RadioDNS Project

8th Steering Board Meeting Minutes (SB 8/1)

31st January 2013, **12:00 PT / 15:00 ET / 20:00 GMT / 21:00 CET / 07:00 AEDT**

Attendance

Michael Reichert, SWR
Mathias Coinchon, EBU
James Cridland, Media UK
John Farrell, Frontier Silicon
Kevin Gage, NAB
Andy Giefer, vTuner
Chris Gould, AIM
Nick Piggott, Global Radio
Caroline Brindle, RadioDNS
Nick Jurascheck, Pure
Kath Brown, Commercial Radio Australia
Les Sabel, Commercial Radio Australia
Skip Pizzi, NAB

Agenda

Approval of the [Minutes](#) of the 7th Steering Board Meeting, 18th September 2012 (SB7/8)
These were approved.

Actions from Previous Meetings

a. James to put the [document](#) (SB 5/3) explaining interactions between RadioDNS Core and Applications onto the website. *Nick done 27DEC on /documentation*

b. Nick to create a group to look at renaming EPG - *discarded*
c. Nick to continue to look at forming a legal body. - *in progress*
d. James to add John and George to the mailing list discussing trademarks and how RadioDNS should be explained/presented to consumers - *defer for now*
e. Nick to set up the Test and Demonstration Environment (SB 6/11) *Nick has sent tent the doc to Caroline for inclusion in SB8*
f. George to start a group to manage compliance and standardisation, and add Nick and John. - *for inclusion in item 8 later in this meeting*
g. George to investigate RadioTAG trademark. - *George has had good discussion with Clive Dickens with Absolute Radio, who own this; and this is now with BBC legal.*

Project Office Report (SB8/2) (Caroline Brindle)
This was reviewed, and was felt clear and helpful.

Membership Renewals 2013 and Requests for reduced membership fees (SB8/3) (Caroline Brindle)
CarolineB pointed out that we had two new members, and that Arqiva were also set to join us pending approval. The main thing we needed to discuss were reduced membership fees requested by three companies.
NickP discussed the reason for the membership price increase, and for these requests.
KathB asked for some guidelines, perhaps, for review in terms of these requests (perhaps leading to bands of membership), which helps justify those. This was seconded by KevinG and JohnF. GeorgeW also asked who had left, and why - and that it would be useful to know this.
NickP said that the three members who left did not purely leave because of membership fees.
JamesC said it was a good idea to have different viewpoints from a wide range of members, but also felt that it was difficult to justify different companies of similar sizes paying lower fees.
KevinG discussed the benefits of tiering; JohnF discussed the benefits of membership.
 Action: NickP to produce suggestions for membership tiers for 2014.

Individual requests for UBC and All In Media (to remain on 2012 fees - £1,359):
The request from Absolute Radio (to reduce their payment to £1000):

JamesC suggested that all three companies should pay £1,359 (i.e. last year's figure). This suggestion was agreed.
 Action: NickP to feed back to these members.

Approval of Annual Accounts for 2012 (SB8/4) and (SB8/4a) (Nick Piggott)

A few board members queried the bad debt provision for 2013. NickP explained this was a provision to catch "up to 5 members" should they choose not to renew.

MathiasC asked about the line for RadioDNS website and test tools. NickP explained that this

was an allocation for this service, but we would cover this later in the SB. MathiasC also asked whether there was any expectation that we would grow our membership. NickP said that the budget was set built on 24 members. Caroline said that we have 27 members (including Arqiva).

These papers were approved.

Proposal to [Formalise Structure](#) of RadioDNS (SB8/5) and [(SB8/5a)](#) (Nick Piggott)

GeorgeW suggested that this was effective from 1 April, the next (British) financial year, to keep things tidier for accounting purposes. NickP said that the documentation might take time to produce; but was happy to target the switchover to this date.

ChrisG asked whether these costs were included in the budget. NickP said they were.

KathB asked about whether we'd considered RadioDNS's tax status. NickP said that British tax rules are the same for all types of companies, and that RadioDNS's accountant has established the terms under which we operate, and that it appears that tax is charged from profit of trading. Our tax liabilities should be zero therefore.

JohnF asked what might happen if someone wanted to buy the organisation. NickP said that the members would have to approve that - and a purchase is impossible since it does not have any shares.

 Action: NickP to ensure this is clarified in the document.

MathiasC asked about liability. NickP said that this was a legal maximum of £1. RadioDNS does also not own any patents.

