



To: ARIN Board of Trustees

From: Richard Jimmerson, COO

Date: 12 August 2025

Re: ARIN Product Management Framework Update: Focus on Directory Services

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Over the past two years, we have been closely evaluating both our internal operations and external services to identify seldom-used or duplicative offerings that could be consolidated or retired to streamline our work and reduce costs. For internal products and processes, we assess and prioritize them as needed. For external services, we engage with the community via consultation prior to making any changes.

Some of the external services we have consulted on and subsequently retired in recent years include the legacy routing registry, reassignment templates, and our FTP facilities.

In the second half of 2025, we are targeting a broader overhaul of our service portfolio, with a particular focus on directory services and the retirement of overlapping functionality.

Currently, ARIN provides directory services through four protocols: RDAP, Web Whois (RWS), RWHOIS, and Port 43 Whois. Now that RDAP has been fully standardized, we are working to ensure it achieves answer-specific parity with the other protocols so that the advantages of legacy outputs are preserved.

We are in the planning phase of our communications on this topic and intend to launch a formal consultation in the second half of the year regarding the retirement of legacy directory service protocols. Our goal is to transition fully to RDAP as ARIN's sole supported directory services protocol. Completing our internal preparations, consulting with the community, and then executing on the proposed changes will allow us to streamline infrastructure and reduce long-term maintenance costs associated with directory services.

From start to finish, this project is expected to span two years, allowing time for any necessary development work and ensuring the community receives ample notice before any changes are implemented.

Staff is available to provide additional information or answer questions, as needed. Our first planned communication to the community on this initiative will be a presentation at the Public Policy Meeting in October.