RadioDNS Project

22nd Steering Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday 7th June 2016
13:00 BST/ 14:00 CEST/ 08:00 EDT / 22:00 AEST

Attendance

Mathias COINCHON (EBU) (Chairperson)
Floris DAELEMANS (VRT) (Secretary)
Werner BLEISTEINER (for Michael REICHERT) (ARD/BR)
Joe D'ANGELO (DTS)
John FARRELL (Frontier Silicon)
Laurent FINET (RTBF)
Walter HUIJTEN (NPO)
Sean O'HALPIN (BBC) (left at 14:40)
Skip PIZZI (NAB)
Nick PIGGOTT (RadioDNS) (Project Director)

Apologies

Kath BROWN (Commercial Radio Australia)
Nick JURASCHECK (Silver Lining Consultants)

Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 21st Steering Board Meeting
2. Updates from Board Members
3. Renewal of Project Director contract
4. Strategy 2016 discussion
5. Test and Demonstration Platform Update
6. Liaison with HbbTV
7. Project Logo Update
8. Trademarks Update
9. Project Office Update
   a. Financial Update
   b. Membership Update
   c. NAB Show
   d. German Automotive Working Group
   e. Automotive / Broadcaster Workshop

       f.   Japan
       g.   Service Providers
       h.   Project Co-ordinator recruitment
  10. Any Other Business

Minutes

1. Minutes of the 21st Steering Board Meeting

WH - Querying the frequency of the monthly update.
ALL - The minutes were accepted

2. Updates from the Board Members

SP - not a lot new to report, still tracking activation of FM in US smartphones, at about 30% of handsets. Expecting it to get better this year and some more major carriers come on with Android smartphones. No FM iPhone still, which is about 50% of the US market. Also tracking with NABA the Mexican and Canadian markets. Mexico is about 66% active mainly as there's low iPhone penetration. Canada is less than 10% activated.
WH - No new news from the Netherlands. DAB distribution is almost complete. NPO/Commercial Radio had an app built for the LG Stylus 2 to replace the poor standard stock app. Focus groups didn't like the experience of auto-switching between broadcast and IP, so it has become a manual mode. We need to look into these use cases for hybrid switching. There was no time to implement RadioDNS. If this phone is successful, will try for RadioDNS functionality to be incorporated.
FD - DAB+ is moving forward rapidly, FM lacks ECC so it can be patchy but DAB+ contains ECC. Renewal of FM licences is linked to DAB investment. Hybrid will be an important part of the future.
LF - decided in maradio.be (the Belgian radioplayer project) to support the RadioDNS feed, as provide it for all participating stations. Should be complete by September.
JF - the platform which natively suported RadioVIS was based on discontinued silicon. Current modules ship without Hybrid. Watching to see what happens with hybrid next, with real content and end user interest. Project Logo being monitored for take up, but not seeing good broadcaster support for RadioVIS or RadioTAG. Have a companion app, called Undock for their connected devices, which supports RadioVIS. Too few stations are currently producing RadioVIS.
JD - big push into NAB show of hybrid radio and RadioDNS, with two platforms developed. One is automotive, and one on smart phone. The automotive platform supports switching between HD, DAB and IP streaming. Echoing WH that platform switching has to be guided by a prompt, also informed by switching between analogue FM and HD radio. Cumbersome to align them, means better to prompt for a switch than try and switching frequently. FM Plus is an analogue FM radio app for smartphones in Central and South America, using a station logo database, and audio fingerprinting with Gracenote, and that was extended to include RadioDNS functionality (including RadioVIS service).

3. Renewal of Project Director Agreement

Current contract expires on 22nd July, but proposal is to extend it by a further 6 months.
JD, FD, WH, SP, LF, SOH, JF - agree to renew

4. Strategy 2016 Discussion

ALL - extensive discussion on the Strategy document prepared by NP.
MC - to schedule another call in two weeks time.

5. Test and Demonstration Platform

JF - how was the project commissioned?

NP - fixed price contract of £8k which was budgeted this month and will be paid this month.

6. Liaison with HbbTV
[redacted for commercial sensitivity]

7. Project Logo
JF - What's the status of streaming URL availability?
NP - People who are holding back are doing so until the client ID key is available in the next standards update, but we also want to try and add in support for phonemes in that next update.

8. Trademarks

9. Project office Report
No questions

Meeting closed: 15:01