

**Modular Multifunction
Information Transfer System (MMITS) Forum
December 3,4,5 1996**

The Modular Multifunction Information Transfer System Task Group held its fourth general meeting on December 3, 4, 5 1996 at the Le Baron Hotel in San Jose CA.

December 3, 1996

The meeting opened at 8:45 AM with Introductory Comments by Forum Chair Jim Hoffmeyer, Steering Committee Chair Mark Cummings, and Forum Vice-chair Stephen Blust, followed by a keynote presentation on the Flexible Integrated Radio System Technology program by Martin Swinburne, of Orange PCS. After those remarks, the Committee chairs presented status reports.

Mark Cummings addressed the proliferation of wireless communications services and the problems faced by users, carriers, corporate managers, civil governments, and the military. He then suggested the MMITS Forum could foster a new paradigm of cooperation between government and commercial organizations.

Jim Hoffmeyer talked about the diversity of perspectives that Forum participants have and the corresponding range of partnerships and liaisons that the Forum is developing. He then presented his view of the challenges to be addressed at this meeting by the committees and subcommittees.

Martin Swinburne described the European consortium of universities and industrial organizations which are developing a software controlled commercial handset using selectable preloaded software modules to adapt to different signal structures and modulation schemes. A demonstration model, based on a PCI backplane, is scheduled to be available in 1997.

Technical Committee : Mark Cummings

Mr. Cummings reviewed the structure and objectives of the Technical Committee, and then he discussed recent activities and plans for this meeting. The Technical Committee has met every other week and an architectural functional description has been developed and is being validated, a form-factor questionnaire has been created and distributed, and the applications subcommittee is coordinating their activities with the Market Committee. The committee expects to produce a manageable set of goals and an integrated workplan for the year.

Market Committee : Stephen Blust, Lowie Brannan

The Marketing Committee has distributed a survey to determine market needs; the committee will spend the rest of this meeting working on that survey.

Operations Committee : Allan Margulies

Mr. Margulies reviewed the activities of the Operations Committee in preparing for this meeting and future meetings and in preparing bylaws for the Forum. The Forum Steering Committee has selected Feldman, Waldman and Kline of San Francisco to be the Forum's legal counsel. Following discussions with Chris Martiniak of FWK, it was decided that the bylaws should not be presented to the membership until they have been further reviewed by counsel.

Nominations : Dennis Weed

Dr. Bruce Fette was nominated as Treasurer, Mark Cummings was nominated as Technical Committee Chair, Dr. David Muratake was nominated as Technical Committee Vice-chair, Bruce Kraemer and Lowie Brannan were nominated for Marketing Committee Chair.

The Plenary Session adjourned for the day at 11:10 AM.

December 4, 1996

The meeting opened at 8:40 AM

Vote on Committee Chairs/Vice-chairs and Treasurer : Dennis Weed

No further nominations were presented from the floor, so Mr. Weed asked if a voice vote would be acceptable and there were no objections. Dr. Fette was elected Treasurer, Mr. Cummings was elected Technical Committee Chair, Dr. Muratake was elected Technical Committee Vice Chair, and Mr. Kraemer and Ms Brannan were elected as Marketing Committee co-chairs; all by acclamation,.

Mr. Hoffmeyer asked for a sense of the membership with respect to voting on the proposed bylaws when they are ready. Neal King suggested that the Steering Committee complete the bylaws, post them on the web site, and allow the membership two weeks for review. Mr. Hoffmeyer asked if that would be acceptable and a show of hands indicated strong support for this approach.

The Plenary Session closed for the day at 8:50 AM

December 5, 1996

The closing plenary session opened at 1:00 PM

Forum Plans : Jim Hoffmeyer, Stephen Blust

Mr. Hoffmeyer and Mr. Blust reviewed future plans for the Forum emphasizing the tracking of contributions to the committees. Mr. King provided a draft cover sheet for contributions. Mr. Blust also presented the Steering Committee's definition of Forum membership categories and dues: Large companies will be assessed \$5,000 annually, medium sized companies \$3,000, small companies \$1,500, and government and non-profit organizations \$2,000.

Technical Committee Progress Issues and Workplan : Mark Cummings

The Technical Committee plans, according to Mr. Cummings, to produce a draft report in June with a revision due next December. Dr. Muratake will be responsible for the outline, but the committee is looking for an editor for the final document. The Architecture Subcommittee is working on the definition of functional interface requirements by usage domain; the working group on handheld units is planning a meeting in January with a document due in February, and the working group on mobile units will coordinate activities by email and publish a document in March.

Market Committee Progress Issues and Workplan : Bruce Kraemer, Lowie Brannan

Mr. Kraemer presented the overall work plan for the committee: their vision statement is completed, a press package will be done in February, a logo will be presented at the next general meeting, and a market forecast will be finished in June. The table of contents for the business case analysis has been completed and the final document describing the MMITS solution should be available in December.

Ms Brannan talked about the survey being undertaken to estimate the size of the market for military, civil government, and commercial units; the issues appear to be affordability, security, global mobility, and physical factors. Major concerns are the possibility of a mismatch between government and commercial requirements or overly broad objectives.

Mr. Hoffmeyer announced that the next general meeting will be sponsored by BellSouth Wireless in Atlanta GA on March 11-13.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM