

RadioDNS Project



17th Steering Board Meeting Minutes (SB 17/9)

Tuesday 21st April 2015

14:00 BST / 15:00 CEST / 09:00 EDT / 08:00 CDT / 23:00 AET

Attendance

Nick PIGGOTT (Global Radio) (Chair)
Mathias COINCHON (EBU) (Secretary)
Floris DAELEMANS (VRT)
Laurent FINET (RTBF)
Walter HUIJTEN (NPO)
Nick JURASCHECK (Silver Lining Consultants)
Sean O'HALPIN (BBC) (joining around 13:20 UTC)
Skip PIZZI (NAB) (joined at 14:10 UTC)

Apologies

John FARRELL (Frontier Silicon)
Michael REICHERT (ARD)
Kath BROWN (Commercial Radio Australia)

Absent

Agenda

1. Approval of the [Minutes of the 16th Steering Board Meeting](#) (SB16/7)
2. [Membership Update](#) (SB17/2)
3. [Trademarks Update](#) (SB17/3)
4. [Test and Demonstration Platform Update](#) (SB17/4)
5. [Project Logo Update](#) (SB17/5)
6. Liaison with HbbTV Association (SB17/6) - [Letter](#) and [Presentation](#)
7. [Station directory](#) (SB17/7)
8. [US Territory Specific Process discussion](#) (SB17/8)
9. EU Funded Project - Horizon 2020 (no paper - FD to talk)
10. Any Other Business

Minutes

1. Minutes of last meeting approved
2. Membership Update - MC received an email from RTVE (Spain) asking how they could be member, but unclear if they really want to be members. NP reported that they did contact us, and they asked to be a supporter, and they're now listed as a supporter. They left a ticket in Desk for us to help them understand the meta-data they needed to supply the EBU. COPE (Commercial Broadcaster in Spain) is also engaged, and using the EBU platform.
3. Trademarks Update - NJ - do the US comments need to be 'expert witness statements. NP - not sure, we're asking for clarification.
4. Test and Demonstration Platform - FD, combination of Product ID and Firmware Version is the right identifier to establish compliance. NJ - what happens to in-field device upgrades, and will mfrs be prepared to re-test each firmware version? NP - would a 20 minute test pattern be sufficiently easy to encourage mfrs to test every version. The mfr ideally would register themselves, each device (with a picture, for a potential public facing database) and then each firmware version that passed would be accepted as given. NJ - sounds like it should work. NP - we should work out a testing fee, that would allow use of the platform without people going through the legal complications of becoming members. NJ - bigger companies ought to be encouraged to join, but it would be useful for smaller companies. NP - draw up some platform costing options. NJ - maybe an annual fee. SO - what is the ultimate outcome of the process. NP - it might be a variety of outcomes from public facing logo to adherence to a national specification requirement. Our intention is to ensure compliance and interoperability. SO - what do you want to do - cover costs or make money? NP - cover costs (£10K to establish). SO - should we make it free? NJ - do you mean free to non-members? SO - maybe it just cost the same as membership. FD - a device can be certified now, but what happens to new services that are launched? NP - the device is tested against specific requirements (e.g. VIS / STOMP, VIS / COMET, EPG / SI, EPG / PI) and these can be added (and re-tested for) over time. Regression of functionality might be a concern. SO - do we just show the regression in the versions of the firmware on the website? NJ - firmware update is often a non-optional destructive update, so consumers may not have the option to stay on a prior version. MC - this seems like a mfr benefit. We can't stop them claiming compliance to the ETSI specs. NP - that's true, and it's a problem for DAB, but we can stop them using our name/logo if we've not tested for compliance. NJ - could you use the platform without a UA string? NP -- possibly, you could use the platform without a UA, but it wouldn't generate a compliance certificate.
5. MC - EBU RadioDNS manager platform is ready, in the process of hiring an intern to get in touch with EBU broadcasters, create the entries, explain them how to manage them. There are lots of stations (900). Some issues with some broadcasters who don't want to activate radioDNS for FM. NP - ARD are still discussing whether they should support FM as well as DAB+. SO - BBC consider Project Logo to be a syndication activity, but there is no legal control over use because there is no controlling body. Does anyone have any examples of how they are dealing with this issue? NP - at Global we took the view that our logos are always under our control because they are copyrighted to Global Radio, so there's always sufficient legal framework to challenge misuse. There is, I believe, provision in the SI.xml file to make reference to a terms and conditions of use within the file. (Carried forward from IMDA). MC - is it a problem for stations to only support DAB+. In the US, the situation between NAB, Nextradio and its members is complex. (Skip - joined the meeting). SP - NAB wouldn't be against any competitor to Nextradio entering the market, but feel that starting with a single provider is a

