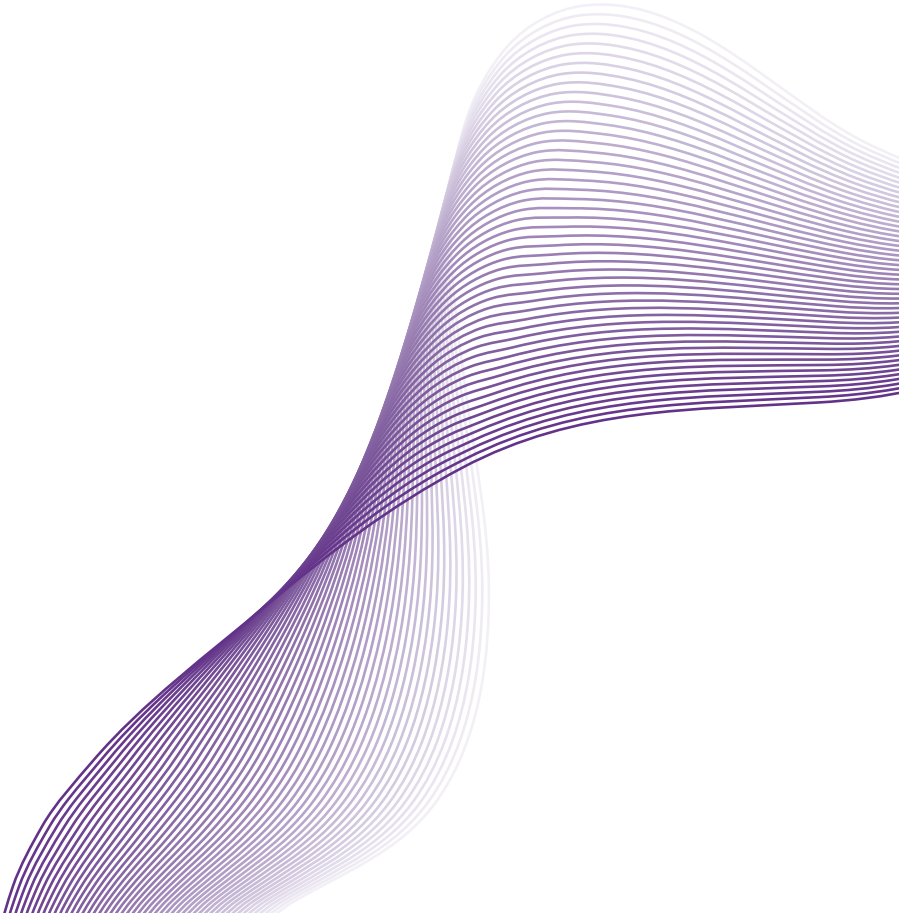


nominet

Non executive director elections 2007
Candidate statements



VOTE BY INTERNET



1. Go to <https://secure.nominet.org.uk/>
2. Log in using your email address and password
3. Click on the “members” tab
4. Click on the link for the “polls” page and click on the non-executive director election “view” button
5. This will take you to the election site
6. You must enter a name as authorised to vote in this election on behalf of your organisation
7. Click in the box next to the name for your first preference and a 1 will be entered. Click in the box next to the name for your second preference and a 2 will be entered, and so on until all your preferences have been cast. You do not have to use all 6 preferences.
8. Click Submit
9. Check your preferences are correct and click on Submit

VOTE BY POST



1. Cast your votes by entering a 1 in the box next to the name for your first preference, then enter a 2 in the box next to the name for your second preference and so on until all your preferences have been cast. You do not have to use all 6 preferences.
2. Place your ballot paper in the pre paid envelope provided and post to Popularis Ltd, Independent Scrutineer, 6 De Montfort Mews, Leicester LE1 7EU or bring it along to the AGM and hand it to the representative of Popularis Ltd.

ALL POSTAL OR ELECTRONIC VOTES MUST REACH POPULARIS LTD NO LATER THAN 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 2ND MAY 2007.

