UA Measurement WG Meeting
18 October 2021

Attendees
Jim De LaHunt
Vadim Mikhaylov
Seda Akbulut
Sarmad Hussain

Agenda
1. Welcome and roll call
2. SOW - Popular Web Hosting Tools – Discussing further division of tasks that will be done by WG and contractor.
3. AOB

Meeting Notes

A brief discussion of previous meeting was presented. Out of different web hosting tools available, some of them are shortlisted to include them in SOW based on their popularity. Random surveys are conducted. Globally known web hosting tools from different regions are considered.

Further discussion was made about the division of tasks between WG and contractor. Since we cannot do an open-ended call for proposals, we need to explicitly define our scope and output that we want from contractor. This also helps us to compare the proposals. Participants agreed on this.

One option suggested is to start with cPanel or any other webhosting tools and deep dive with test cases like we did for content management with Wordpress. Another option is going with all the webhosting tools like we did for the social network apps where the test cases are easy to envisage. We can still define some general test cases based on UASG026. We can ask the contractor to add additional regional tools along with what we asked. The main point here is that SOW should not be totally open-ended so that the proposals are more concrete.

It was decided to select only three tools first arbitrarily and get a test plan for them that will be replicated later for other webhosting software. This is just an initial study, not a comprehensive analysis. **cPanel, Plesk and ISPConfig** are suggested to start with. However, the choice is arbitrarily. cPanel and Plesk are popular commercial software, and ISPConfig is an open-source software. These three are also popular on MEA region, Thailand, India and China.

We can give contractor a list of things to test, and apart from UASG026, we can point other documents such as linkification, email support for EAI, domain name support for IDNs. However, there is a need to define exactly what we need to measure in this software for UA Readiness.

It was decided that the testing will be done based on the UA Readiness Framework report (UASG026) and using the test domains and email addresses in various scripts as included in UASG004 (data file). As content management systems will create complex layer to test, we want to test simple HTML websites. The following features of control panel will be tested:

1. Setting up plain HTML websites with new short, new long, IDN
2. Setting up email address with new short, new long, EAI
3. Testing communicating through the website and email addresses, testing backend mail server support for EAI based on UASG030A
4. Control panel user interface test
5. Testing database storing IDNs / EAI - Testing should include registering similar domain names that are listed on UASG0004

There can be huge number of installations even for one tool as can be seen on https://www.ispconfig.org/documentation/. However, we can do homework to see if there is any particular email tool which is supported by web hosting tools we shortlisted. If there are multiple ways we can deploy a backend mail server, we could request them to look at UASG030A. Looking at potential options of what can be configured as mail servers with each of these tools and pick those mail server configurations that are EAI ready from UASG030A, so that we don't worry about EAI support.

The discussion revolved around whether the email server should be deployed by contractor or the test covers only available server provided by the web hosting tool. In looking for backend mail server EAI support, we might need contractor pretending to be an ISP-host to deploy email server which will then be used for testing of control panel. We will ask the contractor if UA ready system can be developed through the web hosting tools. If so, what configuration works, what the barriers are can be asked.

It was decided that the contractor will setup an email server, database server and web server and will evaluate the control panel, that given a set of all EAI ready components, is control panel ready or is itself the barrier. Instead of trying multiple configurations, it was decided to test 3 different configs of each tool.

For future attention, there will be three SOW. One SOW for Control panel, one SOW for Web Hosting Services, and one for evaluating ISPs like the self-certification guide.

The agenda of the next meeting was identified as prioritizing the configurations and components, and discussing more on making SOW for Control Panels in FY22 Action Plan.

Next meeting: Monday 01 November 2021 UTC 1400-1500

Action items

No.	Action Item	Owner
1	Granting editor access to Jim for the SOW document	Seda