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To: Vic Hayes
Chairman, IEEE 802.11 Working Group
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Date: December 5, 1997

Subject: Liaison Between the WINForum SRDC and IEEE p802.11

The WINForum Sharing Rules Development Committee (SRDC) is pleased to learn that the IEEE 802.11 working group has established a PAR for the development of a Physical Layer specification for the 5.3 GHz Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (U-NII) band in the US for use with the IEEE 802.11 Medium Access Control (MAC) standard. The SRDC is working on regulatory matters and spectrum coexistence rules concerning the U-NII band and we invite IEEE p802.11 to work together with the SRDC in this effort.

It is the objective of the sharing rules to allow the deployment of radio based networks that provide both a controlled quality of service and a best effort type of service. The IEEE 802.11 MAC is consistent with this objective since it appears to adequately address the best effort type of service. Therefore, a specific SRDC goal is to develop sharing rules that permit the basic IEEE 802.11 MAC to operate effectively and to provide spectrum coexistence protection to the MAC in the presence of other non-interoperable systems.

We observe that the ETSI BRAN project is developing an interoperability standard to provide ATM and multi-media compatible access to wired infrastructure networks for the same frequency range. This is expected to address the controlled quality of service application. The SRDC is also seeking cooperation with ETSI project BRAN on development of consistent coexistence rules for the U-NII band.

The WINForum SRDC is continuing to work with the US regulatory agencies and other parties to clarify and complete the U-NII regulations and rules of use relative to other allocations in and near the U-NII bands. We invite cooperation and request support in this effort also.

To facilitate cooperation we propose:

1. The appointment of a Liaison member for interaction between the WINForum SRDC and IEEE p802.11. Mr. Don Johnson is nominated for this role.
2. A documentation sharing provision. We seek the right to reproduce the p802.11 working documents for use by the SRDC committee. We understand and seek your agreement that the p802.11 working documentation is available to the public for this purpose. We also request permission to reproduce a limited number of your future draft standards for internal SRDC use only. Although some SRDC documentation is restricted, we will make the documentation that is relevant to the sharing rules development available to p802.11.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Johnson, Chairman, WINForum Sharing Rules Development Committee

Cc:
J. Ron Cross, President, WINForum
Sharon Butalla, Executive Director, WINForum