Votes received after that time will not be included in the count.

You may only cast your votes by using the Internet system OR by post. Please do not use both systems or ALL your votes will be disregarded.

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Proposed by: Jason Smith, Namesco Limited

Seconded by: Ditlev Bredahl, UK2.net

I am standing for election because I feel passionate about Nominet and its future and believe I have the business acumen, and that my many years of experience running a variety of businesses, will be of value to Nominet. I have no hidden agenda and I think you'll see from the details on my personal website* that I am an honest, genuine and decent bloke who loves life.

I have been involved with Fibranet Services, directly and indirectly, since 1999 and helped significantly grow our hosting businesses - NTWebhost and Powerhost - prior to their sale in 2002. I was Managing Director of Tollon Ltd., a UK hosting company for two years until June 2005. Since returning to Fibranet Services I have been working on the launch of four businesses along with offering new products and services within Freeparking.co.uk.

Fibranet Services has been a member of Nominet since the very early days. Our CTO, Paul Lomax was involved in many of the early consultations and both Paul and I have always had a good relationship with Nominet.

I am a people person and I would seek to ensure Nominet communicates effectively with all members and the wider stake holder community. I would like to play a part in helping the public understand who Nominet is and how the entire domain name registration process works. I would like to see Nominet hold more events aimed at the general public and perhaps work more closely with the registrars to ensure the public understand the relationship between the registrars and Nominet.

I would like to see the surplus used in a sort of Nominet Trust Foundation way for the greater good of the wider UK Internet community. I think it would be good to engage with school leavers and perhaps those in their GCSE years. The Internet is still in its infancy and I believe the children of today will be the ones shaping the Internet of tomorrow. I know all the members will have thoughts on how they would like to see the surplus used and I look forward to the consultation and on hearing as many views from the members as possible.

I would like to see more member events where members can get together not just on a formal business basis, but also socially. I feel there is a "them and us" culture of sorts between many of the different groups and the opportunity to mix socially with other members to share views will help create a better understanding of each other. This in turn would help nom-steer be less hostile and more inviting to those who no longer participate. I believe it is a great medium for sharing views.

Nominet has some exciting times ahead and needs to make certain that it remains well placed to react to the rapidly changing marketplace. I believe I will make a positive contribution and I ask for your support.

*For further information and personal background please see <http://www.dickiearmour.me.uk>

Dickie Armour – Business History

I am General Manager of Fibranet Services Ltd and have been involved in the group directly and indirectly since 1999. I have over eight years experience of running Internet based businesses predominately based around domain name registration, software and web development and web hosting. Our main business interests are www.freeparking.co.uk and www.fibranet-services.co.uk.

Prior to the dot com crash I was Global Head of Sales concentrating on eCommerce software. After the crash I ran the dedicated server business within NTWebhost and PowerHost. Both businesses were successfully sold to Tollon Ltd in December 2002 and I went as part of the deal. I was Managing Director of Tollon for two years and oversaw all aspects of the hosting business from domain name registration and hosting through to broadband and software development. I sat on a round table forum at Microsoft's first ever UK Hosting event and worked closely with Microsoft whilst we adopted their SPLA licencing model. Having served my time at Tollon I left and came back to Fibranet Services Ltd.

At Fibranet we are currently working on the launch of four new businesses and are continually adding new features, products and services to Freeparking. Last year Freeparking became an ICANN accredited domain registrar and this has helped increase Freeparking's profile both nationally and internationally.

I also have an interest in an email business; www.letsgetpersonal.co.uk with a couple of friends. So many people still don't realise that it is very simple to buy their own domain name and have cool looking email instead of ISP branded email. We launched a Gift service for people to buy personal email addresses as presents and Christmas 2006 was a record.

Through my fundraising efforts we've formed a partnership with Cancer Research UK and from every domain name sold we give 50p to the charity.

