

RULES OF REGISTRATION (RoR)

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ABOUT: ALT.SO NETWORK INFORMATION CENTER, ABBREVIATED AS ALT.SO NIC, IS THE DOMAIN NAME ADMINISTRATOR OF THE “.ALT.SO” DOMAIN NAMES. THE ALT.SO NIC IS A CONCERN OF ALT.SO LDO.



1. Introduction

- i. This document outlines the rules and principles (“the Rules” or “RoR”) governing the application and registration of “Domain Name(s)” with the Alt.So Network Information Center, abbreviated as Alt.So NIC or NIC.ALT.SO (“we” or “us”). As an applicant (“the Applicant(s)” or “you”), you must adhere to and comply with the latest version of these Rules when applying for registration of your domain name with us. We assume your compliance with these Rules upon acceptance of your application. However, acceptance of your application or compliance with these Rules does not guarantee successful registration of the domain name. We are not obligated to notify you of the status of your application or provide reasons for denying registration. Additionally, we may request further information or verification from you and may consider your application withdrawn if such requests are not promptly fulfilled. Upon successful registration of the domain name (i.e., inclusion in the Shared Registry System, SRS, operated by us for domain name registration, with an active status), it is understood that you have entered into the domain name Registration Agreement (the “DNRA”) with us. The latest version of this RoR is available on our website at <https://nic.alt.so/>, and the RoR will take precedence over any other documents or webpages in cases of conflict.
- ii. Capitalized words used in this document that are not defined will have the same meaning as set out in the DNRA. Moreover, any editing or spelling error reporting will be appreciated.

2. Form

Each application for domain name registration must adhere to the form and format specified by us. Applicants are allowed to register more than one domain name in a single application.

3. Confirmation by Applicant

- i. You have got, read, understood, and fully accepted the terms and conditions outlined in our latest RoR, DNRA, website(s), WHOIS Policy, and all the other reference documents. The applicable documents may be also available on our website(s) or will be made available upon request.
- ii. You acknowledge that it is solely your responsibility to inform us within 2 (two) working days of any changes to your domain registration, your legal information, and/or your contact information.
- iii. You acknowledge that it is solely your responsibility to complete the domain name renewal process at least 2 (two) working days before the Date of Expiration (DoE), and you will honor the new price and/or cost set by us unconditionally, unless we have a special contract with you.
- iv. You acknowledge that if we are named as a party in any proceedings related to your domain name, your company, your goodwill, or anything we consider defamatory, we have the right to suspend your domain name indefinitely and may eventually make it available for public registration.
- v. You acknowledge and agree that by granting you a domain name, we have not determined nor are capable of determining the legality of the domain name registration or evaluating whether that



registration or use of the domain name may infringe upon any rights of a third party. Therefore, you further agree that you will not use the fact that the domain name has been registered with us as a defense in any legal proceedings brought against you by any third party.

- vi. You consent to us collecting, permanently storing, processing, using, disclosing, and publishing your information, including your domain name registration related information, in any form or medium, including but not limited to internet-based services available to the public (such as WHOIS), for lawful purposes, even after the termination and/or expiration of all contracts. These purposes include publication to any third parties relying on or participating in any administrative proceedings. The types of information made available for the WHOIS service, its use, and the measures we take to protect your privacy are outlined in our latest WHOIS Policy.
- vii. You agree that we will not be liable under any circumstances to compensate you or anyone for any claim, loss, or damage suffered, whether actual or alleged, arising from or in connection with our products and/or the exercise of our rights. And you acknowledge and accept that we will not refund any fees that have already been paid to us before the termination of the RoR and DNRA or the deletion/suspension of any product and/or domain name registration.
- viii. You acknowledge and agree that all the services provided by us (“Services”), including domain name registration and email forwarding, are entirely only at your own risk. All our services are provided on an “as is” and “as available” basis, with all faults and without any form of warranties, express, or implied. We specifically disclaim any representation or implied warranties of accuracy, timeliness, completeness, adequacy, merchantability, satisfactory quality, fitness for a particular purpose, non-infringement, or availability for use. Additionally, you acknowledge and agree that we can add, disable, remove, or change any service without any prior notification or justification, and that some features may not be available or made unavailable suddenly to any or all your domains.
- ix. You acknowledge and agree the price(s) for the service(s) we quoted to you, directly or publicly. You also acknowledge and agree the length of domain registration set by us. You further agree that you will not be keeping your domain name(s) more than 60 (sixty) days without any purposeful use. We may take down or delete your domain(s) if violated with notice.
- x. You agree to notify, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless us, including all officers, directors, employees, agents, and committees (collectively referred to as the “Indemnified Parties” and individually as the “Indemnified Party”), from and against any and all damages, liabilities, obligations, losses, claims, demands, actions, causes of action, penalties, costs, and expenses (including professional and legal expenses) arising from or related to your use or permitted use of any domain name, any product, and/or your violation of our policies in any manner.

