

W3C Mobile Web Initiative Device Descriptions Working Group

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The mission of DDWG

"To enable the development of globally accessible, sustainable data and services that provide device description information applicable to content adaptation.

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Three-stage scope to the working group

Reviews

- Reviewing the value chain (ecosystem) that applies to the development, maintenance and use of device descriptions.
- Reviewing existing vocabularies with a view to selecting appropriate candidates.

Selection

 Identifying a subset of the delivery context that is necessary in the provisioning of appropriate user experiences on mobile devices.

Development

- Development of requirements for a repository of device descriptions
- Developing requirements for extensions to technologies where gaps exist, for example in the area of highly dynamic device characteristics
- Development of solution concepts for aiding in the discovery of vocabularies and profiles.
- Development of interface proposals for querying the repository
- Facilitating Example or Reference implementations, where deemed feasible and necessary



Three Notes

"Ecosystem Document"

 Describing the business model(s) surrounding creation, maintenance and use of device descriptions. Also describes the 'actors' within the ecosystem.

"Landscape Document"

 Articulates what the W3C and other organizations are doing or have already done in this space and what the overall architecture could be for these technologies to work together.

"Requirements Document"

 Describing a set of requirements for a reference repository of device descriptions, or "DDR"



Time line

- May 2005
 The MWI DDWG launched
- 4th August 2005 : Public survey on existing device description technologies.
- 21st November 2005
 First Public Working Draft of Ecosystem Document
- 10th February 2006
 First Public Working Draft of Landscape Document
- 10th April 2006
 First Public Working Draft of Repository Requirements 1.0



A call for participation...

- W3C International Workshop on the Implementation of a Device Description Repository
 - 12-13 July 2006, in Madrid, Spain
 - Hosted by Telefónica Investigación y Desarrollo
- Participants will discuss the design, implementation and use of a Device Description Repository (DDR) being proposed by the DDWG.
- The proposed DDR will provide device information to content and service providers for adapting content to suit client devices.
- Position papers are due 31 May 2006



The next steps?

- Work from an agreed set of Requirements
- Address DDR implementation issues
- Design a solution
 - Architecture
 - Interface (possibly with an IDL-based API)
 - Data Binding to UAProf, WURFL etc.
- Seed data in a "demonstration"
- A more technically challenging phase



More about DDWG

- Working group home page:
 - http://www.w3c.org/2005/mwi/ddwg
- Public mailing list:
 - public-ddwg@w3.org
- Mailing list archive
 - http://lists.w3.org/Archives/Public/public-ddwg/