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Dear Readers,

Behind us is the third quarter of 2017, the overview of which, containing detailed data on the .pl domain market in Poland, is presented in this report. We publish the quarterly journal in a new graphic design with a new logo as well as elements of modern visual identity of the .pl registry. At the end of September 2017 the number of active .pl domain names amounted to nearly 2.6 million. Temporary slowdown of the dynamics of the .pl domain market, observed from the beginning of the year – decrease in the number of new registrations – should be perceived in the light of extending the selection of attractive names as well as a growing number of new generic domains and increase in competition in the global domain market. At the same time we are glad to observe that the number of .pl domain registrants is constantly growing – during the third quarter the number grew by over 5.5 thousand. Worthy of note is also the fact that the renewal rate of .pl domain names, in the third quarter, attained the level of 62.22%, improving the last quarter’s result by 0.54 p.p. During the discussed period the number of .pl domain names, secured with a modern DNSSEC protocol, increased by almost 2 thousand. This type of names constitutes currently ca. 1.5% of all registered .pl domain names. We are observing a growing registrars’ interest in the DNSSEC protocol and provision of .pl domain security in the Internet which, in turn, fills with hope that this number will increase significantly soon.

In chapter “Insight into .pl registry” you will find an interview with Martyna Różycka, leader of the Illegal Content in the Internet Response Team – Dyżurnet.pl. During the interview there was raised a question of service administrators’ responsibility to respond to reported cases of publishing illegal content in the Internet.

We are very pleased that the NASK Registrar Programme is still developing. At the end of September we had great pleasure to meet our registrars during the Open Day at the .pl registry. A new formula of the event was welcomed very positively by participants. During the meeting there were discussed, among others, issues related to disputes on .pl domain names, bulk transfer and implementation of GDPR as one of most important elements of the policy of managing both the network and information security.

I wish you pleasant reading of the report on Q3 2017.
Facts and figures

- Nearly 2.6 mln active .pl domain names
- 2216 names registered daily average
- 212 Partners of .pl registry
- 2.51 names fell for one registrant
- 66.41% of registrants were entrepreneurs, whereas 33.59% natural persons
- 38153 names secured with DNSSEC
- Nearly 204 thousand new names
- Over 388 thousand renewed names
- 3378 new agreements on options
- Over 1.03 mln registrants
- 38534 IDNs
- 32845 transfers
- 38534 new agreements
- Effectiveness of options 44.67%
- 475 agreements on options renewed for consecutive 3 years
- Nearly 2.6 mln active .pl domain names
.pl domain names active in DNS

Domains in .pl registry

At the end of September 2017, in the .pl registry there were 2,592,014 domain names active in DNS with 75.81% thereof registered directly in the .pl domain (second level domain names), 19.66% in functional domains (e.g.: .com.pl, .info.pl) and 4.53% in regional domains (e.g. .warszawa.pl, .wroclaw.pl).

Out of all .pl domain names, active in DNS, 25.52% were registered in 2017, 18.42% in 2016, 33.73% of names were registered between 2011 and 2015, 15.98% between 2006 and 2010, while remaining 6.35% of names were entered in the registry in years 1994-2005.
Transfers
From the beginning of July to the end of September 2017 .pl domain registrants 32,845 times changed a registrar servicing their .pl domain names. In 880 cases the transfer was executed with a simultaneous renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period while 347 of them being effected after the previous billing period had been completed.
Renewal of a domain name for a consecutive billing period

The renewal rate, at the end of September 2017, amounted to 62.22%. In the third quarter of 2017 over **388 thousand** names were renewed, with second level domain names constituting **76.37%**, functional domain names **18.90%** and regional domain names **4.73%**.

**81.74%** of .pl domain names, renewed between 1 July and 30 September 2017, were registered before 2016, **18.16%** in 2016, while remaining **0.10%** in 2017.

