Nominet UK Relationship with Government
Dr Willie Black
Chairman
Beginnings

• Nominet founded August 1996
• Totally private sector company
  – limited by guarantee
• Meeting soon after with Department of Trade and Industry (DTi)
• They advised
  – Efficient
  – Non-discriminatory
  – Cost-, not profit-oriented
  – Limited functions
Nominet’s Message

“This is a problem you don’t want…
… you don’t need…
… we’ve solved it…
… tell us if there are issues.”
Meetings

• With Ministers (x 2)
• MPs (x 20)
• Officials
  – DTi
  – OFT
  – Customs & Excise
  – Office of Information Commissioner (Data protection)
  – Patent Office
  – …
Policy Advisory Board

- DTi
- MP
- Companies House
- Office of Information Commissioner
- E-Envoy (Office of Government Computing)
+ others: industry, business, trade mark,
Legislation

- Communications Act 2003
- The Telephone Number Exclusion (Domain Names and Internet Addresses) Order 2003
  - excludes Domain Names explicitly
Ongoing

• Nominet remains independent of government

• We:
  Listen
  Explain
  Assist
Questions

www.nominet.org.uk