

Saudi Network Information Center

SaudiNIC

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Agenda

- **About SaudiNIC**
- **Main Tasks**
- **Staffing**
- **Operation Groups**
- **Registration Procedure**
- **Statistics**
- **Virtual Network**
- **What has been done so far?**



About SaudiNIC

- 1994:
 - **KACST contacted IANA** for managing the domain name space for the country code (ccTLD) of Saudi Arabia (.SA)
- 1995:
 - **KACST was delegated** the responsibility to look after the management and administration of the Saudi ccTLD (.SA)
 - This includes the **operation of the DNS root servers** for .SA domains as well as the registration and maintenance of all third-level .SA domain names.
- 1998:
 - ISU was established and SaudiNIC became one of its departments

The mission of SaudiNIC is **to provide an equitable, just and competent** technical and administrative management of domain name registrations for Internet community in Saudi Arabia



Main Tasks

- Developments of **regulations** and **procedures**
- Providing all **registration services**
- Developments of **databases, software, and web sites and applications**
- Providing **technical supports** (for SA root and DB servers)
- Coordinating with other GCC, Arab, and International ccTLDs.
- Participating in international events supervised by ICANN, ISOC, ITU, WIPO, and any other activities that are related to domain names



Staffing

- SaudiNIC started with two persons and now it has **4 people**:
 - manager, database administrator, registrar (clerk), and webmaster.
- The technical support and operation of the DNS servers are provided by the **Network Operation Center of ISU**.

