

Question 1 - Can you make it more clear within your rules that the UK is governed by three separate legal jurisdictions, that of Northern Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales? (I've deliberated misspelled that in order to separate the entities). Since most people should be aware that the UK is currently the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (eg ISO3166-1:1997), it could be wrongly assumed that Northern Irish companies are included presently under your rules.

Furthermore, whilst I can see it is an administrative pain for Nominet to keep changing its rules, they should properly refer to legislation currently in force. Referring to "the Names Register" arbitrarily rather than (for example) "the list of company names kept by the registrar of companies under s.714 of the Companies Act 1985" may present you with problems later in the determination of whether an application that was refused complied with either the current Companies Act or any future acts that may be passed. There may also be legal changes that affect your rules passed via other legislation.

In other words it is not possible to "future proof" your rules,

In my opinion permission should not be required to update the rules to reflect changes in the law provided such changes are adequately explained. If this is not already stated in your rules then this is your opportunity to change them.

As to the usage of Welsh words in a domain name, does this conflict with the restriction on registering IDNs? I am not certain, but I think that not all Welsh words can be written using the 26 characters between a-z inclusive. Can you also make it clear that a domain name has to be either "all Welsh" or "all English" (with the obvious exception of the first two levels of the domain name), to save confusion? It may not be possible to register a company name in two different languages anyway. If that is indeed the case then I concede that this is a moot point.

Question 2 - I have no problem with the removal of this section because of the restrictions that you brought into force in October 2004.

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