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Dear Forum Leaders,

The Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) is pleased to invite you to review and provide feedback and comments on the attached draft Technical Report.

This document is a product of the ATIS Emergency Services Interconnection Forum (ESIF) Next Generation Emergency Service (NGES) Subcommittee. The goal of the proposed framework in the enclosed Technical Report is to facilitate the deployment of effective and reliable location service infrastructure within broadband Internet access networks as an essential element of supporting VoIP emergency calling as described in the NENA i2 and i3 Standard documents. While the motivation is related to speeding the deployment of support for emergency services, the specification contained in the Technical Report is not emergency service specific and may be applied to location determination services for all purposes including commercial location-based services.

This specification focuses on the aspect of obtaining the values of parameters, known as access networks, which are useful in determining the location of target devices attached to a network.

Standards that Drive the Business of Communications

These parameter values are given the general label of “measurements” and the specification is only concerned with the communication of these measurements from the access network elements to a general location determination function. The specification does not concern itself with how devices or other clients query a location determination function for location information or how such location information is subsequently sent to or used by applications.

The work on this specification is ongoing within ATIS. Stage 3 (protocol specification) has commenced with the intent to publish the document as an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard upon completion (see the attached slide presentation). Before significantly advancing the detail work, it is timely to inform and seek input from a range of Standards Development Organizations (SDOs). ATIS hopes that the specification will be of interest to these SDOs by providing a reusable framework for the functions described and reducing the cost of standardization by reusing the framework across multiple technologies and SDOs. The goal of the proposed framework is to reduce the work required by each organization to the extent that a simple metadata specification in the form of an XML document is all that is required to define the interface to the network determination function for each technology or technologies specified by each SDO.

ATIS ESIF would appreciate feedback on the attached specification by Thursday, August 31,2008. Further, ATIS ESIF would very much appreciate if your organization could nominate a liaison prime to participate in ongoing review and input as the Stage 3 work progresses.

Sincerely,

Dave Irwin
ATIS ESIF Chair

Attachments