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MPLA Webmaster Report

23 September 2015

MPLA.US Domain Name Registry

We successfully transferred the MPLA.US domain name to a new service and renewed the name for one more year at a lower price than the prior service. I suspect this domain name transfer happened without anyone even knowing it occurred. My plan is to renew the domain name for a longer period of time (depending on the price, at least 5 years) next year.

Server Performance Issues Redux

Roy and I continue to monitor the web server performance. We are aware that it can run a little slowly. As I haven't heard an overwhelming amount of user complaints on the issue, I think we are going to remain in a holding pattern on the possibility of upgrading our web hosting service and continue to assess performance. As always, if you find the website is running too slowly, let me know.

Disposition of the MPLA Conference Handouts Archive

As background, MPLA has maintained an archive of conference handouts for 2003, 2005, 2007-2014 (We are not doing that for this conference.) When we moved the website over into the content management system, we moved the handout files onto cloud storage via Google, and linked them onto the website. At the time, this was a massive project, as we probably have several hundred handout files that in 2015 are now becoming a little dated. About 5 years ago, we had some tracking on the file access activity which revealed the handouts were heavily accessed. I thought this was a good service for us to provide the larger library profession. In the time since, the amount of work involved in moving the conference handouts to a new site has necessitated thoughts of if they are still what I would describe as "mission critical" in light of the age of some of them. Last fall, when we moved the website over, we coded in some Google Analytics to assess conference handout activity. When I get some time this fall, after conference, I am going to take a close look at that handout activity to see if they are still being accessed heavily. We may remove the older handouts, which really could be very out of date on their topic. We may decide to maintain an archive of the most recent 2-3 years of handouts. I'll keep you updated on what we learn and what we decide to do with the conference handouts.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Chaney
MPLA Webmaster