Working Group 2 – Next Generation Alerting
Co-Chair – Scott Tollefsen, Critical Alert Systems, LLC
Co-Chair – Damon Penn, FEMA
FCC Liaison – Gregory Cooke

Description: The Working Group shall explore all aspects of next generation alerting and develop recommendations for CSRIC's consideration regarding actions the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) should take to promote deployment of next generation alerting systems. The Working Group shall review alerting architectures, such as those used for the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS),[1] the Personal Localized Alerting Network (PLAN), and the distributed architecture presented by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) Authority to the Citizen Alert (ATOCA) Working Group.[2] The Working Group shall consider the manner in which these architectures, and any others under development, may interoperate and interconnect to assure effective delivery of alerts. In addition, the Working Group shall examine different communications distribution platforms, (*e.g.*, Internet, Satellite, Digital Television (DTV) Datacast, etc.) for alert delivery and discuss how the various architectures exploit these distribution platforms. The Working Group shall also explore what alert delivery media (*e.g.*, video, audio, text, graphics, etc.) can be used for the most effective delivery of next generation alerts and develop recommendations regarding how the receiving platforms (e.g., mobile phone and other wireless devices, broadcast, cable, satellite, laptops, tablets etc.) may best present the transmitted alerts to users.

In addition, the Working Group shall develop recommendations regarding the technical and operational criteria under which next generation alerting participants can utilize the Internet and other broadband-based architectures. The operational criteria shall include the relationships among different entities, including, local, tribal, state and federal governments in generating and distributing alerts. The technical requirements shall include consideration of the Common Alerting Protocol and any other protocols for generating, formatting, and distributing alerts, as well as any security requirements (including any trust models) to mitigate potential threats and attacks on the alerting systems.

Finally, the Working Group will explore and develop recommendations regarding the role of social media in next generation alerting systems, including how governments may integrate social media into their own alerting systems.

Duration: March 6, 2013

---

[1] http://www.fema.gov/emergency/ipaws/
[2] https://datatracker.ietf.org/meeting/79/materials.html#wg-atoca