

# Introducing Selenium WebDriver W3C Protocol Beta

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Sauce Labs is happy to announce beta support for the W3C capabilities and protocol on Selenium 3.8.0 and above. Some features are now being added to Selenium, which are only available when executing the W3C protocol. In upcoming Selenium releases, there may be extended capabilities with W3C that are not backward compatible with previous Selenium versions. To make these features available to you, and in preparation for the complete transition to the W3C protocol, Sauce Labs wants to offer you an early opportunity to test using the new protocol.

In addition to staying up-to-date with the latest and greatest Selenium version, you'll have an opportunity to take advantage of new features and provide Sauce better feedback during this exciting transition. More information on changes as they pertain to the W3C protocol can be found here: <https://www.w3.org/TR/webdriver/>

## How to join this beta

To get started, you'll need to make a few changes to the way you test.

First, ensure you are using a Selenium language binding version that supports W3C. Language bindings can be downloaded here: <https://www.seleniumhq.org/download/>

Change the name of the capability to `browserVersion` and set the version to "latest", or use one of these W3C compatible browser versions:

- Safari - v.11+
- Firefox - v.53+
- Chrome - v.61+
- Internet Explorer 11
- Microsoft Edge

Finally, to make the transition as seamless as possible, we're introducing `sauce:options`, a new capability in which you include all the capabilities that are specific to Sauce Labs.

For example, if you wanted to specify your Sauce username, access key, and the Selenium version in your test, you would set the `sauce:options` like this:

```
"sauce:options": {"username": "myuser", "accesskey": "XXXXXXXX", "seleniumVersion": "3.11.0"}
```

All the capabilities that are specific to Sauce Labs can be found [here](#) :

## Beta Checklist

Make sure to run through this checklist before you begin testing on the new protocol to ensure proper set up.

1. "sauce:options" must be specified for the test to use the w3c protocol. Sample java code snippet [here](#)
2. Put all [capabilities](#) that are specific to Sauce Labs underneath "sauce:options", e.g. "sauce:options": {"username": "myuser", "seleniumVersion": "3.11.0"} sauce specific capabilities
3. Change your [capabilities](#) to specify "seleniumVersion": "3.8.0". The minimum supported version is 3.8.0; we recommend the latest version 3.11.0.
4. Change the "platform" capability to "platformName"
5. Change the "version" capability to "browserVersion"
6. Additionally, for tests on Google Chrome, "chromeOptions" should be changed to "goog:chromeOptions", and "goog:chromeOptions": {"w3c": "true"} must be specified.

If you're encountering problems, we recommend watching [this video](#) we created to walk you through the changes for a sample java test.

Once the changes above have been implemented, you're ready to test! We want to hear your feedback. You can make suggestions or report problems in a Slack channel devoted to this beta testing. To join the channel, please email us at [productteam@saucelabs.com](mailto:productteam@saucelabs.com)

Thanks and happy testing!

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