Prior to my Internet business life I was a stockbroker in the City for just over sixteen years. I began on the floor of the Stock Exchange and in 1983, at seventeen; I was the youngest dealer on the floor. I saw huge changes during my career, from Big Bang in 1986 through to the introduction of electronic trading in the late 90s. The last firm I worked for in the City was Cantor Fitzgerald International where I helped introduce their e-Speed business, a new electronic trading platform which the market makers used to enter their own prices into Cantor's systems. It was the first of its kind.

I have over twenty four years experience in business, well developed interpersonal skills and a proven background in developing and maintaining business relationships at the highest levels. I am self motivated, highly positive and a good team player. I am honest and still follow the Stock Exchange's motto; "Dictum Meum Pactum": my word is my bond. I have been successful in helping run many businesses across a range of sectors and I hope to put these skills to good use for Nominet.

Proposed by: Gradwell dot com Limited (Peter Gradwell)

Seconded by: (aq) Limited (Adam Beaumont)

I am proposed in this election by my own organisation and by several other UK ISPs with whom I am involved. If elected I will bring increased commercial energy and regulatory experience of the UK communications industry to Nominet. My focus will be:

- Continuing to drive Nominet to complete the development of technical projects increase the range of tools and services available to registrars (e.g. Internationalised Domains).
- Participating in the wider UK electronic communications industry to develop the common databases and directories needed to advance our industry (e.g. ENUM, Number Portability).
- Manage Nominet's surplus perhaps through the formation of a charitable foundation whose purpose is to advance the skills and technologies that drive our industries.
- Continued review of the key issues, e.g. the Dispute Resolution Service and Governance Policies, to ensure that they continue to fairly balance different stakeholder needs.

I was previously involved in Nominet Policy, chairing the Policy Advisory Board for 2 years (2002-2004) and was able to engage with many Nominet members during that period. Nominet's recent 10th birthday provided the opportunity to reflect that it is a well run efficient registry, for which many of the early policy questions and teething problems have passed.

However, the next 4 years the UK communications industry will continue to challenge us with increasingly converged services as the any-time, any-where, electronic economy develops.

Similarly our electronic identifiers: domain names, telephone numbers, etc. will become increasingly converged and mobile. Consumers will have one identity, which they will demand to switch smoothly between providers.

As domain names evolve we will continue to need a reliable, respected and neutral provider of key infrastructure to support the next generation of tools and technologies out of which we, the members, will build our communications businesses.

In summary: I am a candidate with good corporate skills and a strong vision for the future of the UK communications industry. I am familiar with Nominet and Government, and will energetically drive Nominet to do more and run more services, supporting the growth of the wider registrar community.

I live and work in Bath and am available on 01225 800 810 or sip:peter@gradwell.com. You can find out more at <http://peter.gradwell.com/>

Mr Peter Gradwell MENG, FBCS – Curriculum Vitae

Address: 26 Cheltenham St, Bath, BA2 3EX.

Telephone: +44 (0) 1225 800 810

Nationality: British

E-mail: peter@gradwell.com

As an entrepreneurial business leader and consulting technical design authority for Internet based applications I uniquely combine a deep technical understanding of complex computer systems with strong finance, personnel and project management skills, allowing me to successfully deliver profitable hi-tech business.

Gradwell dot com Limited: I founded Gradwell in 1998 and have grown the business full-time since 2002 to a 1.5M turnover, 17 staff organisation operating email, web and VoIP solutions to UK Small Business, with 100% growth, year on year.

We are in the top 3 providers for VoIP in our sector, having designed, built and delivered our email, web and VoIP service product to over 6000 clients.

Company Achievements:

- Profitable, Self Funded, with over 6000 clients
- DTI-Interforum Ecommerce Awards in 2004 & 2005 for Best Use of Broadband and Best Customer Service
- Entered the Deloitte Fast 50 (Fastest 50 Growing Technology companies in the South)

Personal Industry Achievements:

- Recognised as a "changing face of IT" in the Telegraph, Feb 2007.

-Nominated as a Fellow of the British Computer Society

- Wide ranging Industry Involvement, with Nominet (Chair of PAB 2002-2004), the DTI (ENUM), Home Office, Law Enforcement, OFCOM & NICC (Consultation on VoIP and 999 NICC Working Group) and as a founder member of the Internet Telephony Service Providers Association.

