



Abuse Intervention Program (AIP)

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AGENDA

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Q and A



About PIR

- Nonprofit registry operator of .ORG (also .Charity, .Foundation, .Gives and .Giving, among others)
- Supporting organization of the Internet Society - more than 60 cents of every dollar we make goes to fund ISOC's work around the world
- Own nonprofit mission - to empower nonprofits and to develop practices that improve the DNS.



Abuse Intervention Program (AIP)

- The AIP is a program in which we suspend a registrar's ability to register new domains, or accept inbound transfers in PIR TLDs, if it has:
 - Consistently high DNS Abuse concentrations;
 - That are statistically significant; and
 - Material.
- The AIP is based on objective criteria. We do not “select” registrars, the data does.



Abuse Strategy Evolution

- Anti-Abuse Policy, Anti-Abuse Principles
 - Industry Engagement, work with Trusted Notifiers
 - Creation of the NetBeacon Institute
 - Quality Performance Index (QPI)
-
- Launch of the Abuse Intervention Program



Quality Performance Index

- Creates an indexed score for each registrar based on domain registration quality patterns
- No deep/volume discount - modest discounts at lowest tier, increased with higher QPI metrics
- Registrars that do not qualify have changed behavior for .ORG
- Two primary goals:
 - (1) Reduce DNS Abuse
 - (2) Create Responsible Growth

