RadioDNS 18th General Assembly Minutes
20th February 2024 - 14:00 - 16:30 UTC

The RadioDNS General Assembly is an important annual meeting of the Members of RadioDNS, an opportunity to hear about progress and plans, as well as ask questions of the Steering Board and Project Office. Member organisations can invite as many people as they would like to attend and hear about the work of RadioDNS.

Attendees

Ben Poor (EBU)
Christian Winter (CARIAD)
David Layer (NAB)
Dave Walters (BBC)
David Litt (Airable)
Gordon McArthur (Bauer Media)
Jamie Sampson (iHeart)
Laurence Harrison (Radioplayer)
Martin Buch (WDR)
Micha Ophir (TuneIn
Nacho (NXP)
Nicholas Humfrey (BBC)
Ralph Hogan (IEEE BTS)
Heiko Meertz (Airable)
Neil Bingham (Frontier)
Siebe Domeijer (Pluxbox)
Sabine Terranova (ALPS Alpine)
Walter Huijten (NPO)
Ryan Davis (iHeart)
Nick Piggott RadioDNS)
Andy Buckingham (RadioDNS)
Rosie Kendrick (RadioDNS)

Minutes

Time (UTC)	
14:00	**Welcome and Introductions**
14:10	**Members' Business** A short section of the meeting to review important organisational business, including accepting our Accounts for 2023. **APPROVED:** the minutes of the 17th General Assembly **APPROVED:** the Accounts for 2023
14:30	**RadioDNS in 2023** Introduction to the Steering Board which has changed since the last election. Nick Piggott reviewed activity in 2023, including why RadioDNS exists and some of this year's projects in more detail: - **FQDN list** - providing a method for a device that doesn't have broadcast radio to access metadata/content that uses our standards. Broadcasters don't have to participate, or can select and authorise who they make their metadata available to. Additional work was done this year, including rebuilding the internal tech stack to be more scalable, and creating a fair legal agreement which was more complicated than it was envisaged. Currently the tech is nearly ready and legal agreements are in draft. - **Education and events update**: much busier in 2023 than 2022, with Nick Piggott being asked to take part in sessions at events as well as exhibiting in many events around the world. The first in-person WorldDAB and RadioDNS Automotive Workshop since 2020 took place in Berlin in November. - **Marketing and social media** summary for 2023: we were more active on LinkedIn and have seen some growth. Some of our press releases have been picked up. **Technical group update** by Ben Poor: - **On demand Audio** - accommodating within existing standards and GI files. - **Targeted Audio into Broadcast** - RTBF Belgium are working on this and there should be an update at the next Technical Group meeting. - **Tagging and Analytics** - combined standard is ready for prototyping - **Listener Login** - ready for prototype and specifically need to understand incentives for implementing in vehicles - **Hybrid Radio Lookup** - looking at real world usage and adjustments required to the standards to reflect how RDS is used internationally. - **Standards updates made in 2023 were highlighted.**

	- Nick spoke about our contribution to **automotive user experience** guidelines and **driver distraction.** - **RadioDNS Functionality** - Andy Buckingham reminded the meeting how the RadioDNS registration system works and the system resilience and speed improvements. As registrations occur additions, removals and conflicts are looked for and then the registration contact is communicated with about it. Andy talked about the support provided for incorrect registrations and spoke about the importance of informing RadioDNS if bearers change and explained some service providers automate checks on the SI files and notifications. - **Server testing platform** - a useful tool launched in 2023, Andy said to contact the project office if interested in using this. He also highlighted the open source software resources. - **Trademarks and certification** - in 2023 we renewed our US trademark which is expensive and requires a lot of evidence of use and kind of use. - **Review of membership** - we are heavy on European and broadcaster members and would like more balance in members outside of Europe and with more manufacturer members. - **Review of DNS performance**: 100% We get 3.1m (up from 2.6m) queries per day into DNS servers which indicates an increase in use. We can't see SI file query information, only members can see that and we would like members to share those with us. - **New countries** - Portugal, Estonia and Greece have started using RadioDNS, there are still some European gaps, and others around the world which we would like to have, but we are getting more countries on board each year. **APPROVED:** the Steering Board decisions in 2023
15:10	## Member Presentation Radioplayer - Laurence Harrison gave a presentation about what they learnt from implementing Client ID.
15:20	## Short Break
15:30	## RadioDNS in 2024 Nick Piggott presented the plans for 2024: - Nick presented an assessment of where the interest in creating innovative functionality using hybrid radio is coming from, and summarised that there is an imbalance of interest which is mostly from broadcasters. In 2024 we will attempt to identify the common ground better and work on more mutually beneficial outputs. - Aim to improve our online map explaining the country coverage of RadioDNS

	- Continuing with education at events and online
	- More consistency with Automotive Workshops - 2 in person and 2 follow-up meetings online in 2024.
	- Communications for 2024 were outlined: events and developments including standards updates.
	- Demo unit has been updated and will be at Radiodays Europe, and NAB Show Las Vegas plus there will be one at the IEEE BTS stand at the same event.
	
	Technical Innovation in 2024
	- Ben Poor presented that there are working teams for:
	    - On-Demand Audio
	    - Geo/Lookup Method Review
	    - Analytics and Tagging
	    - Listener Login
	    - Targeted Audio into Broadcast
	
	He gave more information about each of these subjects and what RadioDNS is doing to enable accurate and efficient metadata and content flow for the global radio industry as well as the need for making this happen. He highlighted that this includes getting additional support within the team as well as a chair for the Technical Group. Members were also asked to invite their colleagues to the TG meetings with the aim to hear from all aspects of the industry with more diverse points of view.
	
	Nick reviewed the rest of the planned activity for 2024 including requiring a new programmer to replace Andy Buckingham:
	- **Rollout of the FQDN List project** - currently requiring more legal work before it is ready, hopefully the summer.
	- **A prototype of On-Demand Audio Recommendations** and switching between radio and broadcaster apps
	- Helping make the experience of using radio more consistent
	- **New membership and information materials** were presented.
	- **Our Communications, events and education plans for 2024** including events we have either already booked or are hoping to have a presence at.
	- **Diversity and Sustainability:** As we have started to travel once more RadioDNS will not be as sustainable as when we last reported, but Nick and Rosie discussed the endeavour to be as sustainable as possible. There was also a brief outline of steps towards creating a more diverse RadioDNS
	
	APPROVED: 2024 Plan

16:10	## 2024 Budget Nick presented the budget for 2024. **APPROVED:** 2024 Budget
16:20	## Meeting Close