

## Registrar Data Escrow Service



The security and stability of the Internet's domain name system is solidified when the data associated with registered domain names is protected in a secure escrow account managed by a neutral third party.

### ICANN AND IRON MOUNTAIN OFFER DATA ESCROW FOR REGISTRARS

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers began implementation of its Registrar Data Escrow (RDE) program in 2007. This program is designed to help ensure the stability and security of the Internet's domain name system through escrow of critical gTLD registration data, ensuring that the information associated with registered domain names is never at risk.

In accordance with the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA), this data can be used by ICANN to allow continuity of registrar operations in the event a registrar's RAA is terminated or expires without renewal.

Iron Mountain, the global leader in information protection and storage services, was selected by ICANN as its designated escrow agent for the RDE program through a competitive RFP bidding process. ICANN joins thousands of customers worldwide who rely on Iron Mountain's technology escrow services to protect their intellectual property.

### THE RDE PROGRAM BASICS

ICANN established the RDE program pursuant to section 3.6 of the RAA to help protect "thick" registration data provided to registrars and to allow for secure and predictable transition of registrar operations in the event a registrar's accreditation agreement is not renewed or terminates. Under the terms of the RAA, ICANN-accredited registrars must deposit registration data with ICANN, through its escrow agent Iron Mountain, or with another approved third-party provider of escrow services.

The RAA requires all ICANN-accredited registrars to escrow a CSV text file containing the name and postal address of the registered domain name holder, as well as the name, postal address, email address, voice telephone

number, and fax number of the administrative, technical, and billing contacts for each registered domain name within each TLD for which a registrar is accredited. Registrars are also permitted and encouraged to escrow beneficial registrant data for customers of WHOIS privacy or proxy services.

*"The vast majority of ICANN's accredited registrars offer high levels of service and integrity. But as we have seen, there is the risk that poorly performing registrars can hurt registrants significantly. ICANN has selected Iron Mountain as its escrow agent to help implement the Registrar Data Escrow program, a sensible and practical measure to protect registrants by storing and safeguarding a backup copy of domain name registration data in escrow."*

— Dr. Paul Twomey, *President and CEO of ICANN*

### THE BENEFITS OF ESCROW FOR DOMAIN NAME INFORMATION

Through their participation in the RDE program, registrars can assure their customers that their domain name registration information is safe, and will be accessible by ICANN in the unlikely event that the registrar's operations are disrupted.

There is no additional cost to registrars who escrow their registration data with Iron Mountain, as ICANN's selected escrow agent. Registrars who elect to use a third-party provider must do so at their own expense.

The data held in escrow is also valuable as a secondary backup method to support disaster preparedness and business continuity planning. In the event of a natural disaster or other situation in which registration data is lost or damaged, a stored copy of critical domain name registration information can be retrieved from Iron Mountain.

### WHY IRON MOUNTAIN?

Iron Mountain can safeguard the interests of registrars by protecting and preserving information to help with compliance and continuity needs.

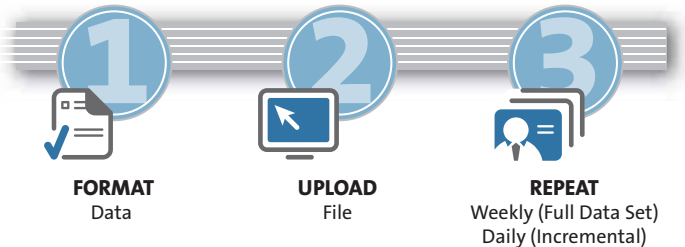
Iron Mountain created the technology escrow industry in 1982 to help companies protect source code and other intellectual property. Today, more than 90% of Fortune 500 companies turn to Iron Mountain for technology escrow protection.

As a trusted, neutral, third party, Iron Mountain safeguards valuable technology assets in secure, access-protected escrow accounts. In fact, in 2001 Iron Mountain was the first company ever selected to protect registry data via escrow agreements.

Recognized worldwide as the expert in intellectual property management with over twenty-five years of experience, no other provider can approach the depth and experience offered by Iron Mountain.

### GETTING STARTED: 1 – 2 – 3

The data escrow process is uncomplicated. Data to be deposited must be formatted as specified by ICANN (in a plain text CSV file), and uploaded via secure FTP (SFTP) transmission. Iron Mountain provides model scripts and detailed setup instructions to aid implementation.



For the majority of registrars, weekly data deposits will be required, while registrars with the highest quarterly transaction volumes will make daily deposits. All-in-all, once registrars complete the initial setup and establish an automated process, data transmission can be completed with very little time or effort. For security purposes, digital signatures, data encryption, and SFTP sites are used.

Iron Mountain looks forward to working with registrars to safeguard critical information. Questions? Contact us by email at [ipm-info@ironmountain.com](mailto:ipm-info@ironmountain.com) or call (800) 962-0652.

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Iron Mountain Digital is the world's leading provider of Storage-as-a-Service solutions for data protection and recovery, archiving, eDiscovery and intellectual property management. The technology arm of Iron Mountain Incorporated offers a comprehensive suite of solutions to thousands of companies around the world, directly and through a worldwide network of channel partners. Iron Mountain Digital is based in Southborough, MA.