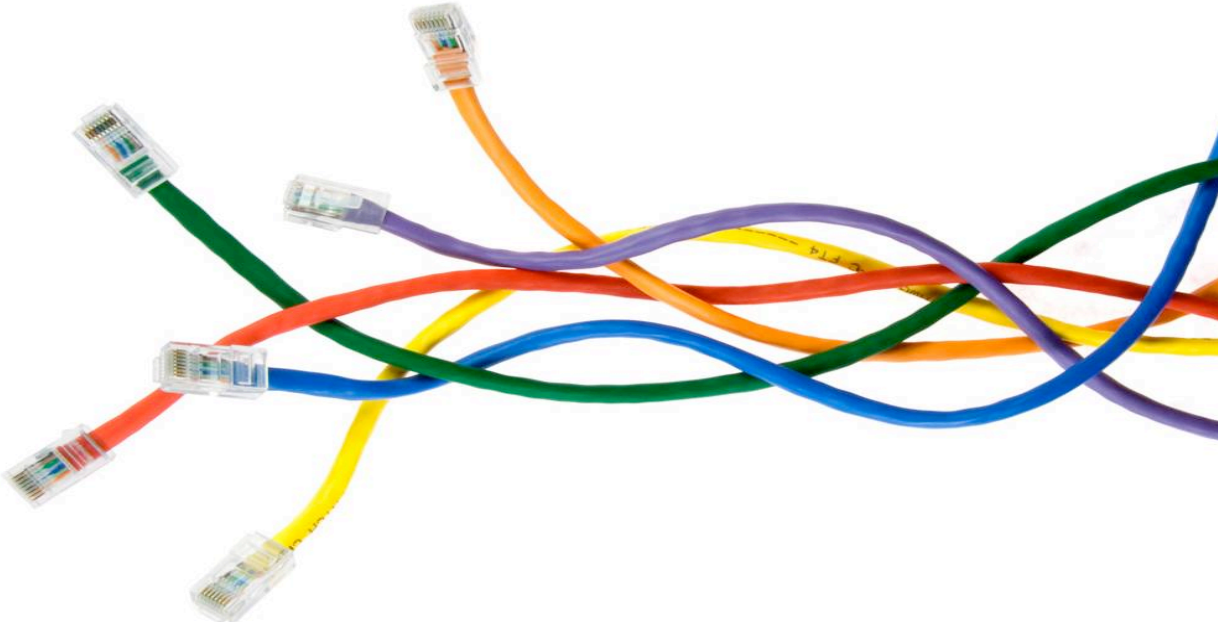


# IP Clearinghouse Overview



The information contained in this guide, as well as the technical descriptions, functionalities and functions of the IP Clearinghouse are proprietary to Deloitte, Laga and its respective licensees. They may not be copied, distributed and/or communicated to the public without the prior written consent of Deloitte and Laga, which consent may be subject to certain conditions.

Considering the fact that this version of the IP Clearinghouse is currently only deployed in the context of the launch of the .CO TLD, the information contained in this guide is in any case subject to the .CO Launch & Registration Rules, which supersede any statement or process description contained herein.

# 1. Introduction

In order to manage the .CO Sunrise Process in an orderly manner, the .CO Registry has retained Deloitte and Laga to deploy an IP Clearinghouse.

During past Sunrise processes, many domain name applications were rejected due to the fact that the trademark data provided by trademark holders or their registrars was incorrect. By way of the IP Clearinghouse, Deloitte and Laga will be able to assist trademark owners by providing a pre-verification facility.

By way of this facility, .CO Accredited Registrars and/or their Resellers<sup>1</sup> (hereinafter referred to as “Registrar(s)”) can obtain up-front certainty on whether or not the domain name application data they intend to submit to the .CO Registry in the context of the .CO Sunrise Process meets the requirements of the .CO Launch & Registration Rules. With the IP Clearinghouse, it will be impossible for .CO Accredited Registrars to report inaccurate data to the .CO Registry, which will result in a higher overall customer satisfaction.

