

SIPconnect Compliance Workshop

SIP Forum Overview

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SIP Forum Background

- ❖ Founded in 2000 in Sweden
- ❖ Leading Non-Profit IP Communications Industry Association
- ❖ Membership ranks comprised of Corporate “Full Members” that pay annual dues and support the work of the Forum, Academic Institutions and Individual “Participant” Members (@6500)

SIP FORUM Full Member Companies

(as of 8-27-09)



SIP Forum Academic/Institutional Members

Columbia University:



The Fu Foundation
School of Engineering & Applied Science



Fraunhofer
Institute for Open
Communication Systems



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY



Founding SIP Forum Mission

- ❖ “Advance the development and deployment of innovative IP communications solutions that comply with, and properly interoperate with, other products and services that use the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) protocol.”

Current Focus

- ❖ The battle for widespread adoption has been won (but there are other battles to win...)
- ❖ The new battle cry is “interoperability” -
- among end-point devices, enterprise IP-PBXs, and SIP-enabled Service Provider Networks – for all types of applications and services.

Current SIP Forum Activities

- ❖ Advances product/service interoperability
 - SIPit interoperability test events
 - Defines and create compliance tests
- ❖ Addresses key technical issues
 - Technical Working Group efforts include SIP Trunking (SIPconnect), User Agent Configuration, Fax-over-IP
 - SIP Security, Unified Communications, HD Video, Smart Grid task groups in planning stages
- ❖ Develops industry-wide technical recommendations and best-practice implementation guides (i.e., SIPconnect)

Current SIP Forum Activities, con't

- ❖ Provides Industry Licensing Programs (i.e., SIPconnect Compliant Program)
- ❖ Creates educational content
 - White papers, Informational RFCs and other documentation
- ❖ Builds awareness about SIP and IP Communications Technology
 - Educational seminars and other events
 - Articles and other editorial in industry trade magazines and journals
 - Podcasts and Webinars
- ❖ Maintains growing community of IP Communications industry professionals

- ❖ Week-long engineering test events
 - Held twice a year
 - Moves around the globe
- ❖ Averages around 100 implementations
 - 60 to 90 companies
 - 16 to 20 countries
- ❖ Issues are corrected in real-time
 - Allows immediate retesting
- ❖ Very high-yield testing
 - Participants claim 4 to 6 months of results from the week at SIPit compared to what they would achieve testing separately

Goal: Find and Fix What Doesn't Work

❖ The Standards Improve

- If two teams have to argue about the specification, the specification needs to be corrected
- Testing identifies errors and omissions in the Standards
- Reports from the SIPit allow the IETF to remain focused on real industry needs

Past Events

Bakeoff SIPit 1 (April 1999) - SIPit 24 (May 2009)

Prior Hosts



SIPconnect

- ❖ The **SIPconnect Technical Recommendation** is a consensus-driven, vendor and service provider agnostic, standards-based “Best-Practices” specification that provides detailed rules and guidelines for achieving direct IP peering and interoperability (SIP Trunking) between IP PBXs and VoIP service provider networks.



The SIPconnect Compliant Program

- ❖ The **SIPconnect Compliant Certification Program** allows eligible companies to license the use of the SIP Forum's 'SIPconnect Compliant' certification mark -- the official brand of the leading standard for SIP Trunking products and services.



Fax-over-IP Interoperability Task Group

- ❖ Demand for fax and fax services remains high. Fax Over IP (FoIP) is gaining momentum in the industry, but a number of issues remain that seriously impact interoperability and reliability.
- ❖ **Issue: G.711 Fax Reliability:**
 - The ITU-T T.38 FoIP protocol standard overcame many of the issues experienced when transmitting fax over G.711. However, many Service Providers use VoIP Gateways that do not support T.38. These Carriers pass fax traffic through their network using G.711. Fax traffic is highly sensitive to packet loss. The loss of fax packets (from latency or jitter for example) results in faxes to fail and be re-transmitted which uses more bandwidth and lowers the end user's satisfaction. Many carriers desire a FoIP solution that allows them to utilize their non-T.38 infrastructure to reliably carry fax traffic.
- ❖ **Issue: T.38 Fax Interoperability:**
 - Many enterprises use T.38 for fax transmission. However, variations in the interpretation of the T.38 specification have lead to various interoperability challenges between vendors. There is an understanding that improvements or profiles during session setup can alleviate many of these problems.

