

## PUBLICROOT REPRESENTATIVE NOTICE

### VALIDATION OF HILTON TLD FAILED

October 11, 2007

This is a public notice to the Inclusive Name Space community and other interested third parties. Distribution of this notice is encouraged and unlimited. This notice shall be distributed to the Directors of the Top Level Domain Association, INAIC (Internet Names Authorization & Information Center), the Federal Trade Commission, Hilton Hotels Corporation and various community lists. A permanent copy of this notice shall be posted to the PublicRoot Consortium web site.

#### Investigation and findings:

The PublicRoot Representative conducted an investigation and audit into the creation and publication of the INS (Inclusive Name Space) TLD (Top-Level Domain) label "**HILTON**". INAIC published this TLD to the INS on September 2, 2007. The TLD is active for a term of ten years and expires on September 2, 2017. The whois records at INAIC show **Hilton Hotels Corporation**, a multinational company based in Beverly Hills, California, United States, as the official registrant of this TLD.

The PublicRoot Representative contacted Hilton Hotels Corporation on October 4, 2007 to validate the TLD. The PublicRoot Representative attempted to contact the administrative representative responsible for the TLDs as per the published whois records at INAIC.

This record shows the registrant and administrative contact to be a **Stephen F. Bollenbach of Hilton Hotels Corporation**, and the mailing address is given as **9336 Civic Center Drive, Beverly Hills, California, 90210** in the **United States**. Mr. Stephen F. Bollenbach is the Co-Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Hilton Hotels Corporation.

The PublicRoot Representative was referred to the legal department at Hilton Hotels Corporation who investigated the claim by INAIC. On October 10, 2007 the PublicRoot Representative received an email from M. Stephanie Mills, Domain Administrator at Hilton Hotels Corporation. Ms. Mills wrote that "***This email is verification that Hilton did not authorize INAIC or their agent UNID to register .HILTON***". A copy of this email is attached to this notice as an exhibit.

The PublicRoot Representative herein acknowledges that Hilton Hotels Corporation **DID NOT AUTHORIZE** the creation and publication of the INS TLD label "HILTON" with either INAIC.com or any agent of INAIC. The PublicRoot Representative therefore finds that the INAIC whois record for "HILTON" is a bogus INS TLD record. The current whois record from INAIC.com for "HILTON" is attached to this notice as an exhibit.

The PublicRoot Representative issued a verbal request on October 10, 2007 to Martijn Burger, chairman of the INAIC society and foundation, demanding that Herman Xennt, the operator of INAIC.com, immediately remove the TLD label "HILTON" from the public DNS infrastructure and whois service at INAIC.com. The PublicRoot Representative warns INAIC.com that the continued display of trademarks and brands names as TLDs without authorization is a fraudulent act. Furthermore the use of the name Stephen F. Bollenbach is considered impersonation and therefore also fraudulent.

#### Legal Concerns:

The mission of the PublicRoot Representative is to ensure the integrity of the data and claims made in the INS. The system must at all times be operated in an honest, open, transparent fashion. It must be

inclusive, representative and accountable to community stakeholders in particular and in general to the Internet community at large.

The PublicRoot Representative expresses concern that INAIC, a body claiming to be an INS provider and wrongly claiming to be the central INS authority, is engaged in an unfair and deceptive business act or practice. INAIC has used Hilton Hotels Corporation trademarks and brand names to further the sale of INS TLDs through INAIC.com and it's agents.

Furthermore consumers who find the multinational company Hilton Hotels Corporation associated with an INS TLD assume falsely that INAIC.com or its agents are credible. TLD Holders who have purchased TLDs under this false assumption are victims of a scam by INAIC.com. Hilton Hotels Corporation has also been a victim in this scam as their trademarks and brand names have been and are being used without authorization to further the sale of TLDs.

Furthermore the act of listing bogus TLD labels in the whois and DNS by INAIC is considered by the PublicRoot Representative to be Internet fraud. This act causes harm to the reputation and credibility of the INS community at large.

Furthermore from a technical point of view the PublicRoot Representative expresses concern that this label uses the INAIC.com web proxy to effect resolution for INS users. This represents a potential security issue known as a man in the middle attack. Web users connecting to unauthorized INS TLD labels can have their personal information compromised.

**Actions Taken and Requested:**

The PublicRoot Representative requests that INAIC.com remove all references to the "HILTON" TLD label from their web sites, whois databases and DNS records.

The PublicRoot Representative further requests that the Directors of the Top Level Domain Association investigate this breach of trust by INAIC.com and it's agents. The PublicRoot Representative hereby submits this notice as a complaint to the Top Level Domain Association.

The PublicRoot Representative further requests that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) Bureau of Consumer Protection file this notice as a fraud-related complaint and that the complaint be entered into the Consumer Sentinel online databases available to civil and criminal law enforcement agencies worldwide.

This notice, complaint and any requests made in this document are on behalf of the PublicRoot Representative who assumes full responsibility for this publication. Hilton Hotels Corporation did not participate in its publication except to provide the PublicRoot Representative with evidence on the INS TLD registrations claimed by INAIC.

