

# EAI address syntax

- draft-gulbrandsen-smtputf8-syntax-00
- draft-gulbrandsen-smtputf8-nice-addresses-01

# Problems

- Reluctance to implement full localpart syntax:  
1\*UTF8-CHAR
- Divergence between IETF and W3C email address syntaxes

# Goals

- Dampen the very liberal localparts in 653x, currently one can mix LTR and RTL and show @xy
- If possible, merge email syntaxes so W3C can refer to IETF instead of having its own syntax
- Make it simple to implement

# The story so far

- I suggested a new document at IETF120
- John Klensin had reservations
- [Offstage mumbling]
- I now suggest TWO new documents

# 1: Syntax refinement

- An address syntax that's safe for MTAs
- Too flexible for cut-and-paste, but simple code in implementations
- Addresses can be safely rendered on-screen
- Covers both human addresses and others (VERP etc)
- Needs to update 653x
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# 2: Address provisioning/validation

- Somewhat stricter rules, more complicated code in implementations
- Suitable for signup forms
  - Like `<input type=email>` but with Unicode support
  - Suitable for provisioning addresses for people
- Safe cut-and-paste, every address is readable somewhere
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# 1+2: Common properties

- Simple to understand
- Unicode expertise not needed to verify safety
- Allows all addresses people use, AFAICT

# Adoption request

- Request adoption
- I would prefer merging into one document, with a section on revised syntax and one on “addresses recommended for human users” as a strict subset of the revised syntax