



Joint UNESCO and ITU
Global Symposium on Promoting the Multilingual Internet



Session 6: Thematic Session on Advancing the Deployment of IDN

Highlights & Conclusions

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Geneva, 9-11 May 2006



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Agenda

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Presentations (1)



- Global Deployment of IDN since 1998 /
Prof. Subramanian Subbiah, Chairman (I-DNS.net)
- Experiences in Poland with IDN /
Krzysztof Olesik (PLNIC -NASK Poland)
- Hebrew Internationalized Top Level Domain Names
- It's Time /
Yoav Keren (Domain The Net)
- Korean Language Internet Names /
Koan Cho (Digital Names)
- Global Architecture for Multilingual Keyword
Lookup /
Kyung Il Kim (Netpia, Korea)



Presentations (2)



- Status of full Russian and Cyrillic language Internet names in Russia /
Sergey Sharikov (Cyrillic Language Working Group-CLWG)
- Tamil Language Computing and IDN /
S. Maniam (IDN Working Group INFITT)
- presented by Prof. Subramanian
- Persian IDN at .IR ccTLD Registry /
Alireza Saleh (IRNIC)
- Global IDN Coordination by the MINC ICMC initiative: Fixing the Internet Split /
Khaled Fattal (MINC)



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Highlights from Presentations

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Highlights from Presentation 1 "Global Deployment of IDN since 1998"



- Need for ML.ML (IDN.IDN) support in DNS
- Three methods of resolving IDNs:
implemented in root (waiting for ICANN),
client enabled and patching ISP servers
- Non-commercial IDN deployments - first
trials since 1998, history
- Internationalized e-mails attempts
- Progress of resolutions - authors's estimates



Highlights from Presentation 2 “Experiences in Poland with IDN”



- Actions taken in the preparation period before the IDN launch at NASK,
- First assumptions and rules of IDN registrations,
- Supporting for Latin, Cyrillics, Hebrew and Greek based scripts
- Development of the IDN registration policy
- IDN registration statistics (most registrations in first weeks)
- Support for multilingual domain names under .PL accessible from whole Internet (no restrictions to territory and local ISPs)
- No need for IDN.IDN solution for Poland
- Explanation on the decision to suspend Arabic script



Highlights from Presentation 3 "Hebrew Int. Top TLD Names – It's Time"



- Background of the Hebrew language
- Barriers for non-English speaking people to access Internet without full IDN.IDN support
- Supported by Israel government
- Three Hebrew TLDs launched (equivalents of .com, .net and .org) supporting for Hebrew e-mails addresses
- Limited use of IDN.IDN dependent on the plug-in
- „Domain The Net” preferring as a solution for IDN.IDN NS-records for instead of DNAME
 - In case of DNAME solution only incumbent registries will offer IDN TLDs, which must be equivalent to their current TLDs
- IDN.IDN very popular in Israel



Highlights from Presentation 4 "Korean Language Internet Names"



- Two categories of Korean internet names available in Korea
- Keywords: examples of keyword resolution and impressive statistics (60% of internet users using Keywords every day)
- Korean IDNs: examples and statistics
- Demand for Korean names and availability of keywords and IDNs results in healthy competition on Korean market
- Still growing market



Highlights from Presentation 5 “Global Architecture for Mult. Keyword Lookup”



- Netpia keyword solution
- NLIA global presence
- Evolution of multilingual keyword lookup
- User Behavior: focus on local web pages
- Architecture for NLIA based on single local operator for one country
- Registration policy including global reserved words
- Language detection based on computer environment settings or user setup



Highlights from Presentation 6 "Status of full Russian and Cyrillic language Internet names in Russia"



- IDN.IDN approach
- Two new ccTLDs (in Russian) for Russia and Russian Federation
- gTLD IDN equivalents to com, net, org etc. domain names in Cyrillic
- Examples of IDN.IDN in Cyrillic
- Plans to launch keywords for Russian market in 2006
- Requirement for supporting IDN.IDN by browsers and root servers
- NS-based (not DNAME) solution is preferred to be implemented in root servers



Highlights from Presentation 7 "Tamil Language Computing and IDN"



- Tamil spoken by some 70M+ people is amongst the top 10 languages in the world when measured by the number of speakers
- INFITT - The International Forum for Information Technology in Tamil - has been very active for the past several years in advancing the cause of 4000+ year old Tamil language in computing and the Internet.
- INFITT structure, activities and progress
- Standards for encoding Tamil language
- gTLD IDN equivalents to com, net, org etc. domain names in Tamil



Highlights from Presentation 8 “Persian IDN at .IR ccTLD Registry”



- Started in February 2005
- .ir Registry the first registry in Arabic script based countries supporting IDNs under ccTLD
- Phishing problem solved by bundles
- Sunrise period for protecting trademarks
- All the sunrise periods have been finished
- All the registration is under .IRAN and the .ir will append to it automatically
- .IR Registry is looking forward to having IDN.IDN in root servers
- IRNIC favours NS-based implementation of IDN.IDN in root server



Highlights from closing presentation “Global IDN Coordination by the MINC ICMC initiative: Fixing the Internet Split ”



- Internet Fragmentation and Balkanization is very dangerous and we are facing this situation at present
- ICANN recognizes that they cannot stop this balkanization let alone reverse it
- Mutual Respect as the background for MINC solution
- Minimalist coordination, Local Empowerment and bottom-up Open Access and Process as one of the most important MINC’s principles
- *Followed by Prof. Tin Wee Tan presentation of MINC wiki repository (how to patch DNS at the ISP level to support existing IDN.IDN TLDs)*



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Conclusions

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Conclusions (1)



- Huge demand for multilingual names in Internet
- Visible demand for internet multilingual names for Arabic, Hebrew, Korean, Russian, Tamil speaking countries
- Keywords and Internationalized Domain Names may coexist
- On some markets (Korea) keywords are very popular
- Keywords and Domain Names on the same market may encourage market growth and support healthy competition



Conclusions (2)



- Need for root servers to support IDN.IDN
 - Discussions how to implement IDN.IDN at root level: problem to be solved in near future
 - IDN.IDN Registries from Israel, Iran and Russia are preferring NS-based approach for root servers instead of DNAME based approach
- Possible way to patch DNS at the ISP level as proposed by International Coordination Mechanism Council (ICMC) of Multilingual Internet Names Consortium (MINC)
- Strong opposing arguments to MINC proposal from John Klensin ISOC and Pete Resnick from Qualcomm



Conclusions (3)



- Facilitating role of MINC for many countries in IDN deployment (including IDN.IDN for Tamil and Cyrillics)
- Internet Fragmentation and Balkanization is very dangerous