



## **Considerations on Standardization related to the Future Internet PPP**

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In considering standardization and specification for the Future Internet PPP, two levels of activity may apply (note that a loose definition of standardization or specification is used here: a standard is basically an industry agreement usually on a technical specification. It may have a wide level of support and adoption, or a rather narrow level of support).

### **Standardization of innovative results of the FI PPP projects**

The Future Internet PPP projects, during the course of their activity, will develop technologies which are suitable for wider scale adoption and perhaps integration into the existing internet. PPP consortium partners should be encouraged to bring their standardization results to relevant standards bodies such as ETSI, 3GPP (for mobile network internet access), IETF, W3C, IEEE, OASIS etc. While generally industrial organizations will make their own individual choices on which standards body to work with, some level of co-ordination between projects in the PPP, and between their partners, would be desirable to ensure that standards submissions originating from the PPP work receive the maximum level of support in the chosen standards bodies.

### **FI PPP Specification Management**

A second level which should be considered is that of specifications used within the PPP itself. The FI-PPP will result in the development of a large –scale system, which is intended to remain open to ‘external’ application usage beyond the life of the funding of the PPP. Even within the PPP itself, different projects will have to liaise with each other to agree on the interfaces between different layers of the system, and in particular on interfaces (perhaps APIs?) provided to the application domain. And the application players must be given an opportunity to be involved in the specification of the interfaces they are expected to use, rather than being delivered a set of interfaces and functionality that they have not helped specify. Some of these interfaces, or specifications, may be relevant only within the context of the PPP, others may be reusable. Open-source software may be used to implement these interfaces in the context of the PPP, but the design of these interfaces will need to be agreed upon.

This points to the need for a well-managed specification activity which is an integral part of the PPP, which is open to ‘latecomers’ or organizations which are not consortium partners, especially in the application domain. Such an activity should be consensus driven and open to all partners in the PPP. We suggest to use ETSI’s well-developed standardization system, with which most of the industrial partners are already familiar, to provide for such a specification activity as part of the PPP. An ETSI Industry Specification Group could be created which would be open to members and non-members of ETSI alike, and can have its operating rules tailored to the needs of the PPP. Basic support is available directly from ETSI, using the facilities available via the ETSI portal. ETSI has a tried and tested IPR regime based on FRAND, which is entirely compatible with receiving submissions developed within the context of Framework Programme-funded projects. The specification activity can be managed separately from the technology development and overall project management within PPP project consortia, although the relationship could be quite close, with co-located meetings etc. The specification group could also be used as the ‘external relations’ vehicle to permit non-European entities to have a certain level of involvement and observation, while not having access to a project consortium.

If such a mechanism is used in the PPP, individual partners in the various project consortia must allocate sufficient funding to participating in the specification group meetings. Funding could also be allocated, e.g. via a support action project, to a more intensive support to the specification group, providing services such as group secretary, technical specification editing and management etc.

Such a specification development and management activity is required in the PPP, regardless of how it is structured or funded. But projects in the PPP should not distract themselves from building and organising a mini specification forum for the PPP, when such a mechanism already exists 'off the shelf' from ETSI.

### **Involvement of application area stakeholders**

A key indicator of the success of the FI-PPP will be the extent to which stakeholders from the different application areas take up the opportunities offered by the programme. As mentioned above, these stakeholders should be able to take an active part in the development of the interfaces and components which they will make use of. ETSI can be of assistance to this, in that many of the key players in the various application areas are already participating in ETSI standardization activities.

In the transport domain, ETSI's TC ITS committee involves key players such as OEMs (automobile manufacturers such as Daimler, Volkswagen and Renault), major suppliers and smaller component manufacturers.

In the field of content, ETSI has grouped together numerous players of the content and media industry in the establishment of its Media Content Distribution technical committee. Additionally, the broadcast industry is represented in the JTC Broadcast, a joint technical committee with CENELEC and the EBU.

ETSI's activities in the field of eHealth are lead by TC eHealth. But wireless medical devices standardization takes place in the ERM committee, and ETSI has an MoU with the Continua Health Alliance and is collaborating with them in the organization of interoperability events related.

ETSI's recently established Machine to Machine standards committee (TC M2M) is leading ETSI's work on Smart Metering, in co-operation with the European Smart Meter Industry Group (ESMIG) and CEN and CENELEC. Smart Meters are one component of a Smart Grid electrical distribution infrastructure. ETSI is involved in the EU Smart Grid Task Force and its 3 Expert Groups, and is collaborating with CEN and CENELEC in a joint Smart Grids joint Working Group.

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