**Thick Whois Transition Policy for .COM, .NET and .JOBS**

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", and "MAY" in this document are to be interpreted as described in RFC 2119, which is available at <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2119.txt>.

Scope:

This Policy SHALL apply to the Registry Operators for the .COM, .NET and .JOBS gTLDs, as well as all Registrars sponsoring domain name registrations in the .COM, .NET and .JOBS gTLDs.

Definitions:

* **Thin (Registration)**: domain name for which the Registry Operator maintains and provides only technical information (e.g., name servers, statuses, creation date) and the Sponsoring Registrar associated with the domain name. Contact information for these domain names is maintained by the sponsoring Registrar.
* **Thick (Registration)**: domain name for which the Registry Operator stores all the registration data elements that enable it to comply with WHOIS (available via port 43) and web-based directory services requirements described in Section 1 of Specification 4 of the "Base Registry Agreement approved on 9 January 2014" ("Base Registry Agreement") and the Registry Registration Data Directory Services Consistent Labeling and Display Policy.
* **Existing Domain Name**: domain name created, or in pendingCreate status, before 1 May 2018.
* **Transition Progress Metrics**: metrics created by Registry Operator and communicated regularly to Registrars and ICANN to allow measurement of progress of the transition from Thin to Thick, including at least the total number of domains managed by Registrar, number and percentage of domain with contact objects attached
1. Effective Dates:
	1. All new domain name registrations MUST be submitted as Thick starting on 1 May 2018 at the latest.
	2. All registration data for Existing Domain Names must have been migrated from Thin to Thick by 1 February 2019.
2. The following requirements apply to Registry Operators only:
	1. Registry Operator MUST deploy an EPP mechanism by 1 August 2017 for registrars to migrate registration data for Existing Domain Names (i.e., transition from Thin to Thick).
	2. Registry Operator MUST provide an alternative bulk transfer mechanism by 1 August 2017 for registrars to migrate data for Existing Domain Names (i.e., transition from Thin to Thick).
	3. By 1 May 2017, Registry Operator MUST provide to all Registrars and ICANN, documentation reflecting the system changes necessary to support the requirements of Sections 2.1 and 2.2 concerning relevant Operating Test Environments (OT&E) available to Registrars.
	4. Starting 1 August 2017, Registry Operator MUST support all contact operations as described in RFC5733.
	5. Starting 1 May 2018, Registry Operator MUST require Thick Registration data upon receiving successful EPP <create> Command (per RFC5731.)
	6. Registry Operator MUST accept all registration data submitted by Registrars in conformance with section 3.1
	7. Between 1 August 2017 and 1 February 2019, Registry Operator SHALL provide Transition Progress Metrics to each registrar, every Friday by 23:59 UTC.
	8. Between 1 August 2017 and 1 February 2019, Registry Operator SHALL provide to ICANN all Transition Progress Metrics for all registrars every Friday by 23:59 UTC.
	9. [Registry Operator SHALL implement the requirements of the Registry Registration Data Directory Services Consistent Labeling and Display Policy ("CL&D Policy") in conjunction with Section 1 of Specification 4 of the "Base Registry Agreement approved on 9 January 2014" ("Base Registry Agreement") by 1 August 2017.][[1]](#footnote-1)•
	10. [Between 1 August 2017 and 1 February 2019, for the following RDDS Output fields where no data exists in the Shared Registration System (SRS), the Registry Operator MAY treat the following RDDS fields as Optional as described in section 1.2 of the "RDAP Operational Profile for gTLD Registries and Registrars" if implementing RDAP, and in the case of Whois port 43 and Web-Whois, as described in clarification 1 of the "Advisory: Clarifications to the Registry Agreement, and the 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA) regarding applicable Registration Data Directory Service (Whois) Specifications":
* Registry Registrant/Admin/Tech ID
* Registrant/Admin/Tech Name
* Registrant/Admin/Tech Street
* Registrant/Admin/Tech City
* Registrant/Admin/Tech Country
* Registrant/Admin/Tech Phone
* Registrant/Admin/Tech Email][[2]](#footnote-2)•
1. The following requirements apply to Registrars only:
	1. Starting 1 August 2017 and prior to 1 February 2019, Registrars MUST migrate to the relevant Registry Operator all required fields of Existing Domain Names that are available in the Registrar database that enable them to become Thick Registrations.
	2. Registrars MAY provide complete Thick Registration data to Registry Operator upon creation of new domain name registrations starting 1 August 2017.
	3. Registrars MUST provide complete Thick Registration data to Registry Operator upon creation of new domain name registrations starting 1 May 2018.
	4. [For domain names created after 1 May 2018, Registrars are REQUIRED to provide an RDAP service in accordance with the "[RDAP Operational Profile for gTLD Registries and Registrars](https://www.icann.org/rdap-gtld-profile)" for domain names for which the Registrar is the Sponsoring Registrar, and the registration data stored in the Registry is "thin".]\*
	5. [Starting 1 February 2019, Registrars are REQUIRED to provide an RDAP service in accordance with the "[RDAP Operational Profile for gTLD Registries and Registrars](https://www.icann.org/rdap-gtld-profile)" for domain names for which the Registrar is the Sponsoring Registrar, and the registration data stored in the Registry is "thin".]\*

**Implementation Notes**

1. Where a conflict exists between local privacy laws and requirements included in this Policy, ICANN’s Procedure for Handling WHOIS Conflicts with Privacy Laws is available for Registry Operators and Registrars
1. • The bracketed statements note references to CL&D Consensus Policy and/or RDAP. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. • Bracketed statements note references to CL&D Consensus Policy and/or RDAP. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)