

Can Browser Standardization Work for Mobile?

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This work is part of the MobiWeb 2.0 project supported by the European Union's 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7)



W3C



- Founded and directed by Tim Berners-Lee
- Consortium, 350 members (Alcatel, AT&T, Ericsson, DoCoMo, Orange, Microsoft, Nokia, Samsung, Telecom Italia, O2, T-Mobile, Vodafone, ...)
- Standards: XML, HTML, Semantic Web, VoiceXML, Web Services ...

Standards Success



- Criteria
 - Key players involved in creation
 - Critical mass of deployment
 - Sufficient level of conformance
- Desktop: This can take a while! (CSS, Ajax, ...)
- Mobile is faster?

Ongoing



- Device Access and Policy
- Geolocation
- HTML5
- W3C Widgets

Device Access



- Completing Functionality of Web Runtime
 - Messaging
 - Camera
 - ...
- Includes access policy
- Key players: BONDI, Nokia, Mozilla, Access, Samsung, Sony Ericsson, ATT, Vodafone, SK Telecom, ...

Geolocation



- Browser access to latitude, longitude, ...
- Key players: Google, Opera, Vodafone, Microsoft, Mozilla, Samsung, ...
- Deployment: Chrome, Firefox, Safari, Opera, ...
- Started only in Q4 08
- Standard expected Q1 2010

HTML5



- HTML as application platform
 - Offline storage, operation
 - Video, Canvas
 - ...
- Key players: Many!
- Deployment: Chrome, Safari, Opera, ...

W3C Widgets



- Downloadable Web App
 - Packaging HTML, Javascript, CSS
 - Signing
- Key players: Vodafone, Nokia, Microsoft, Opera, Google, OMTP, Access, SK Telecom, AT&T, ...
- Deployment: Access, BONDI, Microsoft, Opera, Vodafone, ...
- Standard progressing well

Conformance



- W3C browser compatibility test
- Widget test workshop
- W3C automated testing
- mobileOK checker

Web Compatibility Test for Mobile Browsers (WCTMB)

Stable release (\$Revision: 1.47 \$)

Tested using Mozilla/5.0 (Windows; U; Windows NT 5.1; en-US; rv:1.9.1.3) Gecko/20090824 Firefox/3.5.3 (.NET CLR 3.5.30729).

A screenshot of the W3C mobileOK Checker web interface. The header is a dark blue bar with the W3C logo and the text "W3C mobileOK Checker" and "Is your Web site mobile friendly?". Below the header is a light blue box with the title "Check a Web page for mobile-friendliness". Inside this box, there is an "Address:" label followed by a text input field. Below the input field, there is a "Structure of the report (url):" label followed by two radio buttons: "Sort messages per category" (which is selected) and "Sort messages per test". At the bottom of the box is a "Check" button.

Positive Outlook



- Key players involved
- Early implementations point towards fast deployment
- Increased focus on conformance
- Standards success looks promising!

Getting Involved



- Join W3C!
- Participate/follow working groups
- Contribute to test suites
- Follow W3C Mobile Web Initiative
<http://www.w3.org/mobile>
- Contact: ph@w3.org