

## ANNEX .HOW - SPECIAL CONDITIONS FOR THE .HOW TLD

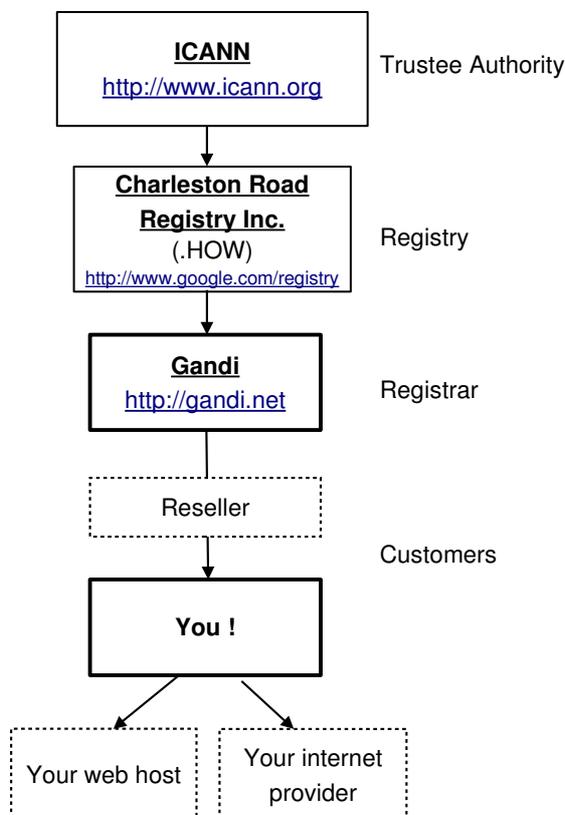
version 1.0 – November the 27th, 2014

In addition to Gandi's [General Terms and Conditions](#) for domain name registration, the registration and use of a .HOW domain name implies the acceptance of and compliance to the present special conditions contained herein.

All Your legal information and contracts can be viewed at any time via Our [website](#). Capitalized terms have the definition attributed to them in Our [General Terms and Conditions](#) of Domain Name Registration. Specifically, "You" refers to the owner of the domain name, and "We" designates Gandi. Your current contracts are freely available for viewing when You log into Your account at: <http://www.gandi.net/admin/contracts/>.

### **Section .HOW.1. Trustee authority and Registry**

.HOW is a generic Top-Level-Domain (gTLD). The following diagram presents the various parties involved for the .HOW TLD:



You can view the information and special rules of each party involved by clicking on the respective links.

### **Section .HOW.2. Registration terms and conditions**

When You apply to register a .HOW domain name, You acknowledge that You have fully understood, and that You certify to have full knowledge of and that You agree to abide by all the rules and specific conditions of .HOW domain names, as defined by ICANN and Charleston Road Registry, Inc. and which may be viewed at the following pages:

- Charleston Road Registry Inc.'s Domain Name Abuse Policy: <http://www.google.com/registry/policies/domainabuse/index.htm>
- Charleston Road Registry Inc.'s Privacy Policy: <http://www.google.com/registry/privacy.html>
- ICANN consensus policies: <http://www.icann.org/en/general/consensus-policies.htm>

These contracts bind You to the .HOW Registry. The special conditions contained herein do not replace these rules, but rather form part of them. You acknowledge to have fully understood and to have accepted these rules on Our Website.

The contract between ICANN and the .HOW Registry is available at the following address:

[www.icann.org/en/about/agreements/registries/how](http://www.icann.org/en/about/agreements/registries/how)

### **Section .HOW.3. Launch rules**

The .HOW domain name launch will occur in three (3) phases: Sunrise, Landrush and general opening.

The Sunrise phase will run from November 10th, 2014 to January 9th, 2015. Landrush will run from January 12th, 2015 to January 26th, 2015. Then general opening is scheduled for January 28th, 2015. These dates are not definitive and are subject to change by the Registry.

Preregistrations during Sunrise, Landrush and general opening phases are available at Gandi: domain names can be ordered at that time, but will not yet be registered or reserved.

