**Purchase of Domain Name From Bankrupt Entity**

**Goal/Scenario**

A company has entered into a contract to purchase several assets from a third-party company who has just completed bankruptcy proceedings. The assets include four domain names, in addition to other tangible and intangible property. The purchasing company accesses the RDS to confirm to confirm the current title and registration status of each domain, and to determine whether additional steps need to be taken to successfully complete the sales transaction.

**Brief Format Use Case**

**Use Case:** Confirm registrant information and renewal deadlines for domain names being purchased.

**Main Use Case:** A company has entered into a sales agreement to purchase assets from a now-defunct organization. Among the assets included in the purchase agreement are four domain names. The purchasing company accesses the RDS to verify the current registrant data and confirm that the registrant name matches the entity from whom the company is purchasing assets. The company also must confirm the current expiration date for each domain name in order to ensure that each domain is within a valid registration period, and to determine whether any action is required to maintain any of the registrations. The company performs a WHOIS lookup for each domain name and confirms that each domain name is currently in the name of the bankruptcy trustee. In addition, the company reviews the WHOIS information and sees that the domain names are all due for renewal within the next 120 days, with one domain being due to expire within 1 week. The purchasing company is able to attend to the renewal in a timely manner before transferring the domains to its registrar of choice.

**Casual Format Use Case**

**Title:** Check RDS to verify domain name registration information and renewal deadlines.

**Primary Actor:** Company purchasing domain name assets from bankrupt entity

**Other stakeholders:** RDS operator/third party WHOIS service providers, registrars, registry operators, and agents (such as law firms and bankruptcy trustee).

**Scope:** Interacting with RDS

**Level:** User Task

**Data Elements:** Name of Registrant/Organization, email address, admin/tech contacts, postal address, phone number, creation date, expiration date, renewal status, date servers were last updated.

**Story:** Domain names acquired through bankruptcy may or may not be within the control of the now-bankrupt entity. In some cases, the bankrupt company’s principles or other personnel may not still be available to maintain the registration information, renew the domain, maintain the registrar account, and tend to other administrative details. This places a greater burden on entities who attempt to purchase domain names through the sale of bankruptcy assets to verify the accuracy of registration data. Would-be purchasers are also often required to take additional steps to determine whether or not relevant renewal deadlines have been met, and whether any action is required to insure that their domain assets remain valid. Having ready access to an RDS allows such would-be purchasers to verify registrant data and thus confirm that the would-be seller is indeed the party with the right to sell the domain. In addition, access to the RDS allows a domain name purchaser to verify the validity of the registration term and tend to renewal as necessary.