Goals of the FoIP Initiative

- ❖ Bring together researchers, engineers, and service providers to exchange ideas, share experiences, and propose approaches to address FoIP problems. Focus is on the use and applicability of SIP to address systemic or architectural problems.
- ❖ If the initiative identifies concrete proposals to improve FoIP that would require modifications to the underlying protocols, the Forum will forward these proposals to the appropriate groups in the IETF, IEEE, or ITU-T.
- ❖ Topics include:
 - Interoperability failures seen in the field or lab
 - Reliability or quality issues seen in the field or lab
 - Deployment experiences
 - Development experiences
 - Architectural principals
 - Proposals for achieving a higher degree of FoIP interoperability and/or FoIP reliability
 - Proposals for soliciting additional real-world feedback from implementers and service providers

Active FoIP Task Group Participants

- ❖ Active Participants include representatives from Alcatel-Lucent, AEMcom, AT&T, AudioCodes, Biscom, Dialogic, Digium, C4U Solutions, Cisco, Commetrex, Comunycarse, DevFoundry, Dialogic, emFAST, Faxback, Faxcore, Lexmark, LSI, NeuStar, Nortel, Omnitor, Orange, Packetizer, Sagem-Interstar, Siemens Enterprise, Sonus, Teridian
- ❖ SIP Forum Leadership
 - Eric Burger, Chairman of the Board, SIP Forum
 - Marc Robins, Managing Director and President, SIP Forum LLC
 - Richard Shockey, Chair Technical Working Group
- ❖ Task Group Leadership
 - Neil Weldon, Dialogic Corporation, Task Group Chair
 - Max Schroeder, Faxcore, Task Group Whip

User Agent Configuration Task Group

- ❖ Formed as a result of SFSIW follow-up meeting during IETF 72
- ❖ Need to address SIP UA configuration as a barrier to successful deployment of SIP
- ❖ Working method: mailing list discussion, conference calls, face-to-face meetings
- ❖ In conjunction with IETF meetings and SIPits
- ❖ Mailing list subscription:
 - <http://sipforum.org/mailman/listinfo/ua-config>
- ❖ @10 active participants
- ❖ Task Group Chair: John Elwell, Siemens

Goals of the UA-Config Effort

- ❖ Develop simple boot mechanism suitable for a variety of UA types
 - Rich UI soft clients
 - UI-less phones and adaptors
 - Phones with simple UI
 - Enterprise phones covered, but only basic configuration – full enterprise features outside scope
- ❖ Determine small set of essential parameters
 - Proprietary datasets can be downloaded to cover full enterprise features, for example
- ❖ Create profile of IETF SIP configuration framework

Join the SIP Forum! -- Get Involved!

- ❖ Visit the SIP Forum Website: www.sipforum.org
 - Register for participant membership – it's FREE!
 - Join the discussion list
 - Learn about SIP Forum events and initiatives
- ❖ Attend a SIPit interoperability event: www.sipit.net
 - **SIPit 25** will be hosted by the University of New Hampshire Interoperability Lab (UNH-IOL) September 14-18, 2009 in Durham, NH.
 - **SIPit 24** was hosted by the Japan Network Information Center (JPNIC) and the National Institute of Information and Communications Technology (NICT) in Tokyo, Japan, May 18-22, 2009.
 - **SIPit 23** was hosted by ETSI in Lannion, France, October 13-17, 2008.
- ❖ Get Serious -- Participate in a Forum Task Group!
- ❖ Join the IP Communications Industry Thought Leadership!