



one member. one vote. one domain.

.coop: EPP server policy for data collection and management

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This document describes server policy of the .coop EPP system.

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1 Introduction

The .coop registry (dotCoop) requires that registrants be verified as cooperatives. The EPP extensions to facilitate this process are described in detail in [1]. This document sets out the server policies of dotCoop relating to verification and other aspects of EPP object management.

The operational test and evaluation process [2] tests that registrars are capable of conforming to these server policies.

2 Server Policies

2.1 Server usage

DotCoop reserves the right to terminate or otherwise restrict registrar access to the EPP server(s). The registry may from time to time request that registrars change, inter alia, the frequency, timings or volume of traffic sent to the EPP Server.

2.2 Contact identifiers

When a contact is created with EPP, registrars must specify a `<contact:id>` for the contact, which must be server unique. dotCoop assigns each registrar a unique prefix with which that registrar must create contact IDs. For example: registrar X is assigned prefix "xx"; if he attempts to create a contact with id "xy1234" it will be rejected; if he attempts to create a contact with id "xx1234" it will be accepted, subject to the usual validation criteria.

2.3 Disclosure of contact details

EPP servers announce their data collection policy in the `<dcpr>` element of the `<greeting>`. EPP also provides registrars with a mechanism to opt out of default disclosure handling using a `<contact:disclose>` element with either the `<contact:create>`, or `<contact:update>` commands.

The .coop registry, however, requires that all contact information be publicly available (due to our ICANN WHOIS obligations). The result is that any `<contact:disclose flag="0">` elements will result in a "Data management policy violation" error.

2.4 Requirements for registrant verification

A registrant must be associated with every domain when the domain is created.

An organisation name and a cooperative reference or a .coop verification code (CVC) (which in effect maps to a cooperative reference) must be provided for every contact that will be used as a registrant. These can be supplied either as the contact is being created, or during a subsequent update; but must be provided before a contact is first used as a domain registrant.

2.5 Creation of domains

The initial registration period for a domain must be greater than or equal to 1 year and less than or equal to 10 years. Periods may be specified in months, but must correspond to a whole number of years.

The `<domain:period>` element is optional in EPP; if it is not present a default value of 2 years will be used.

2.6 Renewal of domains

The renewal period for a domain must be greater than or equal to 1 year and less than or equal to 10 years. Periods may be specified in months, but must correspond to a whole number of years.

The `<domain:period>` element is optional in EPP; if it is not present a default value of 2 years will be used.

2.7 Expiry of domains

Domains that have not been renewed will have the EPP status “serverHold” added to them five days after expiry. The “serverHold” status prevents the domain from being published in DNS, but has no effect on WHOIS publication.

A domain will remain on “serverHold” until either it is renewed, or until it is deleted by the registry at expiry + 45 days.

Regardless of whether a domain is renewed before or after expiration, the renewal period begins as of the date and time of expiration.

When domains are deleted by the registry, they return to the pool of domains available for registration.

2.8 Transfer of domains

When a domain is transferred between registrars its period must be extended. The extension period must be greater than or equal to 1 year and less than or equal to 10 years. Periods may be specified in months, but must correspond to a whole number of years.

The `<domain:period>` element is optional in EPP; if it is not present a default value of 2 years will be used.

dotCoop will automatically accept all domain transfer requests that are not explicitly approved or rejected by the current sponsoring registrar within 5 days.

2.9 Transfer of contacts

dotCoop will automatically accept all contact transfer requests that are not explicitly approved or rejected by the current sponsoring registrar within 5 days.

2.10 Status comments

EPP allows object status values to be changed with the `<domain:update>`, `<contact:update>`, and `<host:update>` commands. Each of these commands allows the client to pass comments associated with the new status values. The .coop registry ignores these comments (i.e. it does not store them).

2.11 Service messages

Service messages are retrieved with the EPP `<poll>` command.

This command should be issued at least daily, and preferably no more than every 15 minutes.

There are four situations in which a service message will be queued for a registrar:

1. When a transfer request is made, for either a domain or a contact, both the gaining and losing registrars receive a service message. The `<poll>` response will have the `<msg>` element content set to either “Contact transfer requested”, or “Domain transfer requested”; and the `<resData>` element content set to be the same as what was returned in the response to the gaining registrar’s transfer request command.

2. When a transfer is completed, for either a domain or a contact, both the gaining and losing registrars receive a service message. The <poll> response will have the <msg> element content set to either "Contact transfer completed", or "Domain transfer completed"; and the <resData> element content set to be the same as what was returned in response to the gaining registrar's transfer request command.
3. If a domain is deleted by the registry due to either domain expiration or verification issues, the domain's current sponsoring registrar receives a service message. The <poll> response will have the <msg> element content set to "Domain deleted", and the <resData> element content set to be the same as what would be returned in response to a domain:info command.
4. When a registrant's verification status changes, the contact's current sponsoring registrar receives a service message. The <poll> response will have the <msg> element content set to "Registrant verification state changed", and the <extension> element set to the custom <http://www.nic.coop/contactCoopExt-1.0:stateChangeType> element defined in the .coop EPP extension (contactCoopExt-1.0.xsd).

2.12 Timeouts

There are three situations where the .coop EPP server imposes timeouts:

1. If a connection is left open for more than 30 minutes without any commands being received, the EPP server will close the connection without sending a response. This prevents idle connections from consuming server resources.
2. If the EPP server begins receiving a command, but does not complete receiving that command within 10 seconds, it will again close the connection without sending a response. This prevents connections from entering a state where received commands are interpreted incorrectly, and cause failure after failure.
3. If the EPP server begins sending a response, but does not complete sending that response within 10 seconds, it will behave as if the response was sent successfully, and will continue to wait for new commands. This is because the server can recover gracefully from this situation without affecting any subsequent processing.

2.13 Keeping connections open

Registrars are currently not required to keep EPP connections open for extended periods of time. However should a registrar wish to do so (presumably to avoid the performance cost of re-establishing a connection) the ideal command to use to prevent timeouts is either the <hello> command or the <poll> command (depending on whether your client library is equipped to deal with <poll> responses at any time).

2.14 Language support

All EPP messages are in English (en).

2.15 Authorisation information

The *authinfo* "type" attribute is always "pw".

3 References

1. *EPP Extensions for the .coop TLD Registrant Verification*, Version 1.7 2010 October 5.
2. *.coop Operational Test and Evaluation - Registrar Acceptance Testing*, Version 1.4 2010 October 5.