IDN over EPP

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Registration Application Protocol

- EPP – Extensible Provisioning Protocol
  - Designed for Domain Registrations
  - XML Based
  - Extensible for other Registries
- Importance
  - Standardization helps promote adoption by registrars => increase sales => increased demand and market pressure for other application providers (e.g. browsers) to support IDN.

Key Relevant Milestones

- Publishing of IETF IDN Proposed Standard RFCs

- IESG IDN Statement

- ICANN IDN Implementation Guidelines

- IANA IDN Language-Table Registry

- IETF IDN-over-EPP (IDNPROV) BOF (Birds of Feather – i.e. initial / informal gathering to identify interest and need from community for standardization)

IETF IDN-over-EPP BOF Results

- There is no clear demand from the industry (registrars and registries) for a standardized framework for IDN-over-EPP
- It is not clear whether the ICANN IDN Guidelines have given enough direction for a common set of additional elements for IDN provisioning
    - i.e. Is there a meaningful set of elements for IDN provisioning worth standardizing? Or is each registry going to have to use a different set of elements due to policy differences?)

Observations

- IDN Registrations & EPP (Demand for Standardization of framework for IDN-over-EPP)

- ICANN IDN Guidelines (Common Elements for IDN-over-EPP framework)

IDN Registrations and EPP

- IDN will likely become part of the core offering for most Domain Registries

- EPP was developed to allow for a standardized framework for provisioning of domain names between Registrars and Registries (to promote interoperability)

- EPP is adopted by ICANN as the standard domain registration protocol

- Diverging IDN Extensions threaten to defeat the original premise of EPP to allow for better interoperability and standardization

ICANN IDN Guidelines

- Required for ICANN contracted TLDs
- …In implementing the IDN standards, top-level domain registries will
    - (a) associate each registered [IDN] with one language or a set of languages,
    - (b) employ language-specific registration and admin rules… such as the reservation of all domain names with equivalent character variants in the languages associated with the registered domain…
- Common Elements Derivable
    - Provision of Language-Tags (in association of IDN)
    - Provisioning (reservation and otherwise) of Variants

Important Considerations

- Promoting Adoption of IDN

- Promoting Adoption of EPP

- Diverging (current emerging situation) IDN EPP Extensions will substantially reduce the value and relevance of the standardization efforts of EPP

- Should be in the best interests of the Registry and Registrar community to support a standardized IDN Provisioning Framework to reduce duplicated efforts and potentially conflicting deployments

Call for Participation & Support

- EPP (Extensible Provisioning Protocol) is an important IDN application because it allows for easier and standardized adoption of IDN registration by Registrars (therefore increasing IDN adoption and create demand for other IDN applications e.g. browsers)

- Join the IDNPROV mailing-list (will be created soon)

- Express your support to IETF community on the importance of standardization for IDN-over-EPP

Thank You

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