

IDN Variants

Background

- Joint meeting with ICANN TechOps group
 - First presentation of a proposed solution to implementing management of IDN variants
 - Ideal forum because of exposure to gTLD registries and registrars
- Zoom recording available
 - <https://cpsummit2024.sched.com/event/1c1ek/ietf-updates-joint-session-between-techops-and-regex>
- Was a great discussion with lots of good feedback

Guiding Principles

- Backwards compatibility is a requirement
 - Supporting IDN Variants is optional
- IDN Variants are managed as a **set**
 - Derived from “same entity principle”
 - Almost all the time - need your insight here

Guiding Technical Principles

- Primary label defines the set
 - Lifecycle of all members of the set matches the primary
 - Primary label must be created first - when it is deleted or expired all variants are impacted
- SLD variant sets operate inside a variant set of TLDs
 - SLD variant labels can be spread among a TLD variant set
 - Variant labels must be able to have different NS records and DS records
 - Variant labels may have different contact objects - must have same registrant
- At least conceptually, three “statuses” now exist for a variant label
 - Allocated - essentially a reservation of a variant label upon primary label creation
 - Activated - RNH has indicated intent to use variant label but may not have assigned NS
 - Delegated - RNH has assigned NS (and optionally DS)
 - Blocked - variant labels that are ineligible for activation

What's Next?

- Technical solution in support of IDN variants is needed
 - Requires new support in EPP and RDAP
- Initial proposal is being drafted and will be available soon
- Will ask Working Group to adopt the work