

## InternetNZ targets broadband future

In late June, InternetNZ released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a scene-setting consulting report to assess broadband strategy options for New Zealand. The RFP document can be accessed at [www.internetnz.net.nz](http://www.internetnz.net.nz).

InternetNZ Executive Director Keith Davidson says announcements from political parties have spurred considerable public debate about how best to achieve a much higher level of broadband penetration for business and consumers, both urban and rural.

“The announcements offer differing visions and raise significant questions as to the best path forward to achieve widespread broadband penetration,” he says.

“With this RFP InternetNZ is taking a leadership role in researching and analysing the proposals and other current thinking both locally and internationally. We aim to inform the public debate and provide a base of pragmatic advice about the best way to proceed, given the high public interest in securing a successful outcome.”

“This is not a call for just another consulting report: we want concrete advice on how to roll out these services in the most cost effective manner,” says Davidson.

The RFP closes on Friday 18 July 2008 at 4.00pm.

### Background to the RFP

In April 2008, The New Zealand Institute released a discussion document containing a costed roadmap as the first part of a proposed project for New Zealand to “develop a fast path to fibre to capture the economic benefits”.

National Party leader John Key’s Leader’s Speech (Achieving a Step Change: Better Broadband for New Zealand) of 22nd April 2008 flagged a political intention to invest “up to \$1.5 billion of Crown capital over six years to accelerate the roll-out of a fibre-to-the-home network for New Zealand”.

The Labour-led Government’s Broadband Investment Fund was released as part of the budget on 22 May 2008, pledging \$325m of operating spending to support rollout of broadband Internet infrastructure on a contestable, technology-neutral basis. The Fund includes \$75m specifically set aside for rural broadband issues.

It is anticipated that other parties will make announcements prior to the General Election. Regardless of what political parties announce as policy, an independent assessment of the best way forward will be a valuable input to the debate.

### Making Contact

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## InternetNZ appoints Paul Swain to board

InternetNZ is pleased to announce it has appointed Paul Swain as Chair of the Society’s newly-established Executive Board.



Swain will head the five-person board, established as part of the structural review of InternetNZ. The board will govern the policy and advocacy arm of InternetNZ.

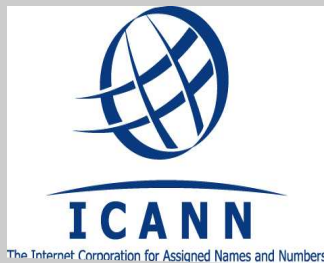
Swain is presently Member of Parliament for the Rimutaka electorate and serves on Parliament’s Commerce and Finance & Expenditure committees. He is standing down from Parliament at the next election.

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## InternetNZ welcomes TLD changes

InternetNZ has welcomed two significant decisions announced at a recent meeting of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN).

In what amounts to a major opening of the Internet's domain name system, ICANN has announced two major changes.



First, the process for creating new global Top Level Domains is to be opened, allowing for easier creation of new domains (like the existing .com or .org names).

The current twenty-one global Top Level Domains, as well as country code domains like .nz, will face more competition, and Internet users will have more choices.

Cities, for example, could apply for their own domain names. So could language communities, corporate brand names, or even individuals.

The details to be finalised include the application process.

Applicants will have to show they have the technical capability to run a domain name registry.

Secondly and more importantly, ICANN has approved a new process for the creation of Internationalised Domain Names or IDNs.

These names allow people to use the Internet in their own languages and scripts, rather than having to use the Latin script we are familiar with in New Zealand.

"While ICANN has more work to do in filling out the details of these decisions in the coming months, these very important decisions secure an Internet that will be more relevant and more useful for Internet users in the future," says InternetNZ Deputy Executive Director Jordan Carter.

"InternetNZ welcomes these changes and will continue its engagement with ICANN to see them implemented."

## InternetNZ to invest in Hector's World

InternetNZ is to provide up to \$200,000 in funding for the ongoing development of Hector's World™, a world-leading cybersafety resource for young children.

Hector's World is produced by Hector's World Limited (HWL), an innovative social entrepreneurship venture and charitable subsidiary of New Zealand's cybersafety organisation NetSafe.

