



#### INDIA NON JUDICIAL

### **Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi**

₹100

Certificate No.

Certificate Issued Date

**Account Reference** 

Unique Doc. Reference

Purchased by

**Description of Document** 

**Property Description** 

Consideration Price (Rs.

First Party

Second Party

Stamp Duty Paid By

Stamp Duty Amount(Rs.)

IN-DL37571598500506X

19-Aug-2025 02:26 PM

IMPACC (IV)/ dl839103/ DELHI/ DL-NED

SUBIN-DLDL83910308356840236697

ABHINAV S RAGHUVANSH

Article 12 Award

(One Hundred only





Please write or type below this line IN-DL37571598500506X

BEFORE THE .IN REGISTRY OF INDIA **INDRP CASE NO. 2004** 

IN THE MATTER OF AN ARBITRATION UNDER THE .IN DOMAIN NAME DISPUTE RESOLUTION POLICY; THE INDRP RULE OF PROCEDURE AND THE ARBITRATION AND CONCILIATION ACT, 1996

FINAL AWARD

of authenticity of this Stating Certificate Should be verified as a valiable on of discrepancy in the details on this Certificate and as available on e onus of checking the legitimacy is on the users of the certificate. ase of any discrepancy please inform the Competent Authority.



## IN THE MATTER OF THE ARBITRATION ACT 1996 as Amended by Arbitration & Conciliation (Amendment) Act,2015

and

INDRP Rules of Procedure;

and

.IN Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (INDRP)

and

In the matter of arbitration between

#### **Accenture Global Services Limited**

3 Grand Canal Plaza, Upper Grand Canal Street, Dublin 4, Ireland

....Complainant

Vs

#### **Prince Saleem**

6-3-349, Nagarjuna Circle, Banajara Hills, Hyderabad, Telangana- 500082 INDIA

....Respondent

in respect of Disputed Domain Name(s):

[ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN]

INDRP Case No; 2004

**FINAL AWARD** 

Date: 19.08.2025

Venue: New Delhi, India

ABHINAV S. RAGHUVANSHI SOLE ARBITRATOR

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#### A. THE PARTIES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVE:

#### 1. Claimant

Accenture Global Services Limited 3 Grand Canal Plaza, Upper Grand Canal Street, Dublin 4, Ireland

#### Legal Representative

Pranit Biswas & Deepika Shrivastav S.S Rana & Co., 317, Lawyers Chambers, High Court of Delhi Tel: +91 11- 40123000; 9311953442; 9289486057

Fax: +91 11-40123010 Email: inf@ssrana.com

#### 2. Respondent

Prince Saleem 6-3-349, Nagarjuna Circle, Banajara Hills Hyderabad, Telangana- 500082 India

Tel: (91) 9670887088

Email: prince.saleem12345@gmail.com

#### B. THE DOMAIN NAMES AND REGISTRAR:

The disputed domain name <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> is registered through the Registrar GoDaddy.com, LLC is accredited with the .IN Registry and is listed on the website of the .IN Registry having its Contact Address:

Prince Saleem Nagarjunga Circle Banajara hills Hyderabad, Telangana 500082- India

Email: prince.saleem12345@gmail.com

#### C. PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

- 1. Sh. Abhinav S. Raghuvanshi was appointed as the sole Arbitrator on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025 by the NIXI to act as an Arbitrator in the INDRP case no. 1992 regarding the complaint dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025 filed under the INDRP by the Complainant.
- 2. On 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025, the Arbitral Tribunal issued the Notice of Arbitration and further directed the Complainant to effect the service inti the Respondent and file an Affidavit of Service to the effect. The Respondent was given an opportunity to file a response in writing in opposition to the complaint, if any, along with evidence in support of its stand or contention on or within 15(fifteen) days.
- 3. The Respondent did not respond to the notice issued on 5th June 2025.
- 4. Service of the Notice of Arbitration dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 2025 was affected by the counsel for the complainant, and the same was intimated to the Tribunal by Arpit Kalra & Deepika Shrivastava representatives of the complainant. The complaint (with annexures) was sent to the email address of the Respondent shown in the WHOIS details. Consequently, the service of the Notice of Arbitration on the Respondent was done in accordance with Rule (2) of the INDRP Rules.
- 5. In the interest of Justice, the Arbitral Tribunal under Rule 13 of the INDRP Rules of Procedure directed the Complainant to once again affect service of this Notice of Arbitration along with copy of Complaint and Annexure, complete in all respects and Complainant and Annexures, complete in all respects by email on 13th June 2025 to the Respondent.
- 6. Even after the Service of Notice of Arbitration twice, the Respondent did not respond.
- 7. On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025, Evidence Affidavit were filed by the Complainant in relation to the case of INDRP Case No. 2004.
- 8. There was a delay of 15 (fifteen) days in passing the present award, primarily due to the Arbitrator's unavailability, as he was unwell owing to a high blood sugar episode and other health-related issues.

