



## Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) Request

February 12, 2018

### Registry Operator

DotOnline Inc.  
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### Request Details

Case Number: 00883814

This service request should be used to submit a Registry Services Evaluation Policy (RSEP) request. An RSEP is required to add, modify or remove Registry Services for a TLD. More information about the process is available at <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/rsep-2014-02-19-en>

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.

## PROPOSED SERVICE

### 1. Name of Proposed Service

Bulk transfer of domains for 9 Radix TLDs (.host, .space, .press, .website, .site, .online, .tech, .store, .fun)

### 2. Technical description of Proposed Service. If additional information needs to be considered, attach one PDF file

Bulk transfers of domains will be beneficial in situations where (i) one ICANN-accredited registrar purchases ("Gaining Registrar") by means of stock or asset purchase, merger or similar transaction, a portion but not all, of another ICANN accredited registrar's domain name portfolio ("Losing Registrar") in the 9 Radix TLDs top-level domains ("gTLDs") or (ii) where a Gaining Registrar receives a request from a registrant to transfer a significant amount of domain names from a Losing Registrar to such Gaining Registrar or (iii) where a newly accredited

Gaining Registrar requests a transfer of all domain names from the Losing Registrar for which the Gaining Registrar has served as the reseller.

Unless an entire portfolio of domain names is being transferred, Gaining Registrars must request that each domain name be transferred individually. Gaining Registrars must meet the following requirements:

- Gaining Registrars must be ICANN accredited for the aforementioned gTLDs.
- Gaining Registrar must be in good standing and be under a Registry-Registrar Agreement with Radix.
- Gaining Registrars must provide Radix with evidence (affidavits, sale documents) that sets forth the transfer date or if an acquisition the target closing date.
- If domain names are to be transferred from multiple Losing Registrars, then they must be Registrar Affiliates. A Registrar Affiliate is a registrar entity that controls, is controlled by or is under common control with another Losing Registrar.
- Transfers of domain names to multiple Gaining Registrars will not be permitted, regardless of familiar relationship.
- Losing Registrar must certify that existing Registrar-Registrant Agreement with customers permits the transfer of domain names in the event of acquisition by another party. Losing Registrar must ensure that no obstacles are placed in the way of the Gaining Registrar.
- Both Gaining and Losing Registrar must consent to the bulk transfer, and approve the list of domain names subject to the bulk transfer prior to the change in sponsorship by Radix.
- Domain names with the following statuses at the registry at the time of the transfer will not be subject to the bulk transfer: 1. Pending transfer 2. Redemption grace period (RGP) 3. Pending delete. Domain names within the 45-day auto renew grace period are subject to the bulk transfer, but the Registry may be permitted to deny credit for those domain names that the registrants choose to delete after a partial bulk transfer, but prior to the expiration of the 45 day auto renew grace window.
- If an acquisition, Losing Registrar must agree to provide notice of at least fifteen days prior to the partial bulk transfer to all registrants associated with domain names involved in the transfer. Notice must include the following: 1. A statement to the effect that all transfer rules and policies set by ICANN and Radix shall remain in effect. 2. Instructions on how a registrant can opt-out of the bulk transfer in the event that the Losing Registrar has indicated that they are willing to serve as Registrar for the domain name concerned.
- Gaining Registrars may not request the bulk transfer service in excess of one calendar year of the closing date of the acquisition.
- Bulk transfer requests will be limited to one request per registrar for every six-month period.
- Radix may act on its discretion to reject the requests for bulk transfers if reasonable evidence exists in support of the process being requested in order to avoid payment of fees to Radix or ICANN.
- Bulk transfer may not be requested if the Gaining Registrar's request would otherwise qualify for bulk transfer under part B of ICANN's Policy of Transfer of Registrations Between Registrars.
- Once bulk transfer has been completed, there will be no grace period to reverse the transfer.

## CONSULTATION

3. Please describe with specificity your consultations with the community, experts and or others. What were the quantity, nature and content of the consultations?

Registrars have often approached Radix with requests to process bulk transfers. Radix has received positive feedback from such registrars regarding requesting ICANN's approval to process such bulk transfers.

3a. If the registry is a sponsored TLD, what were the nature and content of these consultations with the sponsored TLD community?

Not applicable.

3b. Were consultations with gTLD registrars or the registrar constituency appropriate? Which registrars were consulted? What were the nature and content of the consultation?

Registrars have often approached Radix with requests to process bulk transfers. Radix has received positive feedback from such registrars regarding requesting ICANN's approval to process such bulk transfers.

3c. Were consultations with other constituency groups appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?

No consultations with other constituency groups were made.

3d. Were consultations with end users appropriate? Which groups were consulted? What were the nature and content of these consultations?

No consultations with end-users were deemed necessary due to the lack of concerns raised by end-users following the approval of bulk transfer proposals by other registries.

3e. Who would endorse the introduction of this service? What were the nature and content of these consultations?

Registrars would endorse the introduction of bulk transfer services.

3f. Who would object the introduction of this service? What were (or would be) the nature and content of these consultations?

To our knowledge, no one would object to the introduction of bulk transfer services.

## **TIMELINE**

4. Please describe the timeline for implementation of the proposed new registry service.

Radix would hope to implement the service as early as possible following ICANN's approval of the RSEP.

