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World's Leading ICT Standards Organizations Collaborate on Emerging Technologies

The 18th meeting of the Global Standards Collaboration (GSC), a senior-level gathering of the world's leading information and communication technologies (ICT) standards organizations, took place on 22 - 23 July 2014, hosted by ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) in Sophia Antipolis, France.

GSC enhances co-operation among standards organizations from different regions of the world to facilitate the exchange of information on standards development, build synergies and reduce duplication of work.

This GSC meeting focused on three topics where standards play a major role in the development of technologies that bring benefits to consumers and businesses: critical communications, machine to machine communications and software defined networking.

The GSC coverage of critical communications included subjects such as communications systems for public safety services, large-scale public warning systems, emergency calling systems and communications systems for disaster relief situations. Standards address each of these systems and there is a wealth of experience regarding their use in each region of the globe. It is essential that lessons learned be taken into account, and that teams of disaster relief specialists do not face communications difficulties from incompatible equipment. The GSC seeks to reduce these difficulties and improve critical communications services through global harmonization of standards.

The interconnection of billions of devices and their generation of ‘big data’ was also a topic of discussion at this GSC meeting. The many standardization initiatives underway and the relationships between them were explored. The success of machine to machine communications and the Internet of Things (IoT) will depend on the availability of globally accepted standards and associated economies of scale. The GSC members, together with a number of participating stakeholder organizations from the healthcare, automotive and other industries, discussed the development of M2M/IoT standardization.

The GSC meeting discussed the rapidly progressing topics of network functions virtualization (NFV) and software defined networks (SDN), which will provide greater flexibility to network operators, allowing them to provide new services faster and more efficiently. The GSC meeting provided an opportunity to better understand the many distributed and potentially complementary industry initiatives, as well as the synergies between NFV and SDN. Speakers shared details of the progress that has been made in setting the architectural frameworks, use cases and proofs of concept upon which current and future standardization activities will be based.

A delegation from the Government of India participated in this meeting and announced TSDSI (Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India) as their national telecommunications standards organization.

GSC welcomed two new members at this meeting: the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA) and the Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI). With these new members, GSC now includes the following standards organizations:

- [ARIB](#) - Association of Radio Industries and Businesses - Japan
- [ATIS](#) - Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions - U.S.
- [CCSA](#) - China Communications Standards Association
- [ETSI](#) - European Telecommunications Standards Institute
- [IEEE-SA](#) – IEEE Standards Association
- [ISACC](#) - ICT Standards Advisory Council of Canada
- [ITU](#) - International Telecommunication Union
- [TIA](#) - Telecommunications Industry Association - U.S.
- [TSDSI](#) - Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India
- [TTA](#) - Telecommunications Technology Association - Korea
- [TTC](#) - Telecommunication Technology Committee - Japan

Guest representatives from the following organizations were also present:

- [GISFI](#) - Global ICT Standardization Forum for India
- [GM](#) - General Motors
- [HGI](#) - Home Gateway Initiative
- [ISO](#) - International Organization for Standardization
- [ISO/IEC](#) Joint Technical Committee 1
- [OMA](#) - Open Mobile Alliance
- [PCHA](#) - Personal Connected Health Alliance (Continua)
- [TCCA](#) - TETRA and Critical Communications Association
- [W3C](#) - World Wide Web Consortium

For further information on this GSC meeting please consult www.etsi.org/gsc-18. Information on past GSC meetings is available from www.itu.int/ITU-T/gsc or contact [Marcella Wolfe](#), Manager of Public Relations & Marketing Communications, ATIS.

About ATIS

As a leading technology and solutions development organization, the Alliance for Telecommunications Solutions (ATIS) brings together the top global ICT companies to advance the industry's most pressing business priorities. Through ATIS committees and forums, nearly 200 companies address cloud services, device solutions, emergency services, cyber security, next generation wireless technologies, network evolution, quality of service, billing, operations, and more. These priorities follow a fast-track development lifecycle — from design and innovation through solutions that include standards, specifications, requirements, business use cases, software toolkits, and interoperability testing.

ATIS is accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). ATIS is the North American Organizational Partner for the 3rd Generation Partnership Project (3GPP), a founding Partner of the oneM2M global initiative, a member and major U.S. contributor to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Radio and Telecommunications sectors, and a member of the Inter-American Telecommunication Commission (CITEL). For more information, visit www.atis.org.



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