In this issue

The 2013 CENTR Awards

The Winners of the CENTR Awards 2013 which recognise outstanding examples of ccTLD best practices and contributions to the internet community were announced during the Gala event for the 50th CENTR General Assembly in Brussels.

The Awards were split into 4 categories; the Contributor of the Year, Research and Development, Security and the award for Marketing and Communication. More than 35 different projects/individuals were nominated by the CENTR members. Each category received multiple nominations which were drilled down to a shortlist and voted on by an independent jury.

CENTR launched the awards to acknowledge the outstanding work done by ccTLD registries and their teams.

Below are the winners of each category. Video presentations as well as an overview of all nominated projects can be found at www.centr.org/awards2013 .

From left to right:
Danny Aerts (.se), Anne-Marie Eklund-Löwinder (.se), Mathieu Weill (.fr), Lesley Cowley (.uk), Giovanni Seppia (.eu)

"Contributor of the Year"

Anne-Marie Eklund Löwinder (.SE) - pioneering contributions to DNSSEC

"Security"

.SE and Nominet UK - Development of OpenDNSSEC

"Research & Development"

AFNIC WINGS project - Widening Interoperability for Networking Global Supply Chains

"Marketing and Communication"

EURid - Co-funded Marketing Program for .eu

"Thank you! I am very proud to receive two of the CENTR awards, it is encouraging. We all work very hard to make sure that the domain name part of the Internet works as well as possible, seamless to the users. ccTLD's are like plumbers, people don't often think about what we are doing, they just expect it to work. The Awards put focus on the important job that we all are doing in different area". - Anne-Marie Eklund-Löwinder (.SE)

"The Social Role of a ccTLD Registry"

This year's Internet Governance Forum was hosted by Government of Indonesia on the Island of Bali. CENTR has a tradition of (re)presenting the ccTLD community at this global forum.

This year CENTR organised a workshop on ccTLD related issues in close cooperation with the other regional ccTLD organisations – AfTLD for Africa, APTLD for Asia and the Pacific and LACTLD for Latin America and the Caribbean. Where previous workshops shed light on technical or governance related topics, the Bali workshop discussed *the Social Role of a ccTLD Registry*. ccTLDs from the different continents showcased projects and activities they run next to their main task of managing the national country code and by which they contribute to the development of the Local Internet Community. 'The workshop contributed significantly to underline the importance of the leading role the ccTLDs played, are playing and will continue to play within their communities' said Giovanni Seppia (Chair of the CENTR IGF workshop).

For more information:
Agenda and presentations are available at www.centr.org/igf2013 .

Who's using the local ccTLD?

'*Who is using the local ccTLD?*' CENTR and LACTLD surveyed their members about the preference of local institution, governments and large banks for the national country code. The answers of the more than 50 ccTLD operators in the European and Latin American region clearly show the preference for the local ccTLD over TLDs. In another question from the same survey it was found that the most common reason for why business/individuals chose the local ccTLD is because it present a 'national identity'. The results of this survey were also presented at the IGF meeting in Bali .

SOURCE: CENTR, LACTLD – "Social Role of a ccTLD Registry" Survey (Aug 2013)
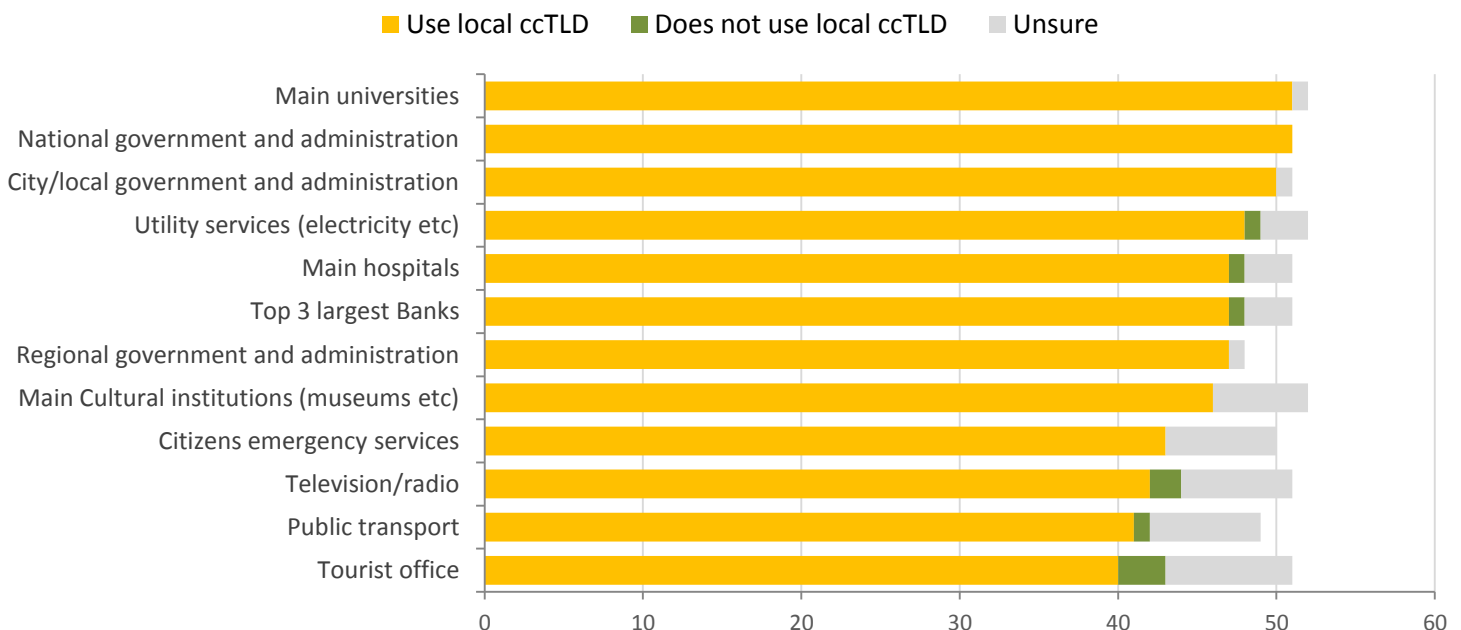
What are AFNIC's most important achievements related to RnD so far?

