

How To Activate A Website For An Internet Domain

Graham Leach, Partner

TIG – The Imperators Group

Copyright (c), 2002

Table Of Contents

An Example Account Activation: whatihateaboutyou.com.....	3
Concept:	3
Internet Entities:.....	3
Email Addresses.....	3
Customer Account Information Requirements	5
Customer Legal Name:	5
Customer Legal (billing) Address:	5
Customer Credit Card Type And Number:.....	5
The Activation Process: A High Level Overview	5
Client DNS Preparation.....	6
Changes to resolv.conf.....	6
What should be in the authority.....	6
File Transfer Account Activation	7
Website Directory Preparation.....	8
Creation of /home/httpd/<DOMAIN> directory	8
Change of ownership of the directory to <username-upload>	8
Creation of link to "Under Construction" page	8
Webserver Configuration	9
Add entry to /etc/httpd/apache/conf/httpd.conf:	9
Restart Web Server	9
Electronic Mail Account Activation.....	10
Creating email alias.....	10
Generating map file	10
Restarting Sendmail	10

Activating whatihateaboutyou.com & whatiloveaboutyou.com

Our example uses a domain called **whatihateaboutyou.com** and **whatiloveaboutyou.com**

The administration of **whatihateaboutyou.com** plans to offer a wide range of web-based services at **www.whatihateaboutyou.com**, as well as at a related website, whose name is **www.whatiloveaboutyou.com**.

Concept:

These two websites (**www.whatihateaboutyou.com**, **www.whatiloveaboutyou.com**) offer information, self-help, gifts and other services associated with their main business function: The anonymous 3rd party transmission of messages between individuals.

Due to the nature of the business, the company requires the following technologies:

- Messaging
 - instant messaging
 - email messaging
 - SMS messaging
- Fault-tolerant Connectivity with High Availability
- Authentication Services
 - Categorical Identification Services
 - Reduce liability
 - Deter abuse
 - Password protection
- Settlement Services
 - Credit Card settlement seems most efficacious choice

From an administrative point of view, the companies can be run virtually, only a couple of POP email accounts and the ability to update the website is required to administer the business.

Internet Entities:

whatihateaboutyou.com
www.whatihateaboutyou.com

whatiloveaboutyou.com
www.whatiloveaboutyou.com

Email Addresses

info@whatihateaboutyou.com
sales@whatihateaboutyou.com
support@whatihateaboutyou.com

info@whatiloveaboutyou.com
sales@whatiloveaboutyou.com
support@whatiloveaboutyou.com

WHOIS Records for the domains

These domains are actual and have been registered with ARIN, their WHOIS records appear below:

Domain Name: WHATIHATEABOUTYOU.COM

Registrar of Record: TUCOWS, INC.

Record last updated on 12-Mar-2002.

Record expires on 21-Jan-2003.

Record Created on 21-Jan-2002.

Domain servers in listed order:

NS1.IMPERATORS.CA

NS2.IMPERATORS.CA

Domain Name: WHATILOVEABOUTYOU.COM

Registrar of Record: TUCOWS, INC.

Record last updated on 09-Mar-2002.

Record expires on 22-Feb-2003.

Record Created on 22-Feb-2002.

Domain servers in listed order:

NS1.IMPERATORS.CA

NS2.IMPERATORS.CA

Customer Account Information Requirements

Here's the mythical account information that should be gathered, at **minimum**:

Customer Legal Name:

Ex.

John Doe

Customer Legal (billing) Address:

Ex.

John Doe
1234 Street
Town, Jurisdiction, Country
PostalCode

TEL: (NNN) NNNNNNNNNN

FAX: (NNN) NNNNNNNNNN

Customer Credit Card Type And Number:

Ex.

