

MAIN.10.4. Contact Registration Values

Registrars manage contact objects through EPP, in accordance with RFC 5733. Depending on the specific policies of the Top-Level Domain (TLD), these contacts may be tied to domain objects in various roles, such as registrant, administrative contact (admin-c), or technical contact (tech-c). The individual TLD policy dictates the exact number of required or permitted contacts for each role. Furthermore, if a registry operates on a "thin" model, its policy might prohibit the creation of contact objects altogether.

Contact Object Associations

Following RFC 5733, contact objects are exclusively linked to domain objects (e.g., serving as billing, technical, administrative, or registrant contacts). Because RFC 5732 does not provide a framework for linking contacts to hosts, contact objects are never associated with host objects. Our registry platform does not employ any EPP extensions that would create associations between host and contact objects.

Contact Object Lifecycle

The lifecycle for contact objects is straightforward, limited to creation and deletion. Transfer commands cannot be executed on contact objects. Additionally, deletion is strictly prohibited as long as the contact remains associated with any domain object.

Contact objects exist in one of two primary states:

AVAILABLE The contact object does not currently exist in the Registry database. It is available to be generated using the EPP "create contact" command.

- **EPP Status values:** n/a
- **RDAP Status values:** n/a

REGISTERED The contact object is present in the database and may be tied to domain objects. A registered contact can only be deleted by the sponsoring registrar, and only if it currently holds no active links to any domain object.

EPP to RDAP Status Mappings

Our system implements RDAP status values for contact objects in full compliance with RFC 8056. Instead of passing EPP status codes directly, our RDAP responses return standardized RDAP statuses within the `status` array.

The possible status values for registered contact objects map as follows:

EPP Status Value	Corresponding RDAP Status Value	Description
ok	active	Contact object is active
linked	associated	Contact object is linked to a domain
clientUpdateProhibited	client update prohibited	Contact updates prohibited by registrar
serverUpdateProhibited	server update prohibited	Contact updates prohibited by registry
clientDeleteProhibited	client delete prohibited	Contact deletion prohibited by registrar
serverDeleteProhibited	server delete prohibited	Contact deletion prohibited by registry

Orphaned Contact Handling

The registry features an automated mechanism to purge contact objects that remain unlinked to any domain over a specific timeframe. The system continually scans contact objects to verify active domain references. When a contact loses all its domain associations (thereby becoming an "orphaned" contact), the system automatically flags it.

These orphaned objects enter a managed deletion phase, beginning with a 30-day retention grace period. This window provides time for operational audits, reviews, or potential reassignment. If the contact remains entirely unassociated at the conclusion of this grace period, it is automatically transitioned to a deleted state and permanently purged from the registry. This routine is fully automated and logged to ensure strict data hygiene, operational consistency, and adherence to privacy and data retention standards.