Other Directorships:

Newnet plc & Loud-n-clear Limited: As a non-executive Director of Newnet plc and Loud-n-clear Limited I assist the board and senior management in understanding their companies position in the market place, defining their ongoing strategy and providing external experience to assist their operation.

Telephony Services Limited: I am a director of a wholesale UK Public Electronic Communications Network Operator, whom provides services to my associated companies.

Bath Canoe Club Limited: Each year I train 50+ new recruits for their 1* and 2* Kayaking Awards.

Education & Career:

- MEng Software Engineering Degree from the University of Wales, Aberystwyth
- Part-time Study for a PhD in Computer Science at University of Bath
- Post-Graduate Employment with Logica Plc, and various ISPs and Web Development Agencies in the "dot-com" boom.
- Travelled widely, with various other awards and qualifications, e.g. DOE Gold
- Level 2 Kayak Coach, with an active involvement in Bath Canoe Club.

Proposed by: Simone Althorp, Melbourne IT

Seconded by: Richard Brown, Database Power Ltd

“How would you help Nominet achieve its goals and ambitions?”

POSITIVE

I would like, as far as I can, to help Nominet to continue to be a leading player in the domain name sector and to be an encourager of the good things that Nominet does in running a very competent registry and in keeping a talented team focused on the uk name space;

NOMINET’S DIRECTION

I am concerned at the direction that Nominet may be going and would like the board to be very careful about whether they are changing Nominet’s goals and ambitions – I strongly support Nominet’s not-for-profit status and I am in favour of control of the board staying with the members.

.UK IS A BIG BRAND

Nominet aims to be a leading brand and I think it should build its brand by keener marketing – for example Nominet could make direct approaches to some large UK firms who use domain names that do not end in .uk;

PROMOTING .UK NAMES

There is greater scope for Nominet to promote the use of .co.uk names: I think Nominet should be more active in marketing .uk. This would fulfil Nominet’s aim of promoting the .uk namespace as well as helping its ISP members.

ENGAGING MORE MEMBERS

I would help Nominet to reach out further to non-participating members – in particular I would foster close contact with members and ISPs whom I know personally. To reassure smaller members Nominet could make it clear that there are no plans to increase membership fees (assuming there are none);

WHAT PEOPLE REALLY WANT

Nominet should focus on what customers actually want: for example many members and registrants want 10-year renewals and the release of two letter domain names. As a non-executive I would urge Nominet to overcome difficulties to offer services people want;

REPUTATION

I would like to see Nominet’s reputation improved – the current set-up of the DRS needs looking at and serious consideration should be given to making it more independent of Nominet;

REVENUE NEUTRALITY – NOT FOR PROFIT

One of Nominet’s goals has been often stated as “revenue neutrality” – I would like to see Nominet tackle the issue of its substantial yearly profit/surplus in ways that benefit all members and registrants;

MORE OPENNESS

Nominet aims to be an open organisation – I would contribute to this through listening and communicating more about what Nominet is planning to do. I would be in favour of clearer breakdowns for members of Nominet’s expenditure.

INDEPENDENCE

Nominet would like to remain independent even though it is sometimes accused of running a monopoly. It does face competition from GTLDs but within the main UK namespace there is only one supplier. I would like to encourage Nominet to run that space in ways that make it less subject to criticism or indeed government regulation.

Angus Hanton – About Me

I am 47, an economics graduate and a director of a small number of private companies and one public company – what I would bring to the board would be experience and energy: my experience includes strategic thinking, lateral thinking and management of change.

Specifically relevant activities include:

- building up an internet-based business—woodlands.co.uk
- cooperating with others to develop websites that serve commercial groups or local communities
- working on the management of an investment trust as a board director
- building up a mail-order business and introducing some new products to the UK (eg playground chess)
- dealing with a number of domain name transactions mostly on behalf of Giant Games Limited t/a www.giraffe.co.uk but also many transactions for third parties.

