

UA EAI WG Meeting

10 August 2021

Attendees

Abdalmonem Galila
Mark Svancarek
Sasa Kovacevic
Sarmad Hussain
Samantha Mancia
Jim DeLaHunt
Fiona
Sudhanwa

Agenda

- 1) Welcome and roll call
- 2) Continue work on [self-certification guide](#)
- 3) Coordination with UA Comms WG on relevant items in FY22 Action Plan (e.g. E2.1, E2.2) – how to proceed?
- 4) AOB

Meeting Notes

Work continued on the [self-certification guide](#), starting with the Self Certification of EAI Support of Email Utilities and Tools section. It was noted that the group had previously decided on what was included in the list of utilities and tools. A WG member commented that people may come up with more utilities that are not on this list, and suggested to add a note to address this. A decision was made to add the note “If vendor offering is not covered by other sections, but is also not listed below, proceed as follows: TBD”.

Work continued on the table in this section:

Line 1: Accepts email addresses and domain names from any writing system and displays the correct glyphs where applicable

- A suggestion was made to change row #1 into two rows – accepting and validating
- It was also suggested that the focus be on Unicode instead of “non-ascii” and “non-unicode”
 - o Because there are many non-unicode fonts currently in use, there could be an issue. Limiting to unicode will clarify that issue.
- It was noted that the WG hadn’t talked about the operability problem of software using an incorrect expression and rejecting valid email addresses
- It was noted that any email addresses that are RFC compliant should not be rejected

- The following language was added to the description column for row 1: “Ok to validate the domain name syntax including IDNA200. Generally not ok to reject mailbox syntax. Ok to provide admins with capability to reject any portion of an email address based on their own policies. Not ok to reject RFC-compliant email addresses except when overridden by local policy set by a user or admin. This requirement is limited to evaluations of Unicode Strings; this guide does not have requirements for non-Unicode fonts”
- A suggestion was made that validation be an item or section by itself, as the topic is bigger than just “row 1” of this table.
 - o It was suggested that this should be its own section because policies will change over time, even faster than software changes.
 - o It was noted that validating whether something is valid email address is a fundamental and foundational thing, all previous sections rely on the idea that email addresses are valid in some form or another. It might be good to specify upfront earlier in the document how different types of email validation are ranked.
 - In answer to the question on why this hasn’t come up before, it was explained that it was implicit in other sections that internationalized emails is benignly discussed, whereas in this section the topic is about other applications and how EAI should be integrated, in a sense asking for them to upgrade their applications.
 - It was noted that mailbox part validation depends on software knowing what are the actual mailbox structure rules for that domain. In practice, this means probably software will only know the rules for its own domain.
 - A decision was made to add this information as a separate row in the existing table
- It was noted that the table in its current format could be better organized thematically. A decision was made to reorganize the table – with #1 = accepting, #2 = displaying, #3 = storing, etc.
 - o A note was added: “rewrite rows to more clearly differentiate the UA verbs; rows can be completely rewritten to prevent overlap between verbs”
 - It was decided that the WG will resume this topic in the next meeting

The WG discussed coordination with UA Comms WG on relevant items in FY22 Action Plan. It was noted that in section 4.2 on Page 14 some items identified by the EAI WG as collaborative with Comms WG. The Comms WG wanted to get more clarity on what the ask is for these tasks and how they should plan for it.

- It was determined that the EAI WG could start work on E2.1 now, as there’s no cost in identifying customers
 - o A decision was made to start making a list of service providers/spam filter providers/entities that know their customers to reach out to
 - It was noted that the WG can pull from testing reports
 - It was noted that it would be best to keep the list small for maximum impact
 - It was determined that it would be worthwhile to feature Phase 1 and Phase 2 stories as both can make an impact
 - The next step after that was identified to be determining who should reach out to the prospective customers based on member affiliations/experience/connections

- A decision was made to add a standing agenda item to work on the list at the top of the agenda

Next meeting: Tuesday 17 August 2021 UTC 1530-1630

Action items

No.	Action Item	Owner
1	Include discussion of identifying customers (FY21 Plan E2.1) as first item on agendas moving forward	Sarmad