NickP explained that this would be taken to the GA in February, and the final decision point will be a special GA in or around April. NickP encouraged all Board Members to review the documentation. He proposed that this was put in front of the Members in February. This was approved.

Report on IMDA/RadioDNS liaison over [Hybrid Radio EPG](#) (SB8/6) (James Cridland)

JamesC added that this has now been announced, from RadioDNS's point of view it essentially means that the metadata from IMDA's SI has been incorporated into RadioDNS's EPG. ChrisG mentioned that this ties into the next document - and that it looks like we are establishing a separate specification. JamesC agreed that the wish was to incorporate the RadioDNS and IMDA metadata additions into the standard ETSI specification, and therefore hopefully afford a name change. We clearly need to consult with the authors of that specification.

[Standardisation](#), Compliance and Certification (SB8/7) (Nick Piggott)

MathiasC offered his help in expediting this within the EBU infrastructure.

GeorgeW said that it would be requested that other RadioDNS members (who are members of ETSI) would support it.

JamesC mentioned that it might benefit from rewording following the Hybrid Radio EPG information. NickP agreed.

LesS highlighted the potential complication of incorporating other specifications from other organisations (eg DRM Consortium, WorldDMB). NickP agreed and outlined how this might happen. LesS also enquired about other standards for EPG in North America, and how divergent they were from the "DAB" spec. SkipP and KevinG highlighted that there were benefits in keeping standardisation in mind.

JohnF pointed out the normal WorldDMB confidentiality work with steering groups.

JohnF also asked about RadioTAG and whether WorldDMB would be involved here. NickP outlined that the objective was not to produce parallel standards. We would be keen to standardise this if WorldDMB for example were not involved.

Action: NickP to ensure that the naming of the EPG is updated.

Action: NickP to consider the standard WorldDMB confidentiality clauses.

Working group report on [RadioVIS](#) (SB8/10) (Robin Cooksey)

LesS asked about the additional functionality in terms of SVG and Websockets, and whether this fits into the thought about harmonisation across radio platforms. JohnF said that the ideal was that they should be harmonised if relevant.

JamesC expressed some concern that there might be a little too many additional ideas that could potentially cause concern for manufacturers who may see this as an unfinished specification. MathiasC discussed the backward compatibility and complexity layers approach. NickP stressed the benefits of backwards compatibility.

Working group report on [RadioTAG](#) (SB8/11) (Andy Buckingham)

LesS expressed frustration at the slowness of this project and asked how he might help. NickP said that we needed more people to review the documents and participate in the discussions. KathB requested a clearer status update on these groups, particularly for new members. NickP agreed, and invited us to get in touch with AndyB.

Working group report on [RadioEPG](#) (SB (8/12) (Ben Poor)

JamesC expressed happiness that the team had discussed this with TuneIn, and encouraged those aggregators present on the call (Imagination and Frontier) to implement RadioEPG in their products to assist this further. NickJ agreed to investigate further.

LesS asked for a use-case document. NickP pointed him in the direction of BenP.

[Test and Demonstration](#) Environment (SB 8/14) (Nick Piggott)

JamesC underlined the usefulness of this document, and - as long as we fit with a budget - recommended it was approved.

MathiasC discussed whether this was only available to members. JamesC noted that a member that should allow other people (subcontractors, hackers etc.) to access the T&D environment.
 Action: NickP to consider restricting this to members.

Agenda for the [General Assembly](#) (SB8/8) (Nick Piggott)

This was approved.

[Events](#) (SB 8/9) (Caroline Brindle)

NickJ asked whether IFA had been considered. He said that IFA would be a good place for people to meet, rather than a stand. Drawing parallels with CES, NickP mentioned that it could be a good way to meet manufacturers.

MichaelR agreed that it was a useful place to meet, and offered to help with space. JohnF also offered some space and help.

NickP asked whether CES was worthwhile. JamesC said that IMDA's presence there offered benefits, but it is a large show and easy to be swamped. JohnF mentioned that Frontier has a very limited presence there.

KathB mentioned that Broadcast Asia was mainly a TV conference these days, and mentioned that events are being planned jointly with the ABU.

[MyBB European](#) (SB8/13) (Nick Piggott)

Attention was drawn to this project.

Any Other Business
   a. 9th Steering Board Meeting
         a. Details will be circulated about the next SB, which were outlined in this meeting.
   b. Membership Drive for 2013
            this discussion was postponed

The meeting finished at 23:11.