

W3C TPAC 2025

Exploration IG Process

Exploration IG Charter (1 of 3)

- Monitor industry and technology trends and analyze their potential impact on the Web.
- Based on these findings, develop strategic narratives to help the W3C community understand these trends, the relevance of W3C activities, or a gap analysis where there are no current W3C activities.

Exploration IG Charter (2 of 3)

- Provide a forum for members of the W3C community (including the W3C team) to share updates with the Membership as part of broader strategic discussions (e.g., [Strategy Team's Incubation Pipeline updates](#), [liaison updates](#), [Community Group updates](#)). This is intended to complement other venues for updates, including both Member-focused discussions (e.g., AC meeting or AB-led Member meeting) and broader community discussions (e.g., TPAC breakouts). The value proposition of this Interest Group is to support deeper ongoing strategic conversations.

Exploration IG Charter (3 of 3)

- Provide a forum for members of the W3C community (including the W3C team) to seek in-depth strategic input from the W3C Membership. Examples of who might seek strategic guidance from the Interest Group: Community Groups considering transitioning to a Working Group; parties who seek help resolving strategic issues related to a charter in development (as opposed to issues for which another group such as the TAG would be more appropriate).

IETF ART DISPATCH

“The DISPATCH WG is chartered to bring on new work in the ART area and provide a conduit for new drafts, ideas and potential WGs. We're like a matchmaker between keen engineers and IETF processes / groups / procedures. DISPATCH is a catalyst to make recommendations to ADs or Chairs, based on the wisdom of the group – we don't make the decisions ourselves.”

<https://wiki.ietf.org/en/group/dispatch>

IETF ART DISPATCH - What works

- Charter: <https://datatracker.ietf.org/wg/dispatch/about/>
- Well-understood in the IETF community
- Well-attended at the beginning of IETF week
- Well-documented (<https://wiki.ietf.org/en/group/dispatch>)

ART DISPATCH Disposition Options

Focus on answering the Dispatch Question. Should we:

- Direct the work to an existing WG
- Propose a new focused WG
- Recommend to hold a full BOF
- Publish as AD-sponsored (assuming AD is willing)
- Recommend additional discussion or community development (e.g., with a new non-WG mailing list)
- Find that work is not appropriate for IETF

Exploration IG

Starting to fill a similar role to IETF ART DISPATCH **but**

- The W3C is not the IETF
 - Possible solutions are not the same
- Exploration IG is not well known in the W3C
 - Disposition of items depends on the feedback of IG members
 - Generally unclear how it differs from the WICG
- Fewer possibilities for how to dispatch work

Exploration IG disposition options

- Direct the work to an existing WG
- Propose a new focused WG
- Propose a WICG project

Conclusion

Exploration IG is an experiment that few people know to try.

Let's discuss how to put this experiment to work to see if it's going to help the W3C and the web.