# TPAC Breakout Session

Accessible Foundation for Passwordless Experiences with FIDO Passkey

Session Goal

FIDO is seeking community insights to get feedback on the team’s findings from UX research and through conducting screen reader audits of live Passkey deployments. The Team will focus on 3 key accessibility areas exposed through our research and audits:

1. What we know about Passkey accessibility as it relates to accessibility of the website as a whole.
2. Opportunities we see to pair accessibility awareness with passkey deployment reference information.
3. What we don’t know and the opportunity we see to address current gaps in auto-fill and QR code features.

Agenda

•FIDO Alliance maturity lifecycle: UX, accessibility, and additional updates (Christina Hulka)

•Summary of UX Guidelines for Passkey Creation and Sign Ins (Kevin Goldman)

•FIDO UX Accessibility Workstream video (Joyce Oshita)

Joyce introduced the FIDO UX Accessibility workstream’s video presentation: Accessible Foundation for FIDO Passkeys presented by:

Allyson Wagner, Idemia

Patrick Leahy, VMware

Cameron Champeau, Sony PlayStation

FIDO’s accessibility focus is on “equipping”. This was demonstrated throughout beginning with the UX led video presentation of the team’s findings on screen reader audits on live passkey deployments. The 7 minute video highlighted the following key findings and requested community feedback on each of the topics (note – follow up discussions are included to note related TPAC conversations):

# Finding 1: Passkeys are accessible regardless of the RP’s level of accessibility awareness.

* We believe Platforms could handle even more of the passkey registration process, what do we need to consider?

General support for this approach was noted with no concerns with relying more heavily on the platforms. (note: This will require platforms to have robust accessibility support)

General Community feedback:

Human readable text, like passwords, are dangerous so since passkeys are not human readable they will be more secure.

Demos exposed areas where visible text did not read out through the screen reader which supported the team’s findings that sites can have basic accessibility issues (defined in WCAG) and still provide accessible passkey experience.

Screen reader demos were well received during the breakout and helped the W3 Accessibility experts weigh in on their feedback (on Thursday)

Kevin highlighted in the UX portion that passkey sign in was 9 x faster than OTP sign in – this was a metric of high interest (in follow up conversations)

# Finding 2: We see an opportunity to raise awareness for accessibility with site owners as part of passkey implementation.

* What is the best approach to guide partners to get started on learning about accessibility?
* Support was noted for developer and implementation documentation (code snippets, implementation examples, working demos)
* Possibly including accessibility considerations in the appendix of the documentation
* Include accessibility on passkeys.dev
* W3C Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) assets will be referenced. FIDO team will work closely with W3 Accessibility experts on this.
* Site demo was a Japanese site – accessibility awareness in Japan is low. As a result of TPAC connections, discussions were initiated to leverage FIDO Japan WG to help with accessibility awareness in Japan.

# Finding 3: We see an opportunity to address current gaps in accessibility support for autofill and QR code features with potential for new innovations to accelerate accessibility.

* Autofill support – Support for screen reader users is inconsistent.

Screen readers are not always aware that autofill options are available even when the options are visibly present. After the breakout, Joyce met with Nina from Google and John Pascoe from Apple. Joyce will summarize current and ideal behavior. W3 Accessibility experts agreed to support solutioning for autofill. This will be important as autofill functionality is important for passkeys. (note) Include browser autofill which was recently highlighted in FIDO Slack channel)

QR codes –QR codes are not accessible for blind or persons with mobility limitations. What are other options:

Possibly using a cable to connect the desktop device to the mobile device – This could provide a temporary solution. Needs to be tested/confirmed as a viable workaround. Longer term, could be NFC or UWB.

Considerations for developers with disabilities?

Different visual representations would be useful for each passkey.

Reference Links:

FIDO Passkey UX Guidelines

<https://fidoalliance.org/ux-guidelines/>

FIDO Whitepaper Guidance for Making FIDO Deployments Accessible for Users with Disabilities

<https://fidoalliance.org/white-paper-guidance-for-making-fido-deployments-accessible-to-users-with-disabilities/>

Passkey Test Site: Digital Biz

<https://digitalbiz-test.com/>