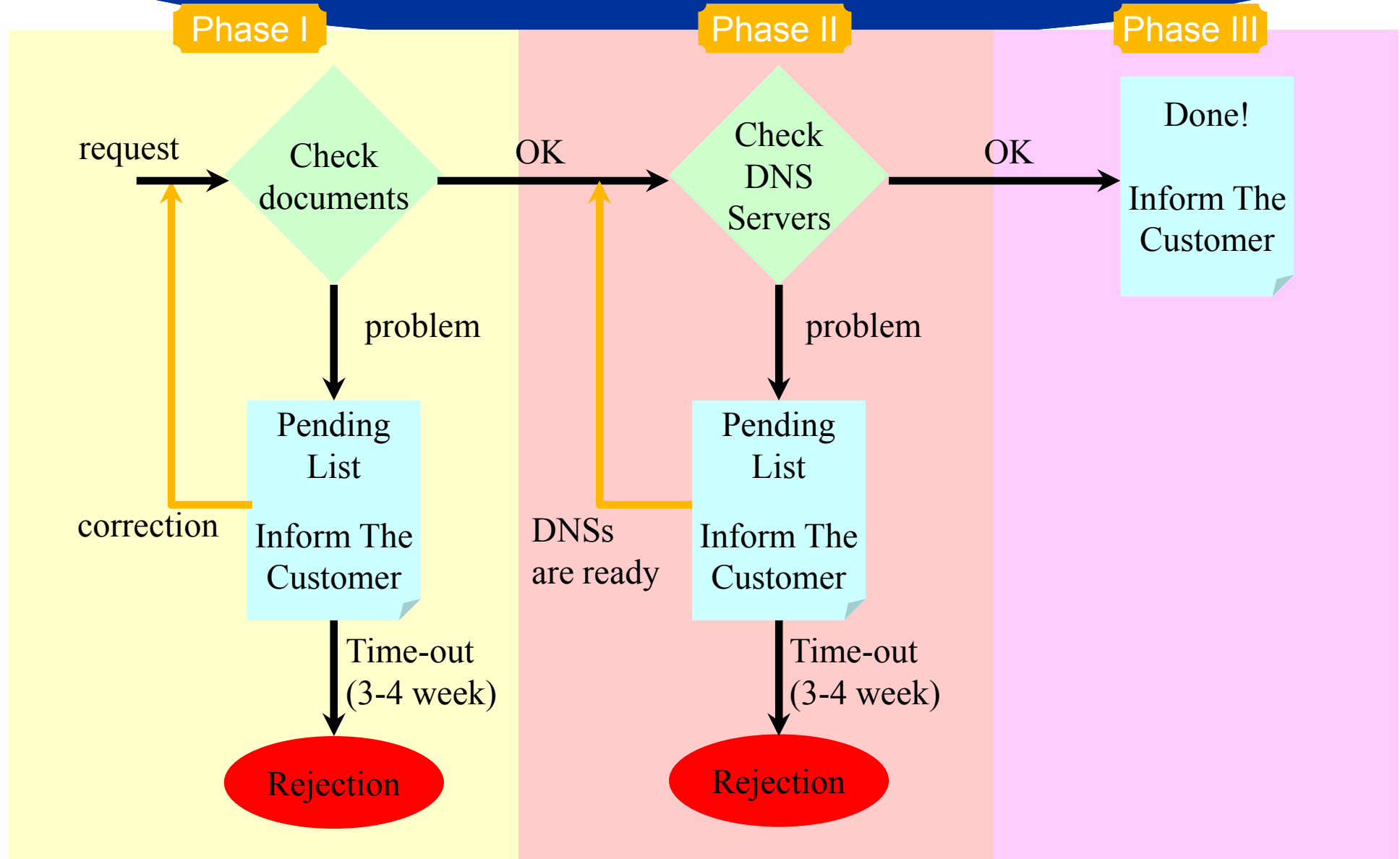


Operation Groups

- **Regulations Development**
 - The responsibility of SaudiNIC manager.
 - Done regularly once every 1-2 years.
 - Group effort.
 - Consultation with local community such as universities and service providers as well as individual groups.
 - Reviewed by the legal department of KACST
 - Approved by the VP of KACST
- **Registration**
 - Registration procedures are defined and drafted by SaudiNIC staff and approved by the SaudiNIC manager.
 - Two levels of helpdesk support are provided. First level covers most of all support provided to SaudiNIC's customers. The second level provides mostly technical supports.
 - Day-to-day registration activities (add new, modify, and delete domain names).
 - Maintaining customer files (archiving- manual)
- **Database and Software Development**
 - Administering and monitoring the SaudiNIC database server (Sybase)
 - Performing backups
 - Developing and maintaining in-house software applications for automating domain name registrations and generating reports (perl, c, python, php, shell scripts).
- **Web Development**
 - Creating and maintaining up to date web site in dual languages (Arabic and English)
 - Creating web applications
- **Technical Support**
 - Operating and monitoring the DNS servers
 - Securing the DNS and database server.
 - Providing 24x7 connectivity to the DNS and database server.
 - Coordinating with our secondary DNS servers around the world.
 - Updating the information records of .sa with ICANN/IANA
 - Most of these tasks are provided by ISU-NOC.



