



one member. one vote. one domain.

.coop TLD Registry – Technical Overview

Registry Protocol

The .coop Registry conforms to the EPP registry-registrar provisioning protocol as described in the Internet Draft Extensible Provisioning Protocol.

The .coop EPP server implements

- Extensible Provisioning Protocol (EPP) – RFC 4930
- EPP Domain Name Mapping – RFC 4931
- EPP Host Name Mapping – RFC 4932
- EPP Contact Mapping – RFC 4933
- EPP Transport Over TCP – RFC 4934

More information about EPP can be found at the IETF Provreg working group website, <http://www.ietf.org/html.charters/OLD/provreg-charter.html>

.coop TLD Extensions

There are two key additional requirements that distinguish the .coop Registry from gTLDs such as .com and .net.

- .coop is a "thick" registry in that it stores social information associated with registered entities. When registering new domains, the registry will require registrars to pass on social information supplied by registrants.
- .coop verifies registrants to determine their eligibility as valid cooperative organisations. As part of the verification process, a registrant will be required to supply contact details of sponsoring organisations. The registrar must pass this information on to the registry.

To support these requirements of a thick registry and of verification, the .coop Registry has implemented extensions to the standard EPP framework. Details of these extensions are described in EPP Extensions for the .coop TLD Registrant Verification.

Registrar Responsibilities

Each registrar for .coop must have a client-side interface for EPP. As EPP is a public protocol, the Registry does not provide client software for evaluation or

production use by registrars. If a registrar wishes to use third-party software to implement the client side of EPP, it is the registrar's responsibility to ascertain its compatibility with the .coop EPP extensions.

An Operational Test and Evaluation (OT&E) environment is available for registrars to test their client systems. Before a registrar will be allowed access to the live Registry system, it must complete a functional certification process to demonstrate full and correct operation of its client system. The certification process must be completed without error before the registrar is given access to the live Registry system.

If you are accepted as a .coop Registrar, your Welcome Packet will contain contact information for the .coop Registry Services group that is located in Manchester, UK. The registrar must contact them to arrange for access to the OT&E environment and secure the requirements for the functional certification process. All coordination for Operational Testing and Evaluation activities will occur directly with the .coop Registry Services group.