### D. **COMPLAINANT'S CONTENTION:**

It is case of the Complainant that:

- i. Complainant is an international business that provides a broad range of services in strategy, consulting, digital, technology, healthcare and operations under the name ACCENTURE and is the owner of the ACCENTURE trademark and company name, and marks fully incorporating the ACCENTURE trademark (collectively the "ACCENTURE Marks").
- ii. Complainant has an interest in the **ACCENTURE Marks** and, upon information and belief, Complainant has been and will continue to be damaged by Respondent's bad faith registration and use of the domain name **ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN>**.
- iii. Complainant began using the mark **ACCENTURE** in connection with various services, including management consulting, technology services and outsourcing services, on January 1, 2001. Complainant has placed its reliance on previous decisions of this Panel finding that Complainant has rights in the mark **ACCENTURE** in Accenture Global Services Limited v. Sachin Pandey (INDRP/828), Accenture Global Services Limited v. Mr. Upendra Singh (INDRP/829), Accenture Global Services Limited v. Accenture Accenture (INDRP/998), Accenture Global Services Limited v. Tech Narayana Software Pvt. Ltd (INDRP/1250), Accenture Global Services Limited v. Lokesh Kumar (INDRP/1270) and Accenture Global Services Limited v. Accenture Inc. (INDRP/1394).
- iv. It is the case of the Complainant that since January 2001, Complainant has extensively used and continues to use the mark **ACCENTURE** in connection with various services and specialties, including management consulting and business process services, which comprises various aspects of business operations such as project management, supply chain and logistics services, digital innovation, as well as technology services and outsourcing services, to name only a few. Today, Complainant has offices and operations in more than 200 cities in 49 countries.
- v. The Complainant further seeks to assert that with specific reference to India (where Respondent is situated), the Complainant owns registrations for the **ACCENTURE Marks**, and variations thereof, in a wide variety of goods and services in various classes in India. Details of some of the India registrations are as follows:

S.	Registration	Trademark		Class	Date	
No.	No.					
1.	967046	ACCENTURE		9	October 30, 2000	
2.	967047	ACCENTURE		16	October 30, 2000	
3.	1008458	accenture		9	May 10, 2001	
4.	1008459	accenture		16	May 10, 2001	
5.	1240311			35, 36,	September 29,	
		accenture		37, 41, 42	2003	
7.	1520281	ACCENTURE		16	December 26,	
					2006	
8.	1521351	ACCENTURE		35, 41	January 2, 2007	
9.	1758410	ACCENTURE		35	November 27,	
				_	2008	
10.	2034134	ACCENTURE	(WITH	9	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)	/= 1 -=		- 1	
11.	2034135	ACCENTURE	(WITH	16	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)	/= 1 -=		- 1	
12.	2034136	ACCENTURE	(WITH	35	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)				
13.	2034137	ACCENTURE	(WITH	36	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)				
14.	2034138	ACCENTURE	(WITH	37	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)	/= 1 -=		- 1	
15.	2034139	ACCENTURE	(WITH	41	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)				
16.	2034140	ACCENTURE	(WITH	42	October 7, 2010	
		DEVICE)				
17.	2035847	ACCENTURE	(WITH	35	October 11, 2010	
		DEVICE)				

The aforesaid trade mark registrations are valid and subsisting. By virtue of such registrations, Complainant has the exclusive statutory right to use these trade marks in India for the goods and services in respect of which they are registered. Copy of the registration certificate in regards to the abovementioned registration has been annexed by the Complainant as **Annexure C-3** along with the complaint.



