



Network Reliability and Interoperability Council VII

NRIC Council Meeting

Focus Group 4

Final Report on Broadband

October 19, 2005

Focus Group 4 Charter

“The Council shall present recommendations to increase the deployment of high-speed residential Internet access service. The Council shall include Best Practices and service features that are, and will be, technology-neutral. The Council’s recommendations shall be prepared in such a way as: (1) to ensure service compatibility; (2) to facilitate application innovation; and (3) to improve the security, reliability and interoperability of both residential user systems and service provider systems.”



Network Reliability and Interoperability Council VII

Focus Group 4

- Albert Young, Cox
- Art Reilly, Cisco
- Brett Kilbourne, UTC
- Charlie Cerino, Comcast
- Dave McDysan, MCI
- Dave Wangrow, Motorola
- Dave Waring, Telcordia
- David Young, Verizon
- Doug Cooper, Catena/Cienna
- Jeff Hubbard, Qwest
- Jim Johnson, Bell South
- Jim Katzman, AOL
- Jim Runyon, Lucent
- John Colombo, Verizon
- John Chapa, SBC
- John Kenyon, Hughes Network Systems
- Kenny Kopta, Sprint
- Kevin Kearns, APCO
- Leo Palumbo, AT&T
- Lori Messing McGarry, CTIA
- Mark Behee, Motorola
- Mary Retka, Qwest
- Mike Petry, MCI
- Pete Youngberg, Sprint
- Randy Sharpe, Alcatel
- Tolga Ors, Intelsat
- Tom Soroka, USTA
- Victor Devito, AT&T
- Carl Postuma, Lucent
- Tim Walden, CenturyTel
- Jim Mollenkopf, Current Technologies
- Doug McMurray, IDACOMM
- Brian White, CenturyTel
- Roger DeVille, CenturyTel
- Fouad Brahim Boumakh, Digital Wireless

“This country needs a national goal for broadband technology, for the spread of broadband technology. We ought to have a universal, affordable access for broadband technology by the year 2007, and then we ought to make sure as soon as possible thereafter, (that) consumers have got plenty of choices when it comes to purchasing the broadband carrier.”

- President George W. Bush
March 26, 2004
Speech in Farmington, NM



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FCC Information on the Current State

The FCC released the following information regarding deployment of high-speed residential Internet access in the U.S.:

“High-speed connections to the Internet increased 34% during 2004 for a total of 38 million lines in service.”

– *High-Speed Services for Internet Access:
Status as of December 31, 2004*
FCC, Wireline Competition Bureau

- Drawing on the Reference Model Architectures for the first deliverable, Focus Group 4:
 - Reviewed the existing Best Practices related to broadband technology
 - Determined current Best Practices
 - Determined commonly available Service Features

Methodology

- Industry experts identified current Best Practices (based on criteria/guidelines)
 - Sub Groups reviewed technology specific Best Practices
 - Full Group reviewed all Best Practices from the sub groups and refined them for technology neutrality
- Brainstorming Sessions were used to identify Service Features (based on criteria)
 - Team members brought out information from their companies and their industry work
 - All potential service features were measured against the requirements of the charter

- In order to meet the criteria of “technology neutral” the Focus Group:
 - Raised our discussions from a detailed technical, architecturally specific level, which relied on the specific reference model architectures, and the subject matter expertise of the team members, to a more general functionally focused level

- Commonly available capabilities
 - Regardless of provider
- Increases the user's interest in adopting broadband services
- Technology neutral
 - related to the expectation of the end-user who migrates between providers without awareness of infrastructure variations
- Viewed from the end user's perspective - directly related to the user's quality of experience

Best Practices

The Focus Group reviewed all of the Best Practices that were relevant to residential broadband Internet access

- 97 Best Practices were deemed relevant but out of scope for this Focus Group
- 13 Best Practices were evaluated based on specific relevance to broadband. Focus Group 4 recommends:
 - Modifications for 2 Best Practices
 - Deletion of 3 Best Practices
 - Referred 5 Best Practices to Focus Group 2B for evaluation
 - No Change to 3 Best Practices
- The Focus Group identified 10 new industry Best Practices related to the deployment of residential Internet access service

Service Features

- The Focus Group identified 10 Service Features for broadband service providers to offer that would increase the deployment of residential broadband Internet access
- The Focus Group included 2 recommendations, 1 observation, and 3 considerations that were related to the Service Features

FCC Policy Statement

While Focus Group 4 was doing this work, the FCC released the following:

“The Federal Communications Commission today adopted a policy statement that outlines four principles to encourage broadband deployment and preserve and promote the open and interconnected nature of public Internet: (1) consumers are entitled to access the lawful Internet content of their choice; (2) consumers are entitled to run applications and services of their choice, subject to the needs of law enforcement; (3) consumers are entitled to connect their choice of legal devices that do not harm the network; and (4) consumers are entitled to competition among network providers, application and service providers, and content providers.”

- Federal Communications Commission Policy Statement
August 5, 2005

In creating its report, Focus Group 4:

- Documented the current, generally available Reference Model Architecture alternatives for provisioning high-speed residential Internet access service
- Identified 10 new Best Practices for the deployment of residential Internet access service
- Identified 10 Service Features that might increase users' interest in adopting broadband services