



**THIS ISSUE**  
Member news  
Survey Results  
Monthly Statistics  
.fr hits 2 million

## MEMBER NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

**(.ch)**

### SWITCH refuses to accept OFCOM ruling

In its ruling issued OFCOM has found discriminatory and non-transparent behaviour of SWITCH. SWITCH is astonished by this appraisal, since neither the Zurich Commercial Court nor the Competition Commission (Weko) found any disadvantages on the part of the hosting providers or any inadmissible behaviour on the part of SWITCH.

### Malware: SWITCH cleans up more than 700 Swiss websites

**(.cz)**

### 2010 Domain Report

As of the end of 2010, the CZ.NIC Association had registered 748,801 .cz domains, representing an increase of almost 120,000 new domains compared to 2009. [Click for Report](#)

**(.de)**

### DENIC domain statistics 2010: From North to South: The Strongholds of .de

Overview of domain concentration in Germany

**(.eu)**

### 5th birthday issue .eu Identity (available)

EURid celebrates turning five by offering SMEs a practical, low-cost high-return idea to keep customers focused on their businesses. The registry also takes a statistical look at which EU countries support .eu the most and why.

**(.fr)**

### DNSSEC opened to Registrars

Registrars are now able to use their automated EPP or Extranet interface to communicate signature elements concerning domain names to AFNIC.

### AFNIC celebrates 2 millionth .fr domain name

**(.ie)**

### Policy Development Process: Call for Public Comments

In December 2010, the IEDR announced that a working group would be formed with Stakeholders with the objective of developing a formal Policy Development Process for the .ie namespace.

**(.nl)**

### Over 4.4 million active .nl domains within 25 years

It is 25 years since the Internet domain .nl was introduced. SIDN, the company behind “.nl”, will organise various events in celebration of this milestone, and is looking back on how it all started.

**(.no)**

### Norwegian domain names soon available for individuals

As of June 2011 individuals will be able to register Norwegian domain names.

**(.rs)**

### ICANN Board of Directors supported request to delegate Cyrillic domain .cpб to RNIDS

The Board of Directors of ICANN supported the request to delegate the management of the Cyrillic domain .cpб to RNIDS.

**(.ru)**

### Domain Names in zone .PФ hit 800,000

On 4 April 2011 at 10:46pm the 800,000th domain name was registered in the national Cyrillic zone .PФ!

*.ru has turned 17!*

**(.se)**

### .SE's Internet Fund finances projects to increase digital inclusion among Swedes

**(.uk)**

### Landrush phase for .uk short domains

The Landrush phase for the 2,640 **remaining .uk short domains** will begin on 23rd May.  
[External article \(the register\)](#)

## RECENT REPORTS PUBLISHED

- [CENTR Report for IETF 80](#)
- [Survey Report: IDN Implementation](#)
- [Ministerial Conference on CIIP \(EU Presidency Conference\)](#)
- [Survey Report: Launch and use of IDN](#)
- [Survey Report: Statistical Survey 2010](#)
- [CENTR Response on NTIA RFC on the IANA Function](#)

## CENTR SURVEY DASHBOARD

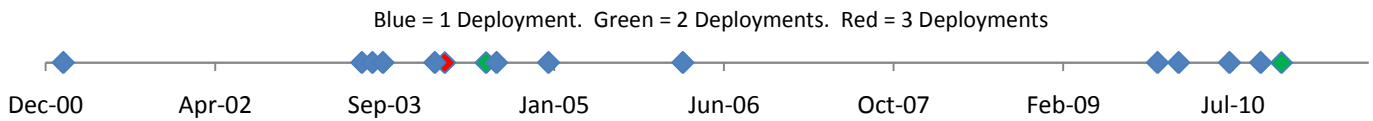
Click to  
Access  
Surveys

[Host object registrations](#)  
[Registry Online communication channels](#)

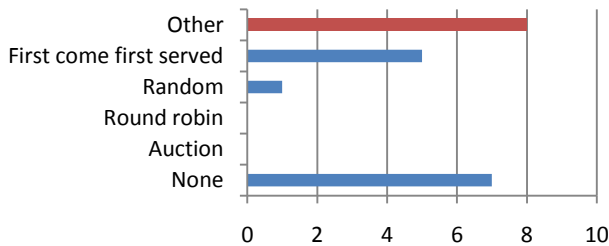
# Survey: IDN Implementation

This survey focused on Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs) at the second level (left of the dot). The survey initiated by CIRA (.ca) had 34 responses: (de, jp, sk, si, rs, dk, at, es, is, ie, be, hr, me, uk, fr, mx, pl, se, pt, ch, ru, no, it, lv, il, mt, nz, cat, lt, hu, lu, ua, cz, eu). **19 out of the 34 respondents (56%) offer IDNs at the second level.** [CLICK HERE FOR THE FULL REPORT](#)

