In defence of jCard’s goals

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History

- EPP uses simpler form of address/contact info
- UPU has structure but we didn’t use it
- Multiple suggestions to use vCard/jCard (2011/2012)
- Profiling discussed (2013) but not pursued
- Considerations of problems, risk of problems discussed in IESG (2014)
  - Documents standardized (2015) with jCard
  - Good evidence it's proving complex
- (2019) Gavin Brown proposes return to EPP data in JSON
  - But it's not going to handle generalized i18n
What problem(s) are you trying to solve?

- APNIC spans 56 economies
- We have high participation of resource holders in non-western script and languages
- We have seven National Internet (sub) Registries
  - Who collate and process data in local languages
  - … but who share English-language filtered subsets with us
- We want to replicate and serve NIR data in local language
- We want to improve coverage of information into the locally used script and language
- We want RDAP clients to be able to use language preference
LEA and MLAP

• Resident of (e.g.) Syldavia is hacked, has logs
• Syldavian LEA investigates, source address found
  – Delegate is in Borduria
  – WHOIS/RDAP response is in English
  – Identifies source address vesting in economy “Borduria”
• Syldavian LEA contacts Bordurian LEA
  – Who can access data in Bordurian Script
  – With Accurate Bordurian contact information and address
• Casework continues in Borduria more effectively
Other issues: Address, Title, Errors

- Western Name forms poor analogue for some cultures
  - Many people from Indonesia only have one name (no surname)
  - Formal titles do not translate into Mr/Ms/Miss/Mrs well
- Postal address structure is not a western model
  - Not Number, Street, but Block, sub-block
  - Rural community locations with no formal address
- Transcription errors
  - How confident are you the western address transcription is right?
- Registration proceeded in non-western scripts.
  - Why coerce to ASCII?
- Drives to unstructured name/address in JSON, or a lot of <null> alternates
I don’t have the answers..

• RIR use of RDAP strongly motivated by local language support in current models (Whois)
  – We already have un-structured, semi-structured WHOIS in multilingual form (KRNIC, JPNIC, VNNIC) which is badly captured

• If not jCard then a format which recognizes local language/script and provides choice for browser to select

• Structured vs Un-Structured address issues will remain
  – Not all address forms admit to field tagging,
  – or fieldset includes NULL
Justin Mack on complexity in jCard

"JCard is very flexible but the massive use of jagged arrays requires implementers to customize serialization and deserialization. It would be better to have a JSON representation which could be marshalled/unmarshalled by the usual toJson/fromJson methods."

- jCard is probably our biggest implementation burden and interoperability problem right now
- Something simpler is needed, but please don’t drop i18n
APNIC 48

Registration - opens soon
Call for Papers - open now
Fellowships - open now

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