W3C Working Draft

Glossary of Terms for Device Independence

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Abstract

This document is a glossary of terms used in other documents produced by the Device Independenc
Details of the entire series of documents can be found on the W3C Device Independence Activity ho

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word unsubscribe if you want to unsubscribe). The archive for the list is accessible online.

Information on how to use this document and how it is maintained can be found in Using and Mainta

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Verbatim Definitions

Terms whose definitions are taken directly from other sources are marked as follows:

Definition taken from another source

Changes to the Glossary

Changes from the Version Published on 25 August 2003

- The definition of the term decomposition has been modified. The previous version of the definit reference.
- A new definition for the term aggregation has been added
- A new definition for the term aggregated authored unit has been added
- A definition for the term Physical Transducer has been added.
- A new definition for Single Authoring has been added.
- A new definition for Multiple Authoring has been added.
- A new definition for Flexible Authoring has been added.
- The definition of Delivery Context has been updated. The previous version of the definition rem reference.

Glossary

Access Mechanism
A combination of hardware (including one or more devices and network connections) and softw more user agents) that allows a user to perceive and interact with the Web using one or more r keyboard, voice etc.)

Active Perceivable Unit
A perceivable unit that is currently being rendered by the user agent and with which interaction

Adaptation
a process of selection, generation or modification that produces one or more perceivable units requested uniform resource identifier in a given delivery context.

Adaptation Preferences
A set of preferences, specified by a user, that may affect the adaptation for a given delivery co resultant user experience.

Application Personalization
A set of factors, specified by a user or other aspects of the delivery context, that may affect the application, independently of its adaptation and delivery, and so change the resultant user expe

Aggregation
The act of combining materials in various ways.
Where the materials being aggregated are authored units, the result of aggregation is an aggre

A set of authored units that have been aggregated in some way.

Authored Unit

Some set of material created as a single entity by an author. Examples include a collection of m
a media resource, such as an image or audio clip.

Browser

A user agent that allows a user to perceive and interact with information on the Web.
This definition was developed from that in Weaving the Web: Glossary.

Client

*The role adopted by an application when it is retrieving and/or rendering **resources** or resource*
This term was taken verbatim from Web Characterization Terminology & Definitions Sheet.

Content Negotiation

The mechanism for selecting the appropriate HTTP representation when servicing a request. T
of entities in any response can be negotiated (including error responses).
This term was developed from that in Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.1.

Decomposition

The act of dividing up one or more authored units, or an aggregated authored unit, during creat
units appropriate for a particular delivery context.

Delivery Context

A set of attributes that characterizes the capabilities of the access mechanism, the preferences
aspects of the context into which a web page is to be delivered.

Delivery Unit

A set of material transferred between two cooperating web programs as the response to a sing
transfer might, for example, be between an origin server and a user agent.
Users are not normally aware of individual delivery units.

Device

An apparatus through which a user can perceive and interact with the Web

Flexible Authoring

An authoring style in which an appropriate set of variants of each resource is created for use in
each delivery context.
Flexible authoring lies within a spectrum of authoring styles bounded at one end by single auth
multiple authoring.

Focus of Attention

The point in an active perceivable unit on which the user's attention is currently focused.
For example, this might be a paragraph of text or an image on which the user is concentrating.

Functional Adaptation

An adaptation that generates a functional user experience from a particular resource.

Functional User Experience

A set of one or more perceivable units that enables a user to complete the function intended by
resource via a given access mechanism.

A gateway is an intermediary which acts as a server on behalf of some other server with the pu resources or resource manifestations from that other server. Clients using a gateway know the not know that it is an intermediary.

This term was taken verbatim from Web Characterization Terminology & Definitions Sheet.

Harmonized Adaptation

A functional adaptation sufficiently harmonized with the delivery context that it generates a har

Harmonized User Experience

A functional user experience that is sufficiently harmonized with the delivery context to meet th author.

HTTP Client

A program that establishes connections for the purpose of sending HTTP requests.

This term was developed from the definition of **client** in Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.

HTTP Gateway

An HTTP server which acts as an intermediary for some other HTTP server. Unlike an HTTP p receives requests as if it were the origin server for the requested resource; the requesting HTT that it is communicating with an HTTP gateway.

This term was developed from the definition of **gateway** in Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP

HTTP Payload Entity

The information transferred as the payload of an HTTP request or HTTP response.

An HTTP payload entity consists of meta-information in the form of entity-header fields and cor entity-body.

This term was developed from the definition of **entity** in Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1.

HTTP Proxy

An intermediary program which acts as both an HTTP server and as an HTTP client for the pur on behalf of other HTTP clients.

HTTP requests are serviced internally or by passing them on, with possible translation, to other proxy must implement both the client and server requirements of this specification. A "transpar does not modify the HTTP request or the HTTP response beyond what is required for proxy au identification. A "non-transparent proxy" is a proxy that modifies the HTTP request or HTTP res some added service to the user agent, such as group annotation services, media type transfor or anonymity filtering. Except where either transparent or non-transparent behavior is explicitly requirements apply to both types of proxies.

This term was developed from the definition of **proxy** in Hypertext Transfer Protocol -- HTTP/1

HTTP Representation

An HTTP payload entity, included in an HTTP response, that is subject to content negotiation. representations associated with a particular HTTP response status.

This term was developed from the definition for **representation** in Hypertext Transfer Protocol

HTTP Request

An HTTP message sent by an HTTP client requesting that some operation be performed on so

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