

Tackling online criminal activity

1 November 2014 – 31 October 2015

Nominet is a technology company noted for running a key part of the UK internet infrastructure – the naming and addressing system for .UK domain names. We work with law enforcement agencies to help protect internet users from criminality online.

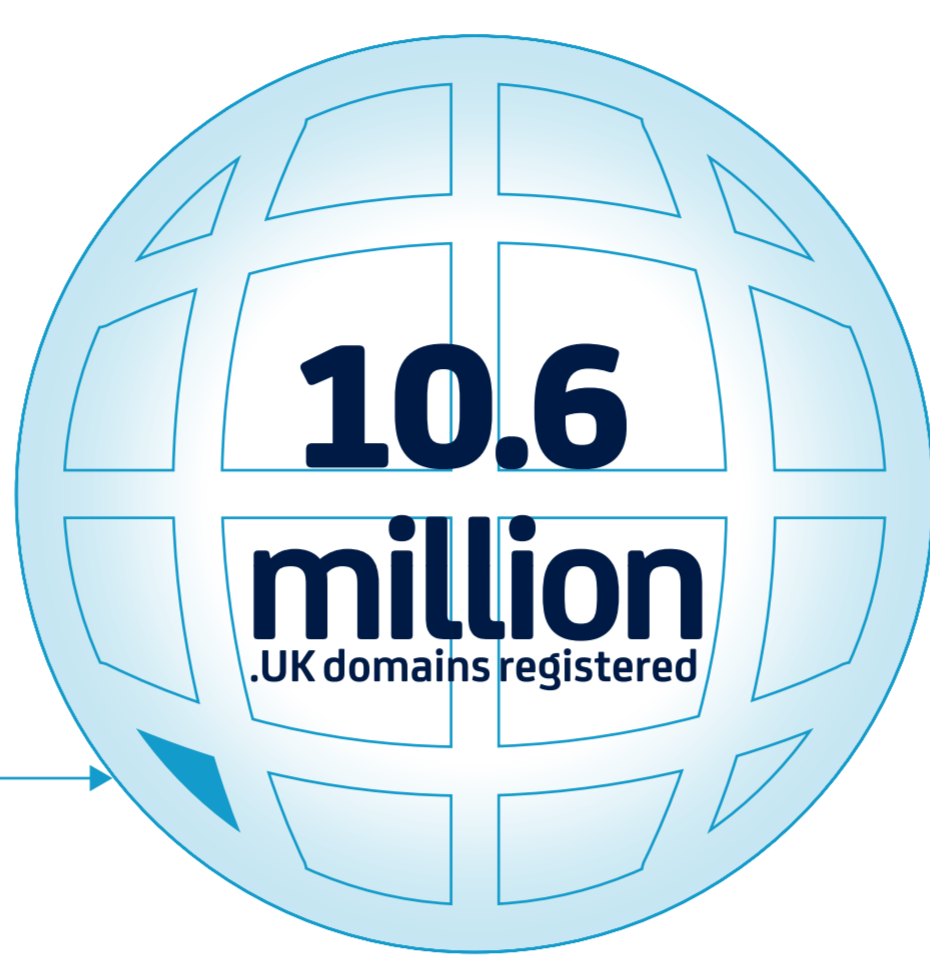
CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Nominet expressly prohibits .UK domains from being used for any unlawful purpose. When alerted by law enforcement agencies, we work quickly with our registrars to suspend domains. Suspended domains cannot be used as part of website or email addresses.



