## TOP NEWS

# Inaugural APAC DNS Forum 2022

On 6 September, ICANN and MYNIC Berhad announced plans for the Asia Pacific (APAC) region's first Domain Name System (DNS) Forum.

The forum is scheduled to take place from 30 March to 1 April 2022. To prepare participants for the main forum event in 2022, ICANN and MYNIC kicked off a monthly webinar series beginning in September 2021 and concluding in February 2022.

The six webinars will cover a range of topics which will highlight how the DNS may interest and impact different stakeholders in the Internet ecosystem ranging from DNS industry participants, domain name owners, network operators, policy makers, and even end users.

Read the announcement **here.**

## UPCOMING WEBINAR

# State of the Domain Name Industry: Challenges & Opportunities

**Date: 14 October 2021 (Thursday)**
**Time: 1100 - 1230 (UTC+8)**
**Register for the webinar here**

This webinar continues from the first and aims to provide an introduction and overview of the Domain Name System (DNS) industry, as well as how the industry's different players interact with their customers and/or Internet end users. The webinar will also discuss market trends, challenges, and corresponding potential opportunities in the DNS marketplace particularly in the APAC region.

## SPEAKERS

**Shidiq Purnama**
Chief Registry Operator, Pengelola Nama Domain Internet Indonesia

**Susan Lien**
Co-founder, Reg.Asia by Web Commerce Communications

**Jacob Williams**
General Manager, Domain Services, Interlinkia Co., Ltd

**Prissilla John**
Case Counsel, Asian International Arbitration Centre (AIAC)

**Don't miss this related industry webinar!**

The Hong Kong International Arbitration Centre (HKIAC) is celebrating their 10th annual Hong Kong Arbitration Week from 25-28 October. To learn more and register, **click here.**

# Understanding the Domain Name System (DNS)

Did you miss the first webinar held on 23 September? The full recording is available on YouTube **here** or you can access it via the **virtual platform**.

No time to watch the full video? Here are five key messages shared at the webinar:

## 1. The DNS is everyone's "entry point" into the Internet.

Champika Wijayatunga (ICANN) explained that every device connected to the Internet has an IP address, but this is difficult for humans to remember and thus we need domain names to access our favorite websites and applications.

## 2. How important is the DNS?

While the Internet can still technically function, businesses need the DNS to have an online presence (like the APAC DNS Forum - apacdnsforum.my). The global digital economy was estimated to be valued at US$11.5 trillion in 2016, while closer to home, Southeast Asia's Internet economy is valued at US$105 billion in 2020, and projected to grow to US$309 billion in 2025. These figures cannot be achieved without the DNS.

## 3. Who "looks after" the DNS?

There are many 'components' to the DNS, which are coordinated or managed by different organizations as highlighted by Mastura Mukhtar (MYNIC). These include Protocol Parameters (managed by the Internet Engineering Task Force or (IETF)), IP Addresses (distributed by Regional Internet Registries), and Domain Names (coordinated by ICANN and managed by top-level domain registries). Closer to you as an user, your Internet Service Provider (ISP) provides the necessary DNS resolution (or 'look up') service necessary to connect to your favorite website or application.

## 4. While most users do not know that the DNS exists, if something goes wrong...

Users have been 'disconnected' from the Internet because of misconfiguration or attacks in the DNS. This is why it is important for every stakeholder in the DNS ecosystem to have good cyber hygiene and stay abreast with best current practices in securing their DNS infrastructure. The APAC DNS Forum aims to help achieve this goal!

## 5. Companies are investing in the DNS. Why?

Many companies are adopting 'digitalization' strategies. Mike Zhang (Alibaba Cloud) shared Alibaba's strategy to help their customers not only have an online presence by having a domain name, but also enhance the overall user experience by reducing latency. Alibaba's DNS service serves 1 billion customers with over 1 trillion queries a day.

