



September 12, 2008

**Via e-mail**

Lance Craver  
Director  
Integrated Public Alert and Warning Division  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security  
500 C Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20472

Denis Gusty  
Acting Deputy Director  
Office for Interoperability and Compatibility  
Science & Technology Directorate  
Department of Homeland Security  
245 Murray Lane  
Building 410  
Washington, DC 20528

Re: Industry Work to Develop a CMAS Alert Gateway Specification

Mr. Craver and Mr. Gusty:

As you know, the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) and the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) have been engaged in joint standards development work pertaining to the implementation of the commercial mobile alerting service (CMAS). This joint work has been aimed at resolving the technical issues from the commercial mobile service provider (CMSP) side and developing a draft *CMAS Federal Alert Gateway to CMSP Gateway Interface Specification* in September 2008. The specification will contain a list of open issues and questions for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) regarding the Federal Alert Gateway side.

In order to finalize the specification, ATIS and TIA propose the following timeline, which includes requests for meetings with FEMA in late 2008/early 2009. The timeframe below is subject to change and possible acceleration based on the availability of FEMA to meet with industry to address the open issues.

### **Proposed Timeframe**

- September 2008: ATIS/TIA will complete the first draft of the *CMAS Alert Gateway to CMSP Gateway Interface Specification* and share this document with FEMA. This is a version of the document in which the industry has resolved all technical issues from the CMSP side, and it will contain a list of open issues and questions the industry has to FEMA for the Federal Alert Gateway side.
- October, November and December 2008: Joint industry meetings with FEMA are requested to address outstanding technical issues and questions.
- January 2009: Joint meeting with FEMA and industry are requested to review the draft specification with all open issues addressed and incorporated.
- February 2009: The specification will be ready to begin the letter ballot process, the process by which ATIS and TIA committee participants and other members of the industry and the public may approve the specification.
- March/April 2009: Letter Ballot comments will be resolved. If necessary under ATIS and TIA operating procedures, additional letter ballots will be issued.
- May/June 2009: The final specification will be published.

ATIS and TIA respectfully request a reply regarding this proposed plan prior to September 30, 2008, in order to expedite the intensive work in progress on this specification. If there are any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,



Thomas Goode  
General Counsel  
**Alliance for Telecommunications Industry  
Solutions**



Danielle Coffey  
Vice President, Government Affairs  
**Telecommunications Industry Association**

cc: Don Zelmer, ATIS WTSC Chair  
Mark Younge, ATIS WTSC Vice Chair  
Cheryl Blum, TIA TR45 Chair  
Peter Musgrove, ATIS WTSC-G3GSN Chair  
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