- vi. Complainant has developed substantial goodwill in its ACCENTURE name and mark, as well as its official domain names ACCENTURE.COM and ACCENTURE.NET that were registered by Complainant on August 29, 2000 and October 09, 2000 respectively. These domains predate the creation date of the impugned domain name<ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> by more than two decades. Copies of the WHOIS records for Complainant's domains ACCENTURE.COM and ACCENTURE.NET are attached herewith and marked as Annexure C-4. At these websites, Internet users can find detailed information about the management consulting, technology services, outsourcing and myriad other services offered by Complainant and its global offices in connection with the ACCENTURE Marks. The Complainant's website demonstrating use of its ACCENTURE Marks may be accessed <a href="here">here</a> (<a href="https://www.accenture.com/inem)</a>.
- vii. When Complainant's business started expanding globally, it began operating websites that use Country Code Top-Level Domain Names that are specific to individual countries. Complainant has registered many top-level country specific domain names. In India, Complainant owns the top-level Indian domain names ACCENTURE.CO.IN (registered in 2004), ACCENTURE.IN (registered in 2005) and ACCENTURE.NET.IN (registered in 2012). Copies of WHOIS results for these domain names has been attached by the Complainant as Annexure C-5 along with the complaint.
- viii. To protect its trademark rights in the ACCENTURE Marks and to put others on notice of those rights, on October 6, 2000, Complainant filed a United States trademark application (Application Serial No. 76154620) for the mark ACCENTURE, covering computer software, pamphlets, business consulting services, financial services, computer installation services, educational services and computer consulting services, among many other goods and services. This application matured to registration (Reg. No. 3091811) on May 16, 2006. Besides this, Complainant owns registrations and/or pending applications for the mark ACCENTURE, and variations thereof, in many other countries including, but not limited to, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, China, European Union, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey, UAE and U.K. Complainant owns more than 1,000 trade mark registrations in more than 140 countries for its various ACCENTURE Marks.
- ix. A representative list of Complainant's registrations for the **ACCENTURE Marks** in foreign jurisdictions has been attached by the Complainant as **Annexure C-2** along with complaint. These registrations are valid and subsisting, and serve as *prima facie* evidence of Complainant's ownership and validity of the

**ACCENTURE Marks**. Furthermore, some of these registrations are incontestable and are conclusive evidence of Complainant's exclusive right to use the **ACCENTURE Marks** in connection with the stated goods and services.

x. In addition to the official websites, the Complainant also use the medium of social networking to promote their goods/services under the **ACCENTURE** trade mark. The Complainant have an active presence on various social media websites such as **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Instagram**, **LinkedIn etc**. The number of followers, subscribers and likes on the aforementioned social media websites (as on March 25, 2025) are increasing on a daily basis.

NAME	FACEBO	X	INSTAGRA	LINKEDI	YOUTUBE
	OK		M	N	
ACCENT	1M	533K	319K	13	84.7K
U RE	followers	followers	followers	Million	subscribers
				followers	
ACCENT	522K	49K	140K	3 Million	37K
U RE	followers	followers	followers	followers	subscribers
INDIA					

- Complainant further states that, Indian predecessor company was incorporated xi. under the Companies Act, 1956, on July 05, 1999. On December 05, 2000, the name of this predecessor company became ACCENTURE SERVICES PVT. LTD. A copy of the incorporation certificate of Complainant has been attached as **Annexure C-6** along with complaint. Complainant has offices located in major cities of India such as Mumbai, New Delhi, Noida, Gurgaon, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune, Hyderabad and Kolkata. Relevant web pages showing the locations of Complainant's offices India in may be accessed here (https://www.accenture.com/us-en/about/locations/office-details?loc=India).
- xii. The Complainant further claims that the annual revenue generated from the **ACCENTURE MARKS** from worldwide business amounts in billions of US Dollars. A detailed computation has been tabulated for illustrating the net revenue earned by the complainant under **ACCENTURE MARKS** wherein it has been shown that the Complainant company earned US Dollar 11.4 billion in 2001 under the said trademark globally which has increased to US Dollar 64.9 in the year 2024. However, no evidence has been brought on record to substantiate the claim.
- xiii. It is further case of the Complainant that to generate such huge revenue the Complainant company makes expenses for advertisement in various forms of

media. A brief detail of the annual expenses of the complainant company towards advertisement has been depicted in the tabular format which goes to suggest that beginning with US Dollar 77 million in year 2009, Company has spent more than 132 million dollars.

