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

- 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