Registration policies and case studies

APTLD Non-Technical Training
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Registration Policies

- Liberalised
  - No restrictions on who can register what

- Restricted
  - Limits on:
    - Who can register
    - What they can register

- Mix of some or no restrictions
Types of restrictions

- Who can register
  - Geographic requirement
  - Company or trademark requirement

- What they can register
  - Prohibited lists
  - Association with their company or brand
  - Limited number of names
“Who” restrictions include

- Must have a presence in the country
  - Or alternatively a representative
- A trademark or company in the country
Options for enforcement

- Prior to registration
  - Check for mandatory information
  - Specific evidence of compliance
  - Typically done by registrars

- Compliance check after registration, either proactively or as a result of a complaint
  - Check against defined criteria
  - Typically done by regulator/registry
“What” restrictions include:

- List of banned names as published
  - May include ones banned for ‘technical’ reasons such as two letter ccTLDs
- Offensive names not permitted
- Must ‘match’ company name or trademark, either exact or close association
- Character limits
Options for enforcement

- Automated blocking based on defined list
- Manual check of each name registered
  - Against defined criteria
  - For evidence of rights
  - Check not offensive
- Action only on complaint being received and then registration reviewed against criteria
Some examples
Open and moderated second level domains

Restrictions on moderated - governed by the moderation policy

No restrictions on what can be registered in the open 2LDs

No restrictions on who can register in the open 2LDs
.de

- Registrations directly at the second level
- No presence requirement
  - If registrant not located in Germany the admin contact must be
- Removed requirement that registrant be located in Germany in 2000
.sg

- Depending on the category you want
  - need to be a Singaporean citizen or registered with Singapore registration entity
  - just need Singapore postal address
- May not be contrary to public interest or order, national harmony, or offend good taste or decency, religious beliefs, or any other social objectives
.my

- Defined criteria for particular organisations and what supporting documents required to register names
- Individuals need to provide proof of identity
- Prohibitions on names apply
  - No country, state or well known names
  - No names sensitive to the main religions
  - No names that are obscene, scandalous, indecent, offensive or contrary to Malaysian public norms
  - No names that contain the words "bank" or "finance company"
Grace periods in .nz

- **For registrations**
  - Allows cancellation if wrong name registered, for example spelling mistake
  - 5 days
  - If re-registered, then can’t be cancelled for a second time in a month period

- **For renewals**
  - 5 days
Domain tasting

- Not an issue in .nz currently
- Policy principles help prevent this:
  - Registrars not allowed to register names in their own name unless using it themselves
  - Registrars must release cancelled domain names so all parties have equal chance of registering them at the end of the pending-release period