New gTLD Program Update

Application Evaluation Progress

6 September 2012

Webinar Information

- Session is being recorded
  - Play back is available on the microsite at the end of the webinar

- Q&A session at the end
  - Use Q&A pod on Adobe Connect to submit questions
  - We will alternate questions on the phone and in the Q&A pod

- Dial-in is available to attendees with no access to Adobe Connect, and for questions

  - US toll-free +1-888-858-9225; US toll: +1-646-746-3050
  - Other numbers: http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/announcements-and-media/webinars/dial-in-06sep12-en.pdf
  - Access code: 18375932

Questions

To ask a question:

- Dial in using one of these numbers:
    – US toll-free +1-888-858-9225; US toll: +1-646-746-3050
    – Other numbers:
      http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/announcements-and-media/webinars/dial-in-06sep12-en.pdf

      Access code: 18375932

      Press "10" to be added to the queue for questions

- Submit a question in the Adobe Connect Q&A pod

Agenda

1. Application statistics

2. Application change requests

3. Application comments

4. Evaluation progress

5. Clarifying question pilot

6. Batching / Metering

7. New gTLD sessions in Toronto

8. Key dates

Application Statistics as of September 5

- Withdrawals
  - Completed: 4
  - In-process: 3

- Objections filed: 0

- Change requests
  - 57 submitted
  - Process for evaluating changes posted

- Number of application comments submitted: 6687
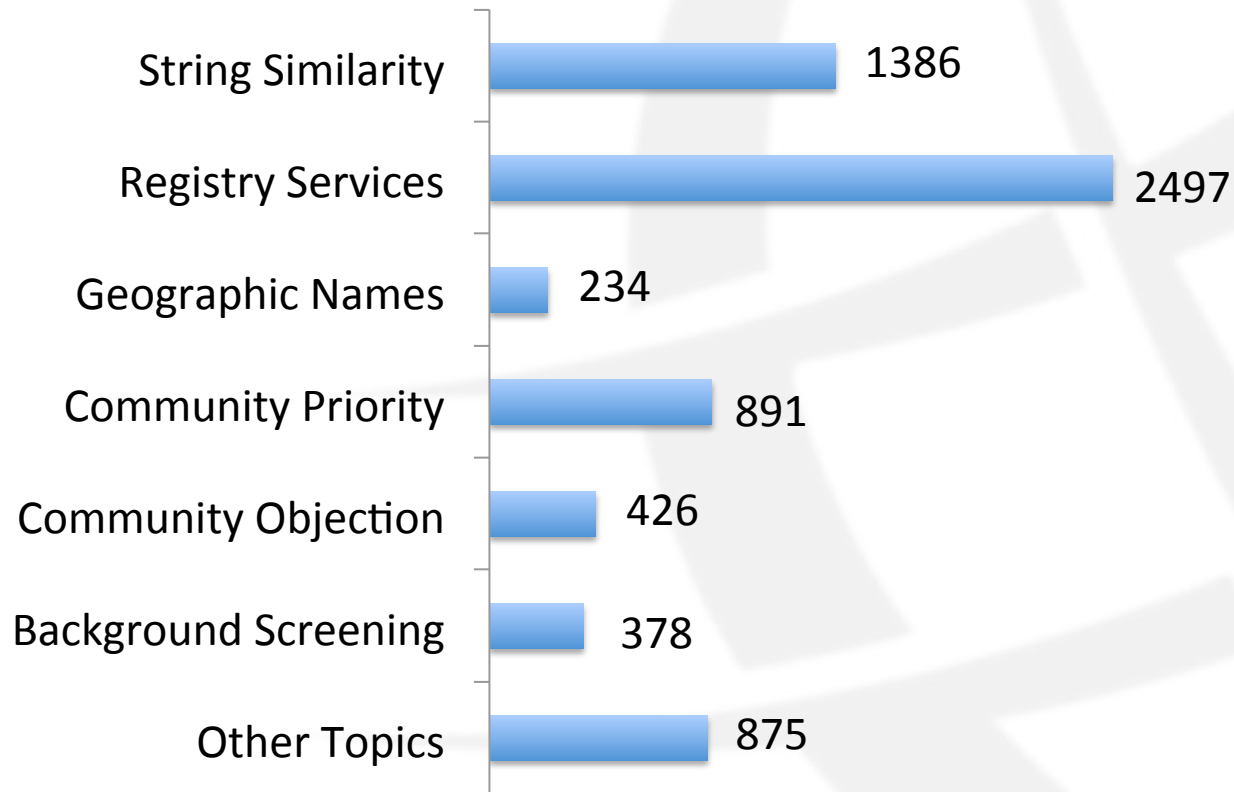
Application Change Requests

