

Minutes of the Multipoint Technical Standards Working Group #1 Meeting held on 13th September 2002

1 Attendees / Apologies

Please see separate document for attendees: MPTSWG(02)14 (not for public domain). Apologies were received from John Wood, Mike Hailstone, Dennis Greensmith, Stephen Barton, Will Dobbie, Graham MacDonald, Len Ogier, John Levett, Richard Germon, Tim Cull, Dave Cowan, Martin Burrage, Dave Axford, Douglas Postlethwaite, Robin Whitfield, Andy Gowans, Nick Akers, Mike Crowther, John Kean, David Messingham, Bill Jones, David Heron, Dan Hiberman, Mike Willis and Ed Hotham.

2 Formation of the Multi Point – Technical Standards Working Group [MPTSWG(02)01]

At this point, the Agenda was approved. Please see separate document: MPTSWG-Agenda1-rev2. RA outlined the group's terms of reference highlighting areas that were linked but that were already progressed elsewhere. One member expressed disappointment that the group would not discuss spectrum policy but the terms of reference were accepted. There had also been calls for the group's Chair to come from industry but RA explained the rationale behind the Chair being from RA. This was decided as some areas of proposed future work (for example: inter operator co-ordination guidelines) would need the Agency's direct involvement.

3 Minutes of the 15th Meeting of the BFWAtg [BFWAtg(02)14]

The minutes were accepted as being an accurate record. RA provided additional information relating to the action points from the meeting as follows:

Action Point 2 – the action taken had been explained in a post meeting note. The “use it or lose it” clause had since been extended and a note (<http://www.radio.gov.uk/topics/bfwa/bfwa-index.htm>) added to the RA website confirming the details of the extension.

Action Point 3 – HAPS is dealt with within RA primarily by Alex Dixon (Alex.Dixon@ra.gsi.gov.uk), although other areas would have an input.

Action Point 6 – there had been no interest in developing a 40GHz P-P standard within ETSI.

Action Point 7 – Work item within CEPT SE (PT) 19 had been brought to members' attention.

4 Licence Exempt FWA (5 GHz) [MPTSWG(02)12]

The RA introduced the paper and invited attendees the inaugural WLAN Advisory Group meeting on 5 November 2002 at the DTI Victoria Street, Conference Rooms. The WLAN Advisory Group is an industry formed group (chaired by an industry representative) that would discuss developments within the WLAN arena. Interested parties should contact Laurent Bodusseau (Laurent.Bodusseau@ra.gsi.gov.uk). The aim of the ETSI Technical Reference document is to draw conclusions about the possible use of the upper 5 GHz band. A member clarified that the document acts as notification from ETSI to CEPT of the possible uses for the band based on an ETSI sponsored sharing study. The UK has agreed to the document being progressed to the -SE meeting where sharing issues can be discussed. One member asked whether there was any similar activity elsewhere in Europe, regarding the 5 GHz band. Another member explained that licence-exempt

FWA/WLAN operation had recently been permitted in the Irish Republic in the 5 GHz band (<http://www.odtr.ie/docs/pres300702.doc>)

5 Data Required for ATDI Processes [MPTSWG(02)05]

RA explained that they would be using ATDI ICS Telecom to ascertain BFWA operator boundary PFD limits and to also analyse any co-ordination difficulties that require their arbitration. The paper explained the procedure for BFWA operators to provide station data in a format that would enable the data to be imported in to ICS Telecom. This procedure is seen as an interim measure, until an acceptable XML standard is agreed between the Agency and Industry in line with the e-government data interchange format policy.

In response to a question about how disputes would be resolved, RA explained that operators were encouraged to try to resolve disputes between themselves as they arose, in accordance with the guidance in RA390, and that the referral to RA for arbitration would be the ultimate option. The procedure was set out in RA390 (see section 6).

It was confirmed that the station data structure outlined in the paper was specific to 28GHz BFWA systems and that it did not set a precedent for the possible required data in other bands.

ACTION 1/1: RA agreed to prepare an updated paper to reflect this.

6 Possible Revisions to RA390 [MPTSWG(02)02]

RA introduced the proposed revision. Members agreed to accept with the following alterations:

The second paragraph of 8.2.1 to be split, to make it easier to read. Also references in the document to "hub stations" to be replaced by "central stations".

7 UK MP-TM4 [MPTSWG(02)03 & 04]

Referring to the 29 May '02 meeting members queried the meaning of the first bullet point in item 7 which RA agreed to delete. Radiant Networks disputed the accuracy of the paragraph on 40GHz pointing out that the band had its own generic standard. They agreed to provide a submission for inclusion in the minutes.

ACTION 1/2: Radiant Networks to provide clarification.

RA confirmed that the STF208 questionnaire and BSI comments on multipoint standards are accessible on the RA website. Radiant Networks explained that a ballot on coexistence was being held on the IEEE website. Only members can vote but non-members' comments are welcomed.

RA summarised the current work within TM4 to rationalise the existing standards. Ajutel Ltd added that the current work was to bring all the relevant text into a single document.

RA introduced the BRAN#29 documents explaining that the system reference document for HIPERMAN has been revised since the July meeting.

8 Any Other Business

The dates for future TM4 meetings were highlighted. Working Party 2 interim meeting, dealing with multipoint equipment, meets from 24-26 September '02 and Working Party 1 interim meeting, dealing with point-to-point equipment, meets from 25-27 September '02.

A broadband workshop, supported by EU project EMBRACE and Telenor, for milli-metric equipment in the 42GHz band is being held in Norway on 30 September-1 October '02.

A 40GHz workshop is being held by the Czech Republic Regulator, the Czech Telecommunications Office (ČTÚ), although dates had not been fixed (now confirmed as 1st November, contact Jan Kramosil <jkramosil@cmail.cz>. RA will have a stand and will make a presentation on the current UK position on 28GHz, at the BFWA World Congress in Barcelona on 23-26 September '02.

A representative of the ATDI company explained that they were seeking guidance on modelling adaptive antennas for use with the ICS Telecom tool and welcomed input from members who have knowledge in this area.

Members were invited to forward possible agenda items to Duncan.Gallon@ra.gsi.gov.uk.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting, MP-TSWG #2, was agreed as 6 November 2002 at 10:30am, in Wyndham House (RA HQ).

Note: Email addresses and Internet hyperlinks contained within this document, that are not under the control of the RA, cannot have their authenticity or their contents confirmed as valid or appropriate for the reader.