

CommunityDNS's Blog...

In order to provide brief information on what is going on around the globe that can affect members of the DNS community, a blog has been established to deliver a quick digest of the four to six top news bits for that respective business day. Currently distilling stories from 32 news sources the CommunityDNS blog is a great way to quickly & easily gain a quick glimpse of items affecting our community today.


- Webhost hack wipes out 100,000 sites in UK hosting center.
- 9 out of 10 e-mails are spam. 7% contain links to bad sites.
- Over 60% of websites contain vulnerabilities.
- German law allows police to distribute filter file to ISPs.


Visit: blog.communitydns.net




CommunityDNS continues to grow!

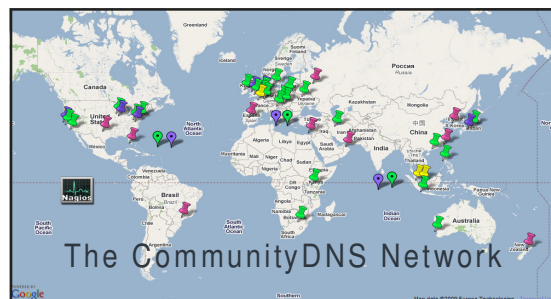
Already providing support for more global names than any other DNS provider, CommunityDNS continues to grow and welcomes three new countries with four additional nodes to its family.

Two New Nodes: Singapore...  IPMirror, an intellectual assets management company with specific expertise in domain name registrations, portfolio management, in-depth investigation/reporting and intellectual property rights enforcement, along with being an accredited registrar, is utilizing CommunityDNS to provide a premiere service for its customers. Customers can subscribe to have their names added to CommunityDNS' highly-secure global Anycast network, further enhancing strong security and resiliency. With offices in Singapore, Germany, Canada, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, India, Japan and Korea, IPMirror is working with CommunityDNS to provide its customers with the most resilient, robust and secure package.

SGNIC, the registry for Singapore, also became a member  of the CommunityDNS family. As one of the technical leaders in the region, with excellent strategic connectivity, CommunityDNS' node will significantly add to the reliability and stability of DNS in Singapore.

New Node: Riga – Latvia...  With thanks to Katrina Sataki and Varis Teivans, CommunityDNS, in conjunction with **NIC.LV**, announces its new node in Riga Latvia. The quick, smooth and problem free installation will enhance the speed and resiliency for the registry and its country's Internet resilience.

New Node: Paris – France...  Renater, who also runs one of France's major Internet exchange points, SFINX, is a non-profit organization that manages the French Research and Education Network; France's telecommunication infrastructure for research and education. With more than 1,000 sites connecting to RENATER via campus, metropolitan or regional networks, CommunityDNS' node will offer exceptional response times to authoritative DNS information in France.



Countries React to the Pain...

That is the pain of how a compromised Internet can affect a country's commerce, economy and people. In various reports released in the last two months the Internet is playing an ever increasing role in peoples' lives. Global broadband connections have reached another record level and people would rather find other ways to cut back, rather than give up their broadband connections. As reported in our last newsletter, *hacking has become organized*. Hackers, through well-funded organizations, are getting more sophisticated with their coding and tricks. The criminal community has upped the ante enough that countries and their military have not only taken notice, they are beginning to act.

In the last two months the U.S military and intelligence agencies are reported to be working to define how they should retaliate after being on the receiving end of a cyber attack. After all, as reminded by experts from the National Defense University, "Cyberwarfare is warfare".

- The U.S. government appointed its first national CIO.
- President Obama announced the creation of a Cyber Security Coordinator.
- The U.S. Defense Secretary approved the establishment of "Cyber Command"; whose responsibilities will be to defend the government and military networks against cyber threats and will deliver an actionable national cyber defense plan.
- The FBI has stationed an agent at the NATO-established Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence based in Tallinn, Estonia.
- U.S. military students are now having cyberwarfare simulations where NSA serves as the opponent.

In the U.K. the police consider a regional cyber squad formed along the lines of the regional groups designed for anti-terrorism purposes. They are also working on their national cyber defense plan.

Other items around the world include Australian federal police to receive computer forensics training and the establishment of the Rome-based European Electronic Crime Task Force. This task force is to coordinate pan-European and US efforts with regards to cybercrime activity.

In CommunityDNS' last newsletter we reported on "Hacking as a 'service' gets organized". The steps countries are taking are a result of the pain induced by the hacker community.



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CommunityDNS

Supporting the largest number of Domain Names Globally www.communitydns.net

About CommunityDNS

Supporting 120 million domain names from 97 TLD zones today, the current system has the capacity of supporting 585 billion queries per day, CommunityDNS has maintained 100% uptime since first providing DNS services in 1996.

When protecting your TLD from the malicious community, both security and speed of response matters! Optimized for speed and security, CommunityDNS is an experienced, global DNS provider that is 8 to 10 times faster than traditional DNS platforms.