You recognize and accept that all .HOW domain names registered will be subject to Charleston Road Registry, Inc.'s startup policy which may be found at the following address: <http://www.google.com/registry/policies/startup/index.html>

### **Section .HOW.4. Special requirements**

.HOW special requirements are available at:

<http://www.gandi.net/domain/how/info>

.HOW domain names are open to anyone.

### **Section .HOW.5. Sunrise**

## **5.1 Eligibility rules**

Only owners of a trademark registered with the trademark rights protection mechanism “[TMCH](#)” (Trademark Clearinghouse) established by ICANN are eligible to make a request during the Sunrise period.

As a TMCH trademark agent, Gandi can proceed with the registration of Your trademarks with TMCH (service reserved to Our Corporate customers, please contact Our [Corporate team](#)).

Eligibility conditions concerning the registration of a trademark with TMCH and the applicable rules are available at the following address: <http://www.trademark-clearinghouse.com/downloads>

Once Your trademark has been validated, TMCH generates one or several "labels" strictly identical to Your trademark.

Upon the submission of Your trademark with TMCH, You can choose the Sunrise service, provided that Your trademark has been validated by TMCH. The Sunrise service includes:

- generating a “SMD” (Signed Mark Data) file that proves the validation of Your trademark and allows You to make a registration request during the Sunrise period for one or several domain names strictly identical to the “label(s)” generated, provided that You comply with the eligibility conditions and rules enacted by the Registry,
- sending notifications (NORNs) that inform You of the registration of a domain name identical to Your trademark by a third party during the Sunrise period.

During Your registration request on Our interface, You must upload Your “SMD” file for verification.

## **5.2 Allocation rules**

Sunrise applications are not reviewed on a “first-come first-served” basis, they will be considered as having arrived at the same time:

- if only one qualified application is made for a domain name, the domain name will be registered on behalf of applicant within the days following the end of the Sunrise period,
- if multiple qualified applications are made for the same domain name, the domain name will be subject to closed auction between all applicants for this domain name. Rules applicable to the auction procedure will be made available to You on the auction provider's website.

When a domain name is allocated to You in Sunrise period, third parties who own an identical trademark registered within TMCH are notified of Your registration.

## **5.3 Dispute resolution**

Any dispute relative to the validation of Your trademark with TMCH must be submitted in accordance with the dispute

resolution procedure established by TMCH:  
<http://www.trademark-clearinghouse.com/dispute>

Any dispute arising from the allocation of a domain name during the Sunrise period must be submitted in accordance with the dispute resolution procedure established by the Registry that You agree fully abide by:

<http://www.google.com/registry/policies/startup/how/index.html>

## **5.4. Refund Conditions**

In any case, You will not be entitled to receive any refund if Your application is rejected (eligibility criteria not met, “SMD” file invalid or revoked ...) or if the domain name is not granted to You (domain name granted to an other person during an auction, if a third party has successfully challenged the domain name registration ...).

## **Section .HOW.6. Landrush**

### **6.1 Eligibility rules**

No specific eligibility rules or conditions apply to Landrush phase. Any person may apply for a .HOW domain name registration.

### **6.2 Allocation rules**

Landrush applications are not reviewed on a “first-come first-served” basis, they will be considered as having arrived at the same time:

- if only one qualified application is made for a domain name, the domain name will be registered on behalf of applicant within the days following the end of the Landrush period,
- if multiple qualified applications are made for the same domain name, the domain name will be subject to closed auction between all applicants for this domain name. Rules applicable to the auction procedure will be made available to You on the auction provider's website.

When a domain name is allocated to You in Landrush period, third parties who own an identical trademark registered within TMCH are notified of Your registration.

### **6.3 Dispute resolution**

Any dispute arising from the allocation of a domain name during Landrush period must be submitted in accordance with the dispute resolution procedure established by the Registry that You agree fully abide by:

<http://www.google.com/registry/policies/startup/how/index.html>

### **6.4 Refund conditions**

In any case, You will not be entitled to receive any refund if Your application is rejected for any reason or if the domain name is not granted to You (domain name granted to an other person during an auction).

