



IPDR.org NEWSLETTER October 31, 2003

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WLAN Accounting and Settlement – Specification Almost Complete – Interop Upcoming

IPDR WLANAS is *the* open standard for public WLAN roaming settlement between GSM, CDMA, WISP, ISP, and Wireline users worldwide.

After three months of active participation, the team is poised to achieve its goal, set out in July, of issuing a first draft of its specification for internal release *by October 31, 2003*. WLANAS hit the ground running with a face-to-face meeting in July where it elected the leadership team, and then went on to set an aggressive work schedule to produce a stable-first draft document by late October. The primary mission of the group is to enable public WLAN Roaming by publishing specifications that define open and extensible inter-operator Accounting and Settlement. The interfaces support a rich set of WLAN service offerings. An industry-wide survey was done and the resultant specification will include work of the GSMA, WiFi Alliance, CableLabs®, and ATIS OBF.

Ubiquitous deployment of IPDR WLANAS to enable seamless single-bill roaming across the served industries may double the overall size of the public WLAN market. See www.ipdr.org/documents/wlanwp.pdf for a new white paper on the relationship between seamless roaming and overall market size.

Thanks to the many participants on the WLAN Accounting and Settlement (WLANAS) Working Group. Next step: Q1'04 Interoperability Event. Planning begins Nov 12-13.

The Working Group Leadership includes:

Co-chairs: Tim Allwine (VeriSign) and Betty Cockrell (Billing Concepts)
Technical Team Leads: Pankaj Patel (Convergys) and Lumin Yen (GRIC Communications)
Marketing Team Leads: Andrew Chase (Intrado) and Steve Reyes (VeriSign)
Technical Editors: Sameer Pareek (Intel) and Steve Cotton (IPDR.org)

For the latest updates on this working group, visit the WLANAS home page at www.ipdr.org/working-groups/wlanas.html.

Streaming IPDR Protocol – Completing Specification

Streaming IPDR gives equipment manufacturers maximum compatibility with downstream business systems. It's designed to be extensible, scalable and 100% reliable.

The Protocol Working Group has completed design of, and is rapidly implementing the formal specification for the IPDR Streaming Protocol. The protocol brings the extensibility and scalability of IPDR to high-volume and low-overhead equipment environments. Several equipment manufacturers have already expressed interest in implementing the work.

There is a comprehensive agreement on the outstanding issues between the IPDR and XACCT submissions to the IETF that have been presented in a harmonization document. The specification is due for completion around the end of the year. An updated source code library set is scheduled to be available to complement the specification in 2004.

Current products from the Protocols Working group, including the specification agreement, can be found at www.ipdr.org/working-groups/protocol.html.

New Member Companies

IPDR.org welcomed the following companies as new members. **Charter member:** SBC Laboratories, Inc. (www.tri.sbc.com) **Supporting members:** Dan Net A/S (www.dannet.com); EDB Telesciences AS (edbtelesciences.com); GRIC Communications (www.gric.com); Intel (www.intel.com); Swisscom IT Services (www.swisscom.com), . **Associate members:** Nomadix (www.nomadix.com); TOGEWANet (www.togewanet.com); and Canadian Clearinghouse (www.icanclear.com)

Marketing Working Group and Upcoming Marketing Summit

In September the Board of Directors approved a marketing campaign proposal to align IPDR marketing with the emerging multi-product and multi-industry appeal. The campaign emphasized the need for strategic marketing to showcase the IPDR advantage in key industries (i.e., service providers, equipment vendors, system integrators, and billing and mediation vendors) for the remainder of 2003 and 2004. It further identified the following specific goals that the Marketing Working Group will strive to accomplish:

- To expand IPDR's target audience to include non-technical decision makers in key companies within the industry.
- To engage, energize and involve the staff, board, working groups and members of IPDR in the Marketing Campaign and to ensure that all can clearly articulate the IPDR advantage
- To more clearly differentiate the identity and advantages of IPDR Products.
- To more clearly articulate the business advantages of IPDR Solutions for key services & industries (e.g. certain equipment manufacturers, WISPs, and PWLAN resellers)
- To encourage companies in targeted industries to deploy IPDR standards or incorporate IPDR standards into RFPs in 2004
- To ensure that IPDR is effectively communicating with each industry served
- To identify any new avenues to encourage large service providers doing internal upgrades to use IPDR products

Over the past 6 weeks, key marketing representatives from member companies helped form the initial draft of the messaging, a list of deliverables, prioritizing projects, and a timeline. The group will participate in a Marketing Summit to be held November 5-7 in Washington, DC.

If you are interested in participating in the Marketing Working Group, or attending the Summit, please contact mjenkinson@ipdr.org.

IPDR.org In the News

Recent press coverage of IPDR WLANAS sent the count of daily unique visitors to the web site skyrocketing from 100/day to 150/day! Developments offer leading member companies a unique opportunity for coverage. Expect more articles upcoming.

Over the past few months, IPDR.org has been working on increasing the visibility of the work being completed within the technical working groups. In an effort to do this, it has created several benefits and feature collateral pieces that help to identify the linkage to between the specifications and the industry segment(s) and technology it supports. Currently IPDR.org provides information in the following areas:

- Service Provider and WISP Benefits
- Case Study: Service Provider Profits from IPDR-based Value-Pricing and Usage Measurement
- Supplier/Partner Settlement
- Supplier/Partner Settlement – Wi-Fi Roaming
- Usage Data Records for Next Generation Services (Equipment vendors and Mediation vendors)
- Usage Data Management for Today's Business (Billing vendors)

The IPDR.org collateral can be easily downloaded from the IPDR.org web site (www.ipdr.org). As the Marketing Working Group is about to take on reviewing and updating the current collateral, we ask that members visit the IPDR.org website over the next few months for new releases of information. Your comments are welcomed!

NDM-U Document Restructuring: v3.5 for Modularity

Steve Cotton, Editor-in-chief, and editors of all of the working groups are hard at work revamping the NDM-U to become multiple concise, mutually consistent, and non-duplicative specifications. The proposed document map is available at http://www.ipdr.org/members/DocumentMapPrototype/IPDR%20Organization%20Document%20Map_frame.htm

Major discrete documents in the upcoming release include:

- IPDR Business Requirements
- IPDR Transport Specifications (File, Streaming, SOAP)
- IPDR Encoding Specifications (XML, XDR)
- Numerous Service Specifications, including the newest WLANAS spec.
- Service Specification Authoring Guide

Version 3.5 is expected to be released in conjunction with the WLANAS and/or Streaming IPDR specification.

2004 IPDR.org Annual Membership Renewal Invoicing

IPDR.org will be preparing invoices for the 2004 membership renewal in early November. The organization will again offer a discount off the regular Charter and Supporting membership fees for those companies who pay their invoice prior to January 31, 2004. The discount will be reflected on the invoice. If you know that your billing contact has changed, or would like to confirm your billing contact with IPDR.org prior to the invoices being sent, please contact Marianne Jenkinson via phone at 908-735-0956 or email at mjenkinson@ipdr.org .