PRESS RELEASE

Stricter Domain Registration Policies in China

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Changes have been made to China’s domain name registration policy that ultimately strengthen security and accuracy of information. The China Internet Network Information Center (CNNIC) initiated these stricter rules in an attempt to eliminate ill willed domains in China. The biggest change that has occurred amidst these new rules is the inability of an individual to register a domain name. Now, under the new rules, only businesses may register domain names. The application requirements:

1. While domain applicants are allowed to submit applications through registrars, they must also submit the following:
   a. Original domain registration application form affixed with business decal.
   b. Duplicate business license.
   c. Duplicate ID of applicant.
2. The domain name will be canceled if, within five days from the submission, CNNIC has not received the required application materials or they are deemed inadequate.
3. This policy has been effective since December 14, 2009.

The purpose of these new policies is to reduce the amount of false information that is being registered that eventually leads to the conduct of illegal business activities. CNNIC is also requiring domain registrars to review registration information for all existing domain names in order to filter out improper registrations and require domain holders to be in compliance within five days. If this is not followed, the registrar is subject to cancellation. CNNIC has set up a complaint center to address complaints against improper registration. These rules have been in effect since December 14, 2009 and can be viewed as a part of China’s increased control measures over the Internet.

Lehman, Lee & Xu is a prominent Chinese corporate law firm and trademark and patent agency with offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Macau, and Mongolia. The firm has been recognized as one of the top trademark firms in China by several intellectual property magazines and is managed by Mr. Edward Lehman, a leading expert on corporate law with 20 years of practice experience in Mainland China.
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