21 September 2018

Universal Acceptance Steering Group
Help Wanted…   Pilot EAI Evaluation

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Application Deadline: **23:00 UTC 19 October 2018**
Send Applications to: don.hollander@icann.org
V2018-10-03

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Background

Universal Acceptance is the idea that all domain names and all email addresses work in all applications. It's a foundational requirement for a truly multilingual Internet, one in which users around the world can navigate entirely in local languages.

The Universal Acceptance Steering Group is an Internet community team working to share this vision for the Internet of the future with those who construct this space: coders. The group's primary objective is to help software developers and website owners understand how to update their systems to keep pace with an evolving domain name system (DNS) and relevant standards developed by the IETF.

New standards for Email Address Internationalisation (EAI) were approved in 2010 by the IETF. These standards allow the use of non-ASCII characters in the mailbox name as well as the domain name of an email address.

The Work

The work is to take the result of the UASG's first phase of EAI Evaluation (UASG021A[1]) and perform a pilot evaluation of the EAI Readiness of a small selection of email software and service providers - Gmail (as an MUA), Courier (as an MSA, MTA, and MDA), and XgenPlus (as an MSP).

The goal for this work is to confirm that the evaluation criteria developed in UASG021A are fair and reasonable and workable.

Another goal is to determine the amount of effort for evaluation of additional email software and service providers outlined in UASG021A.

A third goal is to develop the reporting template and analysis

Section 5 Proof of Concept of UASG021A provides an estimate of the amount of effort and resources that will be required.   This should be used as a guideline.

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[1] https://uasg.tech/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/UASG021A.pdf

Desired Characteristics

- You must be technically proficient and able to write clearly in English
- An understanding of the DNS, Unicode and the IETF IDN and EAI RFC series is important
- An understanding of email systems, components and software including EAI is important.
- An understanding of IDNs and non-English based scripts is preferred.
- An understanding of variants used in Internet identifiers is important.
- Experiences with software development and website development are important.

Next Steps

Please provide us with:

- A brief statement of interest and why you want to do this work and why we should want you to do this work.
- A sample of similar writing
- Full contact details
- Two references
- A price for the performance of the work and the basis for the price. If the price is not a fixed price an estimate of the effort you expect this to take.   Please note that the UASG is an open group and community participation can be expected.

Deadline for receipt of expressions of interest: **23:00 UTC 19 October 2018**
Send completed expressions to: don.hollander@icann.org
If you have any questions, please send those to don.hollander@icann.org.   Please allow 24 hours for answers.

We expect to reach out to a short list of candidates within one week of the closing time.

Universal Acceptance