Since its launch in 2007, AFNIC's R&D department has become fully integrated into its ecosystem both national and international levels. AFNIC has leveraged partnerships with both academic and industrial research in order to explore innovative ideas and build prototypes, platforms and new products and services. For instance, AFNIC's R&D has capitalized over several years on its knowledge and know-how assets to build on one hand a versatile DNS measurements platform (DNSwitness), and the other, a Federated Object Naming Service (F-ONS) platform within the Internet of Things (IoT) field. Thanks to the DNSwitness platform, AFNIC jointly founded with the French National Information Security Agency (ANSSI) the Observatory of Resilience of the French Internet in 2010. Since then, two annual reports have been published, sharing methodology and resilience assessment based on a set of indicators and metrics, including DNS-based ones. As for the F-ONS platform, AFNIC has not only demonstrated the feasibility of a DNS-based solution for the supply chain and logistics domain, but has also significantly contributed to elaborating the new ONS 2.0 standard published in December 2012 by GS1 SDO

How important is RnD to AFNIC's core functions – being the .fr Registry?

From its core business perspective, AFNIC has set two missions to its R&D department. First, to identify innovative ideas and promising technology and build proofs of concept and prototypes leading to new products and services, so as to contribute to the economic sustainability of the registry. Second, the R&D activity has been commissioned build and keep tight collaboration with the operational team in terms of study and preparation for new technology deployment/migration in production, alongside with contribution to the optimization and to the continuous performance improvement of the production systems.
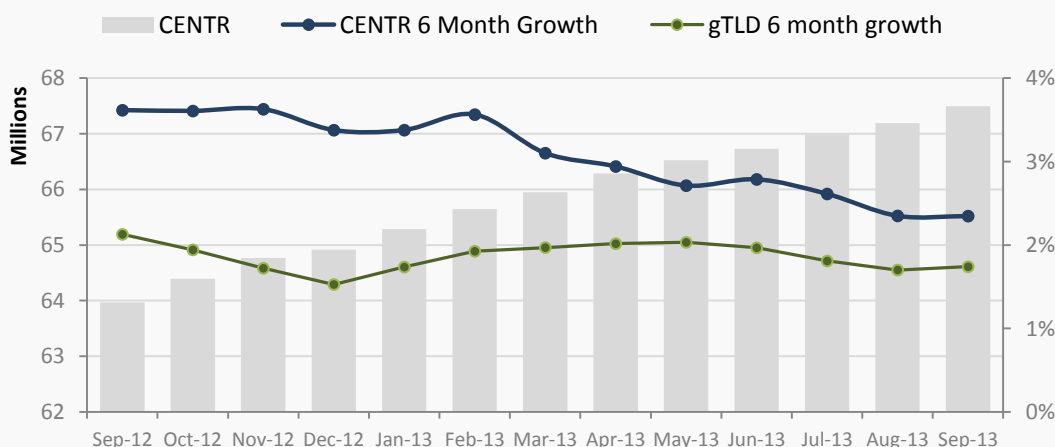
How could the internet community benefit from a Registry's RnD?

Among other missions, as the registry for .fr, AFNIC has got the following: "Working for a secure and stable Internet, open to innovation, where the French Internet community plays a leading role". AFNIC's R&D team has inherited this mission since its creation by design. It has been sharing its acquired expertise, with the Internet community, through seminars, tutorials and training sessions, and in order to raising awareness about the importance of adopting and deploying new technologies/standards such as IPv6 and DNSSEC.

