



# Preview: Registrant Whois Experience Study

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# Background and Purpose (1 of 2)

- SAC023 (2007) - “Is the WHOIS Service a Source for email Addresses for Spammers?”
  - Collected and analyzed email messages to addresses for approximately three months.
  - Conclusion: appearance of email addresses in whois contributed to receipt of spam- virtually assuring spam delivery to these email addresses
- Report on Fake Renewal Notices (June 2012)
  - [https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/filefield\\_32395/fake-renewal-notices-updated-report-20jun12-en.pdf](https://gnso.icann.org/sites/default/files/filefield_32395/fake-renewal-notices-updated-report-20jun12-en.pdf)

# Background and Purpose (2 of 2)

- Many complaints to ICANN Contractual Compliance and discussions during ICANN meetings
- Adoption of 2013 RAA allowed for Compliance enforcement action- breach and suspension of a registrar for actions of its resellers
- Fourteen years and two whois Working Groups later, verified telephone numbers and the advent of SMS have introduced new vectors, robo-dialers and SMS text spam
- Does unredacted registration data in whois/RDAP continue to contribute to harm, enable fraud, or increase abuse?

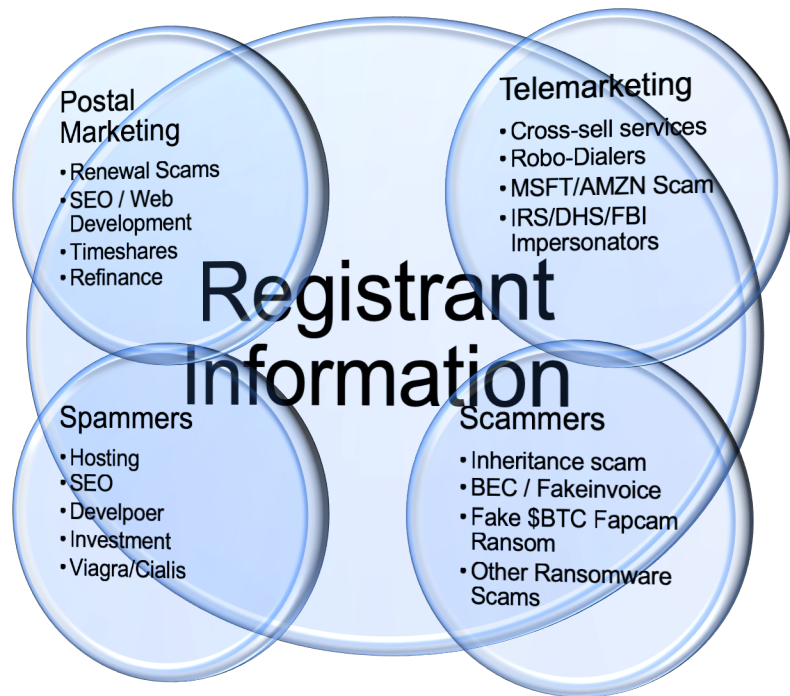
# Why This Study? (1 of 3)

- Observations by registrars of increase in spam, fraud calls, and unsolicited postal mail
- Generally to existing contact information