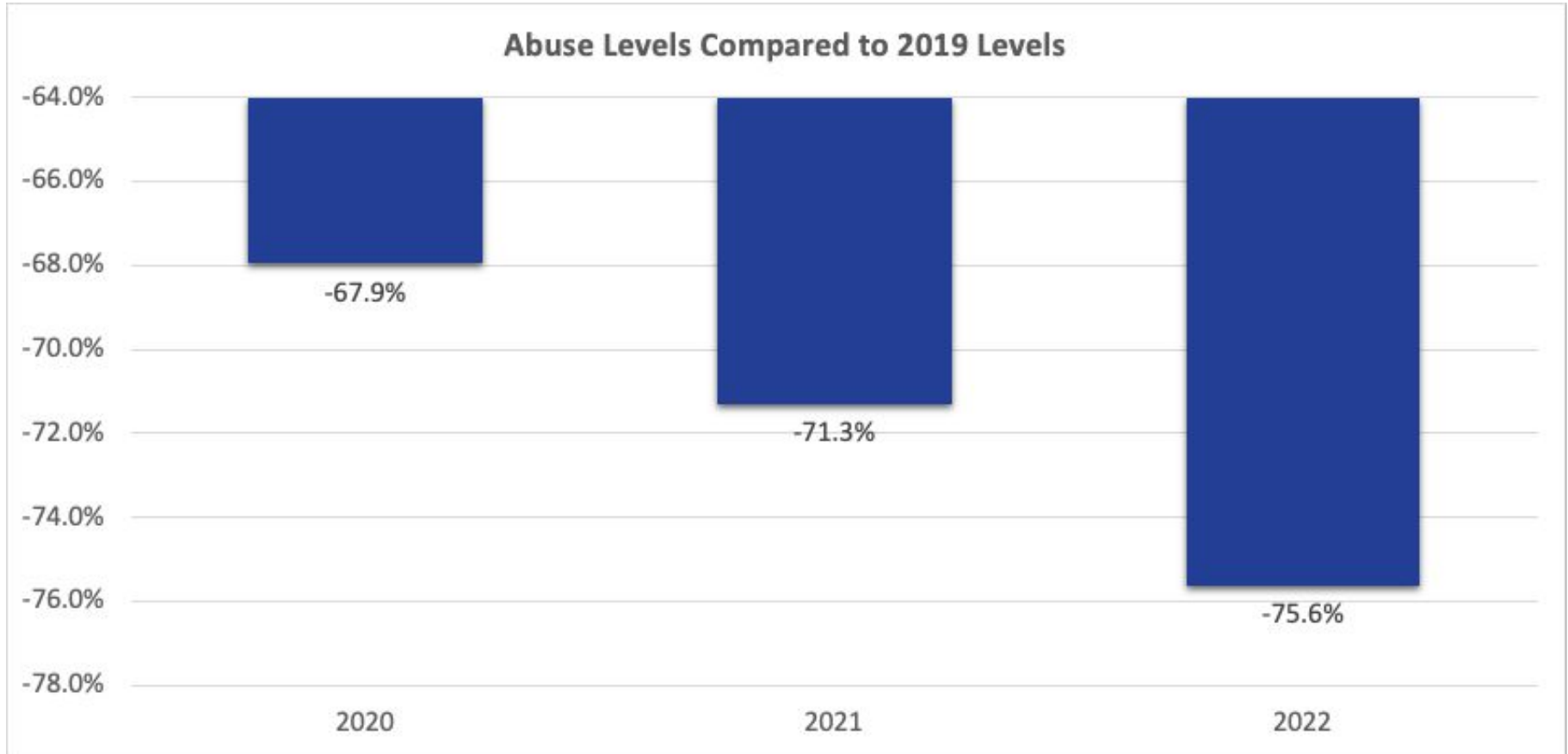


QPI Creation

- Re-thinking of our discount programs; focus on responsible growth
- Brainstorm (and special thanks to) with SIDN, registrar scorecard
- Launched in 2019, been only channel discount program for .ORG ever since
- Coincide with additional abuse “sweeps”



Reducing DNS Abuse



*Phishing and malware
(drop in Spamhaus "badness score:" average of 3.12% in 2019, to 0.9% in May 2023)



- More than 80% of .ORG registrations are created through QPI eligible registrars
- Increased .ORG renewal rates long term by 5.5%
 - 2015-2019 renewal rates: 75.5%
 - 2020-2025 renewal rates: 81%

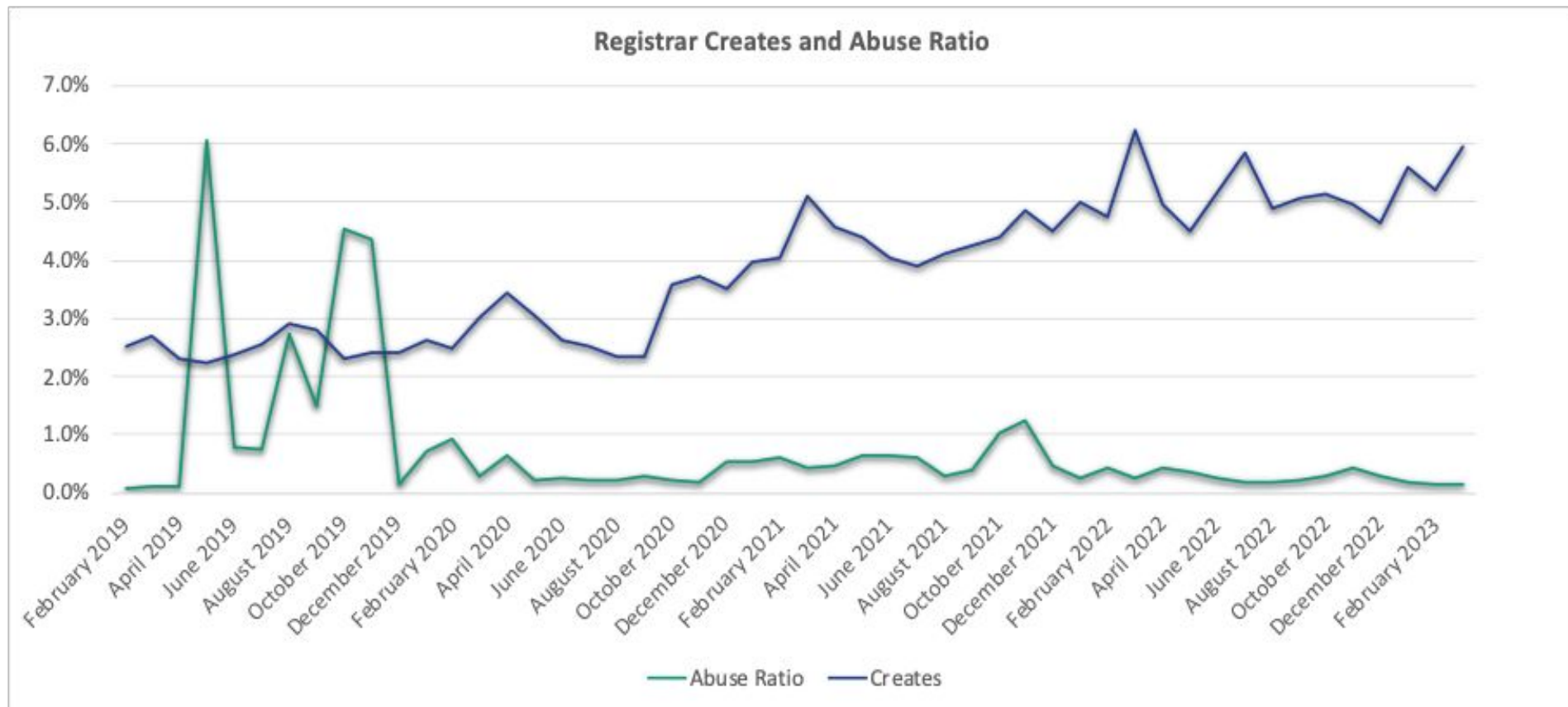
A donut chart with a blue outer ring and a lighter blue inner ring. The text "Impact on Registrars" is centered in the middle of the chart.