As a director I would be very contactable—I reply to all emails and phone calls and I already attend most public Nominet meetings. Contact me by emailing: angus@woodlands.co.uk or phone 020 7737 0070

I am a regular reader of Nomsteer but I try to contribute only when I have something to say.

Personal strengths: numbers, strategy and team-working.

Proposed by: John Souter, London Internet Exchange Limited

Secunded by: Clive Feather, THUS plc

Having spent four years on Nominet's Policy Advisory Board/Body advising on policy, I would like to take a more active role in helping guide Nominet through its next stage of evolution on a strategic level by bringing in a fresh perspective and new energy to the heart of the company.

The Nominet board has understandably faced some tough times from the issues surrounding the governance review and EGMs over the last year. It needs to re-establish the trust and relationships which have been affected and which are so important for a membership organisation.

My background:

I am director of NetConnex, a hosting company; Chairman & director of LONAP, a not-for-profit Internet Exchange Point and co-founder of ADSLguide.org.uk (now thinkbroadband), a broadband news and comparison site. I have been involved with Nominet informally through events and nom-steer since my company joined, and formally since 2003 when I was elected onto the Policy Advisory Board.

This experience will I hope, allow you to consider me as an **independent director** not tied to any one particular competitor or stakeholder group, but able to understand the needs and concerns of all stakeholders and therefore able to address them accordingly.

My Vision for Nominet:

- Nominet is fundamentally a stable organisation with dedicated and highly skilled staff
- Encourage technical excellence and leadership (IDN, DNSSEC, etc.)
- It should remain a not-for-profit organisation supporting both small and large members
- Continuing encouragement of registrar-business model with fair pricing (domains registered via tagholders)
- Paperless Nominet – moving from paper-based to electronic communication where possible
- Key focus and resources into finishing development of synchronous EPP interface and associated web-based systems
- Electronic interfaces for transactions which are currently manual (e.g. transfers) with appropriate safeguards
- Nominet's bid for UK ENUM is a high strategic priority
- Evaluation of competitive position against other TLDs (1-10 year registrations, promotion of .uk, etc.)
- Reduce operational costs using technology where appropriate to achieve efficiency savings
- *New approach to member and stakeholder participation with more opportunities to meet other members*

**** Participation: A new strategy ****

Nominet has grown from a small group to almost 3,000 members and it's important Nominet adapts to better understand the needs of those members. It has already helped matters by introducing electronic voting, simpler consultation feedback and so on, but I'd like to see it take a leap by appointing an individual responsible for member and stakeholder participation, whose only role would be to pro-actively encourage and facilitate direct interaction through various mediums, both on-line and off-line with members and other stakeholders in a *conversation*, rather than a consultation.

I understand the commitment and responsibilities involved and if elected, I will undertake to be an active director in every way possible.

Read more about My Vision for Nominet at:

<http://www.seb.me.uk/nominet>

I welcome any questions or suggestions to nominet@seb.me.uk or you can reach me on 07747 607 148.

Sebastien Lahtinen – Curriculum Vitae

Date of birth: 05 August 1979 **Nationality:** British Citizen

Contact: nominet@seb.me.uk • tel. 0870 745 4830 • mob. 07747 607 148

Summary:

I am an entrepreneur with a strong interest in Internet related projects as I believe it is a medium where there is much innovation that has not yet taken place. I am very dedicated to the ventures with which I am associated, holding perfect attendance records both at Nominet PAB meetings for four years (along with frequent participation in subcommittees), Nominet AGMs and regular participation on nom-steer.

Education:

B.Sc. Management

London School of Economics (University of London)

Interdisciplinary Institute of Management (including courses in Management, Marketing, Strategy, Quantitative Methods, Economics, Accounting & Finance and Commercial Law)

M.Sc. Analysis, Design and Management of Information Systems

London School of Economics (University of London)

Department of Information Systems (including Systems Development, IS Management, Security in IS for Organisations, Privacy and paper in Stakeholder Theory.)