In case of **1731** names the last day of a billing period was shifted by an individually defined number of days.
During the third quarter of 2017 203,898 .pl domain names were registered. In July the number of registrations amounted to 65,578. In August 65,332 new names were registered. The highest number of names, 72,985, were registered in September.

A daily average number of registered .pl domain names, during the quarter under discussion, amounted to 2,216. In particular months the amount of daily registrations equalled on average 2,115 in July, 2,108 in August and 2,433 in September.

From the beginning of July to the end of September 2017 75.75% of registrations were effected directly in the .pl domain (second level domain names), 20.15% in functional domains, whereas remaining 4.10% in regional domains.
Registrants of .pl domain names

Registrants in the .p registry
At the end of the third quarter of 2017 in the .pl registry, there were 1,035,681 unique entries of .pl domain name registrants. It is 5,565 registrants more than at the end of the second quarter of 2017. 2.51 .pl domain names fell for one registrant on average. Entrepreneurs constituted 66.41% and natural persons 33.59% of all registrants.

Place of residence of .pl domain name registrants
At the end of September 2017, from amongst all the domain names, active in DNS, 93.96% were being maintained for the registrants domiciled in Poland and only 6.04% of names for registrants from abroad. In this group the numerous registrants were from Germany (1.47%), Great Britain (0.67%) and United States (0.60%).

Out of all new .pl domain names registrations, effected in the third quarter of 2017, 91.05% were realized for registrants from Poland, while remaining 8.95% of names for foreign registrants, amongst whom predominant were registrants from Cyprus (4.20%), Germany (0.94%) and Great Britain (0.76%).

Registrants vs .pl domain names
With the end of the third quarter of 2017 for entrepreneurs and organizations there were being maintained in the registry 68.61% of names, active in DNS, whereas remaining 31.39% for natural persons. For entrepreneurs and organizations 61.74% of new registrations were executed, while for natural persons 38.26%. At the end of September 2017 the .pl registry was maintaining one domain name for 66.06% of registrants, two domain names for 15.65%, three domain names for 5.78%, and 10 and more .pl domain names were held by 2.73% of registrants.

Assignments
In the third quarter of 2017 there were 28,240 changes of .pl domain names registrants.
Number of changes of .pl domain name registrants, Q3 2017

- Poland: 91.05%
- Others: 8.95%
- Cyprus: 4.20%
- Germany: 0.94%
- Great Britain: 0.76%
- Malta: 0.47%
- Seychelles: 0.36%
- Others: 2.22%

Division of .pl domain name registrations for a registrant's country, Q3 2017

- Poland: 93.96%
- Others: 6.04%
- Germany: 1.47%
- Great Britain: 0.67%
- USA: 0.60%
- Seychelles: 0.33%
- Holland: 0.30%
- France: 0.28%
- Czech Republic: 0.24%
- Cyprus: 0.24%
- Sweden: 0.17%
- Switzerland: 0.12%
- Others: 1.58%

Division of registrants by account of the number of maintained .pl domain names, Q3 2017

- One name: 66.06%
- Two names: 15.65%
- Three names: 5.78%
- Four names: 3.68%
- Five names: 2.45%
- Six names: 1.53%
- Seven names: 0.92%
- Eight names: 0.70%
- Nine names: 0.50%
- Ten names and more: 2.73%

Division of .pl domain names active in DNS for registrant's country, Q3 2017

- Poland: 91.05%
- Others: 8.95%
Additional services of .pl registry

IDNs

The .pl registry, at the end of the third quarter of 2017, contained 38,534 names, active in DNS, with national diacritic signs (IDNs), constituting 1.48% of all active .pl domain names.

From the beginning of July to the end of September 2017 1,232 IDNs were registered, i.e. 0.60% of all .pl domain names registered during that period.
Additional services of .pl registry

DNSSEC

At the end of the third quarter of 2017 there were 38,153 names secured with DNSSEC protocol. During the third quarter the number of secured .pl domain names increased by 1,967. Daily average, 21 secured domain names, were added to the .pl registry.