- xiv. Complainant further asserts that reputable brand consulting companies in the industry have recognized the **ACCENTURE** mark as a leading global brand. The **ACCENTURE** mark has been recognized in Interbrand's *Best Global Brands Report* since 2002, when it ranked 53rd. The **ACCENTURE** mark ranked 31<sup>st</sup> in the year 2024 in Interbrand's *Best Global Brands Report* in the report. The report can be accessed here (https://interbrand.com/best-brands/).
- xv. The Complainant further states that the **ACCENTURE** mark has been recognized by Kantar Millward Brown, a leading market research and brand valuation company, in its annual *BrandZ Top 100 Brand Rankings* since 2006 when it was ranked 58th. In 2024, the **ACCENTURE** brand ranked 20th. A copy of selected pages of Kantar Millward Brown's 2024 *BrandZ Top 100 Brand Ranking* ihas been attached by the Complainant as **Annexure C-8** along with the complaint.
- xvi. Complainant has also brought to the notice of this Tribunal that the Complainant has been recognized in many rankings for its business, services and brand recognition. As a global corporation and industry leader, **ACCENTURE** has appeared in various top rankings by Fortune, consecutively since the year 2009. A chart summarizing a representative sampling of these awards is shown below:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Award</u>	
2024	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For	
	Ranked #7	
	*Complainant has appeared on this list for	
	16 consecutive years	
2024 Fortune World's Most Admired Companie		
	*Complainant is No. 1 in their industry for the 12 <sup>th</sup>	
	consecutive years	
2023	Fortune Global 500	
2023	Ranking #220	
2023	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For Ranking #5	

2022	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For in USA
	Ranking #06
2021	Fortune Global 500 Ranking #258
2020	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For Ranking #41
2019	Fortune Global 500 Ranking #298
2018	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For Ranking #60
	Fortune 100 Most Admired Companies
2017	Ranking #41
	(#1 in the IT Services category)
2016	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For Ranking #84
	· ·
2015	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For Ranking #98
2014	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For
2014	Ranking #90
2013	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For
	Ranking #91
2012	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For
	Ranking #92
2012	Fortune 100 Most Admired Companies
	Ranking #49
2011	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For
2011	Ranking #99



2010	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For		
	Ranking #84		
2009	Fortune 100 Most Admired Companies		
	Ranking #49		
2009	Fortune 100 Best Companies to Work For		
	Ranking #52		

- xvii. The Complainant still further has received numerous awards in respect of its business, products and services provided under the **ACCENTURE Marks**. A sampling of these awards is detailed in the chart below:
  - a. Complainant supports numerous social development projects worldwide in connection with the ACCENTURE Marks including, but not limited to, its SKILLS TO SUCCEED initiative, which has equipped more than 5.8 million people around the world with the skills to find a job or build a business. Information regarding Complainant's SKILLS TO SUCCEED initiative may be accessed <a href="here">here</a> (<a href="https://s2sacademy.org/about-academy/).</a>
  - b. Millions of sports fans encounter the **ACCENTURE Marks**, as Complainant has served as the Official Technology Partner for the RBS 6 Nations Rugby Championship since 2012. Moreover, Complainant was a global umbrella sponsor of the World Golf Championships and the title sponsor of the series' season-opening event, the Accenture Match Play Championship. Information regarding Complainant's involvement in the RBS 6 Nations Rugby Championship has been attached by the Complainant as **Annexure C-9** along with the complaint.
- xviii. Complainant also has collaborated with various groups on cultural initiatives across the world. For example, it collaborated with the Louvre Museum to develop new technological programs designed to support the Louvre's initiatives to spread culture, enhance its image and reach new segments of the public. Complainant is also an official connections partner of the Cannes Lions Festival, and in 2017, Complainant introduced innovative wearable technologies allowing delegates to exchange business information by simply bumping wrists. Information regarding Complainant's collaboration with the Louvre Museum and Cannes Lions may be accessed <a href="https://www.accenture.com/hu-en/about/events/cannes-lions">https://www.accenture.com/hu-en/about/events/cannes-lions</a>).
  - xix. The Complainant further asserts that the growth of the Complainant and all of its

achievements over twenty years has attracted tremendous positive attention in the news media around the world **including in India** (where Respondent is situated). Many news articles have been written and news stories broadcasted about Complainant over the past few years in India, adding widespread awareness about Complainant and its products and services among the trade as well as present and potential consumers. Complainant has been the subject matter of media coverage and public comment and has been featured in leading newspapers and magazines in India dating back to 2001. Details of the press coverage that Complainant has received in India along with copies of some of the articles has been attached by the Complainant as **Annexure C-10** along with the complaint.