Current Positions:

Managing Director, NetConnex Ltd. & NetConnex Broadband Ltd. *Internet Service Provider* (www.ncuk.com)

The NetConnex companies provide a range of ISP services (co-location, dedicated servers, hosting, etc.) including domain registration and IT consultancy to small and large companies including a number of PLCs. The focus is on delivering high quality services to customers which meet their specific demands. I have been involved with both companies from the beginning.

Chairman, LONAP Ltd. *Internet Exchange Point* (www.lonap.net)

LONAP is a not-for-profit membership organisation which operates an Internet Exchange Point in London Docklands. It is one of the most competitive exchanges in the London area in four key sites on a 10 Gbps fibre ring allowing interchange of traffic between its members. At peak times the exchange now delivers over 4.5 Gbps of traffic across its member ports. This is up from about 400 Mbps when I joined the board in 2004. Following successful re-election by the members in 2006, I have taken over as Chairman of the company.

Co-founder, ADSLguide.org.uk / thinkbroadband.com *Online Publication* (www.thinkbroadband.com)

I am one of the co-founders and management responsible for the set up of the ADSLguide.org.uk website in 2000 when ADSL technology was the remit of the early adopters. We are the UK's largest broadband news and comparison website with over 5 million unique visitors in 2006. We pride in being truly independent of any broadband service providers. In December 2006, the site was rebranded to 'thinkbroadband' taking into consideration the increasing use of alternative broadband technologies. We are also in the process of making the site easier to use, in particular for non-technical users which form an increasing number of our visitors.

Past Positions:

Commercial Director, LONAP Ltd. (2004 - 2006)

Chairman, Policy Advisory Board, Nominet UK (2004 - 2006)

Member, Policy Advisory Board/Body, Nominet UK (2003 - 2007)

Other Projects:

I am an investor and partner in Bioxeqtor LLP, an investment vehicle for a group of individuals in a bio-pharmaceutical project.

Professional Associations:

Member of the Institute of Directors

Board member retiring by rotation and restanding

Nominet has developed substantially in the recent past, led by a very effective and competent management team. It has been a privilege for me to work with this team over the past few years. Throughout what has been a period of significant change, I have actively and creatively contributed to the Nominet board by providing thoughtful input and constructive criticism at all times.

My primary reason for standing for re-election to the COM is that I firmly believe that there remains a set of very interesting challenges ahead for Nominet that I am particularly motivated to contribute to, and assist with. I am very well qualified for the position, am up-to-speed with the issues and understand the scope of the role. I see it first and foremost as a non-executive director's position, with an associated duty to recognise all key stakeholders, and not simply a platform to serve one particular special interest group.

My work experience is detailed in full in the CV submitted with this election statement. However, it is worth highlighting key aspects of my experience. For the past 10 years I have been active in the domain name and related areas of the Internet services industry. I have had significant exposure to and influence on all aspects of the industry, in the UK and internationally. In addition to industry specific experience at a non-executive level, my primary employment has been with a professionally managed, fast-growing and listed company of a size and shape that has many relevant parallels with Nominet.

My previous election statement is available on the Nominet web site at the location below:

http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/17246_2005_Board_elections.pdf

My view remains that Nominet occupies a key position as both the supplier of a vital component of the Internet services sector, as well as being the manager of a significant national asset.

I said in 2005 that Nominet needs to be responsive within both the national and international contexts in which it operates, as well as to the members that use its services. Nominet has made great strides through enhanced and very effective work in a number of international forums and is increasingly regaining or developing its place as both a thought leader and an effective service provider in the UK and abroad.

I also wrote about being dynamic and willing to change in accordance with industry trends, whilst continuing to deliver operating efficiency. Nominet has developed constitutionally and operationally and is now in an excellent position to both serve the existing membership requirements as well as respond to new opportunities.

By many measures, Nominet has been very successful to date but it needs to continue to develop through being responsive to changing market conditions and its' broad stakeholder base. Nominet needs to continue to be professionally managed by good management and a dynamic board. I am sure that I can make a substantial contribution to this board and therefore would very much appreciate your support to do so through your vote in the 2007 COM election.

