

# UNIVERSAL ACCEPTANCE

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LAC DNS Forum

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# Agenda

- What is Universal Acceptance
- How is it seen
- Who's Doing something about it
- What are they doing
- How you can help

# What is Universal Acceptance?

- All Domain names operate equally:
  - Acceptance & Validation
  - Storage
  - Processing
  - Display
- IDNs, EAIs, IRIs,
- Long ASCII
- Recently added gTLDs

# Validation on Entry

- Not all domain names are accepted in all applications
- E-mail addresses may be rejected at validation
- Browsers interpret a valid domain name as a search term
- Non-ASCII, “long names”, “new names”

# Storage

- Domain Addresses could be stored as 8-bit UTF-8 characters (Unicode) instead of the standard 7-bit ASCII.
- Domains Addresses could be stored as Puny Code (xn--...) instead of Unicode.
  - There is no standard nor convention
- URL vs IRLs – what's to the Right of the “/” – and how is that stored?
- Transformation may need to be done on the way in and on the way out

# Processing

- There are probably some network devices that have firewalls hardcoded for TLD validation.
- Browsers need to learn when an address is an address and when it is a search term
- Other devices need to know that there are new TLDs being added every day and that addresses are no longer all in ASCII. [Think about your clever photocopier that will e-mail your scanned document. Can it cope with a non-ASCII address?]

# Display

- Software needs to determine what it will display and under what circumstances.
- Unicode or Punycode?
- What if the device can't display the characters?
- What if a Unicode script is not installed?

# E-mail

- How are addresses treated?
- Are all Mail Servers compliant? Clients?
- What happens when mail encounters a non-compliant server or client?
- What happens when a list of addresses included EAs and ASCII addresses?
- What happens when scripts are mixed? Particularly Arabic or Hebrew (Right to Left scripts)



So, who's doing something about it?

# UASG:

## Universal Acceptance Steering Group

- Community initiative supported by ICANN
- Four Groups
  - Topline & Technical Issues
  - International
  - Measurement & Monitoring
  - Community Outreach

# Topline & Technical

- Identifying most effective areas to focus
- Developing definitions
- Developing technical specifications for solutions
- Developing use cases
- Defining UA ready

# International

- Internationalized Domain Names focused
- Email Address Internationalization Focused
- RFCs
- Identifying Good Practice

# Measurement & Monitoring

- Defining success
- Building test platforms
- Monitoring based on definitions
- Building knowledge base
- Collating complaints

# Community Outreach

- Slicing and dicing communities of interest
  - Geographic
  - Application
  - Industry
- Creating white papers
- Ambassadorships

# Getting Involved

- The Universal Acceptance Steering Group needs and wants a few more participants.
- Greater diversity is wanted – particularly geographic, language and gender diversity
- We're looking specifically for
  - Geeks
  - Community Outreach people with a local focus
  - People with Passion
  - People with a bit of time
- Mailing Lists
  - General: <http://tinyurl.com/ua-discuss>
  - Topline & Technical: <http://tinyurl.com/ua-topline>
  - Community Outreach: <http://tinyurl.com/ua-community>
  - International: <http://tinyurl.com/ua-intnl>
  - Measurement & Monitoring: <http://tinyurl.com/UA-MandM>
  - Web Site: <http://tinyurl.com/UA-Wiki-Page>

