

Email comments via the US Patent and Trademark Office

“I think that Singapore is doing a great thing with this accreditation effort. It is very much in line with what is being done in the gTLDs. There is one suggestion that we could make, though. As an IP protection matter, Singapore should require its registrars to mandate payment upon applying for the domain name registration - otherwise you have cybersquatters filing for hundreds of domain names because they don't have to pay up front. This has been a problem in the past because it takes awhile to sort out payment, then the trademark owner being infringed by the cybersquatter can't register their trademark as a domain name until the whole payment thing is sorted out. In the mean time, these cybersquatters are using the infringing domain name online without paying for it (billed later).

It is not apparent from the consultation paper if they intend to require this or not - it merely says that registrars can set their own fees for service.”