- xx. Complainant has extensively placed its advertisements at major airports in India in the cities of Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad. Copies of some of the advertisements has been attached by the Complainant as **Annexure C-11** along with the complaint.
- xxi. The Complainant further submits that as such, Internet users worldwide, including those in India, are exposed to and aware of the reputation and goodwill of such trademarks. Complainant's **ACCENTURE Marks** are no different in this regard. Indeed, the goodwill and reputation enjoyed by the **ACCENTURE Marks** has accrued to Complainant by diverse means such as electronic and print media publicity, advertisements on television and in leading international dailies, magazines and journals, which enjoy circulation and readership in India and through its offices located in major cities of India such as Mumbai, New Delhi, Noida, Gurgaon, Bangalore, Chennai, Pune, Hyderabad and Kolkata.
- xxii. Thus, as a result of the above-described extensive use and promotion, the **ACCENTURE Marks** have become distinctive and famous globally and have enjoyed such distinctiveness and repute since long prior to the date on which Respondent registered the impugned domain name.
- xxiii. The Complainant further submits that due to Complainant's prominent presence on the web across the world under its trade mark and trading style and variations thereof, advertisements and articles featuring the ACCENTURE Marks in print as well as in electronic media, prestigious awards and recognitions conferred on it, steady growth in revenue, Complainant's trade mark and trading style, the ACCENTURE Marks and variations thereof have become well-known and famous. Further, Complainant's ACCENTURE Marks have been derived from

its corporate name and are therefore also eligible for protection in accordance with Article 8 of the Paris Convention in this regard.

xxiv. The Complainants has also brought on record details of few of the successful actions taken by Complainant under the INDRP for recovery of domains incorporating Complainant's mark **ACCENTURE** are as under:

S. No.	Infringin g Party	Trade mark/Domain Name	Action taken	Remarks
1.	Abhishek Das (India)	Accenture.net.in	INDRP complaint filed	Domain name transferred.
2.	Sachin Pandey (India)	Accenturerecruitment .in	INDRP complaint filed	Domain name transferred.
3.	Upendra Singh (India)	Accentureinfotech.in	INDRP complaint filed	Domain name transferred.
4.	Accentur e Accentur e (India)	Accentures.in	INDRP complaint filed	Domain name transferred.
5.	Vishal Singh (India)	Accenturesoftware.co.	INDRP complaint filed	Domain name transferred.
6.	Tech Narayana Software Pvt. Ltd. (India)	Accenture.org.in	INDRP complaint filed	Domain name transferred.



7.	Lokesh Kumar	Accenture.ind.in	INDRP	Domain
			complaint	name
			filed	transferred.
8.	Axcenture Inc.	Axcenture.in	INDRP	Award
			complaint	passed in
			filed	favour of the
				Complainant
9.	Cloven &	Myaccenture.in	INDRP	Domain
	Works		complaint	name
	Private		filed	transferred.
	Limited			
	(India)			

- xxv. The Complainant submits that the Complainant's proprietary rights in its trade mark **ACCENTURE**, its domain names and company name, both under common law and statutory protection, Complainant has the exclusive right to use the said marks / domain names and no one can be permitted to use the same or any other deceptively similar trade mark / trade name / trading style / domain name in any manner whatsoever without the permission, license or consent of Complainant.
- xxvi. Thus, the mark **ACCENTURE**, by virtue of extensive use and publicity over the past decade in connection with high-quality services, substantial global revenue and valuable trademark registrations, has acquired significant goodwill and reputation. Consequently, the mark **ACCENTURE** and its variants are exclusively associated with Complainant, and no one else.
- xxvii. The Complainant further submits that due to extensive use and promotion, the Complainant's mark **ACCENTURE** has become distinctive and well-known and has enjoyed distinctiveness, goodwill and reputation long prior to the date on which Respondent registered the domain name

### E. **RESPONDENT CONTENTION:**

Respondent herein registered the disputed domain has <a href="#"><ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN></a> approximately 24 years after the adoption of the **ACCENTURE** trade mark by Complainant. The Respondent has not filed any response pursuant to the notice issued by this Tribunal dated 05.06.2025. And thus, this Tribunal is not in position to appreciate the exact contentions of the Respondent. However, prima facie it appears that the Respondent's use of disputed domain name is not bona fide. However, the Tribunal firmly believes that even in the uncontested matter, the petitioner's case must stand on its own legs and it cannot derive any advantage by absence of the respondents therefore, the complainant must still establish each of the three elements as mentioned in clause 4 of the INDRP policy. Tribunal also notes decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Sudha Agarwal vs Xth Additionl District Judge & Ors (1996) 6 SCC 332. The disputed domain name was registered on 03.11.2024. The disputed domain name is parked and there is no bona fide use of the disputed domain name by the Respondent.

