COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE ALLIANCE FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY SOLUTIONS, ON BEHALF OF THE ACCREDITED STANDARDS COMMITTEE T1 – TELECOMMUNICATIONS

AND

AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FORUM
COMMITTEE T1 AND AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FORUM
COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND GUIDELINES

I. PURPOSE

This Agreement and these Cooperation Guidelines (hereinafter “Agreement” and/or Guidelines”) are intended to: (i) facilitate the standards work of Committee T1 and [the Australian Communications Industry Forum] (hereinafter “ACIF”); (ii) establish the framework supporting cooperation with respect to future standards development and work; and (iii) support an environment for the exchange of information which will facilitate cooperation while preserving the integrity of the respective Committee T1-developed standards and processes and the ACIF-developed standards and processes. Specifically, they set forth those Committee T1 and ACIF principles and processes that are fundamental to Committee T1, ACIF respectively and shall apply to all efforts between Committee T1 and ACIF.

II. BACKGROUND

This Agreement and these Guidelines recognize and incorporate by reference those principles and Guidelines on cooperation developed in the Interregional Telecommunications Standards Conferences (“ITSC”) 1, 2, and 3 as well as those Global Standards Collaboration (“GSC”) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 meetings. Specifically, ITSC (1) (held in Fredericksburg, Virginia in 1990) endorsed cooperation to further the work of the ITU-T and the ITU-R; supported the exchange of information during the early phases of standards development; and encouraged the use of electronic document handling to facilitate the exchange of information. ITSC (2) (held in Nice, France in 1992) endorsed the adoption and adaptation of existing standards work where and when possible; encouraged bilateral and multilateral cooperation for global and interregional standards; recognized the hierarchy of standards (i.e. from global to regional to national standards); and supported openness, including access to meetings, documents, work programs, and schedules. ITSC(3)/GSC (1-3) recognized the importance of cooperation with Forums/Consortia as well as the importance of seeking user input, participation, and meeting user needs; reached agreement that technical cooperation will take place at the lowest organizational level consistent with the organization’s mission and scope; and agreed that intellectual property rights (“IPR”) policies should facilitate the sharing of technical information. GSC(4)/RAST(6) encouraged among other things standards development organizations to exchange intellectual property and extend rights to intellectual property as well as continued use and expansion of electronic tools for standards development.

III. GENERAL

This Agreement and these Guidelines are intended to achieve the purposes stated above, but shall not supersede, limit, or in any way modify the Committee T1 Bylaws, the procedures and processes of Committee T1 as contained in the Procedures Manual of Committee T1, or the policies of Committee T1. Nor shall it supersede, limit, or in any way modify the ACIF procedures and processes.
This is a draft document being developed by Committee T1 and thus, is dynamic in nature. It may be changed or modified. Neither ATIS nor Committee T1 make any representation or warranty, express or implied, with respect to the sufficiency, accuracy, utility of the information or opinion contained or reflected in the material. ATIS and Committee T1 further expressly advise that any use of or reliance upon the material in question is at your own risk, and neither ATIS nor Committee T1 shall be liable for any damage or injury, of whatever nature, incurred by any person arising out of any utilization of the material. It is possible that this material will at some future date be included in a Committee T1 work copyrighted by ATIS.

Use of Committee T1 copyrighted and published standards by ACIF are also encouraged. Requests for reproduction and distribution of Committee T1 copyrighted works shall be in writing and will be addressed on a case-by-case basis and directed to the attention of ATIS's General Counsel. Such requests shall be addressed in a timely manner.

2. ACIF

ACIF owns the copyrights to all ACIF-developed, approved, and published ACIF specifications, standards and codes. ACIF-copyrighted documents are protected by the Australian Copyright Laws and International Treaties. Any request to use ACIF-developed/copyrighted documents shall be referred to the ACIF Secretariat at ACIF, PO Box 444, Milsons Point, NSW 2061, Australia. ACIF specifications, standards and codes are published at the ACIF website [www.acif.org.au](http://www.acif.org.au) on the Internet.

As respects technical contributions to Committee T1 by ACIF, unless expressly stated to the contrary, ACIF encourages the reproduction, use and sharing of such information without restriction for purposes of furthering the cooperative standards development process.

