

.DK REGISTRY: PAST, NOW AND FUTURE

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DANSK INTERNET FORUM (DIFO)



STATUS QUO

- DIFO was established in 1999 and owns DK-Hostmaster A/S
- DK-Hostmaster A/S operates .dk
- A public tender for the administration of .dk was won by dotDK and Afiliast in July 2008
- A decision by NITA about the administration is expected this week



DK Hostmaster A/S

- Controls and secures all .dk second level domain names
- Number of domain names: 950.000
- Number of unique registrants: 650.000
- Number of employees: 24
- Share capital: 67,000 Euro
- Turnover (2007): 3.78 mill. Euro
- Equity p.t.: 3.1 mill. Euro

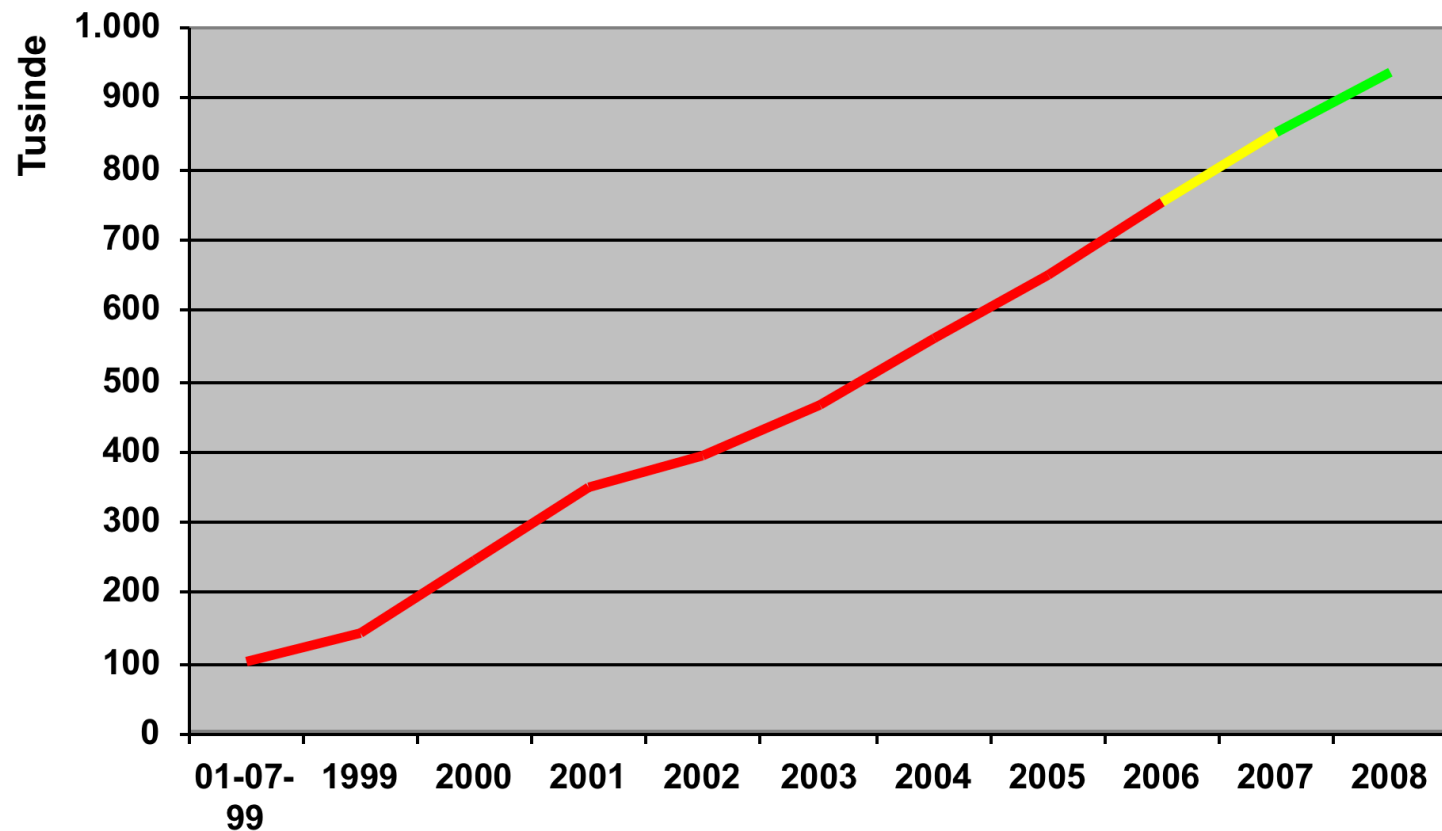


Dansk Internet Forum

- A private association
- Equity 1 mill. Euro
- Turnover (license fee 2007): 416,000 Euro
- Employees: Manager, 1/3 secretary og 1/3 communication assistant
- Policy and communication



Increase in number of .dk domainnames



Dansk Internet Forum (DIFO)

An association representing the "Danish Internet community":

- Dansk Industri
- Danske Regioner
- Finansrådet
- Forbrugerrådet
- IT-branchen
- Dansk IT
- HORESTA
- Advokatsamfundet
- Foreningen for Distance- og Internethandel (FDIH)
- Dansk Erhverv
- Open Source Leverandører (OSL)
- Danish Unix User Group (DKUUG)
- Foreningen Danske Antenneanlæg
- Internet Branchens Fælles Organisation



The (hi)story of .dk

- 1996: UNIX-association sells to DKnet A/S (subsidiary of TeleDanmark)
- 1996: Establishment of Danish ISP association (FIL)
- 1996: First formal regulation (restrictive)
- January 1997: "Liberalisation"
- 1998: Intervention by the Ministry of Research
- 1999: Dansk Internet Forum is established



First challenges

- No legislation
- The legal position of a domainname
- Dispute resolution
- Relation to trademarks
- The contractual relations of the holder of a domain name (parties, changes)



Domainname Complaint Board

- Competence
 - Relation to courts
 - Which areas of law
 - Sanctions
- Judges (Supreme court judge, law professor, lawyer and stakeholders)
- Binding effect based on contracts



The "guidelines"

- The contractual challenge
- The "Expropriation-rule" – the co.dk case
- æ, ø, og å-challenges
- VIP – domains
- Suspension rules



Other challenges

- Relationship to registrars
- Deletion in case of non-payment
- Dataprotection or law enforcement
- Obvious breaches of law
- Public expectations with respect to security and reliability



Law reform of 2005

- Co-operation with changing ministers
- 2003-committee and report 1450/2004
- 2005 Domain law
- Public tender spring 2008



Public tender

- The Domain law appointed DIFO as administrator
- The tender to secure competitive administration
- Technical and political criteria
- The winner is chosen on the merits of the technical solution but has to show political backing by the "Danish Internet community"
- New tender after 6 years



Public tender cont.

- Only two bidders: DIFO and dotDK (DK-Hostmaster and Afilias)
- Decision by NITA in July 2008: Afilias
- Shared registry vs. Sole registry
- Very limited political support for dotDK over the summer 2008
- Decision by NITA expected in a week!
- Possible legal disputes in the aftermath

