
DNS Stability

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DNS Stability Review

New gTLD strings must not adversely affect the security or stability of the Domain Name System (DNS). The DNS Stability Review determines whether an applied-for gTLD string complies with DNS and other relevant standards. This involves checking the string for conformance with the technical requirements listed here for gTLD strings (labels). Applications will not proceed unless these checks have been completed successfully.

The applied-for gTLD string must comply with the following requirements:

1. The ASCII label must either be an NR-LDH¹ or a valid A-label as described in section 2.3 of [RFC 5890](#).
2. The NR-LDH label must consist entirely of letters (alphabetic characters a-z) in accordance with section 2.1 of [RFC1123](#).
3. IDN gTLD strings must comply with [IDNA2008](#) (RFCs 5890-5893) and all standards-track RFCs that update IDNA2008.
4. IDN gTLD strings must also comply with the applicable Root Zone Label Generation Rules ([RZ-LGR](#), see the [\[Root Zone LGR module\]](#) for additional information on RZ-LGRs).
5. If a gTLD string is a Variant gTLD (see definition in the [\[IDN Section module\]](#)) of either an existing gTLD in the root zone or an applied-for Primary gTLD (see definition in the [\[IDN Section module\]](#)), it must be an allocatable variant of that Primary gTLD label. The RZ-LGR is the sole source to calculate the Variant gTLDs of the Primary gTLD label and their disposition values (allocatable or blocked).

¹ See [RFC 5890](#) for description of relevant terms.

gTLD string review process

The tests described above are incorporated into and implemented via the [TLD application system]. This means that these tests will occur automatically when the applicant enters the string into their application.

Note that the [Name Collision] and [Security and Stability modules] describe additional issues and requirements related to stability and security reviews.

Should a string not pass one of the tests described above, the applicant will receive an error message explaining the detected problem(s), and the application will not be allowed to proceed.

Challenges

Applicants will be given the opportunity to challenge if they believe the tests have been incorrectly implemented, resulting in an inaccurate outcome.