CommunityDNS has a wealth of experience providing very fast and highly-secure DNS services utilizing a thorough, highly-distributed global footprint.

CommunityDNS

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Showing Strong 'Net Growth', Philippines Readies for More

The Philippines, with a population of over 97 million, ranks as the world's 12th most populous country and ranks 19th in terms of world-wide Internet users. This already heavily 'Net-active' country expects to see even greater growth. Paul Kane, CEO of CommunityDNS reports: "The first day .PH came up on the CommunityDNS' network we received over 5,000 queries per second through BayanTel. That's close to 400 million queries per day!". Kane further states: "What's surprising is we have customers that may have over four times as many names, yet only a fraction of the activity when compared with the 'Net users from the Philippines". Joel Disini, President and CEO of DotPH tells us that "with only a 21.5% saturation



Joel Disini, President & CEO of DotPH

rate, there is much room for growth. In the last three years there has been exceptional growth for .PH names. In 2007, the growth in .PH names grew 31%, only to be surpassed in 2008 by further growth of 35.5%. Already May and June have been the most active months in the history of the registry and July is shaping up to be the strongest yet!"

The Philippines, already a major crossroad among global cable networks in the Pacific, Oceania and Asian regions, is working with other countries in planning for a regional, 4 terabyte cable network to meet anticipated demand.

Aside from an already large domestic user base, the Philippines ranks 4th in the number of expatriates who live

away from the country. "To maintain contact with the Philippines, large numbers of expatriates seek .PH-based sites" states Disini who also tells us that connectivity is key for DotPH and its user base. Bayan Telecommunications (BayanTel), was chosen as a hub by DotPH because of their connectivity. BayanTel is a major telecom provider in the Philippines, providing local exchange carrier services, international gateway facility services, domestic and international leased line services as well as public trunk radio and calling office services. "Covering the Philippines with satellite, terrestrial and land/submarine-based cable facilities, and having an 84% interest in the capacity of the only major alternative telecommunications backbone, we felt BayanTel was the optimal solution for ensuring growth for DotPH," notes Disini who explains that he has chosen CommunityDNS to support his company's continued growth as their global DNS Anycast provider due to CommunityDNS's record of uptime, global footprint and demonstrated levels of operational capacity. CommunityDNS say "It's great to have you with us!"

DNSSEC Industry Coalition

Having supported DNSSEC since 2004, and supporting the largest collection of names in the industry over the fastest and most secure platforms, CommunityDNS realizes the importance of security in ensuring a resiliency. To that end CommunityDNS has joined the DNSSEC Industry Coalition whose goal is to facilitate the adoption of DNSSEC. As a member, we look forward to working with the Coalition, helping raise visibility about DNSSEC and aggressively work to curb potential exploits from malicious users.





EYE ON IT

Current topics affecting the namespace industry

Most Notable

- 183 million domain names populate the Internet.

Malware and Spam

- Taking advantage of inherent root of trust, hackers now targeting social networking sites Twitter & Facebook.
- 80% of malicious code came through online ads.
- 6 million different malwares detected in 2008. Weak link? 90% need to "phone home" for instructions.
- BotNets responsible for 80% of spam. 90.4% of all e-mail is spam.
- FTC shuts US-based 3FN.net for harboring cyber criminals. 15,000 sites taken offline. 30% decrease in global spam. One month later spam level reaches new heights.
- Over 80% of domain names used by phishers are legitimate domains.

Infrastructure

- Broadband continues to grow with 429.2 million connections globally. By 2013, 700 million connections with 2 billion wireless subscribers.
- Asian carriers plan large regional, 4 terabyte cable network connecting South Korea, Malaysia, China, Japan, Taiwan, Philippines, Hong Kong, Vietnam, Thailand and Singapore.

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Voices from the Internet

With DNS as the common denominator, the Internet's substructure is what makes voices heard...

For most we simply take the Internet for granted. 63% of Americans have broadband to their home and, during current economic times, 90% are not willing to give up their connections. 84% of the UK believes the Internet is essential. A small town in Minnesota has declared the Internet a utility and can therefore provide connectivity, funded by local bonds, to pay for infrastructure. At the same time, we are reminded just how essential the Internet is, when people can not assume the Internet will always be available, whether by outage, working against cybercrime or government policy.

In the past month we have seen how the Internet has been crucial for a group to inform the world of what is going on even as attempts have been made to squelch a voice. In anticipation of the 20th anniversary of the protests in China's Tiananmen Square, China cut off access, in the days proceeding to and shortly after, to such sites as YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, WordPress and Blogger, to name a few. The goal was to curb any potential rioting through the spread of news via the Internet. After the election in Iran riots broke out due to election results. As with China, Iran worked to block access to sites.

While sites were blocked prior to the election the main thrust of filtering did not occur until protesters began spreading word via social networking sites such as Twitter. Newscasters were able to report news based upon what they were reading on Twitter as protests unfolded. As the days progressed the lockdown tightened and fewer reports were coming from Iran.

