PNG WG Meeting Minutes

Feb 3rd, 2025

Attendees:

(Alphabetical order)
Chris Blume
Chris Lilley
Chris Needham
Chris Seeger
Cosmin Truta
Fares Alhassen

Topics & Minutes:

- A new snapshot & candidate recommendation issue will be created after the meeting
  - [GitHub issue 497 suggests we should add a security consideration for eXIf](). Approved.
  - [GitHub issue 486 should add editors for their work on eXIf](). Will add before making a snapshot.
- Generic image-like data chunks
  - Is there user demand?
    - Might be useful to send a social media message to gather user input.
    - Outreach is critical to this. We need users to want it. We'll see about W3C messaging for this.
  - Are gainmaps a good fit for PNGs?
    - Updating this would require updating the "reference image".
    - Subsampling might change the meaning of lossless a tad, but subsampling is fine by the meeting attendees.
  - Would this make PNGs less "simple" in the eyes of users? Do users even value PNG because it is "simple"?
    - We think users might think of lossless, alpha, and high color depth.
    - The minimum amount of chunks required to be understood by a decoder is small, which can be simple.
    - Decoders have always been required to support all formats, such as 24-bit even when 24-bit monitors were rare.
  - gltf addresses the container-approach to this for game developers. However, it also keeps similar images as separate files in a way that is annoying. And it allows multiple RGB images, which we probably do not want.
- Collections keyword to be added

Action Items:

- CB to open GitHub issue for snapshot & candidate recommendation consensus
- CB to implement data gathering for Chrome PNGs
    - cICP after PLTE
    - mDCv/cLLi
    - Duplicate eXIf chunks (one before IDAT, one after)
- CB to (eventually) write test website & common library patches for generic image-like data chunks.
- CT & CL to add pngcheck to pnggroup. CL to add branch/PR for his changes.
- CL to create Collections keyword pull request.