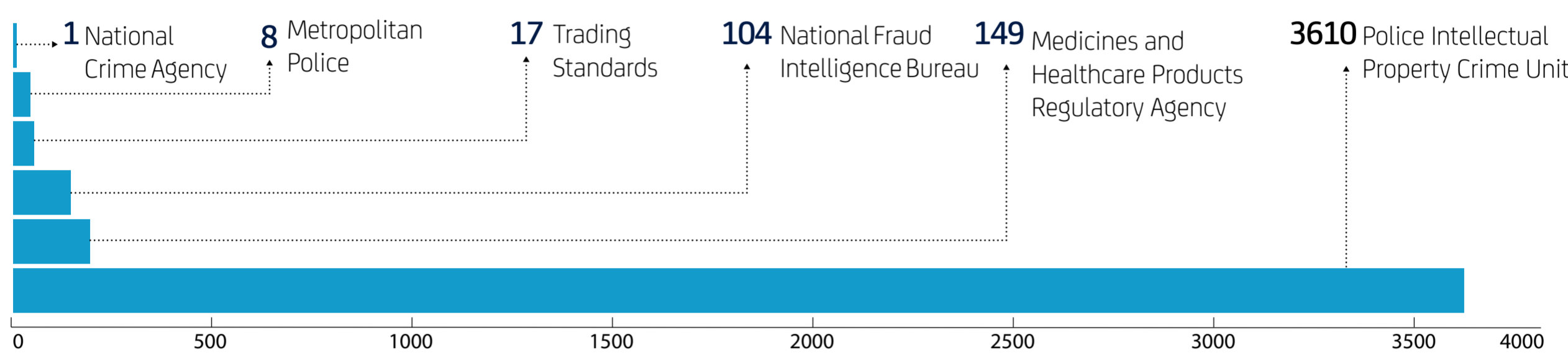
3889
domains suspended for criminal activity in the specified twelve months

0.037%
of the



Suspensions by requesting agency

Agencies request suspensions under a range of legislation. Most requests relate to supply of counterfeit goods and /or fraud under Section 92(1) of the Trade Marks Act 1994 and Section 2(1) of the Fraud Act 2006 (Police Intellectual Property Crime Unit, National Fraud Intelligence Bureau); and supply of controlled drugs under Regulations 279 and/or 284 of the Human Medicines Regulations 2012 (Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency). Many requests cite more than one offence.



how it works



Law enforcement agency notifies Nominet that a domain is being used for criminal activity



Nominet makes administrative checks



Nominet notifies the registrant and works with the registrar to suspend the domain

requests not resulting in suspensions



16 requests received in the specified 12 months that didn't result in suspensions



A suspension request may not result in a suspension for a number of reasons – for example, the domain may have already been suspended due to a duplicate request, or the domain may have already been transferred on a court order.

reversals



suspensions reversed



suspensions upheld

If the holder of a suspended domain asks Nominet for the suspension to be reversed, we check all internal procedures to confirm the suspension was correctly applied. Any complaints regarding grounds for suspension are referred back to the law enforcement agency. A suspension request can be lifted if the law enforcement agency that made the original request confirms this.

Data refers to domains suspended due to requests received during the specified period

OFFENSIVE NAMES

Nominet prohibits the registration of domain names that promote or incite serious sexual offences (where there is no reasonable or legitimate use for that domain).



already existing domain names suspended and blocked following a full review of the registry



potential breaches flagged



domain suspended and blocked



appeals

how it works



NEW / RENEWED REGISTRATIONS
New domain registrations are run through an automated process where potential breaches are flagged



Each flagged domain name is manually checked to ensure no false positives go through



EXISTING REGISTRATIONS
Nominet receives a complaint about an existing domain name



Any complaints about website content and not the domain name are referred to law enforcement



If a domain name is in breach, the registrant and registrar are notified and the domain suspended and blocked so that no one can register that domain in the future.

Registrants have **30 days** to appeal this assessment. Appeals would be referred to an independent external body.

ABOUT NOMINET

Nominet is an international, internet company with a team of 150 people based in Oxford and London. It is a public benefit company with 2,800 members. Since 1996, Nominet has managed and run domain names that end in .UK and is now one of the world's largest country code registries. With the proceeds of their successful registry business, Nominet set up and supports the Nominet Trust, an independent charitable foundation focussed on increasing access, safety and education on internet issues.

Rights holders who wish to seek control of a domain name they believe should be theirs, might be interested in our Dispute Resolution Service (DRS) as outlined here: <http://www.nominet.uk/domains/resolving-uk-domain-disputes-and-complaints/>

MORE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT: www.nominet.uk/nominet-formalises-approach-to-tackling-criminal-activity-on-uk-domains/