



WAG-WAE DC CHARTER

GROUP: **WAG WIRELESS APPLICATION ENVIRONMENT (WAE) DRAFTING COMMITTEE**

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1. DESCRIPTION AND GOALS

The Wireless Application Environment [WAE] Drafting Committee [DC] is a drafting committee within the Wireless Application Group [WAG] specification working group. As such it inherits much of its charter from WAG.

The goal of the WAE DC is to specify the core application enablement features in WAP, i.e. the microbrowser user agent and the associated content formats and semantics, programming interfaces etc., that will enable the creation of data services on wireless hand held devices, including telephones, pagers and PDAs.

WAE DC's focus is on the enablement of a network-based application model with both strong architectural ties to, and leveraging the technology of, the World Wide Web. WAE DC will also be responsible for specifying the underlying processing models that enable the WAE user agents and those of other WAG drafting committees and WAP Forum specification working groups requiring application level behaviour to coexist harmoniously.

WAE DC has completed the following specifications in WAP version 1:

- WAE Overview
- WAE Specification
- Wireless Markup Language [WML]
- Wireless Markup Language Script language [WMLScript]
- WMLScript Libraries
- Wireless Binary eXtendend Markup Language [WBXML]
- User Agent Caching Specification

and the following specifications in WAP version 2:

- WAE Specification
- eXtended HyperText Markup Language Mobile Profile [XHTMLMP]
- Wireless Markup Language [WML]
- Wireless Markup Language Script language [WMLScript]
- WAP Cascading Style Sheets [WCSS]
- WMLScript Libraries
- Wireless Binary eXtendend Markup Language [WBXML]
- User Agent Caching Specification
- HyperText Transfer Protocol State Management
- WML Transformations

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Specifically the WAE DC will address:

- The ongoing maintenance of existing WAE specifications,
- Enhancements to released specifications,
- Support for the IOT processes for released specifications,
- New specifications within the scope of WAE DC's charter [section 2].

While not specifically chartered as a standing committee of WAG, WAE DC is expected to exist as a drafting committee throughout the lifetime of WAG, the envisaged cessation of WAE DC being at some point in time where control is passed back to WAG as a whole.

2. SCOPE

The scope of WAE DC's work includes:

- User agent semantics - semantics and processes related to the user agent(s) as a whole, which are necessary to provide a coherent programming model, e.g. URL schemes,
- Domain-specific data exchange formats – recommend, specify and/or create domain-specific data exchange formats such as calendar and phonebook information,
- The microbrowser user agent including its processing model and behaviour, e.g. history, caching and the interaction of both with the application and user agent,
- Content formats targeted at WAP-class devices, including but not limited to markup languages [XHTMLMP, WML & WMLC], scripting language [WMLScript & WMLScript Libraries, migration to ECMAScript], WBXML and images [e.g. WBMP],
- Enabling authors to specify presentation of content on WAP devices,
- A WAP application execution model permitting the WAE microbrowser, WTA, PUSH, EFI and other user agents yet to be specified to concurrently execute without recourse to specifying any OS behaviour,
- Other areas where WAE, WAG or the Specification Committee/Board or Directors determine work is necessary,
- Any associated interoperability conformance criteria for the above.

WAE DC will achieve its goals using the procedures and processes established by the WAP Forum. WAE DC will work with WAG to manage the promotion of specifications and maintenance releases. WAE DC is chartered to review, modify and approve member inputs, specifications and maintenance releases without recourse to WAG. WAE DC is also chartered to determine the readiness of a specification or maintenance release for promotion and to use the determination to start either the Architecture Consistency and IOT test assertion process or maintenance release approval by the WAP members. The final decision on the promotion of new specifications will be managed by WAG.

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3. CRITERIA FOR SUCCESS

The criteria for success are simple:

- The timely delivery of quality specifications within the scope of approved activities,
 - The measurement of this will be against planned schedules and by the number of problems resulting from the IOT process and post specification release. WAE DC, WAG and Spec Comm are able to measure this,
- The maintenance of specifications released by WAG,
 - The measurement of this is through timeliness of response not necessarily resolution depending on the complexity. The determination of success should be by the group initiating the problem requiring maintenance, and of course WAE DC itself,
- The maintenance of specification end-of-life and transition issues.
 - Measurable using feedback on backwards compatibility problems raised by users etc. The measurement should be by WAP Forum as a whole,

WAE DC's scope can be extended by WAG, as long as the extension is within the scope of WAG charter, the Spec Comm or the Board of Directors at their discretion. WAE DC will submit a revised charter to WAG, in the first instance, should it request an extension of its scope.