Impact on Registrars

- Renewals for QPI registrars are 16% higher than non-QPI participants
- Several registrars have approached to improve practices
 - Consult with registrars on each metric
 - Suggest NetBeacon Institute consultation



Real Example: Registrar Improvement on Abuse





What QPI did not Solve

- A small number of registrars continue to exhibit extreme concentrations of malicious registrations.
- Financial incentives alone have not altered their behavior.
- The impact of those concentrations affects the broader .ORG reputation.



Abuse Intervention Program

The AIP is not punitive in intent. Its purpose is to:

- Protect the .ORG domain space from systemic, malicious abuse;
- Provide early visibility and objective criteria so registrars can take corrective action; and
- Apply proportionate, escalating interventions only when abuse persists over time.

A registrar in an intervention will lose the ability to register new .ORG creates or have new inbound transfers.



Scope of Abuse Covered

The AIP measures DNS Abuse in .ORG, specifically:

- Phishing
- Malware
- Botnets (where information is available)

The program considers only malicious registrations.

Abuse related to compromised websites is excluded from the data used for AIP eligibility.



AIP Components

A registrar will only enter the AIP if:

1. it has ranked among the **top-10 highest abuse rates** for .ORG abuse in at least four of the past six months in .ORG MAP data
2. its blended abuse score is a clear **statistical outlier**
3. and it has a **material amount** of confirmed abusive registrations.

