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Amenability and uniqueness for groupoids associated with inverse semigroups. Preliminary report. We investigate recent uniqueness theorems for reduced C^* -algebras of Hausdorff étale groupoids in the context of inverse semigroups. In many cases the distinguished subalgebra is closely related to the algebraic structure of the inverse semigroup. In order to apply our results to full C^* -algebras we also inverstigate amenability. (Received January 28, 2016)