The Internet Committee of the International Trademark Association (INTA) is pleased to provide comment on “Module 5: Explanatory Memorandum: Thick v Thin Whois.”

The Committee strongly supports the proposal to require all new TLD registries to implement a “thick” Whois model, and commends ICANN for adopting this recommendation in the latest proposed DAG amendments. Simplifying access to accurate and reliable contact details for the true owner of the domain name registration is necessary to prevent abuses of intellectual property and to protect the public by preventing consumer confusion and consumer fraud in the Internet marketplace. INTA supports open access to accurate ownership information for every domain name in every top-level domain registry, for addressing legal and other issues related to the registration and use of the domain name. (See: INTA Board Resolution. Continued Open Access to the Whois Database. http://www.inta.org).

Thank you for considering our views on this important issue. If you have any questions regarding our submission, please contact External Relations Manager, Claudio DiGangi at: cdigangi@inta.org

About INTA and its Internet Committee

The International Trademark Association (INTA) is a 131 year-old not-for-profit membership association of more than 5,500 trademark owners, from more than 190 countries, dedicated to the support and advancement of trademarks and related intellectual property as elements of fair and effective national and international commerce. Over the last decade, INTA has been a leading voice for trademark owners on the future of the Internet DNS, and it is a founding member of ICANN's Intellectual Property Constituency (IPC). INTA’s Internet Committee consists of over 125 trademark professionals who evaluate treaties, laws, regulations and procedures relating to domain name assignment, use of trademarks on the Internet, and unfair competition on the Internet and develop and advocate policies to advance the balanced protection of trademarks on the Internet.