Collaboration on Universal Acceptance

Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG)

Meeting between the UASG and GNSO
18 November 2021
Overview

1. Universal Acceptance (UA) Strategy and Need for Collaboration – 5 mins
   Ajay Data, Chair, Universal Acceptance Steering Group (UASG)

2. GNSO-UASG Collaboration Discussion – 15 mins
   Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO) and UASG members
Universal Acceptance (UA) Refresher

Universal Acceptance (UA): All domain names and email addresses work in all software applications.

* Domain names:
  * Newer top-level domain names: example.sky
  * Longer top-level domain names: example.international
  * Internationalized Domain Names (IDNs): คน.ไทย

* Internationalized email addresses (EAI):
  * ASCII@ASCII (new and long TLD) ekrem@misal.berlin
  * ASCII@IDN marc@société.org
  * Unicode@ASCII 测试@example.com
  * Unicode@IDN пример@тестовая- zona.рф
  * Unicode@IDN; right-to-left scripts ای-میل@مثال.موقع

Accept  Validate  Process  Store  Display
Why is UA Important?

The Universal Acceptance (UA) of domain names and email addresses provides many benefits.

* **Businesses** and **registrants** have opportunities to grow their customer base and users by using domain names of choice and those in local languages.

* **End users** can better access the Internet with domain names and email addresses in local languages.

* Gives the **domain name industry** opportunities for innovation and competition.
Strategy for Addressing UA Technically

- Prioritize technology to evaluate
- Determine how to evaluate the technology
- Evaluate the technology for UA-readiness

- Submit a UA bug report
- Develop UA compliant guidelines, code
- Follow-up on bug reports
- Develop messaging and training
- Conduct outreach and training for stakeholders

Technology Remediation
- UA Measurement WG
- UA Technology WG
- UA Email Address Internationalization (EAI) WG

Outreach
- UA Communications WG
- UA Local Initiatives
- UA Ambassadors

See current progress in the UA-Readiness Report for FY21
UASG Stakeholders for FY22

- Technology enablers and developers
- Email software and service providers, email administrators
- Top-level domain (TLD) registries and registrars
- Academia
- Government policymakers

* See detailed plans in the UASG’s FY22 Action Plan
Ways the GNSO Can Promote UA

* UA impacts registries, registrars, registrants, and end users.
* UA challenge is recognized as part of base agreement for gTLDs (Article 1.1):
  * “…certain top-level domain strings may encounter difficulty in acceptance by ISPs and web hosts and/or validation by web applications.
  * “Registry operator shall be responsible for ensuring to its satisfaction the technical feasibility of the TLD string…”

* Encourage members to update their own systems to support UA.
* Encourage members to promote UA with their associated businesses.
* Continue to include UA aspects in internal discussions and work.
* Help develop broader awareness of UA issues and convince stakeholders to support UA-readiness.
Need for Further Collaboration with GNSO

* The UASG thanks the many GNSO members who contribute to the UASG working groups and would like to invite more members to join and help in UA-readiness efforts.

* The UASG would like the GNSO’s help in surveying its members on the challenges faced in supporting UA, and work with the GNSO to determine solutions.

* At ICANN71, it was suggested that the UASG work towards developing a roadmap to help registries and registrars make their systems UA-ready. The UASG would like to seek input and feedback from GNSO members on this work.

* The UASG would request the GNSO to reach out to all its Stakeholder Groups (SGs), including registrar, registry, commercial and non-commercial SGs, to inform their members about UA and its challenges, and encourage them to address UA in their systems.

* The UASG would request GNSO to consider appointing a liaison to UASG for more effective collaboration.
Thank You!

Get involved:

* Join the UASG community email list: https://uasg.tech/subscribe
* Join a UASG working group: sign-up form
* Follow the UASG on social media:
  * Twitter (@UASGtech)
  * Facebook
  * LinkedIn

Contact the UASG:

* Email: info@uasg.tech