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August 16, 2011

BECKSTROM TO LEAVE ICANN AT END OF HIS TERM

Rod Beckstrom will continue to fulfill his term as ICANN’s President and CEO, which will be completed on 1 July 2012. He has held this position since 1 July 2009.

“I am incredibly proud of ICANN’s achievements throughout my tenure,” said Beckstrom. “In two short years we have advanced this organization to a new level of professionalism and productivity, and turned it into a genuinely multinational organization that will serve the world community long after my time here.”

Beckstrom has had many [notable accomplishments](#) [PDF, 147 KB] at ICANN. They include the negotiation and signing of the Affirmation of Commitments, the historic 2009 agreement with the US Government that moved ICANN’s oversight from one government to the world, and the signing of the Internet’s root with DNSSEC. The introduction of internationalized domain names under his watch has allowed millions of Internet users to access the Internet entirely in their primary language script.

“I can summarize my time here in four words: strong execution, great teambuilding,” he said. “We have built a world-class executive team, and elevated ICANN’s stature through strategic relationships with governments, businesses, top technology firms and international organizations.”

A program to launch new generic top-level domains – a major change to the domain name system - was approved in June and will launch in the next year. ICANN’s agreement with the US government - the IANA functions contract – expires in March, and Beckstrom emphasized his commitment to bring the contract renewal to a successful conclusion.

Steve Crocker, Chair of ICANN’s Board of Directors, said: “The Board of Directors fully supports Rod through the completion of his July 2012 term and is committed to continuing the collaboration that has produced so many benefits for ICANN and for the global Internet.”

Beckstrom continued: “I remain committed to leading this critical organization with the utmost dedication, and to living up to our common vision: One world, one Internet.”

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*ICANN's mission is to ensure a stable, secure and unified global Internet. To reach another person on the Internet you have to type an address into your computer - a name or a number. That address has to be unique so computers know where to find each other. ICANN coordinates these unique identifiers across the world. Without that coordination we wouldn't have one global Internet. ICANN was formed in 1998. It is a not-for-profit public-benefit corporation with participants from all over the world dedicated to keeping the Internet secure, stable and interoperable. It promotes competition and develops policy on the Internet's unique identifiers. ICANN doesn't control content on the Internet. It cannot stop spam and it doesn't deal with access to the Internet. But through its coordination role of the Internet's naming system, it does have an important impact on the expansion and evolution of the Internet. **For more information please visit: www.icann.org.***