4. Key Terms and Conditions

- i. New updates to the RoR, DNRA, website(s), pricing, technologies, and the reference documents will be made as needed, but we are not responsible for regular notifications. However, we are accountable for indicating the last update dates (i.e., Document Date) on the legal documents. All new Applicants and current domain name clients/users are required to adhere to the latest



update. We strongly recommend you check all our legal documents often.

- ii. Only we can amend/modify any domain name and/or domain name related information, not just limited to correcting errors made by any party in connection with the registration, transfer, termination, or renewal of the domain name, or just to implement any of our decision or order issued by a court or our administrative panel handling any issue.
- iii. Subject to your compliance with all our terms, you will only have the right to use, but not own, the domain name for legal activities/operations. You will not have any right to sell, trade, assign, or otherwise deal with the domain name without our permission. We are entitled to injunctive relief should you deal with the domain name in any manner that is contrary to our policies.
- iv. Subject to acceptance by us, you can request transfer of domain name(s) to an acceptable entity by paying a fee set by us instantly, however you cannot charge any monetary value to that entity.
- v. The successful registration of the domain name in one category does not confer upon you any legal, equitable, or other proprietary right to use an identical, similar, phonetically, or anyway equivalent domain name in another domain category.
- vi. Activities such as phishing, pharming, botnet command and control, distribution of malware (including computer viruses, worms, keyloggers, and trojan horses), fast flux hosting, wildcarding, and spamming, plus any actions that threaten the security and stability of the internet, and any other activities that we deem objectionable, or undesirable are strictly prohibited and will be subject to immediate action.
- vii. The RoR and DNRA will automatically terminate under the following conditions: (i) when the domain name registration is purged, (ii) when we are no longer the domain name administrator for your domain (directly or indirectly), or (iii) when you choose not to agree to the amendments made to the RoR, DNRA, and/or the reference documents. However, termination of the RoR and DNRA does not affect our rights and your liabilities that have already accrued. This includes your obligation to pay all fees that are due and owing to us at the time of termination of the RoR and DNRA. But we are not required to refund any fees that were paid prior to the termination of the RoR and DNRA or the deletion/suspension of the domain name registration.
- viii. If your domain name was active and wasn't renewed on time, it may cease to resolve on the internet immediately after the expiry date. Following the Deletion Escrow Period (DE Period), which is typically 14 (fourteen) days from the expiry date, the domain name may be purged from the system and become available for registration by any eligible party. A penalty will apply if you wish to renew your domain name during the DE Period, and this penalty will be determined by us.
- ix. The use of subdomains is only acceptable when the subdomain user is a holding, subsidiary, parent/sister company, or to an entity that constitutes a part of your organizational structure. While there is no permission necessary for subdomains, but we may check compliance anytime.
- x. All notices, communications, demands, requests, approvals, notices, or consents required under



the RoR and DNRA will be in writing and will be deemed duly given and received under the following conditions:

- a. When personally or by hand delivered to your establishment, notice will be effective on the next business day following delivery;
 - b. When sent via pre-paid mail within the same country, notice will be deemed delivered and effective 7 (seven) calendar days after posting;
 - c. When sent via international pre-paid mail, notice will be deemed delivered and effective 14 (fourteen) calendar days after posting;
 - d. When transmitted by facsimile, notice will be effective on the next business day following transmission, provided such transmission is confirmed by a transmission report generated by the sender's facsimile machine; and
 - e. When sent by electronic mail, notice will be deemed effective upon successful transmission to the recipient's designated email address, provided no automated delivery failure notification is received by the sender within 24 (twenty-four) hours of transmission.
- xi. To the full extent permitted by law, we will not be liable for any loss or damage, whether direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, or otherwise, arising from breach of warranty, breach of contract, negligence, misrepresentation, or any other legal theory related to our policies or your use of the services. This includes loss of profits, revenue, data, use of domain name registration, business interruption, business opportunity, and downtime, even if we have been advised of the possibility of such damages. Additionally, we are not required to refund anyone.
- xii. A waiver of any provision by either party is not effective unless it is expressed in proper official writing. Furthermore, the failure of either party to enforce any provisions or rights at any time will not be considered a waiver of such provisions, rights, or remedies, nor will it affect the validity of our policies. And if any provision is accepted by us or deemed illegal or unenforceable, it will not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of our policies.
- xiii. We have the right to assign or transfer all or part of our rights and obligations under the RoR, WHOIS, and/or DNRA to any party. However, if you attempt to assign your rights, the RoR and DNRA will be rendered voidable by us. Similarly, any attempt by your creditors to obtain an interest in your rights under the RoR and DNRA will also render them voidable by us.
- xiv. Neither party to the RoR and DNRA will be deemed to be in default for any delay or failure to perform any of its obligations under these policies due to causes beyond its reasonable control. The affected party must promptly notify the other party of any such circumstances delaying its performance and must resume performance as soon as reasonably practicable.
- xv. Any entity that is not a party to the RoR and DNRA does not have the right to enforce any term of the agreement, except where the RoR and DNRA expressly provide such rights to third parties.
- xvi. The rights and remedies conferred upon or reserved by the parties to the RoR and DNRA are intended to be exclusive of any other rights or remedies permitted by applicable laws or equities.
- xvii. The headings to the clauses are provided for informational and identification purposes only and



