



Hosting + Domains + Anti-virus

Blacknight Internet Solutions Ltd.
Unit 12A Barrowside Business Park
Sleaty Road Graiguecullen
Carlow,
Ireland

T. +353 (0)59 9183072
F. +353 (0)59 9164239
E. sales@blacknight.com
W. www.blacknight.com

October 21st 2018

Dear Goran, Cherine and Jamie

Blacknight is an Irish based hosting provider and ICANN accredited registrar.

In our over 15 years of business Blacknight has strived to provide the tools and services to businesses and individuals to take advantage of the internet economy.

We are strong believers in maintaining a secure network and providing a neutral platform for our clients from around the world. We take our responsibilities as a service provider very seriously and have invested heavily in providing a trustworthy suite of services and experiences to our users, including becoming ISO 27001 certified.

It was, therefore, incredibly frustrating for us to see recent communications from AppDetex to ICANN which are obviously an attempt to undermine the “temp spec” and suggest that registrars are not cooperating with rights holders or others who may have legitimate reasons for accessing data.

As I outlined in a recent blog post (<https://blacknight.blog/maintaining-trust-respecting-privacy-and-due-process.html>), as a responsible provider we have no interest in facilitating criminal activity on our platforms, but we cannot simply breach the trust placed in us by our clients. As a service provider, of both domain registration services and hosting services we are contacted by law enforcement agencies and other parties who wish to investigate activities involving clients or users of our services and platform. In order for us to assess the legitimacy of any request for data we have a set of what we consider reasonable requirements that allow us to examine the merits of a request. As a data processor we are legally obliged to handle data in a manner which is respectful of data subjects and we cannot simply ignore these obligations in order to pander to 3rd parties’ perceived needs.

In the case of AppDetex we have received several requests for non-public whois data. It is abundantly clear to us that the requests we received were generated by an automated system. That AppDetex or Facebook have a “legitimate interest” in the term “Instagram”, for example, is not in dispute, however they cannot claim to have special rights for the string “insta”.

While we have responded to all of their requests for data to date we have not received a single acknowledgement or reply

In each and every case we have requested that AppDetex provide us with sufficient information for us to process their requests. The information we have requested included basic data such as them identifying properly who they were ie. providing tangible contact information including full names, phone numbers and a physical address.

We believe, therefore, that the requests for data are not sincere but are designed to create a particular narrative to reinforce AppDetex and Facebook's particular views.

If any of you or your team wish to discuss this or any other matter in more detail we would be happy to do so.

Blacknight Internet Solutions Ltd.
Unit 12A Barrowside Business Park
Sleaty Road Graiguecullen
Carlow,
Ireland

T. +353 (0)59 9183072
F. +353 (0)59 9164239
E. sales@blacknight.com
W. www.blacknight.com

Is mise le meas,



Mr Michele Neylon, Managing Director