4. DURATION

WAE is expected to exist while there are new features of functions to be specified and maintained within the scope of its charter. The Board of Directors, the Specification Committee or WAG can close the WAE DC group at any time should the need arise.

WAE DC will review its charter at least annually and seek WAG approval, and any other approvals required by the processes of the WAP Forum, for the updated charter.

5. SCHEDULE AND DELIVERABLES

WAE DC's schedule and deliverables are as follows:

- Maintenance of released specifications – to be released as and when ready or needed..
- Enhancement of existing specifications – to be released when ready or as part of any conformance or maintenance release.
- New specifications – to be released when ready or as part of any conformance release.

6. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

WAE DC requires the following resources from WAG, the WAP Forum and members:



- WAG to manage the groups charter review and approval, chair appointment, new specification review and approval,
- WAP Forum staff assistance in arranging meetings – see section 10,
- WAP Forum provision on email and web site services for member access – see section 10,
- FTP access for at least the chairman and secretary of WAE,
- WAP Forum liaisoning services – see section 7,
- Members to permit representatives to donate their time and expertise to further the work of WAE's activities.

No guarantee of commitment level is required, e.g. percentage of working time. However, members are encouraged to permit their representatives to donate as much time as possible to bring new functions to market as quickly as possible and with the best quality possible.

7. OVERLAP WITH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

WAE DC has overlaps and desires to cooperate with a number of external organizations, a non-exhaustive listing being:

- WorldWide Web Consortium [W3C] – for its Internet content specifications and architectures,
- Internet Engineering Task Force [IETF] – for its Internet technologies where appropriate to WAP,
- ECMA TC39 – for its ECMAScript specifications work.

Cooperation with external organizations will utilize any liaisoning vehicles open to WAP Forum drafting committees, e.g. cooperation agreements, non-disclosure agreements (one- or two-way) and any WAP Forum approved means of open collaboration.

8. CO-ORDINATION WITH OTHER WAP ACTIVITIES

WAE DC will coordinate the work between

- Other WAG sub-groups.
- The Architecture Group [Arch] on architectural issues affecting WAP as a whole. In particular the Architecture Consistency sub-group of [Arch] will be closely worked with on the review of WAG architectures being specified for new major features.
- The WSG for security related issues affecting both domains.
- The WPG for protocol related issues affecting both domains.
- The WAP Forum Board of Directors and the Specification Committee, where necessary and appropriate, on the approval of charters, etc., and process related issues.

WAP Forum Expert Groups and others to seek advice from their domain of expertise knowledge, e.g. MMEG, WIG etc.



9. DEPENDENCIES ON WAP SPECIFICATIONS

WAE DC will have dependencies on the specifications from WPG and WSG depending on activity. Dependencies on future specifications will be clearly communicated and release timed appropriately.

10. MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATION

WAE DC will use the following meetings and communication vehicles to conduct drafting committee business:

- Meetings of one or more sessions, typically 2 or more days, in each WAP Forum plenary meeting. The facilities and arrangements for these meetings will be made in conjunction with WAP Forum staff.
- Additional meetings at other times to progress work of the sub-group. This may require facilities and arrangements to be made through the WAP Forum, especially if the meetings are collocated with other Specification groups or sub-groups within WAP Forum. WAE DC will attempt to solicit member companies to host these meetings where practical and affordable.
- A conference call bridge number is required for regular, typically weekly, telephone based meetings to make progress on the work in hand. The chair will keep logs of conference call bridge use.
- Email exploders with archiving will be required. The preferred email naming is the established WAP Forum format.
- A web page for WAE is required, again hierarchically named, e.g., http://<WAPForum_struct>/wag/ etc., where, <WAPForum_struct> is currently www1.wapforum.org/member/wg.

11. MEMBERSHIP

The activities of WAE are open to all representatives of member companies. Domain experts in Internet technologies and mobile network communications and services are welcomed and actively desired for WAE.