LIAISON STATEMENT

To: TSB Director's IPR ad hoc Group
Approval: IMTC IPR Activity Group
For: Action
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Contact: J. Polizotto
IMTC
USA
Tel: +1.925.275.6600
Fax: +1.925.275.6691
Email: jpolizotto@inventures.com

Introduction

IMTC has already written a liaison statement (WD-10 of the Nov. 2003 IPR Ad-Hoc Meeting) on the subject in Fall of 2003.

Results of the 2003 November Meeting discussions were as follows:

“5.1 Electronic archive of ITU-T documents

WD-10 is a Liaison statement from International Multimedia Telecommunication Consortium (IMTC). It requested the Ad hoc Group to react so that ITU-T permanently archives all Contributions, Delayed Contributions, Temporary Documents and Rapporteur’s meeting documents, because these documents are particularly important in IPR disputes. IMTC also requested that ITU-T archive the lists of final participants with their signatures for each meeting (including Rapporteurs meeting), as these are also important in IPR disputes. Some participants supported the request. Some participants raised questions about the practicability of the TSB archiving of input documents to Rapporteur’s meetings. Also, it was noted that it is only the decision of the subsequent WP and/or SG meeting that gives any status to the work of the Rapporteur meeting. It was explained that, from an IPR perspective, the actual Rapporteurs’ Group documents are needed, as their timing is critical in IPR disputes, recognizing that the Rapporteur reports to WP/SG typically appear significantly later.

The TSB Director explained that Contributions, Delayed Contributions, Temporary Documents and Reports since 1998 are already available in electronic form. He announced the following:

- Going forward, final participants lists of Working Party and Study Group meetings will be posted on the relevant SG website and archived. But due to the limited source, lists will not contain participants’ signatures.

- The Director will report at the forthcoming TSAG meeting that the Ad hoc Group is of the strong opinion that documents present on the current website including iFTP area are to be available permanently. **TSAG is requested to endorse this opinion.**

- No clear decision was taken on what should happen regarding archiving Rapporteur meeting documents. It was suggested that those documents should be uploaded to the
ITU-T FTP site as well but the process by which the TSB would obtain an authoritative and complete set of documents from every Rapporteur meeting was not discussed.

About the Progress made since the November 2003 Meetings:

- Final participants lists of Working Party and Study Group meetings are being posted on the relevant SG website and archived.
- Documents present on the ITU-T website including iFTP area are being made available permanently.
- On upload of Rapporteur Meeting documents to the ITU-T FTP site progress has been made.

Requested next steps:

Based on the progress made IMTC would like to request the following next steps:

- Better structure of Archive of the old documentation would be needed. This is currently different from SG to SG and distributed SG by SG. It would be desirable that all archived documents (Contributions, Reports, Delayed, Temporary Documents) are accessible in a structured way (e.g. via a tree-like structure in an FTP Side).

A Tree could look like this:

Study Period
SG
SG/WP Meetings
  - Contributions
  - Reports
  - Delayed
  - TDs
Rapporteur Meetings
  - Input Documents
  - Output Documents

It would be preferable to access these documents via an FTP site or HTTP (without web-services).

E.g.: A problem concerning the period 2001-2004 of the ITU-T drafts is that they are available though a web-service e.g. at the following address:

http://www.itu.int/md/meetingdoc.asp?lang=e&type=mfolders&parent=T01-SG09-040510-TD

The page allows the user to click (manually) on check-boxes in order to select the desired documents and then to press a button in order to upload a zip file containing said documents, an ASP script generates the zip file on the server. These pages are implemented via HTML forms. However, many internal programs currently are not able to generate forms and to query a web-service (in this case an asp script), and would prefer a simpler access to the ITU-T Archive, such as FTP.

- Continue to upload all Rapporteur meetings document to the ITU-T Archive. Based on past experience this can be done effectively under each SG’s Management and the TSB Counselor’s supervision.

IMTC looks forward to receive the reaction of the ITU-T IPR Group on the above matters.