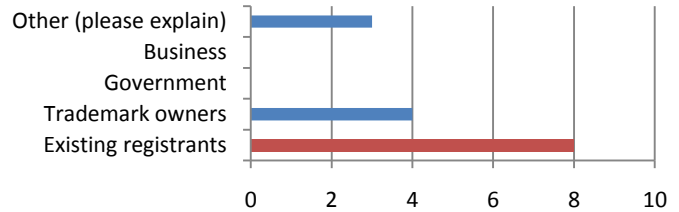
## When the IDNs were launched



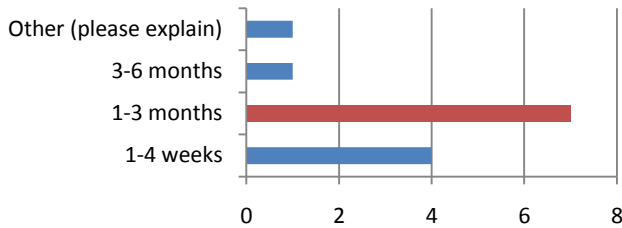
## Type of Sunrise Period used



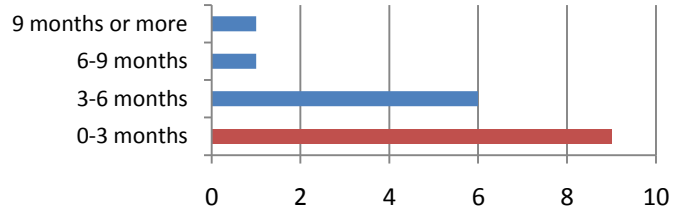
## Who did the Sunrise applied to



## Timeline for the Sunrise



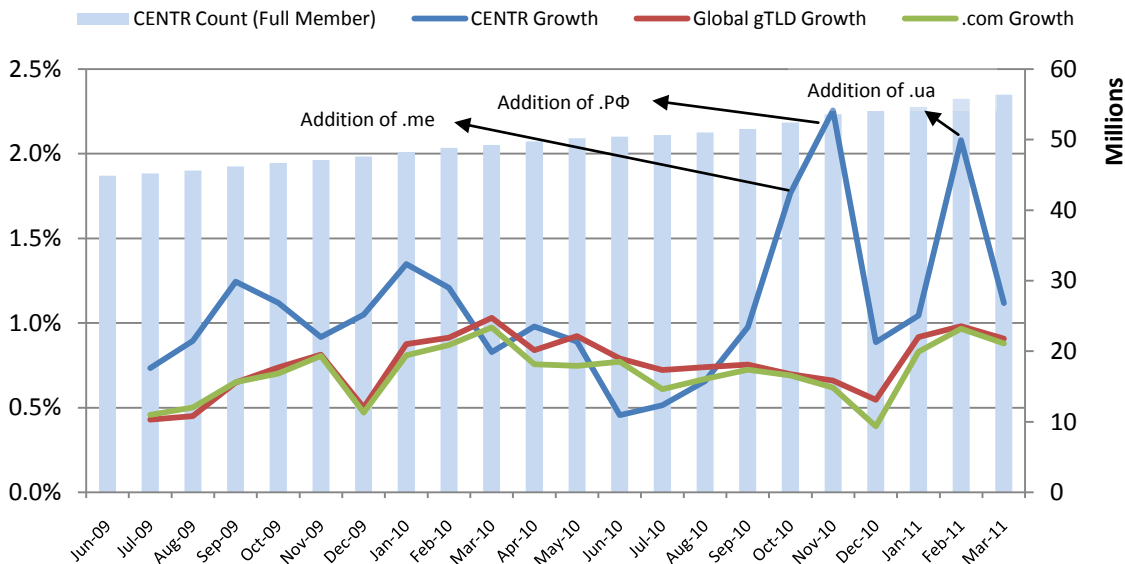
## Time for Registrars to be ready for IDN Implementation



## OTHER RESULTS FROM THE SURVEY

- 90% of respondents did **not** report any material increase in domain name dispute
- 93% of respondents did **not** report any increase in domain name abuse (eg phishing)
- 30% of respondents reported an increase in customer support efforts due to IDN implementation
- When asked of *new challenges for the customer support team due to IDN implementation*, 4 members said they have 'difficulty distinguishing between IDN and ASCII domain names' and 1 member had increase volume of complaints.

