



Cantor Colburn LLP

*Intellectual Property Attorneys*

June 14, 2012  
Client Alert

## **ICANN Reveals Applications for New Generic Top-Level Domains (gTLDs)**

Yesterday, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (“ICANN”) revealed the list of 1,930 proposed new generic top-level domains (“gTLDs”). The list may be viewed at the following links: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/program-status/application-results/strings-1200utc-13jun12-en> and <http://gtdresult.icann.org/application-result/applicationstatus>.

Most of the applications for gTLDs are written in the Latin alphabet. However, 116 of the applications are for gTLDs written using non-Latin scripts. 230 of the proposed gTLDs were requested by two or more applicants, involving a total of 751 applications (39%). ICANN has encouraged qualified applicants to settle disputes over gTLDs among themselves. If the applicants cannot resolve these disputes independently, they will be resolved through community priority evaluations or through auctions.

Because more than 500 applications for new gTLDs have been filed, ICANN will use a batching system to sort and review applications in groups of 500. A timestamp process will be employed to establish the batches. Batching priority will not be given to applications based on the date/time at which they were submitted. The timestamp process is explained in detail here: <http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/tas/batching/basics>.

The application batching process began on June 8, 2012 and will conclude on June 28, 2012. The batching results will be announced on July 11, 2012. The initial evaluation of the first batch of applications will begin on July 12, 2012 with the results set to be posted in December 2012 or January 2013. ICANN expects the first new gTLDs to go live in the first half of 2013.

**No matter where a gTLD application falls in the batching and review process, the formal objection period began yesterday, June 13, and will run for approximately seven months. In addition, the public comment period began yesterday, June 13, and concludes on August 12, 2012.**

### **For Further Information and Assistance**

The Trademark & Copyright Department at Cantor Colburn LLP stands ready to answer any questions you may have about the proposed new gTLDs and provide specific advice and guidance on the objection process. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like us to review the published list of gTLD applications for possible conflicts with your trademark rights, or if we can be of any further assistance.

Please note that each situation has its own unique circumstances and ramifications. This Client Alert is for informational purposes only and is not legal advice.