- better approach with new entrants joining later.
6. Liaison from HbbTV project - they are looking for an alternate location method for HbbTV (to cover some cable TV uses where AITs are amended). (tvdns.org is registered to RadioDNS). They have some questions about our process, but wondered if we would like to liaise and extend the specification to cover the additional bearers. NJ - sounds like it would be a good thing included in the standard. SP - HbbTV 2.0 is also being considered as part of the ATSC 3.0 standard in the US. MC - tried to encourage them to stay within our standard framework. NP - think we should liaise, but take responsibility for protecting the radio functionality. MC - to meet with Jon, and MC to progress the liaison.
 7. FD - essentially everything in Project Logo is in scope for an 'open' directory of streaming services. WH - the demise of IMDA left a hole, where they had a standard for publishing the index information. Recognise that there's a risk that it becomes unwieldy. We would provide a standard but not the content management which would have at a country level. NP - where does station index vary from SI files. SO - who manages that SI file (NP - the broadcasters). But where do you get a list of all the services? WH - IMDA provided a list of all the services in a country. NP - how does it work with Radioplayer? SO - if Radioplayer was able to query by country code, it could then crawl the SI files of the broadcasters. FD - Radioplayer isn't necessarily covering all the stations (broadcast and streaming) in a country. NJ - aggregators go out and trawl for stations. SO - Radioplayer doesn't remove the need for a device to find all the services. WH - there are risks of a proprietary platform collapsing and disconnecting listeners. FD - also risks of pulling streams outside of the licensed territories. SO - we want something that allows for a device to 'scan' for services. We want to avoid proprietary platforms controlling access to streaming. NJ - a monopoly provider situation is a situation to avoid, but we do need to recognise that there are pre-existing commercial services. NP - a country filtered zone export would only return the broadcast services in that country. SO - we're only looking to solve the problem for existing broadcasters. We do want an index of indexes. WH - does that cover IP only streams produced by broadcasters. NP - yes. NJ - as an organisation we want to avoid developing a directory of streaming services, but potentially allowing an automated access. SO - hoping to just use the existing DNS to generate the service. NP - do we run the risk of having streaming providers demanding (formally or otherwise) participating in RadioDNS. SO - it's a limitation by design. NP - We would have to change our Trust Model and technology fundamentally to deal with handling streaming. Raise the caution over a policy change. Why wouldn't this be a 'UK Radioplayer' activity? SO - Proceed with a technical proof of concept, but continue to discuss the policy. NP - to talk to Andy about a test bed for exporting the DNS zone by country. WH - is this something that's aimed directly at devices or just sent to aggregators? NJ - doesn't this need to be openly available, otherwise it doesn't meet the challenge of monopoly control? (SO - left the call). NP - let's continue the discussion on email.
 8. NP asked everyone to read the paper on the US Territory Specific Process and email him with queries
 9. FD let people know that the a request for EU funding has been made by a consortium to research around hybrid radio, and one element is a distributed communication network which might be an option for the station directory discussion.
 10. Any Other Business - none

Meeting Closed at 15:10 UTC