## CENTR Statistics



**DOMAIN COUNTER:**  
**56,347,012**  
 End of MAR 2011  
 Ex. Assoc members

This is the domain count for end of March 2011. This count represents a growth of 1.12% with the largest net increase in domain count being .uk

## AFNIC CEO on .FR Achieving 2 Million Registrations and potential Benefits of new gTLDs

**David Goldstein:** Achieving two million registrations is quite an achievement - congratulations! To get to the two million mark, registrations of .FR domains have been growing rapidly - what do you attribute the significant increases in registrations in recent years?

**Mathieu Weill:** Thanks for giving me the opportunity to talk about .FR and AFNIC. There are several factors which can explain this tremendous growth - nearly 30 per cent per year for the last five years.

Ever since individuals were allowed to register .FR domain names, individuals have accounted for 50 per cent of new registrations and they now represent 40 per cent of all registrants.

Secondly, we have invested heavily in our registration system which is now fully EPP compliant and easy to integrate for registrars.

Thirdly, the French market is less developed than other markets of similar size in terms of number of potential registrants. For instance, our estimations are that only around five million domain names have been registered by French companies or individuals across all TLDs. So we still see lots of opportunities for registrars on this market.

**DG:** Liberalising the eligibility requirements for .FR has achieved a significant increase in registrations - do you think the liberalisation could have occurred earlier, or was the timing appropriate?

**MW:** AFNIC has always been very careful in the way it dealt with liberalisations, giving special consideration to trademark and intellectual property issues. By opening up in the mid-2000s, we benefited from a more stable legal framework, which prevented a spiral of litigations.

**DG:** Recently AFNIC announced there will be a new legal framework for all French ccTLDs, not just .FR but also .RE and .MQ. What impact will this have and why did it come about?

**MW:** The new legal framework will be in force on July 1st. The main consequences will be that AFNIC has to review all its current disputes resolution policies. The new law also impacts the other ccTLDs for French territories. We are pleased that this law finally grants us authorisation to launch registrations under these ccTLDs we operate, such as .pm or .re, before the end of 2011. We are looking forward to it.

**DG:** The new gTLDs, whenever they come about, threaten to change the domain name landscape significantly - how do you think this will affect .FR?

**MW:** Well, there are three ways to consider this evolution. First, all the domain name market could benefit from it. For instance, we saw .FR registration increase significantly thanks to .EU opening. That's because people are getting more and more aware of the importance of domain names.

Secondly, there is a risk that hundreds of new TLDs could also create some confusion in users minds and incite them to rally to the TLDs they know best: the main gTLDs and their national ccTLDs. .FR would also benefit from such a phenomenon.

Thirdly, we do not buy the argument telling that new TLDs will replace the current ones. They are new communication channels or opportunities, but users would better think about naming strategies combining several TLDs than relying on just one TLD.

Overall, we hope that new TLD applicants will bring innovative ideas to our field, and that the outcome of the process will be additional added value services to the end user.

**DG:** Does AFNIC see opportunities in working with potential applicants for new gTLDs as some other registries have proposed? Or in any other situation?

**MW:** Absolutely. The City of Paris has already selected AFNIC to be its back-end registry and to help it to apply for .PARIS. We are also discussing with several other prospects; ICANN's Timeline is critical in their decision process, as you know. Being a back-end registry is the core of our expertise and we have a proven track record of reliability, transfer of knowledge with our partners across the world, and, of course, unique coverage of the French speaking domain industry.

**DG:** What do you see happening in the next one to two years that could impact on .FR and AFNIC, both domestically and further afield?

**MW:** Market expansion, with more competitors on the registry side, and the necessity to achieve operational excellence. Lots of things which have been "nice to have" until now will become some "must have" and every registry will have to reach a high level of quality of service.

Security issues are also part of the drawing and we'll increase our involvement into various initiatives related to the security and stability of the Internet infrastructure.

We expect the domain name market will continue to grow, even if we do not expect this growth to be as strong as in the past years. There is still a lot of potential for domain names, both in the business and individuals segments.

We will also be closely monitoring emerging trends, such as the use of DNS in the Internet of things or how proprietary identifiers such as Facebook usernames take off in terms of corporate communications. After all, things can change dramatically fast on the Internet so it's really hard to predict.

Article Courtesy of the David Goldstein  
[Goldstein Report](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**24th CENTR Technical workshop**  
2 MAY 2011- Amsterdam, Netherlands

**3<sup>rd</sup> Joint R and D Workshop**  
23-24 May 2011- Prague, Czech Republic

**Seminar: "Practical Aspects of Resolving Domain Name Disputes"**  
25 May 2011- Prague, Czech Republic

**35<sup>th</sup> Legal and Regulatory Workshop**  
26 May 2011- Prague, Czech Republic

[Click here for Agenda Timeline](#)



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