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RFC 9121
Deprecating Infrastructure "int" Domains

Abstract

This document deprecates the use of any "int" domain names that were designated for infrastructure purposes by the IETF, and it identifies them for removal from the "int" top-level domain. Any implementations that involve these domains are now deprecated. This document also changes the status of RFC 1528 and RFC 1706 to Historic.

Status of This Memo

This document is not an Internet Standards Track specification; it is published for informational purposes.

This document is a product of the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF). It represents the consensus of the IETF community. It has received public review and has been approved for publication by the Internet Engineering Steering Group (IESG). Not all documents approved by the IESG are candidates for any level of Internet Standard; see Section 2 of RFC 7841.

Information about the current status of this document, any errata, and how to provide feedback on it may be obtained at https://www.rfc-editor.org/info/rfc9121.

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction

The "int" top-level domain [RFC1591] is a specialized domain designated for intergovernmental organizations, which are organizations established by international treaties between or among national governments.

Historically, the "int" domain was also used for purposes related to Internet infrastructure. This practice ended in 2001 when the "arpa" domain was declared the appropriate home for infrastructural identifier spaces [RFC3172]. In conjunction with this change, the eligibility for "int" domains was limited to only intergovernmental treaty organizations.

The documented uses of infrastructural identifiers in the "int" domain were largely experimental and are now, in practice, obsolete. This document changes the status of related specifications to Historic, and it removes any associated delegations from the "int" zone in the domain name system.

2. Historical Infrastructural Uses

The following domains were used for infrastructural identifier purposes that are now considered historic. Although each of these names was either delegated or documented at one time, the parties administering them have long since stopped using them.

2.1. atma.int

The atma.int domain was experimentally defined to implement address lookups for Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM), including ATM End System Addresses (AESAs) [ANS].

2.2. ip4.int

The ip4.int domain was described as providing an alternative to the in-addr.arpa domain for mapping host IPv4 addresses to host names. The in-addr.arpa domain zone continues to be administered for this purpose [RFC1035].

2.3. ip6.int

The ip6.int domain was originally delegated for mapping host IPv6 addresses to host names. It was subsequently removed from the "int" zone, having been replaced by ip6.arpa [RFC4159].

2.4. nsap.int

The nsap.int domain name was specified to experimentally map Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) Network Service Access Points to domain names [RFC1706].

2.5. rdi.int

The rdi.int domain name experimentally mapped OSI Inter-Domain Routing Protocol's Routing Domain Identifiers [ISO10747] to the domain name system.

2.6. reg.int

The reg.int domain name hosted an experimental mechanism for publishing IANA registration values in the domain name system.

2.7. tpc.int

The tpc.int domain name hosted an experimental remote printing service that served as a gateway between Internet mail and facsimile transmission [RFC1528].

3. Updates to Other RFC Series Documents

3.1. RFC 1528

The specification for tpc.int [RFC1528] is Historic, as it no longer functions as described in the document.

3.2. RFC 1706

The specification for nsap.int [RFC1706] is Historic, as it no longer functions as described in the document.

4. IANA Considerations

IANA has removed the historical "int" domains discussed in this document.

5. Security Considerations

Some old systems might have one or more subdomains of these names hardwired and expect a positive response for at least the second-level domain. This is, of course, true for any name in the DNS and should not be the sole basis for retaining obsolete names.

Existing applications should eliminate any reliance upon these zones. The operator of the "int" domain should be cautious about any potential re-use of these domains for intergovernmental treaty organizations.

6. Additional Information

This document is the result of a comprehensive inventory of .int domains to accurately establish and record their purpose based on historical documentation. As part of this inventory, IANA studied the domains delegated for purposes related to infrastructure identifiers. Query patterns in the DNS for these domains were analyzed and judged to be insignificant; preliminary outreach to the contacts for the associated domains was conducted. The assessment concluded that these domains are very likely obsolete. This document formalizes that assessment.

There are a small number of nominal "int" domains for "international databases" that are not defined by any standards documentation. They are assigned to entities rather than for identifier purposes. Their dispositions are beyond the scope of this memo.

7. Informative References

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