Jonathan Robinson – Curriculum Vitae

Professional experience

2006-Present:

Group NBT (formerly NetBenefit) plc – London

Chief Operating Officer

- Main board director of profitable, quoted company (£20m sales)
- Member of four person executive management team
- Responsible for all aspects of the group's product management, software development, technical operations and service delivery
- Additional responsibilities include; commercial media relations, acquisition integration projects, M&A strategy, prospecting and execution support

2001-2005:

NetBenefit plc – London

Business Development Director

- Main board director of international, profitable, UK quoted company
- Member of executive management team
- Responsible for product, software development and technical operations
- Additional responsibilities; commercial media relations, M&A strategy, prospecting and execution

1997-2001:

NetBenefit UK Ltd/NetBenefit plc – London

MD/CEO

- Appointed in May 1997 to manage and develop NetBenefit UK Ltd
- Set strategy, successfully listed NetBenefit plc on LSE in 1999
- Acquired French subsidiary (1999) and major UK competitor (Q1 2000)
- Initial restructuring in Q4 2000, subsequent hire of new chairman
- Full strategic review and refinement of strategy Q4 2000 / Q1 2001
- Second restructure Q1 2001, initial implementation of new strategy
- External CEO appointed Q3 2001

1995-1996:

Rolls Royce Technology Centre – Cambridge

Rolls-Royce Research Fellow

- Research position at industry funded research centre attached to the University of Cambridge
- Responsible for research programme validating predictive models of gas turbine welding processes

1993-1994: Imperial College – London

Research Associate

- Responsible for commercially oriented research programme focussed on the development of erosion resistant coatings for steam turbine blades

Additional professional activities

2003-Present: Nominet UK Ltd – Oxford

Director

- Member elected, fixed term, non-executive position (expires July 2005)

2001-Present: Afiliis LLC – London

Director

- Afiliis is a privately run, for-profit registry responsible for policy, infrastructure and marketing of the.info gTLD
- Fixed term, non-executive position (expires September 2007)

1996-1999: NetBenefit UK Ltd – London

Director

- Founder shareholder and non-executive director

1998-1999:

Internet Council of Registrars (CORE) – Geneva

Deputy Chairman

- CORE was a consortium of commercial and other organisations formed to drive the introduction of new gTLDs
- NetBenefit was a founder member of CORE
- Member elected non-executive position

Awards received

3 successive Deloitte & Touche Fast 50 awards to NetBenefit plc

Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year semi-finalist 2000

Education

1988-1991: University of Cape Town – Cape Town

PhD Materials Engineering

- Included research undertaken at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratories, University of California, Berkeley, USA

1987-1988: University of Cape Town – Cape Town

MSc Applied Science

- 18 month coursework and dissertation programme completed
- Degree registration upgraded to PhD

1984-1986: University of Cape Town – Cape Town

BSc Physics

- 3 year degree with sub-majors in Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Proposed by: Mike Read, Pipex Communications UK Ltd

Seconded by: Alan Barnett, TwentyTwenty Media Limited

Since becoming a member of Nominet I have taken a keen interest in what's going on, and from having meetings with Nominet to discuss issues I have gained an intimate knowledge of some of the internal workings. Nominet overall is doing a reasonable job but also has many short comings. When I speak to members and business owners I find the following things in need of attention.

Communication – nom-steer needs change, maybe in the format of a members forum with moderators. Many members subscribe to it but find it difficult to join the discussions. Nominet must look into new ways to keep all members informed and the dialogue going. Nominet must also improve public consultations.

Marketing – when I speak to end users, they have heard of the Patent Office or companies house, but not Nominet; why?

Phishing and Spam – a lot has been said in the public arena about end user experience and what we can do about it. I propose to recommend that some of the reserves are used to fund a project to combat phishing and spamming.

Openness and Transparency – I feel there have been a number of things that have gone on within Nominet that should have been addressed more openly. Nominet could be classed as a quasi government department as it represents the interests of all of the UK, and as such should be more open to constructive criticism and feedback if it makes mistakes.

