RSEP Fast Track-Registry Lock

August 29, 2019

Registry Operator
ZA Central Registry NPC trading as Registry.Africa

Request Details
Case Number: 00935657

Service Description

This service request should be used to submit a Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) request to implement the Registry Lock service. The purpose of the Registry Lock Service is to help protect against accidental or inadvertent modifications to, deletions, or transfers of domain name registration data.

The statements below reflect the standard implementation of the proposed service with no apparent significant security or stability issues as well as the standard amendment language for Registry Lock. Please note this request will be published on the ICANN org RSEP webpage upon completion of the Completeness Check, which will be within 5 days from submission.

If any of the statements below do not apply to your registry's implementation of the proposed service, this RSEP Fast Track request may not be used. Instead, you must submit a standard "RSEP (Registry Services Evaluation Policy)" request. Please click here for more information about the process.

Complete the information requested below. All answers marked with a red asterisk are required. Click the Save button to save your work and click the Submit button to submit to ICANN.

Registry Operator Confirmation

1. My registry requests to implement the Registry Lock service for the TLDs included in this request.

Yes

2. My registry confirms the amendment language below represents the proposed service in this RSEP request and my registry agrees to execute the Registry Agreement amendment without

modification.

> *Note: amendment execution will occur once the request has successfully passed ICANN Review for security, stability, and competition.*

> **Registry Lock**
> Registry Operator may offer the Registry Lock service, which is a Registry Service that allows an authorized representative from the sponsoring Registrar to request the activation or deactivation of any of the following EPP statuses: serverUpdateProhibited, serverDeleteProhibited, and/or serverTransferProhibited.

Yes

Competition Questions

1. Do you believe the proposed service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.

No competition issues are envisaged given that the Registry Lock Service would be offered as a value added service at the selection of the Registrar or Registrant and other TLDs have already launched such services. The benefits listed below are of crucial importance to maintaining the integrity and trust in the domain names spaces under the Registry's management:

a.   Increased domain name security for registrants
b.   Peace of mind for registrars and registrants
c.   Additional source of revenue for both registries and registrars
d.   Higher quality of registrant data in the registry database

The overarching benefit of the Registry Lock Service is that a domain name is secure in a zone, preventing any amendments in the event that a Registrar's account gets compromised, a Registrant's account with the Registrar gets compromised, or a Registrar performs erroneous technical commands either through their own automated processes or misdirected by the actions of the Registrant.

2. How would you define the markets in which the proposed service would compete?

The Registry Lock Service would be attractive to Registrars that focus on brand protection for their major corporates and the non-IP Registrar who would want to offer this as an additional service to their registrants who believe that their domain name/s is/are their most valuable commercial commodity.

3. What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to the proposed service?

There are a number of other TLD Registries that offer the Registry Lock Service as an additional protection at the server level of a domain name. See https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/rsep-2014-02-19-en for a list of previously approved RSEP applications on this service offering.

4. In view of your status as a Registry Operator, would the introduction of the proposed service potentially impair the ability of other companies/entities that provide similar products or services to compete?

The Registry believes that the Registry Lock Service would complement any other security-based services that are currently being offered or may be offered by the Registrars in the future. Given the voluntary/opt in nature of the service offered per Registry per TLD, no unfair competition issues are envisaged. The Registry Lock Service is designed to provide an added protective layer at the server level only.

5. Do you propose to work with a vendor or contractor to provide the proposed service? If so, what is the name of the vendor/contractor, and describe the nature of the services the vendor/contractor would provide.

The Registry currently uses the services of Domain Name Services (Pty) Ltd for its current technical registry back-end operations and will be leveraging off this relationship for the beta testing and any element that may be automated in the future.

6. Have you communicated with any of the entities whose products or services might be affected by the introduction of the proposed service? If so, please describe the communications.

As previously indicated, consultation with the ZACR-accredited Registrars have taken place over the past few weeks and are still pending until 20 September 2019, being the closing date for the comment period.

7. Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of this proposed service? If so, please submit them with your application. ICANN will keep the documents confidential.

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Registry Lock Fee Schedule_20190819.pdf

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Affected TLDs

Current Registry Operator	Top Level Domain	Registry Agreement Date
ZA Central Registry NPC trading as Registry.Africa	africa	2014-03-24