



## Accounting Separation requirements top-notch

In November, InternetNZ filed a detailed submission on the Commerce Commission's draft Information Disclosure Requirements, which reiterated the Society's strong support for the Commission's proposed approach.

The draft was released in late October for public comment as part of the Commission's ongoing role in monitoring and enforcing Telecom's operational separation undertakings.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says that accounting separation is a vital complement to Telecom's operational separation.

"Proper information disclosure requirements will allow regulators and the industry to be sure that Telecom is meeting its operational separation undertakings, and that the prices it charges for services are related to the real costs involved.

"The robust regime the Commission has outlined will lead to real benefits for consumers and the economy as a whole."

A successful operational separation regime, underpinned by robust accounting separation, will help the development of the competition needed to drive investment in better broadband services.

"We are pleased to see that many of the Society's suggestions have been taken into account by the Commission. The draft requirements document sets out a much stronger set of requirements for Telecom than the earlier discussion paper did," says Davidson.

"The industry and consumers need this strong regime. Without it, nobody can accurately work out whether operational separation is working or not. Transparency is vital to a competitive, vibrant telecommunications industry, and this accounting separation model can provide it."

InternetNZ calls on the Commerce Commission to stick to the regime set out when it finalises the framework. Any weakening of the final requirements would be to the detriment of consumers and the industry as a whole.

InternetNZ's submission welcoming the Commission's draft Information Disclosure Requirements was lodged in early November and can be found at:

[www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2008](http://www.internetnz.net.nz/issues/submissions/2008)

**Office closed:** The InternetNZ Office will be closed from the close of business Wednesday 24 December to Monday 5 January 2009. The Browser is also taking a break - look out for the next issue in February 2009. We'd like to thank everyone who has assisted us and the Society towards its goals during 2008 and wish you a relaxing holiday season.

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## 2009 NZNOG conference

Network operators from across New Zealand will assemble in late January for the New Zealand Network Operators Group (NZNOG) 2009 conference.

The conference attracts IT network experts from public and private sector organizations and provides a valuable forum for exchange of technical information and industry networking.

Hosted by FX Networks at the Mount Richmond Hotel and Conference Centre in Auckland on 28-30 January, the event will feature a range of expert speakers and technical tutorials including DNSSEC/DNS operations, IPv6 and a sysadmin mini conference.

InternetNZ is a strong supporter of the conference and again in 2009 is a platinum sponsor. More information at [http://2009.nznog.org/cms\\_display.php](http://2009.nznog.org/cms_display.php)

## Global WIP findings released

The latest data from the World Internet Project (WIP), comparing Internet use in New Zealand with that in thirteen other countries, was released in November.

While New Zealand has one of the highest penetrations of Internet use in the world, our proportion of broadband users is disappointing, with 35 percent of users still using dial-up at home, compared with only 22 percent in the USA and Australia, and 11 percent in the United Kingdom.

New Zealand also has one of the lowest penetration rates of broadband at home at 65 percent.

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says the preponderance of dial-up is a concern, with a large number of New Zealanders still unable to enjoy the full benefits offered by the Internet.

“These users are confined by virtue of their slow connections to using relatively static and low bandwidth applications,” he says.

Internet use in New Zealand is more or less gender and age neutral in line with other countries, and New Zealand ranks second highest in use of home wireless networks at 8.8 hours per week.

The results also show that New Zealanders are keen users of email, with 81 percent of respondents emailing daily or several times a day.

Banking online is also popular in New Zealand, with 16 percent of respondents using online banking services daily or several times a day.

InternetNZ is contributing to funding the WIP New Zealand survey, which is part of an international research initiative that aims to track global trends in Internet use.

The New Zealand survey is being conducted by Auckland University of Technology's Institute of Culture, Discourse & Communication.

The Society has been an enthusiastic supporter of the World Internet Project since 2006 when the Society sponsored WIP's California-based Project Director Professor Jeffrey Cole to come to New Zealand to talk about the project.