should not be considered as forming part of the RoR or DNRA itself.

5. Registrar as Your Agent and Service Provider

- i. We also have accredited entities, known as “Registrars”, authorized to provide services to the public for the registration of our domain names. Alongside these Rules, we may periodically communicate additional requirements and administrative procedures to Registrars and Applicants.
- ii. You may need or choose to designate a Registrar of your choosing as your representative to assist and act on your behalf in the application process for your selected domain name(s). The Registrar will also manage the registration and upkeep of the registered domain name(s). All information provided to your Registrar and us must be truthful, complete, accurate, and not deceptive.
- iii. We expect all Registrars to conduct their business ethically and adhere to the Code of Practice for Registrars and Resellers (the “COP”). The COP can be obtained upon request from our website(s). We encourage you to review the COP to better understand your rights and responsibilities when engaging a Registrar. We may be able to represent you in dealings with any Registrar.

6. Available Domain Names for Registration

- i. The following are the categories of domain names that may be accepted for registration:

Available Fourth-Level Domain Names (subject to reservation or change without prior notice):

- a) <domain name>.AC.ALT.SO (strictly for educational institutions)
- b) <domain name>.CD.ALT.SO (recommended for CDNs, Content Delivery Networks)
- c) <domain name>.CO.ALT.SO
- d) <domain name>.FC.ALT.SO (recommended for fan clubs and football clubs)
- e) <domain name>.OR.ALT.SO (strictly for non-profit and governmental organizations)

Available Third-Level Domain Name (subject to reservation without prior notice):

- f) <domain name>.ALT.SO

- ii. For third-level domain names, only names with more than 2 (two) characters are acceptable. However, no such limitation applies to fourth-level domain names.

7. Conditions for Choice of Domain Names

- i. Your applied domain name(s) must have the correct syntax. So, by applying for a domain name, you confirm that the domain name you are applying for are in correct syntax. A domain name must contain at least one alphabetic character and at most twenty characters, unless otherwise stated. Acceptable characters (as per the last update) are:
 - (a) Letters from “a” to “z”. And since domain names are not case sensitive, there will be no distinction between upper-case letters and lower-case letters (i.e., “A” is treated as



- “a” and vice versa);
- (b) Numeral digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and/or 9;
 - (c) Hyphen character (the only non-alphanumeric character allowed in a domain name), provided it is not the beginning or ending character, or in the second, third, or fourth position of the domain name from the left, or used more than once; and
 - (d) Non-Latin characters of the type that may from time to time be accepted by us. Information regarding the latest type of non-Latin characters that are acceptable may be found on our website(s) or upon reasonable request.
- ii. By applying for a domain name, you confirm that the domain name you are applying do not contain any content that falls within the following categories:
- (a) words, names, or phrases (whether they are full names, abbreviations, or acronyms) which (i) on its own, (ii) together with any of the remaining portion of the domain name, and/or (iii) when put to use, may suggest a link to the Singapore Government (including its statutory bodies, regulatory authorities/agencies, and national controlling bodies), us, and/or our Domain Name Reserve List (the list is updated frequently and may be posted at our website(s) or available upon reasonable request);
 - (b) phrases which may be regarded as obscene, scandalous, indecent, promote crime, or contrary to law or morality in any language (if the domain name string is in a language other than English, it is your duty to inform us during registration as to what is the language and the meaning of the domain name string in that language);
 - (c) phrases which are or which may represent geographical names or names of countries (e.g., Australia, Japan, Singapore, etc.) in any language, including without limitation to phrases identical to the two-letter country codes listed in ISO 3166 for second and third level domain name registration. However, if you can demonstrate to our satisfaction that there are strong justifications for using the reserved two-letter country code, such as the two-letter code is the same as the acronym of your products/services or is your business/company name and that you have been registering the same acronym in other domain spaces, we may consider the registration of such names, provided all other aspects are fully compliant;
 - (d) phrases, which either on their own or in combination with other characters, may look similar to .com, .org, .net, .edu, .gov, or any other domain string which we have or have not made available at the third-level at the time when you make your application;
 - (e) “www”, “http”, “https”, “http-www”, “web”, “port”, “mail”, or their variations; and
 - (f) phrases which, independently or together with any other portion of the domain name, or when put to use, are regarded by the Alt.So NIC as undesirable or unsuitable for