The DRS – has undergone little change over the last few years although the internet industry has changed significantly. I believe these changes in the industry have had a dramatic effect on the outcome of many DRS cases. This system now seems to be both unfair and biased towards the complainant. There is a significant number of Intellectual Property Lawyers deciding on DRS cases, which are also representing the complainants as well. The DRS was meant to be a simple system. It now seems to be an extra way for lawyers to get names for their clients. I will propose changes to include experts to be more in line with the Patent Office and for the possibility of it being operated by a totally independent organisation. More like the way that UDRP is run under WIPO

Pricing – bulk purchasing allows for discounted purchases in many industries. Nominet is a not for profit organisation, therefore I will recommend that it looks into a new pricing structure, that allows a reduction in fees. I do, however, believe that Nominet should maintain a healthy reserve of money for unforeseen problems.

In Summary , I will press for change in many areas and do my best to halt changes where unnecessary. I will be dedicated to this job. Nominet is one of the world's best registries, and should carry on what it does best; it should not compete with its members and has to be open and honest about all it does.

Michael@toth.biz 01943 600096

Michael Toth – Personal Statement

I am 41 years old construction management graduate, with an active interest in Nominet.

Since joining I have tried to go to every AGM, members meetings and have been to Nominet several times to talk about issues. Overcoming problems and strategising is what I enjoy best.

I run a number of small businesses and have also worked for a large house building company. My learning curve has included the following,

- While in University I jointly ran a building site managing the construction of 500 houses. This taught me people and organizational skills early on.
- Setting up of a computer repair and business networking company
- Developing a system to register and manage domain names.
- Setting up of several advertisement based websites including unitedkingdom.co.uk
- Managing a portfolio of thousands of domain names.
- Building a home in a foreign country highlights the need to delegate and seek out the skills you lack.
- Maintaining (For Free) a local schools computer department of about 50 PCs.
- Setting up of the Domain Name Association – more to follow on this one.

I would hope to bring to the board the following strengths.

Openness My email Michael@toth.biz. Telephone 01943 600096

Directness If I have a problem I will talk to you about it.

Fairness I consult with many, digest the info then speak.

Team Player I can work in a team as well as on my own.

Adaptability I am able to ask others for advice.

My personal home interests include – house design and build, skiing, scuba diving, travel, spending time playing with my children, reading Sunday morning papers (mainly The Times), and spending some time each day to have a chat and a coffee with my partner.

An explanation of Single Transferable Voting (STV)

There are various methodologies that can be used for calculating the results of a poll by Single Transferable Vote. Nominet uses the Hare-Clarke method.

Hare-Clarke is a variation of preferential counting called proportional preferential. In order to be elected a candidate needs to achieve a set quota of votes. The quota is calculated after all the first preference votes have been counted, and is calculated using the following formula: $Q = V / (P + 1) + 1$. The following example illustrates how this is done:

The formula is: total number of valid votes / (number of positions +1) +1

500 valid votes are received for 12 seats.

$$500 / (12 + 1) + 1 = 39.4615$$

Quota = 39.46

Any candidate with votes greater than the quota are automatically elected. If all seats are filled at this point then the election is completed and declared. However if not all seats are filled then the following steps will occur:

- If the successful candidate(s) has more than the quota, the last package of votes that they received will be redistributed based on the preferences indicated on the ballot paper. The votes will be assigned a transfer value such that the total value of the votes redistributed is equal to their surplus. Once this has been done results will again be checked to see if the required number of candidates have been elected. The transfer value is calculated as $T = (V - Q) / V2$. V is the number of votes the candidate has and Q is the quota. V2 is the number of votes in the last package that they received.
- If the successful candidate(s) do not have a surplus of votes then a currently unelected candidate with the lowest number of votes will be excluded and their votes redistributed using preferences. This process is repeated until all candidates are elected or until the number of remaining candidates is equal to the candidates required, in which case they are declared elected.

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