Report and Call for Comments on Registration Authority Issues

Comment Deadline: 17 September 2006 AOE

Abstract

This document provides at status report regarding discussions with the IEEE Registration Authority Committee (RAC) regarding the administration of the IEEE 802.16 Operator ID. It explains the role of the Operator ID Ad Hoc Committee to develop a tutorial for finalization at Session #45, and it calls for comments on that proposal.

Background

IEEE 802.16-06/023 reports on the status of this issue prior to Session #44. The core of the issue relates to the 24 bit Operator ID that, according to IEEE Std 802.16, is a "unique ID assigned to the operator." The requirement for such a unique ID number for each operator requires a specified Registration Authority to manage the assignment. The IEEE Registration Authority is responsible for this management.

Actions before Session #44

The IEEE-SA maintains the IEEE Registration Authority, which is supervised by the IEEE Registration Authority Committee (RAC) <http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/racpublic.html>. Tony Jeffree is the RAC Chair.

On 1 June 2006, the IEEE 802.16 WG Chair delivered to the RAC document IEEE 802.16-06/016r3 <http://ieee802.org/16/docs/06/80216-06_016r3.pdf>, which outlined the problem and possible solutions.

On 13 July 2006, the IEEE 802.16 WG Chair delivered to the RAC document IEEE 802.16-06/035 <http://ieee802.org/16/docs/06/80216-06_035.pdf> ("Proposed Tutorial on 802.16 Operator ID for IEEE Registration Authority"). Such a tutorial is a required element of a registration authority. The tutorial included options for three cases, depending on whether the number space would be shared with other users.

On 13 July 2006, the IEEE 802.16 WG Chair received a statement from the WiMAX Forum on this issue <http://ieee802.org /16/liaison/docs/L80216-06_014.pdf> and forwarded it to the RAC.

RAC Meeting of 20 July

The RAC met on 20 July. Several IEEE 802.16 members were present, including Scott Probasco, Chair of the WG ad hoc committee on this issue.

The RAC reviewed the documents. The RAC agreed to administer a new number space for the 802.16 operator ID. Regarding the draft tutorial, the RAC indicated a strong preference for Option 2A, which would assume a new number pool reserved exclusively for 802.16 Operator ID.

At the meeting, one 802.16 WG member, David Holmes, raised some additional issues regarding structuring of the 802.16 Operator ID. These issues had not been previously raised within the 802.16 WG or the ad hoc committee. The RAC did not object to such structuring, but it suggested that the 802.16 WG would need to first propose the details if it believed such structuring was required.

All parties agree that the target would be to initiate the service in time to allocate IDs by end of 2006. Angela Weaver, of the IEEE staff, said that she would specify a deadline for the 802.16 WG to provide the tutorial, including full details of the proposed registration authority procedures.

Followup to RAC Meeting of 20 July

Angela Weaver of the IEEE staff has informed the WG Chair that a final tutorial deadline of the end of September will be sufficient. She also raised the issue of naming, asking whether the best name would be "Operator ID" or "IEEE 802.16 Operator ID." She did not suggest other alternatives, such as "IEEE Operator ID" or "IEEE 802 Operator ID", but these would appear to lie between her two suggestions and so might be possible alternatives.

Ms. Weaver also reviewed the operation of registration authorities in the IEEE process, citing some URLs (see Annex 1 below). This review led to the identification of a set of documents required for the launch of the service, as noted below.

Ms. Weaver suggested that the launch of the registry be timed to follow the approval of IEEE 802.16g, which will (according to WG's agreed letter to the RAC) include the appropriate language pointing to the IEEE Registration Authority. However, this timing may be difficult to arrange, for it is not certain that 802.16g can be approved the end of the year (though that is certainly possible).

Status and Plans

The 802.16 Operator ID Ad Hoc Committee, which continues to be chaired by Scott Probasco, will proceed with the refinement of the tutorial. The WG expects to finalize the tutorial at Session #45.

Comments and Contributions Solicited

The IEEE 802.16 WG solicits specific comments regarding Option 2A of IEEE 802.16-06/035. Submit comments using *Commentary* <http://ieee802.org/16/docs/Commentary>. Comments must be exported using the "(2) Save Data to File" button of the "Create and Submit Ballot" layout. Comments must be submitted as files named according to the format RAC_NameFamily_NameGiven.USR, where "NameFamily" and "NameGiven" are the family and given names of the submitter. Accompanying document contributions may be submitted if necessary.

In addition, contributions are solicited for the following content:

(1) The application form, to be hosted on the Registration Authority web site, that will be completed by all applicants. See, for example, <https://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/forms/OUI-form.shtml>.

(2) A Frequently Asked Questions/Answers for inclusion on the relevant IEEE Registration Authority web page: <http://standards.ieee.org/faqs/OUI.html>.

Contribution document numbers should follow the form "C802.16-06/XXX", with corresponding file name "C80216-06_XXX.ext", where "XXX" is the appropriate three-digit serial number. Submit comments and contributions by the **deadline of 17 September 2006** AOE <http://WirelessMAN.org/aoe.html> following the instructions at <http://ieee802.org/16/submit.html>. Upload contributions to the "WG" upload directory <http://wg.WirelessMAN.org>. Check the upload directory to see what number is available at time of upload. You can also reserve a serial number there.

Contributions will be considered non-confidential and will be posted for public access on the IEEE 802.16 Web Site <http://ieee802.org/16>.

For further information, contact one of the following:

- IEEE 802.16 Working Group Chair: Roger Marks <r.b.marks@ieee.org>
- IEEE 802.16 Operator ID Ad Hoc Chair: Scott Probasco <scott.probasco@nokia.com>

Annex 1

Links to examples of IEEE Registration Authority tutorials, applications forms, public lists and FAQs
Provided by Angela Weaver

Public Listings

      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/index.shtml
            (download complete list or search for company name or assignment)
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/ethertype/index.shtml
            (download complete list or search for company name or assignment)
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/1451/manufacturerID/Public_Listing.html
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/llc/llcassignments.pdf

Web-Based Applications

      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/forms   then
      https://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/forms/OUI-form.shtml

      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/ethertype/forms/index.html   then
      https://standards.ieee.org/regauth/ethertype/ETH-form.shtml

Tutorials

      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/oui/tutorials
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/ethertype/type-tut.html
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/llc/llctutorial.html
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/groupmac/tutorial.html
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/1451/Tutorials.html

FAQs

      http://standards.ieee.org/faqs/OUI.html
      http://standards.ieee.org/regauth/1451/FAQs.html