Hector's World teaches young children cybersafety as they first experience the Internet, by engaging them with free online animated stories, puzzles and cybersafety buttons. This is coupled with educationally appropriate parent and teacher resources.

The value this affords children, parents and teachers has been recognised by the support already given to Hector's World by Microsoft New Zealand and the New Zealand Community Partnership Fund and also by the confidence shown by CEOP, a division of the UK Home Office, which recently took the first international licence of Hector's World materials.

Keen interest is also being shown by other countries.

InternetNZ President Peter Macaulay says the funding will provide Hector's World Ltd with the resources it needs in the short term to build on the success it has already achieved in New Zealand and internationally.

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As former Minister of Communications & Information Technology, he implemented the Telecommunications Act 2001, establishing a regulatory regime for the New Zealand telecommunications industry. He was also closely involved with Project Probe - an initiative to deliver broadband to provincial/rural New Zealand - and established a review of Telecommunications Act in 2004.

InternetNZ President Peter Macaulay says Swain's broad personal network and considerable experience in telecommunications regulatory issues will be an asset to the fledgling board.

"We welcome Paul as the Society's newest board chair and look forward to working with him and the other board members in providing quality governance and leadership of the InternetNZ Office."

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“NetSafe is the leading centre of expertise and resources in New Zealand and is a recognised centre of excellence internationally. That is why we have supported NetSafe in a strategic partnership with significant funding since last year.

The agreement builds on InternetNZ’s partnership with NetSafe by giving the world-leading Hector’s World initiative the opportunity to realise its potential,” says Macaulay.

Hector’s World Managing Director Liz Butterfield and NetSafe Chair Rick Shera have welcomed the funding announcement. “We are delighted with the confidence InternetNZ has signaled with this decision,” says Shera.

“The funding will allow Hector’s World to take critical next steps in developing the commercial capacity to make best use of its intellectual property.

Not only will that allow us to share the education benefits world-wide but it will continue to showcase New Zealand’s talent and thought leadership on the world stage.”

InternetNZ’s funding will be made available to Hector’s World by means of a concessionary loan. At a future point where Hector’s World no longer requires the funds, they can be returned to InternetNZ along with appropriate levels of interest.

This support also gives InternetNZ the option to consider future possible commitments to help promote the Hector’s World concept, by securing for InternetNZ the right to consider a further commercial investment once a business case is developed.

Macaulay says the relationship between InternetNZ, NetSafe and Hector’s World, is about far more than money. “All three organisations are concerned with ensuring the Internet is safe and accessible for everyone.

Our partnership in sharing ideas and research is wider than this funding agreement, which will only strengthen it.”

Liz Butterfield, who is also a Councillor of InternetNZ, declared her interest in seeking support for Hector’s World and did not participate in the InternetNZ Council’s deliberations or decision as to whether to provide funding, aside from briefing the Council on what the funds would be employed to achieve.

InternetNZ and Hector’s World anticipate finalising and signing a loan agreement to implement this decision in the next few weeks.



## events

### **NetSafe Cybercitizenship Conference**

July 28 - 30, Queenstown  
[www.netsafe.org](http://www.netsafe.org)

### **InternetNZ AGM**

July 31, Wellington  
[internetnz.net.nz](http://internetnz.net.nz)

### **Convergence Oceania**

August 1, Auckland  
[wirelessdataforum.org.nz](http://wirelessdataforum.org.nz)

### **APAN 26 Sustainable Networking**

August 4—8, Queenstown  
[karen.net.nz](http://karen.net.nz)

### **Internet in NZ Book Launch**

August 21, Wellington  
[internetnz.net.nz](http://internetnz.net.nz)

### **InternetNZ Council Meeting**

August 22, Wellington  
[internetnz.net.nz](http://internetnz.net.nz)

### **APNIC 26**

August 25 - 29, Christchurch  
[apnic.net](http://apnic.net)

### **IPv6 Technical Workshop**

August 29—September 3, Christchurch  
[internetnz.net.nz](http://internetnz.net.nz)