#### F. <u>DISCUSSIONS AND FINDINGS:</u>

The complainant seeks to rely upon paragraph 4 of the .IN Policy, which reads as:

"Any Person who considers that a registered domain name conflicts with his legitimate rights or interests may file a Complaint to the .IN Registry on the following premises:

- a) the Registrant's domain name is identical and/or confusingly similar to a Name, Trademark or Service Mark etc. in which the Complainant has rights; and
- b) the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the domain name; and
- c) the Registrant's domain name has been registered or is being used in bad faith "

And the Complainant seeks to assert that each of the aforementioned factors.

A. Whether the Respondent's domain name - <a href="#">
<ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN></a> is identical to a name, trademark/ Trade

### name or Service mark, in which the Complainant has right?

- It's is the case of Complainant is the registered proprietor of the i. trademark ACCENTURE in many countries around the world, including in India, and has been continuously and exclusively using the same in relation to its business for many years. As stated in the aforesaid paragraphs, Complainant adopted ACCENTURE in 2000, i.e. almost 24 years prior to the date on which Respondent registered the domain <a href="#"><ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN</a>. By virtue of long-standing use and registration, Complainant's trademark ACCENTURE qualifies to be a well-known mark and is liable to be protected.
- ii. The domain name <accentureOnline.co.in> of the respondent is comprised of the ACCENTUREOnline name and mark which incorporates the Complainant's registered trademark ACCENTURE in toto and is therefore phonetically, visually, deceptively and confusingly similar/identical to the Complainant's registered trademark ACCENTURE. The disputed domain name <accentureOnline.co.in>, owing to its identity with the Complainant's trademarks, is highly likely to mislead, confuse and deceive the Complainant's customers as well as the general public as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation or endorsement of the Respondent's domain name.

It is a well-settled principle and has been held by prior panels deciding under the INDRP that where the disputed domain name wholly incorporates the Complainant's trade mark, the same shall be sufficient to establish deceptive similarity. The complainant has placed its reliance on the decisions in this regard are *Kenneth Cole Productions v. Viswas Infomedia INDRP/093, Inter-Continental Hotels Corporation v. Jaswinder Singh (INDRP/278) and Starbucks Corporation v. Mohanraj (INDRP/118, Raddison Hospitality Belgium BV/SRL v. Najim (INDRP/1818)*.

iii. The Complainant submits that the only difference between the two marks is the mere addition of the suffix "ONLINE" to the coined term "ACCENTURE" that adds no distinctiveness to the domain <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN>. Therefore, the domain name <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> is phonetically, visually, deceptively and confusingly similar/identical to Complainant's company name, trade name and registered trademarks, as well as

domain names incorporating ACCENTURE.

"ONLINE" in the domain name does nothing to distinguish it from our Respondent's trade name and trade mark, or to prevent the public from associating it with the Respondent. Reliance is placed on Hoffmann-La Roche AG v. Domain Admin / Whois Privacy Corp., WIPO (Case No. D2015-1947) wherein it was held that the mere addition of the suffix "online" to the Complainant's trademark BANKOA by the Respondent in respect of the disputed domain name, is not enough to avoid similarity, nor does it add anything to avoid confusion with Complainant's trademark. Similarly, the mere addition of the suffix "ONLINE" to the domain at issue, forming <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN>, is likely to cause confusion and that the Respondent or their business has some connection, affiliation or association with the Complainant, when it is not so.

- iv. It is further submitted that a Google search for the name and mark "ACCENTUREONLINE" reveals search results referring to and depicting information about Complainant's business under its registered trademark "ACCENTURE" instead.
- v. Complainant further seeks to rely on previous decisions of this Panel in favour of the Complainant in *Accenture Global Services Limited v. Sachin Pandey (INDRP/828), Accenture Global Services Limited v. Mr. Upendra Singh (INDRP/829), Accenture Global Services Limited v. Accenture Accenture (INDRP/998) and Accenture Global Services Limited v. Vishal Singh (INDRP/999)* and more recently in *Accenture Global Services Limited v. Axcenture Inc. (INDRP/1394)* wherein the Panel found that Complainant has rights in the name/mark **ACCENTURE** and the impugned domains incorporating **ACCENTURE** or variations thereof were transferred to Complainant.
- vi. Complainant further submits that the country code top level domains (ccTLD) as well as general top level domains (gTLD), such as ".in", ".co.in" and/ or ".com" are an essential part of a domain name. Therefore, in no way can it be said to be capable of sufficiently distinguishing the Respondent's domain name <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> from the Complainant's registered mark ACCENTURE or its existing domain

