Modular Multifunction Information Transfer System (MMITS) Forum
May 19, 20, 21 1998

The Tenth Modular Multifunction Information Transfer System Forum General Meeting was held on May 19, 20, 21 1998 at the Airport Holiday Inn in San Francisco, CA.

May 19, 1998

Mr. Blust 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.

Dr. R. Kohno, a professor in the Electrical Engineering Department of Yokohama University, reported on the software radio workshop held at Keio University on April 1. Over 170 people attended including representatives of system operators. Dr. Kohno reviewed the agenda and discussed some of the presentations that were made, including those of researchers investigating fast reconfigurable field programmable gate arrays and three dimensional integrated circuits.

Committee Reports

Chris Mangum discussed the briefings that were presented to the press on March 18 at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art to introduce the market survey report done by the Sloan School of MIT. He also described the approval process for the market survey report: it will be discussed in the committee meeting and issues will be resolved there, then it will be presented to the closing Plenary session for a vote.

Mark Cummings talked about proposals to ETSI to create a global service and control channel, and then he presented an overview of planned Technical Committee activities at this meeting - Vincent Encontre of Verilog will present a discussion of formal description tools, Peter Cook and Nigel Drew will review the Technical Committee work resulting from the May 5-7 meeting in Slough, UK., and the committee will define its focus for the next six months.

The plenary session adjourned at 10:15 AM for committee sessions.

May 20, 1998

The meeting opened at 8:15 AM

Allan Margulies reviewed the upcoming meetings and conferences posted on the Forum website and announced the next general meeting will be held in September in Munich and will be hosted by Rohde and Swarz; the December meeting will be held in Dallas.

Larry Williams discussed the meeting at the Joint Tactical Radio System program office in Washington on April 27. L. Williams, P. Cook, D. Szelc, and A. Margulies of the Forum Steering Committee met with representatives of the program office to discuss SDR architecture standards and industry acceptance and ways in which the Forum might proceed more quickly. Dawn Szelc continued describing the JTRS activities saying that the program office might not be able to proceed with the Forum in a formal way until next year.

Mark Cummings reviewed the Technical Committee's activity yesterday and suggested that the Forum submit a formal recommendation to ETSI endorsing the creation of a global control channel that could be used for software download. Horst Mennenga invited the Forum to provide such a submission before the next planned WG8/1 meeting in August, and Nigel Drew and Jim Hoffmeyer agreed to lead that work effort.

Chris Mangum reviewed the Market Committee's activity. The Market Report, consisting of the MIT evaluation of the viability of SDR and order of magnitude estimates of commercial and military systems will be released around July 1 at a cost of $2500, although members will get one copy free.

The plenary session adjourned at 9:15 AM for committee sessions, and re-opened at 4:30 PM.

Mark Cummings said that IDL, UML, and SDL continue to be discussed as options for the formal descriptive language and that the issue should be resolved at the Technical Committee meeting in Ft Wayne on June 23.

Chris Mangum said that the Markets Committee is reviewing the MIT report, and they will ask for some editorial changes, some format changes, and some explanations.

The meeting closed for the day at 5:00 PM

May 21, 1998

The meeting opened at 8:15 AM

Mark Cummings asked that the document entitled "Message Description for APIs" be accepted for the Technical Report; the document passed on a vote of 14 members in favor, none opposed, and 2 abstentions.

The plenary adjourned at 8:30 AM for committee meetings and then reconvened at 11:45 AM.

Mark Cummings asked that the "Download API" document be accepted; the document passed on a vote of 14 members in favor, none opposed, and 2 abstentions.

Mark Cummings asked that the Technical Committee work plan be accepted; the document passed on a vote of 10 members in favor, none opposed, and 1 abstention.

Larry Williams announced that the Technical Committee will meet at the ITT offices in Ft Wayne IN on June 23, 24, 25 to continue on the work plan.

Chris Mangum said that the Markets Committee has generated a set of issues to be addressed by the authors of the market forecast report and he presented the following approval process: he will negotiate with the authors to resolve the outstanding issues, there will be an interim Markets Committee meeting to finalize the forecasts, and the documents will be distributed by email for ballot by members. Allan Margulies presented a resolution to allow Mr. Mangum to negotiate the changes with the authors and to endorse the process for document approval; the resolution was seconded by Larry Williams and passed on a vote of 12 members in favor, none opposed, and no abstentions.

Peter Cook proposed an expression of thanks to Chris Mangum for his efforts in organizing the San Francisco press conference and completion of work on the Marketing Report.

Stephen Blust announced that the Steering Committee has approved changing the name of the organization to the Software Defined Radio Forum and its short form version, SDR Forum. Mark Cummings asked for a straw

vote of the members: 11 approved and there were no negative votes or abstentions. The name change is subject to legal and trademark review. Given a positive outcome of these reviews, a transition plan will be developed for implementing the name change.

Mr. Blust announced that the next meeting will be held in Munich on September 22, 23, 24 , 1998.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 PM