

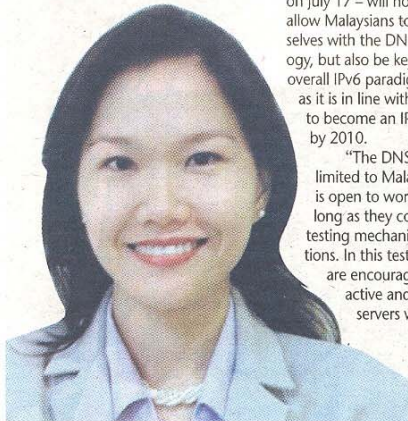
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.my domain available by year-end

By Rozana Sani

WORK is underway to make .my domain name system (DNS) based on Internet protocol version 6 (IPv6) available to the Malaysian public by year-end.



.my domain administrator Mynic Berhad is currently carrying out a seven-week trial on the first .myDNSIPv6 application prototype in Malaysia that utilises the next-generation Internet protocol technology (IPv6).

Mynic director Shariya Haniz Zulkifli said the test-bed – which began on July 17 – will not only educate and allow Malaysians to familiarise themselves with the DNS on IPv6 technology, but also be key in boosting the overall IPv6 paradigm shift in Malaysia as it is in line with Government's aim to become an IPv6-enabled country by 2010.

"The DNSIPv6 system is not limited to Malaysian users but is open to worldwide users as long as they comply with Mynic's testing mechanisms and conditions. In this testbed, participants are encouraged to provide two active and responsive name servers where at least one

Shariya says the DNSIPv6 system is open to everyone.

of the name servers must be IPv6 compliant. Participants who have yet to prepare the facilities and capabilities in dual-stack environment IPv4/IPv6 are encouraged to join the testbed as Mynic is offering two name servers to be used to host participants' domain name," she told *Tech&U*.

Shariya said the testbed will not only provide domain name registration facility such as registering new domain name, modify and add name server information.

The system also has the capability to interrogate DNS name servers to discover what domain name information it holds by using look-up facility. At the same time, statistics of registered domain name per day basis will be provided to measure the level of acceptance and participation in this myDNSIPv6 testbed.

"Mynic as .my country code Top Level Domain (ccTLD) administrator significantly plays a major role by initiating and supporting the IPv6 development in Malaysia pertinent to readiness of IPv6-compliant DNS infrastructure. The adoption of IPv6 technology will bring benefits to a ccTLD registry such

as Mynic, as it has the ability to expand the address space from 32-bit to 128-bit by improving its current registry system to support additional domain name resources for IPv6 (AAAA)," said Shariya.

"With an aspiration to always be on top of DNS innovations, Mynic will play an active role in driving the transition of DNS from IPv4 to IPv6. In order to achieve this objective, Mynic will take the responsibility to proactively nurture and educate DNS practitioners by organising yearly training workshops," she added.

In order to ensure the smooth implementation and deployment of national IPv6 in Malaysia, Shariya said Mynic will provide information and assistance to DNS practitioners in solving and troubleshooting DNS related issues pertaining to IPv4 to IPv6 transition.

"Mynic will also act as the key driver to the IPv6-enabled DNS in Malaysia and become one of the early implementers of IPv6," she said.

Mynic recently announced the .my Training Workshop Series 2007 that focuses on four key areas: IPv6,

telephone number mapping (ENUM), VoIP, and DNS Security Extensions – all inter-related and complementary to each other.

However, the increase of the number of IP usage and total-dependency on ENUM opens the DNS to many issues. As reported in *Network World*, the top forms of DNS attacks include malware (worms, viruses, trojans, etc), Denial of Service, cache poisoning and pharming.

"The most popular defence mechanisms are continuously being patched, a better solution would be to implement DNS security extension (DNSSEC) to protect the DNS from security breaches. When deployed, DNSSEC helps authenticate data on DNS, provides data integrity and authenticates denial of existence. One of DNSSEC's most popular usage is for Internet payment transactions which operates 24/7 online and requires end-to-end data integrity checking."

Shariya believes the .my Training Workshop Series 2007 is the right and dynamic platform to share ideas and convey knowledge on key technologies.