

**Modular Multifunction
Information Transfer System (MMITS) Forum
March 11, 12, 13 1997**

The Modular Multifunction Information Transfer System Task Group conducted its fifth general meeting on March 11, 12, and 13, 1997 at the BellSouth Wireless facility in Atlanta GA.

March 11, 1997

Mr. Hoffmeyer opened the meeting at 8:30 AM with an overview of the meeting agenda. He read the anti-trust statement prepared by the Forum's legal counsel and asked if the participants had any knowledge of patents which are essential to the standards being developed; there were no affirmative responses.

Committee Reports

Mr. Blust reviewed the goals, objectives and plans of the Forum. He projected early adoption of products conforming to MMITS standards in 1998, followed by products, pieces of systems, and full systems in the 2000 to 2003 time frame.

Mr. Cummings spoke to activities of the Steering Committee, and then addressed the plans of the Technical Committee. He presented the outline of the Technical Committee report - it will be sketched out at this meeting with a draft available for the June meeting and a final document to be released in December. The subcommittees and working groups are mapping their efforts to those of the Architecture Subcommittee, and a new working group, entitled Message Extension Working Group, will be started to address translation between formats. The Technical Committee will develop a two-year workplan and a five-year vision.

Mr. Margulies presented the Operation Committee report which focused on the incorporation of the Forum as a California Mutual Benefit Corporation as of February 11, 1997. Copies of the proposed bylaws were made available to attendees, but discussion of them was deferred to March 12.

Ms Brannan talked about the need for publicity in order to inform potential members of the Forum's goals and purpose. She mentioned the opportunities to publish articles in trade journals and the possibility of attending trade shows, but she also discussed the need for information brochures and she showed a concept for a glossy presentation folder. She anticipated having a completed workplan for the Market Committee at the end of this meeting.

Concepts for Open Systems - Randy Dyer

Mr. Dyer presented information about the modular Rockwell/Collins radio which was recently demonstrated; it operates in the 30Mhz-2Ghz range and is based on existing standards. He expects that software, API, connector and form-factor specifications will be released within a year.

Roundtable - Jim Hoffmeyer

According to Mr. Hoffmeyer, the proposed Roundtable meeting between Pentagon executives and industry representatives to discuss acquisition of open-system radios has been postponed and new dates are being considered.

Programmable Modular Communications System IPT - Wayne Bonser

Mr. Bonser described the PMCS Integrated Product Team as a group of Department of Defense representatives who are interested in developing overarching commonality among 200 radio acquisition programs. Their goals and work plan parallels those of the MMITS Forum.

Elections - Stan Griswold

Mr. Griswold announced that elections will be held at the June meeting for all officers and Steering Committee members.

The Plenary Session adjourned for the day at 10:30 AM

March 12, 1997

The meeting opened at 8:30 AM

Bylaws - Allan Margulies

Mr. Margulies reviewed the bylaws as prepared by Chris Martiniak of Feldman Waldman and Kline and as approved by the Steering Committee. He also presented the alternate intellectual property wording suggested by Motorola.

Mr. Kabaservice asked for confirmation that each organizational member had one vote; Mr. Margulies confirmed that interpretation.

Dr. Fette moved, and Mr. Kabaservice seconded, that the alternate intellectual property section be incorporated into the bylaws. The measure failed on a vote of 6 in favor and 16 opposed.

Mr. Constantinou suggested that, in section 5.8.1, the phrase 3at the start of the meeting2 be removed.

Mr. Koser moved, and Mr. Hoffmeyer seconded, that the bylaws be accepted with Mr. Constantinou's modification. The measure passed without objection.

Mr. Cummings moved, and Dr. Muratake seconded, that the intellectual property wording be referred to the Steering Committee for consideration and that the Steering Committee make a recommendation regarding that section at the June meeting. The motion passed without opposition.

Mr. Frazier and Mr. Inglis suggested that fees be deferred for government organizations in accordance with the practice of some other standards groups.

Mr. Hoffmeyer described the contribution process including the numbering scheme and meeting reports. Mr. J. Hammac suggested that the website be used as the primary distribution vehicle, and Mr. Blust suggested that the contribution cover sheet should state whether the contribution should be posted on the public or private part of the website.

The Plenary Session closed for the day at 9:45 AM

March 13, 1997

The meeting opened at 11:30 AM

Technical Committee - Mark Cummings

Mr. Cummings reported that the Technical Committee has started an information flow model and has extended the API/Physical Interface definition for handheld implementations. He said that they will continue with a teleconference on March 24 and will have a draft report available on the website by May.

Market Committee - Lowie Brannan

Ms Brannan noted that the Market Committee made progress on its work plan. She also said that they felt the Forum should try to place articles in trade journal articles at least four times a year in magazines and that Forum representatives should participate in trade shows and conferences at least twice a year.

Mr. Hoffmeyer announced that the next meeting will be held in Boulder CO on June 10, 11, and 12.

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM