

**Extension Registry for the Extensible Provisioning Protocol  
draft-ietf-eppext-reg-07**

Abstract

The Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP) includes features to add functionality by extending the protocol. It does not, however, describe how those extensions are managed. This document describes a procedure for the registration and management of extensions to EPP and it specifies a format for an IANA registry to record those extensions.

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## [1.](#) Conventions Used in This Document

The key words "MUST", "MUST NOT", "REQUIRED", "SHALL", "SHALL NOT", "SHOULD", "SHOULD NOT", "RECOMMENDED", "MAY", and "OPTIONAL" in this document are to be interpreted as described in [RFC 2119](#) [[RFC2119](#)].

### [1.1.](#) Acronyms and Abbreviations

EPP: Extensible Provisioning Protocol  
IANA: Internet Assigned Numbers Authority  
IPR: Intellectual Property Rights

## [2.](#) Introduction

Domain name registries implement a variety of operational and business models. The differences in these models made it impossible to develop a "one size fits all" provisioning protocol, so the Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP, [[RFC5730](#)]) was designed to focus on a minimal set of common functionality with built-in extension capabilities that allow new features to be specified on an "as needed" basis. Guidelines for extending EPP are documented in Informational [RFC 3735](#) [[RFC3735](#)].



RFCs 3735 and 5730 do not describe how extension development can be managed and coordinated. This has led to a situation in which server operators can develop different extensions to address similar needs, such as the provisioning of Value Added Tax (VAT) information. Clients then need to support multiple extensions that serve similar purposes, and interoperability suffers.

An IANA registry can be used to help manage and coordinate the development of protocol extensions. This document describes an IANA registry that can be used to coordinate the development of EPP extensions.

### **3. Extension Specification and Registration Procedure**

This section describes the format of an IANA registry and the procedures used to populate and manage registry entries.

#### **3.1. Extension Specification**

The "Specification Required" policy described in [RFC 5226](#) [[RFC5226](#)] MUST be followed. Extension specifications MUST be written and available in the English language. Non-English specifications are OPTIONAL. Note that [Section 2.1 of RFC 3735](#) [[RFC3735](#)] provides specific guidelines for documenting EPP extensions.

Note that the "Specification Required" policy implies review by a Designated Expert. [Section 3 of RFC 5226](#) describes the role of Designated Experts and the function they perform.

##### **3.1.1. Designated Expert Evaluation Criteria**

A high-level description of the role of the Designated Expert is described in [Section 3.2 RFC 5226](#). Specific guidelines for the appointment of Designated Experts and evaluation of EPP extensions are provided here.

The IESG should appoint a small pool of individuals (perhaps 3 - 5) to serve as designated experts as described in Section 3.2 of [RFC 5226](#). The pool should have a single administrative chair who is appointed by the IESG. The designated experts should use the existing eppext mailing list ([eppext@ietf.org](mailto:eppext@ietf.org)) for public discussion of registration requests. This implies that the mailing list should remain open after the work of the EPPEXT working group has concluded.

Extensions should be evaluated for architectural soundness using the guidelines described in [RFC 3735](#) [[RFC3735](#)]. The results of the evaluation should be shared via email with the registrant and the eppext mailing list. Issues discovered during the evaluation can be



corrected by the registrant and those corrections can be submitted to the designated experts until the designated experts explicitly decide to accept or reject the registration request. The designated experts must make an explicit decision and that decision must be shared via email with the registrant and the eppext mailing list.

Designated experts should be permissive in their evaluation of requests to register extensions that have been implemented and deployed by at least one registry/registrar pair. This implies that it may indeed be possible to register multiple extensions that provide the same functionality. Requests to register extensions that have not been deployed should be evaluated with a goal of reducing functional duplication. A potential registrant who submits a request to register a new, un-deployed extension that includes similar functionality to an existing, registered extension should be made aware of the existing extension. The registrant should be asked to reconsider their request given the existence of a similar extension. Should they decline to do so perceived similarity should not be a sufficient reason for rejection as long as all other requirements are met.

### **3.2. Registration Procedure**

The registry contains information describing each registered extension. Registry entries are created and managed by sending forms to IANA that describe the extension and the operation to be performed on the registry entry.

#### **3.2.1. Required Information**

**Name of Extension:** A case-insensitive text string that contains the name of the extension specification.

**Specification Location:** A URL [[RFC3986](#)] that describes the location of the specification.

**Registrant Name and Email Address:** The case-insensitive name and email address of the person that is responsible for managing the registry entry.

**TLDs:** A case-insensitive text string description of the top-level domain (or domains) for which the extension has been specified. "Any" or "ANY" MUST be used if the extension is not associated with a specific top-level domain. Multiple TLDs SHOULD be specified as a list of domain names separated by commas, e.g. ".com, .net". Internationalized Domain Name (IDN) TLDs should be specified in A-label [[RFC5890](#)] format.



IPR Disclosure: Either "None", "NONE", or a URL that describes the location of an IPR disclosure document. Depending on the type of specification the IPR disclosure MAY be filed with the IETF in accordance with [RFC 3979](#) [[RFC3979](#)] as updated by [RFC 4879](#) [[RFC4879](#)]. Non-IETF IPR disclosures MUST clearly identify the claimed intellectual property rights and terms of use. "None" or "NONE" indicates that the extension is freely available for use with no claimed intellectual property rights.

Status: Either "Active", "ACTIVE", "Inactive", or "INACTIVE". The "Active" status is used for extensions that are currently implemented and available for use. The "Inactive" status is used for extensions that are not implemented or are otherwise not available for use.

Notes: Either "None", "NONE", or other text that describes optional notes to be included with the registered extension. If the Status value is "Inactive" or "INACTIVE" text should be included to describe how and when this state was reached.

### **3.2.2. Registration Form**

The required information MUST be formatted consistently using the following form. Form field names and values MAY appear on the same line:

-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

<text string> (quotes are OPTIONAL)

Specification Location:

<URL>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

<registrant name>, <email address>

TLDs:

"Any"|"ANY"|<one or more TLD text strings separated by commas>

IPR Disclosure:

"None"|"NONE"|<URL>

Status:

"Active"|"ACTIVE"|"Inactive"|"INACTIVE"

Notes:

"None"|"NONE"|<optional text>

-----END FORM-----





Example form with RFC specification:

-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

"An Extension RFC for the Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP)"

Specification Location:

<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfcXXXX>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

John Doe, jdoe@example.com

TLDs: Any

IPR Disclosure: None

Status: Active

Notes: None

-----END FORM-----

Example form with non-RFC specification:

-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

"An Example Extension for the .example Top-Level Domain"

Specification Location:

<http://www.example.com/html/example-epp-ext.txt>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

John Doe, jdoe@example.com

TLDs: .example

IPR Disclosure:

<http://www.example.com/ipr/example-epp-ext-ipr.html>

Status: Active

Notes: None

-----END FORM-----

### **3.2.3. Registration Processing**

Each registration form sent to IANA MUST contain a single record for incorporation into the registry. The form will be sent via email to <iana@iana.org> by the extension registrant. It MUST have a subject



line indicating whether the enclosed form represents an insertion of a new record (indicated by the word "INSERT" in the subject line) or a replacement of an existing record (indicated by the word "MODIFY" in the subject line). At no time can a record be deleted from the registry.

#### **3.2.4. Updating Registry Entries**

All changes to existing registry entries MUST be documented with text in the "Notes" field of the registration form. Under normal circumstances registry entries MAY only be updated by the registrant. If the registrant becomes unavailable or otherwise unresponsive, the designated expert MAY submit a registration form to IANA to update the registrant information. Entries MAY change state from "Active" to "Inactive" and back again as long as state change requests conform to the processing requirements identified in this document. Entries for which a specification becomes consistently unavailable over time should be marked "Inactive" by the designated expert until such time as the specification again becomes reliably available.

#### **4. IANA Considerations**

IANA is requested to create a new protocol registry to manage EPP extensions. The information to be registered and the procedures to be followed in populating the registry are described in [Section 3](#).

Name of registry: Extensions for the Extensible Provisioning Protocol

Required information: See [Section 3.2.1](#).

Review process: "Specification Required" as described in [RFC 5226](#) [[RFC5226](#)].

Size, format, and syntax of registry entries: See [Section 3.2.1](#).

Initial assignments and reservations:



-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

"Domain Registry Grace Period Mapping for the  
Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP)"

Specification Location:

<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc3915>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

Scott Hollenbeck, shollenbeck@verisign.com

TLDs: Any

IPR Disclosure: None

Status: Active

Notes: None

-----END FORM-----

-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

"E.164 Number Mapping for the  
Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP)"

Specification Location:

<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc4114>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

Scott Hollenbeck, shollenbeck@verisign.com

TLDs: Any

IPR Disclosure: None

Status: Active

Notes: None

-----END FORM-----



-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

"ENUM Validation Information Mapping for the  
Extensible Provisioning Protocol"

Specification Location:

<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5076>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

Bernie Hoeneisen, bernhard.hoeneisen@switch.ch,  
bernie@ietf.hoeneisen.ch

TLDs: Any

IPR Disclosure: None

Status: Active

Notes: None

-----END FORM-----

-----BEGIN FORM-----

Name of Extension:

"Domain Name System (DNS) Security Extensions Mapping for the  
Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP)"

Specification Location:

<http://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc5910>

Registrant Name and Email Address:

James Gould, jgould@verisign.com

TLDs: Any

IPR Disclosure: None

Status: Active

Notes: None

-----END FORM-----

In addition, the form used to populate and manage the registry is to be added to the table of Protocol Registration Forms maintained by IANA.





## **5. Security Considerations**

Using email to deliver forms to IANA carries a risk of registry entries being created or updated by an attacker who is able to spoof the email address of a legitimate extension registrant. This risk can be mitigated by replying to received messages with a request to confirm the requested action. The reply will be delivered to the specified registrant, who can validate or refute the request.

## **6. Acknowledgements**

The information described in the registry is based on a suggestion posted to the provreg mailing list by Jay Daley in August 2013.

## **7. References**

### **7.1. Normative References**

- [RFC2119] Bradner, S., "Key words for use in RFCs to Indicate Requirement Levels", [BCP 14](#), [RFC 2119](#), March 1997.
- [RFC3979] Bradner, S., "Intellectual Property Rights in IETF Technology", [BCP 79](#), [RFC 3979](#), March 2005.
- [RFC3986] Berners-Lee, T., Fielding, R., and L. Masinter, "Uniform Resource Identifier (URI): Generic Syntax", STD 66, [RFC 3986](#), January 2005.
- [RFC4879] Narten, T., "Clarification of the Third Party Disclosure Procedure in [RFC 3979](#)", [BCP 79](#), [RFC 4879](#), April 2007.
- [RFC5226] Narten, T. and H. Alvestrand, "Guidelines for Writing an IANA Considerations Section in RFCs", [BCP 26](#), [RFC 5226](#), May 2008.
- [RFC5730] Hollenbeck, S., "Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP)", STD 69, [RFC 5730](#), August 2009.
- [RFC5890] Klensin, J., "Internationalized Domain Names for Applications (IDNA): Definitions and Document Framework", [RFC 5890](#), August 2010.

### **7.2. Informative References**

- [RFC3735] Hollenbeck, S., "Guidelines for Extending the Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP)", [RFC 3735](#), March 2004.



## **Appendix A. Change Log**

- Initial -00: First working group version.
- 01: Added initial registry entries to [Section 4](#).
  - 02: Spelling corrections. Added [Section 3.1.1](#). Added "Notes" field to the registration template.
  - 03: Added reference to [Section 2.1 of RFC 3735](#) in [Section 3.1](#).
  - 04: Added "Status" field to the registration template. Fixed typo in [Section 3.1.1](#). Reformatted examples and initial registry entries.
  - 05: Added text to clarify how existing registry entries can and can't be edited.
  - 06: Modified text in [Section 3.1.1](#) to make it clear that it is possible to register functionally similar extensions.
  - 07: Address WG last call comments.

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