In the third quarter of 2017 0.96% of newly registered names were signed with the DNSSEC protocol.

86.85% of secured names were registered directly in the .pl domain, 10.08% in the functional domains, whereas 3.07% in the regional domains.
Additional services of .pl registry

Options

From the beginning of July to the end of September 2017 3,378 agreements on options for the registration of .pl domain names were concluded, whereas 475 existing agreements were renewed for consecutive three years.

1,193 agreements on options ended with providing a domain name for registration, whereas in 78 cases the registration procedure was not completed due to reasons attributable to an option holder, which resulted in the domain names being released to the group of names available for registration.

Since launching the service of option for registration of a domain name in June 2004, the .pl registry has concluded more than 205 thousand agreements, with 44.67% thereof providing .pl domain names for registration.

Effectiveness of options 44.67%

Number of WLS registrations
Registrars of .pl domain names

.pl Registry Partner Programme

The .pl registry, at the end of the third quarter of 2017, was cooperating with 212 registrars from 24 countries. 132 registrars had their registered offices in Poland and were servicing in total 75.33% of .pl domain names, 55 registrars, seated in other European countries, were servicing 14.40% of .pl domain names, while 25 registrars, domiciled beyond Europe, were servicing 10.27% of .pl domain names.
Registrars of .pl domain names

Division of .pl domain name market

In the third quarter of 2017, Nazwa.pl Sp. z o.o. dominated the .pl domain name market both in respect of the number of serviced domain names and registrants and new registrations, attaining the results of 22.35%, 23.23% and 33.93% respectively.

More than a half of options were set through Michau Enterprises Ltd., assisting in conclusion of 50.21% of agreements on options.

The highest number of domain names, secured with the DNSSEC protocol, was being serviced consistently by OVH SAS which, in the third quarter of 2017, was servicing 94.21% of secured names.

Partner's market share in the service of .pl domain names secured with DNSSEC, Q3 2017

- OVH SAS: 94.21%
- Others: 5.79%
- Domeneshop AS: 2.31%
- Key-Systems GmbH: 1.20%
- Hosting Concepts B.V.: 0.88%
- Domeny .pl Sp. z o.o.: 0.28%
- Remaining: 1.12%
Partner's market share in the service of .pl domain names, Q3 2017

nazwa.pl Sp. z o.o. 22.35%
Home.pl S.A. 19.33%
Consulting Service Sp. z o.o. 10.64%
OVH SAS 10.41%
Michau Enterprises Ltd. 9.51%
AZ.pl Sp. z o.o. 4.43%
Premium.pl Sp. z o.o. 2.91%
Agnat Sp. z o.o. 2.81%
Dinfo Systemy Internetowe 2.39%
Domeny.pl Sp. z o.o. 1.39%
Remaining 13.83%

Partner's market share in registration of new .pl domain names, Q3 2017

nazwa.pl Sp. z o.o. 33.93%
Home.pl S.A. 15.55%
OVH SAS 8.88%
Michau Enterprises Ltd. 8.08%
Consulting Service Sp. z o.o. 6.93%
AZ.pl Sp. z o.o. 4.43%
Premium.pl Sp. z o.o. 2.91%
Agnat Sp. z o.o. 2.81%
Dinfo Systemy Internetowe 2.39%
Domeny.pl Sp. z o.o. 1.39%
Remaining 15.99%

Partner's market share in the service of registrants of .pl domain names, Q3 2017

nazwa.pl Sp. z o.o. 23.23%
Home.pl S.A. 19.80%
Consulting Service Sp. z o.o. 12.76%
OVH SAS 11.30%
AZ.pl Sp. z o.o. 5.39%
Dinfo Systemy Internetowe 3.48%
Agnat Sp. z o.o. 3.44%
Michau Enterprises Ltd. 2.05%
Domeny.pl Sp. z o.o. 1.49%
Wirtuale.pl S.A. 1.19%
Remaining 15.87%

Partner's share in the WLS market, Q3 2017

Michau Enterprises Ltd. 50.21%
Premium.pl Sp. z o.o. 4.06%
Agnat Sp. z o.o. 3.46%
First Dropcatchers LLC 4.23%
Domeny.pl Sp. z o.o. 13.38%
Remaining 24.66%
How should the administrator respond and why their response is vital?

