IEEE P802.11 Wireless LANs

Minutes of the Ad Hoc Regulatory Group

Date: November 1999

Author: IEEE p802.11 Regulatory AD-Hoc Group

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Convened at 10:40

Lou Dellaverson - Motorola Don Johnson - WLAN Consulting Denis Kuwahara - Boeing Peter Murray - No Wires Needed Richard Paine - Boeing Reiner Mim - Proxim Harry Worstell - AT&T

The ad hoc regulatory committee met in Kauai 3, convening at 10:40 on 11/9/99. We started with a discussion on the NPRM comments from the 2.4GHz widening of the channels. Don Johnson gave us a rundown on the comments. There were 114 comments filed, with 14 containing technical information. The deadline for replying to the filed comments was 11/2 and has been extended to 11/19. We concluded to not file any comments on the replies. Our original position was plain and has not changed. Don Johnson offered to write up a response in case the plenary wanted to reply.

We next had a discussion on the RF lighting issue. There has not been any update and Jim Zyren is not at the meeting. The discussion led to the conclusion that we have not changed our position and have no desire to say more to the FCC on the subject. We actually had sent the message to all the FCC commissioners, so the political arm has been notified of our position. There was some discussion about whether lighting was an ISM application, and whether to petition to the FCC on whether lighting was an ISM application. The conclusion was to not stir the pot by sending a letter to the FCC at this time. Peter Murray, of No Wires Needed, had attended the RF Lighting meetings and gave us a summary of the technology and confirmed that further progress has not happened and to give it a rest because the RF Lighting company (Fusion Lighting) has backed off a little.

We had a long discussion on the 5.15GHz worldwide proposal. Lou Dellaverson made the announcement that the European Regulatory Commission (ERC) announced that there will be a total of 475MHz for HIPERLAN specifications; 100MHz for HIPERLAN1 and 375MHz for HIPERLAN2. The decision was made during the week of 9/13/99. There was a lot of discussion about the changes that are ongoing in Europe about the requirements associated with this allocation of frequencies. Dynamic frequency selection and power control are added requirements for HIPERLAN. End users must reduce power until the bit error rate goes up. HIPERLAN base stations give allocations for controlling the power. HIPERLAN actually drags users off the channel when a radar comes on-line. There was some discussion about IEEE not being able to meet the requirements because the peer-to-peer nature of 802.11. The prototypes, so far, have been WATM and therefore are PVCs and therefore easier to manage with regard to regulating power.

Spread spectrum rules change was again a subject of discussion for wideband expanding of the channels. Proxim, Breezecom, and Aironet had technical submissions. They represented the whole range: Proxim was for, Breezecom was for it if FH and against it if DS, and Aironet was against.

We spent most of the afternoon on the UK-RA request for information about a proposed HIPERLAN0 and preparing a response to the UK-RA request.

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There was discussion about the 5GHz worldwide. The point brought to the group by Lou Dellaverson from Motorola and co-chair of the ATM Forum was that any international standard should be able to operate anywhere. He mentioned that there are several people in the EU who are now supportive of opening up the coexistence issues in the 5GHz bands. The impacts of expanding the European position to include other international standards in addition to the HIPERLAN family are being reviewed and they may be receptive at this point to a proposal from IEEE 802.11. John DeSilva and Jose Herera from Domain 4 in the ECU are in support of such a proposal. We should propose to the ECU to create an open market place for wireless LANs. Jamshid Khun-Jush, the chair of BRAN, wrote a letter that stated the results of the meeting were inconclusive. In actuality, the presentation was a bloodbath. Jamshid was being helpful. There was a suggestion that we bring together an IEEE/BRAN study group to work out a compromise on coexistence. The suggestion from Lou Dellaverson was to use IEEE as a lead to go forward to the world to do coexistence. IEEE 802.11 could be the organization to seek out other standards groups and create agreements early to circumvent political and technical problems.

Adjourned at 5:20pm

Convened at 8:40am on 11/10/99

Worked the UK-RA document. and produced a letter 99/263.in reply to their inquiry.

Jim Carlo, Vic Hayes, and Fred Lucas gave us direction on how to approach 5GHz letter. They said that we had to submit the paper to the EXCOM with a motion to endorse a Boeing letter with a statement at the bottom that stated "Endorsed by IEEE 802.11 by a vote of XX/XX/XX."

11/11/99

Thursday Team Members: Richard Paine – Boeing Denis Kuwahara – Boeing Don Johnson – WLAN Dirk Ostermiller - Aware

The team spent the morning and the afternoon until 3:30pm working on the letter for 5GHz worldwide. It will be delivered as a letter from Boeing to US SG 8A/9B with an endorsement by IEEE 802.11 as a vote.

The votes at the final plenary were:

Endorsement of the UK-RA 25/0/1

Endorsement of the 5GHz Coexistence was 27/0/0

There was a final empower proposal to empower the members of the regulatory group, under the leadership of Denis Kuwahara to respond to regulatory events until the next plenary. 26/0/0

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