

## FEBRUARY 2008 COMMUNIQUÉ

Nominet's Board of Directors met on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

### Foundation

The Board gave formal approval for the legal formation of the charitable Foundation. Recruitment of Foundation Trustees is underway, and more details can be found at <http://www.nominet.org.uk/news/latest/?contentId=4822>. We will be seeking to appoint one Member Trustee, three independent Trustees and one Trustee representing Nominet staff. The Board appointed Lesley Cowley as the Board Trustee.

### Best Companies

The Board congratulated the staff on retaining the first class award in the Best Companies accreditation. This award acknowledges corporate excellence in the workplace and is of particular note as 653 companies applied to achieve 'Star Status', with only 307 meeting the required standard to be accredited.

### UK IGF launch

Our joint initiative to create a UK IGF process, in partnership with the Rt Hon Alun Michael MP and BERR, was officially launched on 6<sup>th</sup> March at a parliamentary event. The Board was pleased to note that our UK IGF initiative was mentioned in a European Parliamentary resolution, and is beginning to influence other countries to formulate their own national processes,

### Best Practice Challenge

The Board is pleased to announce that we will be holding our second Best Practice Challenge in 2008. The Press Association has agreed to work as our media partner and further details of the Award categories will be announced shortly.

### NTIA

We have responded to the NTIA Notice of Inquiry on the Joint Partnership Agreement between the US Department of Commerce and ICANN. The link to our submission can be found here: [http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/27473\\_Nominet\\_Response\\_to\\_NTIA.pdf](http://www.nominet.org.uk/digitalAssets/27473_Nominet_Response_to_NTIA.pdf). Martin Boyle of Nominet took part in the panel at the public hearing in Washington on 28<sup>th</sup> February.

### DRS Policy & Procedure

Further to the consultation that took place last year, the Board has approved changes to the DRS policy and procedure. Highlights of the main changes will be presented to the PAB at their meeting in March. The revised documents will then be published on our web site.

### AGM

As previously announced the AGM will take place on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2008, and the Board encourage members to attend and also to use their vote. Formal AGM Papers will be available in mid March.

### PAB

Nominations for the PAB election closed on 19<sup>th</sup> February and the Board encourages members to vote in the election.

### Renewals

Towards the end of last year the Board requested feedback on a number of proposed changes to the renewals process. Based on the feedback received we have agreed the following:

- We will no longer issue pro forma invoices to registrants
- We will introduce additional functionality to allow registrars to indicate that a domain name should not be renewed
- It will be possible to cancel a renewal request as long as the request is received prior to expiry and the cancellation is requested before the invoice is generated
- Given the mixed views expressed and majority support for the current practice, we will not reduce the suspension period from 60 days

These system changes will now be added to our development work programme. A proposed implementation time line will be published once available.

### **Operational Statistics**

There were 2852 active members and 4096 active tags as at 31st January 2007. Since November 2007, 49 new members have joined and 67 members have resigned. The number of new registrations in December 2007 was 101,392 and January 2008 was 148,592. The average renewal rate for the year was 70 %. The net growth of the register for the last 12 months was 15 %.