agreement with an ICANN Accredited Registrar.
  - You are entitled to review this Registration Agreement at any time, and download a copy for your records.
2. You are entitled to accurate and accessible information about:
  - The identity of your ICANN Accredited Registrar;
  - The identity of any proxy or privacy service provider affiliated with your Registrar;
  - Your Registrar's terms and conditions, including pricing information, applicable to domain name registrations;
  - The terms and conditions, including pricing information, applicable to any privacy services offered by your Registrar;
  - The customer support services offered by your Registrar and the privacy services provider, and how to access them;
  - How to raise concerns and resolve disputes with your Registrar and any privacy services offered by them; and
  - Instructions that explain your Registrar's processes for registering, managing, transferring, renewing, and restoring your domain name registrations, including through any proxy or privacy services made available by your Registrar.
3. You shall not be subject to false advertising or deceptive practices by your Registrar or through any proxy or privacy services made available by your Registrar. This includes deceptive notices, hidden fees, and any practices that are illegal under the consumer protection law of your residence.

### **Domain Name Registrants' Responsibilities:**

1. You must comply with the terms and conditions posted by your Registrar, including applicable policies from your Registrar, the Registry and ICANN.



2. You must review your Registrar's current Registration Agreement, along with any updates.
3. You will assume sole responsibility for the registration and use of your domain name.
4. You must provide accurate information for publication in directories such as the RDAP service, and promptly update this to reflect any changes.
5. You must respond to inquiries from your Registrar within fifteen (15) days, and keep your Registrar account data current. If you choose to have your domain name registration renew automatically, you must also keep your payment information current.

## **LOGO LICENSE SPECIFICATION**

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a California non-profit, public benefit corporation (“ICANN”), and [Registrar Name], a [organization type and jurisdiction] (“Registrar”) have entered into a Registrar Accreditation Agreement (“Registrar Accreditation Agreement”), of which this appendix (“Logo License Specification”) is a part. Definitions in the Registrar Accreditation Agreement apply in this Logo License Specification.

Registrar wishes to acquire from ICANN, and ICANN wishes to grant to Registrar, a license to use the trademarks listed below the signature block of this Logo License Specification (“Trademarks”) in connection with Registrar's role as an ICANN-accredited registrar. Pursuant to and subject to the Registrar Accreditation Agreement, Registrar and ICANN hereby agree as follows:

### **LICENSE**

1. **Grant of License.** ICANN grants to Registrar a non-exclusive, worldwide right and license to use the Trademarks, during the term of this specification and solely in connection with the provision and marketing of Registrar Services in order to indicate that Registrar is accredited as a registrar of domain names by ICANN. Except as provided in this subsection and Subsection 2.2 of the Registrar Accreditation Agreement, Registrar shall not use the Trademarks, any term, phrase, or design which is confusingly similar to the Trademarks or any portion of the Trademarks in any manner whatsoever.
2. **Ownership of Trademarks.** Any and all rights in the Trademarks that may be acquired by Registrar shall inure to the benefit of, and are hereby assigned to, ICANN. Registrar shall not assert ownership of the Trademarks or any associated goodwill.
3. **No Sublicense.** Registrar shall not sublicense any of its rights under this specification to any other person or entity (including any of Registrar's resellers) without the prior written approval of ICANN.

### **REGISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

1. **Registration.** Registration and any other form of protection for the Trademarks shall only be obtained by ICANN in its name and at its expense.
2. **Enforcement.** Registrar shall promptly notify ICANN of any actual or suspected infringement of the Trademarks by third parties, including Registrar's resellers or affiliates. ICANN shall have the sole discretion to initiate and maintain any legal proceedings against such third parties; Registrar shall not take any such actions without the prior written approval of ICANN; and ICANN shall retain any and all recoveries from such actions.
3. **Further Assurances.** Registrar agrees to execute such other documents and to take all such actions as ICANN may request to effect the terms of this specification, including providing such materials (for example URLs and samples of any promotional materials bearing the Trademarks), cooperation, and assistance as may be reasonably required to assist ICANN in obtaining, maintaining, and enforcing trademark registration(s) and any other form of protection for the Trademarks.

## TERM AND TERMINATION

This Logo License Specification shall be effective from the date it is signed below by both parties until the Expiration Date, unless this specification or the Registrar Accreditation Agreement is earlier terminated. Each party shall have the right to terminate this specification at any time by giving the other party written notice. Upon expiration or termination of this specification, Registrar shall immediately discontinue all use of the Trademarks.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this Logo License Specification to be executed by their duly authorized representatives.

ICANN

By: \_\_\_\_\_

[Registrar Name]

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRADEMARKS:

1. ICANN Accredited Registrar
- 2.



## COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATE

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

Pursuant to Section 3.15 of Registrar Accreditation Agreement (the "Agreement"), dated \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_, by and between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a California non-profit, public benefit corporation ("ICANN"), and [Registrar Name], a [Organization type and jurisdiction] ("Registrar"), the undersigned certifies, in his/her capacity as an officer of Registrar and not in his/her individual capacity, on behalf of Registrar as follows:

1. The undersigned is the (must be one of the following: Chief Executive Officer/ President/ Chief Operating Officer/ Chief Financial Officer, or functional equivalent thereof) of Registrar.

