

Overview of American Samoa

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AS Domain Registry
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Location and Brief History

- Located in Oceania (1/2 way between New Zealand and Hawaii)
- Consists of several volcanic islands and atolls
- Population >90% Pac. Islander, 58K
- Samoan spoken; English is 2nd language
- Unincorporated/Unorganized US Territory

Telco/Internet Infrastructure

- Two Telcos
 - ASTCA
 - original Telco; quasi-independent gov. agency
 - traditional land lines
 - original ISP (dial-up)
 - mobile phones
 - BlueSky
 - Privately held
 - Full ISP (dial-up, ASDL, web hotel, etc.)
 - Made mark with aggressive mobil competition

Telco/Internet (2)

- Considerable copper (ASTCA)
- Some local fibre (between Gov. locations)
- Current CATV structure unusable for data
- Off-island communication via Satellite
- Initiative by Governor currently underway to re-route unused PacRIM-East cable for Fibre access between Pago Pago and Honolulu

.AS — Introduction

- Active since June 1997
- Am. Samoan Manager; day-to-day operations handled by AS Corporation
- Mgr has support and confidence of ASG
- No formal ties to ICANN
- Open Registration Policy
 - Free for on-island Registrants
 - Reg/Renewal fee applied off-island

.AS — Namespace

- Namespace Structure
 - Open registrations at 2nd level
 - Restricted 2nd levels
 - .GOV
 - .EDU
 - IDN offered (same character set as .DE)
 - IDN update is about 1%

.AS — Technical

- Custom built registry system (in-house)
- Manage primary & secondary name servers
- Additional secondary name servers outsourced (UltraDNS)
- Stealth secondary on-island for improved intra-island name resolution

.AS — Initiatives

- Placement of 2nd stealth name server
- Studying feasibility of establishing Internet Exchange
- Continuing support of ASG in .GOV roll-out
- Establishing .EDU namespace and coordinating the roll-out
- Fostering greater local inter-ISP cooperation