There is no additional charge for using the IP Clearinghouse over the pre-registration and registration fees to be paid to the .CO Registry. If, however, the Registrar does not submit an actual application for a pre-verified .CO domain name (including in those cases where the application data reported to the IP Clearinghouse could not be verified in the light of the .CO Rules), the Registrar will be billed separately.

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<sup>1</sup> Only ICANN Accredited Registrars are considered a “Reseller” for the purposes of the IP Clearinghouse.

## 2. Accessing the IP Clearinghouse

In order to obtain access to the IP Clearinghouse, Registrars need to contact Deloitte and Laga by email: [ipclearinghouse@deloitte.be](mailto:ipclearinghouse@deloitte.be). They will then be sent the IP Clearinghouse terms and conditions, which will need to be reviewed and returned, duly signed by an authorized representative of the Registrar.

Following receipt of the signed terms and conditions, Deloitte and Laga will send login and password details to the Registrar. By way of this login and password, the Registrar can submit domain name application data to the IP Clearinghouse in one of two ways:

- by using a web interface (for manual processing of application data), which shall be located at [www.ipclearinghouse.co](http://www.ipclearinghouse.co); or
- by completing a template, made available by Deloitte and Laga, in XLS format, duly completed with domain name application data in the template's structure.

At this time, no other interfaces (such as EPP) will be made available, considering the fact that the timeframe for integrating the specific EPP fields and structures for Registrars could be lengthy and the process burdensome.

The IP Clearinghouse will be operational as of March 1st, 2010 and will be publicly accessible as of the second week of March of 2010. The IP Clearinghouse is scheduled to close receiving applications 3-days prior to the end of Local Sunrise A and 10 days prior to the end of Global Sunrise B.

### 3. Reporting Domain Name Application Data to the IP Clearinghouse

Registrars need to report the following domain name application data to the IP Clearinghouse:

- information relating to the applicant (in principle, this is the official holder of the trademark reported to the IP Clearinghouse);
- information relating to the trademark (mandatory fields include: country in which the trademark is registered and trademark registration number);
- the domain name the applicant intends to apply for during the .CO Sunrise Process; and
- the .CO Accredited Registrar selected for submitting the application to the .CO Registry (mainly to be used by Resellers).

Domain name application data should be as accurate as possible, in order to facilitate the timely verification of such data.

## 4. Processing Domain Name Application Data with the IP Clearinghouse

Following submission of the domain name application data to the IP Clearinghouse, Deloitte and Laga will commence with the validation of such trademark data. In particular, the following verifications will take place:

- whether or not the reported trademark owner, licensee or transferee is in fact eligible to submit a .CO domain name application; and
- whether or not the reported trademark can be a basis for a .CO Sunrise domain name application, in view of the .CO Launch & Registration Rules.

If the information reported by the Registrar is inaccurate, Deloitte and Laga will provide reasonable assistance in order to correct or complete such data.

When Deloitte and Laga have validated the domain name application data, a pre-verification code is issued to the .CO Accredited Registrar and, if the domain name application data is submitted by a reseller, also to the reseller. Bulk downloads of verification codes will be made available at the time each particular phase of the .CO Sunrise Process starts (Local Sunrise A and Global Sunrise B).

The .Co Accredited Registrar that has taken advantage of the IP Clearinghouse in accordance with its terms only needs to submit this verification code to the .CO Registry. The Registrar does not need to (and should not) submit the domain name application data, as is typically required in connection with the validation of trademark claims, in the case where a verification code has been obtained. In case the Registrar submits both the domain name application data and the verification code together, the .CO Registry will not process the domain name application.

## 5. Public WHOHAS database

Deloitte and Laga will make available all domain name application data that has been verified through the IP Clearinghouse through a public WHOHAS database. This database contains information with respect to the trademark holder (or its verified licensee or assignee), as well as the trademark on which the domain name application is based. The WHOHAS database, a service of Deloitte and Laga, will be located at [www.ipclearinghouse.co](http://www.ipclearinghouse.co), and can be used by anyone to verify which domain names have been pre-verified through the IP Clearinghouse.