2. Registrar has in place processes and procedures intended to establish, maintain, review, test, and modify registrar policies and procedures reasonably designed to achieve compliance with the Agreement.

3. To the best of the undersigned's knowledge and belief, Registrar has performed and complied with all covenants, agreements, obligations and conditions contained in the Agreement that are required to be performed or complied with by it for the calendar year 20\_\_.

The undersigned signs this certificate as of the date indicated under the title.

**[REGISTRAR]**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name:

Title:

## TRANSITION ADDENDUM TO REGISTRAR ACCREDITATION AGREEMENT

This Transition Addendum (this "Addendum") to the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (the "Agreement") by and between the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, a California non-profit, public benefit corporation ("ICANN"), and [Registrar Name], a [Organization type and jurisdiction] ("Registrar"), is dated as of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

**WHEREAS**, ICANN and Registrar entered into the Agreement as of the date hereof; and

**WHEREAS**, ICANN acknowledges that implementation by Registrar of certain operational provisions of the Agreement is not possible on the date hereof and will require a reasonable grace period.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the parties agree as follows:

1. ICANN will not enforce the following provisions and specifications of the Agreement until January 1, 2014: Sections 3.4.1.1, 3.4.1.5, 3.7.10, 3.7.11, 3.12.4, 3.12.7, 3.14, 3.18 and 3.19 of the Agreement; the first sentence of Section 3.7.8 of the Agreement; the WHOIS Accuracy Specification; the Data Retention Specification; and the service level agreements set forth in Section 2.2 of the Registration Data Directory Service (WHOIS) Specification (collectively, the "Transition Provisions").

2. In addition, if immediately prior to the execution of this Addendum Registrar was party to the form registrar accreditation agreement adopted by ICANN in 2009 (the "2009 RAA"), Registrar may use its existing form of registrant registration agreement until January 1, 2014, provided that such agreement complies with Section 3.7.7 of the 2009 RAA.

3. For the calendar year ended December 31, 2013, any certification required pursuant to Section 3.15 shall not require certification as to compliance with the Transition Provisions and may acknowledge the permissible use of the registrant registration agreement under Section 2 hereof.

4. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Registrar agrees to use commercially reasonable efforts to comply with the obligations set forth in the Transition Provisions and transition to a registrant registration agreement that complies with the terms of the Agreement prior to January 1, 2014.

5. Registrar must be fully compliant with the Transition Provisions and Section 3.7.7 of the Agreement as of January 1, 2014, at which date this Addendum shall automatically terminate without action by any party, except as it relates to Section 4 hereof.

6. ICANN and the Registrar Whois Validation Working Group (as defined below) will work together to identify and specify an appropriate set of tools to enable Registrar to complete the across field validation specified in Section 1(e) of the Whois Accuracy Program Specification to the Agreement (the "Across Field Validation"). When such tools are mutually agreed between ICANN and the Registrar Whois Validation Working Group,

ICANN shall provide Registrar written notice of such agreement (which notice shall specify and describe the agreed upon tools). Effective on the one hundred eightieth (180th) calendar day following delivery of such notice by ICANN, Registrar shall comply with the obligations specified in Section 1(e) of the Whois Accuracy Program. Until such time, ICANN will not enforce compliance with such obligations.

For purposes of this Section 6, the Registrar Whois Validation Working Group shall be deemed to have agreed to such Across Field Validation tools when Approval (as defined below) of the then serving members of the group is obtained through a vote of the group (which vote may be conducted through any verifiable means determined by the group, including through electronic means).

The "Registrar Whois Validation Working Group" means that existing working group whose membership has been tasked with identifying and specifying a set of tools to enable registrars to complete the Across Field Validation. The membership of the Registrar Whois Validation Working Group shall be made up of volunteering representatives of ICANN-accredited registrars, and shall initially consist of the members currently serving on the existing working group.

"Approval" is obtained following a vote of the Registrar Whois Validation Working Group, if the votes cast in favor of adoption of the proposed Across Field Validations tools by the then serving members of the group are at least two-thirds of the votes cast by such members, with abstentions or non-votes not being counted as either votes in favor or against adoption of such tools. For purposes of the vote of the group as referenced above, (i) only persons appointed by an ICANN-accredited registrar shall be deemed members of the group and eligible to cast a vote as described above and (ii) no ICANN-accredited registrar nor group of Affiliated Registrars represented in the Registrar Whois Validation Working Group shall have more than one vote.

7. Except as set forth in this Addendum, the Agreement shall be in full force and effect, enforceable by the parties in accordance with its terms.

[signature page follows]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have caused this Addendum to be executed in duplicate by their duly authorized representatives.

**ICANN**

**[Registrar]**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_