Table 3: Highest observed rates of abuse 2025-12

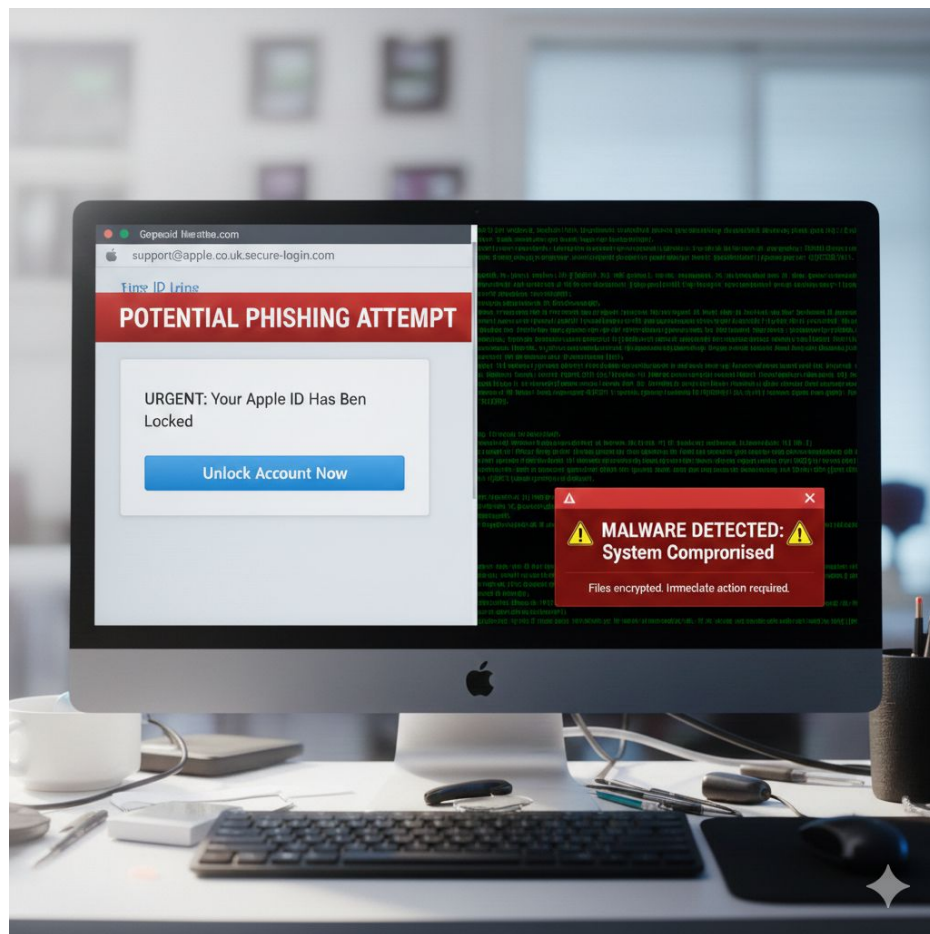
IANA ID	Registrar Credential	Observed Maliciously Registered Domains Per 100,000 gT..	Observed Malicious gTLD Domains	Observed gTLD DUM	Number of Months
3858	Aceville Pte. Ltd.	935.31	834	89,168	6
3956	Global Domain Group LLC	499.41	666	133,358	5
Redacted	*Redacted*	488.00	*	*	2
3765	NICENIC INTERNATIONAL GR..	338.10	401	118,605	6
Redacted	*Redacted*	147.21	*	*	1
Redacted	*Redacted*	126.83	*	*	3
Redacted	*Redacted*	121.61	*	*	1
Redacted	*Redacted*	90.84	*	*	2
1601	Atak Domain Bilgi Teknolojil..	83.03	223	268,588	4
460	Web Commerce Communicat..	77.73	529	680,529	6

NetBeacon
MAP,
December
2025 data



Criteria 1 - Consistently High Abuse Ranking

Registrar must appear in the **top-10 highest abuse concentrations** (malicious registrations per 100,000 new domain creates) for at least four **(4) of the previous six (6) months**, based on NetBeacon MAP .ORG data.





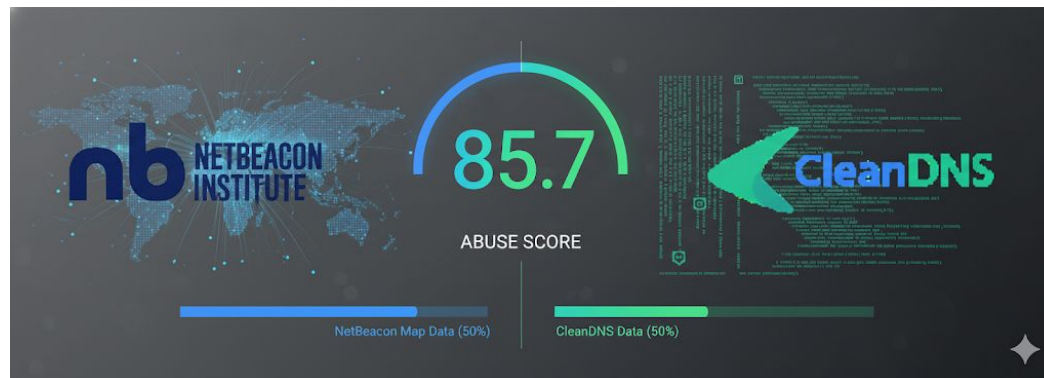
Criteria 2 - Statistical Significance

The registrar's blended **abuse score must exceed two (2) standard deviations above the mean** abuse rate for .ORG registrars.