## **BUSINESS DESCRIPTION**

5. Describe how the Proposed Service will be offered.

Radix will offer the bulk transfer service to all ICANN-registrars in its 9 top-level domains. In order to access the service, Gaining Registrars must request the bulk transfer in writing, and provide all the information described above. Radix will validate the registrar's identity, verify the contents of the submission and schedule the date for the bulk transfer. Radix may request additional documentation or take additional steps it deems appropriate to ensure that all requirements are met with respect to Registrar Affiliate relationships. Radix will then submit the file provided by the Gaining Registrar to the Bulk Transfer tool and, upon completion, Radix will notify both the Losing and Gaining registrars of the transfer of the list of domain names as well as any that were not transferred and the reason for non-transfer.

6. Describe quality assurance plan or testing of Proposed Service.

Radix will work with its backend registry service provider, CentralNic to ensure that adequate testing of the bulk transfer service has been done.

7. Please list any relevant RFCs or White Papers on the proposed service and explain how those papers are relevant.

None.

## CONTRACTUAL PROVISIONS

8. List the relevant contractual provisions impacted by the Proposed Service.

To our knowledge, no existing contractual provisions will be impacted by the bulk transfer service.

9. What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the reporting of data to ICANN.

No effect.

10. What effect, if any, will the Proposed Service have on the Whois?

Bulk transfer will have no effect on the Whois and the Gaining Registrar will be listed on the Whois upon completion of the bulk transfer.

11. What effect, if any, will the proposed service have on the price of a domain name registration?

No effect.

## CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

12. Please describe or provide the necessary contractual amendments for the proposed service

Exhibit A of the registry agreements for each of the 9 TLDs may be amended to include the following:

### Bulk Transfer After Partial Portfolio Acquisition

Bulk Transfer After Partial Portfolio Acquisition (BTAPPA) is a registry service available to consenting registrars in the circumstance where (i) one ICANN-accredited registrar purchases, by means of a stock or asset purchase, merger or similar transaction, a portion but not all, of another ICANN-accredited registrar's domain name portfolio in the TLD or (ii) a newly accredited registrar (gaining registrar) requests a transfer of all domain names from the losing registrar for which the gaining registrar has served as the reseller or (iii) where a gaining registrar receives a request from a registrant to transfer a significant amount of domain names from a losing registrar to such gaining registrar.

At least fifteen days before completing a BTAPPA, the losing registrar must provide to all domain name registrants for names involved in the bulk transfer, written notice of the bulk change of sponsorship. The notice must include an explanation of how the Whois record will change after the bulk transfer occurs, and customer support and technical contact information of the gaining registrar.

If a domain is transferred under the BTAPPA service during any applicable registry grace period, there is no credit. The expiration dates of transferred registrations are not affected. Domain names in the following statuses at the time of the Transfer Request will not be transferred in a BTAPPA: "pendingTransfer", "Redemption Grace Period (RGP)", or "pendingDelete". Domain names that are within the auto-renew grace period window are subject to bulk transfer, but Registry Operator may decline to provide a credit for those names deleted after the bulk transfer, but prior to the expiration of the auto-renew grace period window. Registry Operator has discretion to reject a BTAPPA request if there is reasonable evidence that a transfer under BTAPPA is being requested in order to avoid fees otherwise due to Registry Operator or ICANN, or if a registrar with common ownership or management or both has already requested BTAPPA service within the preceding six-month period.

## **BENEFITS OF PROPOSED SERVICE**

13. Describe the benefits of the Proposed Service.

This service would facilitate the smooth transfer of a portfolio of domain names from one ICANN accredited registrar or recognized family of registrars to another ICANN accredited registrar.

## **COMPETITION**

14. Do you believe your proposed new Registry Service would have any positive or negative effects on competition? If so, please explain.

The bulk transfer service would have no negative effects on competition. The service is designed to facilitate registrars conducting business through the acquisition and sale of partial portfolios of domain name registrations, or registrars who previously offered only reseller services and are newly accredited by ICANN. This will support registrars current and ever changing business models.

15. How would you define the markets in which your proposed Registry Service would compete?

The market for this service includes the registrars accredited for the Radix TLDs and their customer base.

16. What companies/entities provide services or products that are similar in substance or effect to your proposed Registry Service?

Registries such as Verisign, Neustar and Afilias provide bulk transfer services that are similar in substance or effect.

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

No, other Registry Operators may also decide to offer bulk transfer services.

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

Radix's back end service provider is CentralNic. In this capacity, CentralNic will provide the proposed service.

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

Not applicable.

20. Do you have any documents that address the possible effects on competition of your proposed Registry Service? If so, please submit them with your application. (ICANN will keep the documents confidential).

Radix has no documents to submit.

## **SECURITY AND STABILITY**

21. Does the proposed service alter the storage and input of Registry Data?

No, the proposed service will have no effect on the storage and input of Registry Data.

22. Please explain how the proposed service will affect the throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to Internet servers or end systems.

The bulk transfer service will have no impact on throughput, response time, consistency or coherence of responses to internet servers or end systems.

23. Have technical concerns been raised about the proposed service, and if so, how do you intend to address those concerns?

No technical concerns have been raised.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

24. Are there any Intellectual Property considerations raised by the Proposed Service?

None.

25. Does the proposed service contain intellectual property exclusive to your gTLD registry?

No.

26. List Disclaimers provided to potential customers regarding the Proposed Service.

Not applicable.

27. Please provide any other relevant information to include with the request.

None.

Click the Save button to save your work and click the Submit button to submit to ICANN.

## **Affected TLDs**



<b>Current Registry Operator</b>	<b>Top Level Domain</b>	<b>Registry Agreement Date</b>
DotOnline Inc.	online	2015-01-15