

TLD Registration Policies

.sony Registry Public Policy

The Registry Operator for .sony adheres to the following policies and procedures.

Specification 13

This TLD is a .brand TLD as defined by the Specification 13 attached to the Registry Agreement between the Registry Operator and ICANN and Registry Operator intends to operate the TLD accordingly.

Basic Naming Rules

The domain names under this TLD will be as follows: “domain-name” .sony”. Domain names may consist of the English letters A-Z, digits 0-9, and hyphens (“-”), provided that they are 1-63 characters long. Naming rules for this TLD are established in full consideration of the New gTLD Reserved Names Policy outlined in the Registry Agreement (Specification 5) as well as other applicable rules and policies that are subject to change from time to time.

Eligibility Policy

The only eligible Registrants for this TLD are the Registry Operator itself, namely “Sony Corporation”, and its Affiliates or Trademark Licensees as approved by the Registry. All domains for this Registry are registered by the Registry Operator, its Affiliates or Trademark licensees and they maintain control of the DNS records associated with all domains names at any level.

Anti-abuse policy

The Registry Operator intends to function in such a way that all domain name registrations in the TLD shall be registered to and controlled by the Registry Operator, its Affiliates or Trademark Licensees, under the Registry Operator’s strict control. It will not sell, distribute or transfer control of domain name registrations to any party that is not an Affiliate or a Trademark Licensee of the Registry Operator. As such, the Registry Operator does not anticipate that abuse activities, or at least their certain forms, could present a threat for this TLD. Below is the outline of the Registry Operator’s anti-abuse policy.

The Registry Operator will make commercially reasonable efforts to protect its space from abusive uses of its domain names.

Abusive use includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Illegal or fraudulent actions;
- Spam
- Phishing
- Pharming
- Willful distribution of malware: (Computer viruses, worms, keyloggers, and trojan horses etc)
- Botnet command and control
- Distribution of child pornography;
- Illegal Access to Other Computers or Networks
- Defamation of the Registry Operator, its businesses, employees, etc.

It is upon the Registry’s discretion to execute its following rights:

- deny, cancel or transfer any registration or transaction
- place any domain name on “lock”, “hold”, “pending cancellation” or any other status

The objective of such action may be, but is not limited to:

- protection of the Registry's integrity and stability
- compliance with any applicable laws or regulations as well as any dispute resolution processes
- avoidance of any liability on the part of the Registry Operator or its Affiliates
- correction of mistakes made by the Registry Operator or any of the accredited Registrars it uses

Abuse Point of Contact

The Registry Operator maintains an abuse point of contact to report issues as the ones illustrated above. The information about this point of contact will be available at the Registry Operator's official site (www.nic.sony).

WHOIS Policy

The Registry Operator for this TLD complies with all the regulations by ICANN, as set forth in the Registry Agreement (Specification 4), related to the establishment and operation of the registry-level Whois, accessible to the public.

The WhoIs Domain Name Lookup Service will return information in the format established and defined by ICANN.

Launch Policy: General availability

As per Specification 13, the Registry Operator will not implement a Sunrise. The Registry will implement a General Availability period from the beginning of operations, defined as the time the Registry will start allowing registration of domains within the TLD. The General Availability period is subject to the eligibility criteria mentioned in this policy: only Registry Operator, its Affiliates or Trademark Licensees are allowed to become registrants of domain names in the TLD and they must control the DNS records associated with domain names at any level in the TLD.

Launch policy: Trademark Claims

Trademark Claims system will be in place as minimally required by ICANN during a period of 90 days from the time General Availability starts. During this period there will be a notice to the Registrant before registration if a requested domain name is an identical match to a trademark registered in the Trademark Clearinghouse. Moreover, the rights owner/s will be informed once the domain name corresponding to the record in the Trademark Clearinghouse has been registered. However, given the Registry Operator's intended exclusive use of all domain names in the .sony TLD and its policies designed to prevent any misuse, it is highly unlikely that the Registry Operator's registration and use of any .sony domain names will infringe any other company's trademark rights.

Domain Name Lifecycle

1. Domain Name Lifecycle - Registration Periods

The .sony TLD Registry supports initial registrations of up to ten (10) years. Renewals may be made for one (1) to ten (10) years provided that the total remaining registration period does not exceed ten (10) years.

Transfers, under part A of the Inter-Registrar Transfer Policy, extend the term of the registration by one year. The registration period will be truncated to ten (10) years should the addition of this year result in a registration period exceeding the ten (10) year maximum.

2. Domain Name Lifecycle - States

The states in which a domain name can exist in this TLD Registry are as follows: Registered, Pending Transfer, Redemption, Pending Restore or Pending Delete.

3. Domain Name Lifecycle - Grace Periods

This TLD supports four grace periods: add, renew, auto-renew, and transfer.

4. Domain Name Lifecycle - Transitions

The following describes all transitions available from the states described above. Reference to grace periods is mentioned where applicable.

- 4.1. Available -> Registered
- 4.2. Registered -> Pending Transfer
- 4.3. Pending Transfer -> Registered
- 4.4. Registered -> Deleted
- 4.5. Registered -> Redemption Period
- 4.6. Redemption Period -> Pending Restore
- 4.7. Pending Restore -> Registered
- 4.8. Pending Restore -> Redemption Period
- 4.9. Redemption Period -> Pending Delete
- 4.10. Pending Delete -> Deleted

5. Domain Name Lifecycle - Locks

Locks may be applied to the domain name to prevent specific operations from occurring. The sponsoring Registrar may set the locks prefixed with “client”, whilst locks prefixed with “server” are added and removed by the administrator. Locks are added and removed independently, however they can be combined to facilitate the enforcement of higher processes, such as “Registrar Lock”, and outcomes required as part of UDRP proceedings. All locks are compatible with EPP RFCs.

Requests to delete the domain name are rejected.

DNS delegation information is not published for the object.

Requests to renew the object are rejected. However, auto-renew will be allowed.

Requests to transfer the domain name are rejected.

Requests to update the domain name are rejected, unless the update removes this status.