More information on the WIP project is available at the following link:

[www.aut.ac.nz/research/research\\_institutes/icdc/projects/wip\\_project\\_findings.htm](http://www.aut.ac.nz/research/research_institutes/icdc/projects/wip_project_findings.htm)

## Nat Library undertakes web harvest

A harvest of the entire .nz domain was undertaken by the National Library in October, with 4.1 terabytes of data from 105 million URLs harvested. Approximately 500 websites from outside the .nz domain but with New Zealand content were also harvested.

The web harvest was part of the library's long-term mission to preserve New Zealand's online heritage. However, the extent of the harvest caused considerable consternation among New Zealand network operators who felt that the technical community could have been better notified in advance of the harvest and that it should not have been across international connections but performed within New Zealand.

The harvest also ignored the robots.txt exclusion protocol, a convention to prevent cooperating web robots from accessing all or part of a website.

In November, the National Library convened a meeting with industry groups to discuss these concerns. Attendees included representatives from InternetNZ, the New Zealand Network Operators Group, the Domain Name Commission, CityLink, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Library & Information Advisory Commission.

As a result of the meeting the National Library has undertaken to look into policy regarding robots.txt for future harvest proposals and will consider an archive opt-in clause.

The library will also consider the possibility of content providers sending their websites through for legal deposit in future and intends developing a plan covering technical issues and communications for future web harvests.

## INZ finalises Government briefing document

In November the InternetNZ office prepared a Briefing to Incoming Ministers that provides an introduction to the role and work of the Society and outlines the major ICT issues that InternetNZ sees facing New Zealand over the next year.

The briefing paper contains a suite of recommendations relating to broadband infrastructure, copyright law and the rapid convergence of Internet, broadcasting and telecommunications networks.

The paper will be presented to a range of new Ministers, including Minister of Communications & Information Technology Steven Joyce, Minister of Infrastructure Bill English and Arts Culture and Heritage Minister Chris Finlayson.

# ICANN meets in Cairo

The 33rd meeting of ICANN (the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) was held in Egypt's capital in early November, with InternetNZ represented by Executive Director Keith Davidson and Alison McKenzie from the Domain Name Commission.



The meeting saw the continuation of policy work on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) which allow for resolution of domain names in local languages and scripts. So far, 24 ccTLDs have applied for IDNs under a 'fast-track' process.

Pending exhaustion of IPv4 was also discussed at the meeting, with ICANN calling for leadership in the conversion and deployment of IPv6 addressing. One suggestion was that websites could be developed to indicate the main service providers and websites globally that are being served in IPv6 as a method of promoting those who are actively engaged.

The other significant issue for ICANN at the meeting was the launch of new processes for applying for new gTLDs. The application fee has been set at USD\$180,000, with a \$75,000 annual renewal cost.

Also discussed were new gTLD applications for country names, IDN country names and important country identifiers e.g. .newzealand, .aotearoa, .kiwi, etc. A working group is being formed to monitor for such applications and look at policies in this area.

A full summary of the meeting can be found at: <http://cai.icann.org>

## INZ & TUANZ in talks

In November, the President of InternetNZ Peter Macaulay and the Chairman of the Telecommunications Users Association of New Zealand (TUANZ) Chris O'Connell announced that the two groups had entered into a formal collaborative discovery process to explore opportunities for closer organisational alignment.

New Zealand's ICT sector has for many years been served by a range of advocacy groups representing different constituencies and stakeholder groups including InternetNZ and TUANZ.

Over the years the paths of Internet and telecommunications users have steadily converged and the lines are now blurred and overlapping.

Acting under a mandate from the ruling bodies of both organizations, representatives of the two groups have agreed that there is benefit to the organizations, to the industry at large, and to all New Zealanders to be gained from a closer alignment of InternetNZ and TUANZ.

This may include possible amalgamation of some functions or organisational attributes and a discovery process is currently under way to this end.