## **Section .HOW.7. “Trademark Claim Notice” period**

In accordance with ICANN rules, during the Landrush period and 90 days upon general opening, a “Trademark Claim Notice” period will run.

During this period if the domain name for which You requested registration is identical to a trademark that is registered and validated with TMCH (according to the “labels” generated), You will receive a warning notice (“Trademark Claim Notice”) in real time on Our interface informing You that a third party has rights to the domain name You requested.

You must confirm or cancel Your registration request, with full knowledge of the notice and its consequences. It being specified that if You do not confirm the notice, Your request will not be sent to the Registry.

If You confirm Your registration request, third parties who own an identical mark are notified of Your registration.

For requests made in preregistration, beginning one day prior to the opening of the period concerned, Gandi will notify You by email of the “Trademark Claim Notice” and Your registration request will be put in “error” until You confirm or cancel Your registration via Our interface. It being specified that, in accordance with ICANN rules, if You do not confirm the notice, Gandi will not send Your registration request to the Registry upon the opening of the concerned period and cannot, in any case, be held liable for the non-registration of Your domain name and particularly if the domain name is registered by a third party who has validated the “Trademark Claim Notice” upon the opening of the period concerned.

It is Your sole and entire responsibility to confirm, if You want, all the notices received before the opening of the concerned period and the sending of Your request to the Registry.

## **Section .HOW.8. Reserved names and premium domain names**

Some words are reserved or prohibited:

<http://www.icann.org/en/about/agreements/registries/how> (specification 5. schedule of reserved names), names containing two characters followed by two hyphens and names beginning or ending by a hyphen are not allowed.

The registration of “premium” domain names is not available on Our interface, You would need to contact Our customer service department for this.

For requests made in preregistration, if the domain name You have preregistered is a “premium” domain name, Your request will be put in “error” and You will be notified by email. Then You will be able to either pay the additional costs applicable to “premium” domain names in order to validate Your registration request or cancel Your request. It being specified that if You do not contact Our customer service department and do not pay the additional

costs applicable to “premium” domain names, Your registration request will be not sent to the Registry.

## **Section .HOW.9. Registration term**

The registration term is from one (1) to ten (10) years for requests made during all periods, including Sunrise, Landrush and general availability. To avoid any deactivation of the domain name, the renewal must be paid and funds cleared **before the Expiration date**.

## **Section .HOW.10. Pricing**

Our prices may be viewed at:

<https://www.gandi.net/domain/price/detail/how>

“Premium” domain names are subject to specific prices that will be communicated by Our customer service department upon request.

## **Section .HOW.11. Storage of contact information**

In application of ICANN contracts, all personal and technical information associated with the registration of Your domain name is recorded and made available to ICANN and IRON MOUNTAIN (ICANN's designated Registrar Data Escrow agent), in addition to messages pertaining to each registration or modification, during the entire duration of the registration of the domain name, plus the two following years.

You also recognize and accept the collection, the processing, the use and the publication in the public [Whois](#) database of Your personal data by Charleston Road Registry, Inc., its designees and its agents consistent with the purposes detailed in the [Registry's Privacy Policy](#).

Before using Your personal data for other purposes, the Registry shall provide Us with proper notification regarding these purposes.

## **Section .HOW.12. Dispute resolution policy**

The Registry has adopted the ICANN dispute resolution procedures UDRP (Uniform Dispute Resolution Policy) and URS (Uniform Rapid Suspension System) for .HOW domains, that You agree fully abide by.

You may view general documentation on the UDRP procedure at the following addresses:

- ICANN domain name dispute resolution policies: <http://www.icann.org/udrp>
- explanations: <http://www.icann.org/en/udrp/udrp.htm>
- Policy: <http://www.icann.org/en/dndr/udrp/policy.htm>
- Rules: <http://www.icann.org/dndr/udrp/uniform-rules.htm>
- Dispute Resolution Service Providers:

The URS rules are available at the following page:

<http://newgtlds.icann.org/en/applicants/urs>

### **Section .HOW.13. Transfer (change of Registrar)**

The transfer-in process may be initiated on Our Interface. Before requesting the transfer of the domain, please make sure You have the domain's authorization code (supplied by Your current Registrar), and that Your domain name:

- does not have a TransferProhibited status,
- does not expire soon (We recommend that You start the transfer request at least 1 month prior to its Expiration),
- was created at least 60 days prior to the request,
- has not been transferred within the last 60 days.