- Process and criteria for evaluating change requests posted

- Amended applications held for 30 days to allow for comments (Application Comment Forum)

- Approved changes will be publicly posted

- Changes made to the confidential portions of the application will not be posted

- Application change requests are being processed

- Plan to post first approved changes next week

Application Comments

- Purpose: make application comments available to the evaluators

- Application Comment Forum open for the duration of new gTLD program

- Comments received by September 26 will be forwarded to the designated panel for consideration

- Evaluators will seek clarification from the applicant if comments impact scoring

Application Comment Statistics

Total comments: 6,687

Category	Comments
String Similarity	1386
Registry Services	2497
Geographic Names	234
Community Priority	891
Community Objection	426
Background Screening	378
Other Topics	875

Evaluation Progress

Panel	Target Completion	Apps Assigned	Apps in Evaluation	Preliminary App Results[1]
Financial	Jun-13	602	461	141
Technical and Operations	Jun-13	602	475	127
Geographic Names	Nov-12[2]	all	476	65
String Similarity[3]	Oct-12	all	824	585
Registry Services	Jan-13	all	all	0
DNS Stability	Oct-12	all	all	0

[1] These numbers represent completed applications or applications with queued clarifying questions. They are subject to change due to application comments and/ or change requests.

[2] Geographic Name evaluation is targeted to be completed by Nov-12, but applicants will receive more time to supply the letters of support.

[3] String Similarity statistics are based on unique string counts, not total applications.

Clarifying Question Pilot

- Purpose: to ensure questions developed by the evaluators are clear, concise and consistent

- A large number of applications will receive CQs

- Dates:
  - Questions and survey sent on August 31
  - Answers due to ICANN by 23:59 UTC on September 17

- Number of participants: 41

- Participation or non-participation does not impact processing of application

Clarifying Question Pilot: Approach

- Evaluators issue CQs where required to give a passing score

  e.g., evaluators will issue clarifying questions on questions with an opportunity to score 2 points if additional points are needed to pass an application

- Pilot responses will not be treated as part of the application and will not count toward scoring

- Participants need not take formal actions to obtain documentation such as LoCs, security policies, or financial statements

- Two-week timeframe to respond or comment on questions

- *ANSWER THE SURVEY QUESTIONS*

Frequent Clarifying Question Topics

- Technical

  – EPP extension documentation for IDNs (Question 25)

  – Security policy (Question 30)

  – DNSSEC practice statement (Question 43)

- Financial

  – Sufficient evidence for conservative costs (Question 47)

  – Sufficient evidence of conservative funding/revenue, particularly segregation of funds (Question 48)

  – Financial instrument must be unconditional (Question 50)

Batching / Metering

- Goals of batching/metering:

  – Effective management of the evaluation process

  – Release of evaluation results according to a predictable schedule

  – Delegation of TLDs at a rate consistent with root zone scaling discussions

- Comment period:
  – July 29 through August 19
  – 101 comments received

- Batching / Metering consultation on September 12

Input on Batching / Metering

- Prioritize evaluation or delegation by category, e.g.,
  - AGB-defined: IDN, Geographic name, and Community
  - Proposed by commenters: Uncontested, developing countries, diversity-promoting, public interest, closed registry, brands, true generic

- Other suggestions:
  - Opt-out / applicant-selected timing
  - Group like applications together
  - Prioritize by readiness to contract / launch
  - Round robin selection by category or regions
  - Prioritize by number of clarifying questions
  - Others

Metering / Batching Status Update

- July 31 – August 20: comment period

- August 21 – October 1: develop proposed solutions with community

- September 12: batching / metering consultation

- October 17: public session on batching at Toronto meeting

- See roadmap at
  http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/announcements-and-media/announcement-17aug12-en

New gTLD Sessions in Toronto

- IDN
  - Workshop on label generation rule set process
  - IDN variant update

- Universal acceptance of all TLDs

- Trademark Clearinghouse

- Uniform Rapid Suspension

- Batching update

- New gTLD program update

- Journalist forum on new gTLDs

Key Program Dates

- September 26, 2012: application comments period closes

- October 2012 (or shortly thereafter): GAC early warning expected

- 12 January 2013: objection period closes

- April 2013: GAC communicates considerations on GAC advice

- June/July 2013: all initial evaluations complete (seeking additional efficiencies)

Thank You