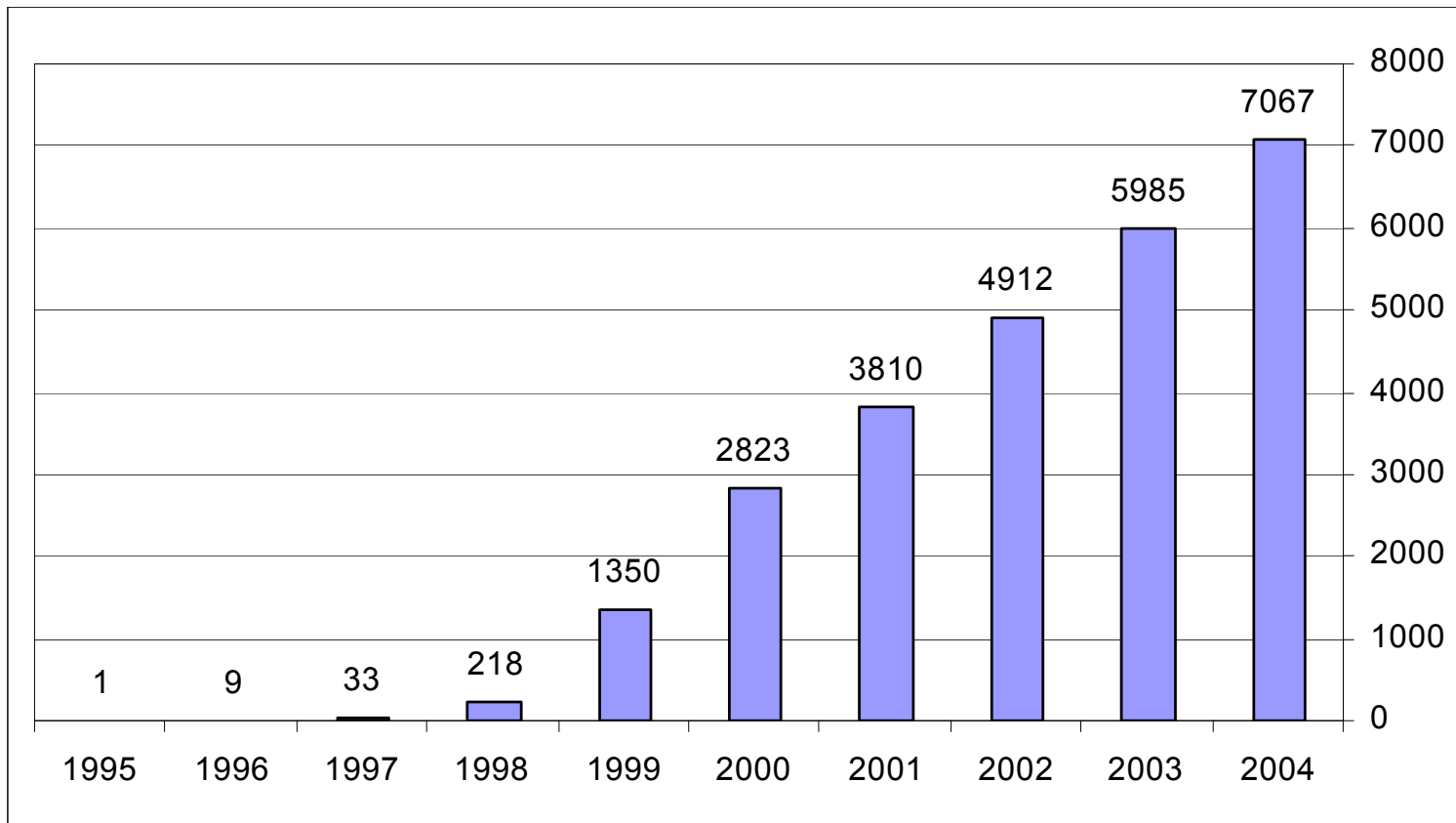
Registration Procedure





Statistics

