

The working group working
environment:
Why doesn't it work as intended?

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Late surprises

- Most common issue raised is not knowing what will happen when a WG sends a protocol document to the IESG
- Main fears of rejection:
 - Security
 - Stepping on another WGs toes
 - Internationalization

Lack of consensus on consensus

- When do one or two people get to derail a WG?
- Statements about a document being wrong or incomplete but without suggested changes
- “My company has already shipped this” tends to fragment a WG, not make it more cohesive

Ignoring the charter

- Charters are rarely up to date so new participants have no idea what is expected
- List of IDs cover many topics not in the charter; it's not clear when to stop adding new drafts
- Requirements documents often simply justify the work being done, and thus feel like a sham

Not easy to coordinate WGs

- Have to remember to Cc: both mailing lists for every message that pertains to both groups
- Missing communication causes missed signals and sometimes suspicion
- Even more difficult if the two WGs are in different areas
- Injection of out-of-WG clue often comes late
- Technical advisors often don't help with the big picture