A starting question: Who is authorized to remove content from the Internet?

It is a multidimensional question. Content may be always removed by a person who has uploaded it, however, if we talk about adverse content, such as illegal content, it is the administrators, owners of service, portal or server, that are engaged in moderation. In such a case it is advised to block the access, i.e. content is no longer available for users while the administrator keeps all technical information which may turn out to be helpful in a pending proceeding. Worthy of note is the fact that it is necessary to moderate adverse content if we want to shape the community of our clients and users.

The Dyżurnet.pl team is obliged to respond to reported cases of publishing in the Internet illegal content, in particular regarding sexual abuse of children. We frequently turn to administrators, drawing their attention to harmful content, legal or illegal, and ask them to remove it, change the category or insert a warning. When the contents are illegal we inform the Police first, then we ask service owners to take action.

How do you assess the effectiveness level of those actions? Do service owners respond properly to reports filed by Dyżurnet.pl?

I think it is not bad, but it always can be better. Big and liable entities have task-dedicated persons as well as contact information to responsible teams published at their websites, therefore we do not have to wait long for a response. The matter gets more complicated in case of smaller entities and niche services – it is difficult to find a proper contact channel, and in particular the one that works! The effectiveness depends on administrator’s response time, i.e. the faster response the shorter adverse content is accessible online and the more limited is its further distribution. By taking actions against the contents, presenting sexual abuse of children, we monitor the time of content availability from the moment of taking intervention and report it to our INHOPE association as well as to the European Commission due to the fact that our activity is co-financed from the EU measures.
At the meeting with NASK’s Partners in 2016, you presented interesting data on actions taken by the Dyżurnet.pl team, including the number of issues reported by Dyżurnet.pl to a service administrator or moderator. How those date look like currently? What actions do you expect the administrator to take?

From time to time we ask a service owner for moderation consisting in e.g. moving materials not suitable for children, but legal, to other category, and what the owner does is the entire deletion of all reported contents. It is not always the case to take drastic steps.

Within last three months we have contacted administrators 232 times while, at the same time, we reported 31 cases to the Police and 552 cases to our INHOPE association. It shows how important effective cooperation is.

How the activities of points of contact, such as Dyżurnet.pl, are carried out in Europe and in the world?

Allocation of such teams like ours, hotline teams responding to the contents presenting sexual abuse of children, in different institutions illustrates in a very interesting way how it looks like in particular countries. In most cases those institutions are the organizations for children, e.g. Save the Children in Sweden, ECPAT in Taiwan – foundations acting for the security of children in the Internet or associations such as Stopline in Austria and ISPAI in Ireland, established by administrators and representing their interests. It illustrates that our activities are very important for entities operating in the Internet sector.

What educational activities of the Dyżurnet.pl team are aimed at children and youth? Where can we find information on that?

Dyżurnet.pl acts for creating secure Internet, therefore it is essential to promote knowledge on that subject among the youngest users. At our website https://dyzurnet.pl/ we publish articles on current issues such as internet blackmail against children and youth. There are also available multimedia publications and materials on running campaigns, including project Safer Internet and educational materials Kursor, Plik i Folder. Together with experts of NASK Academy we also hold meeting and classes for pupils and teachers. We really intent to cooperate with individuals, organizations and entities which are willing to raise security level in the Internet and conduct educational activities aimed, in particular, at the youngest users.

Thank you for conversation.

The interview was conducted by Anna Gniadek and Alina Wiśniewska-Skura.

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