Likewise, as respects draft standards developed by ACIF, unless expressly stated to the contrary, ACIF encourages the reproduction, use and sharing for the limited purpose of standards development work between ACIF and Committee T1, provided that the following disclaimer is included on all documentation that reproduces, uses or otherwise relies upon the ACIF draft specifications, standard or code:

This is a draft document being developed by ACIF and thus, is dynamic in nature. It may be changed or modified. ACIF does not make any representation or warranty, express or implied, with respect to the sufficiency, accuracy, utility of the information or opinion contained or reflected in the material. ACIF further expressly advise that any use of or reliance upon the material in question is at your own risk, and ACIF shall not be liable for any damage or injury, of whatever nature, incurred by any person arising out of any utilization of the material. It is possible that this material will at some future date be included in ACIF work copyrighted by ACIF.
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B. PATENTS

The patent policy of Committee T1 states that there is no objection in principle to drafting a proposed American National Standard in terms that include the use of a patented item, if it is considered that technical reasons justify this approach. The draft standards, technical reports, and technical information provided by Committee T1 to ACIF will include notices of potentially relevant patents only if notice of such a patent is provided to the T1 Secretariat and the patent notice gives an assurance in the form of a general disclaimer to the effect that the patentee does not hold and does not anticipate holding any invention whose use would be required for compliance with the proposed American National Standard or assurance that: (1) A license will be made available without compensation to applicants desiring to utilize the license for the purpose of implementing the standard, or (2) A license will be made available to applicants under reasonable terms and conditions that are demonstrably free of unfair discrimination. The terms and conditions of any such license will be subject to the private negotiations of the patent holder and any prospective licensee. Neither Committee T1 nor ATIS shall have any other responsibilities or obligations regarding patent notification.

The patent policy of ACIF requests the holder of industrial property rights, which are relating to the ACIF standards, to opt either (1) grant a license on his industrial property rights unconditionally to any person who will use the ACIF standards or (2) grant a license for the relevant industrial property rights on a non-exclusive basis and under reasonable terms and conditions. The draft ACIF standards, technical document, and technical information provided by ACIF to Committee T1 will include notices of potentially relevant patents only if notice of such a patent is provided to the ACIF Secretariat. ACIF shall not be liable to any person in regard to problems which may arise from the title holder’s failure to submit a patent statement.

C. TRADEMARKS

The registered trademark of an organization may be used in connection with materials generated by or within Committee T1 only upon express written agreement of the T1 Secretariat. The registered trademark of an organization may be used in connection with materials generated by or within ACIF only upon express written agreement of the ACIF Secretariat.

V. JOINT PUBLICATION RIGHTS

Committee T1 may agree to jointly publish works developed by it with ACIF, but only upon such terms as may be agreed in writing on a case-by-case basis. Absent such an agreement, or an agreement by Committee T1 through its Secretariat that the ACIF may publish the jointly developed work on its own, ACIF will not publish any such works.
ACIF may agree to jointly publish works developed by it with Committee T1, but only upon such terms as may be agreed in writing on a case-by-case basis. Absent such an agreement, or an agreement by ACIF through its Secretariat that Committee T1 may publish the jointly developed work on its own, Committee T1 will not publish any such works.

VI. FRAMEWORK FOR COMMON SPECIFICATIONS

Cooperative work on certain technical subjects may need to recognize and take into account regulatory, national, or regional differences. Where certain commonality exists in the draft standards, draft technical reports, and other technical information exchanged between Committee T1 and ACIF, the goal will be to identify such commonality in a set of specifications. Such commonality should be identified and addressed at the technical working levels of the interacting organizations and be achieved through such communications mediums as are available to the working levels such as electronic document handling and electronic mail, as well as in-person liaisons.

Upon the establishment of draft joint specifications, such specifications shall be reviewed and approved by Committee T1 and ACIF, subject to their respective internal review and approval processes. In the event that either organization does not approve a joint specification, that specification will not be considered a joint specification.

VII. DURATION OF MODEL COOPERATION GUIDELINES

These Guidelines shall govern the relationship between Committee T1 and ACIF for so long as their cooperative relationship continues unless expressly agreed to otherwise.

VIII. CONCLUSION

To memorialize our understanding that these Guidelines will govern the cooperative relationship between Committee T1 and ACIF, the parties have signed and dated this document below.
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