## events

### INZ Council Meeting

December 12, Wellington  
[internetnz.net.nz](http://internetnz.net.nz)

### AusGRID 2009

January 20 - 23, Wellington  
[fit.qut.edu.au](http://fit.qut.edu.au)

### NZNOG

January 28 - 30, Auckland  
[nznog.org](http://nznog.org)

### Webstock

February 16 - 20, Wellington  
[webstock.org.nz](http://webstock.org.nz)

### APRICOT 2009

February 18 - 27, The Philippines  
[apricot.net](http://apricot.net)

### APTLD

February 24 - 25, The Philippines  
[aptld.org](http://aptld.org)

### ComCom NGN Conference

February 26 - 27, Auckland  
[comcom.govt.nz](http://comcom.govt.nz)

### ICANN

March 1 - 6, Mexico City  
[icann.org](http://icann.org)

### Web09

17 - 18 April, Auckland  
[web09.org](http://web09.org)

### TUANZ Telco Day

May, Wellington  
[tuanz.org.nz](http://tuanz.org.nz)

### Govis

20 - 22 May, Wellington  
[govis.org.nz](http://govis.org.nz)

### PacNOG

June 14 - 20, Tahiti  
[pacnog.org](http://pacnog.org)

### ICANN

June 21 - 26, Sydney  
[icann.org](http://icann.org)

## Policy reviews

The DNC has recently been reviewing its Disputes and Complaints Process (DCP) and its Investigations and Inquiries Process (IIP).

Both of these policies have been utilized on a number of occasions when investigating registrars and registrants.

Those investigations resulted both from complaints being received, and also proactive work by the DNC Office.

The current policies allow sufficient flexibility in approach while still ensuring due process and there were no changes identified as required due to operational requirements.

Public comment was due by 2 December and all submissions received will be published at:

<http://dnc.org.nz/dcp-iip-review>

## Monthly .nz statistics

In October 2008 there was a marked turn-around in monthly increase figures for .nz, with almost 4000 names registered over the total seen in September.

In October, the number of active .nz domain names increased from 344,293 to 348,186, a net increase of 3,893.

There were 6200 new .co registrations, 432 new .org registrations, 421 new .net registrations, 36 new .ac registrations and 27 new .school registrations.

By contrast September saw a very low monthly growth rate, with an increase of only 1,948 from the previous month's total.

## DNCL board minutes

A meeting of the DNCL board was held on Wednesday 22 October.

The minutes of the meeting are now available online and can be viewed at:

[http://dnc.org.nz/content/Minutes\\_22\\_Oct\\_2008.html](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Minutes_22_Oct_2008.html)

## NZRS general manager departing

New Zealand Registry Service General Manager Nick Griffin has resigned after six and a half years of service with the company.

His departure date is the end of January 2009, but he will continue to be available, if required, to assist in the transition over February and March 2009.

Nick has led the company from its inception, through to it becoming a very stable supplier of key infrastructure to New Zealand.

During the early days of the company, Nick was heavily involved in the setting up of the company, the implementation of the Shared Registry System (SRS) and the transfer of the registry.

Since those early days, Nick has worked to improve the SRS and DNS, this has resulted in the very impressive systems stability, availability and response times that were recorded across his term of leadership.

Some of the key measures that NZRS has achieved under Nick's guidance include:

- The highest levels of System Performance and System Availability for the SRS and DNS.
- Customer Satisfaction levels over 95 percent.
- The implementation of robust Business Continuity processes and procedures that are ingrained into the day-to-day operation.
- Impressive financial results: including growing revenues, managed expenses and increasing dividends.

These results can be seen on the NZRS website at:

[www.nzrs.net.nz](http://www.nzrs.net.nz)

## NZRS replaces NS7 server

New Zealand Registry Services has replaced the authoritative name server NS7.DNS.NET.NZ for the .nz Domain Name System (DNS).

The replacement is part of a wider project aimed at improving the .nz DNS infrastructure.

There is no impact on the .nz DNS as a result of the change and the new IP address for NS7.DNS.NET.NZ is 202.46.188.130.

Over the last few weeks the NZRS, a subsidiary company of Internet New Zealand, has worked on the changes. The NS7 authoritative .nz name server was previously operated by Telecom.