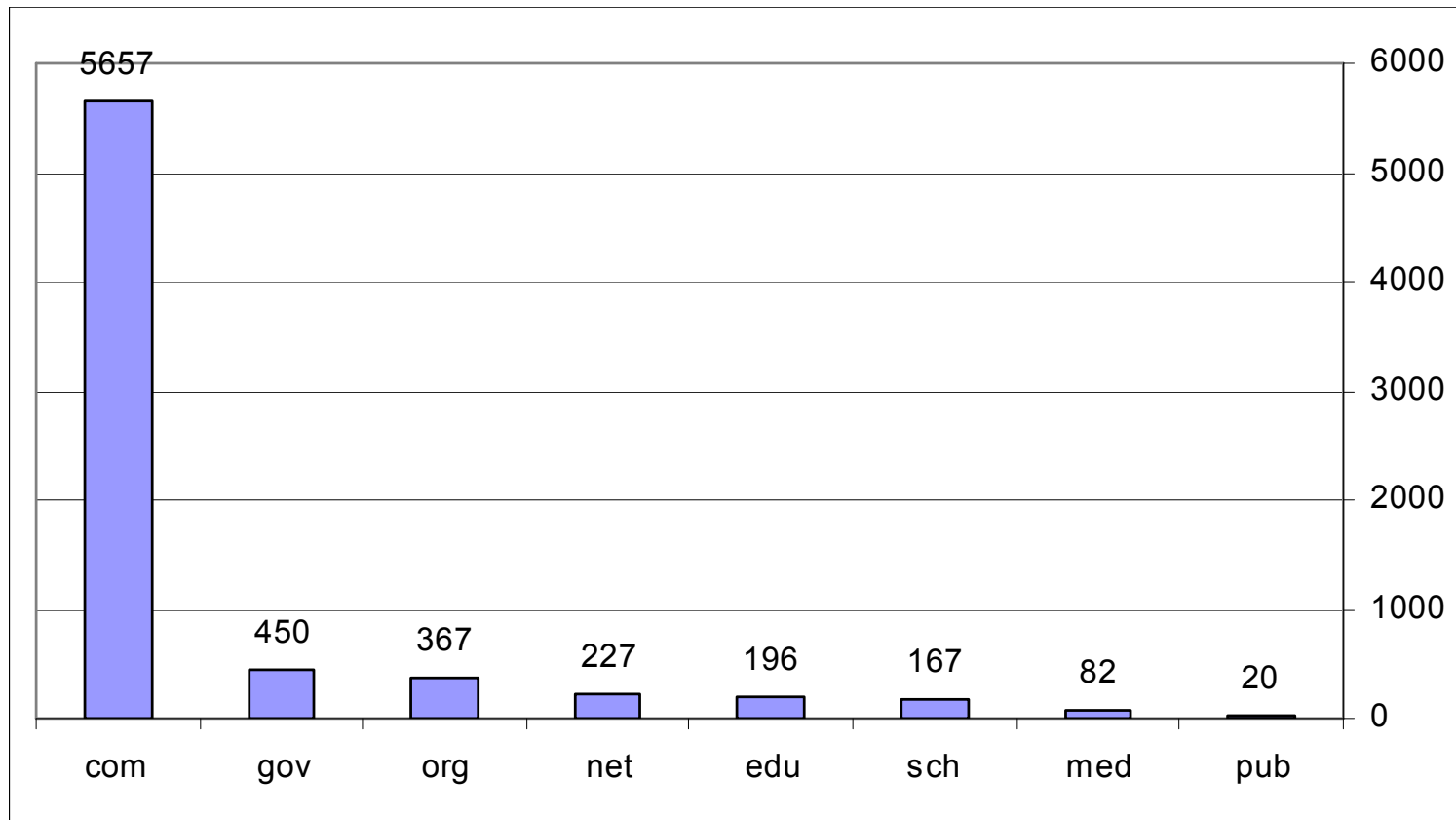
Total number of registered domain names per year by the end of 2004





