



Expression of Intent EOI/08/001

AS/ACIF S004:2008 Voice frequency performance requirements for Customer Equipment

The *Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel* (CECRP) established a *Panel Advisory Group* (PAG) in 2004. The purpose of the PAG is to provide the opinion of experienced members of the Communications Alliance technical bodies to queries of the intent of specific requirements in published Standards and Guidelines for which the CECRP is responsible.

The following notes are to be read in conjunction with the attached *Expression of Intent* (Eoi):

1. The PAG consists of active members of the CECRP, but its opinions are those of the PAG and are not voted decisions of any Communications Alliance Working Committees.
2. When it is felt that a query arose due to a possible lack of clarity in a Standard or Guideline, the matter is brought to the attention of the CECRP to be considered for future work. However, this will not necessarily lead to any future amendment of the Standard or Guideline.
3. The PAG is restricted to expressing the intent of the words of the publication in question, as the members of the PAG either recollect the original intentions of the Working Committee that developed the Standard or Guideline, or is based on the opinions of nominated advisors within the telecommunications industry. The Eoi is not an interpretation of the requirements of the publication.
4. The Eoi has no regulatory or legal status and represents only the PAG's view of the intent or likely intent underlying the relevant publication. Eois are issued to explain and clarify the intent or likely intent of the Standard or Guideline and do not constitute an alteration to the original Standard or Guideline or provide new requirements. The PAG cannot make new rules to fit situations not yet covered in the Standard or Guideline. Changes to the Standard or Guideline are made only through revisions or amendments to that publication.
5. The PAG does not provide a consultancy service where organisations are in disagreement on whether a specific design or configuration meets the requirements of a particular Standard.
6. The Eoi does not constitute legal advice. Any reliance upon or use made of the published *Expressions of Intent* (Eoi) by the query submitter, or any other person, is solely at their own risk. Communications Alliance does not guarantee that compliance with any Eoi will constitute compliance with the relevant publication.

Inquiries related to the Standards and Guidelines that have been developed under the CECRP are welcome. Such inquiries are to be forwarded through Communications Alliance to the secretary of the PAG. Responses are sent to the query submitter by the secretary and are circulated to members of the CECRP, the PAG and other technical advisors involved in the development of the response. *Expressions of Intent* (Eoi) are published on the Communications Alliance website at www.commsalliance.com.au.

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With respect to your query, please note that the CECRP response is restricted to expressing the PAG's view of the intent or likely intent of the words of the Standard concerned. Some queries therefore may be more appropriately addressed to the Australian Communications Authority, a test laboratory or experienced consultant concerned with Customer Equipment design requirements.

It is understood that your fundamental question concerning AS/ACIF S004:2008 is:

Regarding the use of headsets with corded or cordless phones in Clause 5.4.3.9.1 of AS/ACIF S004:2008, you seek clarification on the following questions:

- (1) Is the air-interface on cordless phone for connection of wireless / cordless headset considered as a connector for connecting a headset or earphone?*
- (2) Would an 'incoming call signal' in a form of low-level audio signal (audio level that is equivalent to that of a confidence tone or voice signal level) directed to a cordless phone connector for headset infringe the requirements of ACIF S004:2008?*
- (3) Would Bluetooth headsets be allowed to be used with corded or cordless phones?*
- (4) Would the ring alerting signal directed from a cordless phone to a Bluetooth headset be considered as an infringement of Clause 5.4.3.19 of AS/ACIF S004:2008?*
- (5) Does Australia prevent phone users from using mobile accessories for corded or cordless phones?*

In response to this query:

- (1) No. The connector referred to in Clause 5.4.3.9.1 is a physical plug-and-socket connector for corded connection. It is not intended to apply to the air-interface of a wireless (e.g. Bluetooth) headset.
- (2) No. Clause 5.4.3.9.1 refers to a 'ring alerting signal' which is defined in Clause 4.2.15 as a 'high level audible signal indicating an incoming call'. A low level incoming call signal that operates at about the voice/speech conversation signal levels does not meet the definition for a 'ring alerting signal'.

- (3) Yes. Bluetooth headsets are allowed to be used with corded and cordless phones.
- (4) No. A ring alerting signal directed to a Bluetooth headset that is not going via a corded connector is not an infringement of Clause 5.4.3.1.9.
- (5) No. Accessories used for mobile phones may be used with corded and cordless phones, unless otherwise mentioned in the applicable Standards.