

Tackling online criminal activity

1 May - 31 October 2014

Nominet is a not-for-profit technology company noted for running a key part of the UK internet infrastructure – the naming and addressing system for .UK domain names. We work with law enforcement agencies to help protect internet users from criminality online.

Criminal activity

Nominet expressly prohibits .UK domains from being used for any unlawful purpose. When alerted by the police or other law enforcement agencies, we work quickly with our registrars to suspend domains so they cannot be used to commit crime.



10.5m

.UK domains registered

National Fraud Intelligence Bureau

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102 Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency

839 – Police Intellectual

Suspensions by requesting agency



0.009%

Property Crime Unit

Agencies request suspensions under a range of legislation. The majority of requests received relate to supply of counterfeit goods and/or fraud under Section 92(1) of the Trade Marks Act 1994 and Section 2(1) of the Fraud Act 2006 (Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit, National Fraud Intelligence Bureau); and supply of controlled drugs under Regulations 279 and/or 284 of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012 (Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency). Many requests cite more than one offence.

How it works



Requests not resulting in suspensions



17 requests

received in last six months that didn't result in suspensions in registry



A suspension request may not result in a suspension for a number of reasons – for example, the domain may have already been suspended due to a duplicate request, or the domain may have already been transferred on a court order.

Reversals





If the holder of a suspended domain asks Nominet for the suspension to be reversed, we check all internal procedures to confirm the suspension was

requests to reverse suspensions received in last six months

suspensions reversed

correctly applied. Any complaints regarding grounds for suspension are referred back to the law enforcement agency. A suspension request may be lifted if the law enforcement agency that made the original request confirms that the suspension should be lifted.

Data refers to domains suspended due to requests received during the specified period.

Offensive names

Nominet prohibits the registration of domain names that promote or incite serious sexual offences (where there is no reasonable or legitimate use for that domain).



existing domains suspended and blocked when policy introduced on 4 May 2014 (this followed a review of the entire registry)



potential breaches flagged and checked in last six months



domains suspended and blocked in last six months



no appeals

How it works





Registrants have 30 days to appeal this assessment. Any unresolved disagreements would be referred to independent external body for review

About Nominet

Domain names are one of the key building blocks of the internet – an essential component of every email address and website. Millions of businesses and consumers now depend on Nominet's services, which underpin a critical part of the UK internet economy.

With the proceeds of our successful registry business, we set up and support the Nominet Trust, an independent charitable foundation focussed on increasing access, safety and education on internet issues. As part of our commitment to making the internet a more trusted space, we have also developed an information and advice portal - www.knowthenet.org.uk - which helps internet users to get the most of being online by staying safe, legal, and informed.

More information is available at: www.nominet.org.uk