

# **Distributing premium and reserved domain lists in new gTLDs**

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The word “omnishambles” comes to mind.

No consistency in distribution medium

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Hard for registrars to automate fetching

No consistency of distribution format

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Hard for registrars to parse

Sometimes we've had to *beg* registries to give us lists of reserved and premium names!

Have you ever tried to search the ICANN website for collisions lists?

The results aren't pretty.

Visit **<https://www.icann.org/namecollision>** and try to find out how you download the collisions lists.

I couldn't.

Is **draft-brown-epp-fees** enough?

Not quite.

Gets you pricing of individual **premium** domains.

Not all registries implement it.

Many registrars don't want to deal with premium domains at all.

Integrating it into off-the-shelf billing systems is at best awkward.

Doesn't give you collisions and reserved names.



Still possible for registrars to innocently allow premium domains to be registered.

**Solutions?**

## Distribution of lists over DNS?

Publish TXT records under **\_labels.nic.\***  
for labels on one of the three lists

NX = not premium, reserved, or on the collisions list

Querying **beer.\_labels.nic.irish** might yield the TXT  
record “premium”.

## **Downsides?**

DNS scares people for some reason.

Some registries treat data like this like crown jewels.

DNS is fine for technical staff, not so good for the business end of things.

## Alternatives?

HTTP

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RFC 5785 (.well-known)

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RFC 4180 (CSV)

## TL;DR

Registry publishes domain lists in a set format and naming scheme under [http\(s\)://nic.example/.well-known/](http(s)://nic.example/.well-known/)

Registrar periodically downloads these.

HTTP auth for crown jewels.

Problem solved.

## **Format**

I outlined an initial sketch here:

<https://stereochro.me/weblog/3573>

Gavin expanded on it here:

<https://gitlab.centralnic.com/centralnic/draft-brown-domain-pricing/>

For premium domains, the fields are:  
fqdn, class, reg\_fee, renewal\_fee, restore\_fee.

fqdn field contains IDN u-labels to  
avoid character encoding issues.

Filename in the format:  
TLD-CURRENCY-YYYY-MM-DD-Z.csv



## **Reserved domains and those on the collisions list?**

One column CSV file with only the fqdn column as previously specified.

## Naming?

Canonical names are:

TLD-collisions.csv

TLD-reserved.csv

TLD-premium.csv

That last one does a 303 redirect to

TLD-CURRENCY-YYYY-MM-DD-Z.csv

## **What's needed?**

I-D needed to describe the protocol.

Register names and name patterns  
with well-known URI registry.