

WS Test Forum Charter

2009/06/10

The WS Test Forum ("Forum") is meant to provide an environment in which members of the Web Services community can develop and test interoperability scenarios ("Scenario(s)") that go beyond the specification testing done elsewhere, which is typically limited to a single Web Services specification ("Specification"). For example, this Forum might test Specifications that have not yet been through the standardization process, to ensure their composability with other Specifications. It might also test the composition of Specifications that might normally not be within scope of the activities of other organizations, for example testing a Specification developed in W3C composed with others developed in OASIS. The scope of the Scenarios is limited to any Web Service Specification that is produced, and being made available, under a Royalty Free (RF) License.

1 - Administration:

All of this Forum's activities, unless noted otherwise, will be private and restricted for both viewing and posting (of files and mail to the email list ("Mailing List")) to people participating ("Participants") in the Forum. Only documents that have been approved for publication shall be visible to non-participants.

An "Administrator" will be responsible for performing the duties necessary for the proper operation of the Forum, including maintaining the public and private web pages, Participant lists and signed "Participation Agreements". The actions of the Administrator will be restricted to those defined by this Charter. The Administrator shall have the right to take those actions reasonably necessary to protect the functioning of the Forum, such as preventing abuse of the Mailing List (e.g. spamming), dealing with other inappropriate or disruptive behavior within the Forum and editorial maintenance of the Forum's web pages. If any member of the Forum objects to any of these actions within 2 weeks then they will be rolled back and a formal vote will take place. The Administrator's term is for one year. After the one year period (or sooner if the current Administrator is unable/unwilling to continue in that role) a vote will be held to select the next Administrator from a list of volunteers – the current Administrator is not prevented from volunteering again.

2 - Participation:

Participants may take part in the WS Test Forum either as individuals or on behalf of an organization or company. Participants may be admitted to the WS Test Forum as individual ("Individual") members (not representing an organization or company) only if they are not employed by an organization or company with any business interest in Web Service specifications or technology. Organizations or companies joining the Forum, and Participants joining as Individual members, must provide the Administrator with a signed copy of the WS Test Forum Participation Agreement. For each organization or company with Participant(s) in the WS Test Forum, a primary ("Primary Contact") and alternate contact ("Alternate Contact") must be designated (or updated) by sending a note to the Forum's Mailing List. Additional Participants joining on behalf of an existing member organization or company can be added by having their Primary or Alternate Contact send a note to the Forum's Mailing List asking for them to be added to the Forum. Participants are responsible for notifying the Forum of any affiliation or employment changes that may impact their participation in the Forum.

3 - Scenario Development:

Any Participant(s) may create a new Scenario document or may join the discussion and development of a Scenario document on the Forum's Mailing List. In the event that all the Participants who are collaborating on a Scenario cannot agree on all the details of the Scenario, disagreeing Participant(s) are free to create divergent Scenarios. Scenarios should follow the template document approved by the Forum and each Scenario will have a corresponding web page ("Endpoint List") that will list hosted endpoints that implement the Scenario. Note: the list of endpoints for non-published scenarios is private and therefore restricted to just Participants of the Forum.

Prior to being published, the existence of a Scenario may be made public by publishing a "preview" of the Scenario. Previewing a Scenario is intended to allow the WSTF the freedom to discuss the existence of the Scenario with non-WSTF members. However, because the Scenario has not been through the full publication process, only the abstract, high-level aspects of the Scenario can be communicated. The process of publishing a preview of a Scenario focuses on the development of a Preview Document. The Preview Document should be an abstract of the Scenario, including the core business problems and the technologies (e.g. specifications) used to address those problems. The Preview Document should follow the Template Preview Document approved by the Forum, and must not contain any of the detailed information necessary to implement the scenario. Examples of such information include, but are not

56 limited to, XML Schemas, IDL documents (e.g. WSDL), sample messages, UML sequence diagrams, and
57 code samples. Once the Preview Document has been developed, it may be announced after approval by
58 the Forum (see Voting below). If approved, the Preview Document will be made publicly available on the
59 WSTF's website.

60 A Scenario may be published (or updated) only after approval by the Forum (see Voting below). Each
61 published Scenario will have a corresponding Endpoint List that Participants can use to list any endpoints
62 they wish to be known to the public. Note: this list will be public and therefore some Participants may
63 choose to exclude their endpoints from this list. For the sake of clarity, any collection of Participants may
64 publish Scenarios under their own names, but not under the name of the WS Test Forum, even if those
65 Scenarios are not approved by the Forum.

66 **4 - Interoperability Testing:**

67 WS Test Forum Participants are encouraged, but not obligated, to make their endpoints available for long
68 periods of time to encourage on-going testing and are expected to keep the various Endpoint Lists up to
69 date. Participants may also choose to organize face-to-face events for testing if they wish; discussion and
70 planning of such events should take place on the Mailing List.

71 Per the Participation Agreement, results of any interoperability testing are not to be published. However,
72 any Participant is free to take interoperability and composability issues found as a result of such testing to
73 the appropriate venue in which the Specification is being developed (e.g. spec authors, standards body
74 technical committee, etc.), keeping in mind that such issues must be presented and discussed without
75 disclosing WSTF-private information (e.g. the existence of a non-published Scenario) and the test results
76 of any particular Participant without that Participant's approval.

77 **5 - Voting:**

78 Each Participant company or organization is allowed a single vote which must be cast by their Primary
79 Contact or, failing that, their Alternate Contact. Each Individual Participant is allowed a single vote which
80 must be cast by that person.

81 Votes are setup by sending a proposal to the Administrator on the Mailing List. The Administrator will then
82 initiate a vote and at the end of the designated Voting Period will send a note to the Mailing List
83 summarizing the results. The Administrator must prevent ballots that could have contradictory results from
84 running concurrently. Abstentions (either explicit or implicit) do not count as votes and will not impact the
85 results. Voting approval criteria will be as follows:

Concerning:	'Yes' votes, at least:	Voting Period
Preview a Scenario	2/3 of votes cast (entire community*)	1 week
Publishing a Scenario	2/3 of votes cast (just implementers**)	1 week
Charter	75% of votes cast	2 weeks
Participation Agreement	75% of votes cast	6 weeks
Other Actions	75% of votes cast	2 weeks

86 * For a Scenario Preview Document to be announced there must be at least 3 independent
87 implementations of the Scenario. The entire WSTF community is allowed to participate in this vote. Note:
88 for endpoints to be made public, the rules for publishing a scenario must be met.

89 ** For a Scenario document to be published there must be at least 5 independent implementations of the
90 Scenario. Only one Participant company/organization or Participant Individual per implementation is
91 eligible to vote. Note: these implementations do not need to be made public.

92 Changes to the Charter, or Participation Agreement, will go into effect 30 days after approval by the
93 Forum – this allows any member organization, company or Individual who does not wish to continue to
94 participate in the Forum under the new terms 30 days to withdraw.