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AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FORUM

Supporting arrangements for the supply of Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Customer Equipment
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FOREWORD

General

This document was prepared by the ACIF Working Committee CECRP/WC10 on Addressable Devices. This document is the result of a consensus among representatives on the ACIF Working Committee to produce it as an ACIF publication.

This document specifies support arrangements for supply of DSL Customer Equipment (CE) under AS/ACIF S043.2 [3].

Note: AS/ACIF S043 [1] is the designation of the multi-part Standard that refers to all the Parts of that Standard.

The document proposes information that should be provided to consumers and retailers about the purchase of DSL CE and services that make use of it.

It also indicates processes to assist suppliers of DSL CE to verify that their CE is interoperable with the equipment of a Carriage Service Provider.

Document revision

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The Australian Communications Industry Forum
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Participants

The ACIF Working Committee that developed this Standard consisted of the following organisations and their representatives:

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1 Scope

These supporting arrangements set out—

(a) information about DSL Customer Equipment (CE) that should be made available to consumers and retailers; and

(b) requirements for a process for suppliers of DSL CE to be able to verify interoperability with Carriage Service Providers’ equipment.

2 References

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3 Document review

Review of this document will be conducted at least as frequently as review of AS/ACIF S043.1[2].

4 Definitions and abbreviations

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions and abbreviations apply:

ACIF means the Australian Communications Industry Forum Limited.

AS means an Australian Standard.

Carriage Service Provider has the meaning given by section 87 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

Customer Equipment (CE) has the meaning given by section 21 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997*.

DSL means Digital Subscriber Line.

Metallic Local loop has the meaning given by AS/ACIF S043.1 [2].

Supplier means a manufacturer, importer of Customer Equipment or their nominated agent.

5 General advice

Suppliers are advised that the relevant Parts of AS/ACIF S043 [1] apply.

6 Provision of information to consumers and retailers

It is recommended that suppliers provide information to retailers and consumers indicating with which Carriage Service Providers’ equipment their DSL CE is interoperable.
The information should include advice that consumers should only purchase DSL CE after confirming with their intended Carriage Service Provider that—

(a) their metallic local loop can support a DSL service; and
(b) the type of DSL CE being purchased will interwork with the DSL service provided by their Carriage Service Provider.

Note: The type of DSL could be indicated in terms of the Equipment Class or typical technology as in Table 1 of AS/ACIF S.043.2 [3].

7 Pre-supply provision

It is recommended that suppliers should not supply DSL CE to the market unless it has been subject to interoperability verification under Clause 8.

8 Interoperability assessment requirements

8.1 Carriage Service Providers should establish a fair process that allows suppliers of DSL CE complying with AS/ACIF S043.2 [3] to verify interoperability with their equipment.

8.2 Carriage Service Providers should provide a written statement of requirements that are needed to ensure interoperability and how compliance is to be demonstrated, including any trials or testing that must be done.

9 Recommended behaviour

9.1 Carriage Service Providers or other persons specified in the assessment requirements should ensure that—

(a) no supplier is excluded from the assessment process; and
(b) no supplier is to be given unfair priority over any other.

10 Establishment of common technical requirements

10.1 Carriage Service Providers should, to the extent possible, establish common technical requirements that—

(a) are based on international standards to the maximum extent;
(b) take account of global systems of assessment or certification, or both; and
(c) seek to minimise the extent of specific individual requirements.
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