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names <ACCENTURE.COM>, <ACCENTURE.CO.IN> as well as Complainant's other ACCENTURE-formative domain names comprising prominently of the name/mark ACCENTURE. The mere technical requirement of the addition of the ccTLD does not grant any distinction to the Respondent, and the same has been upheld in prior decisions of the panel in *Urban Outfitters Inc. v. Hua* An Holdings (H.K.) Limited (INDRP/601), Starbucks Corporation v v. Aditya Khanna (INDRP/614), Sudhir Kumar Segar v. John Doe (INDRP/1645). A generic TLD/ccTLD such as ".co.in" is a standard registration requirement and therefore cannot be said to distinguish the Respondent's domain name <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> from Complainant's the registered trademark ACCENTURE or their domain names. Reliance is also placed on Equifax Inc. v. Nikhlesh Kunwar INDRP/1038. Further, when the domain name includes the Trademark, or a confusingly similar approximation, regardless of the other terms in the domain name, it is to be considered identical or confusingly similar for the purposes of the Policy, and the same has been upheld in prior decision of Walmart Stores, Inc. v. Richard MacLead (WIPO Case No. D2000-0662).

- vii. Therefore, it is clearly evident that identity between Respondent's domain name and Complainant's marks, domain names and company name incorporating ACCENTURE is likely to mislead, confuse and deceive Complainant's customers as well as the general lay public as to the source, sponsorship, affiliation or endorsement of Respondent's domain name. As evidenced in the preceding paragraphs, Complainant's rights over the marks ACCENTURE predate Respondent's registration the domain <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> impugned more than two decades, which, as per the WHOIS records, was only registered/created on November 03, 2024.
- viii. Thus, it is evident that the Registrant's domain name is clearly identical and/or confusingly similar to a name/Trademark/Service mark in which the complainant has a right.

## B. Whether the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the domain name?

- i. In the facts and circumstances as discussed herein above, the Complainant has not authorized, licensed or otherwise allowed Respondent to make any use of its registered trade mark and trade name ACCENTURE and/or its phonetic equivalents/variations, and Respondent does not have any affiliation or connection with Complainant or with Complainant's services name/mark ACCENTURE. Therefore, though the Respondent may not have legitimate interests in domain name. However, it might have rights the domain name qua <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN>. Prior **WIPO** panel in CareerBuilder, LLC v. Stephen Baker, (WIPO Case No. D2005-0251) has given similar findings. Thus, Respondent appears to be not using the domain name in connection with a bona fide offering of goods and services in accordance with Paragraph 6(a) of the .IN Policy, as it is not operating any website from the impugned domain.
  - ii. From the records, it is revealed that the Respondent herein has registered the disputed domain <a href="#ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN">ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN</a> approximately 24 years after the adoption of the ACCENTURE trade mark by Complainant. Under the circumstances of this case Respondent's use of the disputed domain name is not "bona fide" within the meaning of Paragraph 6 (a) of the .IN Policy since there is no apparent legitimate justification for Respondent's registration of the <a href="#ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN">ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN</a> domain name, that is visually, phonetically, conceptually, deceptively and confusingly similar/identical to Complainant's trade name/mark.

- iii. Further, the continued ownership of the disputed domain <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> by Respondent, despite not having any legitimate or fair reason to do so, prevents Complainant from reflecting its trademark in the subject domain name.
- iv. For the reasons stated in the foregoing paragraphs, it is clearly evident that the Respondent do not have legitimate interest in the use of domain name <a href="ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN">ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN</a> and has blocked the said domain name with alterior motives as there is no website in place corresponding to the said domain name.

WIPO in the matters of *Caesars World, Inc. v. Forum LLC (WIPO Case No. D2005-0517), HUGO BOSS Trade Mark Management GmbH & Co. KG, HUGO BOSS AG v. Dzianis Zakharenka, (WIPO Case No. D2015-0640)* & prior decision of this Panel in *Accenture Global Services Limited v. Sachin Pandey (INDRP/828),* has given findings in favour of Complainant wherein it was established that:

"Based on prior adoption use and various trademark and domain name registrations for the mark ACCENTURE and its formatted marks, it is believed that Respondent is well aware of the Complainant's business, its products and services, its reputation and rights in the trademark ACCENTURE on worldwide basis.

"Further, it was held in Confederation nationale du credit mutual v. Yu Ke Rong (WIPO Case No. D2018-0948) that:

"...Given the reputation and\_it is not possible to conceive of any plausible use of the domain name <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> by Respondent that would not be illegitimate, as it would inevitably create a false association and affiliation with Complainant and its well-known trade mark ACCENTURE.

v. Therefore, it is established that the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of the impugned domain name.

