

New Domain Names Announced

By Martine Tremblay and Diane Bellavance

Last November 16, the board of directors of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, (ICANN) announced the selection of new top level domains (TLD) which should be available soon. Other than “.com”, “.net”, “.org”, “.gov” and “.edu” already widely known, the following top level domain names will be offered:

.aero
.biz
.coop
.info
.museum
.name
.pro

These top level domain names are not yet available. According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC),

an American consumer protection agency, scam artists are currently soliciting businesses and individuals to convince them to reserve, for a fee, their domain name guaranteeing top level domain names or preferential treatment in the registration process when the new top level domain names become available for registration. The FTC cautioned consumers; these offers are often misleading. No agency has been certified by ICANN to offer such pre-registration services. FTC therefore recommends that consumers protect themselves by avoiding this type of pre-registration service that guarantees the assignment of top level domain

names or preferential treatment of the application, avoiding doing business with people who send unsolicited faxes or e-mails to that effect and by staying on top of the news about these new top level domain names.

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