registration, as likely to (i) cause confusion to the public, (ii) be contrary to the security, harmony, or public interests, (iii) offend good taste or decency, (iv) offend religious beliefs, or (v) be contrary to or diminishes any other social objectives, national social movements, and/or any other efforts/endeavors associated with any government, statutory body, regulatory authority/agency and/or similar.

8. Reserved and Objectionable Domain Names

- i. Reserved domain names are typically not available for public registration. If registered, we reserve the right to delete the registration or take any other action we deem necessary or appropriate at our sole discretion, unless we have an agreement stating otherwise.
- ii. We retain full discretion to determine which names or phrases are objectionable, undesirable, or unsuitable for registration. Additionally, we reserve the right to reserve additional names as deemed necessary or desirable by us. Furthermore, even after registration, we may raise objections regarding the domain name and take necessary action on unsatisfied response.

9. Eligibility Criteria

- i. All Applicants must fulfill the following criteria and agree to abide by the following conditions at all times for us to register and maintain the registration of the applied domain names. If a registered domain name can no longer meet the criteria, we may, under exceptional circumstances, continue to allow the registration or provide time for the entity to migrate to another domain name. However, this is not a guarantee.
 - a) a registered business
 - b) a registered non-profit organization
 - c) a practicing professional with recognizable membership(s) or reference(s)
 - d) a government organization or project
 - e) a project of a recognizable entity
 - f) a legal social group or community
- ii. We may require you to provide the relevant proof of their eligibility according to the stated criteria above and/or other documents to support the application.
- iii. We will only accept registrations from legal entities engaged in activities that comply with local and/or international laws. It is within our discretion to determine if certain activities, or any of their aspects, are not acceptable and therefore ineligible for registration.
- iv. During the registration process, all Applicants has 21 (twenty-one) days from the date of application to us to complete and furnish the evidence of successful registration.
- v. The domain name must not be identical to any already registered domain name, or one that is blocked, in conflict, or prohibited by us, our partner organizations, or international bodies.



- vi. Following the registration of the name, we reserve the right to request proof of eligibility and/or additional supporting documentation. Failure to furnish such documentation 21 (twenty-one) days upon request may result in serious action taken by us.
- vii. While maintaining eligibility, we may request updated documentation. You will have 21 (twenty-one) days to furnish appropriate documentation in response.
- viii. Since we do not allow personal usage, we may ask you to prove that you are getting the domain on behalf of or by representing the eligible legal entity the domain is for.
- ix. No domain name can be used, directly or indirectly, for any purpose that is pornographic or sexual, or that violates local and/or international statutory laws. If we are informed by any party that a specific site violates this condition, we reserve the right to promptly deactivate the offending domain name and take legal action.

10. Priorities in Registration

- i. Where we receive more than one application for the same domain name and more than one Applicant is eligible for registering that domain name, we will give priority of registration to the Applicant who first submits to us a complete application (“first-come-first-served” basis). This is notwithstanding that the domain name is shown in the WHOIS database as being available for registration at any point of time before the domain name is actually registered. For avoidance of doubt, a “complete application” means one which includes all necessary information for us to consider the application and process the registration of the domain name.
- ii. Where a domain name is ordered to be transferred from you according to any decision or order from the Courts or an administrative proceeding institution, we, after learning of such decision or order will reserve the domain name solely for the party who is entitled to its transfer and registration for a period no longer than 30 (thirty) days (the “Reserved Period”). The domain name will be made available for registration by the public only after the Reserved Period, provided it has not already been registered by the so-entitled party.



11. Signing of Documents

- i. All documents sent or presented by any means for signature(s) must be sent or presented as it was through any acceptable means without any alteration or modification.
- ii. All signatures must include the name of the signatory person, the name of their entity or organization involved in the agreement, and their official position within that entity.

