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Deprecating infrastructure "int" domains

Abstract

The document marks as historic any "int" domain names that were designated for infrastructure purposes, and identifies them for removal from the "int" top-level domain. Any implementation that involves these domains should be considered deprecated. This document also marks RFC 1528 and RFC 1706 as historic.

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1. Introduction

The "int" top-level domain [[RFC1591](#)] is a specialized domain designated for intergovernmental organizations, which are organizations established by international treaties between or among national governments.

Historically, the "int" domain was also used for Internet infrastructure related purposes. This practice ended in 2001 when the "arpa" domain was declared the appropriate home for infrastructural identifier spaces [[RFC3172](#)]. In conjunction with this change, the eligibility for "int" domains was limited to only intergovernmental treaty organizations.

The documented uses of infrastructural identifiers in the "int" domain were largely experimental and in practice obsolete. This document formalizes moving the related specifications to historic status, along with removing any associated delegations from the "int" zone in the domain name system.

2. Historical infrastructural uses

The following domains were used for infrastructural identifier purposes that are now considered historic. Although each of these names was either delegated or documented at one time, the parties administering them have long since stopped using them.

2.1. atma.int

The atma.int domain was experimentally defined to implement address lookups for Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM), including ATM End System Addresses (AESAs). [[ANS](#)]

2.2. ip4.int

The ip4.int domain was described as providing an alternative to in-addr.arpa domain for mapping host IPv4 addresses to host names. The in-addr.arpa domain zone continues to be administered for this purpose [[RFC1035](#)].

2.3. ip6.int

The ip6.int domain was originally delegated for mapping host IPv6 addresses to host names. It was subsequently removed from the "int" zone, having been replaced by ip6.arpa for this purpose [[RFC4159](#)].

2.4. nsap.int

The nsap.int domain name was specified to experimentally map Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Network Service Access Points to domain names [[RFC1706](#)].

2.5. rdi.int

The rdi.int domain name experimentally mapped OSI Inter-Domain Routing Protocol's Routing Domain Identifiers [[ISO10747](#)] to the domain name system.

2.6. reg.int

The reg.int domain name hosted an experimental mechanism for publishing IANA registration values in the domain name system.

2.7. tpc.int

The tpc.int domain name hosted an experimental remote printing service that served as a gateway between Internet mail and facsimile transmission [[RFC1528](#)].

3. Updates to other RFC Series documents

3.1. RFC 1528

The specification for tpc.int [[RFC1528](#)] should be deemed historic as it no longer functions as described in the document.

3.2. RFC 1706

The specification for nsap.int [[RFC1706](#)] should be deemed historic as it no longer functions as described in the document.

4. IANA Considerations

The IANA shall coordinate the removal of any of the historical "int" domains discussed in this document that are still delegated in the "int" zone.

5. Security Considerations

Some old systems might have one or more subdomains of these names hardwired and expect a positive response for at least the second-level domain. This is, of course, true for any name in the DNS and should not be the sole basis to retain obsolete names.

Existing applications should eliminate any reliance upon these zones for their historic purpose. The operator of the "int" domain should be cautious about any potential re-use of these domains for intergovernmental treaty organizations.

6. Additional Information

This document is the result of an comprehensive inventory conducted by the IANA team of .int domains to accurately establish and record their purpose based on historical documentation. As part of this inventory, the domains delegated for infrastructure identifier related purposes were studied. Query patterns in the DNS for these domains were analyzed and judged to be insignificant, and preliminary outreach was conducted to the contacts for the associated domains. The assessment concluded that these domains are highly likely to be obsolete and this document is intended to formalize that assessment.

There are a small number of existing "int" domains nominally for "international databases" that are not defined by any standards documentation, and are assigned to entities rather than for an identifier purpose. While they would not qualify for a "int" domain under current criteria, their disposition is beyond the scope of this memo.

7. Informative References

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Notes (for removal before publication)

I-D source is maintained at: <https://github.com/kjd/draft-davies-int-historic>

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