PublicRoot Representative Notice  
Submitted by Joe Baptista

<Signature>

PublicRoot Representative  
5921 Agean Drive  
Mississauga, Ontario L5M 6Y3, Canada

Tel: +1 (360) 526-6077 / +1 (202) 517-1593  
Fax: +1 (509) 479-0084  
Email: [baptista@publicroot.org](mailto:baptista@publicroot.org)

RE: .HILTON TLD verification of intent to operate

**Subject:** RE: .HILTON TLD verification of intent to operate

**From:** "Stephanie Mills" <Stephanie.Mills@hilton.com>

**Date:** Wed, 10 Oct 2007 14:48:49 -0500

**To:** <baptista@publicroot.org>

**X-Account-Key:** account7

**X-UIDL:** 56v37pcijc7hktw2

**X-Mozilla-Status:** 0011

**X-Mozilla-Status2:** 00400000

**Received:** from [192.251.125.65] by mx3.memor.net with SMTP (EHLO hilton.com) (ArGoSoft Mail Server Pro for WinNT/2000/XP, Version 1.8 (1.8.8.9)); Wed, 10 Oct 2007 22:03:54 +0200

**Received:** from ([10.1.18.162]) by CLAPMSG08pz.hilton.com with ESMTP id 5502633.47486026; Wed, 10 Oct 2007 14:48:50 -0500

**Received:** from hwmxmsg06.hotels.ad.hilton.com ([10.0.4.25]) by cmxsmt2.ad.hilton.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC(5.0.2195.6713); Wed, 10 Oct 2007 14:48:50 -0500

**X-MimeOLE:** Produced By Microsoft Exchange V6.5

**Content-class:** urn:content-classes:message

**Return-Receipt-To:** "Stephanie Mills" <Stephanie.Mills@hilton.com>

**MIME-Version:** 1.0

**Content-Type:** text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

**Content-Transfer-Encoding:** quoted-printable

**Disposition-Notification-To:** "Stephanie Mills" <Stephanie.Mills@hilton.com>

**Message-ID:** <F0A73701ACC7C144A75C2DCA3EA84CE605206171@hwmxmsg06.hotels.ad.hilton.com>

**In-Reply-To:** <E18E5F209707634BB38C3D8CF370239F05632E8B@hwmxmsg05.hotels.ad.hilton.com>

**Thread-Topic:** .HILTON TLD verification of intent to operate

**Thread-Index:** AcgGxafg3z5QHZ9fSGacOzEd/S873gABz7+AASohMGA=

**Return-Path:** <stephanie.mills@hilton.com>

**X-OriginalArrivalTime:** 10 Oct 2007 19:48:50.0094 (UTC) FILETIME=[943A14E0:01C80B76]

Joe,

Hilton received your email and attachments regarding the .HILTON TLD. This email is verification that Hilton did not authorize INAIIC or their agent UN1D to register .HILTON. Can you provide Hilton with instructions on how to have the name removed or suggestions for handling this matter?

Any help you could provide would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Stephanie Mills  
Domain Administrator  
Hilton Hotels Corporation

## Corporate TLD (cTLD): .HILTON

TLD Status: Active  
TLD Register Date: 02-09-2007  
TLD Updated: 03-09-2007  
TLD Expire Date: 02-09-2017  
Preferred Domain Name Registry: Hilton Hotels Corporation ( <http://www.hilton.com> )

## TLD Registrant:

Name: Stephen F. Bollenbach  
Company name: Hilton Hotels Corporation  
Address: 9336 Civic Center Drive  
City: Beverly Hills  
State: California  
Zip: 90210  
Country: United States  
Phone: +1.310 205-7857  
Cell phone:  
Fax: +1.310 205-7880  
Email: [stephan\\_bollenbach@hilton.com](mailto:stephan_bollenbach@hilton.com)

## TLD Administrative contact:

Name: Stephen F. Bollenbach  
Company name: Hilton Hotels Corporation  
Address: 9336 Civic Center Drive  
City: Beverly Hills  
State: California  
Zip: 90210  
Country: United States  
Phone: +1.310 205-7857  
Cell phone:  
Fax: +1.310 205-7880  
Email: [stephan\\_bollenbach@hilton.com](mailto:stephan_bollenbach@hilton.com)

## TLD Technical contact:

Name: Stephen F. Bollenbach  
Company name: Hilton Hotels Corporation  
Address: 9336 Civic Center Drive  
City: Beverly Hills  
State: California  
Zip: 90210  
Country: United States  
Phone: +1.310 205-7857  
Cell phone:  
Fax: +1.310 205-7880  
Email: [stephan\\_bollenbach@hilton.com](mailto:stephan_bollenbach@hilton.com)

## TLD Billing contact:

Name: Stephen F. Bollenbach  
Company name: Hilton Hotels Corporation  
Address: 9336 Civic Center Drive  
City: Beverly Hills  
State: California  
Zip: 90210  
Country: United States  
Phone: +1.310 205-7857  
Cell phone:  
Fax: +1.310 205-7880  
Email: [stephan\\_bollenbach@hilton.com](mailto:stephan_bollenbach@hilton.com)

## TLD Servers:

TLD Server1: [tld1.public-root.net](http://tld1.public-root.net) - IPV4: 84.22.100.6  
TLD Server2: [tld2.public-root.net](http://tld2.public-root.net) - IPV4: 84.22.106.31

By submitting a Global TLD WHOIS query you agree to use this data only for lawful purposes. Under no circumstances will you use this data to: (1) Allow, enable, or otherwise support the transmission of mass unsolicited, commercial advertising or solicitations via e-mail, telephone, or facsimile; or: (2) Enable high volume, automated, electronic processes against the INAIC or its data systems and networks. The compilation, repackaging, dissemination or other use of this data is expressly prohibited without the prior written consent of the INAIC. The INAIC reserves the right to revoke access to the Global TLD WHOIS Database in its sole discretion, including without limitation, for excessive querying of the Global TLD WHOIS Database or for failure to otherwise abide by this policy.

TLD Registrants are responsible for the information maintained in the directory services database. The INAIC does not guarantee the accuracy of the information maintained in the Global TLD WHOIS Database.