Rioting, based on internal, ethnic differences, broke out in Urumqi, China. Thought to have begun over a clash between differing ethnic cultures, China began filtering sites so as to control the situation by stifling communication among protesters and with the outside world. China limited Internet access to the immediate area and not all of China.

Another story that has dominated recent news is China's decision to have the Green Dam filtering software installed on every PC sold to China. The filter, as China claims, is necessary to protect children from pornography as well as protect its citizens from harmful content. Recognizing that technology has its flaws China also announced plans to enlist 10,000 volunteers to help police content that may have slipped through the cracks and should be filtered.

However, when we look at China and Iran, people have been able to reach the Internet despite such filters. There are sites, not typically blocked, that allow people to connect to a server outside of their respective country. Once on the server they have unrestricted access to the Internet. Also applications with interfaces in popular social networking sites may not be known, thus not blocked. The perfect example of this is while Twitter may be blocked, applications users use to interface with Twitter are not, thus tweets continue to flow.

Whatever side of the fence you are on regarding the pros or cons of filtering or censorship, the Internet is a network that covers the globe knowing no boundaries, ideologies or philosophies, yet is expected to work according to varying levels of expectations. Based upon what we have witnessed with China and Iran, the Internet is resilient enough to withstand our regionally-based pressures. The Internet was intended for all, and it's for all, if not the single voice, that we, as members of the Internet's substructure, work to provide a resilient infrastructure for the single voice.



Consistently Fast Reporting – Story from Finland...

FICORA, the Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority, plans and administers the use of radio frequencies, communications network number and network addresses for .FI Top Level Domain. Their operation is to ensure an information-secure society and full enjoyment of an interference-free communications network.

"If we see problems we try to fix them as soon as possible",

says Salmensueo Sami, Development Manager for FICORA and .FI; Finland's registry provider. "So on May 27, we were a bit surprised as to why CommunityDNS' global monitoring and alert systems appeared to be reporting an outage from one of our other Anycast provider's Name Servers, when all appeared fine according to our internal monitoring systems." On closer examination, that day there was an outage with the b.fi server that created an outage for northern Europe, this was later picked up by RIPE's DNSMON service.

CommunityDNS Provides...

- "Very good reliability"
- Very good administration web interface and statistics
- IPv6 (our other Anycast provider does not support IPv6)"



Following best practice, FICORA seeks to maximize uptime through the use of six DNS platforms, two of which provide Anycast services along with three different monitoring platforms. CommunityDNS is one of FICORA's Anycast providers and throughout the outage period, CommunityDNS' servers delivered service to our customers perfectly. "Because of the different information we were receiving, we called CommunityDNS to ascertain why their system was alerting us to the outage. On closer examination, as it turns out CommunityDNS' reporting systems were accurate and had highlighted the outage correctly. Fortunately, due to our diversity of DNS platforms .FI was not affected by the outage".

The outage lasted for close to 46 hours when seen from the UK and close to 43 hours when viewed from Russia.

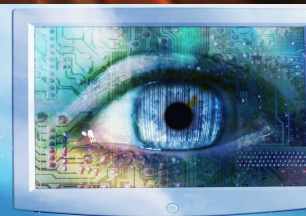
When asked what CommunityDNS provided that other DNS platforms do

not provide Salmensueo said:

"Very good reliability, Very good administration, web interface and statistics, IPv6 (as our other Anycast provider does not support IPv6)"

One of the strengths heard repeatedly from CommunityDNS' customers is their real-time statistics, monitoring and reliable DNS service. "We strive to provide strong levels of service. The shear speed of our dedicated platforms allow us to be accurate and informative with our real-time monitoring", states Paul Kane, CEO of CommunityDNS. "We were very pleased to hear that our monitoring services exceed our customer's expectations and consistently delivers an unparalleled level of service".

With regards to Finland's Internet community, there are currently close to 215,000 names registered through FICORA. With a population of 5,326,314, 66% of Finland's households currently have Broadband connectivity.



EYE ON IT

Infrastructure [continued from page 2]

- TransAtlantic cables may be full by 2014.
- Obama treats America's digital infrastructure as a national asset.

Filtering

- China - Mandatory installation of Green Dam filtering software delayed.
- Germany – New law empowers German police to issue filter list to ISPs.
- Australia – Network filtering no longer mandatory but ISPs encouraged to use lists voluntarily.

Country & Military

- Belarus media sites hit by massive DDoS attack.
- European Electronic Crime Task Force for pan-European and US cyber issues forms in Rome.
- FBI stations agent at the Expertise Information technology Cooperative Cyber Defense Center of Excellence in Tallinn, Estonia.
- US military looking to package cyber attack tools for broader use by other military personnel.

Five of 10 things to know about cyberwarfare:

1. Battle could be over in nanoseconds.
2. Data manipulation instead of data destruction.
3. Chaos instead of destruction.
4. Private networks could be used to launch attack.
5. When private nets hit, Defense Dept. assumes control