# C. Whether the Registrant's domain name has been registered or is being used in bad faith?"

- i. In view of Complainant's reputation in India where Complainant has extensive business operations (as demonstrated in the preceding paragraphs) as well as its reputation worldwide, and the ubiquitous presence of Complainant's mark ACCENTURE on the Internet, Respondent must have been aware of Complainant's trademarks long prior to registering the domain name. In fact, considering that the <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> disputed domain name by Respondent incorporates Complainant's trade registered name/trademark ACCENTURE in toto, the circumstances point to the Respondent having had sufficient prior knowledge of Complainant's trademarks and their use thereof in order to intentionally attempt to adopt a domain name so as to ride on the reputation of the Complainant's world-famous trademark and trade name. In view of the aforesaid, it is established that Respondent had constructive notice of Complainant's mark **ACCENTURE**. The Complainant seeks to rely on the decisions passed by previous Panels under fame of the Complainant's trademark and the Complainant's prior registration of almost identical domain names, the registration of the disputed domain name is clearly intended to mislead and divert consumers to the disputed domain name. Even a cursory internet search would have already made it clear to the Respondent that the Complainant owns a trademark in CREDIT MUTUEL and uses it extensively... In the Panel's view, this clearly indicates the bath faith of the Respondent, and the Panel therefore rules that the Respondent registered the disputed domain name in bad faith."
- ii. Furthermore, the fact that the mark ACCENTURE is a coined word that has no dictionary meaning further aggravates Respondent's bad faith, in as much as, Respondent is using the visually, phonetically and confusingly similar/identical name/mark with respect impugned domain name <ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN>. There can be no other plausible explanation as to how Respondent domain arrived the impugned name at <a>ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN> which incorporates so nearly an</a>

identical version of Complainant's mark **ACCENTURE**. In light of the continuous and exclusive use of the mark **ACCENTURE** by Complainant over the past two decades, this mark can have no meaning other than as an identifier of Complainant and their businesses. Reliance is placed on a prior decision of this Panel in *M/s Merck KGaA* v *Zeng Wei INDRP/323* wherein it was stated that:

"The choice of the domain name does not appear to be a mere coincidence, but a deliberate use of a well-recognized mark... such registration of a domain name, based on awareness of a trademark is indicative of bad faith registration."

Hence, Respondent had no reason to adopt a confusingly similar name/ combination with respect to the impugned domain name except to create a deliberate and false impression in the minds of consumers that Respondent is somehow associated with or endorsed by Complainant, with the sole intention to ride on the massive goodwill and reputation associated with Complainant and to unjustly enrich from the same.

The facts and contentions enumerated above establish that Respondent's domain name registration for **ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN>** is clearly contrary to the provisions of paragraph 4(c) of the INDRP.

iii. In view of the above, Complainant has established that the mark ACCENTURE is distinctive and well known, and it is inconceivable that Respondent did not have prior knowledge of Complainant's aforesaid mark at the time of registering the disputed domain name. Owing to the fame attached to Complainant's mark ACCENTURE, which is a result of extensive use and promotion in relation to its world-renowned services, and the fact that Complainant's services are available all over the world, including in India (wherein Respondent resides), it is implausible for Respondent to have registered the domain name for any reason other than to trade off the reputation and goodwill of Complainant's mark ACCENTURE.

#### G. **DECISION**:

In the light of foregoing findings, namely, that the domain name is confusingly similar to a mark in which the Complainant have rights, that the Respondent has no rights or legitimate interests in respect of disputed domain name. However,

from the pleadings and evidences as filed by the Complainant, it is not clearly

evident that the said domain name is being used and in bad in accordance with

the policy and rules. Undoubtedly, the Complainants trademarks **ACCENTURE** 

appears to be well known trade name in the realm of IT and has acquired global

recognition including India in past two decades. Further, Complainants also

demonstrated that the Complainant company has been spending significant

amount of money running in million dollars to generate global revenue running

into billion dollars. Further, Complainant has also brought on record of this

Tribunal that it has filed similar other cases against parties under the INDRP

Rules. However, I clearly see lack of diligence on the part of Complainant too,

wherein despite having global presence, the Complainant company failed to get

domain name registered with different domain registrant providers such as -

ONLINE.COM, ONLINE.CO.IN.

The arbitrator orders that domain name < ACCENTUREONLINE.CO.IN > be

transferred to the complaint subject to the payment of Rs. 1,00,000/- to the

Respondent by the Complainant.

Abhinav S. Raghuvanshi Sole Arbitrator

Place: New Delhi Date: 19.08.2025