The blended abuse score is calculated on a rolling six month average for:

- 50% NetBeacon MAP .ORG abuse data, and
- 50% CleanDNS observed abuse data for .ORG.

This requirement ensures that interventions apply only to registrars that are clear statistical outliers relative to their peers.





Criteria 3 - Materiality

The registrar must exceed a minimum **material threshold of confirmed abusive registrations** across all affiliates during the previous six (6) months.

- This is a fixed number, but we are not publishing it to avoid incentivizing registrars to operate up to a disclosed maximum level of acceptable abuse.



AIP Escalating Sanctions

Interventions are escalatory:

First Intervention: 14 days

Second Intervention: 30 days

Third Intervention: 180 days





Cooling Off Periods

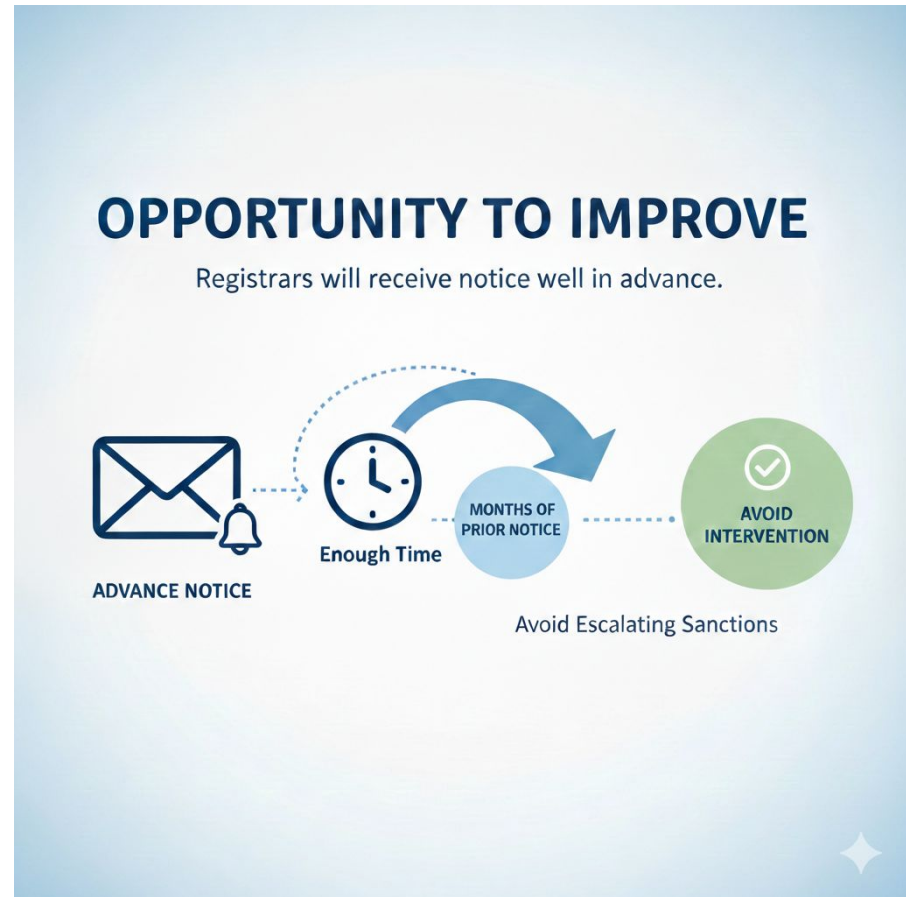


- Since the first two criteria are on a six month rolling basis, we built in “Cooling Off Periods.”
- This allows the data to “catch up.”



Advance Notice, and Opportunity to Improve

- Monthly top-ten notifications
- Blended score and deviation disclosed
- Five business days' advance notice before intervention





Q & A

THANK YOU!