The transfer's completion requires Your confirmation (by e-mail).

Upon successfully transferring a domain, the registration period is extended by one year.

### **Section .HOW.14. Ownership change**

The ownership change process is available on Our Interface and requires the confirmation of both parties by e-mail.

The owner change of a domain name does not change the domain's expiration date.

### **Section .HOW.15. Deletion process**

**Upon the Expiration of the domain**, We suspend (Hold) the domain name for 45 days, during which time all associated technical services are deactivated. Late renewal at normal price is possible during this period.

Then the domain goes into Redemption Period for an additional 30 days, and all associated technical services are deactivated. It can only be restored during this period in accordance with the terms and conditions described on Our website and/or as communicated by Our customer service department.

If the domain is neither renewed nor restored within these deadlines, the Registry shall place the domain on "Pending Delete" status for several days, and then delete the domain name, which will become available for registration on a "first-come first-served" basis.

### **Section .HOW.16. Registrant representations and guarantees**

By submitting a registration or modification request You acknowledge that:

- Your request must contain true, accurate and up-to-date information, must be made in good faith, for a lawful purpose, and must not infringe the rights of any third party,
- You have to submit to proceedings and abide by all decisions made by panels consistent with PDDRP, UDRP and URS as

established by the Registry and ICANN,

- You accept and abide by the rules and policies enacted by the Registry.

In addition, by submitting a request during the Sunrise period, You acknowledge that the Registry and/or its agents are authorized to share information relating to Your request to TMCH, other Sunrise applicants, and/or any third party.

In any case, You acknowledge and agree that distributing malware, abusively operating botnets, phishing, piracy, trademark or copyright infringement, fraudulent or deceptive practices, counterfeiting or otherwise engaging in activity contrary to applicable law are expressly prohibited. Failing to comply with this provision, You expose Yourself to the suspension of Your domain name, in addition to the prosecution for the prejudice caused to third parties and to the penalties defined by applicable law.

You commit Yourself to indemnify and hold harmless Charleston Road Registry, Inc., its parent company and subcontractors, as well as their respective directors, officers, employees, agents and affiliates from and against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses, including reasonable legal fees and expenses arising out of or relating to, for any reason, Your domain name registration.

This indemnification obligation shall survive the termination of the present contract, whatever may be the cause, and is the direct consequence of Our accreditation agreement.

### **Section .HOW.17. Exclusion of liability and actions of the Registry**

You expressly acknowledge and accept that the Registry shall be entitled, that it deems necessary, in its sole and entire discretion, but not obligated, to deny, cancel or transfer any of Your transactions to a third party and/or place Your domain name in "lock", "hold" or any similar status:

- to comply with specifications adopted by any industry group generally recognized as authoritative with respect to the Internet (such as but not limited to RFCs),
- to correct mistakes made by the Registry or any Registrar in connection to the registration of a domain name,
- to protect the rights and property of Charleston Road Registry, Inc. and to avoid any potential or actual liability, civil or criminal, on the part of the Registry as well as its affiliates, subsidiaries, officers, directors, representatives, employees, and stockholders,
- to protect the integrity and stability of the domain names system,
- for violation of the present contract,
- to enforce the rules and policies established by the Registry and ICANN each as amended from time to time,
- to comply with applicable laws, regulations, policies, government rules or requirements, request of law enforcement or any applicable dispute resolution process.

The Registry also reserves the right to place Your domain name

in « lock » status, « hold » status or similar status during resolution of a dispute.

You acknowledge that Charleston Road Registry, Inc. has no liability for any loss or liability resulting from the proceedings and

processes defined in its startup policy, including, without limitation, Your ability or inability to obtain a .HOW domain name and the results of any dispute over domain name registrations matching any trademark or service marks listed in the Trademark Clearinghouse.

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