

RDAP: Security and Sustainability

#apnic58

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What is RDAP?



- Registration Data Access Protocol
- Replacement for Whois (RFC 3912)
- Highly extensible
- Originally defined in RFCs 7480-7484











What are the problems with Whois?

- Inconsistent formats, encodings, transports
- Difficult to extend
- (Some NIR data available at whois.apnic.net, as ASCII)



Port 43 + Web ASCII

inet6num: 2001:dd8:8::/45
netname: APNIC-SERVICES-AU

descr: APNIC

. . .



Port 43 + Web UTF-8 (< EUC-KR)

IPv6 주소 : 2001:0C98::/32 기관명 : 한국민터넷진흥원

서비스명 : KRNIC-NET



Web UTF-8

Chinese Name **台灣固網股** . . Netname TFN-NET

Country Code TW

. .



Port 43 + Web JIS

[IPネット...] 2001:0dc2::/32 [ネットワーク名] JPNIC-NET [組織名] 要約



Port 43 + Web ASCII

inet6num: 2406:6cc0::/32

netname: IDNIC-ID
descr: IDNIC

. . .





How does RDAP fix these problems?

Security

- Single format/ encoding/transport
- TLS

Sustainability

- Redirects
- Extensibility
- Common protocol for INR/DNR

```
"vcardArray": [
 "vcard",
    [ "version", {}, "text", "4.0" ],
   [ "fn", { "altid": "1", "language": "zh-Hant-TW" },
     "text", " 台灣固網股份有限公司 " ],
   [ "fn", { "altid": "1", "language": "en" },
     "text", "Taiwan Fixed Network CO.,LTD."],
   [ "kind", {}, "text", "individual" ],
   [ "adr", { "label": "8F., No.172-1, Sec.2, Ji-Lung Rd," },
     "text", [ "", "", "", "", "", ""] ],
   [ "email", {}, "text", "test@example.net" ]
```





How does RDAP help today?

- Current RDAP service (rdap.apnic.net) covers APNIC-source data, plus ASCII-mapped NIR-source data
 - TLS, redirects, extensibility, common protocol
 - Particularly with extensibility, RDAP sees lots of work in the standards space
 - Redaction, reverse search, RIR search
 - APNIC looking at implementations of some of these for next year





What are the areas for improvement?

- Lack of multilingual data, particularly for the NIRs
- NIRs unable to provide certain PII data to APNIC
 - Requires continued use of NIR Whois services
 - JPNIC working on own RDAP server to address this problem for their data: APNIC will eventually redirect to that server
- APNIC and the NIRs are looking into options here





RDAP is here for the long haul

- Each RIR has deployed this service
- ICANN mandates its use by gTLDs
 - https://www.icann.org/rdap
- Not all ccTLDs support RDAP: but, if unlisted ccTLD RDAP servers are taken into account, 82% of DUMs are covered by RDAP
 - https://regiops.net/sites/default/files/documents/10-ROW13-Gavin%20Brown-Stealth%20RDAP.pdf
- So although there is more work to do, RDAP is a strong base for that work that will be around for a long time