## DNS Community

### IETF
**Internet Engineering Task Force**
- Defines on the global protocol standards
- Publishes RFCs.
- Document on methods, behaviors, research, or innovations applicable to the Internet

### RIRs
**Regional Internet Registry**
- RIRs control assigning and distributing IP addresses
- [APNIC – Asia Pacific]

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### ICANN
**Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers**
- Managing and maintaining the domain names

### IANA
**Internet Assigned Numbers Authority**
- Administrative function of the domain names which involves liaisons of TLD operators and manage DNS root zones

### Network Operators/ISPs
- Routing services, maintaining the network infrastructure that makes Internet access possible

### Registries
Home to the Top-Level Domains
- Verisign: .COM
- MYNIC: .MY
- SGNIC: .SG
- PANDI: .ID

### Registrars
- Process registration of domain names, generally business/website owners interface with

## Are you familiar with the domain name industry?

Are you clear on the differences between registries, registrars, resellers, web hosting providers, etc? If not, don't worry. Look up this **page** for some definitions.

## Explaining the Domain Name System via Comics

JPRS and TWNIC recently collaborated to publish JPRS's comic-style booklet "Ponta's Great Adventure in the Network" in Traditional Chinese.
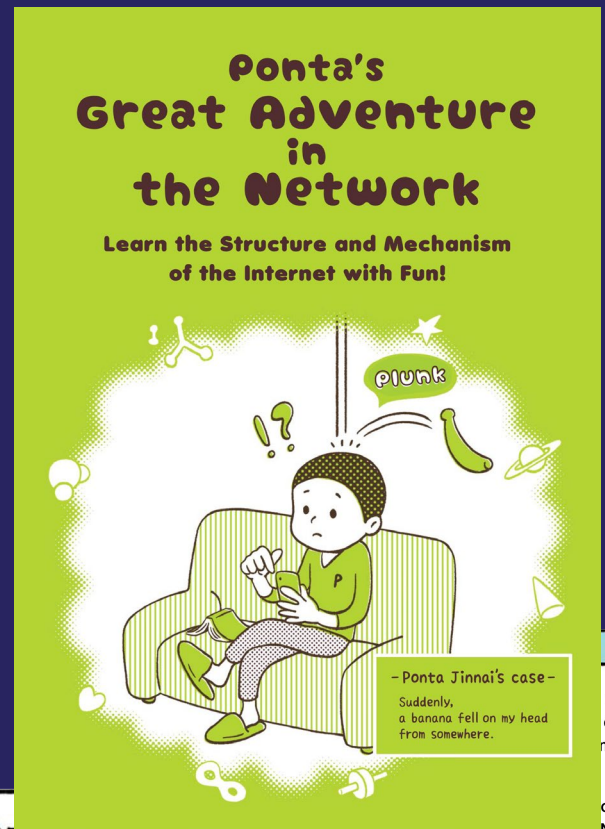
This booklet is aimed at providing youth with a basic knowledge of the Internet, an essential tool in our daily lives. Since 2010, JPRS has distributed the booklet to educational institutions nationwide for free. To date, they have provided over 1,600 institutions with 310,000 copies in total.

The booklet was translated by TWNIC to provide supplementary educational materials related to the Internet in their local language. This booklet is now available in Japanese, English, and Traditional Chinese languages.
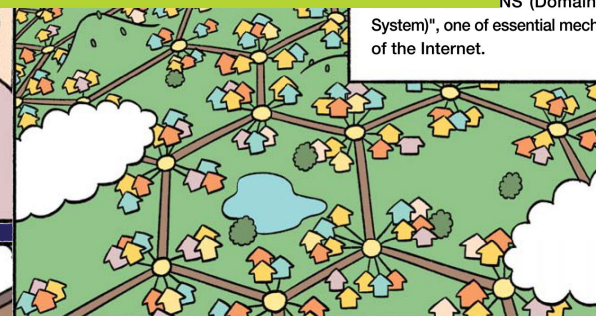
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