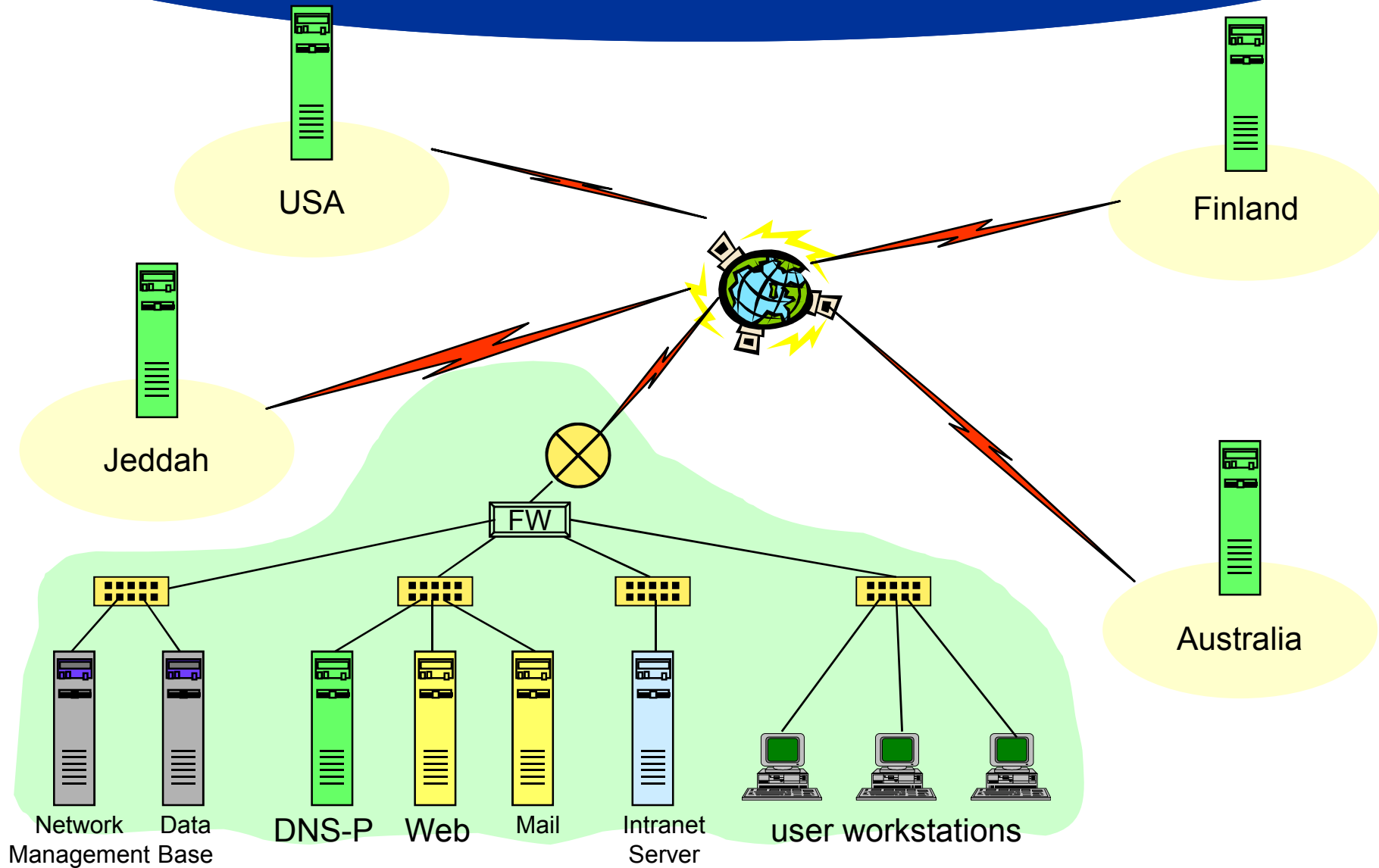
Statistics

**Total number of registered domain names
per sub-domain by the end of 2004**





Virtual Network





What has been done so far?

- Regulations and procedures
- Database (Sybase)
- Automation tools (c, perl, python, php, shell scripts)
 - Internal procedure (e.g., domreg)
 - Registration (e.g., online forms)
 - DNS server checking (e.g., DNS and host checkers)
- Online information
 - Web site: www.saudinic.net.sa
 - Regulations, procedures and online forms (text, web, wizard)
 - Tools and statistics
 - Domain name directory and lookup (whois)
 - Description of all SaudiNIC error and warning registration Messages
 - Documents (FAQs, how-to, RFCs, Regulation)
- Localizations (Arabic domain names)



For more information

www.SaudiNIC.net.sa

www.NIC.net.sa

www.Arabic-Domains.org.sa

Thanks

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