About ETSI

INT is part of ETSI – one of the world’s leading standards development organizations for Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Founded initially to serve European needs, ETSI has grown rapidly to become highly-respected as a producer of technical standards for worldwide use.

ETSI membership is composed of manufacturers and network operators – all the “big names” and many smaller companies too – plus national administrations, ministries, regulators, universities, research groups, consultancies and user organizations. A powerful and dynamic mix of skills, resources and ambitions, all working together to bring the very best ICT solutions to the global marketplace. Geographically, our membership of over 700 companies and organizations is drawn from more than 60 countries on 5 continents.

ETSI is independent of all other organizations and structures, a key feature for ensuring neutrality and trustworthiness. That brings benefits not only in the acceptance of our standards and other publications, but also in our growing range of ancillary services, such as interoperability testing. And because standardization inevitably draws upon the bright ideas of our members, we have an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy in place that has become the model for many other organizations.

ETSI’s standardization activities are open to all interested companies and organizations. Your company can be part of this dynamic organization. For more information about how you can be involved, please visit

http://www.etsi.org/membership

For details about ETSI’s current INT activities, please visit

http://portal.etsi.org/INT

To learn more about Plugtests™, please go to

http://www.etsi.org/plugtests
IMS and Interoperability

IMS was designed with interoperability in mind. The IMS architecture is a set of building blocks that can be used to create a network. IMS is designed to allow these blocks to be interchangeable from one vendor to another and to ensure network interconnection between operators. IMS comprises a set of specifications designed to enable network operators to implement IP-based networks that can carry services for both fixed and mobile customers simultaneously.

IMS was developed originally in the mobile world (specifically in the specifications created by the 3rd Generation Partnership Project, 3GPP), and was adopted for fixed networks by ETSI’s TISPAN Technical Committee (Telecoms & Internet Converged Services & Protocols for Advanced Networks). From Release 8 3GPP specifications cover both fixed and mobile networks.

IMS Network Testing

ETSI is bridging the gap between 3GPP IMS Core Network standards and the initial industry IMS implementations through the organization of IMS interoperability events in connection with ETSI’s Centre for Testing & Interoperability (CTI) and Plugtests™ interoperability testing service.

The Technical Committee for IMS Network Testing (TC INT) has established close contact with a number of industry fora and organizations dealing with IMS interoperability, including 3GPP, GSMA, MSF (Multi Service Forum), IMS Forum, IMTC and the ITU-T. TC INT develops IMS test specification according to conformance, network integration and interoperability testing methodologies.

Work on test specifications includes development of tests for 3GPP R9 IMS NNI Interworking, Voice Supplementary Services based on regulatory requirements and IMS tests with legacy networks (e.g. SIP-I), ENUM Queries according to GSMA IR67, RCS-e Services Interoperability on ISC interface, Interoperability with EPC access networks, Use of IPV6 on the relevant interfaces.

ETSI has already held three IMS interoperability events. The first event examined interconnection aspects of 3GPP IMS Release 6, including basic call on the Mw interface. The second event had a wider scope that included the testing of 3GPP IMS Release 7 interworking, roaming, border control, and integration of application servers executing selected Multimedia Telephony supplementary services.

The third ETSI IMS interoperability event was held in October 2009. The Plugtests assessed the interoperability as well as conformance of IMS core networks (composed of P/I/S-CSCF, IBCF, AS, DNS and HSS) which are implemented on the basis of ETSI TS 124 229/3GPP TS 24.229 (Version 7.14.0) (3GPP late release 7).

Upon request from the operators and the vendors, TC INT may develop conformance tests and interoperability scenarios for events which will stimulate the process of bridging 3GPP IMS standards and industry implementations.

TC INT IMS Network Testing committee is a valuable partner for building and enabling excellence in a multi-vendor and multi provider environment.