

100,000 Domains, Countless Irish Stories: Blacknight Makes Irish Internet History

Against a backdrop of record new company registrations, Blacknight makes Irish internet history as the first registrar to manage 100,000 .ie domains.

Irish technology company Blacknight has made history by becoming the first registrar in Ireland to reach 100,000 .ie domains under management, a landmark achievement that reflects the continued growth of Ireland's digital economy.

The milestone comes amid record levels of new business formation. According to figures from business intelligence company CRIFVision-net, 21,921 new companies were registered in Ireland during the first nine months of 2026, an 8% increase on the same period last year. Behind Blacknight's 100,000 domains are the businesses, entrepreneurs, charities, sports clubs and community organisations that make up Ireland's expanding digital landscape. Each has its own story, and together they reflect how deeply the internet has become embedded in Irish life and business.

Since Blacknight was founded in 2003, Ireland's digital landscape has transformed dramatically. What was once an emerging opportunity for businesses has become an essential part of how they operate, reach customers and connect with communities.

While technology has evolved at an extraordinary pace, from dial-up connections to fibre broadband, smartphones, cloud computing and artificial intelligence, one fundamental element has remained constant: the domain name.

A domain remains the anchor of an online identity. It is where businesses build their brands, organisations establish credibility and communities create a place to connect. For Irish businesses and organisations, a .ie domain also represents a recognisable connection to Ireland and a trusted home online.

Michele Neylon, CEO and Co-Founder of Blacknight, said:

"Reaching 100,000 .ie domains is a fantastic milestone for Blacknight, but it's also something worth celebrating for Ireland. Over the past 23 years, we've seen the internet transform how Irish businesses operate, and we've been privileged to support so many of them along the way. Behind every domain is someone building something, whether that's a business, a charity, a club or a personal project. Those are the people who have made this milestone possible, and we're incredibly grateful they've trusted Blacknight to be part of their journey. "

Michele Neylon, CEO Blacknight

A shared milestone for Ireland's digital community

The achievement is also a significant moment for .IE, the national registry responsible for Ireland's .ie domain namespace.

Blacknight and .IE have worked alongside one another for more than two decades, supporting the growth of Ireland's online identity as digital technology has become increasingly central to the country's economy.

David Curtin, CEO of .IE, said:

"This is a landmark achievement for Blacknight and an important moment for the wider .ie community. The growth of .ie over the past two decades reflects the remarkable progress Ireland has made in embracing the digital economy. Blacknight has been an important part of that journey, and we've worked closely together for many years to help businesses and communities establish a trusted Irish identity online. Reaching 100,000 .ie domains is a testament to that commitment and a milestone worth celebrating together "

David Curtin, CEO .IE

To celebrate the milestone, Blacknight has launched 'The People Behind 100K', a campaign recognising the customers who have made the achievement possible.

From a family business selling online for the first time to a GAA club connecting with its members, a charity reaching those who need support or an entrepreneur launching a new venture, every domain represents a different ambition.

Neylon added:

"Reaching 100,000 .ie domains is something we're incredibly proud of, and we wouldn't have got here without our customers. It's been fantastic to see how Irish businesses and organisations have grown online over the years, and we're grateful to have played a part in that. "

Michele Neylon, CEO Blacknight

While the milestone marks a significant achievement for Blacknight, it also reflects the ambition and entrepreneurial spirit driving Ireland's digital economy. As new businesses emerge and technology continues to evolve, the next chapter of Ireland's digital story is already being written.

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About Blacknight

Blacknight is Ireland's leading domain registrar and hosting company, providing digital services to businesses, organisations and individuals across Ireland and internationally. Founded in Carlow in 2003 by Michele Neylon and Paul Kelly, the company offers a comprehensive range of services, including domain registration, web hosting, cloud VPS, business email, dedicated servers, colocation, connectivity and broadband solutions.

Blacknight operates its own infrastructure from data centres in Carlow, Dublin, Cork and other locations and is an ICANN-accredited registrar and ISO/IEC 27001:2022 certified company.

Blacknight is part of Your.Online, a leading European group of digital services companies. The company continues to operate independently under the Blacknight brand, retaining its Irish leadership, local expertise and commitment to customer service, while benefiting from the wider group's resources, expertise and opportunities for collaboration.

With a focus on innovation, reliability and customer support, Blacknight continues to help businesses, organisations and individuals establish, manage and grow their digital presence, both in Ireland and internationally.

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