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SERIES Y: GLOBAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE
General

General overview of the Global Information Infrastructure standards development

ITU-T Recommendation Y.100

(Previously CCITT Recommendation)

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GLOBAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

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ITU-T RECOMMENDATION Y.100

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

Summary

This Recommendation provides an overview of the nature of the Global Information Infrastructure (GII). It outlines the environment and the related factors which need to be taken into account in progressing the GII standardization work.

Source

ITU-T Recommendation Y.100 was prepared by ITU-T Study Group 13 (1997-2000) and was approved under the WTSC Resolution No. 1 procedure on the 1st of June 1998.

Keywords

Global Information Infrastructure, GII, standards, standardization, overview.

FOREWORD

ITU (International Telecommunication Union) is the United Nations Specialized Agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of the ITU. The ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Conference (WTSC), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T Study Groups which, in their turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of Recommendations by the Members of the ITU-T is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSC Resolution No. 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

NOTE

In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

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As of the date of approval of this Recommendation, the ITU had not received notice of intellectual property, protected by patents, which may be required to implement this Recommendation. However, implementors are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information and are therefore strongly urged to consult the TSB patent database.

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Recommendation Y.100**GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE GLOBAL INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE
STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT***(Geneva, 1998)***1 Introduction**

This Recommendation provides an overview of the Global Information Infrastructure standards developments. It is intended to be a practical, educational and insightful guide for leaders and participants in GII-related standardization.

1.1 Purpose

This Recommendation is intended to be used as a planning tool by everyone considering the development or adoption of standards for use in the GII. Its use is not restricted solely to the ITU organizations.

1.2 Global collaboration

The word "global" is of critical importance. It is not desirable, or logical, to speak of more than one global infrastructure since, by definition, everything lies within a singular global infrastructure.

It follows that the respective roles of the various participants in the GII have to be described in common documents that all participating parties understand. Collaboration between the various participants can best be achieved on the basis of consistent programme documents, common positioning documents, and agreed or non-conflicting basic GII terms and definitions.

1.3 The goals of the Global Information Infrastructure (GII)

The ITU-T is seeking to ensure that the GII will be an infrastructure which facilitates the development, implementation and interoperability of existing and future information services and applications within and across the telecommunications, information technology, consumer electronics and content provision industries. This infrastructure will consist of interactive, broadcast and other multimedia delivery mechanisms coupled with capabilities for individuals to securely share, use and manage information, anytime and anywhere, with security and privacy protection, and with levels of acceptable cost and quality.

The GII will provide for interoperability between a multiplicity of applications and different platforms through a seamless federation of interconnected computers and communications capabilities incorporating line-fed (e.g. copper pair, fibre, coax) and wireless (e.g. satellite and fixed/mobile terrestrial radio) connectionless or connection-oriented technologies. The areas of application must remain unrestricted and are practically unlimited. Current areas of application are expected to include electronic commerce, telemedicine, city information services, intelligent transportation systems, distance learning, electronic libraries and museums, nomadicity (continuity of access in space and time) etc.

The GII must be designed to:

- enable information providers and users (e.g. individuals, information users, information providers, and information service providers) to communicate securely with each other any time and anywhere at acceptable cost and with acceptable quality;
- provide a set of communication services;
- support a multitude of open applications;