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## WHOIS Policy

### Policy

1. dotBERLIN GmbH & Co. KG (subsequently called the "Registry") will provide to the public a WHOIS database both accessible on port 43 as well as on port 80 (http) as required in Specification 4 of the ICANN Registry Agreement.
2. The Registry may, from time to time as determined at its complete discretion, impose certain limits on the amount of simultaneous and/or consecutive port 43 and/or port 80 requests.

### Rules

1. Registrars are required to ensure that the actual Registrant data fields, as required in the WHOIS database, is obtained from the Registrant and Registrar must collect and maintain accurate records of such data.
2. Registrars must provide any competent authority who has provided a competent and legitimate request which has been properly verified and authenticated by the Registrar, with the actual WHOIS data. The Registrar must guarantee the integrity, accuracy and authenticity of the Registrants WHOIS data.
3. Registrar shall inform the Registrant, when using a proxy service, that the actual Registrant data as required by the WHOIS database, will be disclosed to any competent authority who has provided a competent and legitimate request which has been properly verified and authenticated by the Registrar with the actual WHOIS data.
4. The Registrar shall notify the Registrant that even where a domain name is removed from the root zone, the domain name record may still appear in the WHOIS database for 24 hours.
5. The Registry may perform a bi-annual review of a random sampling of domain names to test the accuracy and authenticity of the WHOIS information. If errors or missing information exists, notice shall be forwarded to the relevant Registrar, who shall be required to address these deficiencies with the relevant Registrants within 20 days.
6. The Registry will comply with all the security, WHOIS, and privacy requirements required by ICANN whether in the Consensus or Temporary Policies (as defined in the Registry Agreement) and imposed by a competent legislative authority in Germany who has jurisdiction over the Registry.
7. Registrants shall put forth any request for any changes, updates, and/or corrections to WHOIS information to the Registrar of the Registrant. The Registrar shall verify and authenticate the request and make the appropriate changes within 10 days of successful authentication and verification of the request.

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8. By submitted a WHOIS query, the requestor agrees that he/she will use the information obtained through the WHOIS search for lawful purposes only and that he/she will at no time now or in the future:

- a. allow, enable, solicit, and/or encourage the transmission of mass unsolicited commercial advertising or solicitations via direct mail, electronic mail, or by telephone;
- b. breach any applicable data and privacy protection acts; and
- c. utilize and/or enable high volume, automated, and/or electronic processes querying the WHOIS database.

9. Any and all data provided through the WHOIS search is provided "as is" and without any representation and/or warranty as to its accuracy. The Registry shall in no circumstances be responsible and/or be liable for any reliance on any information provided through the WHOIS search.

10. Disclosure of contact data is restricted by the German Data Protection legislation and the EU-General Data Protection Regulation. The complete contact details for certain domain names may be requested on the Registries website under [whois.nic.berlin](http://whois.nic.berlin).

11. All copyright in the WHOIS information, the WHOIS database, and any WHOIS datasets are explicitly reserved.

12. It is strictly prohibited to combine, collect, and/or compile any information that is obtained from this WHOIS service.

13. In case of abuse of the WHOIS data or violation of the WHOIS Policy, the Registry reserves its right to act as it sees fit to limit the availability of WHOIS data or to prohibit the request of WHOIS data entirely.