

Universal Acceptance Readiness of Browsers

Ver.: 2021-1-21

Purpose

The Universal Acceptance (UA) Steering Group (UASG) through its Measurement working group (WG) is inviting qualified contractors to conduct a research project on the Universal Acceptance (UA) of the browsers.

Universal Acceptance (UA) helps create a more inclusive Internet as it ensures that all domain names and email addresses can be used by all Internet-enabled applications, devices and systems. The top-level domains (TLDs) in the Domain Name System (DNS) expanded dramatically in 2010, which now includes more than 1,500 TLDs. Many of those domains are longer than the legacy two or three-character domain name (e.g. .com, .edu and .org) or are in non-Latin-based scripts (such as Chinese, Arabic, or Cyrillic).

Description and Scope of Work

The UASG conducted a prior UA readiness evaluation for browsers that was performed in Q2 of 2017, the report is available here on the UASG.tech website: <https://uasg.tech/wp-content/uploads/documents/UASG016-en-digital.pdf> .

The 2017 browsers evaluation project was based on the limited use cases outlined in the [report UASG004](#) and takes the stance that all the URL's listed should resolve to valid websites in all browsers and display the URL and title as an end-user might expect on all platforms (e.g mobile, desktop) using just the default settings (no special configuration or language settings).

The UASG would like to re-study the browser's UA readiness and compare the testing results with the 2017 previous results. The use cases for UA Readiness Evaluation report ([UASG004](#)) will be the reference and base of the testing cases, the UASG is expected to update UASG004 report by adding new domain names in different scripts as new test cases, the contractor will be provided with the updated UASG004 report when it is finalized.



The Testing Main Requirements:

1. The contractor is required to conduct the evaluation using the current latest version of the browser
2. The evaluation should be for the latest “out-of-the-shelf” available version of the browser, if the browser default version is not UA ready, it is recommended to change the default configuration to enable UA support, if possible and document this configuration change in the project report.
3. The contractor is required to test the different functionalities of the browser, for example when adding an IDN domain to the bookmarks or favorites, will it accept, store, display IDN domain U-label correctly?
4. The contractor will use the Universal Acceptance Readiness Framework (UASG026) report as the base and reference for the browser’s testing.
5. The contractor is required to test the browser’s mobile and desktop (if available), if not the test can be conduct to one platform
6. The contractor is required to conduct the mobile platform browsers testing using the following operating systems:
 - a. Apple iOS
 - b. Android
7. The contractor is required to conduct the desktop platform browsers testing using the following operating systems:
 - a. Windows
 - b. Mac OS
 - c. Linux Ubuntu distribution or the widely used Linux flavor in the specified countries listed below

The List of Browsers for Testing:

Based on the [global statistics](#), the desktop browsers market share for period from September 2019 to September 2020 is as follows:

Chrome	69.66%
Safari	8.74%
Firefox	8.17%
Edge	5.54%

IE	2.51%
Opera	2.3%

The [global mobile browser market share](#) is as following for period between September 2019 and September 2020:

Chrome	64.63%
Safari	22.7%
Samsung Internet	6.44%
UC Browser	2.34%
Opera	1.91%
Firefox	0.47%

Browsers Widely Used in Specific Countries:

The contract is required to test the widely used browsers in China, India and Russia as per the below table, the test should be based on the country’s language script (e.g Cyrillic, Chinese, Hindi) beside the scripts listed in the updated UASG004 report using a locale setting as needed.

Country	Browser	Reference/Links*
China	360	https://360-browser.en.softonic.com/
	QQ	https://browser.qq.com/
	Sogou	https://ie.sogou.com/
	Baidu	https://baidu-browser.en.softonic.com/
Russia	Yandex.Browser	https://browser.yandex.com/
	Atom Mail.RU	https://browser.ru/
	Rambler Browser	https://soft.rambler.ru/
	Amigo Mail.RU	https://s1.amigo.mail.ru/



Universal Acceptance

India	JioPages	https://www.jio.com/en-in/apps/jio-pages
	Epic Privacy Browser	https://www.epicbrowser.com/

*Note: The above links are for reference only, the contractor can download the latest browser's version from any resource.

Deliverables

The main outcomes of the project are the following:

1. Provide a test plan to the UA Measurement working group for review and approval, once approved the contractor can implement the test plan
2. The contractor will deliver a draft report to the UA Measurement working group for review and approval. The report should including the following sections:
 - a. An executive summary
 - b. Detailed description of the testing criteria and methodology
 - c. Test results overview, indicating what was testing and what was out of scope.
 - d. Comparison of the test results with the previous browsers study (UASG016)
 - e. The detailed testing results (can be added an addendum to the report)
 - f. Recommendation for prioritization of Browsers for UA remediation, focusing on the browsers that have the most positive impact on UA if the identified issues were resolved.
3. Provide presentation of the outcome of the project in Microsoft PowerPoint format.

Proposal Submission

The proposal should be submitted to: UAProgram@icann.org before the submission due date.

The submitted proposal should include the contractor's qualification, experience, previous similar completed projects, and a proposed work plan.

The proposal should confirm compliance with scope of the project and deliverables. It should also include a financial section that shows the project's cost and details of any used software or tool.

Project Timeline

The due date for receiving the submitted proposals: 7 February 2021

Tentative start date: 25 February 2021

Tentative end date: 30 May 2021



Conflict of Interest

To help avoid any perceived or actual conflict of interest (COI), UASG leaders, UASG Ambassadors, members holding working group's leadership positions in the UASG, and any organization(s) affiliated with individuals in these UASG roles, are prohibited from participating in this SOW. In addition, ICANN org COI applies.

References

- Universal Acceptance Readiness Framework (UASG026): <https://uasg.tech/wp-content/uploads/documents/UASG026-en-digital.pdf>
- Universal Acceptance of Popular Browsers 2017 Report (UASG016): <https://uasg.tech/wp-content/uploads/documents/UASG016-en-digital.pdf>
- Use Cases for UA Readiness Evaluation (UASG004): <https://uasg.tech/wp-content/uploads/documents/UASG004-en-digital.pdf>