

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL FOR TERMINAL ATTACHMENTS (ACTA)

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ABSTRACT

This liaison contribution summarizes the results of TIA TR-41 meetings held May 11-14 in San Jose, CA (hosted by Cisco) and August 4-7 in Kanata (Ottawa), ON (hosted by Industry Canada). The next meeting will be November 2-5 at TIA Headquarters in Arlington, VA.

NOTICE

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* CONTACT: Steve Whitesell, Whitesell Consulting LLC, swhitesell@ieee.org



TR-41 CORRESPONDENCE

Stephen R Whitesell
Chair, TIA TR-41
Whitesell Consulting LLC
Email: swhitesell@ieee.org

Date: October 15, 2015

To: ACTA
Subject: TR-41 Liaison Report

Since its last liaison report to ACTA, TIA's Engineering Committee TR-41, along with its various subcommittees and their working groups, have met at the following times and locations:

May 11-14, hosted by Cisco, San Jose, CA

Aug 4-7, hosted by Industry Canada, Kanata (Ottawa), ON

Our next scheduled meeting is as follows:

Nov 2-5, at TIA Headquarters, Arlington, VA

This liaison report provides a high level summary of the meetings and is intended more as a current status update rather than a report on the specific results from each of the meetings. More details may be found in the individual Meeting Reports, which may be accessed from links on the TR-41 web page: <http://www.tiaonline.org/all-standards/committees/tr-41>.

As noted in the last liaison report, Jason Nixon of Industry Canada has agreed to serve as Interim Chair of the TR-41.9 Subcommittee that deals with regulatory issues of interest to ACTA. We are scheduled to hold elections for the main TR-41 Committee and its subcommittees at the November meeting. Unless a candidate comes forward for the position of TR-41.9 Chair, Jason is expected to continue in his Interim Chair role. Also as noted in the previous liaison report, Steve Whitesell has indicated he will not run for re-election as TR-41 Chair. We will need to make arrangements for providing future liaison reports. In addition to TR-41, there will be elections for the TR-41.3 leadership positions. Since we plan to place TR-41.7, Environmental and Safety Considerations, into inactive status, it will not be holding elections. Ongoing responsibility for its standards will be transferred to TR-41.3.

On July 28, 2015, TR-41.9 received a very timely letter from ACTA asking if there were any plans to update the ACTA adopted TIA-168-B labeling requirements to include provisions for electronic labeling. In fact, TR-41.9 had just conducted a ballot on a new TIA-168-C version of the document

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to address that very subject. Jason Nixon sent a reply to Scott Lambert informing him of the ballot and the fact that it had passed but that there were some comments to resolve and a possibility that there might be some issues regarding a recently released FCC NPRN on e-labeling. Two technical changes were made to the document at the August TR-41.9 meeting to address those issues, making it necessary to conduct a default ballot. That ballot closed successfully on October 8 with only a few minor editorial comments. TIA-168-C should be published shortly and submitted to ACTA for adoption. In addition to addressing e-labeling, the document also makes an REN of 0.1 the minimum allowed to be indicated on the label of a product. This was done to avoid the implication that an infinite number of products with an REN of 0.0 can be connected to a telephone line.

The FCC has still not issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) on the petition TIA filed three years ago (October 25, 2012) requesting that our ANSI/TIA-4965 standard on Conversational Gain be adopted by reference into Part 68.317 of the Commission's Rules to replace the outdated requirements for receive volume control. So TR-41.9 will consider an alternative interim solution in terms of a proposed Amendment to our TSB-31-D Part 68 measurement guide at the November meeting. The new amendment will address the measurement of Conversational Gain and will indicate that demonstrating compliance with the requirements specified in ANSI/TIA-4965 is sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the existing 47 CFR 68.317 volume control requirements. [The reverse is not necessarily true.]

The question of the need for terminal equipment connected to the PSTN to support anything other than 20 Hz ringing was raised in our last liaison report. ACTA indicated it was not in a position to offer an opinion. However, Kerriane Conn forwarded the question to the leadership of the ATIS Copper/Optical Access, Synchronization, and Transport Committee (COAST) that is responsible for the ATIS-0600401.2006 (formerly ANSI/TI.401-2000) standard that dropped support for anything other than 20 Hz ringing 15 years ago. She then sent an email indicating their reply was that 20 Hz ringing is all that needs to be supported. When this was discussed in the May TR-41.9 meeting, Jason Nixon pointed out that 30 Hz ringing is still used in parts of Canada. However, Type A ringing covers both 20 Hz and 30 Hz, so Type B ringing with its frequencies ranging from 15.3 Hz to 68 Hz can be eliminated. Contributions proposing to delete Type B ringing for ANSI/TIA-968-B and the TSB-31-D measurement guide are anticipated for the November meeting.

Cisco provided a contribution with proposed wording for G.FAST requirements to be added to ANSI/TIA-968-B at the August meeting. There was agreement to include this material as an additional change in the amendment to be developed for deletion of Type B ringing.

The need to modify the TSB-31-D test arrangements involving the use of a ground plane has been raised by Industry Canada. The purpose of the ground plane is to provide capacitive coupling to the EUT, not to provide an inadvertent ground to a device that might have metallic feet. The solution is to place a thin layer of low-dielectric insulating material over the ground plane. We are awaiting a contribution providing details for the needed changes.

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In other news, TR-41, the ANSI/TIA-1083-B magnetic coupling and ANSI/TIA- 4953-A high gain amplified telephone documents have both passed default ballots and should be published by the end of the month. The 1083-B document adds wideband (100 Hz to 7000 Hz) magnetic coupling requirements and allows the use of real voice speech signals for testing. The 4953 document adds requirements for speakerphones, telephones with digital network interfaces, and wideband transmission performance in addition to making a number of other changes.

The ANSI/TIA-912-C voice gateway and ANSI/TIA-1063-A analog terminal adapter interface requirements documents have been published. Both documents add performance requirements for wideband transmission performance. The ANSI/TIA- 571-C environmental considerations document has successfully passed its second re-ballot and should also be published by the end of the month. Its scope is broadened to cover all types of communications equipment located on a customer's premises, with a corresponding broadening of the definition of what it means to "function normally" being more than the ability "to go on and off hook, dial, ring, and talk." Although the lightning surge specifications themselves were not changed, the revised document requires the ability to function normally after higher levels of several of the surge types.

The ANSI/TIA-920.110-B digital handset transmission performance document has also successfully passed its default ballot and will be published by the end of the month. It combines the wideband digital handset transmission performance requirements that were in TIA-920.110-A with those for narrowband digital handset transmission performance that were in ANSI/TIA-810-B. Several changes have been made in the requirements. The ANSI/TIA-920.000-B digital transmission performance overview document will also be published in conjunction with 920.110-B.

A recognition event will be held at the November meeting to acknowledge the individual contributions to the eight documents that have been complete since the last ACTA meeting along with five others that were completed in 2014 or earlier in 2015.

In addition to removing Type B ringing from ANSI/TIA-968-B and TSB-31-D, projects will also be initiated to remove performance requirements related to Type B ringing from the ANSI/TIA-470.220-D alerter acoustic output document and the ANSI/TIA-470.210-E resistance and impedance document. Work is also beginning in earnest on the ANSI/TIA-920.120-B speakerphone and ANSI/TIA-920.130-B headset documents.

Sincerely,

Stephen R Whitesell
Chair, TIA TR-41

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