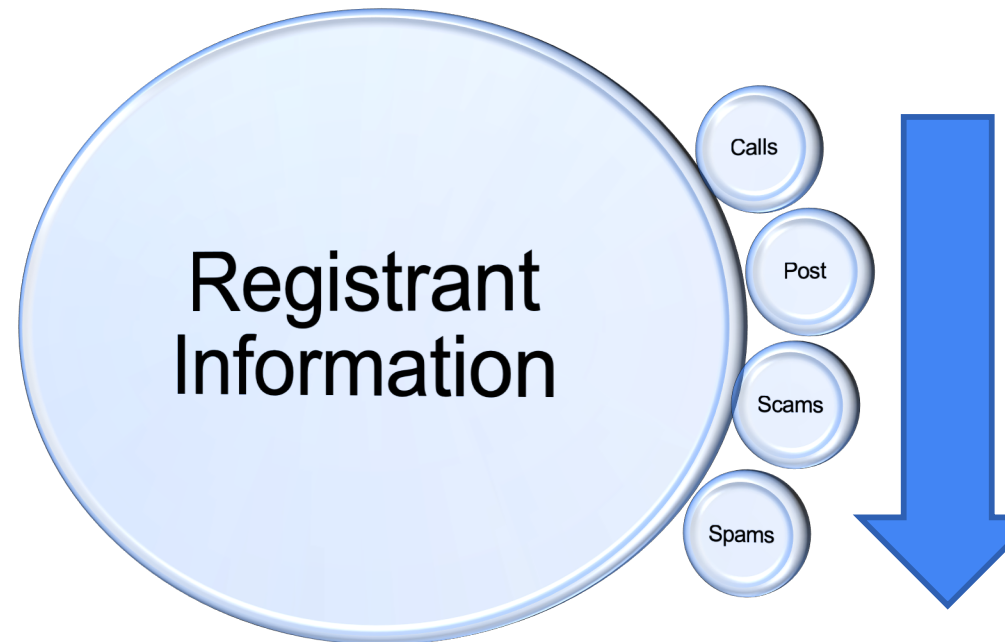


# Why This Study? (2 of 3)

Pubic Registrant Data Available




With Privacy/Redaction



# Why This Study? (3 of 3)

- So called “fake renewal notices”
- Planned approach with unique contact information to accurately measure effects
- Share this data with the ICANN community to help guide current and future policy



**Domain Name Expiration Notice**  
visit us at [www.giv.com](http://www.giv.com)

As a courtesy to domain name holders, we are sending you this notification of the domain name registration that is due to expire in the next few months. When you switch today to Domain Registry, you can take advantage of our best savings. Your registration for [redacted] .org will expire on [redacted] . Act today!

**Domain name:** [redacted] .org  
**Reply Requested By:** June 28, 2021

You must renew your domain name to retain exclusive rights to it on the Web, and now is the time to transfer and renew your name from your current Registrar to Domain Registry. Failure to renew your domain name by the expiration date may result in a loss of your online identity making it difficult for your customers and friends to locate you on the Web.

Privatization of Domain Registrations and Renewals now allows the consumer the choice of Registrars when initially registering and also when renewing a domain name. Domain name holders are not obligated to renew their domain name with their current Registrar or with Domain Registry. Review our prices and decide for yourself. You are under no obligation to pay the amounts stated below, unless you accept this offer. **This notice is not a bill**, it is rather an easy means of payment should you decide to switch your domain name registration to Domain Registry.

Term	Period covered	Price
1 Year	Until -- Aug 26, 2022	\$50.00
2 Year (Recommended)	Until -- Aug 26, 2023	\$90.00 (save \$10)
5 Year (Best Value)	Until -- Aug 26, 2026	\$190.00 (save \$60)

The following names are currently available for you to register and secure, protecting your domain name from being duplicated.

Available Domains	Period covered	Price
[redacted] .net .....	2 Years .....	\$90.00
[redacted] .biz .....	2 Years .....	\$90.00

For a complete list of our terms and conditions, please visit [www.giv.com/tos](http://www.giv.com/tos)  
Transfer and renew your domain name online at [www.giv.com](http://www.giv.com) 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Please detach this stub and include it with your payment.**

Check the appropriate boxes of the Domain Names you would like to order.

Expiration Date	Reply Requested By	Renewal Term	Payment	(✓)
[redacted]	[redacted]	1 Year	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
[redacted]	[redacted]	2 Year	\$90.00	<input type="checkbox"/>
[redacted]	[redacted]	5 Year	\$190.00	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Available Domain Names (Optional)**

coinpros.net

1 Year ..... \$50.00

2 Year ..... \$90.00

5 Year ..... \$190.00

coinpros.biz

1 Year ..... \$50.00

2 Year ..... \$90.00

5 Year ..... \$190.00


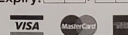


**Total Amount**

If paying by credit card, please enter your information below:

**Card Number:**

**Expiry:**  /

Please provide a valid email address on the above line

# Abuse of Registrant Data

- 2013 RAA requirements to verify telephone or email, and specific detailed steps to correct, results in “better” data for marketers (in their perspective)
- Even post-GDPR and Temporary Specification, gTLD registration data can be present in unredacted format
- Certain ccTLDS (including .us) require unmasked contact data (including no privacy/proxy providers)
- Obtaining data via whois/RDAP is low-cost
- Data collators are not all acting in the public interest
- Collection of use of registration data is (or has been used) for legal and illegal purposes.





# Approach and Methodology

- Study design and testing (in process)
- Create and test clean personas
  - Create new email address and telephone number (remove spam filter/number blocks)
  - Use postal address not currently used for domain name registration
  - Test for 2 weeks to confirm "clean"
- Register domain names through several registrars (without privacy), through various TLDs, geographic distribution, etc
- Document contact (how, what, when, etc)
- Analysis



## Next Steps

- Review/incorporate community feedback
- Finalize methodology
- Create/confirm clean personas
- Register domain names and collect data
- Report at ICANN72



# Q & A

# Thank You!

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