Thoughts on a Universal Acceptance Award Program

Summary

The UASG will run a Universal Acceptance Award Program to encourage application owners to make their systems UA & EAI Ready.

There will be six industry based awards.

The awards will be judged based on results, the approach, the technology deployed, and the contribution of the developers back to the community.

Purpose

The purpose of the UASG Awards is to encourage application owners in six different industries to make their applications UA Ready. By running and promoting the awards, the UASG will be raising awareness of the issues around Universal Acceptance and communicating that the UASG has materials available for developers and application owners to use

Structure of the Awards

The Awards will be based on six separate industries:

1. **Travel** – including transportation, accommodation, and others.
2. **Government** – Government departments, local, regional or national.
3. **E-Commerce** – E-Commerce platforms that are used by third parties.   This could also include ecommerce platforms dedicated to a single company's use
4. **Financial Services** – Banking, Insurance, share trading or other such
5. **Media & Entertainment** – this could include movies & television, news services, or others
6. **Software Utilities** – will include software utilities that are used by other organisations, including mailing list managers, contact management software, accounting software, etc.

Criteria

The criteria will include:

- That the application does support all email addresses and all domain names. The criteria set out in UASG018 will be a minimum
- The approach taken to the solution and the code used to deploy.
- The degree that the developer has shared relevant parts of their code to the programming language community.
- The scope of the effect of the change
- The quality of the awards application
- The judges' discretion.

Management

The UASG will identify an Awards Manager who will run the awards program.   This will include:

- Working with the UASG's Communications team, promotion of the awards to relevant industries and professions. This will include pre-awards and post-awards.
- Corralling judges – selection of the judges will be the responsibility of the UASG
- Collecting the submissions

The Awards

The Awards themselves could consist of:

- A certificate
- A Trophy
- Cash
- Prize

Other things to think about

- Will we have an Awards Ceremony?   If so, will it be a stand-alone event or associated with some other event? (ICANN Meeting, CIO Conference, etc etc)
- If we have an Awards Ceremony, will we fund attendance?
- How do we address the issues around ICANN's contracting processes for award winners?
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