

UA Measurement WG Meeting

04 October 2021

Attendees

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Agenda

1. Welcome and roll call
2. Working on the [SOW – Popular Web Hosting Tools](#) (deciding on the global and regional ones)
3. Plan next set of work items
4. AOB

Meeting Notes

A brief overview of the previous meeting was presented. It was decided to work on popular web hosting tools first, and later continue on CMS.

[SOW – Popular Web Hosting Tools](#) was further discussed. List of popular web hosting panels in the Russian region was discussed. The list is divided into commercial and non-commercial software. Most of the Russian web hosting tools are in Russian language. While cPanel is the most popular hosting tool, there are also a variety of popular web hosting tools, some of which are free, and some are license based.

In non-commercial software, CentOS Web Panel which is part of the CentOS operating system will likely be redesigned. CentOS Linux might be obsolete, and CentOS Stream will not be a replacement. A [news article regarding](#) CentOS was shared in this regard. We might need to look into its new release. CentOS mainly used server-side, and not generally on desktop, whereas Linux is both used on desktop and server-side. This part of the discussion revolved around the Linux distributions such as Ubuntu, Mint, Debian and Fedora.

Major concern is that people are developing websites and want to use internationalized email addresses, but cannot use them since cPanel is the obstacle. So, what are the alternatives they prefer using. It is a kind of market research exercise we need to carry out in shortlisting popular web hosting tools.

The goal of the SOW, and the result we would like to get in the report is to respond with an easily accessible report to those who are searching for the best UA-rated web hosting tools and wish to use EAI in their websites. The information that we will evaluate should be valuable and worthwhile.

As a follow-up action item from the previous meeting, the SOW document was filled in with a long list of global and local web hosting tools. Globally known web hosting tools listed in SOW are based on internet search. Local data was gathered based on an arbitrary survey in registrars, ISPs and colleagues. We don't have specific market share information for these tools.

As a first step the Measurement WG can review the whole list of webhosting tools and come up with a short list that will be included in the SOW. One suggestion was the intersection of local and global ones might be one way to start from, or a few from top global list, and a few from regional ones would be another way to decide.

After shortlisting each tool, a testing plan based on features will be decided as a second step. To develop SOW for such software, we need to clearly specify what services of such software will be tested. We can start looking at the services that cPanel provides to decide what kind of services will be tested. We need to capture these services in SOW, so that each or at least majority of the services mentioned on <https://cpanel.net/products/cpanel-whm-features/> are tested. Of course, if basic email services are not UA ready, then we know it will fail for the others as well, and then there is no need to continue testing. This approach will be a part of the testing plan.

Some services web hosting tools provide can be dependent on third party plug-ins, such as SQL database (MySQL Wizard). Such things need also be tested as they are integrated.

In summary there are two steps in the beginning of the SOW development:

- 1) Start with the longer list and then with discussions shortlist these services in respect of time & cost. Also shortlist based on the fact that the tools are open-source or paid, global or regional.
- 2) Testing plan can be identified in detail but still remain open for advice from the contractor.

In addition to this, other approaches in preparation of the SOW were discussed.

We will either decide on products for the contractor to evaluate, or let the contractor come up with a list of products to evaluate. Either way, the contractor will do the evaluation. However, instead of us creating a testing plan, this could be part of the contractor's work. So the contractor can develop a testing plan with methods and evaluation criteria and prepare a process document for our review. So in phase 1, the contractor comes up with a list of tools, but evaluates only one high priority tool first and then prepares a process document for that evaluation. Based on the process document the contractor prepared in phase 1, in the second SOW we will ask the contractor to test the rest of the products.

An initial draft of test cases for tools is listed in [UASG026](#). Based on the budget, some of the things need to be carried out by WG itself and some by the contractor.

The agenda of the next meeting was identified as discussing further division of tasks that will be done by WG and contractor.

Next meeting: Monday 18 October 2021 UTC 1400-1500

Action items

No.	Action Item	Owner
1	Continue discussion on the mailing list about how to divide the work between WG and Contractor	All