Do you have a message for RnD colleagues in other European ccTLD Registries?

Many of us have been carrying out R&D activity at their National or Registry level. It seems the results have been rather up to their expectations so far. However, given the greatest challenges facing our industry, no single registry could come up alone with new solutions both preserving our businesses sustainability and seizing new business opportunities beyond domain names. Putting together our efforts in projects on common interest topics could definitely increase our chances to reach such objectives."

With
Mohsen Souissi
Head of R&D
(AFNIC)

Registrations and Growth

Source: CENTR stat database, gTLDs: Hosterstats.com
Note: 'CENTR' members represent more than 95% of European ccTLDs in terms of domain registrations

67,495,366

CENTR Total Registrations

In terms of number of domains added in September, the largest addition was .RU with around 65 thousand domains. .SE grew at the highest rate at 1.52% for the month

Stats quoted for month-end Sep 2013 - CENTR Full members

ccTLD News Highlights

Open source RDAP implementation by DNS Belgium DNS Belgium has implemented the Registration Data Access Protocol (RDAP), the successor of WHOIS. The implementation is available as an open source project.

CENTR Votes in .BY (Belarus) as full member At their 50th General Assembly held in Brussels, CENTR voted unanimously to accept the full member application from the Registry for .BY (Republic of Belarus).

.eu opens for Norwegian holders As part of the EEA Agreement, Norwegian companies, organizations and individuals will be allowed to register domain names within .eu without having to register a company or having an address in an EU member country.

IDNs still to reach full potential Despite advances, more work is needed by all parties if IDNs are to foster the growth of multilingualism online, according to the 2013 EURid-UNESCO World Report on Internationalised Domain Names (IDNs).

IDN Fast Track ccTLD .iran < .ایران> Delegated IANA has implemented the root delegation of fast track IDN country code TLD for Iran on October 9, 2013. In a subsequent public notice we will announce registration launch dates of this domain. IRNIC website is now reachable via : http://ایران.ثـبـت دامنه

DNSSEC activated for .is ISNIC has now finished the first stage in implementing DNSSEC for the .is TLD, by signing the .is zone and having the corresponding DS records published in the root zone by IANA. Records in the .is zone can now be authenticated by properly configured DNS resolvers that support DNSSEC.

SIDN offers extra protection for domain names following recent hacks SIDN's .nl Control service, has been extended to enable registrants to prevent unauthorised amendments to their domain names' glue records.

European Cyber Security Month in Serbia The European Union Agency for Network and Information Safety (ENISA) is running its European Cyber Security Month campaign for the second time in a row during October. This year Serbia is joining in, represented by the Register of National Domain Names of Serbia (RNIDS).

8th Slovenian IPv6 summit The 8th summit on implementing IPv6 in Slovenian and foreign networks was held on 22 October 2013 in Ljubljana. The summit was devoted to activities resulting from the final exhaustion of the available IPv4 address space.

InternetNZ approves proposal to register .nz domains at second level This month the InternetNZ Council approved a proposal to allow .nz domain names to be registered at the second level.

What's been happening at CENTR?

29th CENTR Technical Workshop - Athens – Over 40 participants were present in Athens at this workshop which included topics; an overview of the Greek Registry (.GR), a panel discussion on DNS poisoning, the RIPE Atlas, the .be IDN launch and the 'Domain Browser' user interface from CZ.NIC.

5th CENTR Security workshop - Vienna – This workshop attracted 31 participants, a record number since the inception of the CENTR Security Working Group one and a half years ago. At the workshop recent hacks, registrar security and malware detection were discussed amongst other topics.

DomainWire Stat Report

The most recent edition of the quarterly *DomainWire stat report* was released at the end of September and covers basic TLD statistics globally such as market share between gTLDs/ccTLDs, the top 20 largest ccTLDs and net quarterly growth.
The report has a focus on European ccTLDs and shows their net quarterly growth as well as other key stats. An article from the CENTR database on how the ccTLDs are marketing is included in the report. **Read on**

RIPE 67 Report
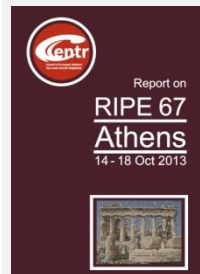
New possibilities to attack the DNS were described and demonstrated at the RIPE meeting and while DNSSEC – jointly with implementing BCP 38 filtering – would result in some better security, DNSSEC also can add to the new attack vector: IP fragmentation (and reassembling of packets). IP fragmentation attacks have been described in a paper by Amir Herzberg and Haya Shulman and have been tested and proved by cz.nic labs. **Read on**

Contact CENTR