.ACO registration policies

§ 1 Preamble
ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG is the registry operator for the top-level domain .ACO. It allows the registration of second level domain names below the TLD .ACO. The TLD .ACO will be exclusive used by ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG and its affiliated companies, especially for the operation of websites, email communications and other DNS-based services. The domain names under the TLD .ACO are not available to the public for registration and active use. ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG will act both as a registry operator, as well as the sole beneficiary registrant. As far as ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG acts as the registry operator, it is hereinafter referred to as a registry operator. If ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG acts as eligible registrant, it is referred to as registrant.

The rights and obligations of the registry operator for the operation of .ACO are regulated in the contract between the registry operator and the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN below) – the Registry Agreement- and is part of the registration conditions. The following statutes constitute the rights and obligations of ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG to third parties and themselves.

§ 2 Domain registration
A domain name below the TLD .ACO can only be registered through the Registry-accredited registrars, which are concurrently accredited by ICANN.
The legal relationship between the registry operator and the registrars are governed in the "Registry Registrar Agreement", which is also subject to these policies.

§ 3 Eligibility
The right to register domain names under the TLD .ACO only belongs to ACO SEVERIN AHLMANN GMBH & CO. KG. As far as ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG acts as registrant of domain names, it is party to the relevant registration agreement by the registrar. The registration and/ or management of domain names through a trustee, so-called proxy service, is not permitted.

§ 4 Registrable characters
All characters and strings of ASCII code with 1-63 characters can be registered as a domain name. Domain names must neither start with nor end with a hyphen nor must there be hyphens in the third and fourth place. All "Internationalized Domain Names" (all available IDN Table) can be registered. If the domain name contains special characters, the maximum length is determined in accordance with RFC 5890 and RFC 5891.

Release of Letter/Letter Two-Character ASCII Labels

Registry Operator will ensure that registrants of a letter/letter two-character ASCII label will not misrepresent or falsely imply that the registrant or its business is affiliated with a government or country-code manager if such affiliation, sponsorship or endorsement does not exist.

Registry Operator will take reasonable steps to investigate and respond to any reports from governmental agencies and ccTLD operators of conduct that causes confusion with the corresponding country code in connection with the use of a letter/letter two-character ACSCII .ACO domain. In responding to such reports, ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG will not be required to take any action in contravention of applicable law.

§ 5 Reserved domain names
Reserved and excluded from registration are all domain names defined in "Specification 5", Article 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the Registry Agreement.

§ 6 Assignment of domain names
Prerequisite for applying for a domain name is the eligibility under the TLD .ACO. Moreover, the order of registrations is based on the principle "first come, first served".

§ 7 Registration period
Domain names can be registered for 1 - 10 years. The registration of a .ACO domain name follows the normal "gTLD life cycle".

§ 8 Registration termination of a domain name
A termination of the registration of a domain name shall be carried out by the Registrar, at the discretion of the registrant and requires no justification. If in the notice no actual calendar day on which the termination shall take place is determined, the registration of the domain name is terminated with immediate effect. With the effective date of termination, the terminated domain name is deleted.

§ 9 Transfer of a domain name
The transfer of a registered domain name to another registrant as ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG is prohibited. Both the corporate transfer (sale of shares), as well as the transfer of the registry operator as an asset sale must be approved by ICANN.

§ 10 Content and Use of registered domain names
ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG operates services, especially websites and email services, which are associated or connected with a registered domain name, by itself. ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG is entitled to authorize the use and operation of such DNS-based services to third parties. In this respect the only authorized entities are ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG and all affiliated entities of ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG (in particular parent, subsidiary and affiliated companies, or otherwise connected companies that the ICANN definition of "affiliate" in the Registry Agreement corresponds to). The use of registered domain names and related services is permitted only for business-related purposes of ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG. A domain name cannot be made available for use by a third party who is not entitled to use.

§ 11 Abusive registration and / or use of a domain name

It is illegal to use a domain name, either as registrant or user to whom the domain name was left to use, abusive. Abusive is any use that is prohibited under German law. This is especially true for domain name registrations which violate trademark or name or personal rights. Examples for abusive use are, but not limited to, spamming (sending unsolicited bulk mail), phishing (fraudulent data collection) and the infringing content from websites. For obvious abusive registration or use the registry operator is entitled to delete the domain name, without prior consultation of the user.

§ 12 Dispute procedures
The registry operator will comply with all dispute resolution mechanisms as defined in the Registry Agreement Specification 7, Article 2, and as revised from time to time by ICANN consensus policies and procedures. Registrants of .ACO domain names hereby agree to be bound by all applicable domain name dispute policies, as outlined in this Registration Policy.

These dispute mechanisms include, but are not limited to:

- the Trademark Post-Delegation Dispute Resolution Procedure (Trademark "PDDRP");

- the Uniform Rapid Suspension system ("URS"); and

- the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy ("UDRP").

§ 13 Whois
The registry operator maintains a publicly accessible database in which all data of the registrant of a domain name in accordance with the Specification 4 and 10 of the Registry Agreement. This includes the specification of the registrant of the domain name with name, postal address, email, phone and fax, the appointment of an Admin C, Tech C and optionally a zone manager who is published, with details in the Whois database. Admin C, Tech C and Zone Manager can be specified using the contact details of the company for which they are employed. To prevent misuse of the Whois database, the registry operator will secure access to Whois data via a CAPTCHA code and limit the access through the number of query requests per IP address, or otherwise.

§ 14 Applicable law and jurisdiction
All disputes in connection with the registration and use of domain names German law is applicable, unless a non-judicial dispute resolution process is prejudicial. If after a decision in a non-judicial dispute resolution procedure the ordinary courts are open, German law is applicable. Jurisdiction for all disputes arising from the registration and / or use of a domain name is Rendsburg.

ACO Severin Ahlmann GmbH & Co. KG reserves the right to amend its registration policy.