### **PacINET**

September 1- 5, Rarotonga  
[picisoc.org](http://picisoc.org)

### **IPv6 Technical Workshop**

September 8 - 12, Auckland  
[internetnz.net.nz](http://internetnz.net.nz)

### **ComCom NGN Conference**

October 9 - 10, Auckland  
[comcom.govt.nz](http://comcom.govt.nz)

### **RIPE 57**

October 26 - 30, Dubai  
[ripe.net](http://ripe.net)

### **ICANN**

November 2 - 7, Cairo  
[icann.org](http://icann.org)

### **APTLD**

December 6 - 7, Hyderabad  
[aptld.org](http://aptld.org)

## IDN consultation

Previously, the DNC has sought comment on potential issues associated with the implementation of IDNs in .nz, along with any other issues that the IDN working group (WG) should consider.

Submissions received can be viewed at the following link:

<http://www.dnc.org.nz/idn-consult>

The DNC is now seeking comment on the proposed course of action outlined below.

- The policies for IDN registrations are in line with the rest of the .nz policies and procedures (which can be viewed at [www.dnc.org.nz/policies](http://www.dnc.org.nz/policies)). They will express the same values as the core principles of the current system and particularly the “first come, first served” principle (excluding the sunrise period).
- The cost to register an IDN will be the same as an ASCII .nz domain name.
- There will be no automatic assignment of IDN variants to current registrants of .nz ASCII names.
- If current .nz registrants wish to register an IDN variant of their current ASCII names, they must do so during the proposed sunrise period or risk losing the variant to another applicant on a first come first serve basis.
- Apart from the requirement of current .nz registrants to apply for IDN variants of their ASCII names, there will be no other provisions regarding initial registration principles for IDNs in .nz.

Submissions, due 17 July, can be sent by email to [policies@dnc.org.nz](mailto:policies@dnc.org.nz), by fax to (04) 495 2115, or by mail to P O Box 11881, Wellington.

## DNC Ltd Board Meeting - Minutes

The first meeting of the Domain Name Commission Limited (DNCL) Board was held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> of May.

Minutes of the meeting can be viewed at:

[http://dnc.org.nz/content/Minutes\\_27\\_May\\_2008.html](http://dnc.org.nz/content/Minutes_27_May_2008.html)

## Banking code revisited

The New Zealand banking industry has revised its Code of Banking Practice following an in-depth period of consultation with InternetNZ and advocacy group Consumer NZ.



“This is a significant win for people who use Internet banking services,” says InternetNZ Deputy Executive Director Jordan Carter.

The new Code, prepared by the New Zealand Bankers Association, came into effect on 1 July 2008.

InternetNZ was concerned that the Code as worded put an unfair burden of responsibility on Internet banking users, tilting the playing field in favour of the banks to an excessive degree.

Last August, InternetNZ suggested that several clauses in the internet banking section of the Code be amended to improve the safety of using Internet banking services.

The specific changes that InternetNZ suggested related to user liability for unauthorized transactions, the use of secure password facilities and ‘up-to-date’ computer security software.

InternetNZ also suggested that the Code be re-worded to clear up privacy concerns relating to the right of banks to access users’ home computers.

Carter thanks the Bankers Association for incorporating the Society’s proposed amendments. “They have taken account of our concerns, resulting in a revised Code that better protects the interests of users of Internet banking services.

## InternetNZ tech support

InternetNZ has appointed Richard St Clair as its office technical support person. He has been employed on a part-time basis to maintain the Society’s office networking infrastructure. His duties involve server upgrades and maintenance, and general provision of technical support for our websites and mailing lists.

He will also assist in some technical projects such as the establishment of InternetNZ’s access grid which will utilise the advanced network capabilities offered by KAREN. He will also assist with the transition of our network to IPv6.

Richard has considerable technical expertise, having clocked up over 30 years experience in the IT industry. He served on the board of the Asia Pacific Top Level Domain Association, and was Chair of the Pacific chapter of ISOC from 2000 to 2006.

He is a co-founder and technical manager of the Internet Users Society of Niue - the ccTLD for .nu and the Island’s sole ISP; and also owns an ISP in the United States.