

Fifth General Assembly



Agenda/Minutes

EBU, Geneva - 14th February 2012 - 14:00 - 16:30 CET

1. Welcome by the Chairperson

a. Apologies received:

Nick Jursacheck (PURE/Imagination Technologies), Christian McGregor (ABC), Ben Matthew (Absolute Radio)

b. Proxies received:

Absolute Radio, UBC, All In Media, ABC, Bauer, BBC, GMG Radio, Imagination Technologies, NAB, Media UK, RTBF, SWR/ARD, vTuner

c. Attending:

All In Media (Chris Gould*), SWR/ARD (Sebastian Kett), BBC R&D (Sean O'Halpin, Chris Lowis), Clear Channel Media & Entertainment (Alan Jurison*), Commercial Radio Australia (Richard Morris), Cox Media Group (Roz Clark*), EBU (Mathias Coinchon), Frontier Silicon (John Farrell), Global Radio (Nick Piggott), GMG Radio (Phill Clark), iBiquity (Joe D'Angelo), Media UK (James Cridland), NAB (Skip Pizzi*), RTBF (Laurent Finet), SRG SSR / SSATR (Beat Jörg), IRT (Alexander Erk)

[Not present at start: Bauer Media (Martyn Humphreys*), vTuner (John Ousby*)]

** Joining by telephone conference*

d. Observing:

Giacomo Schimmings* (BBC), Ralf Hinz* (Daimler AG), Peter Jako (Duna World), Boštjan Jerko* (Japina, Boštjan Jerko s.p.), Predrag Lazic / Dragana Curcic / Zoran Gacinovic (JP ETV), Michael Pontiggia (Orange), Mathias Semrau* (PQP), Jerzy Listwan (RadioZET / EUROZET), Paolo Casagrande* (RAI), Dietmar Kopitz (RDS Forum), Raoul Daniels (Recore Systems), Guido Huebner (Sony Home Entertainment)

e. The [minutes of previous General Assembly](#) were approved.

The meeting was deemed quorate.

2. Review of Steering Board Activities

The proposal to [approve the actions of the Steering Board in 2011](#) was approved.

The proposal to [extend the Statutes of RadioDNS](#) was approved.

The proposal to [extend the terms of the Chairperson, Secretary and Steering Board Members](#) was approved.

3. Financial Report

The [Financial Report for 2011](#) and [Official Accounts](#) were approved

4. Elections

Nick Piggott was appointed Chairperson
James Cridland was appointed Secretary

In the first round, the following were elected to the Steering Board:

Mathias Coinchon, EBU
John Farrell, Frontier Silicon
Chris Gould, All In Media
Nick Jurascheck, PURE
John Ousby, vTuner
Skip Pizzi, NAB
Michael Reichert, SWR for ARD
George Wright, BBC

There was a tie for the final Board place. After a second round of voting, the following person was elected to the Steering Board:

Richard Morris, CRA

5. Reports by Working Team Leaders

a. Ben Poor, RadioDNS Core

The [proposed changes to Specification](#) were agreed, which enables discovery for IP delivery of audio.

b. Ben Poor, RadioVIS

There has been work ongoing around this; partially to support IP streaming, to tie-up with changes made. There have been some requests for clarifications, and some additional functionality - particularly using HTTP transport (so it works on a browser) - has been requested, and work is ongoing on this. There are implications depending which solution we go to. The steering board have requested the team to review these changes. Accordingly, we are not ratifying the change in specification at this meeting.

c. Andy Buckingham, RadioTAG

Andy discussed the work with Global Radio, BBC and Frontier Silicon to review

the specification and publish a new proposal. There has been substantial changes to the security model, and a prototype hardware unit has been produced. The proposal has now been circulated on the RadioTAG developer's list, and the BBC R&D blog, and interested parties are advised to read them.

d. Ben Poor (for Ben Matthew), RadioEPG

Draft was published in summer last year, and there is some interdependency with the RadioDNS core specification. Ideally, these would be ratified together. The draft has a concept of an XSI file, as an extension to the existing DAB EPG specification. It allows service-following as well as discovery, covering device and aggregator - and crucially includes programme information ("Joe Bloggs with your Favourite Songs") and service information ("Top Pop FM"). Issues were signalling service offsets to cope with broadcast delays inherent in different platforms; and a discussion around URI or URL formats. At the Steering Board yesterday, we felt that the issues of URI and Time Offset needed to be properly closed, and passed through to April.

6. RadioDNS in 2011

James Cridland presented. You can watch this portion of the presentation [on the RadioDNS website](#). Laurent Finet also mentioned the DRC in Brussels, which again was another good place to present hybrid radio. James confirmed that the Visteon office involved in our support was from Germany.

7. RadioDNS in 2012

Nick discussed the reasons why we held on to our surplus in 2011, and began outlining our plans in 2012. He highlighted the aim to keep all information around this project as open as possible, and the costs to be as low as possible for all broadcasters. Our core technology - DNS servers - are also very cheap.

Today, we notice strong support for hybrid radio. There is growing demand for information and implementations of this technology. Our existing bare-bones approach isn't keeping up with demand and interest.

The Steering Board was concerned that we weren't planning; we didn't have a clear plan on how to best use our money; and asked Nick to research and create a business plan for 2012.

We have to define our goal and role. Exact wording is under discussion, but is to promote hybrid radio. Role is **education, evangelism, and support**.

Marketing and Communication

We have plans to attend eight major events in 2012 in Europe, the US and Asia.

We plan improvements to the website, including online test tools and information.

We plan to develop “digital kit parts” to develop your own presentations from.

Technology

Continue Working Teams to create specifications; but move discussion and development to a more appropriate online platform

Organisation

We will register our trademarks, and create our free/open licensing process, similar to Mozilla Foundation.

Localisation

Support development/promotion groups in each country to make RadioDNS “their own”
Protect the key RadioDNS qualities - stable/reliable, trustworthy, technically consistent.

Operational Resource

Organisation of meetings, bills, accounts
Connecting people with problems to people with solutions
Plan to hire a part-time Project Administrator. (10 hours a week, with a “virtual” office).

Financials

We have a surplus of £23,577; and membership fees to come in this year of around £30,000. We suspect there are one-off purchases to make - trade show furniture, website/online work, localisation support, and operational work (travel and the part-time administrator above). Additionally, we need funds to sort out our trademarks. This should leave a year-end surplus by the end of 2012 of around £4,000.

In summary

- Grow faster: more stations, more devices
- Make it easier: more education, more tools, more support

We plan to circulate the full Plan in the next couple of days.

Joe D’Angelo wondered if there was a need for focus on prototyping. Nick Piggott said “up until now it’s happened by luck, and we should probably plan better”, and gave examples of RadioVIS and PURE’s faith in our system, and RadioTAG with the BBC’s help. He agreed it was a good point to look at further. Joe wondered whether there was a potential structure with some of the US members/supporters.

This outline was approved after a vote.

8. Date of Next General Assembly

- a.** Tuesday 12th February 2012, 14:00 - 16:30 CET

9. Any Other Business

Nick Piggott read a tribute to Russell Stendell from the ABC who died recently of cancer. He outlined the debt the Project owes to him, and outlined that we will contribute appropriately to his funeral which happens this Friday.

The meeting closed at 3.47pm.