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ECIC PICCARE

Qualification Process

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Guidelines

Abstract: This document incorporates the agreed testing qualification for PIC/CARE Electronic Gateways based on T1M1.5/2000, T1.246 Document. Each approved version of the ECIC PIC/CARE Qualification Process document shall be base-lined with each approved ECIC PIC Generic Implementation Guide in order to achieve interoperability for PIC applications.

PIC/CARE Qualification Process Document

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Alliance for Telecommunication Industry Solutions
1200 G St. NW, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20005
202-434-8836 (phone)
202-393-5453 (fax)

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1. Introduction

The Testing subcommittee was chartered by ECIC (electronic Communication Implementation Committee) Steering Committee with the following mission:

The Testing Subcommittee will recommend to the ECIC as a set of preferred testing strategies for the implementation of real application-to-application interfaces based on ANSI T1M1 standards across jurisdictional boundaries. The strategies shall include Conformance, Interoperability and Lifecycle testing.

In March of 1999, the ECIC Testing Subcommittee reviewed lessons learned from implementing the Trouble Administration (TA) Gateway application. The subcommittee agreed to develop a Qualification Process that ECIC participants should use for internal-company pre-qualification for testing of both the PIC (Primary Interchange Carrier) Gateway and the TA Gateway applications.

The ECIC Testing Subcommittee agreed that there will be some Interoperability testing that involves the testing of specific functionality that has been negotiated and implemented between pair-wise companies, and therefore cannot be standardized by this committee. This committee focused on the functionality that is common among all companies, and therefore built the Qualification Process that will validate the commonality prior to actual testing. For this purpose, Log Object, SMO (System Monitor Object) and Security functionality are not part of the scope of this document.

Once the Qualification Process is complete, companies will achieve a greater success rate for implementations and will also see a dramatic reduction in what was once an eight to eighteen month process.

Companies will still be required to provide their own pair-wise test cases to verify functionality that is specific to those pair-wise companies, however use of test cases derived from this Qualification Process is strongly encouraged.

2. Scope

This document serves as qualification guidelines for Interoperability testing with external companies over different jurisdictional boundaries. Qualifications Testing covers functionality that is common across most company platforms. The purpose of the Qualification Process is to validate that each company's gateway functionality meets the minimum set of requirements identified in the T1M1 standards and Generic Implementation Guidelines for PIC Implementations.

This document provides the companies a mechanism to qualify their gateways and ensure the minimum required functionality as been implemented according to the T1.246 Standard and PIC/CARE GIG. Proper implementation of this Qualification Process promotes successful Interoperability testing and service implementation. Interoperability test plans and cases specific to each pair-wise company are not