VISA
1234-5678-9101-2345

The Activation Process: A High Level Overview

Bringing **whatihateaboutyou.com** online requires that several tasks be completed successfully:

1. If necessary, obtain a new IP
2. Link the IP address to the Internet Entity in question
3. Set up an account for File Uploading to the Internet Entity in question
4. Create and activate the Internet Entity in question
5. Create any required Electronic Mail Account(s)

Client DNS Preparation

Changes to resolv.conf

For **named** to work properly, it must be able to find the domain in question

What should be in the authority

```
[root@console pz]# cat whatihateaboutyou.com
;
; Zone file for whatihateaboutyou.com
;
; Mandatory minimum for a working domain
;
;
$ORIGIN biz.
wheelzndezlz      86400   IN       SOA      ns1.imperators.ca. hostmaster.imperators.ca.
(                 ; HEADER BEGIN
200012041         ; serial, todays date + todays serial #
28800             ; refresh, seconds
7200              ; retry, seconds
3600000           ; expire, seconds
86400             ; minimum, seconds
)                 ; HEADER END
;
86400   IN       NS       ns1.imperators.ca.; Primary Name Server
86400   IN       NS       ns2.imperators.ca.; Secondary Name Server
86400   IN       MX       10 mail.imperators.ca. ; Primary Mail
86400   IN       MX       20 mail.imperators.com.; Secondary Mail
;
$ORIGIN whatihateaboutyou.com.
pop      86400   IN       A       64.69.86.29
localhost 86400   IN       A       127.0.0.1
mail     86400   IN       A       64.69.86.29
www      86400   IN       A       64.69.86.29
ftp      86400   IN       A       64.69.86.29
```

File Transfer Account Activation

This usually comes for free when the user is registered with the system. The account name is usually constructed from the "short" enterprise name along with the intended function of this account. Therefore, the account usually should take the form "<username>-upload".

In the case of whatihateaboutyou.com, the username would be: **whatihateaboutyou-upload**

This way the username is displayed when file listings occur, and not everyone shown to be owned by upload- (only truncated information is displayed).

Ex:

Website Directory Preparation

The main reason for this document is the creation of a place to store a website.

Creation of /home/httpd/<DOMAIN> directory

Change of ownership of the directory to <username-upload>

Creation of link to “Under Construction” page

```
# mkdir /home/httpd/www.whatihateaboutyou.com
# ln -s /home/httpd/construction/index.html /home/httpd/www.whatihateaboutyou.com/index.html
# chown -R upload-whatihateaboutyou /home/httpd/www.whatihateaboutyou.com/
# chgrp -R users /home/httpd/www.whatihateaboutyou.com/
```


Webserver Configuration

Changes must be performed to several files to activate the prepared website:

1. /etc/httpd/apache/conf/httpd.conf file
2. Restart of the web server

Add entry to /etc/httpd/apache/conf/httpd.conf:

```
# -----  
# www.whatihateaboutyou.com  
# -----  
#  
# GL      20020120      11h44  
#  
# -----  
<VirtualHost 64.69.86.29>  
ServerName      www.whatihateaboutyou.com  
DocumentRoot    /home/httpd/www.whatihateaboutyou.com  
ErrorLog        logs/whatihateaboutyou.com-error_log  
TransferLog     logs/whatihateaboutyou.com-access_log  
ServerAdmin     webmaster@emperators.ca  
</VirtualHost>
```

Restart Web Server

```
# /etc/rc.d/init.d/httpd stop  
# /etc/rc.d/init.d/httpd start
```

Electronic Mail Account Activation

Most of this task has already been accomplished because a lot of the underlying work to support an email address is done when the FTP account is generated.

The only thing that needs to be done here is to “alias” somewhat non-intuitive FTP upload identity to something a bit more friendly and memorable. We usually ask clients for an “easy” name for the account (like jeff@whatihateaboutyou.com) that is actually mapped to the less intuitive (but easier for the ISP to manage) FTP upload name, in the `/etc/mail/virtusertable` file.

Creating email alias

Generating map file

Restarting Sendmail